



SCRUTINY BOARD (ENVIRONMENT, HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES)

Meeting to be held in Civic Hall, Leeds, LS1 1UR on
Thursday 21 October 2021 at 10.30 am

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

MEMBERSHIP

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

Please Note - Members of the public are now able to attend the meeting in person but please be mindful that Coronavirus is still circulating in Leeds. Therefore, even if you have had the vaccine, if you have Coronavirus symptoms: a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste, you should NOT attend the meeting and stay at home and get a PCR test. For those who are attending the meeting, please bring a face covering unless you are exempt.

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

[211021 Environment, Housing & Communities Scrutiny Board](#)

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

A G E N D A

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

3

LATE ITEMS

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

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

4

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

5

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTES

To receive any apologies for absence and notification of substitutes.

6

MINUTES - 23 SEPTEMBER 2021

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 23 September 2021.

7

DEPUTY MAYOR FOR POLICING AND CRIME

7 - 42

To note, in the context of the scheduled discussion with the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, the report from the Head of Democratic Services, which provides background information regarding the transfer of PCC functions to the West Yorkshire Mayor and the ongoing development of a West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan.

8

HOUSING ACTIVITY UPDATE

43 -
56

To receive an update from the Chief Office for Housing in relation to housing activity during quarter 1 of 2021/22.

9		<p>CAPITAL PROGRAMME INVESTMENT TO IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN COUNCIL HOUSING STOCK</p> <p>To receive an update from the Head of Strategy and Investment in relation to capital investment to improve energy efficiency in Council Housing Stock.</p>	57 - 62
10		<p>REDUCING CARBON EMISSIONS ACROSS THE COUNCIL ESTATE</p> <p>To receive an update from the Chief Office for Sustainable Energy and Air Quality on progress with measures intended to reduce carbon emissions across the Council's estate.</p>	63 - 68
11		<p>TACKLING ANTI-SOCIAL USE OF FIREWORKS: INQUIRY RESPONSE</p> <p>To receive written advice from the Chief Officer Safer Leeds in response to the Board's 2021 inquiry into tackling the anti-social use of fireworks.</p>	69 - 108
12		<p>SAFER, STRONGER COMMUNITIES LEEDS PLAN 2021-24</p> <p>In line with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework the Board is asked to note the final version of the Safer, Strong Communities Leeds Plan 2021-24 following formal consultation and ahead of consideration by the Executive Board.</p> <p><i>To note: The Board previously publicly expressed its support for the plan as part of the formal consultation process.</i></p>	109 - 124
13		<p>WORK SCHEDULE</p> <p>To consider the Scrutiny Board's work schedule for the 2021/22 municipal year.</p>	125 - 144
14		<p>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>A consultative meeting of the Scrutiny Board will take place remotely on 25 November 2021 at 10.30am. A pre-meeting will take place at 10.00am for all Board members.</p>	

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Police & Crime Plan Update

Date: 21 October 2021

Report of: Head of Democratic Services

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

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

What is this report about?

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

- The Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) is allocated special responsibility to act as the Council's formally designated crime and disorder committee, as set out in section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006.
- As part of this responsibility the Scrutiny Board can review or scrutinise the exercise of crime and disorder functions by responsible authorities (as set out in S5 of Crime and Disorder Act 1998), as well as scrutinising any local crime and disorder matter raised by an elected member.
- Following the establishment of a Mayoral Combined Authority, the powers previously delegated to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner transferred to the newly elected Mayor of West Yorkshire. West Yorkshire is now one of three regions to have this arrangement in place – the other two being Manchester and London.
- The Mayor of West Yorkshire, Tracy Brabin, nominated Alison Lowe to be the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime in West Yorkshire. This nomination received approval from the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel in June 2021 and the Deputy Mayor for policing and Crime formally began her role in August 2021.
- The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime has been invited to meet members of the Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board to discuss priorities for policing and crime in the region, and the ongoing development of the Police and Crime Plan for West Yorkshire.
- This report sets out some initial background regarding the transfer of PCC functions to the West Yorkshire Mayor, the role of the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime and the ongoing development of a West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan.

Recommendations

- a) Members are asked to note the contents of the report.

Why is the proposal being put forward?

- 1 The first Mayor of West Yorkshire was elected in May 2021. Upon election the Mayor also assumed the functions previously exercised by the region's Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 2 As Leeds City Council's designated Crime and Disorder Committee, the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) has been keen to understand the Mayor's priorities for regional policing and crime early in her tenure.
- 3 Members also welcome the opportunity to discuss the development of the Police and Crime Plan for the region. It is anticipated this will complement the Board's recent discussions about the Leeds-specific Safer, Stronger Communities City Plan 2021-24
- 4 In line with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) was formally consulted on the draft Safer, Stronger Communities City Plan 2021-24, which will replace the previous Safer Leeds Strategy 2018-21, in September 2021.

Transfer of Police and Crime Commissioner Functions

- 5 In reaching a devolution deal with Government it was determined that transferring the powers of the Office of The Police and Crime Commissioner to the new Mayoral Authority would provide consistency in approach for the combined area and reflect the ambition for people to have a single point of direct accountability.
- 6 The legislative framework for the Mayoral Authority is clear that West Yorkshire Police remains a distinct and separate organisation.
- 7 Key Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) functions are:
 - Securing the maintenance of an efficient and effective police force and holding the Chief Constable to account
 - Issuing a police and crime plan
 - Appointing, suspending or calling on a chief constable to retire or resign.
- 8 Where the establishment of a mayoral authority provides for the Mayor to exercise PCC functions – as in West Yorkshire - the Secretary of State is also required to authorise the Mayor to appoint a Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime.
- 9 Alison Lowe was nominated as Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime for West Yorkshire by the Mayor of West Yorkshire. The appointment received approval from the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel in June 2021 and Alison Lowe formally took up her role in August 2021.
- 10 Where legislation allows, a Mayor can delegate most PCC functions to a Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime. However, several functions remain excisable only by the Mayor. Those are:
 - Issuing a police and crime plan
 - Calculating a council tax or budget requirement
 - Appointing, suspending or calling on a chief constable to retire or resign

- 11 Scrutiny of the discharge of PCC functions within the Combined Authority is carried out by the Police and Crime Panel. The Panel is empowered to scrutinise the actions and decisions of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime to hold them to account in public.

West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan

- 12 In accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 the Mayor must produce a Police and Crime Plan, which sets out the strategic policing and crime priorities for West Yorkshire for the next three years and details how the Mayor plans to meet them.
- 13 Following the current period of consultation, it is intended that the new Police and Crime Plan for West Yorkshire will be launched in early 2022.

Consultation on West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan

- 14 A public consultation is taking place to inform the development of the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan.
- 15 This includes an online survey, open until 17 October, that invites people to provide their views on the work of the mayor and police partners under four headings:

- Supporting victims and witnesses
- Keeping people safe and building resilience
- Safer places and thriving communities
- Responding to multiple and complex need

- 16 The consultation further sets out that this work will be underpinned by three cross cutting themes – these are set out below as published in the Police and Crime Plan survey.

- 1) **Women and Girls** – Tracy’s Mayoral pledge of putting women and girls at the heart of this Police and Crime Plan, including safety in the public and private sphere, living free from harm and building strong emotional resilience.
- 2) **Diversity, Equality and Inclusion** – Celebrating the diversity of West Yorkshire and ensuring that the principles of equality and inclusion underpin all the work we do.
- 3) **Early Intervention and Prevention** - Championing and supporting the use of effective early intervention to improve the lives of children, young people and families at risk of experiencing poor outcomes.

- 17 Additional consultation is taking place through a series of face-to-face meetings between 1 September and 19 November.

What impact will this proposal have?

Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 18 The discussion with the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime provides opportunity for Scrutiny Board members to explore regional mayoral priorities for policing and crime, and to engage and influence the development of the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 19 Members have previously been consulted upon the Safer, Stronger Communities City Plan 2021-25, which sets out the strategic priorities for the city-specific Safer Leeds partnership.
- 20 Members may now wish to explore how those city priorities interact with the developing West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan.

What are the resource implications?

- 21 This report has no resource implications.

What are the legal implications?

- 22 This report has no legal implications

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

- 23 This report has no risk management implications

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

- Inclusive Growth Health and Wellbeing Climate Emergency

Options, timescales and measuring success

a) What other options were considered?

- 24 Not applicable – this report sets out the background to a consultative discussion between Board members and the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime.

Appendices

- 25 Appendix 1: Public Consultation Document
- 26 Appendix 2: Partner Consultation Document

Background papers

- 27 None

THE MAYOR OF WEST YORKSHIRE'S NEW POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 2021 - 24

INTRODUCTION

The West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan is created and published by the Mayor of West Yorkshire, Tracy Brabin.

Under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, the Mayor must produce a Police and Crime Plan which sets out the strategic policing and crime priorities for West Yorkshire, and how she plans to meet them. The plan also has a requirement to set out the objectives and priorities of the work and activity of West Yorkshire Police and the Chief Constable for the next three years, and how the Mayor will hold the Chief Constable to account in delivering these objectives.

The new Plan will draw on a wide range of information to ensure it reflects the policing and crime issues which are affecting West Yorkshire, and listening to the opinions of West Yorkshire's residents and communities is a key part of the Plan's development.

It is important that all our communities and partners have their say, and this includes the views of women and girls and victims of crime. Everyone who completes this consultation is making sure their voice is heard on what the Mayor's Police & Crime Plan should try to achieve.

Your views and the information collected in this survey will be used to ensure the Mayor is focusing activity and funding on the areas of greatest need and of greatest concern to the people of West Yorkshire.

Further information and opportunities to have your voice heard to shape other areas of the Mayor's work including the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan are available here: <https://www.yourvoice.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/>

Tracy Brabin – Mayor of West Yorkshire

ABOUT THIS CONSULTATION

Your Privacy

For the purposes of the Data Protection Act 2018, the 'controller' of the personal data which you provide in the attached form is the West Yorkshire Combined Authority ("The Combined Authority", "we", "us") of Wellington House, 40-50 Wellington St, Leeds LS1 2DE (tel: 0113 251 7272) who are the responsible statutory body for the Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership ("LEP") and WY Metro. The Combined Authority is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office with registration number ZA051694.

The results of this survey will be used for research purposes by staff at the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA). We have designed the survey specifically so that it is unlikely that individuals can be identified from their answers. The survey's results are processed by Snap Surveys (the software used to host this survey) who act as our data processor for the information you provide on the form. You can view WYCA's Policing & Crime Privacy Policy, where you can find more details about how we use your information and your rights over your data, and Snap Survey's privacy information. We are collecting this data in order to help shape the Policing & Crime Plan for West Yorkshire 2021-2024 and the data which is collected from these surveys will be collated together in order to provide aggregated responses. We process this information to perform a 'public task' arising from the obligations on the Mayor of West Yorkshire under the terms of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

We will share the aggregated results of this survey with local authority partners and West Yorkshire Police. The results of the data will be cumulative and anonymous.

We will retain these survey results for as long as is necessary to fulfil the purposes for which we have collected it, including for the purposes of developing the Policing & Crime Plan and satisfying any legal, regulatory, statistical data or other requirements that can be used to judge the success of the consultation. Data will be anonymous (so that it can no longer be associated with you) for the research or statistical purposes.

If you are under the age of 16, please get the consent of your parent or guardian before proceeding and tick the box below.

I have the consent of my parent or guardian.

BACKGROUND

It is the responsibility of the Mayor of West Yorkshire to set out her priorities for keeping our communities safe in the years ahead in her West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan. These objectives cannot be fulfilled without the support and dedication of our partners in West Yorkshire. This consultation offers your organisation, and our partner organisations working at any scale in our districts, the chance to provide us with your feedback on the Plan's proposed priorities and areas of focus. Our shared priorities cannot be achieved by one organisation alone, and so your input to the development of the Plan is vitally important.

The draft Police and Crime Plan collates our objectives for community safety and policing under four priority headings:

- 1. Supporting Victims and Witnesses**
- 2. Keeping People Safe and Building Resilience**
- 3. Safer Places and Thriving Communities**
- 4. Responding to Multiple and Complex Needs**

At the heart of our ambitions for the Plan are three cross cutting issues:

- 1) Women and Girls** – Tracy's Mayoral pledge of putting women and girls at the heart of this Police and Crime Plan, including safety in the public and private sphere, living free from harm and building strong emotional resilience.
- 2) Diversity, Equality and Inclusion** – Celebrating the diversity of West Yorkshire and ensuring that the principles of equality and inclusion underpin all the work we do.
- 3) Early Intervention and Prevention** - Championing and supporting the use of effective early intervention to improve the lives of children, young people and families at risk of experiencing poor outcomes.

These themes will underpin all the work we will do in the plan.

OUR PRIORITIES

In the following pages we are seeking your feedback on our proposals for the four new **Police & Crime Plan** priorities.

Priority 1 - Supporting Victims and Witnesses

Supporting victims and those harmed by crime is at the heart of our Police and Crime Plan.

The Plan aims to support all victims and witnesses, to champion their needs at a local and national level, and to help design and commission services that support victims through their recovery.

Supporting victims also means we will work with the police and our criminal justice partners to get justice for people who have experienced crime, and encourage a victim-centred approach in our work.

Q: Do you agree with the objectives of this priority?					
Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q: Is there is anything you would recommend we change or include in our definition of this priority? Please respond in the box below:

Listed below are a number of ‘areas of focus’ for this priority. Our draft Plan includes these to help define the type of topics we would expect to work on independently (and in partnership) within this priority.

In the question below we would like to get your feedback on these areas of focus.

Q: Which of these topics will be a priority for your organisation over the next three years? [Tick all that apply]

	A priority for my organisation?
A modern and effective criminal justice system with victims’ needs at the centre	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access to support services designed for victims’ needs	<input type="checkbox"/>
Helping victims of crime to get justice	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increasing trust and confidence in our criminal justice system	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improving victims and witnesses’ satisfaction with our police service	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special victim services for children and young people	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q: Please let us know of any changes you would like to make to these areas of focus, or any new areas we should consider including, using the box below:

Priority 2 - Keeping People Safe & Building Resilience

The Mayor, West Yorkshire Police, and our community safety partners want to prevent people becoming victims of crime. We will do all that we can to keep people safe.

This Police and Crime Plan will focus on the harm caused by crime by challenging people who commit offences to change their behaviour, alongside reducing the opportunity for crime, and strengthening those communities which are affected by crime or violence.

For those who commit crime and cause harm to victims, we will work with the Police and our partners to bring offenders to justice, and help to build trust and confidence in our criminal justice services.

Q: Do you agree with the objectives of this priority?					
Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q: Is there is anything you would recommend we change or include in our definition of this priority? Please respond in the box below:

Listed below are a number of 'areas of focus' for this priority. Our draft Plan includes these to help define the type of topics we would expect to work on independently (and in partnership) within this priority.

In the question below we would like to get your feedback on these areas of focus.

Q: Which of these topics will be a priority for your organisation over the next three years? [Tick all that apply]

	A priority for my organisation?
Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Domestic Abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fraud and Cyber-crime	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Trafficking & Modern Slavery	<input type="checkbox"/>
So-called "Honour" Based Abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stalking and Harassment	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q: Please let us know of any changes you would like to make to these areas of focus, or any new areas we should consider including, using the box below:

Priority 3 - Safer Places & Thriving Communities

People deserve to live, work and visit a West Yorkshire that is safe, welcoming and inclusive. This plan will tackle the place-based crime that damages people's everyday lives, from serious violence to anti-social behaviour to dangerous driving and speeding.

It will also address the inequality and poverty found in our communities, as we all seek to recover from the impact of Covid-19.

We will work to rejuvenate and revitalise the high street, addressing those issues which impact so negatively on public places (such as theft, vandalism and business crime), and in doing so, restore people's confidence and pride in their villages, towns and cities.

Q: Do you agree with the objectives of this priority?

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>					

Q: Is there is anything you would recommend we change or include in our definition of this priority? Please respond in the box below:

Listed below are a number of ‘areas of focus’ for this priority. Our draft Plan includes these to help define the type of topics we would expect to work on independently (and in partnership) within this priority.

In the question below we would like to get your feedback on these areas of focus.

Q: Which of these topics will be a priority for your organisation over the next three years? [Tick all that apply]

	A priority for my organisation?
Countering Terrorism	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drug misuse	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hate Crime	<input type="checkbox"/>
High Street Crime (e.g. theft, violence, shoplifting)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Neighbourhood Crime and Anti-social Behaviour (ASB)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recovery from the Covid 19 impact	<input type="checkbox"/>
Road safety, speeding and dangerous driving	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q: Please let us know of any changes you would like to make to these areas of focus, or any new areas we should consider including, using the box below:

Priority 4 - Responding to Multiple & Complex Needs

Many people in contact with the criminal justice system have faced personal challenges. These can include being the victim of abuse and neglect, suffering poor mental health, homelessness, poverty, or drug and alcohol addiction.

This Police and Crime Plan will bring together partners to recognise these challenges and help protect and support those who are vulnerable from becoming involved in offending.

By listening, understanding, and responding to the needs of marginalised groups, we can help to prevent intergenerational crime, reoffending, and the criminal exploitation of vulnerable people.

Q: Do you agree with the objectives of this priority?					
Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q: Is there is anything you would recommend we change or include in our definition of this priority? Please respond in the box below:

Listed below are a number of 'areas of focus' for this priority. Our draft Plan includes these to help define the type of topics we would expect to work on independently (and in partnership) within this priority.

In the question below we would like to get your feedback on these areas of focus.

Q: Which of these topics will be a priority for your organisation over the next three years? [Tick all that apply]

	A priority for my organisation?
Addressing childhood trauma	<input type="checkbox"/>
Addressing vulnerability in children that may result in child criminal exploitation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drug and alcohol misuse	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reducing reoffending by using alternatives to traditional prosecution - like 'restorative' or 'out of court' options	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support for housing, skills and employment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supporting people with mental health issues	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support for people who go missing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supporting vulnerable people in the criminal justice system	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tackling the causes of deprivation and abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q: Please let us know of any changes you would like to make to these areas of focus, or any new areas we should consider including, using the box below:

SPECIAL AREAS OF FOCUS

In her election manifesto, the Mayor made two pledges on the subject of crime and community safety:

- To recruit 750 more frontline police officers and staff to fight crime.
- To put keeping women and girls safe at the heart of her policing plan.

Q: What would you like to see the Mayor, West Yorkshire Police, and partner organisations do to help keep women and girls safe in West Yorkshire?

Q: What would help you to have more confidence in your local police?

Q: Please use the space below to provide any further comments you have on community safety in West Yorkshire or how the Police and Crime Plan can help make our communities safer:

Your Neighbourhood

Please can you click the box for the district of West Yorkshire you live in?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bradford | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Calderdale | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Kirklees | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Leeds | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Wakefield | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I don't live in West Yorkshire | <input type="checkbox"/> |

It is important for us to understand how different neighbourhoods are affected by different safety issues. For this reason, we would like to know the area of West Yorkshire in which you live.

Please can you tell us the first 4 characters of your postcode:

(e.g. if your postcode is HD1 2JN, please enter HD1 2)

Information About You

The West Yorkshire Combined Authority collects personal information in this survey so that we can see whether community safety issues affect some groups more than others, and so that we can monitor the extent to which the response to our survey work is representative of the people of West Yorkshire. These questions (below) are optional; your answers are confidential and will not be shared.

Some of the following questions are about sensitive personal characteristics. You do not have to complete these if you do not want to.

What is your age?

15 and under	16 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 54	55 - 64	65 - 74	75 - 84	85 and over	Prefer not to say
<input type="checkbox"/>									

What best describes your gender?

Female Male Trans-gender Non-binary Prefer not to say

Prefer to self-describe

Do you live in the gender you were assigned at birth? Yes No Prefer not to say

What is your ethnicity?

Asian/Asian British:

Bangladeshi Chinese Indian Pakistani Pilipino

Shia Afghan Shia Syrian Sunni Afghan

Sunni Syrian Vietnamese Prefer not to say

Any other Asian background, please write in: _____

Black/ African/ Caribbean/ Black British:

African Caribbean Congolese Eritrean Italian African

Kenyan Nigerian Portuguese African

Somalian Sudanese Zimbabwean Prefer not to say

Any other Black/African/Caribbean background, please write in: _____

Mixed/multiple ethnic groups:

White and Asian White and Black African White and Black Caribbean

Prefer not to say Any other mixed background, please write in: _____



White:

White – British White - Irish

Prefer not to say Any other White background, please write in: _____

Other ethnic group

Arab Lebanese Kurdish

Prefer not to say Any other ethnic group, please write in: _____

What is your sexual orientation?

Heterosexual Gay /lesbian Bisexual Prefer not to say

If you prefer to use your own term, please specify here

Do you consider yourself to have a disability or health condition?

Yes No Prefer not to say

What is your religion or belief?

Buddhist Christian Hindu Jewish

Muslim Sikh Prefer not to say No religion or belief

If other religion or belief, please write in: _____

Have you been a victim of crime in the last 12 months?



Yes



No



Prefer not to say



Thanks for taking part

Thank-you for taking the time to give your feedback. We really appreciate your help.

If you would like to get in touch with us about anything in this survey, please email us at consultation.pc@westyorks-ca.gov.uk

You may also find the attached pre-read valuable.



Consultation on the
West Yorkshire Police

WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 2021-2024

PARTNER CONSULTATION

INTRODUCTION

Dear Partner,

I am currently developing the new West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan. The work completed so far on the draft cross cutting themes and priorities reflects my manifesto pledges, what we know about the need of West Yorkshire communities and what communities have told us what's important to them. The voice of our communities and the views of our partners and stakeholders is at the very heart of the plan's development.

The plan will aim to strengthen partnership working across the different sectors through action, services, research and delivery. The plan will set out a bold approach to change and transform delivery to positively effect policing, safety and crime outcomes across West Yorkshire. The priorities and successful delivery of the new Police and Crime Plan requires collaboration not just between local authorities, the police and the criminal justice system, but a whole systems approach involving the public, health, community, and academic sectors.

This is why it is vitally important that I consult with partners in order to collect our shared outcomes and understand your priorities, to help me set the strategic direction for policing and community safety during the next three years.

I would like to understand what your thoughts are on the development of the new Police and Crime Plan with this survey for partners and stakeholders. The closing date for the survey is **Friday 29th October 2021**.

#TellTracy ... about the new Police and Crime Plan



Tracy Brabin
Mayor
of West Yorkshire

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tracy Brabin" with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Tracy Brabin – Mayor of West Yorkshire

BACKGROUND

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1) Women and Girls – Tracy's Mayoral pledge of putting women and girls at the heart of this Police and Crime Plan, including safety in the public and private sphere, living free from harm and building strong emotional resilience.

2) Diversity, Equality and Inclusion – Celebrating the diversity of West Yorkshire and ensuring that the principles of equality and inclusion underpin all the work we do.

3) Early Intervention and Prevention - Championing and supporting the use of effective early intervention to improve the lives of children, young people and families at risk of experiencing poor outcomes.

These themes will underpin all the work we will do in the plan.

OUR PRIORITIES

In the following pages we are seeking your feedback on our proposals for the **four new Police & Crime Plan priorities**.

Priority 1 - Supporting Victims and Witnesses

Supporting victims and those harmed by crime is at the heart of this Police and Crime Plan, helping people to get justice. The Plan aims to support all victims and witnesses, champion their needs at a local and national level, and design and commission services that help them in coping and recovering in a way that works best for them.

The outcomes for victims are often not as good as we would like. Through our work with Police and criminal justice partners we will strive to improve outcomes for crime, promoting a more victim orientated approach. The rights of the Victims Code will underpin all the work in this area.

Q: Do you agree with the objectives of this priority?					
Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q: Is there is anything you would recommend we change or include in our definition of this priority? Please respond in the box below:

Listed below are a number of ‘areas of focus’ for this priority. Our draft Plan includes these to help define the type of topics we would expect to work on independently (and in partnership) within this priority.

In the question below we would like to get your feedback on these areas of focus.

Q: Which of these topics will be a priority for your organisation over the next three years? [Tick all that apply]

	A priority for my organisation?
A modern and effective criminal justice system with victims’ needs at the centre	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access to support services designed for victims’ needs	<input type="checkbox"/>
Helping victims of crime to get justice	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increasing trust and confidence in our criminal justice system	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improving victims and witnesses’ satisfaction with our police service	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special victim services for children and young people	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q: Please let us know of any changes you would like to make to these areas of focus, or any new areas we should consider including, using the box below:

Q: Please let us know of any activity your organisation currently contributes in regard to this draft priority and the areas of focus. This could include commissioning services, delivery, partnership working or research.

Priority 2 - Keeping People Safe & Building Resilience

We will do all that we can to keep people safe. The Mayor, West Yorkshire Police, and our community safety partners want to prevent people becoming victims of crime. This Police and Crime Plan will focus on people who commit crime to change their offending behaviour, reducing opportunities for crimes to be committed by tackling the underlying causes, and building resilience to empower and support people to overcome the ongoing effects of the harm caused by damaging criminal behaviour. For those who commit crime and cause harm to victims, we will work with the Police and our partners to bring offenders to justice building trust and confidence for all.

Q: Do you agree with the objectives of this priority?					
Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q: Is there is anything you would recommend we change or include in our definition of this priority? Please respond in the box below:

Listed below are a number of ‘areas of focus’ for this priority. Our draft Plan includes these to help define the type of topics we would expect to work on independently (and in partnership) within this priority.

In the question below we would like to get your feedback on these areas of focus.

Q: Which of these topics will be a priority for your organisation over the next three years? [Tick all that apply]

	A priority for my organisation?
Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Domestic Abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fraud and Cyber-crime	<input type="checkbox"/>

Human Trafficking & Modern Slavery	<input type="checkbox"/>
So-called "Honour" Based Abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stalking and Harassment	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q: Please let us know of any changes you would like to make to these areas of focus, or any new areas we should consider including, using the box below:

Q: Please let us know of any activity your organisation currently contributes in regard to this draft priority and the areas of focus. This could include commissioning services, delivery, partnership working or research.

Priority 3 - Safer Places & Thriving Communities

People deserve to live, work and visit a West Yorkshire that is safe, welcoming and inclusive. This Police and Crime Plan will focus on the harmful and unacceptable behaviour that targets the different communities of West Yorkshire. This plan will support tackling inequality and poverty, helping communities to increase their prosperity and recover from the impact of Covid-19. It will also tackle the place-based crime that damages people's everyday lives, from serious violence to anti-social behaviour to dangerous driving and speeding. The plan will seek to rejuvenate and revitalise the high street, addressing those issues which impact so negatively on places (from vandalism to graffiti, shoplifting to business crime), and so restore people's confidence and pride in their villages, towns and cities.

Q: Do you agree with the objectives of this priority?					
Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q: Is there is anything you would recommend we change or include in our definition of this priority? Please respond in the box below:

Listed below are a number of ‘areas of focus’ for this priority. Our draft Plan includes these to help define the type of topics we would expect to work on independently (and in partnership) within this priority.

In the question below we would like to get your feedback on these areas of focus.

Q: Which of these topics will be a priority for your organisation over the next three years? [Tick all that apply]

	A priority for my organisation?
Countering Terrorism	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drug misuse	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hate Crime	<input type="checkbox"/>
High Street Crime (e.g. theft, violence, shoplifting)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Neighbourhood Crime and Anti-social Behaviour (ASB)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recovery from the Covid 19 impact	<input type="checkbox"/>
Road safety, speeding and dangerous driving	<input type="checkbox"/>
Serious violence (e.g. use of weapons or gang violence)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q: Please let us know of any changes you would like to make to these areas of focus, or any new areas we should consider including, using the box below:

Q: Please let us know of any activity your organisation currently contributes in regard to this draft priority and the areas of focus. This could include commissioning services, delivery, partnership working or research.

Priority 4 - Responding to Multiple & Complex Needs

Many people in contact with the criminal justice system face a series of simultaneous challenges. These can include suffering abuse and neglect, poor mental health, homelessness and poverty, drug and alcohol misuse, adverse childhood experiences, or belonging to a marginalised group. This Police and Crime Plan will bring together partners to work together to recognise the lived experience of all who come into contact with services, protect all who are vulnerable, and instil a whole systems approach focused on early intervention. We will listen, understand and respond to people’s needs in order to reduce offending, prevent intergenerational crime, and re-victimisation.

Q: Do you agree with the objectives of this priority?					
Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q: Is there is anything you would recommend we change or include in our definition of this priority? Please respond in the box below:

Listed below are a number of ‘areas of focus’ for this priority. Our draft Plan includes these to help define the type of topics we would expect to work on independently (and in partnership) within this priority.

In the question below we would like to get your feedback on these areas of focus.

Q: Which of these topics will be a priority for your organisation over the next three years? [Tick all that apply]

	A priority for my organisation?
Addressing childhood trauma	<input type="checkbox"/>
Addressing vulnerability in children that may result in child criminal exploitation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drug and alcohol misuse	<input type="checkbox"/>

Reducing reoffending by using alternatives to traditional prosecution - like 'restorative' or 'out of court' options	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support for housing, skills and employment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supporting people with mental health issues	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support for people who go missing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supporting vulnerable people in the criminal justice system	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tackling the causes of deprivation and abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q: Please let us know of any changes you would like to make to these areas of focus, or any new areas we should consider including, using the box below:

Q: Please let us know of any what activity your organisation currently contributes in regard to this draft priority and the areas of focus. This could include commissioning services, delivery, partnership working or research.

CROSS-CUTTING THEMES

The Mayor has identified three cross-cutting themes to underpin the ambitions of this plan:

- 1) Women and Girls** – Tracy’s Mayoral pledge of putting women and girls at the heart of this Police and Crime Plan, including safety in the public and private sphere, living free from harm and building strong emotional resilience.
- 2) Diversity, Equality and Inclusion** – Celebrating the diversity of West Yorkshire and ensuring that the principles of equality and inclusion underpin all the work we do.
- 3) Early Intervention and Prevention** - Championing and supporting the use of effective early intervention to improve the lives of children, young people and families at risk of experiencing poor outcomes.

Q: Do you have any feedback on the inclusion of these themes?

Q: How can we work effectively with your organisation to deliver and embed these themes?

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

Q: Do you anticipate any specific crime or safety issues becoming a greater threat for West Yorkshire communities during the next three years?

Q: Do you anticipate any issues impacting on your organisation’s delivery (internally or externally) during the next three years?

Q: Please provide details of up to five priorities that your organisation is currently focused on. Please attach any needs assessments or strategic plans that give further detail. (*Online version – “Please send any Needs Assessments or strategic plans that give further detail to consultation.pc@westyorks-ca.gov.uk*)

Q: How can the Mayor and her Policing & Crime Team work better with your organisation to achieve the ambitions of this Plan over the next three years?

Q: Can you identify any key areas for possible joint working including campaigns, changes to policy (including either local or national)?

Q: Finally, are there any other comments you would like to make about our proposals for the new West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan or this consultation?

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Your Name:	
Your Role	
Your Organisation:	
Email Address:	

Housing Activity Update

Date: 21 October 2021

Report of: Chief Officer, Housing

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

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

What is this report about?

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

- This report is to provide an update to the Board on key areas of Housing Leeds activity during quarter 1 of 2021/22 including the following:
 - Council housing tenancy management and rent collection
 - Council housing repairs and maintenance
 - Council housing voids and lettings
 - Customer contact / engagement
 - Retirement Life / adaptations
 - Homelessness / Housing Options
 - Private rented sector regulation
 - Housing Strategy Review
- A detailed update is provided in Appendix one of this report.
- An update has not been provided in relation to Council Housing investment programmes as this will be covered one a separate item on this agenda.
- Housing is a theme in the Best Council Plan, with priorities to ensure housing of the right quality, type, tenure and affordability in the right places, minimise homelessness through a greater focus on prevention, providing the right housing options to support older and vulnerable residents to remain independent and improving the energy performance of homes and reducing fuel poverty.

Recommendations

Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board are asked to note and comment on the update in relation to housing activity during quarter 1 2021/22.

Why is the proposal being put forward?

- 1 The Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board requested an update on housing activity as part of its forward plan.

What impact will this proposal have?

Wards Affected:

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 2 The report will provide an update to the Board on housing activity along with an opportunity for Board members to provide comment and scrutiny.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 3 Customer engagement, using user centred design principles is well embedded within the housing service. Where customer consultation and engagement has taken place during quarter 1 this is included within the attached update.

What are the resource implications?

- 4 Resourcing pressures are identified within each service's update.

What are the legal implications?

- 5 There are no legal implications in relation to this update.

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

- 6 A number of risks were impacting on the housing service during quarter 1, as follows:
 - COVID safe working practices continue to impact on resourcing of some activity, along with the risk of further changes in COVID restrictions into the Winter which may impact further on service delivery and resourcing.
 - Supply chain / labour market pressures which are restricting the availability of some building supplies and workforce, impacting on repairs and investment service delivery.
 - Transfer of the repairs and maintenance service for the south of the city from Mears to Leeds Building Services and potential impacts on service delivery during a period of change.
 - Financial pressures on the Housing Revenue Account and wider Council and how this may impact on future service levels.
 - Financial pressures on customers linked to the removal of the additional Universal Credit payment, Furlough, COVID Support Grant and free school meals during holidays and potential impacts on rent collection, tenancy sustainment and homelessness.
 - The risk of dips in customer satisfaction where the above risks have impacted on service delivery and performance.
- 7 A risk register is in place which is overseen by the Housing Leeds SMT, with significant corporate risks reported into the directorate risk register. For each of these risks plans are in place to closely monitor impacts and agree actions to minimise service impacts.

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

Inclusive Growth

Health and Wellbeing

Climate Emergency

8 The housing service is closely aligned to all 3 key pillars:

Inclusive Growth – supporting communities in the communities to increase financial inclusion through investment in energy improvements to homes and support to maximise income, multi agency work to provided enhanced support in priority neighbourhoods, maximising social value offered by contractors via procurement and contract management.

Health and Wellbeing – health and housing is a theme of the Leeds Housing Strategy, with priorities to raise awareness of health and housing issues and pathways across both sectors, strengthening hospital prevention / discharge housing pathways, particularly for people needing adaptations, with mental health issues or homeless / rough sleeping.

Climate Emergency – significant investment is underway in Council homes to increase the energy performance of homes in support of the reduction in climate emission targets through investment in insulation and efficient heating systems.

Options, timescales and measuring success

a) What other options were considered?

9 This is not a decision report and so consideration of other options was not needed.

b) How will success be measured?

10 As above

c) What is the timetable for implementation?

11 As above

Appendices

12 Appendix 1 – Housing Activity Report – Quarter 1 2021/22

Background papers

13

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Housing Activity Update – Quarter 1 2021/22

1. Rent Collection and Tenancy / Estate Management

1.1. Rent Collection and Arrears

- 1.1.1. Whilst we resumed sending formal arrears letters in August 2020 we only began serving notices for rent arrears in late June 2021, focusing on tenancies where rent accounts were over 6 months in rent arrears and the tenant is not engaging. All of our contact with tenants in arrears has continued to take a supportive approach, supporting tenants to maximise income and benefit entitlement, refer to other agencies etc. where appropriate.
- 1.1.2. 655 tenants began a claim for Universal Credit in quarter 1, meaning that over 16,000 tenants have now made a claim since Universal Credit was introduced. The number of tenants moving onto Universal Credit has reduced significantly from the levels at the start of the pandemic and are currently lower than pre-pandemic levels. We have continued to provide support to tenants who are newly claiming Universal Credit.
- 1.1.3. Breathing space legislation came into effect in May 2021, available to anyone with a debt to give them legal protection for a period of time (standard breathing space is for 60 days, mental health crisis breathing space is for period of crisis treatment plus 30 days) . During the breathing space period no enforcement action can be taken. During quarter 1 Housing Leeds were notified of 37 cases.
- 1.1.4. At the end of quarter 1 rent collection was at 96.01% (up from 94.53% at the end of Q1 20/21) and rent arrears were 3.24% (down from 3.94%), an extremely positive position compared to other social landlords.

1.2. Tenancy Management

- 1.2.1. Much of our tenancy management continued to be undertaken remotely where possible throughout quarter 1, but with home visits undertaken where needed in relation to tenancy breaches or tenancy management issues. Block inspections and stage 2 fire safety checks continued throughout the pandemic.
- 1.2.2. The Annual Tenancy Contact (ATC) programme for 2021/22 (replacing the Annual Home Visit programme) will be made up of a mixture of visits, telephone contacts and online contacts. Visits resumed as part of this programme in late June, focusing initially on the most vulnerable tenants, e.g. history of hoarding, safeguarding concerns, poor property condition. Only 1.93% of tenants had been contacted as part of the programme at the end of quarter 1. During quarter 1 we also piloted an Online Tenancy Check-In for 1000 tenants where issues had not been raised in previous Annual Home Visits.
- 1.2.3. Quarter one was a busy period for lower level ASB / nuisance behaviour for Housing with a total of 386 case opened through the Triage Team. This was down from previous quarter four, which saw 508 cases opened (a 24% reduction). Changes in how the Triage Team assess cases may have contributed to the reduction sign posting tenants to correct departments or partner agencies.
- 1.2.4. Noise complaints are still the most reported problem along with neighbour disputes, which the government stay at home guidance will have contributed to. With more people working from home and children been home schooled, tenants

are identifying noise that they may not have previously witnessed. Out of the 386 cases we have also identified numerous tenants with support needs, and in turn making some investigations more complex and support led

- 1.2.5. During quarter 1 we increased our presence out on estates, responding to estate management issues, messy garden cases and environmental issues on estates. We increased the number of estate walkabouts, undertaking 237 walkabouts in quarter 1. Key issues identified in quarter 1 were overgrown gardens and hedges, fly tipping, some issues with missed grass cuts land not included on grounds maintenance contracts / self seeders. Actions have been undertaken to contact tenants with overgrown gardens, taking tenancy enforcement action as appropriate and liaison with other Council teams in relation to wider grounds maintenance issues. As other Council teams were working through work backlogs and the Community Payback scheme was not yet mobilised there were some delays encountered in the resolution of environmental issues.

2. Responsive Repairs and Maintenance

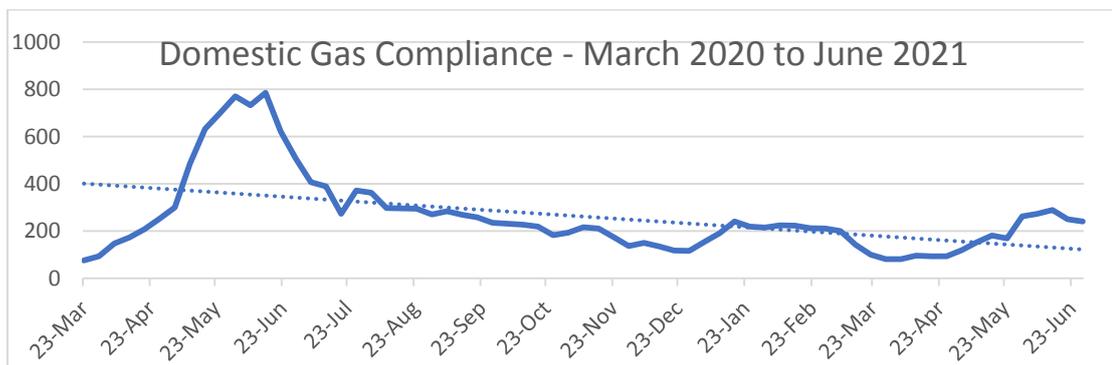
2.1 Responsive Repairs

- 2.1.1 The combined impact of the Covid-19 pandemic continues to present significant challenges to the repairs service. Nationally there has been a well documented impact in the supply of construction materials with manufacturers, merchants and service providers all reporting lengthy delays in the supply of many of the materials required to support the repairs service.
- 2.1.2 Additionally, across the UK there are shortages in the availability of skilled tradespeople as services and projects that were suspended now remobilise. This means that, although the repairs service is able to offer a full range of repairs, some types of repairs are taking longer to complete, with plastering, joinery, plumbing and glazing highlighted as areas of particular pressure. This has resulted in a backlog of around 6,000 repairs across the city, which represents significant progress from the backlog of non-essential repairs generated during the initial phase of the pandemic, which peaked at c.19,500 repairs. All the repairs raised during the initial Covid-19 phase have now been completed with the 6,000 referenced above representing a 'secondary backlog'.
- 2.1.3 Although the service continues to try and identify opportunities for additional capacity to be introduced to accelerate completion of the backlog, due to the factors identified above this is proving to be incredibly challenging and a position that is being reported nationally and across the sector. Demand for the repairs service has returned to pre-pandemic volumes, which again is impacting on the timescales associated with completion of some repairs.
- 2.1.4 Recovery plans have been developed for clearing the remaining backlog of repairs, with the end of the calendar year the target for completion, although it should be noted that there are a number of variables that may impact on this target, such as the severity of the winter weather and of course any future peaks in Covid-19 levels that may again result in additional restrictions.

2.2 Gas Compliance

2.2.1 Domestic gas compliance is a legislative requirement for Leeds City Council as a landlord. The services are delivered by external contractors and have continued throughout the course of the last 18 months with national industry guidance followed. Leeds City Council owns 42,382 homes with domestic gas.

2.2.2 The graph below illustrates the number of overdue gas properties throughout the period March 2020 to June 2021. As previously reported, the number of overdue gas inspection peaked in June 2020 at 786 overdue. The position at end June 2021 was 241 properties overdue (99.43% compliant). This is higher than the pre-Covid 'norm' of around 100 properties overdue at any one time (c.99.75% compliant).



2.2.3 Housing Leeds continues to work pro-actively and collaboratively with tenants who do not yet feel comfortable allowing access for purposes of this and other essential maintenance. All overdue properties are monitored daily. Where tenants are not prepared to engage with the team a legal process is followed.

2.2.4 It should be noted that through benchmarking undertaken, the Leeds position remains relatively strong in relation to that of our peer group.

2.3 Other Compliance

2.3.1 Property Management is responsible for the delivery of a number of statutory compliance obligations that the council must undertake in its capacity as a landlord. These include gas safety, electrical safety, fire safety, water hygiene and asbestos management.

2.3.2 Many of these obligations relate to communal facilities / areas of buildings. As such, these areas have been less impacted by the restrictions brought about by Covid-19 and a strong compliance position has been maintained.

2.3.3 Fire safety compliance has remained a key priority for the service throughout the reporting period with compliance across all high rise and Retirement Life schemes remaining at 100%.

2.3.4 Water hygiene and asbestos inspections have also remained in excess of 99% with only very few inspections outstanding where buildings have been closed for extended periods.

2.3.5 The electrical inspection programme does require access to individual homes and has therefore been impacted over the course of the last year, falling from c.95% to

74.95% of homes having received an inspection in the last 5 years. A recovery action plan is in place for this workstream.

3. Voids and Lettings

3.1 Voids

3.1.1 In accordance with national guidance lettings resumed in mid-2020. As previously reported, a backlog of properties in void had been generated during the lockdown period and clearing this backlog was identified as a key strategic priority for Housing Leeds in order to meet the demand for council homes and also to minimise rent loss associated with void properties.

3.1.2 The total number of void properties at the end of June 2021 is outlined below:

Properties in Void Process	580
Ready to let	138
TOTAL EMPTY	718
Average Relet Times	77.8 days

3.1.3 The number of empty properties in the city (718) represents a positive trend and reduction from 763 at the end of the financial year (March 2021). The position at last reporting period (August 2020) was 833 properties in void.

3.1.4 An action plan has been agreed and put in place with the void service providers, LBS and Mears, with a target to achieve 1% of properties in void by the end of the current financial year. 1% equates to around 531 properties.

3.1.5 A number of variables are impacting the pace at which these recovery plans are able to be actioned. These include:

- **‘Covid-safe’ working practices** - the impact of the need to follow COVID 19 Risk Assessments has meant the working within the empty properties has been impacted – put simply, work takes longer to complete than pre-pandemic rates.
- **Material shortages** – globally the supply of construction materials, such as windows and doors has been significantly impacted. This remains a key pressure to the service.
- **Labour market pressures** – despite continued attempts to procure additional resources to accelerate service delivery this has proved extremely difficult owing to the national shortages of skilled tradespeople.
- **Transfer of delivery arrangements in South**– as with any service transfer of this scale and complexity this has impacted short term of performance.

3.1.6 Void recovery remains a critical priority for Housing Leeds and every effort continues to be made to identify additional capacity to accelerate the recovery programmes.

3.2 Lettings

3.2.1 In quarter 1 there were 688 lettings, with a total average relet time of 77.8 days. Demand for Council homes continues to increase, with an increase in the number of people on the Leeds Homes Register from 24058 at the end of 2020/21 to 26028 at the end of quarter 1. Linked to this we saw a further increase in the average number of bids per property from 287 per property in quarter 4 2020/21 to 324 in quarter 1.

3.2.2 The Emergency Lettings Policy which has been in place since March 2020 came to an end in July 2021 in line with the lifting of most national restrictions. Whilst in place the policy enabled the rehousing of 257 lettings of customers whose circumstance made them more vulnerable to the impacts of COVID19, e.g. enabling discharge from hospital or emergency accommodation. Of the 257 lettings, 228 were into Council housing and 29 into Housing Association homes.

4. Asset Management and Investment

4.1 Strategy and Investment team have worked in collaboration with University of Leeds to develop a new model that enables analysis of stock data to identify and target investment through retrofit/ upgrade works in homes where the biggest thermal improvement can be made to council owned homes. As part of our planning and delivery processes we also consider the operational carbon impact of the different options available, favouring schemes that promote the retrofitting and improvement of existing homes.

4.2 The Capital investment programme sets out the plan to deliver over £100m of renewable heating and energy efficiency projects in the next five years. Since the last update, Ground Source Heat Pumps have been installed at four high rise blocks and a further six blocks due for completion by March 2022.

4.3 Alongside this, the Clustering for Warmth project to create 6 new district heating networks has had a contract awarded for the first two clusters of ten high rise blocks to have Ground Source Heat Pumps installed. By mid-2022 twenty high rise blocks will have moved from electric storage heating to this new green technology, benefitting 944 homes.

4.4 A small pilot project using the most recent Air source heat pump technology was recently completed to 14 homes and the learning and insight gained from this will be used to inform future investment decisions.

4.5 Planning and consultation for the regeneration of the Priority Neighbourhood Lincoln Green has been ongoing since the last update and some initial work on site has begun. Roxby Close has been the first of the high rise in the area to have whole building improvement work which includes the installation of external wall insulation, reducing heat loss and increasing thermal comfort.

4.6 Ongoing programmes of core investment activity include the following:

- Replacement kitchen, bathrooms and rewiring

- Fire safety works
- Sprinkler installations
- Communal rewiring
- New communal doors, screens, and controlled entry systems

4.7 The service is working with a range of partners to deliver energy projects into council housing, including:

- Groundwork Yorkshire - engaging Green Doctor services to enable tenants to access advice on fuel tariffs and other energy efficiency measures.
- Leeds Beckett University –measuring levels of embodied carbon to inform the option appraisals process and the fitting of heat/humidity sensors to capture the benefit of energy projects
- Connecting environmental schemes with cycle routes through joint working with Highways
- Pilot scheme to install Electric Charging points in council homes
- A review of green spaces and gardens to increase tree planting, biodiversity and food growing.
- Replacing all lighting with LEDs, offering discounts on the most efficient appliances, creating ‘tool libraries’ for individuals to use, etc.
- Sustainable Energy and Air Quality Team – to secure additional funding / grants
- Joint working with Parks and Countryside - identifying HRA land for tree planting initiative - tree canopy data now included in the GIS mapping portal to inform Solar PV installation.
- Contractors providing residents having renewable heating or energy efficiency work with Green Boxes containing water saving devices, LED bulbs, and energy saving and energy tariff advice.

5. Customer Contact / Engagement

5.1 Building on the trial using [Your Voice Leeds](#), during the first quarter eight different consultations were shared with tenants and local residents including a consultation on the design and content of the rent statement, the Greener Gipton and Harehills Campaign and a consultation asking tenants about managing their tenancy online. These consultations attracted over 1,800 visits to Your Voice Leeds, with 385 visitors better informed by drilling down into the page detail about the consultation and 81 tenants and residents actively participating in giving 1 or more piece of feedback.

5.2 During quarter 1 the Tenant Scrutiny Board continued to progress its enquiry into Tenant Engagement. The enquiry is split into 2 phases with phase 1 focusing on how Housing Leeds engages with and hears the wider tenant voice and phase 2 focusing on more formal tenant involvement. By the end of quarter 1 the Board had concluded the evidence gathering phase of stage 1 of the enquiry and were beginning to consider its report and recommendations. Additional support has been provided to the Board on this enquiry, via an independent advisor, to highlight national best practice and support the Board’s independence in undertaking this enquiry.

- 5.3 Local Housing Advisory Panels (HAPs) have met remotely throughout Quarter 1, supporting a total of 39 projects to a value of £71,311. This consists of 25 grants to community and voluntary organisations and 14 environmental projects in response to tenant and resident feedback to help improve the overall environment and neighbourhood as a place to live. Examples include the renewing of old planters and seating, grants to community litter picking groups, improved signage and fencing and bin storage and recycling works.
- 5.4 During quarter 1 we have continued to see significant contact into the service by telephone. The contact centre received 114k calls during quarter 1, answering 93% of calls and housing offices received 40.8k calls, answering 84%. Joint project work between Housing Leeds and Customer Access continues to monitor the nature of contact in order to identify opportunities to reduce avoidable contact.
- 5.5 During quarter 1 73% of stage 1 housing complaints were responded to within the target timescale of 15 days and 61% of stage 2 complaints. This is largely a result of the significant increase in the volume of complaints and the demand this is placing on LCC staff to robustly investigate and respond to the complaints. The increase in the volume of complaints is predominantly a result of the delays in completing some non-emergency repairs, linked to the repairs recovery programme.
- 5.6 Property Management has recently introduced the Intervention Team to the service, aimed at resolving customer enquiries and delivering improved outcomes for customers without the need for a formal complaint. Although still a relatively new initiative within the service, the Intervention Team is proving to be extremely effective in managing this customer contact and finding the most efficient resolution.

6. Retirement Life / Adaptations

- 6.1 During most of quarter 1 wellbeing contacts to Retirement Life tenants continued in the main by telephone with some visits to more vulnerable customers. Following a tenant engagement exercise to understand longer term tenant preferences preparations were made to roll out the longer term wellbeing service offer which offers a mixture of visits and telephone contacts up to 5 days per week, to meet the preferences of each tenant. This longer term service offer started from 5 July.
- 6.2 The adaptations service continued during quarter 1 to complete adaptations in the public and private sector. The service has been impacted by materials shortages, labour market pressures and COVID working practices as with the repairs and maintenance service which has impacted on performance. In the public sector 74% adaptations were completed within timescale and 81% in the private sector.

7. Homelessness / Housing Options

- 7.1 Leeds Housing Options has continued to excel at early intervention, accepting 76% of homelessness assessments at the point of the applicant being threatened with homelessness, rather than when actually homeless (the national average on this is 42%). This has resulted in high levels of prevention outcomes being achieved, with 89% of applicants who approached when threatened with homelessness

being helped to secure an accommodation outcome that is available to them for a minimum of 6 months. In turn, this has resulted in consistently low temporary accommodation figures: the current figure is 53.

- 7.2 The service has been successful in securing funding for a specific Domestic Abuse Housing Advice team, who will be offering an enhanced specialist support & advice service for DA victims.
- 7.3 It also continues to work closely with Street Support and Commissioning colleagues to try and reduce the number of rough sleepers found in Leeds and has been heavily involved in the introduction of new 'Housing First' style accommodation, as well as more traditional hostel style provision.
- 7.4 The service is liaising closely with various social and private landlords in anticipation of the arrival of families fleeing Afghanistan who will need help with rehousing in Leeds.

8. Private Sector Regulation

- 8.1 During the quarter 1, services have continued to be delivered in line with Government guidance. This involved continuing to try to resolve issues remotely where possible, with inspections and visits taking place when required. The service continued to inspect properties where there was immediate risk to any occupiers, ensuring the safety of all concerned. In additional properties offered to provide homes for people as part of the Leeds Landlord Scheme to help with the homeless prevention and support people coming out of the hotels post lockdown were all inspected.
- 8.2 In October last year the Council recommenced the collection of licence fees which it had suspended in the first lockdown to support the sector. This has allowed us to continue to process licences especially those linked to the selective licensing schemes in Beeston and Harehills. So far over the 2 schemes we have received 5414 applications which are currently live, we have issued 3834 draft licences, 2940 actual licences, and had 352 applications deemed withdrawn by the applicant for non-payment. We continue to receive applications with 221 received in the last 3 months alone. COVID restrictions have meant a different way of working with reduced office capacity, which has impacted on the service's ability to process the licences resulting in our not being able to progress the issuing of them as quickly as initially planned.
- 8.3 As part of the scheme unfortunately several landlords have failed in their legal duty to apply for or hold a licence. Failure to do so is an absolute offence leading to potential legal action, namely a civil penalty of up to £30k or prosecution in the courts. So far 208 properties have been identified as potentially operating without a licence, resulting in evidence against 147, 52 where no evidence was found, and the remaining cases still being investigated. This has so far resulted in the issuing of 109 intention to issue a civil penalty, of which 79 have now had the final notice issued with 22 appeals received in relation to landlord's civil penalties.
- 8.4 The service continues to work with partners to target criminality in the sector. This way of working has continued to develop with improved understanding of roles and actions partners can take, improved intelligence sharing and joint visits to properties. In the last 6 months by working in this way and closer together, it

has contributed to £4m worth of cannabis being removed from properties through targeted action.

9. Housing Strategy Review

9.1 The current Leeds Housing Strategy is a 5 year strategy for the period 2016-2021. A review of the strategy had been planned to begin in early 2020, but was put on hold during the initial lockdowns due to other workload pressures. A review of the strategy is now planned to take place during late 2021 with a view to developing a final updated strategy by March 2021.

9.2 The Leeds Strategic Housing Board met in September to agree the proposed approach to the Housing Strategy review. It is proposed that the review takes the following approach:

- The strategy is closely aligned to the 3 strategic pillars of the Council.
- Discussions with Council officers and relevant Boards, e.g., Health and Wellbeing Board. to ensure that the strategy is aligned to wider strategic priorities.
- A workshop with Board Members and key partners to review the strategy themes and priorities.
- Wider engagement with partners and the housing sector via online survey, meetings etc to ensure that there is collaboration across the wider housing sectors.
- Citizen engagement – via online survey / engagement and Tenant Scrutiny Board.
- Equality Impact Assessment – equality considerations of the strategy.

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Capital Programme Investment to Improve Energy Efficiency in Council Housing Stock

Date: October 2021

Report of: Head of Strategy & Investment

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

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

What is this report about?

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

- To provide assurance to scrutiny board that the climate emergency agenda is a key priority in investment to the council housing estate.
- To provide an update on projects within the 5 year investment programme that will specifically contribute to decarbonisation of council housing, this will include a breakdown of the £133m investment referenced in the March 2021 report to scrutiny.
- To provide an update on the capital investment planned to council high rise buildings that will contribute to the climate emergency agenda.

Recommendations

To note the contents of this report

Background – Investment Context

Leeds City Council owns over 54,000 homes in the city comprising of:

- High Rise flats
- Medium/low rise flats
- Traditional build housing including back to backs
- System Built houses

The council invests over £80m annually in these homes through its HRA capital programme, delivering a range of projects including fire safety, H&S, energy efficiency and lifecycle replacement. There is a five-year commitment to increasing the investment in renewable technologies which will improve the thermal efficiency of homes, decrease carbon emissions, and reduce fuel poverty. The investment also aims to bring about a regenerative effect, extending work to include the immediate environment to improve the perception of place and community.

There are several drivers underpinning the current investment programme, these include:

- Addressing historic under-investment in high rise buildings
- Prioritising properties with low EPC ratings, obsolete heating systems, and health & safety issues (worst-first)
- Properties requiring lifecycle replacement, urgent repairs (fabric-first)
- Properties that meet criteria for external funding/inward investment
- Homes in priority neighbourhoods (fuel poverty, health and wellbeing)

1.1 Breakdown of £133m decarbonisation projects as referenced in the March 2021 Report

Table A – Retrofit projects that will increase thermal efficiency of low performing properties

Investment in Decarbonisation Project Name	Finished	On Site	Pipeline	In Planning			Households
	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	2025+	
Shakespeares Project							297
Roofing							471
Air Source Heat Pumps							14
GSHP Programme (Phases 1&2)							212
GSHP Programme (Phases 3&4)							366
Roxby Close Thermal Efficiency							60
District Heating Network - Leeds Pipes							1,200
Westons							20
Holtdales							190
Fitting the Future							160
Marlborough Thermal Efficiency							99
Moor Grange Court Thermal Efficiency Work							60
Lovells Thermal Efficiency Work							297
Back to backs Insulation - Phase 1							750
District Heating Clusters							1,483
Low Rise Thermal Efficiency Work - Phase 1							60
Low Rise Thermal Efficiency Work - Phase 2							56
High Rise Thermal Efficiency Works - Phase 5							480
GSHP Programme (Phase 5)							1,366
Back to backs Insulation - Phase 2							650
Cavity & Loft Insulation							4,000

1.2 Decarbonisation projects in council high- rise buildings

Capital investment is targeted into lowest performing properties first. The investment programming process utilises a data-led approach taking information from a variety of sources including:

- Internal stock conditions surveys
- Externally commissioned technical specialists' reports
- Information from an investment planning model developed in conjunction with the University of Leeds
- Data on indices of deprivation and priority localities in the city

Decarbonisation projects focus on the fabric of the buildings, this includes external wall insulation (EWI), new roofing, windows, and installation of renewable heating systems.

Table B – A breakdown of retrofit projects in high rise buildings within the council housing estate

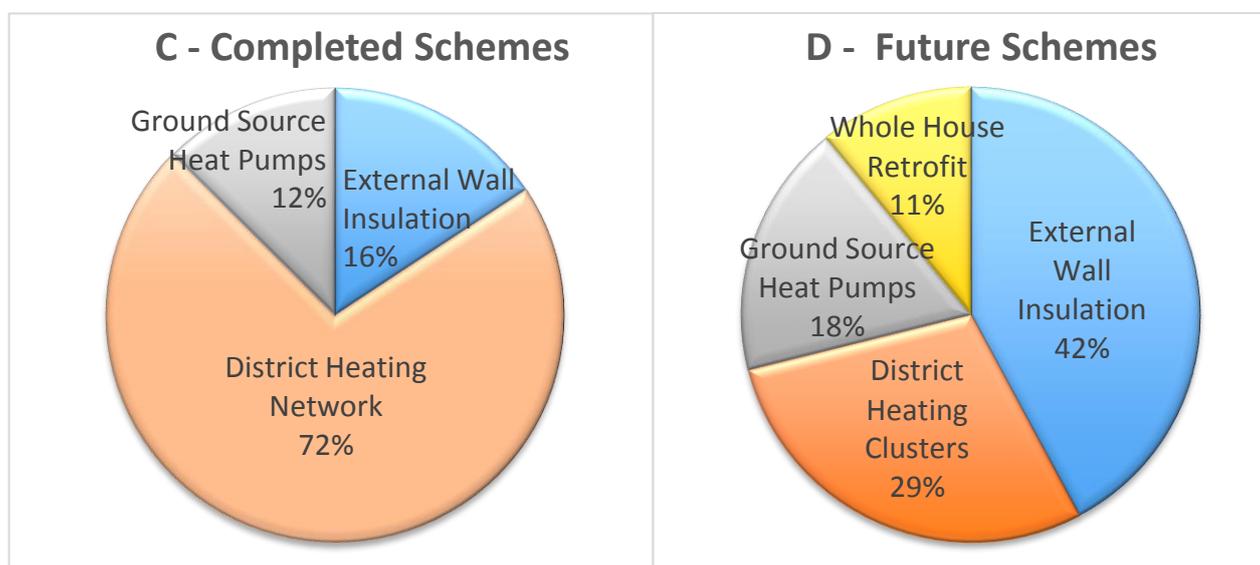
High Rise Project Name	Finished	On Site	Pipeline	In Planning			Households
	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	2025+	
Shakespeares Project							297
GSHP Ph1 (Heights East & West)							120
GSHP Ph2 (Westerly Rise & Croft)							92
Roofing							471
Roxby Close Thermal Efficiency							60
District Heating Network - Leeds Pipes							1,200
GSHP Ph3 (Queenswoods)							92
GSHP Ph4 (Rycrofts)							274
Marlborough Thermal Efficiency							99
Moor Grange Court Thermal Efficiency Work							60
Lovells Thermal Efficiency Work							297
District Heating Clusters							1,483
High Rise Thermal Efficiency Works - Phase 5							480
GSHP Future phases							1,366

Decarbonisation Projects

The charts below show the type of work that make up the £133m decarbonisation programme.

Diagram C shows the schemes that have been delivered in the past two years.

Diagram D shows schemes planned to be delivered over the next four years



Carbon savings for completed schemes

12,864 tonnes per annum

Projected carbon savings for future schemes

13,659 tonnes per annum

1.3 Funding and future plans

1.3.1 The shift in emphasis towards renewable energy and thermal efficiency projects will require significant inward investment to allow the council to continue delivering the other priority works it is responsible for. These works are funded through the HRA programme and include H&S, fire safety, maintaining decency standards and statutory compliance.

Table C – Funding breakdown for Housing Decarbonisation Projects

Project Name	External Funding £m	HRA Funding £m	Status
Leeds Pipes	7.0	13.7	Completed
Shakespeares EWI	0.7	3.8	Completed
Holtdales	4.2	4.7	On Site
Clustering for Warmth	6.9	17.1	On Site
Air Source Heat Pumps	0.2	0.1	Completed
TIBB	5.3	4.9	On Site
Westons EWI	0.1	0.2	On Site
GSHP Phase 1*	2.1	0.0	Completed
GSHP Phase 2*	1.7	0.0	Completed
Total External Funding	28.1	44.4	

*Initially funded by HRA. RHI income will be claimed over a 20-year period resulting in a net zero cost to the HRA.

1.3.2 The Strategy and Investment team are currently working on a submission for Wave 1 of the SHDF with the Sustainable Energy and Air Quality team, to support projects at pipeline or planning stage.

1.3.3 External funding streams generally come with demanding timescales for both bid submission and delivery. Potential future funding opportunities have been identified, and preparation work for bid submissions has been included in the planning of projects, optimising the Council's ability to access external funding, such as further waves of SHDF, and ECO4.

What impact will this proposal have?

Wards Affected:

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

2 Installation of renewable heating technologies including Ground Source Heat Pumps will support the decarbonisation of the council housing portfolio. A proactive programme to install a range of energy efficiency measures to improve thermal comfort and reduce fuel poverty supporting Health and Wellbeing.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

3 Residents are consulted at the appropriate point for each individual project.

The Executive member for Housing was consulted on the 2021/22 capital investment programme and is consulted on individual projects at the earliest opportunity.

Local members are consulted at appropriate points for any work in their respective wards.

What are the resource implications?

- 4 The delivery of the projects is undertaken by the Strategy and Investment team within Housing Leeds. Some additional resources have been secured through government grants to increase resources for the team. A report to enhance resources is currently with the Trade Unions as part of the consultation process. The financing of projects is through a mix of HRA capital finance and government grants.

What are the legal implications?

- 5 There are no known legal implications of the work being undertaken.

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

- 6 The following are the main risks associated with this programme of activity:
- Risk to inward funding if delivery timeframes are not met including shortage of building materials.
 - Risk of balancing other programme priorities including fire safety, H&S
 - Risk that the level of resourcing is insufficient to meet programme demands and expectations of stakeholders
 - Risk of the procurement process slowing down the delivery expectations of external funders

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

Inclusive Growth

Health and Wellbeing

Climate Emergency

- 7 This programme will support all three of the Council's Key Pillars as detailed elsewhere in this report.

Options, timescales and measuring success

a) What other options were considered?

The declaration of a climate emergency in March 2019 means that maintaining the status quo is not an option.

We are responding with agility to the availability of government funding which has shortened timeframes and undertaking the programme of work over a longer timescale would reduce the Council's access to this external funding.

b) How will success be measured?

- Through robust monitoring of carbon savings in all housing retrofit schemes.
 - 12,864 tonnes per annum achieved in completed schemes
 - Anticipated 13,659 tonnes per annum in schemes currently being delivered
 - Ensure carbon savings is a key consideration in future schemes
- Improved health and wellbeing and customer satisfaction through better thermal comfort
- Improved affordable warmth, reduction in fuel poverty
- Improved energy performance rating of council owned stock

c) What is the timetable for implementation?

- 8 Currently in Year 1 of a 5-year investment programme that commenced April 2020.

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Climate change update - reducing carbon emissions across the Council's estate

Date: 21 October 2021

Report of: Chief Officer, Sustainable Energy & Air Quality

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

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

What is this report about?

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

- This report provides a progress update to Scrutiny Board on work to reduce carbon emissions from the corporate estate and from a range of the Council's other activities.
- The report summarises the programme of work to deliver decarbonisation measures across the corporate estate, predominantly using Government grant funding.
- The report also provides an update on sustainable Council fleet and staff business travel schemes and measures being implemented.
- The range of measures and activities outlined provide a very clear and direct contribution to the City priority relating to climate action and to the achievement of the Council's net zero carbon target.

Recommendations

- a) Scrutiny Board is requested to note the contents of this report and to comment and make recommendations as appropriate.

Why is the proposal being put forward?

- 1 This report provides a progress update to Scrutiny Board (Environment, Communities & Housing) on work to reduce carbon emissions from the corporate estate and from a range of the Council's other activities.
- 2 The council's key sources of emissions are street lighting, its buildings and its fleet. The Council has already acquired the largest local government electric vehicle fleet in the UK, committed to halve the energy required for street lighting by transferring to LED and to replace gas in our city centre buildings with district heating. A series of further recommendations were made to the Executive Board in 2020, including the following:
 - Commit to a rationalisation and energy efficiency programme which reduces emissions from Council buildings by a further 40% by 2025;
 - Purchase 100% of our electricity from green sources, supporting new renewable capacity;
 - Purchase only low emission vehicles by 2025;
 - Remove payment for the use of staff petrol and diesel cars by 2025.
- 3 The results of these actions predicted and reported to Executive Board in 2020 are set out in the table below:

	Tonnes CO₂e 2018	Tonnes CO₂e 2025
Streetlighting	13,821	0
Buildings (gas)	28,618	20,600
Buildings (electricity)	18,107	1,405
Fleet	10,274	9,000
Total	70,820	31,005

- 4 The above figures primarily cover scope 1 and 2 emissions, but work is also in progress to quantify our scope 3 emissions (to include areas such as food, etc.).

Corporate Estate

- 5 The Council has continued to work to reduce carbon emissions from its estate. Energy prices are currently at an unprecedented high, and whilst this represents a significant financial risk to the Council, it also strengthens the business case for investment in energy efficiency measures and renewables infrastructure.
- 6 The scheme to transfer the city's street lighting to LEDs has continued to be rolled out, resulting in a 10.5 million kWh reduction in electricity consumption since 2018 and a saving of 2,348 tonnes CO₂e. Moving forward, a further 1,900 lanterns per month will be replaced up until the planned completion of the roll-out in October 2023.
- 7 In addition to this, the Department of Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) opened the £1 billion Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) in Autumn 2020, offering grant funding to support the decarbonisation of heat in non-domestic public sector buildings. A total of five bids were submitted by the Council to the grant scheme between October and December 2020, all of which were successful.
- 8 The combined value of the schemes being delivered is £25.2m, with bids including the installation of air source heat pumps, connections to district heating network, solar PV, building energy

management systems, LED lighting, double glazing, variable speed drives, metering and radiator upgrades. Initially the Sustainable Energy & Air Quality team (SEAQ) applied to deliver works across 43 sites. As preliminary activity has progressed, there have been some alterations to scope. Overall, measures will be delivered at no fewer than 40 sites. These include 8 leisure centres, 4 civic buildings, 12 primary schools and a further mix of offices, depots, children's centres and homes for older people. The SEAQ team, LBS, Corporate Property Management and a range of other internal and external partners have been working together this year to carry out technical feasibility assessments, design work and to procure contractors to deliver these schemes. A large volume of installations have already been completed, and the entire programme must be delivered by the end of March 2022. The schemes will enable an estimated 3,145 tonnes CO₂e to be saved per year upon completion and would support the local green economy, safeguarding or creating an estimated 280 jobs.

- 9 Asset Management continue to lead the programme of rationalisation of the Council's estate, with the changes in ways of working resulting from Covid-19 restrictions highlighting in particular the scope for rationalisation of office space, as well as exploring opportunities across the wider estate.
- 10 Whilst a number of buildings have re-opened with Covid secure measures in place, Asset Management are working with Directorates through their service review process to understand estate requirements going forward, with options appraisals, Member engagement and the capital receipt programme all feeding into this wider process.
- 11 The Council also approved a target in January 2020 to move to 100% electricity provided from green sources through entering into a power purchase agreement, but with the ambition to progressively move to more locally produced renewables over the next ten years. In light of the opportunity presented by the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme to accelerate the roll-out of renewable generation capacity across the council's own estate, the emphasis this year has been more on the latter part of this target. However, the Council is still actively seeking opportunities to enter into a corporate agreement that will see all of its electricity demand met from renewable sources, but that will provide sufficient flexibility to accommodate the rapidly changing profile of its future energy requirements. Alongside this, the Council is exploring the potential to deliver large scale solar schemes within Leeds.
- 12 These measures combined will deliver substantial progress towards the commitment made in January 2020 to a rationalisation and energy efficiency programme which will reduce emissions from Council buildings by a further 40% by 2025.

Fleet and Grey Fleet

- 13 The corporate fleet will benefit from the Electric Vehicle Trial Centre, with the trial fleet being absorbed into the corporate fleet at the end of the Trial Centre programme. The trial centre has a fleet of 45 vehicles currently, with the additional 16 larger vans providing 61 further electric vehicles (EV) to complement the existing fleet of 300 zero emission vehicles. The development of the charging infrastructure for fleet is ongoing with the roll out of new charge facilities at depot sites and officers' homes. This includes a significant charge hub installation at the Seacroft Ring Road site that will support the growing EV fleet used by Leeds Building Services. The fleet replacement programme is being developed with the internal target of all vehicles using alternative fuel where possible and to align with the city target of Carbon Neutrality by 2030.
- 14 The new Waste Services depot is also being designed to include charging facility and capacity that future proofs the potential for up to 50 electric refuse collection vehicles. The site opening in 2022 and will have the immediate capacity to charge 20 refuse vehicles as well as the existing fleet of small vans. Electric refuse vehicles are estimated by the Energy Savings Trust to reduce carbon emissions by approximately 32 tonnes per annum and NO_x emissions by 104kg per annum.
- 15 Work has continued to promote sustainable alternatives to Council staff for business related travel ('grey mileage') in support of the aim to remove payment of expenses for travel in staff petrol and diesel cars by 2025. However, Covid-19 restrictions have unsurprisingly had a huge impact in reducing levels of staff business mileage this year, with expense claims for 2020/21 at 49% of the mileage claimed for 2019/20.

- 16 During Covid-19 over 8,000 staff worked from home. A survey carried out in June 2020 showed that there was significant support from staff to keep working from home the future:
- 52% of staff expressed a desire to remain working remotely for most or all of the time, and over 80% wishing to work from home for more than half of their week;
 - In terms of the future office environment, the tasks that staff would prioritise if they had limited time in the office in future were: team meetings, collaboration with colleagues, training and development and personal social interaction.
- 17 The promotion and expansion of sustainable travel alternatives for staff has been impacted by Covid-19 given the implications for use of public transport and initiatives such as car-sharing. It will be important now to ascertain the new norm in relation to grey fleet patterns so as to determine what the appropriate offering and balance of alternative travel options should be.
- 18 However, as staff return to work in offices they will be advised on the current and emerging position with public transport and other green travel options, as well as to optimise hybrid work to avoid unnecessary work journeys.
- 19 The Cycle to Work scheme was extended last year to allow the purchase of bikes (including e-bikes) up to a value of £3,000, and also repayments over 24 months in order to make the scheme more affordable. Purchase of bikes following the start of the initial lockdown were higher than for any of the last five years of the scheme. Cyclescheme were appointed in June 2021 as the new Cycle to Work scheme provider.
- 20 An Ultra-Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) Lease Car Scheme is also to be tendered and will be launched in 2022. This will provide staff with an option to have an electric vehicle “on the road” at lower cost. Based on uptake in other organisations this will see further reductions in emissions from grey fleet mileage, with the potential for around 200 staff replacing their diesel or petrol vehicles with ULEVs annually.
- 21 The Car Club pool car scheme remains available and has been adapted to ensure provision of Covid secure vehicles, with the current contract now extended by WYCA until February 2022.
- 22 Although the availability of sustainable travel alternatives and a review of the expenses policy will remain central to achieving the Council’s aim to reduce grey mileage, consolidating new and more efficient ways of working that have emerged during this year will be of equal importance, and all services have been challenged to identify and realise these opportunities.

What impact will this proposal have?

Wards Affected: None specifically		
Have ward members been consulted?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

- 23 The activities covered within this report represent a key part of the Council achieving its net zero carbon targets. As well as substantial carbon reductions, the various schemes and measures covered in this report will bring a range of health and environmental benefits to the people of Leeds and beyond.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 24 Extensive public consultation has been carried out further to the declaration of the climate emergency for Leeds. There has been engagement across Council services in identifying suitable sites and delivering decarbonisation measures.

What are the resource implications?

- 25 The projects and measures covered in this report are largely cost neutral to the Council. In particular, decarbonisation measures across the corporate estate are either grant funded or are based on business cases where the capital repayment costs are offset by the financial savings from reduced energy consumption.

What are the legal implications?

- 26 There are no specific legal implications.

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

- 27 Key risks include market capacity to deliver decarbonisation schemes within timescales, availability of ongoing grant funding for further future schemes, and uptake of sustainable travel measures. These risks are being managed through effective procurement, market engagement, project management and ongoing marketing and communications.

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

- Inclusive Growth Health and Wellbeing Climate Emergency

- 28 The proposal clearly supports the three pillars through stimulating investment and employment within the City, and reducing emissions and carbon relating to the Council's and the City's activities.

Options, timescales and measuring success

a) What other options were considered?

- 29 In selecting the preferred technology solutions for decarbonisation measures across the corporate estate, the project team has assessed a range of technology solutions and options.

b) How will success be measured?

- 30 Success will be measured primarily through the Council's ongoing carbon reporting.

c) What is the timetable for implementation?

- 31 There are various interim timescales for the measures covered in this report as referred to above. However, the ultimate timescale is for the achievement of the City target of net zero carbon by 2030.

Appendices

- 32 None.

Background papers

- 33 [Report to Executive Board - Annual Report on the Climate Emergency – 10th February 2021](#)

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Tackling the Anti-Social Use of Fireworks: Inquiry Response

Date: 21 October 2021

Report of: Head of Democratic Services

Report to: Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

What is this report about?

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

- In 2020/21 the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) carried out an inquiry into tackling the anti-social use of fireworks in Leeds. The inquiry concluded in March 2021.
- Having heard evidence from various stakeholders, members of the Board determined that it was appropriate to set out their conclusions in a report, which would subsequently be brought to the attention of the Executive Board.
- In line with the [Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules](#) the report (attached at appendix 1) sets out:
 - An explanation of the matter reviewed or scrutinised
 - A list of participants involved in the review
 - A summary of the evidence that the Scrutiny Board has taken
 - An explanation of any recommendations
- The draft inquiry report was considered by Board members at the first meeting of the new municipal year in June 2021. However, due to Covid-19 health and safety advice that meeting was held as a remote consultative session. Agreement to the recommendations set out in the report was therefore provided by the Board in principle, subject to final agreement at a formally constituted session (from May 2021 legislation reverted to a pre-pandemic position with meetings required to be held physically in order to be formally constituted).
- In order to finalise the report, the response of the relevant senior officer(s) is also required to be reported to the Board at a formally constituted meeting of the Board.
- The advice of senior officers in response to the Board's recommendations is reflected in the table at Appendix 2 for consideration by the Board.
- Having received this advice members are asked to consider whether they wish to amend any of the recommendations in the report.

- Members are asked to agree whether they wish to share the final report and the associated advice with the Executive Board. If members are agreeable to doing so the Executive Board will be asked, in line with the [Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules](#), to respond to the Scrutiny Board indicating what action (if any) it proposes to take.
- Members are asked to note that at the next meeting of the Scrutiny Board (be that a consultative or formally constituted meeting) an update will be provided about the 2021 experience of the peak period for anti-social use of fireworks following Bonfire Night, Mischief Night and Halloween.

Recommendations

- a) The Board is asked to consider the response of senior officers to the recommendations set out in the attached inquiry report.
- b) The Board is asked to agree any amendments to the original recommendations in light of the officer advice provided.
- c) Members are asked to confirm whether they are happy to formally share the final version of the report and the associated advice with the Executive Board.

Why is the proposal being put forward?

- 1 The Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules require the advice of senior officers to be reported to the Scrutiny Board in response to recommendations set out in an inquiry report.
- 2 This must be carried out in a formally constituted meeting – as of May 2021 there is a requirement for such meetings to take place physically.

What impact will this proposal have?

Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 3 The Board is asked to consider the advice of senior officers in response to the recommendations set out in its Tackling Anti-Social Use of Fireworks Inquiry Report with a view to referring a final version of the report to the Executive Board for consideration.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 4 Consultation has taken place with a wide range of stakeholders – a full list is included in the inquiry report in line with the requirements of the Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules.
- 5 Further consultation has taken place with the Executive Member and senior officers. The advice at Appendix 2 sets out a formal response to the recommendations.

What are the resource implications?

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

What are the legal implications?

- 7 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

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

- 8 There are no risk management issues associated with this report.

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

- Inclusive Growth Health and Wellbeing Climate Emergency

- 9 The recommendations set out in the inquiry report attempt to address a range of concerns about the effect of the anti-social use of fireworks on Leeds' communities, including the impact on vulnerable citizens and partner organisations.

Options, timescales and measuring success

a) What other options were considered?

- 10 The attached report sets out the concluding recommendations of the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities) with the advice of the relevant senior officers attached.
- 11 It is for the Scrutiny Board to determine whether the final version of the report should now be subject to consideration by the Executive Board.

b) How will success be measured?

- 12 It will be for the Executive Board to consider what (if any) action it wishes to take as a result of the recommendations set out in the Scrutiny Board report if scrutiny board members agree to its referral.

c) What is the timetable for implementation?

- 13 Once agreed by the Scrutiny Board the final report will be referred for consideration by the Executive Board.
- 14 It will be for the Executive Board to consider what (if any) action it wishes to take as a result of the recommendations set out in the Scrutiny Board report.

Appendices

- 1 Tackling the Anti-Social use of Fireworks: Inquiry Report
- 2 Recommendation Table: Officer Response
- 3 2021 Peak Period Planning Summary (Bonfire Night/Halloween)

Background papers

- 4 None

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Leeds
CITY COUNCIL

scrutiny



Environment, Housing
and Communities

Tackling the Anti-Social Use of Fireworks

March 2021



leeds.gov.uk/scrutiny



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Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board

Scrutiny Board Membership (2020/21):

Councillor B Anderson	(Adel and Wharfedale Ward)
Councillor J Akhtar	(Little London and Woodhouse Ward)
Councillor J Bentley	(Weetwood Ward)
Councillor A Blackburn	(Farnley and Wortley Ward)
Councillor K Brooks	(Little London and Woodhouse Ward)
Councillor D Collins	(Horsforth Ward)
Councillor M Dobson	(Garforth and Swillington Ward)
Councillor A Gabriel	(Beeston and Holbeck Ward)
Councillor P Grahame	(Cross Gates and Whinmoor Ward)
Councillor P Gruen	(Cross Gates and Whinmoor Ward)
Councillor A Khan	(Burmantofts and Richmond Hill Ward)
Councillor M Harland	(Kippax and Methley Ward)*
Councillor L Mulherin	(Ardsley and Robin Hood Ward)**
Councillor N Sharpe	(Temple Newsam Ward)
Councillor T Smith	(Pudsey Ward)

Environment, Housing & Communities Scrutiny Board

Focusing on services affecting the lives of citizens living and working in the council's neighbourhoods to monitor progress as a citizen focused city and prioritising environmental sustainability.

Queries in relation to this report can be directed to the Principal Scrutiny Officer supporting the inquiry:

Rebecca Atherton

 Becky.atherton@leeds.gov.uk

 0113 37 88642

Further information about the work of the committee can be found here:

[Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board](#)

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*Board member until February 2021

** Board member from February 2021



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Foreword

Foreword from the Chair

Our most recent inquiry left members of the Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board in no doubt that the anti-social use of fireworks causes distress and concern for some of our most vulnerable citizens.

While some instances of this behaviour are clear cases of disorder, we also considered the impact of the increasingly frequent use of private fireworks for events and celebrations.

We heard about noise pollution affecting people with whose health conditions include sensory sensitivities, sheltered communities and veterans with PTSD. We also discussed the concerns of pet owners, those with livestock and the impact on wildlife.

The Board listened to evidence from frontline workers who had come under attack from fireworks used as missiles and we explored the increasing pressure on public sector organisations to respond to predictable peaks of firework related anti-social behaviour.

It should be said that throughout this inquiry Board members have been mindful of the fact that the majority of people in Leeds enjoy the safe, responsible use of fireworks, often as part of public – though not necessarily professional - displays. These displays have not fallen within the remit of this inquiry.

Many of the solutions to the challenges we have identified require national legislative change. This is already a highly regulated area. However, we are recommending that Government explores a series of changes to existing legislation to strengthen the suite of options available to those trying to prevent and respond to firework-related anti-social behaviour.

As a city we should be proud of all those involved in tackling dangerous and disorderly behaviour in our communities. The inquiry process highlighted many examples of good operational practice locally and we must ensure partners can easily share and learn from their experiences.

As the Chair of the Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board I want to thank all those elected members, council officers and partners who took part in our inquiry. Your time, expertise and insight was invaluable in informing the recommendations set out in this report.

Cllr Barry Anderson

Chair, Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board



Summary

1. Aims of the Inquiry

Best Council Priority: Supporting Safe, Strong Communities

- Examine the impact of the anti-social use of fireworks on local communities and public services, with particular reference to vulnerable citizens, emergency workers and animal welfare.
- Explore examples of good practice across local partnerships, which can inform the future planning of the city and the region's response to the anti-social use of fireworks.
- Develop recommendations for national legislators which could secure the changes necessary to reduce the harmful consequences of the anti-social use of fireworks.

2. Key Findings

- 2.1 During 2020/21 the Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board explored the impact of an increase in the anti-social use of fireworks on Leeds' communities and local public services.
- 2.2 The conclusions of the Board are based upon evidence from a wide range of sources and emerged through a process of collaborative discussion with partners.
- 2.3 From the outset Scrutiny Board members acknowledged the considerable number of people in the city that enjoy safe, scheduled public firework displays that take place at key points of the year. There was recognition that these events bring real benefits in terms of community cohesion and often provide fundraising opportunities for local charities.
- 2.4 Members did, however, determine that it would be valuable to consider the concerns raised by Leeds residents about anti-social behaviour linked to predictable peaks in the use of fireworks and also a perceived increase in the frequency with which fireworks are used on private land throughout the year.

"Leeds has a strong and effective community safety partnership. A multi-agency approach ensures all available tools and powers are fully utilised to tackle environmental issues, anti-social behaviour and criminal activity."

Paul Money, Chief Officer Safer Leeds



Summary

- 2.5 The Board welcomed the robust local approach to the planning and implementation of prevention and response strategies for predictable peak periods of anti-social behaviour such as Bonfire Night, Halloween and Mischief Night. The evidence suggests that these local partnership arrangements are delivering improved outcomes for communities often through effective engagement with known individuals, young people and community leaders.
- 2.6 However, the level of resource required to deliver these results - particularly in terms of frontline responders providing an on-street presence over the Bonfire Night period - is significant. Board members were concerned about the risks posed to those officers. They also remain concerned about the consequences for other activities of having to meet the service and budget demands created through annual occurrences of serious anti-social behaviour.
- 2.7 Local partners described going “above and beyond” to prevent anti-social behaviour linked to fireworks but agreed that legislative changes would provide them with additional tools to prevent and respond to anti-social behaviour more effectively.
- 2.8 Similarly the Board concluded that solutions to the harmful consequences of unrestricted frequent private firework use require changes in national legislation.
- 2.9 As well as making recommendations to national legislators, the Board has identified a number of recommendations relating to the local operational approach to disorderly behaviour linked to fireworks.
- 2.10 The recommendations of the Board are set out in full on pages 4 and 5.

Purpose of the Board’s Recommendations

Influence National Legislative Change

- Influence change in relation to the way in which fireworks can be purchased and used by private citizens.
- Empower partners to respond as effectively as possible to the challenge of fireworks - related anti-social behaviour.

Strengthen Local Operational Practice

- Identify opportunities to strengthen and develop the local response to predictable peaks in the anti-social use of fireworks.



Summary

3. Recommendations

Recommendations to National Legislators

	Recommendations to National Legislators
Licensing of sales	Strengthen national restrictions governing how, when and where fireworks can be purchased, and in what volume per transaction.
Short term licences	Restrict firework sales to 'all year round' retailers to reduce risks associated with 'pop up' sellers who appear for short periods.
Targeting 'proxy purchasing'	Introduce stronger legislation to specifically target the 'proxy purchase' of fireworks by adults on behalf of children.
Predictability of Use	Enable the implementation of restrictions on how frequently fireworks can be used on private property where concerns are identified.
Exclusion Zones	Introduce a mechanism through which local authorities can more readily work with communities to identify areas of particular sensitivity with a view to prohibiting all firework use in those zones.
Notification	Introduce a requirement for community notification of firework use by venues hosting private events.
Decibel Levels	Consider, in partnership with industry and animal welfare representatives, reducing the decibel level for consumer fireworks.
Investment in awareness campaigns	Invest in a national campaign to raise awareness of safe firework behaviours and to advocate greater consideration of people and animals in close proximity to firework use.
Illegal fireworks	Further work should be carried out to consider how illegal sales of fireworks can be more effectively monitored to better understand behaviours and to increase opportunities for preventative interventions.



Summary

Strengthening Local Operational Practice

	Recommendations Regarding Local Practice
ASB Injunction	Pursue a variation to the current injunction to secure power of arrest.
Sharing of good practice	Establish a mechanism to regularly share and learn lessons from localised case studies.
Social Media Platforms	Explore options to target messaging about the consequences of anti-social firework use at a young audience through the use of a wider range of social media platforms
Communication Partners	Consider whether the existing network of partners can be expanded to reach a wider audience with messages about firework related behaviours.
Diversionary Activities	Identify the resources required to safeguard and expand the localised provision of diversionary activities for young people.
Early engagement	Encourage early engagement with young people ahead of peak periods of firework related activity, ideally using trusted contacts who already have an established relationship with local young people.
Targeted Interventions	Support local partners to continue to deliver improved outcomes through the early identification of - and targeted engagement with - individuals for whom intelligence suggests there is a risk of becoming involved in disorder.
Accurate reporting	Explore ways in which to encourage the improved reporting of anti-social incidents linked to fireworks so as to ensure partners have more accurate information about the prevalence of such behaviour.
Licensing	Explore opportunities to include additional conditions on licences granted to venues where fireworks are regularly used in a manner that adversely impacts upon the local community.

Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder Engagement	It was agreed that the Scrutiny Board would share this report and its recommendations with Leeds MPs and the West Yorkshire Mayor.
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Part One

4. Inquiry Approach

- 4.1 In response to the concerns of local residents, the Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board agreed to give detailed consideration to the consequences of an increase in private firework use throughout the year, as well as the deliberate anti-social use of fireworks during predictable peak periods of activity such as Bonfire Night.
- 4.2 From the outset Scrutiny Board members acknowledged the considerable number of people in the city that enjoy safe, scheduled public firework displays that take place at key points of the year. Displays such as these did not fall within the remit of this inquiry.

Inquiry Structure

Stage One

- Examine the impact of the anti-social use of fireworks on local communities and public services, with particular reference to vulnerable citizens, emergency workers and animal welfare.

Stage Two

- Explore examples of good practice across local partnerships, which can inform the future planning of the city and the region's response to the anti-social use of fireworks.
- Develop recommendations for national legislators which could secure the changes necessary to reduce the harmful consequences of the anti-social use of fireworks.



Part One

Contributors to the Inquiry

- 4.3 The Board brought together a range of partners with an interest in preventing, monitoring and responding to the anti-social use of fireworks. Those that were represented are listed below. A full list of individual contributors can be found at Appendix 2.

Partners

West Yorkshire Police
West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service
West Yorkshire Joint Services (Trading Standards)
The Dog's Trust
Leeds Street Team
Calderdale Council

Leeds City Council

Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team
Youth Services
Communities

Councillors (Non-Board Members)

Cllr Amanda Carter
Cllr Matthew Robinson

Written Submissions

Dynamic Fireworks
RSPCA



Part Two

5. Examining The Evidence

Consequences for Communities and Public Services

- 5.1 The Board considered a number of specific issues of concern that had been brought to the attention of elected members by constituents, partner organisations and animal welfare organisations. Issues of disorderly behaviour, noise pollution, environmental concerns and unrestricted private firework use are considered below.
- 5.2 The Board recognised that the need to tackle the consequences of firework-related anti-social behaviour is not a challenge unique to Leeds. At a national level fireworks have been the subject of several e-petitions to Government in recent years, which were reviewed by the House of Commons Petitions Committee in 2019. Discussions are ongoing with other core cities to learn lessons about the different ways in which firework-related anti-social behaviour is addressed in other areas of the country.
- 5.3 Regionally, colleagues from Calderdale Council reflected on the “community tension” created by the increasingly frequent firework use at private venues that regularly host events. A Board member also attended a meeting about similar issues with Bradford City Council.

Recording incidents of Anti-Social Disorder

- 5.4 The Board examined data detailing the number of incidents involving fireworks that were reported to West Yorkshire Police citywide. That data showed a 37% increase on the previous year and identified localities which have experienced an upward trend in calls for service in peak periods.
- 5.5 There is, however, difficulty in establishing precise data about the inconsiderate or anti-social use of fireworks. This has led to some disagreement about the extent of the concerns under discussion.
- 5.6 Industry representatives have challenged the assertion that there is general increase in the use of private fireworks given that imports had remained static for around 4 years. In contrast, community safety partners suggested the number of reported incidents underestimates the scale of the problem in Leeds and a social media campaign encouraging the reporting of incidents now forms part of the partnership’s approach to planning for Bonfire Night.



Part Two

5.7 The legislative context for firework sale and use is discussed later in this report. However, with regards to the enforcement of legislation, where regulations are breached, there is often also inherent difficulty in identifying exactly when and where fireworks have been set off, and by whom. It was suggested by partners that a recognition of this challenge by the public further fuels an underreporting of incidents.

Responding to Predictable Anti-Social Behaviour: Pressures for Local Partners

- 5.8 It was clear to the Board that there is a strong multi-agency approach to this aspect of community safety in Leeds with partners working closely and collaboratively together.
- 5.9 Considerable time was spent understanding local partnership arrangements designed to prevent and respond to firework-related anti-social behaviour in the period leading up to Bonfire Night, Halloween and Mischief Night.
- 5.10 The situation for emergency workers was discussed in detail with partners sharing their experiences of the “fear and hostility” experienced in some areas of the city after nightfall in peak periods of activity. As well as risks to the officers themselves, police vehicles and fire engines have become targets when responding to incidents of disorder, and a tactic of burning barricades has been adopted by perpetrators in previous years.
- 5.11 A number of contributors shared their experience of the significant disorder that took place in Harehills over Bonfire Night in 2019. The Board heard powerful descriptions of attacks on emergency workers, reports of the “fear and distress” of people living locally and the considerable cost and damage to property that resulted from the violence. The Board also reflected on the damage to the wider reputation of the city caused by the national media attention this generated.
- “Emergency workers came under attack from a barrage of missiles.”*
- West Yorkshire Police Officer*
- 5.12 In discussing the resource implications of the partnership response to anticipated annual disorder over this period it was noted that planning begins at least six months ahead of Bonfire Night and involves a wide range of stakeholders. Key preventative and enforcement initiatives are co-ordinated and delivered through the Neighbourhood Policing Teams’ Halloween and Bonfire Night Plans. A Silver Group led by a Police Superintendent then reviews all the planned activity across the Leeds district to ensure resources can be deployed to meet service demand.



Part Two

- 5.13 As part of the multi-agency approach an officer from West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, which is a statutory partner linked to the Safer Leeds Executive, has also been seconded to Safer Leeds and is a key partner in bonfire night planning.
- 5.14 The Board welcomed the close partnership working in evidence. However, members expressed concern about the large numbers of police and outreach workers required to provide an on street presence in localities where intelligence suggests there is likely to be heightened potential for disorder over Bonfire Night. The risks posed to those individuals were judged to be considerable.
- 5.15 An intelligence-led approach is integral to the planning and response of partners in Leeds during these peak periods of activity. One of the ways this assists in prevention of anti-social behaviour is through the identification of individuals where there has been previous involvement in disorder or there is deemed to be a heightened risk of involvement in anti-social behaviour. This enables early engagement to deter such behaviour.
- 5.16 Additional Leeds Watch cameras and body cameras have assisted the police in being able to identify previous perpetrators of anti-social behaviour more easily, and a further bolstering of this approach through ward based funding was welcomed. Members also supported joint exercises with the police to review the footage recorded via these cameras in order to identify perpetrators and pursue individuals through the justice system.
- 5.17 In the years since the appalling disorder of 2019, the Leeds partnership has strengthened the range of tools at its disposal through the successful application for an Anti-Social Behaviour Injunction (ASBI). Recognising the important role of enforcement, the Board recommends pursuing a variation of the injunction to include the power of arrest.
- 5.18 Having explored evidence of successful locality working a persistent recommendation from the Board has been that mechanisms must be put in place to easily and regularly share good practice from all areas of the city, so that the partnership can continue to evolve and to be agile in its response to anti-social behaviour that emerges in peak periods.



Part Two

Key Aspects of Bonfire Night Planning

- Home visits to individuals involved in anti-social behaviour the previous year.
- Multi-agency community hub created at Elland Road control room
- Anti-Social Behaviour Injunction application obtained to prohibit firework use in an area with historic disorder issues
- Targeted communication in areas of concern
- Firework test purchase operation
- To reduce risk to fire crews and vehicles, joint fire/police service visits in unmarked vehicles to assess areas where fires are reported.
- Communication strategy to raise awareness around bonfire night and the consequences of anti-social behaviour.
- Social media campaign to encourage appropriate reporting of incidents
- High visibility police patrols (NPT / NRT)
- Use of LCC CCTV Van for public reassurance
- Funding for youth provision in area
- Fire prevention through clearing of rubbish and furniture in areas deemed to be at risk of disorder.

Diversionsary Activities for Young People

- 5.19 Diversionsary activities for young people have proved to be a particularly effective way of reducing anti-social behaviour linked to peak periods of firework related disorder. In the last year this included the provision of safe spaces for young people in an evening, boxing sessions and activities run in coordination with local sports teams.
- 5.20 Officers and partners highlighted the importance of engaging with young people well in advance of predicted peaks in firework related disorder and doing so, where possible, through trusted contacts who already have established relationships with young people.
- 5.21 Partners outlined the proactive approach that is taken to identifying young people at risk of becoming engaged in disorder and visiting them and their families ahead of Bonfire Night. This approach has helped improve outcomes over the 2020 bonfire period with teachers, local pastors and community leaders involved in outreach work.



Part Two

- 5.22 More broadly, it was agreed that co-ordination between officers from communities and youth services, and partner organisations contributed valuable intelligence which could be used to target interventions more successfully.

Communication Strategies

- 5.23 A number of different communication strategies are used to raise awareness of the consequences and frequency of firework related anti-social behaviour ahead of peak periods.
- 5.24 As mentioned earlier in this report, one aspect of communication around this period seeks to encourage reporting of firework related incidents.
- 5.25 In addition, all partners seek to engage with young audiences to raise awareness of the consequences of anti-social behaviour and the dangers of unsafe firework use.
- 5.26 The Board acknowledged the work that is already taking place to deliver targeted messages across traditional and social media, and via an established network of partners including schools. Members also recognised the resource constraints that hamper levels of physical engagement with more organisations.
- 5.27 However, the Board felt that communication was a key element of successful preventative strategies. They recommended further work be carried out in this area to increase the numbers of people receiving those messages.
- 5.28 The Board recommended utilising a wider range of social media platforms to disseminate key messages and supported proposals to work with young people to design literature that could be sent out in future years.
- 5.29 More broadly the Board recommended more national investment is required in campaigns to raise awareness about both the considerate and safe use of fireworks.

Noise Pollution

- 5.30 Noise pollution was considered a particular concern for vulnerable citizens, including veterans and those living in sheltered accommodation or with health conditions involving heightened sensory sensitivity such as autism or hyperacusis. While noise pollution was certainly a consideration during periods of peak anti-social activity it was also a recurring feature of those concerned by the increased use of private fireworks throughout the year.

5.31 A local authority cannot currently limit the frequency of firework use on private land and therefore has limited control over this type of behaviour. Members therefore recommended introducing a mechanism through which local authorities could limit the frequency of firework use in localities where substantive concerns have been identified.

"Some of our most vulnerable residents find noisy fireworks very distressing, especially when they are going off regularly over several hours."

Cllr Amanda Carter

5.32 Throughout the Board's deliberations it became apparent that predictability was a key issue for many people concerned about private firework use. This was reinforced by evidence of the impact of noise on livestock, pets and wildlife and the difficulty of planning for such occurrences without adequate notice of upcoming private displays.

5.33 In order to better prepare and protect people or animals sensitive to loud noises, it was recommended that government requires the introduction of a community notification mechanism to raise awareness of when private venues in particular will be using fireworks.

5.34 On the basis of the evidence examined through the inquiry the Board also concluded that within communities there may be some highly sensitive areas where firework used is deemed by residents to be wholly unacceptable. In those circumstances the Board recommended that there should be a streamlined mechanism through which local authorities could work with those communities to create 'exclusion zones' to entirely prohibit firework use even on private property.

"We have seen instances of dogs being seriously injured after bolting when a firework has exploded nearby."

Dog's Trust representative

5.35 It was agreed there would be value in national legislators exploring options to reduce the decibel level of fireworks – currently limited to 120 decibels for consumer fireworks - to reduce the distress caused by the noise of traditional fireworks.



Part Two

- 5.36 The industry response to previous proposals of this nature has been cautious with a suggestion that any substantial reduction in decibel limits could have an adverse impact on the marketplace, potentially leading to the illegal importation of more noisy and dangerous fireworks.
- 5.37 It is recommended that national legislators work with both industry representatives and animal welfare charities to consider what might constitute an acceptable compromise in this area.

Environmental Concerns

- 5.38 In the context of the Council's declared Climate Emergency, the Board noted a number of environmental impacts associated with firework use. The Board acknowledged, for example, that fireworks can lead to elevated levels of dust particles, which are rich in toxic metals. The board also noted that the plastic waste from discarded fireworks, can pose a danger to wildlife.
- 5.39 Government has previously worked with the industry to reduce noisy and nuisance fireworks, with the eventual banning of bangers, crackerjacks, air-bombs and mini rockets for sale to the public. The Board considered a similar partnership could bring about improvements to make fireworks more environmentally friendly.

Legislative Context

- 5.40 The Scrutiny Board members were provided with an overview of the regulatory and legislative framework governing the current sale, standards and permitted private use of fireworks and the responsibility of different bodies within that framework, including with regards to enforcement.
- 5.41 This is already a highly regulated sector with robust standards governing product quality, use and sales. A number of different agencies are involved in the regulation of different elements of the sector. Locally those include:
- West Yorkshire Joint Services (Trading Standards)
 - West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service
 - West Yorkshire Police
 - Local Authority



Part Two

- 5.42 In addition the British Fireworks Association is the UK's Association for professional firework display companies. It is committed to upholding high standards amongst its members, whose activities include the manufacture, importation, sale, transportation, training and use of display fireworks both by members of the public and professionals.
- 5.43 Scrutiny Board members explored the ways in which current regulations and legislation are enforced, and highlighted concerns about the ongoing ability of organisations to carry out proactive preventative and monitoring activity in the context of reduced public sector resources.
- 5.44 In a written submission to the Board an industry representative suggested that the legislation associated with fireworks is adequate but enforcement and the punishments for improper use could be strengthened – particularly with regard to the illegal use of fireworks in public places and the use of fireworks after 11pm.

Sale and Purchase of Fireworks

- 5.45 Since January 2005 the sale of fireworks to the public has been restricted to licensed traders. However, fireworks can be sold by unlicensed traders for:
- Chinese New Year and the preceding three days
 - Diwali and the preceding three days
 - Bonfire Night celebrations (15 October to 10 November)
 - New Year celebrations (26 to 31 December)
- 5.46 The Board recommended restricting sales to 'all year round' retailers to reduce risks associated with 'pop up shops' in the periods above. It was suggested that there was increased potential for 'pop up' shops to be unable to provide customers with adequate safety advice.
- 5.47 Board members also felt 'pop up shops' increased the opportunity for adults to buy fireworks on behalf of young people. Given that a disproportionate number of reported firework injuries affect young people this was a significant concern for the Board. In addition, the Board heard evidence from partners that they have experienced challenges around the practice of adults buying fireworks on behalf of young people who were then identified as having been involved in disorder. The Board concluded that national legislation should specifically target such 'proxy purchasing'.



Part Two

- 5.48 Board members further proposed that there would be value in tightening restrictions around when, where and how many fireworks could be purchased in a single transaction to reduce general ease of access to fireworks.

Illegal Fireworks

- 5.49 The Board recognised the highly regulated environment in which fireworks sale, storage and use is governed in the UK. However, the view of members was that the holistic approach to managing the potentially harmful consequences of fireworks was to some degree undermined by the lack of up-to-date information about illegal fireworks entering communities. The Board recommends greater monitoring of such activity at a national level.

Opposing an Outright Ban on Fireworks

- 5.50 In 2019 the House of Commons Petitions Committee concluded that any recommendation that there should be an outright ban on firework sales to the public was unnecessarily “drastic” and would risk unintended economic consequences for those working in the fireworks industry.
- 5.51 Similarly, there was no suggestion from the Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board that an outright ban should be endorsed. Indeed, it was noted that such a change could reduce the ability of local communities to organise public displays that deliver local benefits and result in more dangerous products entering the country illegally, thereby creating a more challenging environment for enforcement and regulatory agencies.
- 5.52 However, like the Petitions Committee, the Board concluded that there were justifiable concerns informing calls for a tightening of restrictions and an increase in enforcement of some aspects of existing legislation.
- 5.53 Should national legislators introduce additional regulation the Board was clear that any associated activity, including heightened enforcement activity in the early stages of implementation, would have to be accompanied by sufficient resources to enable any such activity to be conducted effectively and without detriment to other services.



Appendix 1

Appendix 1: Legislative Framework for the Storage, Supply and Use of Fireworks

<p>Consumer Protection Act 1987</p>	<p>Under the Consumer Protection Act 1987 suppliers of all consumer goods (including fireworks) are required to supply goods that meet an acceptable standard of safety. Under section 11 of the Act it is an offence to supply goods which fail to comply with general safety requirements.</p>
<p>Fireworks Act 2003</p>	<p>The Fireworks Act 2003 makes provision for the control of fireworks and explosives by regulation in order to secure that there is either no risk, or a minimal risk compatible with use, that fireworks will cause death, injury or distress to persons or animals, or damage to property.</p> <p>The aim of this Act is to reduce the noise, nuisance and injuries caused by the misuse of fireworks – which forms part of the broader public concern with the problem of anti-social behaviour.</p>
<p>Fireworks Regulations 2004, as amended by the Fireworks (Amendment) Regulations 2004)</p>	<p>The current Fireworks Regulations 2004 came into force on the 7 August 2004. The Regulations introduced a package of measures to regulate the sale, possession and use of fireworks.</p> <p>Those intending to supply fireworks to the public outside the traditional selling periods (i.e. all year round) are required to hold a licence to supply fireworks, either from the Local Authority, Fire Service or HSE.</p> <p>Regulation 7 of the Fireworks Regulations 2004 imposes a curfew on when fireworks can be let off in England and Wales.</p> <p>Specifically, regulation 7 sets an 11 pm curfew on the use of fireworks, with later exceptions for seasonal celebrations.</p> <p>The curfew is enforced by the police, with any breach subject to an unlimited fine and/or six months in prison. The police can also issue on-the-spot fines of £90 to persons aged 18 or over committing that offence.</p>
<p>Pyrotechnic Articles (Safety) Regulations 2015</p>	<p>The Pyrotechnic Articles (Safety) Regulations 2015, an economic operator (i.e. retailer) must not sell:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a Christmas cracker to anyone under the age of 12 years; • F1 category fireworks to anyone under the age of 16; • F2 and F3 category fireworks to anyone under the age of 18; • F4 category fireworks to members of the public (supplied only to a person with specialist knowledge).



Appendix 1

	<p>It is not a legal requirement to have any kind of licence or training to buy “consumer fireworks” (category F1, F2 and F3 fireworks). There is no such thing as either a licence or training that entitles a member of the public to buy category 4 (professional display) fireworks. These are only available to professional fireworks companies with all year insurance and licenced storage. Under the 2015 Regulations, retailers are also required to display a notice at the point of sale stating:</p> <p>“It is illegal to sell category F2 fireworks or category F3 fireworks to anyone under the age of eighteen” and</p> <p>“It is illegal for anyone under the age of eighteen to possess any category F2 fireworks or category F3 fireworks in a public place.”</p>
Explosives Act 1875	<p>Under section 80 of the Explosives Act 1875 (as amended) it is an offence to throw or discharge a firework in a street or public place. This is enforced by the police, and a fixed penalty applies.</p> <p>Fireworks should only be let off on private land (such as a garden) or on land where the landowner has given permission.</p>
Explosives Regulations 2014	<p>The Explosives Regulations 2014 provide for the regulation of the manufacture, storage and acquisition of explosives by means of a series of defined duties, the granting of approvals and a system of licensing.</p> <p>For example, the Regulations require a licence to store fireworks except where the quantity is less than 5 kg. It is a breach of the Regulations to store more than that quantity of fireworks without a licence.</p> <p>In all areas, local authority Trading Standards officers are responsible for enforcing regulations on consumer safety and age of purchase. Enforcement of the Regulations in respect of other pyrotechnics will fall primarily to the Health & Safety Executive.</p>
Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974	<p>The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 provides for the making of health and safety regulations for the general purposes of securing the safety of persons at work.</p> <p>In the context of fireworks, this would generally apply to firework display operators and those events where pyrotechnic or firework displays take place in the course of a business.</p>
Animal Welfare Act 2006	<p>Under the Act, powers exist for secondary legislation and codes of practice to be made to promote the welfare of animals.</p> <p>Under section 4 of the Act, it is an offence to cause any unnecessary suffering to any captive or domestic animal. The offence carries a fine of up to £20,000 and/or a prison term of up to six months.</p>



Appendix 1

	<p>The Act is enforced by local councils, animal health officers and the police.</p>
Excessive noise - statutory nuisance	<p>There is a noise limit of 120db on all consumer fireworks. In addition to the Fireworks Regulations 2004 (as amended), there is other legislation that may also be used in certain circumstances to tackle excessive noise from fireworks.</p> <p>Under section 80 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA 1990), a local authority's Environmental Health officer must take "all reasonable steps" to investigate a complaint about excessive noise. If they believe a statutory nuisance is occurring or is likely to occur or recur they must act.</p>



Appendix 2

Appendix 2: Contributors

The following individuals have contributed to the various stages of this inquiry.

Attendee	Organisation
Cllr Barry Anderson	Scrutiny Board (Chair)
Cllr Javaid Akhtar	Scrutiny Board
Cllr Jonathan Bentley	Scrutiny Board
Cllr Ann Blackburn	Scrutiny Board
Cllr Kayleigh Brooks	Scrutiny Board
Cllr Dawn Collins	Scrutiny Board
Cllr Angela Gabriel	Scrutiny Board
Cllr Pauleen Grahame	Scrutiny Board
Cllr Mary Harland	Scrutiny Board
Cllr Asghar Khan	Scrutiny Board
Cllr Nicole Sharpe	Scrutiny Board
Cllr Trish Smith	Scrutiny Board
Cllr Amanda Carter	Referrer
Cllr Matthew Robinson	Referrer
Paul Money	LCC, Chief Officer Safer Leeds
Claire Smith	LCC, ASB Delivery Manager
Lisa Ramsden	LCC, ASB Delivery Manager
Adrian Tonge	LCC, Principal Legal Officer Resources and Housing
Margaret McKean	LCC, Advanced Youth Work Practitioner
James McCarthy	LCC, ENE Team Leader, Youth Services
Allison Dixon	LCC, Advanced Youth Work Practitioner



Appendix 2

Grace Lawrenson	LCC, Senior Localities Officer
Stephen Harper	LCC, WNW Team Leader, Youth Services
Leah Dyer	LCC, Advanced Youth Work Practitioner
Inspector Jonathan McNiff	West Yorkshire Police
Inspector Jodie Scatchard	West Yorkshire Police
Inspector Richard Horn	West Yorkshire Police
Inspector Mick Preston	West Yorkshire Police
Sergeant David Walker	West Yorkshire Police
PC Edel Fox	West Yorkshire Police
David Strover	West Yorkshire Joint Services (Trading Standards)
Billijo Jones	West Yorkshire Joint Services (Trading Standards)
Matthew Goodall	West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue
James Craven	West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue
Cllr Ashley Evans (Calderdale)	Calderdale Council
Cllr George Robinson	Calderdale Council
Alex Hunter	Calderdale Council
Mike Lodge	Calderdale Council
Adam Aslam	Leeds Street Team Coordinator
Emma Wakefield	Dogs Trust
Matthew Howden	Dogs Trust

Written Submissions were received from:

Nigel Claydon	Dynamic Fireworks
RSPCA	

Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities)
Tackling the Anti-Social Use of Fireworks
March 2021

Report author: Rebecca Atherton



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Appendix 2: Response to Recommendations

A. Recommendations to National Legislators

1. While the specific recommendations to national legislators fall, by definition, outside of the remit of the Council, it is recognised that the conclusions set out in the report are a direct response to the evidence provided to the Scrutiny Board by local partners.
2. With that in mind any further exploration of these issues at a national level would be welcomed, particularly in cases where the implementation of such recommendations could potentially provide local partners with additional tools and resources through which to prevent and/or respond to the sort of anti-social behaviours described throughout the Scrutiny Board's inquiry.
3. It should, however, be noted that the planning and delivery of interventions intended to reduce the impact of anti-social behaviour on our communities in peak periods is - as the Scrutiny Board identified - already resource intensive.
4. Should national policy makers decide to delegate new responsibilities to local partners such activity must be appropriately and additionally resourced.
5. Furthermore, it would be strongly recommended that national legislators engage proactively with local partners from the outset to ensure that the development of any mechanisms such as exclusion zones are suitably agile, so as to enable partners to continue to respond in different ways to the varying demands of our communities.
6. As was illustrated during the inquiry, partnership working in Leeds is strong, effective and well established. The planning and delivery of education and intervention strategies is intelligence led and partners work closely and effectively with community leaders in areas where instances of anti-social behaviour in peak periods of activity have historically been particularly high.
7. An increased national focus on areas such as education as set out in the recommendations would, if appropriately resourced, further strengthen the local response to this issue with the potential that activity could also be increased in breadth.

	Recommendations to National Legislators
Licensing of sales	Strengthen national restrictions governing how, when and where fireworks can be purchased, and in what volume per transaction.
Short term licences	Restrict firework sales to 'all year round' retailers to reduce risks associated with 'pop up' sellers who appear for short periods.
Targeting 'proxy purchasing'	Introduce stronger legislation to specifically target the 'proxy purchase' of fireworks by adults on behalf of children.
Predictability of Use	Enable the implementation of restrictions on how frequently fireworks can be used on private property where concerns are identified.
Exclusion Zones	Introduce a mechanism through which local authorities can more readily work with communities to identify areas of particular sensitivity with a view to prohibiting all firework use in those zones.
Notification	Introduce a requirement for community notification of firework use by venues hosting private events.
Decibel Levels	Consider, in partnership with industry and animal welfare representatives, reducing the decibel level for consumer fireworks.
Investment in awareness campaigns	Invest in a national campaign to raise awareness of safe firework behaviours and to advocate greater consideration of people and animals in close proximity to firework use.
Illegal fireworks	Further work should be carried out to consider how illegal sales of fireworks can be more effectively monitored to better understand behaviours and to increase opportunities for preventative interventions.

Table 1: Recommendation to National Legislators (tackling Anti-Social use of Fireworks: Inquiry report)

B Strengthening Local Operational Practice

8. The table below sets out the activity that is taking place in relation to each of the recommendations relating to local operational practice.
9. The acknowledgement by the Scrutiny Board of the breadth and strength of local partnerships, particularly in peak periods of activity, is welcome and the recommendations that emerged from the inquiry are reflective of the existing 'direction of travel' for those partnerships.
10. Further information will be provided to the Board at a future date in respect of evolving pieces of work such as the proposed communications strategy currently being drafted by LASBT officers.

	Recommendations Regarding Local Practice
ASB Injunction	Pursue a variation to the current injunction to secure power of arrest.
	<p>We have previously obtained injunctions against “persons unknown” in certain specific contexts – firework misuse</p> <p>However, in a judgment given by the High Court, the scope for obtaining such injunctions has been considerably narrowed. (The judgement can be found here : http://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWHC/QB/2021/1201.html). For convenience it can be described as the “Barking” decision.</p> <p>In particular :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Court has held that ASBIs cannot be sought against “persons unknown” (this is the first time the High Court has considered this point); other types of injunction (such as to restrain breach of the criminal law or to restrain trespass may be sought) • A “persons unknown” injunction is practically unenforceable after a final injunction has been granted unless the parties have been named in the meantime <p>We have therefore had to discharge the injunction.</p> <p>However, it is an offence to set off or throw any firework in a public space or highway and depending on the severity and frequency of incidents, we will use any tools and power available in which to tackle this behaviour along with our partners at WYP, this could include acceptable behaviour contract, anti social behaviour injunction warnings etc. This action would depend on the behaviour that is being caused including the severity of the incident and the frequency.</p> <p>In the Inner North West we have a Public Space Protection Order in place and one of the prohibitions is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person(s) within the 'restricted area' will not: be in groups of two or more and engage in anti-social behaviour likely to cause alarm, harassment or distress to any other person in

	<p>a public space</p> <p>Breaching a PSPO is a criminal offence and can be dealt with at a magistrates court with a maximum fine of £500 for breaches of anti social behaviour</p> <p>The police also have stop and search powers if they believe a person has in their possession a firework illegally.</p>
Sharing of good practice	Establish a mechanism to regularly share and learn lessons from localised case studies.
	<p>Multi Agency Partnership Meetings are held every 4 – 6 weeks starting approximately February. At the meetings the group identify areas of best practice from the previous year and from other organisations including Core Cities. This detail is then input into the action plan for deployment over the Bonfire/Halloween period.</p> <p>Within a short period following bonfire night a briefing meeting is held to look what has gone well and where any lessons are learnt</p>
Social Media Platforms	Explore options to target messaging about the consequences of anti-social firework use at a young audience through the use of a wider range of social media platforms
Communication Partners	Consider whether the existing network of partners can be expanded to reach a wider audience with messages about firework related behaviours.
	<p>LASBT are currently working on a communication strategy to identify the best social media platforms available to ensure a wider audience is reached around the vulnerabilities and consequences of the anti-social use of fireworks. This is due for completion by 15th October which will be reported into the board for feedback.</p> <p>Work is also being carried out in Schools with the Safer Schools Officers to address the issues in relation to fireworks/bonfires and the dangers around this.</p>
Diversionary Activities	Identify the resources required to safeguard and expand the localised provision of diversionary activities for young people.
	We are currently working with Community Committees and Community Safety Champions to assess local geographic risks and support/fund additional engagement activity where opportunity presents itself
Early engagement	Encourage early engagement with young people ahead of peak periods of firework related activity, ideally using trusted contacts who already have an established relationship with local young people.

Targeted Interventions	Support local partners to continue to deliver improved outcomes through the early identification of - and targeted engagement with - individuals for whom intelligence suggests there is a risk of becoming involved in disorder.
	<p>In response to all 3 of the above</p> <p>There are numerous activities and interventions across Leeds on the run up to the Bonfire period. All areas are busy identifying their top 10/20 nominals who have previously been involved in firework incidents or bonfire disorder and will be visited from Police to advise of dangers. Older teens and adults identified will also be visited to remind them of the sanctions they could face if involved in any firework incidents and any LCC tenants will receive a warning if they are involved with ASB/ nuisance over the period.</p> <p>There has been a push on submitting intelligence for this period, including vehicles.</p> <p>Safer Schools Officers will be delivering advice in Secondary schools and there has been fireworks awareness delivered to Primary schools with Fire attending also. Community engagement with youth services and free pumpkins given out and advice to parents with a leaflet. This is supported by NPT's and Councillors.</p> <p>Police and LCC are involved in leaflet drops and the Councillors have agreed to pay for the leaflets. There are also Community engagement days set up, the first being this Friday. We are using the Engagement van at East. Housing are also attending to conduct a visual audit of the estate to identify any address that have started to stockpile wood/logs etc. Off Road bikes team will be attending to support staff on the day and Cleaner Neighbourhoods are attending to assist with any fly tipping or piles of rubbish in the street.</p> <p>There are also numerous other activities arranged across Leeds, Halloween and Bonfire safety events and treasure hunts. Various Youth Clubs and leisure centres are to be visited to engage with the children and their parents.</p>
Accurate reporting	Explore ways in which to encourage the improved reporting of anti-social incidents linked to fireworks so as to ensure partners have more accurate information about the prevalence of such behaviour.
	On Leeds City Council's ASB reporting page it clearly gives complainants the option to report any type of anti social behaviour including anti social use of fireworks, this will give the public the confidence that the Local Authority are able to address these issues/concerns.

	<p>When a customer enquiry is logged we are able to extract the information regarding the anti social use of fireworks and then log this separately so e are able to report accurate figures.</p> <p>From 18th October until 12th November LASBT Triage will be responding to complaints regarding fireworks/bonfires as a priority, the intelligence will be fed into our police partnership portal to be address at the earliest opportunity by the partnership.</p>
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Table 2: Recommendation Regarding Local Practice (Tackling Anti-Social use of Fireworks: Inquiry report)

Partnership Tactical Responses

Bonfire/Halloween 2021

Service	Tactical Response	Lead for Service
West Yorkshire Police	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Op Brimgate has been running which gives extra visible reassurance across specific areas of the East of Leeds in the run up to Carnival, a similar deployment will also lead us into the bonfire period. • Each NPT have bespoke plans providing extra resourcing in the lead up to this period with a focus on education and early intervention. • WYP working with Local Authority and Trading Standards in respect of ‘pop-up’ firework shops – last year this was mainly in East of District and Armley in the West. • Consideration has been given and awareness of potential ‘ride outs’ with plans in place. • Alley gating work that’s was progressed last year will be reconsidered, to prevent ‘rat runs’ issues for youth in the East. • Test purchase efforts being stepped up for under age firework sales, focus on West and East. • We will be looking again at having spots on radio Fever FM which the NPT Inspectors will look to take and get key messages across. • Community intervention cell operating from Elland Road with a duty NPT Inspector in there along with staff to assist quick time deployment and liaison with support services both internally and externally. • Educational inputs to be delivered in secondary schools and primary schools • Test purchasing at key locations • Audit of all shops selling fireworks • Religious and faith groups be spoken to in relation to safety messages and prevention of ASB 	Kevin Pickles

LASBT – Leeds City council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Community Intervention Cell • Support around Alleygates • looking at temporary CCTV in key locations • Proactive joint visits to known youths/addresses who we suspect may become involved in trouble before the period • Warning letters to be issued to some people about possible action should they be involved • Follow up work to be done in the form of enforcement action should there be any issues & positive ID's • Monitoring reports of firework nuisance leading up to the bonfire period and sharing with the tasking group. • ASB Data to be circulated daily 	LASBT Managers Heather – South John – West Neil - East
Leeds Watch – Leeds City Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • deploying 2 x CCTV vans 	Diane Goodfellow Dawn Asquith
Youth Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth outreach (although depleted and with issues around Covid) will be deployed as appropriate. • All youth providers to consider what activities can be provided during the half term week and over the bonfire period to divert young people from being present on the street 	Shaun Watson
West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WYFRS raised specifics last year around arson incidents and therefore increased visibility in Halton Moor, Richmond Hill, Cross Green and Beeston Hill 	Toby May
Trading Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • deal with any complaints received on those matters as our resources allow, and refer any other complaints received to the appropriate enforcer 	

Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CNT will be providing a cleansing response similar to previous years where any accumulations of waste on either public or housing maintained land will be removed asap. This will be done on a referral basis and only where there is a clear risk identified by the fire service. CNT cleansing staff work 7 days a week across the City from 0600hrs-1630hrs. • Bonfires built prior to bonfire night will be dismantled and removed only where there is a significant risk as there have been incidents where staff have been subject to verbal abuse and put into confrontational situations previously. Again these will be done on a referral basis ideally where identified by WYF unless CNT Team Leaders feel that it is dangerous and warrants immediate removal. • Where waste is on private land unless deemed as being a significant danger and imminent threat to properties or persons, we will look to take enforcement action through the use of CPW/CPN which do have specified time limits on. This will include some bin yards where they are under private ownership. 	Chris Chamberlain
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing to report any damages to fences 	
Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting allocation of funding around youth diversionary activities 	

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Safer Leeds: Leeds Plan 2021 - 2024

Date: 21 October 2021

Report of: Chief Officer Safer Stronger Communities

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

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

What is this report about?

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

- The Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) has previously been consulted on the appended draft Safer, Stronger Communities Leeds Plan 2021 – 24 in July and September 2021.
- The strategy sets out the strategic direction of Safer Leeds Executive and will be used to hold the partnership to account for keeping communities safe.
- The Board indicated its support for the draft strategy in July and then September 2021.
- As the Safer, Stronger Communities Leeds Plan 2021 – 24 will replace the Safer Leeds Strategy 2018-21 it will form part of the Council's Budget and Policy Framework. As such its adoption must be progressed in accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework procedure rules.
- Those procedure rules require the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities) to be formally consulted on the draft strategy following the public consultation period and ahead of the final version being referred to Executive Board.
- There have been no substantive changes to the report since the Board's discussion about the draft strategy in September 2021.

Recommendations

- a) The Board is asked to note the content of the report and, given the previous endorsement of the plan, agree to recommend the final version to the Executive Board.

Why is the proposal being put forward?

- 1 The Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities) was previously consulted on the Safer Leeds Strategy 2018-21 in line with the Budget and Policy Framework.
- 2 The draft Safer Stronger Communities Leeds Plan 2021-24 is intended to replace the 2018-21 strategy and a formal consultation on that change has been carried out.
- 3 At its remote consultative meeting on 15 July 2021 the Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board received early sight of the draft Safer, Stronger Communities Leeds Plan 2021 – 24.
- 4 Subsequently, on 14 September 2021 the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment approved a Delegated Decision to authorise the release of the draft Safer, Stronger Communities: Leeds Plan (2021-2024) for a formal 6-week public consultation exercise.
- 5 The Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities) was formally consulted on the plan on 23 September 2021 where members indicated their support.
- 6 The response to the public consultation has informed the final version of the Leeds Plan in advance of consideration by the Executive Board and full Council.
- 7 In accordance with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework the Scrutiny Board is now asked to formally provide its recommend(s) to the Executive Board.

What impact will this proposal have?

Wards Affected:

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 8 The draft Safer, Stronger Communities Leeds Plan 2021 – 24 sets out the strategic direction of Safer Leeds Executive.
- 9 The views of the Scrutiny Board will be formally provided to the Executive Board for consideration as part of the 6-week public consultation.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 10 Extensive consultation has taken place to inform the development of the draft Leeds Plan 2021-24. This has included a Joint Strategic Assessment of the scale and nature of crime and disorder in the city to identify medium to long term issues affecting community safety.
- 11 Evidence from public consultation via the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner was collated along with intelligence from residents accessing Community Safety services, such as those delivered by Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team. This information has been used to inform the contents of the strategy. Similarly, a range of Outcomes Based Accountability sessions held with operational professionals and service users during 2016 and 2017 provided further evidence to inform the proposed approach.
- 12 Partners and representatives from a range of stakeholders (Leeds City Council; West Yorkshire Police; West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service; National Probation Trust; Leeds

Clinical Commissioning Group, the Voluntary and Community Sector, West Yorkshire Community Rehabilitation Company; HM Prison Service, Leeds Children’s Trust Board; Leeds Health and Wellbeing Board, Leeds Safeguarding Adults Board; Leeds Safeguarding Children Board and the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) have helped shape the new Leeds Plan.

What are the resource implications?

- 13 Resources are currently in place to deliver the draft strategy. Efficiencies of £382k have been delivered over the last three years against the net managed budget for Safer Leeds.
- 14 Further efficiency savings identified through the corporately supported ELI scheme towards the end of 2020/21 have resulted in work to bring both Safer Leeds and Communities Team together to form one new service area - “Safer and Stronger Communities.” This coordinated service will build on existing relationships to contribute to the priorities within the new Safer, Stronger Communities Leeds Plan, to share examples of best practice, review areas of cross over between teams and to ultimately provide better outcomes.

What are the legal implications?

- 15 This report does not contain any exempt or confidential information.
- 16 The commencement of formal consultation, including with the Scrutiny Board, is being carried out in accordance with the Council’s Budget and Policy Framework procedure rules.

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

- 17 National changes to government legislation and prioritisation have brought both challenges and opportunities for the city, which the draft Leeds Plan aims to address.
- 18 A number of operational boards are in place to manage both the risks and threats that are presented within the Leeds Plan:
 - Anti-Social behaviour Board
 - Domestic Violence and Abuse Board
 - Hate Crime Strategic Board
 - Reducing Reoffending Board
 - Serious & Organised Crime Board
 - Strategic Sex Working Board
- 19 There are significant risks associated with budget reductions - these have been managed within the financial year ensuring value for money and by reviewing existing service delivery

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

Inclusive Growth

Health and Wellbeing

Climate Emergency

Appendices

- 20 Appendix 1 - Safer Stronger Communities Leeds Plan 2021-24

Background papers

- 21 Safer Leeds Community Safety Strategy 2018-21

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SAFER, STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Leeds Plan: 2021-2024



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#TogetherLeeds
#BeSafeFeelSafe
Safer, Stronger Communities

Foreword

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Kind regards

Councillor Debra Coupar

Deputy Leader of Leeds City Council and
Executive Member for Resources

James Rogers

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

About this Plan

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

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

Our Ambition

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

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

Our Strategic Outcomes

As the end result, we want to:

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

Accountability

The Safer Leeds Executive has a statutory requirement to:

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

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

Challenge and Change

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

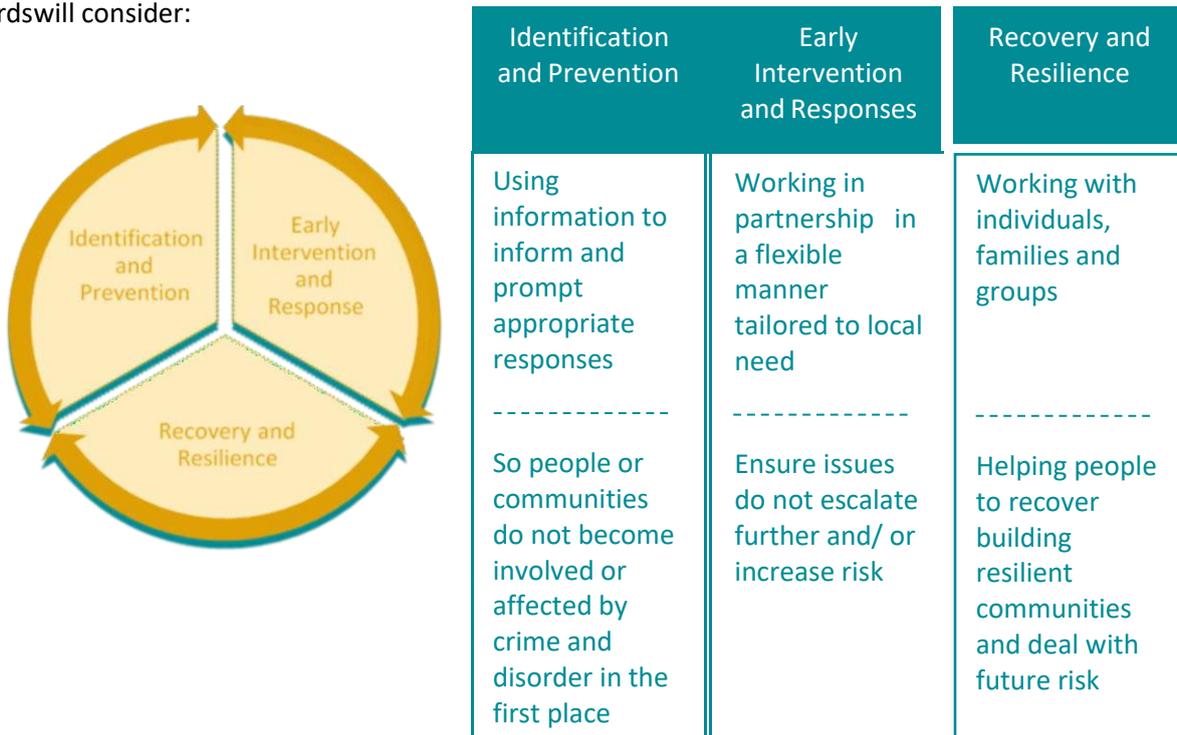
- ❖ Apply a Safer, Stronger Communities model which places a greater emphasis on early identification, prevention, and intervention, so we can be responsive to local needs by working with communities before a crisis point, preventing future victimisation and offending.
- ❖ Deliver results efficiently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

Approach

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

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

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



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

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

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

Shared Priorities

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

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

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

Key Deliverables

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

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

Drugs and Substance Use

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

Offending Behaviours

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

Organised Crime and Street Gangs

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

Violence and Sexual Crime

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

Exploitation and Radicalisation

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

People with multiple needs (Street Users and Sex Workers)

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

Placed Based ~ Delivery: Localities

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

Placed Based ~ Delivery: Leeds City Centre

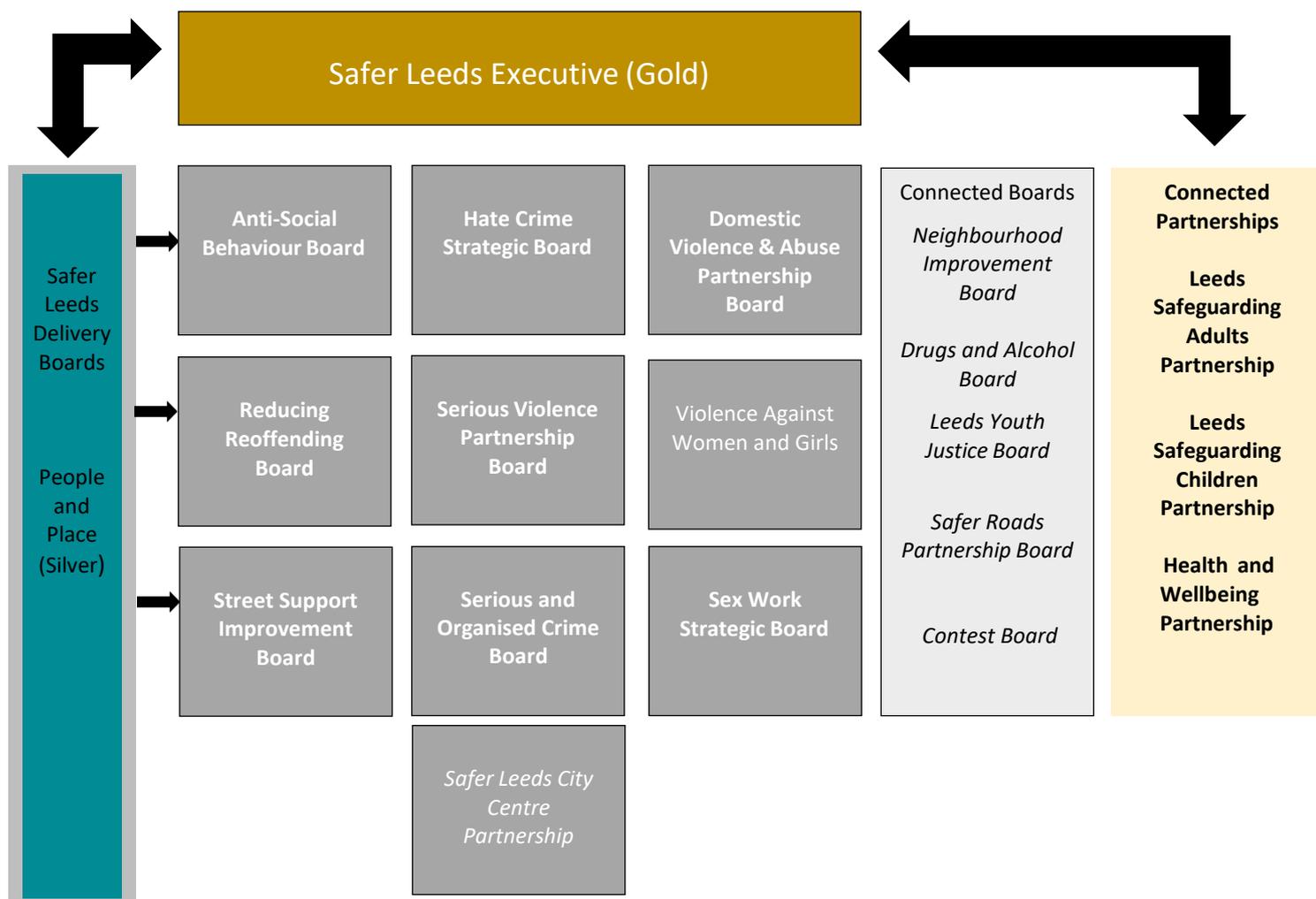
- ➔ With an emphasis on people, places and premises, take forward our local early intervention approach to the evening and nighttime economy, utilising Purple Flag principles and through an active #BeSafeFeelSafe thematic communications and engagement framework.
- ➔ Undertake an 'on-street' resources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

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

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

Implementation Framework

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



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

Focus on our Strategic Outcomes

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

Our Strategic Outcomes...we want to:

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

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

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

It is about:

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

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

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

It is about:

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

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

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

It is about:

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



#TogetherLeeds

#BeSafeFeelSafe

Safer, Stronger Communities

Work Schedule

Date: 21 October 2021

Report of: Head of Democratic Services

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

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

What is this report about?

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

- All Scrutiny Boards are required to determine and manage their own work schedule for the municipal year. In doing so, the work schedule should not be considered a fixed and rigid schedule, it should be recognised as a document that can be adapted and changed to reflect any new and emerging issues throughout the year; and also reflect any timetable issues that might occur from time to time.
- The Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules also state that, where appropriate, all terms of reference for work undertaken by Scrutiny Boards will include 'to review how and to what effect consideration has been given to the impact of a service or policy on all equality areas, as set out in the Council's Equality and Diversity Scheme'.
- Reflecting on the information in this report and also information presented as part of other agenda items at today's meeting, Members are requested to consider and discuss the Board's work schedule for this municipal year.

Recommendations

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

Why is the proposal being put forward?

1. A draft work schedule for the Environment, Housing & Communities Scrutiny Board is presented at Appendix 1 for consideration and discussion. Reflected in the work schedule are known items of scrutiny activity, such as performance and budget monitoring, identified Budget and Policy Framework items and recommendation tracking.
2. The Executive Board minutes from the meeting held on 22 September 2021 are also attached as Appendix 2. The Scrutiny Board is asked to consider and note the Executive Board minutes, insofar as they relate to the remit of the Scrutiny Board; and consider any matter where specific scrutiny activity may also be warranted.

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

3. At its final meeting of 2020/21 the former Environment, Housing & Communities Scrutiny Board consider a number of ongoing priorities that members recommended the successor board continue to scrutinise. These are reflected in the work programme at Appendix 1.

What impact will this proposal have?

Wards affected: All

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

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

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

6. In order to enable Scrutiny to focus on strategic areas of priority, it is recognised that each Scrutiny Board needs to establish an early dialogue with the Directors and Executive Board Members holding the relevant portfolios. The Vision for Scrutiny also states that Scrutiny Boards should seek the advice of the Scrutiny officer, the relevant Director and Executive Member about available resources prior to agreeing items of work.

What are the resource implications?

7. 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.
8. 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.
9. Consequently, when establishing their work programmes Scrutiny Boards should:
 - Seek the advice of the Scrutiny officer, the relevant Director and Executive Member about available resources;
 - Avoid duplication by having a full appreciation of any existing forums already having oversight of, or monitoring a particular issue;
 - Ensure any Scrutiny undertaken has clarity and focus of purpose and will add value and can be delivered within an agreed time frame.

What are the legal implications?

10. This report has no specific legal implications.

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

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

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

Inclusive Growth

Health and Wellbeing

Climate Emergency

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

Appendices

13. Appendix 1 – Draft work schedule of the Environment, Housing & Communities Scrutiny Board for the 2021/22 municipal year.

14. Appendix 2 – Draft minutes of the Executive Board meeting held on 22 September 2021.

Background papers

15. None.

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

June	July	August
Agenda for Thursday 17 June 10.30am	Agenda for Thursday 15 July 10.30am	No Scrutiny Board meeting scheduled.
<p>*CONSULTATIVE MEETING*</p> <p>Performance Update</p> <p>Parking Strategy and Management update [PM]</p> <p>LASBT Review: update following the introduction of changes to the service in early 2020. [PSR]</p> <p>Terms of Reference</p> <p>Sources of Work Report</p>	<p>*CONSULTATIVE MEETING*</p> <p>Safer Leeds: including Community Safety & Antisocial Behaviour Strategy Updates</p> <p>Domestic Violence – update including impact of CV19 and Domestic Abuse Bill.</p> <p>Co-optees report [<i>roll f/w for June 22</i>]</p>	
Working Group Meetings		
Additional Notes		

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Scrutiny Work Items Key:

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



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

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September	October	November
Agenda for Thursday 23 September 10.30am	Agenda for Thursday 21 October 10.30am	Agenda for Thursday 25 November 10.30am
Waste Strategy – ToR and supporting statement. Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy Safer Leeds Strategy – post consultation (in line with BPF PR)	Reducing carbon emissions across the Council's estate Housing Activity Update [PM] Deputy Mayor (Crime & Policing): crime & policing priorities (post-devolution update) Safer Leeds: Final Version for note Fireworks response: <i>to note for discussion in November</i>	**CONSULTATIVE** Locality Working Priority Neighbourhoods [PM] Wholesale review of welfare support Strategic Housing Board Update Fireworks: update on 2021 experience
Working Group Meetings		
	19/10/21: draft Parks and Green Space Strategy: consultation	3/11/21 Waste Inquiry Working group
Additional Notes		

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



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

December	January	February
No Scrutiny Board meeting scheduled.	Agenda for Thursday 20 January 10.30am	Agenda for Thursday 24 February 10.30am
	<p>Reducing Poverty and improving Financial Inclusion – update report, including impact of Universal Credit. (PSR)</p> <p>Universal Credit Update: Service user experience as per discussions in January 2020 [deferred due to CV19]</p> <p>Financial Health Monitoring and Initial Budget Proposals [PDS]</p> <p>Performance monitoring</p>	<p>Standards in the Private Rented Sector – update [to include Selective Licensing]</p> <p>Climate emergency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CEAC update on progress and activity ▪ Annual Climate Emergency EB report <p>LeedsWatch: Update on the implementation of new model</p> <p>Ensuring the future resilience of the 3rd sector Update (following 2020/1 volunteer hub)</p>
Working Group Meetings		
8/12/21 – Budget Working Group 1-3pm		
Site Visits		

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



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

March	Items for follow up
Agenda Thursday 31 March 10.30am	
Fuel Poverty Update Energy Efficiency in Council Housing Stock Carbon reduction in the Private Rented Sector [PM]	Selective Licensing Police: PCSO resources Safer Leeds: Serious Violence Safer Leeds: Domestic Violence
Working Group Meetings	
Site Visits	

EXECUTIVE BOARD

WEDNESDAY, 22ND SEPTEMBER, 2021

PRESENT: Councillor J Lewis in the Chair

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

APOLOGIES: Councillor H Hayden

44 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

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

45 Late Items

There were no formal late items of business considered by the Board, however, regarding agenda items 9 (Outcome of Statutory Notice on a Proposal to Permanently Increase Learning Places at St. Edward's Catholic Primary School from September 2022) and 10 (Outcome of Statutory Notice on a Proposal to Permanently Increase Learning Places at Allerton High School from September 2022), prior to the meeting Board Members had received the full (redacted) versions of the representations received as part of the Statutory Notice process, which was in addition to the summaries as detailed within the submitted cover reports. (Minute Nos. 51 and 52 refer).

46 Declaration of Interests

There were no interests declared at the meeting.

47 Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 21st July 2021 be approved as a correct record.

COMMUNITIES

48 Leeds City Listening Project - Update 2021

The Director of Communities, Housing and Environment submitted a report providing an update on the Leeds City Listening project. In April 2019 the Council was successful in its bid for funding for the Leeds City Listening Project, and the programme of work from that looked to engage with marginalised women in communities facing multiple barriers to achieving their potential. The report highlighted the collaborative working undertaken with the West Yorkshire Mayor's office and provided details of the overall outcomes from the project and the work which continued in this area.

Members welcomed the submitted report.

In response to a Member's enquiry regarding how the women involved in sex work within the Managed Approach in Holbeck were being supported and engaged as part of this initiative, further detail was provided regarding the relevant organisations which were involved in the City Listening Project.

Also, responding to a specific enquiry about knife crime in the community, it was undertaken that a response would be provided to the Member in question around the approach being taken towards addressing such issues.

Members also received further information on how actions arising from the specific conversations had as part of the project would be progressed and monitored.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the City Listening Project update report, as submitted, be approved;
- (b) That actions continue to be taken to ensure that the voice of women is heard in key Council work, for example initiatives such as;
 - Ending Violence Against Women and Girls Working Group;
 - City Centre violence Against Women and Girls Thematic Working Group;
 - Period poverty;
 - Forgotten Women Project;
 - Women Friendly City.
- (c) That the work which is currently ongoing in collaboration between the West Yorkshire Mayor's office and Leeds City Council in regard to Violence Against Women and Girls, be supported;
- (d) That the partnership working taking place between Leeds City Council and Women's Lives Leeds, be continued; and
- (e) That it be noted that the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment is responsible for the implementation of decisions made by Executive Board in respect of this report.

ECONOMY, CULTURE AND EDUCATION

49 Future trends and opportunities in our city and local centres

The Director of City Development submitted a report providing an update on the work which had been undertaken to date regarding the future of the city and local centres moving forward, and how the city and local centres respond to people's changing routines and the implications arising from the pandemic, with the report outlining proposed next steps in order to support and progress this agenda.

In considering the report, Members highlighted the importance of acknowledging the individuality of each local centre and welcomed the fact that bidding processes for external funding streams would be undertaken for

appropriate schemes across the city. It was also noted that the actions being taken to progress this agenda including the Board's consideration of this report would help to ensure that the Council had a firm basis on which to maximise its opportunities to successfully bid for such funding.

With regard to the provision of 'Changing Places' toilet facilities, the Board received an update regarding the current position in Leeds, and it was undertaken that a further written update would be provided to the Member in question regarding any funding being sought for further provision across the city. Members also discussed the role of the Council in ensuring that developers delivered such facilities in new developments in instances where prior agreement to do so had been reached.

Responding to a Member's comments regarding the proposed approach detailed in the report, it was emphasised that given the financial challenge that continued to be faced the Council was heavily reliant upon external funding streams to deliver the proposals outlined. Members also noted that the overall aim of this agenda was to improve the local and city centre economies whilst also developing sustainable and inclusive growth. Further to this, a Member highlighted the importance of robust consultation taking place with affected communities when considering proposals for local centres, suggesting the involvement of the Council's Communities Team in such matters.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the work which has been undertaken as detailed in the submitted report looking at the future of Leeds' city and local centres, be noted;
- (b) That the recommendations for next steps, as outlined in the submitted report and as listed below, be approved; and that agreement be given that they are the right areas of focus to take forward at this stage with the resources the Council has available; that the potential for additional resources through successful Government funding bids be noted; and that such matters be delegated to the Director of City Development:
 - (i) We will continue to identify and deliver transformational projects across the city, linked to external funding streams.
 - (ii) We will explore how we can facilitate flexible workspaces and co-working spaces in areas outside of the city centre.
 - (iii) We will work to capitalise on the role of Culture for the future of our centres, including the opportunities presented through Leeds2023.
 - (iv) We will continue to support our local centres as we recognise their importance in providing services, employment and social opportunities to local people.
 - (v) We will continue to support businesses across the whole city and we will continue to support people who are seeking employment.

- (vi) We will continue to encourage collaboration and experimentation to connect activity across centres of innovation, now and in the future.
- (vii) We will explore how we can create a long-term, sustainable way of collecting local data and intelligence for each of our centres.
- (viii) We will continue to drive this work and these recommendations for next steps forward, both externally across the city and internally within the Council.

(c) That it be noted that this work will inform the development of and be reflected within the new City Plan for Leeds which is currently underway, and that it be noted that Executive Board will be kept informed of work to develop the City Plan as this progresses.

50 Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman report on the decision relating to Summer Born school admission

The Director of Children and Families submitted a report which informed Executive Board of the findings from a recent Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman report and which provided details on the actions taken by the Council in response to that report.

Responding to a Member's enquiry, the Board received further clarification on the actions which had been taken by the Council in response to the report, including the fact that all other similar requests regarding summer born admissions had been reviewed, and it was confirmed that there were no further outstanding cases.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman report and the recommendations for improvement, as appended to the submitted report, be noted;
- (b) That it be noted that the responsible officer for this matter is the Head of Learning Systems.

51 Outcome of statutory notice on a proposal to permanently increase learning places at St Edward's Catholic Primary School from September 2022

Further to Minute No. 11, 23 June 2021, the Director of Children and Families submitted a report detailing a proposal brought forward to meet the Local Authority's duty to ensure a sufficiency of school places. Specifically, the submitted report presented a proposal to expand St. Edward's Catholic Primary School to permanently increase the number of places offered at the school in Reception from 20 to 30 places from September 2022. The submitted report summarised the representations received during the statutory notice period and which sought a final decision on the proposal.

Prior to the meeting, Board Members had received for their consideration the full (redacted) versions of the representations received as part of the Statutory

Notice process, which was in addition to the summaries as detailed within the submitted cover report.

In introducing the report, the Executive Member highlighted that the matter had been considered by the Children and Families Scrutiny Board, with it being noted that the statement and recommendations of the Scrutiny Board arising from such consideration were appended to the report. The Executive Member confirmed that he was happy to accept all of the Scrutiny Board recommendations, and specifically regarding the recommendation that all consultation responses be shared in full with Executive Board Members, it was suggested that these be handled as 'Background Documents' which would be published alongside the agenda papers, but not form part of the formal agenda, so that Board Members had access to such information.

In considering the report, a Member highlighted the importance of ensuring that any agreed actions arising from consultation with Ward Members, specifically in response to transport, highways or access issues were not delayed, but implemented during the relevant construction period, with it being undertaken that any specific concern that a Member had would be investigated.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the proposal to expand St. Edward's Catholic Primary School to permanently increase the number of places offered at the school in Reception from 20 to 30 places with effect from September 2022, be approved;
- (b) That the recommendation to exempt the decisions arising from this report from the Call In process, for the reasons as set out in paragraph 23 of the submitted report, be approved;
- (c) That it be noted that the responsible officer for the implementation of such matters is the Head of Learning Systems;
- (d) That the conclusions and recommendations of the Scrutiny Board (Children and Families) arising from its consideration of the proposal to increase learning places at St. Edward's Catholic Primary School, as appended to the submitted report, be noted and accepted.

(The Council's Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rules state that a decision may be declared as being exempt from the Call In process by the decision taker if it is considered that the matter is urgent and any delay would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests. In line with this, the resolutions contained within this minute were exempted from the Call In process, as per resolution (b) above, and for the reasons as detailed within paragraph 23 of the submitted report)

52 Outcome of statutory notice on a proposal to permanently increase learning places at Allerton High School from September 2022

Further to Minute No. 10, 23 June 2021, the Director of Children and Families submitted a report detailing a proposal brought forward to meet the Local Authority's duty to ensure a sufficiency of school places. Specifically, the submitted report detailed a proposal to permanently expand secondary provision at Allerton High School from a capacity of 1100 to 1400 pupils by increasing the admission number in Year 7 from 220 to 280, with effect from September 2022. The submitted report summarised the representations received during the statutory notice period and which sought a final decision on the proposal.

Prior to the meeting, Board Members had received for their consideration the full (redacted) versions of the representations received as part of the Statutory Notice process, which was in addition to the summaries as detailed within the submitted cover report.

In considering the report, assurance was provided that relevant Ward Members would continue to be kept informed on the progress of agreed actions being taken in response to any concerns raised around transport and highways issues.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the proposal to permanently expand secondary provision at Allerton High School from a capacity of 1100 to 1400 pupils by increasing the admission number in Year 7 from 220 to 280, with effect from September 2022, be approved;
- (b) That the recommendation to exempt the decisions arising from this report from the Call In process, for the reasons set out in paragraph 24 of the submitted report, be approved;
- (c) That it be noted that the responsible officer for implementation of such matters is the Head of Learning Systems.

(The Council's Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rules state that a decision may be declared as being exempt from the Call In process by the decision taker if it is considered that the matter is urgent and any delay would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests. In line with this, the resolutions contained within this minute were exempted from the Call In process, as per resolution (b) above, and for the reasons as detailed within paragraph 24 of the submitted report)

LEADER'S PORTFOLIO

53 Update on Coronavirus (COVID19) pandemic – Response and Recovery Plan

Further to Minute No. 36, 21 July 2021, the Chief Executive submitted a report providing the latest details of the wide ranging activity being undertaken across the multi-agency partnership as part of the response to, and recovery

from the Covid-19 pandemic. Key information in the report included details of the work undertaken to increase vaccination uptake, recover backlogs on services, control the number of cases across the city, as well as encouraging continued testing, tracing and isolating within the context of most restrictions being removed and living with the virus.

The Board received an update on the progress being made on the continued vaccination roll out across the city. Also, responding to an enquiry, information was provided on the actions being taken to monitor the relevant data and promote vaccinations in communities where hesitancy remained.

Regarding Members' comments on a number of issues, the Board received further information on the actions being taken to progress the response and recovery from the pandemic as set out in the appended plan, with particular discussion around the scale of the challenge faced, the ongoing resumption of services, the establishment of new ways of working and the aim of ensuring that services were delivered in the most effective way. The Board also received further information on the challenges and pressures being faced during the recovery process, not only in Local Government, but across all sectors.

Responding to a specific enquiry regarding officer attendance at site visits, reassurance was provided that where appropriate, such visits would be made, with it being undertaken that any specific concerns that the Member in question had on this issue could be addressed separately. More generally, it was noted that such matters would be considered by the Council's Silver Group to ensure that a consistent approach was being taken across directorates.

Specifically with regard to the Council's Planning Service, Members highlighted their willingness for further consideration to be given to the making of representations to Government about providing Local Authorities with greater powers around the setting of planning fees.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the updated Response & Recovery Plan, as detailed at Annex A to the submitted report, which is the summary plan for the period ahead and which also details ongoing response, risks, recovery and service recovery efforts, be noted;
- (b) That the updated Local Outbreak Management Plan for Leeds, as detailed at Annex B to the submitted report, which the report highlights is in-line with the Government's current Contain Framework, be noted;
- (c) That a summary of national developments since the last meeting of Executive Board (Annex C) and the latest Covid-19 Dashboard detailing information across the seven key themes (Annex D), be noted;

- (d) That it be noted that there are national announcements anticipated which will influence local plans, with it also being noted that the next full update to Executive Board will be in December 2021, with regular Member updates continuing to be provided.

RESOURCES

54 West Yorkshire Pension Fund - Divestment from Fossil Fuels

Further to Minute No. 52 of the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee (CEAC) meeting held on 18th January 2021, the Director of Resources submitted a report which presented for the Board's consideration the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee's recommendation to the West Yorkshire Pension Fund (WYPF) regarding the divestment from fossil fuels.

In introducing the report, the Executive Member highlighted that although the Council had no direct decision making powers over WYPF, it was appropriate to raise the issue of investment in fossil fuels with the Pension Fund in response to the Climate Emergency, and the prospect of such investments losing value.

The Board discussed this matter in detail and acknowledged that the WYPF Board members had a duty to act in the best financial interests of its members. Also, Executive Board considered the role of the Council in this process and that of WYPF Board members. Members also highlighted how the consideration of the report raised people's awareness of the issue of climate change. At the same time it was acknowledged that the recommendation of CEAC to divest from fossil fuels within three years was not supported due to the financial risks involved. The Council would look to receive information from WYPF regarding progress on divesting from fossil fuels at the appropriate time and in a way that minimised the risk of any losses being incurred.

RESOLVED – That the West Yorkshire Pension Fund be requested to:-

- (i) be explicit about acknowledging the Climate Emergency and the need to divest from fossil fuels;
- (ii) actively look to divest into alternative, cleaner investments with comparable returns; and
- (iii) report annually against the progress on divestment, specifically against the region's declared net zero target.

55 Gambling Act 2005 - Public Consultation on Policy

The Director of Communities, Housing and Environment submitted a report which presented to the Board details of the triennial review of the Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy, and which sought the Board's approval to refer the matter to the relevant Scrutiny Board in accordance with the Budgetary and Policy Framework Procedure Rules.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the submitted report, including the outcomes from the related statutory consultation exercise undertaken, be noted; and that the matter be referred to Scrutiny Board (Environment,

Housing and Communities) for consideration in line with the Council's Budgetary and Policy Framework Procedure Rules.

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

56 Taxi and private hire licensing - Proposed new criterion in Suitability (Convictions) Policy

The Director of Communities, Housing and Environment submitted a report which sought the Board's approval to undertake a consultation exercise upon proposed new criterion for minor motoring convictions for determining the suitability of applicants and licensees as drivers in taxi and private hire licensing.

In introducing the report and in outlining the proposed process moving forward, the Executive Member highlighted the following corrections proposed to be made to the submitted report:

- That the outcomes of the consultation would be considered by Licensing Committee followed by Executive Board, and not the other way around as detailed within the report; and
- That the consultation period be scheduled for 6 weeks duration, rather than the 4 weeks, as detailed within the report.

In considering the report, Members discussed several matters including the importance of continuing to ensure that appropriate safeguarding measures remained in place, the timing of the proposed consultation process, the impact suffered by the taxi trade during the pandemic, the actions being taken to simplify the consultation process for stakeholders and make it as accessible as possible, the actions being taken to provide wider support for drivers as part of the recovery from the pandemic, and addressing the issue of wider harmonisation across neighbouring Authorities.

With regard to the wider harmonisation of the taxi and private hire trade across neighbouring Authorities, it was noted that work continued in this area, with the aim that further detail would be presented to the Board at the appropriate time.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the submitted report, subject to the inclusion of the corrections detailed above, be noted;
- (b) That a consultation exercise on the new criterion in the Suitability Policy, as presented within the submitted report/appendices, but subject to the inclusion of the corrections detailed above, be approved;

- (c) That a further report be submitted to the Board outlining the findings of the consultation and making final proposals on the policy to be adopted.

57 Revenue Savings Proposals for 2022/23 to 2024/25

The Chief Officer (Financial Services) submitted a report which outlined details of proposed savings over the next three years to meet the financial challenge which continued to be faced by the Council. The proposals were categorised as either 'Business as Usual' or 'Service Reviews'.

Members acknowledged that a number of assumptions have had to be made in respect of the current position, whilst further detail on announcements such as the Government's Spending Review were awaited.

The Board noted the work which was underway, with specific reference being made to the review being undertaken into procurement services. In considering such matters, Members noted the intention to submit further reports and proposals to the November and December Executive Board meetings.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the financial position for 2022/23 to 2024/25, as outlined in the submitted report, be noted, and that it also be noted that further savings are required to deliver a balanced budget position for 2022/23 and to close the projected gaps in the years 2023/24 and 2024/25;
- (b) That the 'Business as Usual' savings, as outlined, be noted, with it also being noted that 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 it be agreed that consultation commences where required with regard to the 'Service Review' proposals, as detailed in the submitted report, with it being noted that decisions to give effect to them shall be taken by the relevant Director or Chief Officer, following any consultation period, in accordance with the Officer Delegation Scheme (Executive functions).

58 The Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022/23 - 2026/27

The Chief Officer (Financial Services) submitted a report which provided an update on the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2022/23 to 2026/27, with the report highlighting how the strategy aimed to deliver a robust and sustainable approach towards establishing and maintaining a stable and prudent financial basis upon which the Council's services were delivered.

Responding to a Member's enquiry, officers undertook to provide the Member in question with the latest information on the Council's level of Reserves.

RESOLVED – That the updated Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2022/23 to 2026/27, as detailed within the submitted report, be noted.

59 Financial Health Monitoring 2021/22 – Month 4 (July)

The Chief Officer (Financial Services) submitted a report which provided an update on the financial health of the Authority in respect of both the General Fund revenue budget and the Housing Revenue Account, as at month 4 (July) of the financial year.

Responding to a Member's enquiry, the Board received further information regarding the current budget position of the refuse collection service, and the reasons for that position.

Also in response to a Member's enquiry, the Board received an update on the work which continued around ensuring the Council was 'energy secure' moving forward, with specific reference being made to the continued roll out of the District Heating scheme in the city. Members highlighted that this was an area of work which was particularly significant at present, given the considerable price increases being experienced in gas and electricity.

With regard to the collection of food waste and the associated anaerobic digestion process, Members received an update regarding national developments in this area which would continue to be monitored.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the projected financial position of the Authority, as at Month 4 of the financial year, be noted, with the projected impact of COVID-19 on that position also being noted;
- (b) That for 2021/22, it be noted that the Authority is forecasting an overspend of £0.4m;
- (c) That it be noted that the position as detailed within the submitted report does not reflect the potential effects of any further local or national lockdown arrangements on the financial projections, or any potential additional costs arising from the current 2021/22 pay negotiations.

DATE OF PUBLICATION: FRIDAY, 24TH SEPTEMBER 2021

LAST DATE FOR CALL IN OF ELIGIBLE DECISIONS: 5.00 P.M., FRIDAY, 1ST OCTOBER 2021

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