

# Agenda

## Cabinet

Date: **Thursday 5 August 2021**

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Time: **2.00 pm**

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Place: **Council Chamber**

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For any further information please contact:

**Alec Dubberley**

Democratic Services Manager

0115 901 3906

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# Cabinet

## Membership

**Chair** Councillor John Clarke

**Vice-Chair** Councillor Michael Payne

Councillor Peter Barnes  
Councillor David Ellis  
Councillor Gary Gregory  
Councillor Jenny Hollingsworth  
Councillor Viv McCrossen  
Councillor Henry Wheeler

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## **AGENDA**

**Page**

- |           |   |                  |
|-----------|---|------------------|
| <b>1</b>  | <b>Apologies for Absence.</b>   |                  |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>To approve, as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2021</b>  | <b>5 - 8</b>     |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>Declaration of Interests.</b>  |                  |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>Final Report and Recommendations of the Domestic Abuse and Accommodation Working Group</b><br>Report of the Democratic Services Manager                | <b>9 - 19</b>    |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>Decision of Ombudsman following complaint against the Council</b><br>Report of the Monitoring Officer  | <b>21 - 30</b>   |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>Welcome Back Fund</b><br>Report of the Head of Regeneration and Welfare  | <b>To Follow</b> |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>Quarter 1 Performance</b><br>Report of the Senior Leadership Team  | <b>31 - 51</b>   |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>Prudential Code Indicator Monitoring 2021/22 and Quarterly Treasury Activity Report for Quarter 1</b><br>Report of the Director of Corporate Resources | <b>53 - 71</b>   |
| <b>9</b>  | <b>Budget Monitoring (Q1) and Virement Report</b><br>Report of the Senior Leadership Team   | <b>73 - 98</b>   |
| <b>10</b> | <b>Forward Plan</b><br>Report of the Democratic Services Manager  | <b>99 - 106</b>  |
| <b>11</b> | <b>Any other items the Chair considers urgent.</b>  |                  |

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## **MINUTES CABINET**

**Thursday 8 July 2021**

Councillor John Clarke (Chair)

Present:       Councillor Michael Payne                   Councillor Jenny Hollingsworth  
                  Councillor Peter Barnes               Councillor Viv McCrossen  
                  Councillor David Ellis               Councillor Henry Wheeler  
                  Councillor Gary Gregory

Officers in Attendance:       P Adcock, A Ball, C Burrows, A Davey and F Whyley

**11       APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

None.

**12       TO APPROVE, AS A CORRECT RECORD, THE MINUTES OF THE  
MEETING HELD ON 20 MAY 2021**

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the above meeting, having been circulated, be approved as a correct record subject to the inclusion of concerns expressed by Members about the concerns with Highcroft Medical Centre under item 9.

**13       DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**

None

**14       ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR INFORMATION RISK OWNER  
2020/21**

The Director of Corporate Resources introduced a report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, presenting the Senior Information Risk Owner Annual report 2020/21

**RESOLVED:**

To note the annual report of the Senior Information Risk Owner for 2020/21.

**15       GEDLING PLAN QUARTER 4 AND YEAR END PERFORMANCE  
REPORT**

The Director of Environment, Communities and Leisure introduced a report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting presenting

a summary of the position against Improvement Actions and Performance Indicators in the 2020/21 Gedling Plan at the end of quarter 4 and year end.

Members were taken through a brief presentation outlining key points.

**RESOLVED to:**

Note the progress against Improvement Actions and Performance Indicators in the 2020/21 Gedling Plan.

**16 ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21**

The Director of Environment, Communities and Leisure introduced a report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, seeking members' agreement to the wide publication of the proposed Annual report for 2020/21.

The Leader asked that a copy of the Annual Report was sent to the Prime Minister, Chancellor as well as the Chairs of the Local Government Association and District Councils Network.

**RESOLVED to:**

Approve the Cabinet approve the proposed Annual Report 2020/21 for wide publication internally and externally as described within the report.

**17 ANNUAL TREASURY ACTIVITY REPORT 2020/21**

The Head of Finance and IT introduced a report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, informing Members of the outturn in respect of the 2020/21 Prudential Code Indicators, and to advise of the outturn on treasury activity, both as required by the Council's Treasury Management Strategy.

**RESOLVED:**

To approve the Annual Treasury Activity Report for 2020/21 and refer it to Council for approval, as required by the regulations.

**18 BUDGET OUTTURN AND BUDGET CARRY FORWARDS 2020/21**

The Director of Corporate resources introduced a report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, presenting the 2020/21 final budget position and associated actions.

It was pointed out that since the agenda was published, a reference to the amount of government funding made available to the Council in relation to covid tax income guarantee funding was incorrect. Due to an administrative oversight in the data collection by the MCHLG, there

would be a minor reduction of £46,000 in the figure reported at paragraph 2.3.1 which will now be accounted for in 2021/22.

**RESOLVED to:**

- 1) Note the Budget Outturn figures for 2020/21;
- 2) Approve the movements in Earmarked Reserves and Provisions as detailed in paragraphs 2.4 and 2.5 of the report;
- 3) Note the capital carry forwards approved by the Chief Financial Officer included in Appendix 6 to the report, being amounts not in excess of £50,000 and committed schemes above £50,000
- 4) Refer to Council for approval:
  - a) The capital carry forwards of £1,129,800 included in Appendix 6 to the report for non-committed schemes in excess of £50,000;
  - b) The overall method of financing of the 2020/21 capital expenditure as set out in paragraph 3.4 of the report
  - c) The capital determinations regarding financing and debt provisions as set out in paragraph 3.5 of the report.

**19 FORWARD PLAN**

Consideration was given to a report of the Democratic Services Manager which had been circulated prior to the meeting, detailing the Executive's draft Forward Plan for the next four month period.

In repose to a question, it was indicated that in was anticipated that the equalities action plan would be presented at October meeting of Cabinet.

**RESOLVED:**

To note the report.

**20 ANY OTHER ITEMS THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT.**

None.

The meeting finished at 3.10 pm

Signed by Chair:  
Date:





## Report to Cabinet

**Subject:** Final Report and Recommendations of the Domestic Abuse and Accommodation Working Group

**Date:** 5 August 2021

**Author:** Democratic Services Manager

### Wards Affected

Borough-wide

### Purpose

To present the report and recommendations of the working group that examined how the Council contributes to fulfilling the duty to secure refuge places and emergency accommodation appropriate for the needs of individuals and their families, including those with a disability and from the LGBTQ+ and BAME communities. The use of the Sanctuary Scheme to enable people to stay safely in their own homes was also explored.

### Key Decision

This is not a key decision

### Recommendation(s)

#### THAT:

Cabinet is recommended to:

- 1) Consider the report and recommendations of the Surface Water Flooding working group; and
- 2) Provide a written response to the recommendations for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee within 28 days.

- 1.1 Members are reminded that part of the remit of Scrutiny is to deal with wider service or policy issues through the establishment of working groups, which take an in depth view of Council policies and plans as directed by the Overview Scrutiny Committee, and make recommendations to Cabinet accordingly. In accordance with the Scrutiny Improvement Plan 2010, a review is commissioned when:
- There is added value that this work will bring to the core priorities of the Council
  - It is likely to make a difference if a working group undertake this work
  - It is likely to lead to improved performance
  - It is likely that the working group's recommendations will improve the lives of the residents of Gedling Borough
  - It will increase Member awareness of important issues.

## **2 Proposal**

- 2.1 It is proposed that the relevant portfolio holder(s) consider the recommendations made by the working group and that a response is provided within 28 days for consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at a future meeting.

## **3 Alternative Options**

- 3.1 Under Executive governance arrangements the Cabinet is required to consider reports from the Scrutiny Committee so there are no alternative options

## **4 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

## **5 Legal Implications**

- 5.1 There are no legal financial implications arising from this report.

## **6 Equalities Implications**

- 6.1 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report, although there may be future positive impacts for some groups with protected characteristics should any recommendations be taken forward.

## **7 Carbon Reduction/Environmental Sustainability Implications**

- 7.1 There are no direct carbon reduction or environmental sustainability implications arising from this report.

## **8 Appendices**

- 8.1 Appendix 1 – Report and recommendations of the Domestic Abuse and Accommodation Working Group

## **9 Background Papers**

- 9.1 None identified

## **10 Reasons for Recommendations**

- 10.1 To comply with Executive governance arrangements and fulfil the role of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

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**Report to:** Overview and Scrutiny Committee

**Subject:** Final Report and Recommendations of the Domestic Abuse and accommodation working group

**Date:** 5 August 2021

**Author:** Democratic Services Officer

**Working Group members:** Councillors Roxanne Ellis (Chair), S Barnes, Boyle, Clunie, Rachael Ellis and Paling

### **Purpose of the Report**

To present the final report and recommendations of the Domestic Abuse Working Group.

### **Background**

Survivors of Domestic Abuse require significant support should they decide to leave an abusive relationship. This involves accessing a range of assistance including financial and legal advice and help with securing accommodation both in the immediate and longer term. The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 creates a statutory definition of domestic abuse, emphasising that domestic abuse is not just physical violence, but can also be emotional, coercive or controlling behaviour or economic abuse. The Act also places an important legal duty on local authorities to deliver support to survivors of domestic abuse living in accommodation based services and that eligible homeless victims of domestic violence automatically have a 'priority need' for homelessness assistance. Gedling Borough therefore has a responsibility to support victims and their family's access accommodation, failure to provide this assistance may result in victims returning to unsuitable or unsafe accommodation or become homeless.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee established a working group to examine the how Gedling Borough will contribute to fulfilling the duty to secure refuge places and emergency accommodation appropriate for the needs of individuals and their families, including those with a disability and from the LGBTQ+ and BAME communities. The use of the Sanctuary Scheme to enable people to stay safely in their own homes was also explored.

The working group was informed of the following definitions relating to the different types of accommodation available.

A refuge is a safe house (shared) where women and children who are experiencing domestic abuse can stay free from fear. Any woman who needs to escape from domestic abuse can go into a refuge at any time. It does not matter whether or not you are married to or living with your abuser, or whether or not you have children.

Emergency accommodation is short-term housing for survivors in urgent need of accommodation, for example, bed and breakfast hotels and hostels.

Temporary accommodation is where a survivor may be placed when the authority has accepted the duty to house but does not have suitable, long term housing immediately available

Dispersed accommodation is self-contained accommodation with support provided.

Move-on or second stage accommodation is a stepping-stone between refuge or hostels and independent living.

## **Information**

The Domestic Abuse Bill places a duty on Tier 1 authorities, i.e. Nottinghamshire County Council to appoint a multi-agency Domestic Abuse Local Partnership which will have the responsibility for making arrangements for victims and their families who need support and to prepare a strategy for the provision of support. Tier 2 authorities have a duty to cooperate. The responsibility to commission accommodation therefore lies with the Nottinghamshire County Council who are able to delegate funding and the duty for provision to Tier 2 authorities, this includes Gedling Borough.

The availability of housing accommodation is a key component when supporting individuals and families who need to escape domestic abuse. Victims forced to leave their homes to find safety, in a refuge or other type of accommodation, may sometimes relocate in another local authority area in order to be a safe distance from their abuser, however, if it is considered to be safe victims and their children will be allocated temporary accommodation in a different part of Gedling. In cases of domestic abuse, temporary accommodation will also be made available to victims previously living outside Gedling. Under the current applications procedure domestic violence cases are placed in priority band 2 or considered as a homeless application. Although domestic abuse cases have priority for housing there are not often properties available for immediate occupation and should the application have to be treated as a homeless case, refuge provision or bed and breakfast accommodation will be offered. Whilst in a refuge support will be available to assist the victims to be rehoused safely and after 56 days if accommodation is still needed the application will be moved to priority band 1. Refuge accommodation if available and suitable is

the preferred option for victims and families as it enables assessment and tailored packages to meet their specific requirements be developed

Currently there is no refuge provision located in Gedling but places are available for Gedling residents in the countywide provision and wider across the UK.

Refuge provision offers not just accommodation but also intensive emotional and practical support as a county wide resource currently is available in:

- Newark - provider Newark Women's Aid. Newark and Midlands Women's Aid are an independent refuge provider and not funded through the Notts. County Council Public Health commissioned service.
- Broxtowe - provider Midlands Women's Aid are an independent refuge provider and not funded through the Notts. County Council Public Health commissioned service.
- Mansfield and Bassetlaw - Nottinghamshire Women's Aid who operate refuge provision and is also commissioned by the Public Health, Notts. County Council to provide bed spaces.
- Ashfield - JUNO Women's Aid with Ashfield District Council properties. Juno operate refuge provision and are also commissioned by Public Health, Notts. County Council to provide bed spaces.

There are reciprocal arrangements with the support of other local authorities for refuge accommodation should it be thought safer for a family to be housed in a different part of the country.

Every refuge is oversubscribed and this has been made worse by the increase in cases due to lockdown and the closure of some refuges due to Covid restrictions. Refuges do not keep waiting lists, vacancies are filled by whoever is in need when the vacancy occurs. If no places are available it may result in victims returning home or moving in with relatives. Refuge provides much more than bed space, offering both support and advice which will prepare survivors to move forward with their lives. This type of accommodation is not suitable for everyone, some buildings may not be appropriate for women with disabilities and older women sometimes do not settle well in shared facilities. Refuges are female only spaces and boys aged eighteen plus are not permitted, this can cause issues for some families of teenage children requiring assistance. Move on accommodation is increasingly difficult to find and families can be left in refuge or temporary accommodation longer than is necessary.

Representatives from JUNO Women's Aid attended a meeting of the working group and explained the services they provide and the support they currently offer. As the largest domestic abuse organisation in Nottinghamshire and one of the largest in the UK, it works with women and children affected by domestic abuse in Ashfield, Broxtowe, Gedling, Nottingham City and Rushcliffe. JUNO offers information and advice, drop in and one to one support, a 24 hour helpline plus refuge and accommodation services. The 24hour helpline support is available to anyone across

the UK. There has been a 58% increase in calls to the helpline between January 2020 to December 2020 compared with the previous year. At any one time JUNO can be supporting 500-600 women and children in Nottingham City and South Nottinghamshire. JUNO works with Equation, a Nottingham based service that as part of their work provides specialist support for men experiencing domestic abuse. Equation is an LGBTQ+ friendly organisation and Equation's Domestic Abuse Service for Men also offers support to the LGBTQ+ community. Refuge provision is available for men but this is frequently underutilised and there are empty places. JUNO also offers a wide range of services for children and young people affected by or who have experienced domestic abuse, therapeutic group work sessions for young people in education, youth work and community settings promoting health relationships. JUNO also runs a pet fostering service for pets that cannot be taken into the emergency accommodation available.

JUNO accommodation provision includes refuge places for nine families and dispersed housing for six families in the Ashfield area. This type of accommodation does not just provide bed space but also support for women with issues such as safety, housing, benefits, immigration, finance, children and health. The average stay in this type accommodation is a year and JUNO works closely with Ashfield District Council to rehome families in the area. The dispersed accommodation is in Ashfield Homes properties.

Gedling Borough on behalf of Nottinghamshire County Council and the seven Nottinghamshire district authorities has, in the past, been successful in funding bids for refuge provision from MHCLG. Between 2015 and 2019 three separate bids were successful bringing in over £1.9M for Nottinghamshire refuge provision. In 2019, led by Nottinghamshire County Council, a further £500,000 was received. Without this funding 25 units, a total of 128 bed spaces, would have been lost. The impact of this would be 167 women and 320 children would have been unable to access refuge provision. The Domestic Abuse Act and associated duty has brought £1.2M into the County Council as the Tier 1 authority for 2021 – 2022.

Currently temporary accommodation available in Gedling is for the use of all applicants in need, however priority is not necessarily given to survivors of domestic abuse. Temporary provision consists of two 2-bedroom flats and two 3-bedroomed houses, leased from Derwent Homes, two, 3-bedroomed houses leased from Jigsaw homes and seven 2-bedroomed houses that are the Council's own properties. It is envisaged that this will increase in the future and borough council will have additional temporary accommodation with the developments at the Burton Road and Station Road regeneration sites. Temporary accommodation is usually occupied with a one day turnaround when vacated. Bed and breakfast, particularly when children are involved, is available as a short term solution until refuge or temporary accommodation can be secured. Each case has a unique set of needs and all are assessed on their individual circumstances. The designation of a temporary property purely for the use of domestic violence cases was considered although this was



discarded after discussion. The property would become identifiable and would need to be changed frequently for safety reasons. Establishing such properties would be expensive, CCTV may be required and additional locks and external lighting would have to be fitted.

There is a lack of appropriate and affordable accommodation for families who are ready to leave refuge or temporary accommodation both in social housing and privately rented sectors. To enable suitable permanent accommodation to be secured deposits for privately rented accommodation are available, each case is assessed individually, and benefits advice, removal and storage costs are also available

The Sanctuary Scheme administered by Gedling Borough Council Community Safety team in Public Protection supports survivors of domestic abuse to continue to live in their own homes following actual, and threatened abuse from a partner or ex-partner not living at their address. The scheme seeks to reduce victimisation, escalation in incident severity, recorded incidents and crime, and lower homelessness, emergency accommodation and refuge placements. This is done by providing additional security to the property this can include installation of replacement door locks, window locks, external lighting and where assessed a necessary, replacement door when damaged by the perpetrator. Each cases is different and assessed accordingly.

The scheme aims to offer an alternative to temporary accommodation and prevent leaving accommodation and the necessity to seek temporary accommodation and is a significant cost saving to the authority while avoiding family disruption and making the survivor feel safer. The Group felt that it was something to be proud of that Gedling Bough Council is a leading contributor to the work of such an important scheme.

The working group was very interested in the potential cost savings and benefits of the Sanctuary scheme. In 2020-2021 the average spend on a Sanctuary Security installation was approximately £800 which provided a basic level of improved security to a property. This may have included some or all of the following; replacement door locks, window locks, sash jammers, external PIR lighting, gate locks, fire proof letter box, anti-shatter film for windows and Ring door bell. Total spend was just under £10,000 with 14 households benefiting. There were a further 6 properties who benefited from security improvements installed by their housing provider.

Comparing this to cases where the family do not feel safe to remain in the existing family home, information provided by Gedling BC Housing Needs states that the average cost of a homeless application to the authority is £5,000. This can be higher if there are 3 or more children as the cost for bed and breakfast accommodation can be in excess of £120 per night. This cost does not include officer time involved in the

case which may be quite significant depending upon the complexity. The time spent in temporary accommodation that may be a refuge, a hostel or Gedling BC temporary flat accommodation can be in excess of 12 months so survivor/applicants are encouraged in seeking accommodation in the private sector and the authority pays towards a landlord liaison officer to assist in the process. The authority also offers financial support for deposit and/or rent in advance which can add between £500 and £1,500 on top of the average costs.

The cost saving to the authority of providing Sanctuary Security measures can therefore be significant by allowing the family to feel safer and remain in the existing family home. Further, the negative emotional and psychological impacts are likely lessened as in remaining in the family home can allow the maintaining of local community and family contacts, children being able to remain in the same school environment and no financial impact of costs the authority cannot meet or will recharge for, for example moving and/or storage costs for furniture and personal belongings.

## **Conclusions**

Access to safe housing options is essential, lack of access to safe secure housing is a major barrier to escaping abuse and features strongly in decision making about whether to stay or leave an abuser. If survivors do not have access to suitable accommodation and are at risk of homelessness they may decide to stay in unsafe accommodation and / or with the abuser.

Provision of refuge accommodation is the safest and most effective approach to support high risk victims of domestic abuse. It enables each case to be individually assessed and support packages to be designed to meet individual and family need. The provision of refuge places for victims and their families exceeds the refuge accommodation that is currently available and Gedling Borough should work with the County Council to ensure there is sufficient safe and supported accommodation for victims and families who are leaving abusive relationships.

Information should be available in Gedling Borough facilities promoting what constitutes domestic abuse and the damage that is caused by violence in relationships. Gedling Borough should encourage and support this message and develop closer links with JUNO and other local community based service providers.

## **The Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommends that:**

- 1) The Executive recognises the financial savings achieved and the benefits to clients of the Sanctuary Scheme and ensures that the service continues to receive funding at a level that fully meets the needs of families to enable them to live safely.

- 2) Work is undertaken to Increase awareness for both the public and staff members of domestic abuse and the services available to address this issue using the website, Contacts magazine and council owned buildings, leisure centres, community centres, Intranet etc.
- 3) The Council pro-actively works with organisations such as JUNO so that they can be given access to council owned buildings to provide outreach/drop-in session.
- 4) Compulsory training on identifying and interacting with victims of domestic abuse is given to front line officers and elected members and that this is delivered at future member inductions.
- 5) A section on safeguarding considerations including domestic abuse is included as a specific section in committee and decision reports.
- 6) The Portfolio Holders with responsibility for Public Protection and Housing continue to monitor the need for refuge provision with a view to providing an adequate level of funding for delivering dispersed refuge and “move on” accessible accommodation in the Borough.
- 7) Partnership working across the country for the provision of refuge spaces continues offering accommodation on a reciprocal basis. This should be based on need rather than geographical residence in Gedling.

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## Report to Cabinet

**Subject:** Decision of Ombudsman following complaint against the Council

**Date:** 5 August 2021

**Author:** Monitoring Officer

### Wards Affected

Borough wide

### Purpose

This report is to inform Members of a finding of maladministration with injustice by the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman ("the Ombudsman") against Gedling Borough Council in response to a complaint by Ms X with regard to the way the Council communicated its housing review decision to Ms X in September 2020.

### Key Decision

This is not a key decision

### Recommendations

#### THAT:

1. The Ombudsman's decision at Appendix 1 be noted;
2. It be noted that a copy of this report has been circulated to all members of the Council;
3. A report be prepared on behalf of the Executive setting out the action to be taken and reasons for it being prepared.

## 1 Background

- 1.1 Members are aware that if an individual is dissatisfied with the service provided by the Council he/she may complain under the Council's Complaints, Compliments and Comments Policy. If the complainant exhausts the Council's complaints process and is unhappy with the

response at Stage 2 he/she is entitled to refer the complaint to the Ombudsman. If the Ombudsman decides to investigate a complaint he will determine whether, in his opinion, the Council has been guilty of “maladministration” and if so whether the complainant has sustained “injustice” in consequence.

- 1.2 Section 5A of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 imposes a duty upon the Monitoring Officer to prepare a report to the Executive if at any time it appears to her that there has been maladministration in the exercise of its functions. The duty does not arise unless the Ombudsman has conducted an investigation. The Monitoring Officer must consult the Head of Paid Service and Chief Financial Officer in the preparation of a section 5A report and provide a copy to each Member of the Council.
- 1.3 As soon as practicable after the Executive has considered the Monitoring Officer’s report it must prepare a report which specifies:-
  - (a) What action (if any) the Executive has taken in response to the Monitoring Officer’s report,
  - (b) What action (if any) the Executive proposes to take in response to the report, and
  - (c) The reasons for taking the action or for taking no action.

## **2 Proposal**

- 2.1 This report relates to a complaint by Ms X about the Council’s assessment of her priority on the Housing Register and her bids for social housing. The Ombudsman concluded that there was fault in the way the Council communicated its housing review decision to Ms X in September 2020. The Ombudsman noted that the Council apologised for this error and took steps to improve the quality of review letters, and as such the Ombudsman has not suggested any further remedy. The Ombudsman only upheld this element of the complaint. The Ombudsman found no fault in the decision in relation to priority banding or the way in which the complainant’s bids for properties were considered and ranked. A copy of the Ombudsman’s decision in relation to this complaint is self-explanatory and is attached at Appendix 1. The Ombudsman has confirmed that this complaint will be included in the published figures for the year ending 31 March 2022. It will be recorded as: *Housing and the decision as: Upheld: maladministration and injustice – no further action, satisfactory remedy provided by the organisation.*
- 2.2 Prior to the Ombudsman decision being issued, the Council had reviewed and updated the content of the Housing Band Review letters and had issued an apology to the complainant for the errors in the letter sent to her

about her banding review in September 2020. Housing Review letters have now been updated to ensure that clear reasoning is given for any banding review decision and that any evidence taken into account in making the decision is referenced in the letter.

### **3 Alternative Options**

- 3.1 In view of the fact that the Ombudsman has categorised the complaint as “Upheld: maladministration and injustice”, the statutory process for reporting the decision must be followed and the Executive are required to prepare a report specifying any particular actions required as a consequence of this report. The Executive may determine that no further action is required by the Council in line with the Ombudsman’s decision, or may propose alternative action in response to the report.

### **4 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

### **5 Legal Implications**

- 5.1 Section 5A of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 imposes a duty upon the Monitoring Officer to prepare a report to the Executive if at any time it appears to her that there has been maladministration in the exercise of its functions. This report must be provided to all members of the Council and considered by the Executive within 21 days of the report being circulated.

### **6 Equalities Implications**

- 6.1 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

### **7 Carbon Reduction/Environmental Sustainability Implications**

- 7.1 There are no carbon reduction/environmental sustainability implications arising from this report.

### **8 Appendices**

- 8.1 Appendix 1 – Copy of Ombudsman’s decision.

### **9 Background Papers**

- 9.1 None identified.

### **10 Reasons for Recommendations**

- 10.1 To comply with the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act

1989.

- 10.2 To improve the Housing Needs Service and avoid any further complaints or instances of maladministration in the exercise of this function.

**Statutory Officer approval**

**Approved by Chief Financial Officer**

**Date:** 23 July 2021

**Written by:** Monitoring Officer

**Date:** 22 July 2021



## **The Ombudsman's final decision**

Summary: Ms X complained about the Council's assessment of her priority on the Housing Register and her bids for social housing. There was fault in the way the Council communicated its housing review decision to Ms X in September 2020. It has apologised for this error and taken steps to improve the quality of review decision letters. But there was no fault in its decision to confirm her priority band on the Housing Register then. And there was no fault in the way it considered and ranked her bids for properties.

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## **The complaint**

1. Ms X complained that the Council:
  - a) did not properly assess her housing needs between 2017 and early 2019;
  - b) should have awarded Band 1 priority when it considered new evidence and reviewed her priority in September 2020;
  - c) did not carry out the review of her priority band fairly;
  - d) is taking too long to offer her accommodation and may have allocated properties to applicants who have lower priority than her;
  - e) has discriminated against her and her family.
2. Ms X and her family live in unsuitable private rented accommodation which has an adverse impact on their physical and mental health and wellbeing. She wants the Council to offer her suitable accommodation or refer her to another housing authority.

## **What I have investigated**

3. I investigated parts b) to e) of the complaint.
4. I did not investigate part a) for the reasons given in paragraph 51.

## **The Ombudsman's role and powers**

5. We investigate complaints about 'maladministration' and 'service failure'. In this statement, I have used the word fault to refer to these. We must also consider whether any fault has had an adverse impact on the person making the complaint. I refer to this as 'injustice'. If there has been fault which has caused an injustice, we may suggest a remedy. (*Local Government Act 1974, sections 26(1) and 26A(1), as amended*)

- 
6. If we are satisfied with a council's actions or proposed actions, we can complete our investigation and issue a decision statement. (*Local Government Act 1974, section 30(1B) and 34H(i), as amended*)
  7. We cannot investigate late complaints unless we decide there are good reasons. Late complaints are when someone takes more than 12 months to complain to us about something a council has done. (*Local Government Act 1974, sections 26B and 34D, as amended*)

## How I considered this complaint

8. I have spoken to Ms X and considered all the information she sent me.
9. I have considered the Council's comments and relevant records. I have read the relevant sections of the Council's housing allocations policy. I examined records of Ms X's bids for properties on the Homesearch scheme and the priority of the applicants who were allocated those properties.
10. Ms X and the Council had an opportunity to comment on my draft decision. I considered their comments before making a final decision.

## What I found

### The background to this complaint

11. When Ms X made this complaint in late September 2020, she was living with her three children, who are all young adults, in a privately rented property. Her eldest child has since moved out.
12. Ms X, and the two children who still live with her, have disabilities. Ms X has a medical condition which limits her mobility and significant mental health disorders. Both children have autism and ADHD. Their current home is unsuitable for the family's needs for various reasons, including Ms X's mobility needs. She says one of the three bedrooms in the property is too small to be used.
13. Ms X joined the Housing Register in early April 2019. The Housing Needs team assessed her needs then and awarded Band 3 priority. Later on that month, the banding was reviewed. Ms X was awarded Band 2 priority on medical grounds which was backdated to the date she applied.

### The banding review in September 2020

#### What should happen

14. There are three priority bands in the Council's housing allocations scheme: Bands 1 to 3. Qualifying applicants are placed in one of these bands following an assessment of their housing needs.
15. Band 2 includes applicants who have a **high** medical priority for rehousing. This applies when the applicant (or a household member) needs to move because of a serious medical condition, illness or disability which is made worse by the current accommodation and it cannot be adapted to meet their needs.
16. Band 1 is the highest band in the scheme. It includes applicants who have an **urgent** medical need to be rehoused because they have a permanent illness or disability which prevents them remaining in their current accommodation. A housing, health or social care professional must confirm that the accommodation is no longer accessible or suitable.

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17. Applicants have the right to request a review of certain decisions on their housing application, including the priority band awarded. The applicant must be notified of the review decision in writing.
  18. Statutory guidance on housing allocations says reviews should be carried out by an officer who is senior to the original decision maker, or by a panel which does not including the original decision maker. The Council's housing allocations policy reflects this guidance and says reviews will be carried out by a senior officer.

### **What happened**

19. The decision to place Ms X in Band 2 was made in April 2019 by "Officer B" who works in the Housing Needs service.
20. In September 2020 the Council received a letter from Ms X's support worker requesting a review of her priority band. Ms X also signed the letter. The support worker described the cramped living conditions. He said Ms X was sleeping on a sofa in the living room which aggravated her medical condition. The third bedroom was very small and there was barely room for a bed. He also described Ms X's mental health issues, mobility problems and gave details of the children's needs and medical conditions.
21. The support worker enclosed a letter from Ms X's GP dated 4 July 2020. The GP said Ms X's mobility difficulties were affected by the lack of space in the house. She was under the care of a psychiatrist and had stopped attending counselling sessions due to the stress caused by her living conditions. The GP also confirmed her children's disabilities. The GP asked the Council to give her urgent priority for rehousing.
22. Officer A, a team leader in the Housing Needs team, carried out the review. On 21 September 2020 the Assistant Director of Finance wrote to inform Ms X of the review decision. When she complained to us, Ms X said it was not appropriate for an Assistant Director of Finance to be involved in a housing review. The Council has since explained that its practice at the time was for letters to be sent in the name of the relevant Director or Assistant Director for the service. In this case, the Assistant Director of Finance managed the Housing Needs service. However she was not involved in the review which was carried out by Officer A. Officer A's name appears as the contact on the letter.
23. Ms X considers Officer A should not have been involved in handling her housing application or reviews. She had made a complaint about Officer A's conduct in February 2019. The Council investigated the complaint and found no grounds to uphold it. Ms X did not take the complaint to the next stage of the complaints procedure at the time. Ms X says Officer A could not consider the review fairly because she had complained about her.
24. The review decision letter explained there would be no change to Ms X's priority band. There were some errors and omissions in the letter. The Council accepts it could have been expressed more clearly. It wrongly said Ms X did not meet the criteria for Band 1 or Band 2 when, in fact, she was already in Band 2. The Council had previously apologised for this error when it replied to an MP's enquiry. The letter also referred Ms X's review request letter when the letter was written by the support worker. And the review decision letter did not specifically state that Officer A had considered the evidence in the GP and support worker's letters.

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25. The Council says it has now instructed officers in the Housing Needs service to ensure review decision letters give clear reasons for the decision and refer to the evidence considered in the review.

**My analysis**

26. I am satisfied that Officer A carried out the September 2020 banding review and it was appropriate for her to do so. She was a senior officer in the Housing Needs service and she did not make the original decision to place Ms X in Band 2 in April 2019. I therefore find no fault in the choice of the reviewing officer.
27. Although Ms X had complained about Officer A's conduct in early 2019, the Council's investigation did not uphold her complaint. So there was no reason why Officer A should not have been involved in future decisions on Ms X's application.
28. However there was fault with the content of the review decision letter. It was inaccurate in one respect and it did not adequately explain the evidence Officer A had considered and the reasons for her decision. It would also have been less confusing for Ms X if Officer A had signed the review decision letter rather than the Assistant Director.
29. So there was fault in the way the Council communicated the review decision to Ms X. The Council has already apologised to Ms X for the error and issued advice to relevant officers to improve the quality of review decision letters. That was a satisfactory remedy.
30. I went on to consider whether the decision to confirm the Band 2 priority award in September 2020 was flawed. Based on the evidence the Council received at that time, it was not fault to decide the application should remain in Band 2. Although Ms X strongly disagrees with that decision, and with Officer A's assessment of the evidence, that was a decision Officer A was entitled to make.

**The award of Band 1 priority**

31. In March 2021 the Council awarded Ms X Band 1 priority. This is the highest priority band in its housing allocations scheme.
32. The Council says it awarded Band 1 priority then because various professionals had contacted the Housing Needs service to express concerns about a marked deterioration in Ms X's mental health. The Council also became aware that Ms X had made a reference to suicide on social media. This led to increased concerns about the welfare of Ms X and her children.
33. Following consultation with officers, Officer A decided to award Band 1 priority from 22 March 2021.
34. Ms X believes the decision to award Band 1 priority in March 2021 was not based on consideration of new evidence or information. She believes officers only had the evidence she had submitted for the September 2020 review. For this reason she believes the Council should have awarded Band 1 priority in September 2020.
35. The Council sent me the original email correspondence from March 2021 and a redacted version which I have shared with Ms X.

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### **My analysis**

36. The March 2021 emails contain new information that was not in the letters submitted for the September 2020 review. Various professionals had expressed growing concerns about a deterioration in Ms X's mental health. It was this new information, from several sources, that led to the decision to award Band 1 priority.
37. For this reason, I do not find the Council was at fault for awarding Band 1 priority in March 2021 rather than in September 2020. This decision was based on new evidence presented in March.

### **Ms X's bids for properties on Homesearch**

38. The Council provided a spreadsheet of all the bids Ms X made for properties on the Homesearch scheme between mid-September 2019 and mid-May 2021. This covers the 12 month period before Ms X complained to us and more recent bids.
39. When Ms X was awarded Band 1 priority, she was placed on "auto-bid". This means she was automatically matched to any properties that met her assessed housing needs.
40. There are 36 bids on the Council's spreadsheet. 20 of these properties were allocated to applicants with Band 1 priority while Ms X was still in Band 2. Two properties were allocated after Ms X was awarded Band 1 in March 2021. They went to applicants who had been in Band 1 for longer than her.
41. Only three properties were allocated to applicants with Band 2 priority while Ms X was in Band 2. All of these went to Band 2 applicants with an earlier registration date than Ms X so they took priority over Ms X.
42. Most of the remaining properties were either withdrawn by the landlords or Ms X's bids were bypassed because she did not match the criteria. Ms X withdrew one bid. In one case, the landlord rejected Ms X on the grounds that she had rent arrears from a former tenancy. Ms X disputed these arrears and the Council subsequently made a payment to clear them so she would not be refused again for this reason. Some of the bids on the list are still open and under consideration.

### **My analysis**

43. The records show that most properties allocated in this period went to applicants in a higher priority band than Ms X or who had been in the same band for longer than her. They therefore had priority over Ms X.
44. Housing Associations and other landlords sometimes withdraw properties advertised on Homesearch and the Council has no control over this. Landlords also carry out their own checks before they decide whether to accept someone as a tenant. The Council is not involved in making those decisions.
45. Having reviewed this evidence, I found no fault in the way the Council prioritised Ms X's bids for properties.

### **Discrimination**

46. Ms X believes that the Council discriminated against her and her family. She feels it is wrong that Officer A is still involved in making decisions on her case when she complained about Officer A's conduct in early 2019. Ms X believes the Council is determined to stop her getting an offer of social housing.
47. The Council says it has not discriminated against Ms X. It says it assessed her housing application fairly and applied the criteria in its published housing

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allocations scheme when deciding what priority to award. It increased her priority to Band 1 in March 2021 when professionals provided new information about a deterioration in her mental health. Ms X's bids were always ranked according to her priority band and date.

### **My analysis**

48. I have seen no evidence that Council officers treated Ms X unfairly or discriminated against her in the period covered by this investigation. Understandably she is upset that she has not been rehoused yet. But I have seen no evidence that this results from unfair treatment or discrimination in the way officers assessed her priority and bids.

### **Final decision**

49. I have completed the investigation and found fault with the content of the September 2020 review decision letter. This caused Ms X some confusion and uncertainty. The Council has apologised to Ms X (through her MP) for the error in the letter and taken steps to improve the quality of review decision letters. As I have not found fault with the decision to confirm Band 2 priority at that time, the Council's apology provides a satisfactory remedy.
50. I have not upheld the other parts of Ms X's complaint because I found no fault.

### **Parts of the complaint that I did not investigate**

51. I did not investigate part a) of Ms X's complaint about the Council's assessment of her housing needs between 2017 and early 2019. Ms X complained to us in September 2020. These events all happened more than 12 months before she complained to us and it is too late to investigate them now.

### **Investigator's decision on behalf of the Ombudsman**



## Report to Cabinet

**Subject:** Gedling Plan Quarter 1 2021/22 Report

**Date:** 5<sup>th</sup> August 2021

**Author:** Senior Leadership Team

### Wards Affected

Borough-wide

### Purpose

To inform Cabinet in summary of the position against Improvement Actions and Performance Indicators in the 2020-23 Gedling Plan at the end of 2021/22 quarter 1.

### Key Decision

This is not a key decision.

### Recommendation

#### THAT:

The progress against the Improvement Actions and Performance Indicators in the 2020-23 Gedling Plan for the end of 2021/22 quarter 1 be noted.

## 1 Background

- 1.1 The Council has made a commitment to closely align budget and performance management. This is in line with accepted good practice.
- 1.2 To deliver this commitment, systems to monitor performance against revenue and capital budgets, improvement activity and performance indicators have all been brought together and are now embedded in the way the Council works. Whilst the budget and performance information are presented in two separate reports, they are and will be reported to Cabinet together and will appear on the same agenda.
- 1.3 In addition, performance reports now focus more directly on the Council's priorities and offer an "early warning" system of instances where targets may not be secured.



- 1.4 As usual, comprehensive details about current performance against the Gedling Plan can be accessed through the following link on the Council's website:-

<http://www.gedling.gov.uk/council/aboutus/prioritiesplansandperformance/howwere/doing/>

Members are recommended to view this document which provides valuable background detail to this summary paper. It provides a more in-depth review of indicators, actions and outcomes for 2021/22 quarter 1.

- 1.5 A full set of papers that appear on the website have been printed and these reports are available in the Members' Room. They contain explanations of variances from expected performance together with trend arrows for all the performance indicators within the Gedling Plan (note that an upward arrow indicates improved performance, irrespective of whether improvement is represented by a higher or lower value) and progress bars for all Gedling Plan actions showing progress made against project milestones.
- 1.6 The assessment criteria used for actions and indicators is based on red, amber and green traffic light symbols. To be assessed as green performance indicators must be in line with their expected performance at this stage of the year, whilst actions must be on target against the "completed" or "in progress" milestones determined within the performance management system, Pentana.

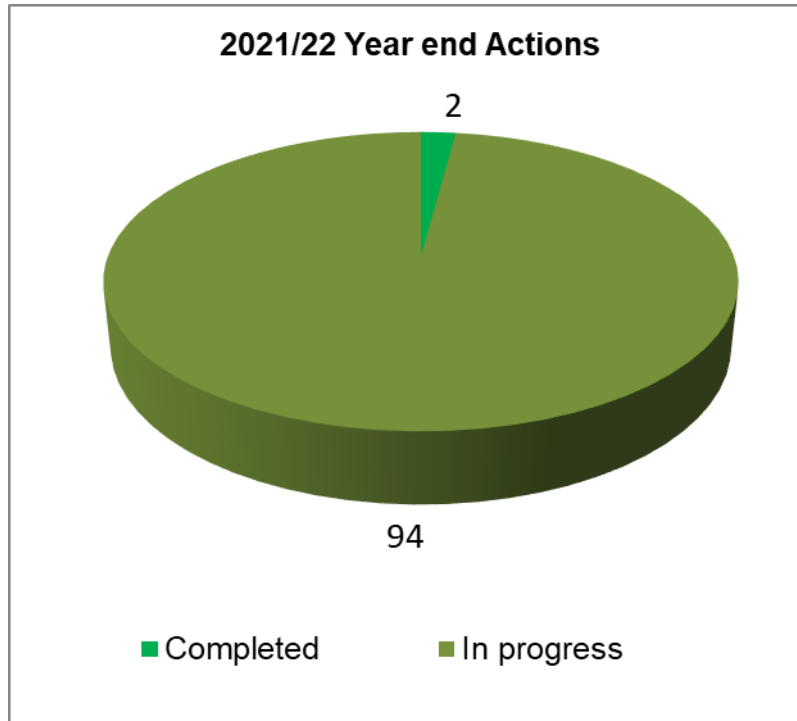
## **2 Proposal**

- 2.1 It is proposed that Cabinet note the performance information for the Gedling Plan 2020-23 at the end of 2021/22 quarter 1 as set out below.



## 2.2 Actions

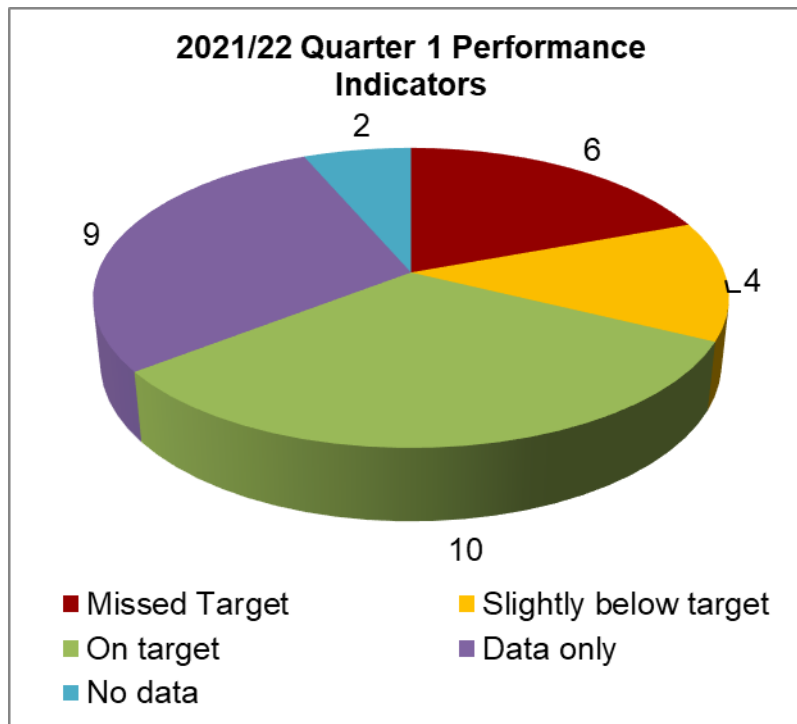
At this stage, of the 96 actions currently active in the Gedling Plan 2020-23, 2 are complete and the remaining either in progress or assigned to an Officer.



There is an ongoing requirement to continue to respond to the COVID pandemic across teams and departments, which continues to affect staff capacity to deliver actions planned for the first period of 2021/22. In addition there are now further risks being realised relating to the effects of the requirements for self-isolation, which is impacting the workforce and service delivery in particular for front line customer facing teams.

### 2.3 Indicators

Overall indicator performance at the end of quarter 1 shows that out of a total of 31 indicators, 10 were on or above target, 4 were slightly below target and 6 indicators missed their target.



No data was available for

- Residual household waste per household
- Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting

This is because Veolia data for June hasn't yet been sent as Enva has had a new weighbridge system installed so there has been a delay with their figures.

### 2.4 Examples of particularly positive performance for quarter 1 include:

- 98.7% of fly tipping incidents removed within 4 working days against a target of 98%.
- 94.4% of calls to the contact centre answered (or call back made) - 12 month rolling total against a target of 94%.
- For the first time in two years the corporate target has been achieved for working Days Lost Due to Sickness Absence (rolling 12 month total) with a figure of 8.74 days against target of 9 days.

- Another 13 long term empty homes in the Borough returned to use as a result of Gedling Borough Council intervention against a target of 10.
- 100% of Major planning applications processed within 13 weeks.
- The number of garden waste customers has increased to 18,722 against a target of 17,000. ( subject to verification)
- 97% of food premises scoring 4 or 5 in the national food hygiene rating scheme.

2.5 The following performance indicators missed their target at the end quarter 1 and are worthy of note.

**Average time to process Housing Benefit change in circumstances** - During Q1 we experienced significantly higher levels of work, specifically around notifications from DWP regarding Universal Credit changes. Universal Credit is reviewed monthly by DWP and presents us with a challenge as circumstances can change up to 12 times a year per customer. We also expect a similar spike in workload in October when the current £20 Universal Credit top up is scheduled to be removed

**LI086 Average length of time spent in temporary accommodation (in weeks)** - The lack of large 4/5 bedroom social housing means that we continue to try and re-house families in the private sector, but in reality we struggle to place large families quickly due to their household size. We will never place a family knowing that they cannot sustain a tenancy, and there are several influencers on affordability, namely: welfare reforms e.g. the benefit cap, increasing privately rented rent prices, and LHA rates that are not comparable with the market. From our own experiences in trying to secure new TA options, the market is saturated with those seeking accommodation and those households on benefits do still struggle to secure privately rented accommodation. We continue to assist with deposits, rent in advance and DHP shortfalls wherever possible. We currently have 4 large families living in temporary accommodation, but we also have other households in TA awaiting a specific type of property, and this has a detrimental impact on our figures.

**NI154 Net additional homes provided** - Certain housing sites have not come forward as quickly as anticipated by landowners and developers. A Housing Delivery Action Plan has been published and includes measures to increase delivery of new housing in Gedling Borough. In addition, the emerging Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan will allocate additional land for housing to meet future needs. In Quarter 1, we have 124 starts, which is the highest number of starts since Quarter 2 2017/18 with 134 starts.

## 2.6 Achievements

A separate report has been produced highlighting additional key achievements delivered during quarter 1, focusing on areas where the Council has made a real difference to people's lives. This is attached as Appendix 1 and is available on the Council's website and in hard copy in the Members' Room. The following outcomes are identified for particular attention:

### **Community Hubs and Partners: 'Next Steps on the Road to Recovery' -**

Building on the Giving For Gedling Church and Food Bank Leaders group a network of over 200 Community Hubs, Churches, Covid -19 response providers and other community based partners has been mapped and collated by ward and filterable by genre to allow updates on services to be better promoted and groups better supported by the Council and partners. Over 30 representatives joined a meeting to review the successful collaboration during the pandemic and share plans, aspirations and resource needs emerging from the pandemic.

**Continued Grant Payments** - The Revenues team continues to play a vital part in The Business Grants team that administer the ever changing Covid-19 business grants throughout the varying tiers and lockdowns. With 17 grant schemes having been managed and administered to date paying out around £29.9m in support to local businesses, the team is now managing the reconciliation process and post payment assurance for all grant schemes. The Revenues Services team and the Financial Services team are administering these grants whilst still meeting statutory deadlines and maintaining performance in their day to day functions.

**Kick Start Scheme** - The Human Resources team has worked with East Midlands Councils and our own service teams to set up our Kick Start scheme (a national scheme through which young people up to the age of 25 can gain paid work experience funded by the government). We have five placements on offer and have, up to now, made three appointments. Each placement can last for up to six months and is designed to help give practical experience that will make that person more employable.

**The Big Spring Clean** - The Big Spring Clean event is part of Keep Britain Tidy's annual Great British Big Spring Clean usually held late March but which was moved to May/June this year because of the epidemic. Our successful Spring Clean consisted of a series of short local litter-picks across the Borough aimed at tackling areas that attract litter, each organised by a different group of local residents. All the groups are members of the Council 'Community Clean Up Group', a loose partnership of 40-50+ local litter-picking, and environmental groups or individuals working with Gedling Borough Council to try to reduce litter in our parks and open spaces.

**Low Carbon Planning Guidance** - Nottinghamshire councils have jointly prepared planning guidance on low carbon development in order to help the relevant councils to achieve their stated objectives of reducing carbon emissions. This jointly prepared document provides a foundation for the various Councils to take forward as they see fit through the planning system. Each Council may deliver relevant policies through the preparation of local plans, supplementary planning guidance and non-statutory planning guidance or an appropriate combination of these. Gedling Borough Council has now adapted the Nottinghamshire guidance to meet the particular local circumstances for Gedling Borough and, in May 2021, adopted 'Low Carbon Planning Guidance for Gedling Borough'. This guidance sets out practical measures in order to help assist developers in planning applications for major development.

**Dementia Action Week** - The Council supported and promoted Dementia Action Week during May. Led by the Alzheimer's Society, Dementia Action Week is a national event that sees the public coming together to take action to improve the lives of people affected by dementia. This included promotion of the Dementia Connect support line 0333 150 3456 for those needing help living with or supporting somebody with dementia.

**Flood Prevention Works** - we carried out £55,000 worth of flood prevention works in two council owned car parks – Blatherwick's Yard car park near Front Street and the car part outside Arnold Leisure Centre - to help prevent flash flooding causing damage to local businesses nearby. Around 20 businesses will directly benefit from the improvements. The works were carried out by Alliance Contracting, who installed drainage pipes with slow release outlets. These new drains store run-off water from heavy rainfall and slowly release it back into the main drainage systems, reducing risk of damage caused by flash flooding or preventing it all together.

### **3 Alternative Options**

- 3.1 Not to present an update on quarterly performance, in which case Executive members will not be aware of performance against the Gedling Plan 2020-23.

### **4 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising out of this report.

### **5 Legal Implications**

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising out of this report.

### **6 Equalities Implications**

- 6.1 There are no equalities implications arising out of this report.

### **7 Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications**

7.1 There are no carbon reduction/sustainability implications arising out of this report.

## **8 Appendices**

8.1 Appendix 1 – Examples of Outcomes achieved during Quarter 1 2021/22.

## **9 Background Papers**

9.1 None identified.

## **10 Reasons for Recommendations**

10.1 To ensure Members are informed of the performance against the Gedling Plan 2020-23.

### **Statutory Officer approval**

**Approved by the Chief Financial Officer**

**Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021

**Approved by the Monitoring Officer**

**Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021

**GEDLING**  
**PLAN**  
**2020-2023**

**Examples of Achievements and  
Activities**

**During**

**Quarter 1 - 2021/22**

# Cohesive, Diverse and Safe COMMUNITIES

## **Promote and encourage pride, good citizenship and participation**

**Support for Private Renters** - Gedling Borough Council and campaigning body Generation Rent have launched a new project to engage with private renters in the borough to identify ways the council can work with residents in rental properties and increase awareness of their rights and responsibilities. The project is the first of its kind in Gedling, and will be piloted in Killisick, Netherfield, Colwick and Newstead. This project is part of a larger nationwide project that has been launched by Generation Rent with funding from the Joseph Rowntree Reform Trust. Generation Rent is partnering with six local authorities across the United Kingdom including Dundee, East Suffolk, Newham, Newport, and Wiltshire in addition to Gedling Borough Council. Generation Rent will work with each council to develop best practice models for private renter engagement.

**Elections** - Our democratic services team successfully administered and delivered three Covid-safe elections in May.

**Gedling Play Forum Activity** - Due to Covid-19 restrictions the programme of creative play events which usually takes place with Gedling Play Forum was unable to resume in this quarter. However, following a successful commission for the Play Forum to produce Chinese New Year crafts packs in February, further packs were also created for families at Easter and during May half term. These were distributed to families most in need via Children's Centres and other family support agencies and this partnership has now become well established.

**Bestwood Miners Welfare Community Day** - As part of their annual grant agreement with Gedling Play Forum, the organisation worked with Bestwood Miners Welfare to deliver a craft and community reconnecting event at the Bestwood Miners Welfare Community Centre on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2021. Between 75 and 80 children attended the whole event through the day, which included indoor and outdoor activities. Seating for crafts was limited to 2 households or 6 people per table. The Council advised on the risk assessment, and the approach taken will advise and inform ongoing Covid – safe bookable events.

**Events Guidance webpage** - Following a recommendation from the Local Resilience Forum and Nottinghamshire Safety Advisory Group partners, a new web page has been created for event organisers in the borough. The page provides useful advice, guidance and contacts on running events locally including specific information on running Covid secure events and local restrictions. [www.gedling.gov.uk/events-guidance](http://www.gedling.gov.uk/events-guidance)

**NHS GoodSam Integration and Learning Pilot** - The Council has continued working alongside Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham CVS to undertake local integration and learning of the national NHS Volunteer Responders scheme. A joint allocation of £30,000 from NHS England has been received for this pilot.

The evaluation of the programme in Gedling is now in its final stages and a report is being compiled by Nottingham CVS with support from our Customer Insight Officer to communicate our findings and recommendations on the future of the scheme. The pilot has allowed for discussions at Local Resilience Forum level with health, local authority and voluntary sector partners about coordinating volunteering opportunities in Nottinghamshire, particularly as part of an emergency response. Recommendations on how this might be achieved will also be included in this report which will act as catalyst for these plans, even if the continuation of NHS Volunteer Responders scheme is not confirmed.



**Individual assistance – VCS Groups resilience building** - Assistance has been provided in the period to the Gedling Play Forum, to finalise their Community Asset Transfer submission for Wollaton Ave Community Centre, and to Netherfield Forum to progress fundraising and planning considerations for the newly acquired former Trentside Medical Centre.

### **Gedling Youth Council:**

April 2021 - Youth Council (YC) Members reviewed the outcomes of the Young People's Survey and discussed recommendations for inclusion in a report and recommendations to Cabinet. It was agreed that once the report had been considered and recommendations approved, a panel of YC members will work with the Portfolio Holder and Policy Advisor for Young People and Equalities to develop an action plan emerging from the consultation.

June 2021 - This meeting was themed around 'Employability'. Members received updates from guest speakers from the Council's Economic Development team and Jobcentre Plus, and agreed to participate as 'meet and greet' champions for young people at a Big Jobsfair planned for 26<sup>th</sup> August. The Portfolio Holder and Policy Advisor for Young People and Equalities discussed key recommendations of the Young People Survey Cabinet report and a panel of three YC Members was nominated to work with the Portfolio Holder and Policy Advisor on an action plan – key priority being a Communications Plan for engaging young people. It was also agreed that a recruitment Campaign for new members would commence with Academies and Secondary Schools in July 2021.

### **Gedling Seniors Council:**

April 2021 - This meeting was themed around 'Community', and members reflected on the vaccination programme, Government Roadmap/emerging from lockdown and received an update on the GoodSam volunteer integration pilot, which members had been engaged with. Guests from Leisure Services consulted with members on what would encourage older members of the community into leisure centres, shared their reopening plans and offered bespoke visits, taster drop ins and tours and a new digitally assisted swimming pilot. Johann Polak led a seated exercise session which was enjoyed by all.

**Gedling Young People's Consultation** - Cabinet considered the findings of the winter Gedling Borough Young People's Survey in May. In total 236 young people responded to the survey. Key issues were identified by the respondents around bullying, COVID-19, getting a job, mental health, people being treated fairly and the environment/climate change. In addition 80% of respondents thought it would be useful for the Council to create a social media platform dedicated to promote Young People's services and opportunities and Instagram was most frequently selected as the preferred option to do this.

The following recommendations were agreed:

- To work with the Council's key partners to improve communications with young people by developing a Gedling Borough young people's digital engagement and information portal
- To support a cross council approach to youth engagement and consideration of young people issues
- To support the use of data and insight about young people in the Borough to strengthen the Council's advocacy role to influence the appropriate delivery of services by partners.

## **Reduce poverty and inequality and provide support to the most vulnerable**

**Temporary Accommodation** - cabinet approval received in January for the temporary accommodation options appraisal which sets out the proposed future approach to reduce B&B and nightly paid for accommodation usage. Officers are now making good progress to source the new properties required, with an expectation that some of these properties will be secured in the next quarter.

**Community Hubs and Partners: 'Next Steps on the Road to Recovery'** - Building on the Giving For Gedling Church and Food Bank Leaders group a network of over 200 Community Hubs, Churches, Covid -19 response providers and other community based partners has been mapped and collated by ward and filterable by genre to allow updates on services to be better promoted and groups better supported by the Council and partners. Over 30 representatives joined a meeting to review the successful collaboration during the pandemic and share plans, aspirations and resource needs emerging from the pandemic.

A number of groups pledged specific support to each other ranging from sharing volunteers, helping to fundraise, offering meeting space, joining up offers to help deliver the Holiday Activity and Food programme, working together on a Good Neighbour – Helping Hands booklet of services across the Borough and much more. The Council shared details of proposals for Customer Services Outreach for which groups have taken up the offer. Also considered were the introduction of Family Food Clubs, which groups are actively promoting to families in the target areas, and a proposed Community Events programme, which groups will be offered participation in. The recently approved Gedling Covid -19 Community Hubs Recovery grant scheme was shared and well received, with requests pending the launch of the scheme and application process. The group will meet quarterly basis and work to a forward plan.

**Family FOOD Clubs in Gedling Borough** - As part of the wider Nottinghamshire County Project, Gedling Borough has secured funding for 5 FOOD clubs across the borough. It costs £1 per year for a family to become a member. Once they have joined they can purchase a bag of food items each week worth approx. £10-£15 for just £3.50. The clubs will take place in the following locations Netherfield, Killisick, Calverton, Daybrook and Newstead Village. The first FOOD club set up in Netherfield will commence early in July.

**Jigsaw Homes Funded Swimming Lessons** - The leisure centres have been awarded £26,970 from Jigsaw Foundation (part of the Jigsaw Homes Group) over a 3 year period to get disadvantaged children across Gedling Borough learning to swim. The initiative will provide those taking part with a lifelong skill and take them from a non-swimmer to a capable Stage 3 swimmer; achieving their 25m badge by swimming unaided in both front crawl and backstroke. The lessons, which are expected to start in September, will be delivered in a safe and fun environment, by experienced teachers who are fully qualified by the Institute of Swimming.

**Food Bank Provision fully returns to the Community** - The food bank provision which was operating out of the Richard Herrod Centre has now been transferred to the local food banks. In discussion with Church leaders & Hope Nottingham, all food at Richard Herrod has been distributed to Netherfield Food Bank and Hope Nottingham for onward distribution.

## **Improve social mobility and life chances**

**Locality Work** – the work of the two locality workers has been re-directed towards the Covid19 response and to help the most vulnerable residents in our deprived areas. Their work programme keeps supporting their most vulnerable residents, including completing a survey of private rented tenants.

## **Reduce anti-social behaviour, crime and the fear of crime**

**Police and Crime Commissioner funding** – a bid was submitted to the Office of The Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for community safety funding, 2021-2022. The submission was for projects that would contribute to the stated priorities of the PCC. Funding was allocated to several projects being co-ordinated by Public Protection; Community Safety including:

- Diversionary activities for young people identified as at serious risk of being involved in knife crime, child sexual exploitation or child criminal exploitation (County Lines).
- Purchase of shed alarms that were distributed to residents in areas where shed burglary has been an issue of concern.
- Funding for outreach and online support for survivors of domestic abuse and their family.
- Funding for awareness raising and security to tackle cycle theft.
- Shopping districts of the borough to benefit from increased signage and business engagement to tackle shop theft and drug related offending.

**Domestic Abuse Sanctuary Security Scheme** – Covid 19 Lockdown periods generated a significant increase in high risk domestic abuse cases being reported. Those at most serious risk of harm, and potentially homelessness, are referred to the authority for the Sanctuary Scheme and replacement locks, windows locks, external lighting and other measures can be installed. During April to June 7 installations have been completed safeguarding 7 families. This level of installations represents the average figure for previous 12 month period pre Covid.

**Shop Watch Radio Scheme** – 25 additional digital radios have been purchased and are being distributed to increase the membership of the Arnold and the Netherfield Shop Watch schemes.

# **High Performing COUNCIL**

## **Provide efficient and effective services**

**Consultation on new Equality and Diversity policy** - we launched a consultation on our new Equality and Diversity Policy and invited residents to have their say. The new policy sets out clearly the commitment that the council has to promote equality and diversity both within the organisation and through service delivery and how it aims to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and challenge inequalities. Residents were

asked to comment on the council's policy and action plan. The policy highlights how the council has already embedded into its corporate plan objectives to reduce poverty and inequality, provide support to the most vulnerable, to improve social mobility and life chances, improve health and well-being, reduce health inequalities and reduce levels of loneliness and isolation. The draft policy also sets out how equalities and diversity will be further embedded across the council and that the council will be more accessible, engaging and listen to the needs of its community. This includes senior leaders, members and officers, acting as ambassadors for equalities and diversity.

**Legal Services** - Legal Services have seen a 58% increase in new requests for service in quarter 1 compared to the average over the same quarter in previous years and have maintained performance despite reduced capacity for the majority of the quarter. In addition the legal team have completed significant contract work to contribute to key Council projects including the development of Arnold Market and Carlton Square. Legal have also successfully prosecuted two taxi drivers for driving without a taxi licence and successfully defended two taxi licensing appeals made by taxi drivers against the Council's decision to revoke their licences.

**Final Accounts 2020/21** - the 2020/21 final accounts have been produced and will be presented to Cabinet in July 2021. Work is ongoing to produce the draft Statement of Accounts 2020/21 by the 31 July 2021 deadline. The external auditors (Mazars) have confirmed that their audit of the Council's 2020/21 accounts will commence on 20 September 2021.

**Parks and Street Care APSE Award finalists** - our Parks and Street Care team were APSE Performance Networks Awards 2021 Finalists in June as Best Performer and Most Improved Performer in the Street Cleansing and Street Scene Service [Public Realm] in the service benchmarking awards.

**Breathing Space** - The Revenues Services team has managed the introduction of the new breathing space legislation acting as the Council's central point for all breathing space applications. Applications are currently low, but the infrastructure is now in place to manage the expected future increase in applications.

**Implementation of Corporate Bacs Services Software** - The Revenues Manager has completed the implementation of new bacs payments and direct debit receiving software maintaining the Council's ability to make and receive payments whilst meeting statutory banking requirements and security standards.

### **Maintain a positive and supportive working environment and strong employee morale**

**Gender Pay Gap** - The council is required to produce information about its Gender Pay Gap each year. This is an analysis of how evenly pay is distributed within the organisation in terms of gender. Again the GPG for the council is well under 5% which is within the normal range expected for similar organisations. The council continues to review its policies and strategies to strive for an equal balance. The information about the council is shown on the government's GPG website as well as appearing on our own website and in our Pay Policy Statement later in the year.

### **Improve use of digital technologies**

**Projects and Upgrades** - A number of projects and upgrades have been completed within IT including Firewall Replacement Phase 2 (Web Proxy) which replaced our old web security system, Council Chamber Mic and Cam System, and Elections support (Inc. PCC).

**Leisure Staff Training** - Leisure staff have commenced training on an e-learning system covering aspects such as legionella, asbestos, safeguarding, mental health awareness, Display Screen Equipment, Personal Protective Equipment and Fire Marshall training

## Vibrant ECONOMY

### Drive business growth, workforce development and job opportunities

**Kick Start Scheme** - The HR team has worked with East Midlands Councils and our own service teams to set up our Kick Start scheme (a national scheme through which young people up to the age of 25 can gain paid work experience funded by the government). We have five placements on offer and have, up to now, made three appointments. Each placement can last for up to six months and is designed to help give practical experience that will make that person more employable.

**Supported Internships** - Working with West Notts College and the County Council, we have taken part in a programme to create supported internships within our council. We have three placements in our Parks and Street Care Team working both in the offices and outdoors. The internships provide practical and real work experience for students with additional needs to help them become more employable once they leave college.

**Career/interview skills days** – Work to support schools with career/interview skills days have restarted since the pandemic, with the intention to roll this back out to all schools in the next academic year.

**Provide targeted business support to small and medium businesses across the borough** - The Small Business Advisor has been reappointed for a two year period and engaged with over 50 businesses in the first year of the contract. The interactions are more intense and prolonged with some businesses needing more support and advice; this was a key part of this role and is working well. She has helped businesses to access advice on bringing an idea to market, funding access, increasing sales as well as promoting employment schemes such as apprenticeships and Kickstart. She is also finding that businesses are coming directly to her following earlier advice and we are also seeing direct requests for her help as well showing that the promotion of the role is starting to work.

**Continued Grant Payments** - The Revenues team continues to play a vital part in The Business Grants team that administer the ever changing Covid-19 business grants throughout the varying tiers and lockdowns. With 17 grant schemes having been managed and administered to date paying out around £29.9m in support to local businesses, the team is now managing the reconciliation process and post payment assurance for all grant schemes. The Revenues Services team and the Financial Services team are administering these grants whilst still meeting statutory deadlines and maintaining performance in their day to day functions.

### Create thriving and vibrant town and local centres

**Flood Prevention Works** - we carried out £55,000 worth of flood prevention works in two council owned car parks – Blatherwick's Yard car park near Front Street and the car park outside Arnold Leisure Centre - to help prevent flash flooding causing damage to local businesses nearby. Around 20 businesses will directly benefit from the improvements. The works were carried out by Alliance Contracting, who installed drainage pipes with slow release outlets. These new drains store run-off water from heavy rainfall and slowly release it back into the main drainage systems, reducing risk of damage caused by flash flooding or preventing it all together.

**Arnold Market Place** - Significant progress has been made with the Arnold Market Place redevelopment scheme and the construction works started April 2021. The ground preparation works are reaching a conclusion, with plans for the metal framework and skeleton structure to be erected in the next quarter.

**Carlton Square development** - Significant progress has been made with the Carlton Square improvement scheme, with a planning application being granted, a delivery agreement signed with the contractor. Construction works will start in mid-July.

**RESET - Re-opening the high streets safely** – as part of the re-opening the high street safely funding, officers have been working closely with retailers and businesses to ensure that they re-opened and are adhering to the changing government legislation. This work will be increased to coincide with the relaxing of the restrictions through the Covid roadmap. Work is also progressing to allocate the additional funds received through the “Welcome Back” funding scheme.

## Sustainable ENVIRONMENT

### Provide an attractive and sustainable local environment that local people can enjoy

**Café 1899 Outdoor Seating Area** - A new, covered outdoor seating area is now open for Café 1899 customers at Gedling Country Park. The café has only been operating a take away service via the hatch since last year, due to restrictions in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The take away service will be continuing, but visitors can also eat and drink on the new decking outside the café. Tables will be allocated on a first come, first served basis and will be allocated by the café team. Customers should visit the hatch to request a table and will be shown to their allocated table by a member of staff. Food and drink orders will be taken at the hatch and then diners will be called to collect their order when it is ready. Both the café hatch and the country park have been very popular with visitors during the pandemic. The park has provided a safe place for people to exercise outdoors and when restrictions allowed, to meet up with others. Visitors have been able to enjoy the park and its views, especially from the two recently opened viewing platforms which offer views as far as Lincoln Cathedral, Newark and Belvoir Castle.

**The Big Spring Clean** - The Big Spring Clean event is part of Keep Britain Tidy's annual Great British Big Spring Clean usually held late March but which was moved to May/June this year because of the epidemic. Our successful Spring Clean consisted of a series of short local litter-picks across the Borough aimed at tackling areas that attract litter, each organised by a different group of local residents. All the groups are members of the Council 'Community Clean Up Group', a loose partnership of 40-50+ local litter-picking, and environmental groups or individuals working with Gedling Borough Council to try to reduce litter in our parks and open spaces.

**Burton Road Park –**

- a wildlife art sculpture was installed.
- Community payback improvements works included painting of structures, including the pavilion, repairs of fencing and painting over graffiti in preparation for Green Flag Award judging.
- licences were agreed for Gedling Rainbows, Brownies and Girl Guide use of the pavilion.

**Conserve, enhance, promote and celebrate our heritage**

**Tree Officer** - a new Tree Officer post was created to inspect the Council's aging tree stocks, work with Planning on tree conservation areas and TPO's and help support and promote further expansion of the council's tree planting initiatives.

**Memorial Woodland at Carlton Hill Recreation Ground** - trees and wildflower were planted, and benches and memorial plinth were installed – more features to follow, such as interpretation signage, wildflower area and further tree planting in the autumn.

**Promote and protect the environment by minimising pollution and waste and becoming carbon neutral**

**Low Carbon Planning Guidance** - Nottinghamshire councils have jointly prepared planning guidance on low carbon development in order to help the relevant councils to achieve their stated objectives of reducing carbon emissions. This jointly prepared document provides a foundation for the various Councils to take forward as they see fit through the planning system. Each Council may deliver relevant policies through the preparation of local plans, supplementary planning guidance and non-statutory planning guidance or an appropriate combination of these. Gedling Borough Council has now adapted the Nottinghamshire guidance to meet the particular local circumstances for Gedling Borough and, in May 2021, adopted 'Low Carbon Planning Guidance for Gedling Borough'. This guidance sets out practical measures in order to help assist developers in planning applications for major development.

**Climate Change Officer** - a new Climate Change Officer post was created to deliver the Council's carbon reduction agenda.

# HEALTHY lifestyles

## Improve health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities

**Gedling Health and Wellbeing Coproduction Partnership** - This operational partnership comprising of over 25 representatives of commissioned partners operating in Gedling now meets on a quarterly basis to join up work and collaborate on key opportunities. Recent joint work has included the integration of the following local services with partners:

- Let's Talk Wellbeing Service
- the Council's Health and Housing Coordinator/Covid Compliance Coordinator
- Holiday Activities and Food programme
- commissioning of further Citizen Advice Bureau services in Primary Care Network GP settings in the Borough
- Family Food Clubs development
- GoodSam NHS volunteer pilot national consultation (as a result Gedling and Notts had the highest national response rate)
- plans to map and share details of community services and groups reopening to be with partners on a monthly basis.

## **South Nottinghamshire NHS Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) District Council**

**Partners Group** - The Council hosts a quarterly meeting of ICP Officer leads and District partners Ashfield, Rushcliffe and Broxtowe, the most recent of which approved revised working arrangements for the social prescribing Community Development Worker post extension. As a result of the Council's leadership of the group, the districts have established:

- greater embedding of NHS primary care and district based work
- information sharing on best practice across the Districts
- links to local funding and resources
- extended mapping of community services to enable greater numbers and better quality of referrals by social prescribing link workers and increased scope for building community resilience across South Nottinghamshire.

**Richard Herrod Vaccination Centre** - The Council has agreed to continue to offer the Richard Herrod Centre as one of the key community vaccination sites across Nottinghamshire until September 2021. On 21 June the total number of vaccinations completed at Richard Herrod Centre totalled 110,000. The Centre is being operated in partnership with Nottinghamshire NHS Healthcare Trust and Sherwood Forest NHS Hospitals Trust.

## Support physically active lifestyles

**Leisure Centres Reopened** - The leisure centres reopened on the 12<sup>th</sup> April in line with the government roadmap, offering swim and gym initially, with group exercise classes starting in May. The feedback from customers and staff has been very positive, with comments such as *"really enjoyed my first session back at the Forum. Everyone was so helpful and friendly"* and *"I like the way Redhill is run, I feel really safe here. Other gyms I have been too have been too busy and crowded with too many people but Redhill feels really safe. Thank you"*



**Health & Safety Audits** - All leisure centres went through their external Health and Safety Audits with scores ranging from 71% to 89%. The feedback from the audit was very positive with significant improvements being made across the sites. Each leisure centre is now working on their action plans to deliver improvements for both staff and customers of the sites.

### **Increase recreational activities**

**Onchan Park** - New and improved facilities at Onchan Park, Carlton, opened following £58,000 worth of investment. Refurbishments at the park started in March and include a brand new multi-use games area, suitable for playing football, basketball and cricket as well as two new table tennis tables. New floor surfacing in the multi-use games area has replaced the existing tarmac on the old tennis court which had been in decline for a number of years and an additional entrance with an improved footpath has also been created from Onchan Avenue allowing access for disabled park users and pushchairs.

**Lambley Lane Recreation Ground** - Pitch renovation works which commenced in March 2021 have now been completed.

**Improver Runner sessions – Carlton Le Willows** The popular Improver runner sessions have started up again at Carlton Le Willows running track, supported by the Council. This year the sessions are limited to 24 participants per week to ensure that COVID compliance is adhered to. The sessions commenced on the 17<sup>th</sup> May and will continue until the middle of September, with many participants using this as an opportunity to train for the Robin Hood Half Marathon. To date all sessions have been well attended with the maximum capacity of 24 each week.

**Health Walks Restart** - The popular Get Going Gedling Walking for Health Walks have restarted across the Borough. The 3 accredited walks (Carlton, Gedling Country Park and Mapperley) led by volunteer walk leaders have been well attended by existing walkers and a number of new walkers that have joined since COVID restrictions have reduced.

**Carlton Insight Physical Activity Project** - Physical Activity data has identified the Carlton/Carlton Hill area as a location where there are high levels of physical inactivity in the older population. This data has therefore provided a geographically focused area for a local partnership project involving the Council, Active Notts and other partners. Initial conversations have started with local stakeholders in the Carlton area, to try and build an understanding of the local area, assets and the people that live there. Stakeholders that have provided insight so far are as follows: Gedling Homes Scheme Co-ordinators, GPs from Park House, Trentside and Peacock medical centres, Social Prescribing Link workers, Community Care Navigator, representatives from Age Concern, St Pauls Church, Age UK and the Friends of Carlton Hill.

**Gedling Junior parkrun** - The Council supported the junior parkrun at Gedling Country Park by agreeing to a re-start in April, taking consideration of Covid-19 restrictions at the time.

**Bonington Cinema Young Person's Membership** - The Bonington has teamed up with the British Film Institute (BFI) to offer 16-25 year olds a brand new, free to join, special membership scheme, which includes reduced tickets to our film screenings for just £4! So far the membership scheme has grown to include over 70 members, and in the first month and a half has resulted in the sale of 50 young person's cinema tickets. The first workshop, a special screening of Minari, featuring free Korean Street Food and a great Q&A with Little White Lies associate editor Hannah Strong, went down really well and the Q&A host Katie Green has now come on board to become the guest film blogger and young person's ambassador.

**Public Art for Our Local Parks and Open Spaces** - Public Art projects are now underway in a number of parks. These include:

- A new mural at Burton Road Jubilee Park which has been designed by the Friends of Group and Netherfield Youth Club. The mural will be painted by artists from Handmade Theatre Company with these community groups in July 2021.
- A workshop has taken place with Young People from Redhill Youth Club with an artist to consult on the designs for a refresh of the Youth Shelter in Arnot Hill Park. The artist also delivered a workshop for the group to explore different painting techniques and is hoping to engage some of the group in repainting the shelter.
- Following the successful 'View Points' online photography course which took place in Q4 of 2020/21, City Arts, funded by Active Notts have created two photography trails allowing the young people involved to exhibit their work in the local community. The trails will be installed in Arnot Hill Park and Arnold Town Centre and will be available for people to explore for six weeks over the school summer holidays.

### **Reduce levels of loneliness and isolation**

**Gedling Forces Leisure Card** - Since its launch in November 2020, 139 people had signed up to the leisure centres "Armed Forces Membership" which offers free access to the gym for serving and retired personnel as part of the Council Armed Forces Covenant commitment.

**South Nottinghamshire Community Development Worker** - This Social Prescribing Community Development Worker post, hosted by the Council has been successfully extended for a further year to Feb 2022. The post funded by NHS Primary care Networks (PCNs) has developed a new Community Engagement Forum for Gedling and Hucknall that meets monthly to share community service updates and advise on gaps that need to be addressed. A successful example of the work of the Forum has been the setup of the 'Attend Anywhere' volunteer assisted online Citizen Advice Bureau appointment service funded by the Council. This is being piloted at the Calverton Core Centre and is proving very successful. A South Notts Grass Roots Growth Fund was launched in June and around 20 applications from community groups have been received to date for the grants - up to £250 available. Approved grants in the period include three awards in Gedling Borough.  
Feedback from the CORE Centre at Calverton on the work of the Forum:

"The Community Development Forum has been a fantastic support to me over the last few months, I have met some great contacts through the meetings and always look forward to them. It's great to hear what other Charities and organisations are achieving/funding opportunity information and sharing best practice. As we all know, time is precious and I feel Ebele (Community Development Worker) is excellent at ensuring we don't go off track and keeps meetings well organised and to the point so that we all gain the best from them. I feel very privileged to be part of such a valued Charity within the Village and without the help of other organisations including the Nottingham North and East Community Development Forum it would be much more difficult; long may it continue!!"

**Support for the Core Centre in Calverton** - The CORE Centre has been established within Calverton for over 25 years and was first set up to help with the economic fall out after the Pit closure. New Project Managers took over Centre in February 2021. Over the years CORE have provided excellent provision and we have looked to continue to support the foundations that were already here, but also to introduce new services and activities. During the first Covid

lockdown, the CORE helped with food deliveries/prescription pickups/friendship calls/doorsteps visits and continued to provide the hearing aid battery supply service. They also ran chair based exercise twice a week via zoom – this proved invaluable to keep people mobile and connected throughout lockdown. The Job club and Family Lawyer were also available via online services and they also helped residents to book their online Covid Vaccinations. Over the coming months the CORE Centre are looking to introduce a community allotment and men in sheds project, which will be aimed more at helping with mental health issues for men. The service have noticed a significant increase in visitors and intend on this increasing as we continue to make new connections and promote ourselves more on social media platforms.

**‘One Step At A Time’ Project Addressing Isolation** - One Step at a Time has been identified directly from the voluntary and statutory sectors reporting that the numbers of people now feeling isolated and lonely has increased as their normal networks of support have decreased or have gone digital. Due to shielding and increased risk factors older and vulnerable members of our communities have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic resulting in increased social isolation and reduced opportunities for physical activity. Not connecting via digital technology has left them feeling even more isolated and anxious. The One Step at a Time concept matches volunteers with identified individuals that need some support to re-engage into community based activities. In Gedling the concept is being co-ordinated by Jigsaw Homes and has a focus in the Carlton area. At present there are 16 referrals with 7 active volunteers supporting the clients. Many of the volunteers have been recruited through the Giving for Gedling volunteer database, established by the Council as part of the Covid-19 Response. Each client has very different needs some are still at the point of having a chat with a volunteer in the garden and others are being supported to attend social and support groups where restrictions allow.

**Dementia Action Week** - The Council supported and promoted Dementia Action Week during May. Led by the Alzheimer’s Society, Dementia Action Week is a national event that sees the public coming together to take action to improve the lives of people affected by dementia. This included promotion of the Dementia Connect support line 0333 150 3456 for those needing help living with or supporting somebody with dementia.

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## Report to Cabinet

**Subject:** Prudential Code Indicator Monitoring 2021/22 and Quarterly Treasury Activity Report for Quarter ended 30 June 2021

**Date:** 5 August 2021

**Author:** Head of Finance and ICT

### Wards Affected

All

### Purpose

To inform Members of the performance monitoring of the 2021/22 Prudential Code Indicators, and to advise Members of the quarterly Treasury activity as required by the Treasury Management Strategy.

### Key Decision

This is **not** a key decision.

#### Recommendation

That:

1. Members note the report, together with the Treasury Activity Report 2021/22 for Quarter 1 at Appendix 1, and the Prudential and Treasury Indicator Monitoring 2021/22 for Quarter 1, at Appendix 2.

## 1 Background

- 1.1 The Council is required by regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003 to report on its Prudential Code indicators and treasury activity. This report meets the requirements of both the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the Code) and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code).

1.2 For 2021/22 the minimum reporting requirements are that the Full Council should receive the following reports:

- An annual Treasury Strategy in advance of the year (the TMSS, considered by Cabinet on 11 February 2021 and subsequently approved by Full Council on 4 March 2021);
- A mid-year treasury update report;
- An annual review following the end of the year describing the activity compared to the Strategy.

In accordance with best practice, quarterly monitoring reports for treasury activity are provided to Members, and this exceeds the minimum requirements.

1.3 The regulatory environment places responsibility on Members for the review and scrutiny of treasury management policy and activities. This report provides details of the position at 30 June 2021 and highlights compliance with the Council's policies.

## **2 Proposal**

### **2.1 Economic update - UK**

#### **General:**

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting on 24 June voted unanimously to keep Bank Rate unchanged at 0.10%, and by a majority of 8-1 to continue unchanged the existing programme of quantitative easing (QE) - which is due to finish by the end of this year. In the press release, it was noted that:

*“Since May, developments in global GDP growth have been somewhat stronger than anticipated, particularly in advanced economies. Global price pressures have picked up further, reflecting strong demand for goods, rising commodity prices, supply-side constraints and transportation bottlenecks, and these have started to become apparent in consumer price inflation in some advanced economies. Financial market measures of inflation expectations suggest that the near-term strength in inflation is expected to be transitory”.*

The MPC noted the developing upside risks in the UK to both activity and inflation, saying said that the news on activity “had predominately been to the upside” and that Bank staff had “revised up their expectations for 2021 Q2 GDP growth to 5.5% from 4.25%”. For the first time, the policy statement noted that “there are increasing signs of recruitment difficulties for some businesses” and that it “was possible that the near-term upward pressure on prices could prove somewhat larger than expected”. By saying that inflation “is likely to exceed 3% for a temporary period” the MPC effectively admitted that the Governor of the BOE will have to write to the Chancellor later this year explaining why inflation is more than 1% above the 2% target.

The MPC appears willing to accept the inevitable spike in inflation over the next six months as it thinks it will be short-lived and caused by one-off reopening price rises

and supply shortages relative to demand - boosted by consumers having built up huge savings of around £145bn during lockdown. These spikes will drop out of the CPI calculation over the next twelve months. The forward guidance in the policy statement, designed to demonstrate the MPC's patience, was left intact, and the emphasis remained on "the medium-term prospects for inflation" rather than factors that are "likely to be transient". The minutes said the MPC should "ensure that the recovery was not undermined by a premature tightening in monetary conditions". It also repeated that it will not raise Bank Rate until the 2% inflation target has been attained sustainably ie. the mere fact that it is forecasting inflation to be over 2% during 2021 and 2022 is not in itself sufficient to justify an increase in Bank Rate in the near future. The MPC indicated in the minutes that some members would prefer to wait for a clearer picture of the underlying pace of the recovery once the furlough scheme expires at the end of September, before making any judgement on medium-term inflationary pressures. This implies that the MPC may be unlikely to be in a position to consider a change in policy until early in 2022 at the earliest.

The BOE is also undertaking a review of its current policy to raise Bank Rate first before unwinding QE purchases of gilts. It now appears likely that the Bank could unwind QE first before raising Bank Rate, as it sees QE as a useful quick-acting weapon to combat any sudden dysfunction in financial markets, as happened in March 2020. Money markets are currently expecting Bank Rate to start rising in mid-2022, but the Council's treasury advisers, Link Asset Services (LAS), overall view is that there might only be a minimal increase in 2023, or even possibly no increase before 2024.

UK GDP grew by 1.5% in the three months to April 2021, the first expansion since the three months to December 2020. Forward looking monthly business surveys are running at exceptionally high levels indicating that the UK is heading into a strong economic recovery. Capital Economics do not think that the UK economy will suffer major scarring from the lockdowns, and the one month delay to the final easing of restrictions in July is unlikely to have much effect on the progress of recovery with GDP getting back to pre-Covid levels during August.

The annual CPI inflation rate in the United Kingdom rose to 2.1% year-on-year in May from 1.5% y/y in April, the first time that the measure has been above the BOE's 2% target since July 2019. It rose further to 2.5% in June.

### **Covid-19:**

The UK's Covid-19 vaccination programme has been a game changer, boosting confidence that life in the UK might return to a semblance of normality during the second half of 2021 after a third wave of the virus threatened to overwhelm hospitals in Q1 this year. Household saving rates having been exceptionally high since the first lockdown in March 2020, and there is plenty of pent-up demand and purchasing power stored up for services in hard hit sectors like restaurants, travel and hotels. The UK has made fast progress, giving both jabs to nearly half of the total population by 30 June, and one jab to two thirds (84% of all adults). This programme should be completed in the second half of the year. The key question

is whether virus mutations could develop which render current vaccines ineffective, as opposed to how quickly vaccines can be modified to deal with them and enhanced testing programmes be implemented to contain their spread.

## 2.2 Economic update – Rest of the World

US - The Democrats won the elections in late 2020 and gained control of both Congress and the Senate, (although power is more limited in the latter) and passed a \$1.9trn (8.8% of GDP) stimulus package in March 2021, in addition to the \$900bn fiscal stimulus deal passed by Congress in late December 2020. These, together with the vaccine rollout proceeding to hit the target of giving a first jab to over half of the population within the President's first 100 days, will promote a rapid easing of restrictions and strong economic recovery during 2021. The Democrats are also now negotiating to pass a \$1trn fiscal stimulus package aimed at renewing infrastructure over the next decade. Although this package is longer-term, if passed, it would also help economic recovery in the near-term.

At the Federal Reserve's (Fed) June meeting, it maintained its view that it expects strong economic growth this year to have only a transitory impact on inflation which is being temporarily boosted by base effects, spikes in reopening inflation and supply shortages. With regard to interest rates, having previously expected no rises until 2024 at the earliest, most officials now anticipate two in 2023, with 7 out of 18 expecting to raise rates next year. This was a first indication that there was rising concern about the risks around inflationary pressures building up on a more ongoing basis.

EU - Both the roll out and uptake of vaccines was disappointingly slow in the EU in the first few months of 2021 but has since improved. This delay will inevitably put back economic recovery after the economy had staged a rapid rebound from the first lockdowns in Q3 of 2020 but contracted slightly in Q4 to end 2020 only 4.9% below its pre-pandemic level. After contracting by another 0.3% in Q1 of 2021, recovery will now be delayed until Q3 of 2021. At its June meeting, the European Central Bank (ECB) forecast strong economic recovery with growth of 4.6% and 4.7% in 2021 and 2022 respectively.

Inflation is likely to rise sharply to around 2.5% during 2021 for a short period, but as this will be transitory, due to one-off factors, it will cause the ECB little concern. It is currently unlikely that it will cut its central rate even further into negative territory from -0.5%, although the ECB has stated that it retains this as a possible tool to use. The ECB's December 2020 meeting added a further €500bn to the QE scheme and extended the duration of the programme to March 2022. Three additional tranches of cheap loans to banks were approved, indicating that support will last beyond the impact of the pandemic, and there is unlikely to be a euro crisis while the ECB maintains this level of support.



## 2.3 Interest rate forecast

Link provided its latest forecast of interest rates on 10 May 2021 and these together with the previous rates provided on 8 March are shown in the table below. PWLB rates in the table are based on the Certainty Rate which include a 0.2% reduction on the standard rates. A comparison of these forecasts shows that PWLB rates have increased marginally and that there is also now a first increase in Bank Rate from 0.10% to 0.25% in Q2 of 2023/24.

Link Group Interest Rate View		10.5.21											
		Jun-21	Sep-21	Dec-21	Mar-22	Jun-22	Sep-22	Dec-22	Mar-23	Jun-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24
BANK RATE		0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.25	0.25	0.25
3 month ave earnings		0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.30	0.30	0.30
6 month ave earnings		0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.20	0.30	0.40	0.40	0.40
12 month ave earnings		0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.30	0.30	0.40	0.50	0.50	0.50
5 yr PWLB		1.20	1.20	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.50	1.50	1.50
10 yr PWLB		1.70	1.70	1.70	1.80	1.80	1.90	1.90	1.90	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
25 yr PWLB		2.20	2.20	2.30	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.60
50 yr PWLB		2.00	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.20	2.20	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.40

Link Group Interest Rate 8.3.21													
		Jun-21	Sep-21	Dec-21	Mar-22	Jun-22	Sep-22	Dec-22	Mar-23	Jun-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24
BANK RATE		0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
3 month ave earnings		0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
6 month ave earnings		0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
12 month ave earnings		0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
5 yr PWLB		1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.30	1.30	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.40
10 yr PWLB		1.60	1.60	1.60	1.70	1.70	1.70	1.80	1.80	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90
25 yr PWLB		2.10	2.10	2.20	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.40	2.40	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50
50 yr PWLB		1.90	1.90	2.00	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.20	2.20	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30

The Covid-19 pandemic has done huge economic damage to the UK, and to economies around the world. After the Bank of England's emergency action in March to cut Bank Rate, first to 0.25% and then to 0.10%, it remained unchanged at subsequent meetings - although some forecasters had suggested that a cut into negative territory was possible. However, the BOE made it clear that commercial banks could not implement negative rates within six months, by which time the economy would be recovering and therefore there would be no requirement for negative rates. As shown in the table above, one tentative increase in Bank Rate from 0.10% to 0.25% has now been shown for Q2 of 2023/24 as an indication that the BOE will be moving towards some form of monetary tightening around this time. However, it may well opt for reducing QE as a first measure.

## 2.4 Investment strategy

The Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) for 2021/22, which includes the Annual Investment Strategy, was approved by Council on 4 March 2021, and sets out the Council's investment priorities as:

- Security of capital;
- Liquidity;
- Yield.

Whilst the Council will always seek to obtain the optimum return (yield) on its investments, this will at all times be commensurate with proper levels of security and liquidity. In the current economic climate it is considered appropriate either to keep investments short term to cover cash flow needs, or to extend the period up to 12 months with highly rated financial institutions, selected by the use of the LAS creditworthiness methodology (see below) which includes consideration of sovereign ratings.

Investment counterparty limits for 2021/22 are generally **£3m** per individual counterparty, however a higher limit of **£4m** per Money Market Fund is considered prudent since such funds are already by definition highly diversified investment vehicles. There is no limit on Investment with the Debt Management Office (DMO) since this represents lending to central government. The Chief Financial Officer has delegated authority to vary these limits as appropriate, and then to report any change to Cabinet as part of the next quarterly report.

Members are advised that no new variations have been made during Q1 of 2021/22, having been previously advised of an extension to £4m with Santander and a limitation to £3m with the CCLAC PSDF, both for operational reasons. These variations remain in place.

Limits with investment counterparties have not exceeded the prevailing levels approved by the CFO during the period 1 April to 30 June 2021.

Credit ratings advice is taken from LAS and the Chief Financial Officer has adopted the LAS credit rating methodology for the selection of investment counterparties. This employs a sophisticated modelling approach utilising credit ratings from all three of the main rating agencies to give a suggested maximum duration for investments. Accordingly it does not place undue reliance on any one agency's ratings.

The methodology subsequently applies an "overlay" to take account of positive and negative credit watches and/or credit outlook information, which may increase or decrease the suggested duration of investments. It then applies a second overlay based on the credit default swap spreads for institutions, the monitoring of which has been shown to give an early warning of likely changes in credit ratings. It also incorporates sovereign ratings to ensure selection of counterparties

from only the most creditworthy countries. The current Treasury Strategy permits the use of any UK counterparties subject to their individual credit ratings under the LAS methodology. It also permits the use of counterparties from other countries with a minimum sovereign rating of AA. For information, the UK currently has a rating of AA minus.

The LAS modelling approach combines all the various factors in a weighted scoring system and results in a series of colour coded bands which indicate the creditworthiness of counterparties. The colour bandings are as follows:

- Yellow 5 years (UK Government debt or its equivalent)
- Dark pink 5 years for Ultra Short Dated Bond Funds (credit score 1.25)
- Light pink 5 years for Ultra Short Dated Bond Funds (credit score 1.50)
- Purple 2 years
- Blue 1 year (nationalised or semi nationalised UK banks only)
- Orange 1 year
- Red 6 months
- Green 100 days
- No colour not to be used

Significant downgrades by the Ratings agencies have not materialised since the beginning of the Covid-19 crisis in March 2020. Where changes were made these were generally limited to "outlooks", however as economies have begun to reopen, there have been some instances of previous reductions to ratings being reversed.

Credit ratings are monitored weekly and the Council is also alerted to interim changes by its use of the LAS creditworthiness service, however ratings under the methodology, including sovereign ratings, will not necessarily be the sole determinant of the quality of an institution. Other information sources used will include the financial press, share price and other such information pertaining to the banking sector in order to establish the most robust scrutiny process on the suitability of potential investment counterparties.

**The ultimate decision on what is prudent and manageable for the Council will be taken by the Chief Financial Officer under the approved scheme of delegation.**

## 2.5 Treasury Activity during Quarter 1 of 2021/22

The Treasury Activity Report for the quarter ended 30 June 2021 is attached at Appendix 1, in accordance with the Treasury Management Strategy.

Members will note that investment interest of £15,529 was generated from MMF activity, term deposits with banks and building societies, and the property fund, during the period from 1 April to 30 June 2021. This represents an overall equated rate for the Council of 0.27% and outperforms the benchmark 7 day LIBID rate,

which averaged negative 0.08% for the same period. In cash terms this represents additional income to the General Fund of around £20,100 (since at a negative rate there would have been a cost to the Council) and was achieved by positive investment management, and in particular a favourable return on the property fund (see below). Performance in respect of the longer 3 month LIBID rate, which averaged negative 0.04%, still represents additional income of £17,800.

During the period from 1 April to 30 June 2021, significant use was made of the Council's three Money Market Funds (MMFs). These are AAA rated investment vehicles which allow the pooling of many billions of pounds into highly diversified funds, thus reducing risk. The current rates of return on these funds are between 0.01% and 0.025%, which whilst exceptionally low, remain generally higher than overnight treasury deposit rates, and the rate obtainable from the Debt Management Office (DMO).

The Council made an investment of £1m in the CCLA Local Authority Property Fund (LAPF) on 1 December 2017. The LAPF is a local government investment scheme approved by the Treasury under the Trustee Investments Act 1961 (section 11). Dividends are treated as revenue income and have in previous years averaged around 4%. The fund performed better than expected during 2020/21 despite challenging economic conditions and a temporary suspension, and the equated dividend for the year remained at 4%. At the time of writing, confirmation of the Q1 dividend for 2021/22 had not been received.

This investment allows the Council to introduce a property element into its investment portfolio without the risks associated with the direct purchase of assets. It should be noted however that the capital value is **not** guaranteed and can fall as well as rise, as was the case in 2020/21 when the certificated value of the investment fell from £936k to £930k. CCLA fully expect this position to recover, however it serves to demonstrate that the investment must be seen as a long-term commitment (see 2.9 below).

Interest rates in the market remain exceptionally low, and this is likely to continue in view of the pandemic, as well as the ongoing uncertainty surrounding Brexit and the ending of the transition period. As loans mature every effort is made to replace them at favourable rates, however security and liquidity will always be the overriding factors in the Council's treasury management. LAS currently forecast that Bank Rate is unlikely to rise again until at least Q2 of 2023/24, however there is much uncertainty and interest rates are then expected to rise only gradually, and not significantly.

It is currently anticipated that the outturn for investment interest will be broadly in line with the current approved estimate of £60,000 for 2021/22. Whilst rates in the market are below those used in the estimates, the level of cash balances for short term investment remains significantly higher than that estimated, and every effort has been made to maximise use of the most favourable rates available. In

particular, the property fund and the extension to the counterparty limit with Santander are making significant contributions.

## 2.6 New borrowing

At 30 June 2021 no new borrowing had been undertaken, however it is anticipated that up to £3m may be arranged during the coming months. The projected outturn for PWLB interest payable is £362,400, which is in line with the current approved estimate.

Advice will be taken from LAS with regard to the amount and timing of any additional borrowing, and should conditions become advantageous, some borrowing in advance of need will also be considered by the Chief Financial Officer. The Council's Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) represents its underlying need to borrow to finance capital investment. Due to favourable interest rates, borrowing in advance of need is sometimes desirable, with the result that the CFR can differ to the actual borrowing planned in the year. Investment guidance issued in February 2018 reaffirmed that Councils may not borrow in advance of need purely to profit from the investment of the extra sums borrowed, rather than prudent early borrowing for a demonstrable service objective, which is permitted.

Whilst HMT's review removed the possibility of using PWLB to finance commercial property investment, it also reduced interest rates by 1% across the board from 26 November 2020. However, investment rates remain exceptionally low, and serious consideration must be given to the cost of carrying any additional borrowing during the period prior to it being required for the financing of capital expenditure since this places a further burden on the General Fund.

## 2.7 Debt rescheduling

When the current day PWLB rate for the same term is higher than that being paid on an existing loan there is the potential for a discount to be receivable if the loan is repaid prematurely.

However, debt rescheduling opportunities are limited in the current economic climate, and due to the structure of PWLB interest rates. Advice in this regard will continue to be taken from LAS. No debt rescheduling has been undertaken during the period from 1 April to 30 June 2021.

## 2.8 Compliance with Prudential and treasury indicators

It is a statutory duty for the Council to determine and keep under review the affordable borrowing limit. The Council's approved Prudential and Treasury Indicators (affordability limits) are included in the Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) approved by Full Council on 4 March 2021.

During the financial year to date the Council has at all times operated within the treasury limits and Prudential Indicators set out in the Council's TMSS, and in compliance with the Council's Treasury Management Practices. The Prudential and Treasury Indicators as at 30 June 2021 are shown at Appendix 2.

A) Prudential Indicators:

These indicators are based on estimates of expected outcomes, and are key indicators of "affordability". They are monitored on a quarterly basis, and Appendix 2 compares the approved indicators with the projected outturn for 2021/22, and shows variances on the indicators, as described below:

a. Capital Expenditure

The latest projected outturn shows that total capital expenditure is expected to be £10,298,400. This differs to the approved indicator of £10,868,300 due to the inclusion of approved carry-forward requests from 2020/21 and variations on the current year's capital programme.

b. Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)

The CFR represents the historic outstanding capital expenditure which has not yet been paid for from capital or revenue resources, and is essentially a measure of the Council's underlying borrowing need. The CFR does not increase indefinitely since the minimum revenue provision (MRP) is a statutory annual revenue charge for the economic consumption of capital assets.

At 30 June the projected closing CFR for 2021/22 is £14,171,900. This differs to the approved indicator of £15,290,400, due to savings and deferrals on the 2020/21 capital programme, as well as to variations to the current year's capital programme.

c. Gearing ratio

The concept of "gearing" compares the total underlying borrowing need (the CFR) to the Council's total fixed assets and the gearing ratio can provide an early indication where debt levels are rising relative to long term assets held.

The projected gearing ratio at 31 March 2022 is 34%, which is in line with the approved indicator and is broadly comparable with the average gearing ratio for councils of a similar size.

d. Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream – service related and commercial property

These indicators identify the trend in the cost of borrowing net of investment income against the net revenue stream. Financing costs represent the element of the Council's budget to which it is committed even before providing any services.

The projected outturn of 20.09% for service related expenditure differs to the approved indicator of 17.70% due to additional direct revenue financing, offset by a reduction in MRP arising from savings and deferrals on the capital programme in 2020/21.

e. Ratio of commercial property income to net revenue stream

This indicator has been removed following the withdrawal of the Commercial Property Investment Strategy in 2020/21 and will no longer be reported.

f. Maximum gross debt

The Council must ensure that its gross debt does not, except in the short term, exceed the opening capital financing requirement, plus estimates of any additional CFR for 2021/22 and the following two financial years. This allows flexibility for early borrowing for future years, but ensures that borrowing is not undertaken for revenue purposes. The Council's gross debt at 30 June 2021 was £9.812m, which was within the approved indicator.

g. Ratio of internal borrowing to CFR

The Council is currently maintaining an "internal borrowing" position, ie. the underlying borrowing need (CFR) has not yet been fully funded with loan debt as cash supporting the Council's reserves and balances is being used as a temporary measure.

The projected outturn for internal borrowing is 10%, which is lower than the approved indicator of 16% due to variations to the capital programme - which in turn reduce the projected outturn for CFR and hence the difference between CFR and projected external borrowing.

B) Treasury Management Indicators:

These indicators are based on limits, beyond which activities should not pass without management action. They include two key indicators of affordability and four key indicators of prudence.

Affordability:

a. Operational boundary for external debt

This is the limit which external debt is not “normally” expected to exceed. In most cases, this would be a similar figure to the CFR, but it may be lower or higher depending on the levels of actual debt, and must allow for unusual cashflow movements.

b. Authorised limit for external debt

This limit represents a control on the “maximum” level of borrowing. It is the statutory limit determined under s3 (1) of the Local Government Act 2003 and represents the limit beyond which external debt is prohibited. The Authorised Limit must be set, and revised if necessary, by Full Council. It reflects a level of external debt which, while not desirable, could be afforded in the short term, but is not sustainable in the longer term. The Government retains an option to control either the total of all councils’ plans, or those of a specific council, although this power has not yet been exercised.

Prudence:

c. Upper limits for the maturity structure of borrowing

These are set to reduce the Council’s exposure to large fixed rate sums falling due for refinancing.

d. Maximum new principal sums to be invested during 2021/22 for periods in excess of one year (365 days)

All such investments are classified as “non-specified”. This indicator is subject to the overall limit for non-specified investments set out in the TMSS, and to the overall limit per counterparty.

e. Interest rate exposure

The latest Treasury Management Code requires a statement in the TMSS explaining how interest rate exposure is managed and monitored by the Council, and this is repeated below:

*The Council has a general preference for fixed rate borrowing in order to minimise uncertainty and ensure stability in the charge to revenue, however it is acknowledged that in certain circumstances, some variable rate borrowing may be prudent, for example if interest rates are expected to fall. The Council’s investments are generally for cashflow purposes and accordingly a mix of fixed and variable rates will be used to maximise flexibility and liquidity. Interest rate exposure will be managed and monitored on a daily basis by the Chief Financial Officer.*



Local indicators for the proportions of fixed and variable rate loans, have been retained by the Council for information purposes.

Appendix 2 shows the actual position as at 30 June 2021, and demonstrates that all activities are contained within the currently approved limits.

## 2.9 Other Issues

### Access to PWLB – Changes following HMT Consultation

As previously reported the outcome of this consultation was published in November 2020 and confirmed that HMT will no longer allow local authorities to borrow money from the PWLB to purchase commercial property if the aim is primarily to generate an income stream (ie debt for yield).

- To access PWLB funds the Council must provide a high level description of its capital spending plans for the next 3 years including expected use of PWLB;
- As part of this the CFO must confirm there is no intention to buy investments assets primarily for yield at any point in the next 3 years;
- This restriction is on a whole plan basis – ie even if the Council intends to buy investments assets primarily for yield at any point in the plan and to finance them other than by borrowing or alternative funding sources, the PWLB will not lend to it;
- When applying for a new loan the Council will have to confirm that the plans they have submitted remain current and that the assurance on investments assets primarily for yield remains valid;
- HMT do not intend to routinely review individual loans but if it has concerns it may contact the Council to gain a fuller understanding. Access to PWLB could be suspended if deliberate misuse is found. In extreme cases full repayment of loans made may be imposed, although this is thought unlikely.

Following the HMT consultation and the imposition of a curb on lending for commercial debt-for yield projects, the PWLB certainty rate, for which the Council qualifies, fell by 1% across the board from 9am on 26 November 2020 which should allow access to cheaper borrowing for service investment where necessary.

No other significant treasury management issues have arisen since approval of the TMSS on 4 March 2021 that should be brought to the attention of Members.

### **3 Alternative Options**

An alternative option is to fail to present a quarterly Prudential Code Indicator Monitoring and Treasury Activity Report, however this would contravene the requirement of the Council's Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS).

### **4 Financial Implications**

No specific financial implications are attributable to this report.

### **5 Legal Implications**

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

### **6 Equalities Implications**

There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

### **7 Carbon Reduction/Environmental Sustainability Implications**

There are no carbon reduction/environmental sustainability implications arising from this report.

### **8 Appendices**

1. Treasury Activity Report 2021/22 for Quarter 1 (30 June 2021).
2. Prudential and Treasury Indicator Monitoring 2021/22 for Quarter 1.

### **9 Background Papers**

None identified.

### **10 Reasons for Recommendation**

To comply with the requirements of the Council's Treasury Management Strategy Statement.

**Statutory Officer approval:**

**Approved by:** Chief Financial Officer

**Date:** 22.07.21

**Approved by:** Monitoring Officer

**Date:** 22.07.21

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**TREASURY ACTIVITY REPORT 2021/22****30.06.21 Q1****For Quarter ended 30 June 2021****Long Term Borrowing**

PWLB

**Total Long Term Borrowing****Temporary Borrowing**

Local Authorities

Central Government

Banks &amp; Other Institutions

**Total Temporary Borrowing****TOTAL BORROWING****Long Term Investment**

CCLA LAPF Property Fund

**Total Long Term Investment****Short Term Investment**

Aberdeen Standard MMF

Bank of Scotland

Barclays

Blackrock MMF

CCLA PSDF (MMF)

Close Brothers

Debt Management Office

Goldman Sachs

HSBC Treasury

Local Authorities &amp; Other

Nationwide

Santander

**Total Short Term Investment****TOTAL INVESTMENT (See below)****NET BORROWING /  
(INVESTMENT)**

<b>Position @ 1 April 2021 £</b>	<b>Loans Made During Q1 £</b>	<b>Loans Repaid During Q1 £</b>	<b>Position @ 30 June 2021 £</b>
9,811,577	0	0	9,811,577
9,811,577	0	0	9,811,577
0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0
9,811,577	0	0	9,811,577
(1,000,000)	0	0	(1,000,000)
(1,000,000)	0	0	(1,000,000)
(4,000,000)	0	0	(4,000,000)
0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0
(1,590,000)	(8,970,000)	8,975,000	(1,585,000)
(3,000,000)	0	0	(3,000,000)
0	0	0	0
(1,295,000)	(16,235,000)	9,330,000	(8,200,000)
0	(2,000,000)	0	(2,000,000)
(3,000,000)	(6,440,000)	6,440,000	(3,000,000)
0	0	0	0
0	(2,000,000)	0	(2,000,000)
(4,000,000)	0	0	(4,000,000)
(16,885,000)	(35,645,000)	24,745,000	(27,785,000)
(17,885,000)	(35,645,000)	24,745,000	(28,785,000)
(8,073,423)	(35,645,000)	24,745,000	(18,973,423)

**Temporary Borrowing & Investment Statistics at 30 June 2021****Investment:**

Fixed Rate Investment

Variable Rate Investment

**TOTAL INVESTMENT**

(4,295,000)	(26,675,000)	15,770,000	(15,200,000)
(13,590,000)	(10,970,000)	10,975,000	(13,585,000)
(17,885,000)	(37,645,000)	26,745,000	(28,785,000)

Proportion of Fixed Rate Investment

52.81%

Proportion of Variable Rate Investment

47.19%

Temporary Investment Interest Receivable

£ 15,529

Equated Temporary Investment

£ 5,788,319

Weighted Average Interest Rate Received (Interest Receivable / Equated Investment)

0.27%

7 Day LIBID (Benchmark)

NB. Negative -0.08%

3 Month LIBID

-0.04%

**Borrowing:**

Temporary Borrowing Interest Payable

£ -

Equated Temporary Borrowing

£ -

Weighted Average Interest Rate Paid (Interest Payable / Equated Borrowing)

n/a

7 Day LIBOR (Benchmark)

0.04%

If LIBID

Better by

7 Day

(4,601)

20,130

3 Month

2,301

17,830

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**Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators for 2021/22**  
**1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021**

**Appendix 2**

**A) Prudential Indicators**

Affordability:

- a) Capital Expenditure  
b) Capital Financing Requirement  
c) Gearing (CFR to Long Term Assets)  
Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream-Services  
Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream-Commercial  
d) Total Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream

- e) Ratio of Commercial Income to Net Revenue Stream  
f) Maximum Gross Debt  
g) Ratio of Internal Borrowing to CFR

**B) Treasury Management Indicators**

Affordability:

- a) Operational Boundary for External Debt:  
Borrowing  
Other Long Term Liabilities  
Total Operational Boundary  
b) Authorised Limit for External Debt:  
Borrowing  
Other Long Term Liabilities  
Total Authorised Limit

Prudence:

- c) Investment Treasury Indicator and limit:  
Max. NEW principal sums invested for periods OVER 365 days  
(ie. non-specified investments), subject to maximum non  
specified per counterparty of £3m AND to the prevailing overall  
counterparty limit, AND to the TOTAL non specified limit of £5m.  
d) Upper & Lower limits for the maturity structure  
of outstanding Borrowing during 2021/22:  
Under 1 Year  
1 Year to 2 Years  
2 Years to 5 Years  
5 Years to 10 Years  
Over 10 Years  
e) Upper limit for fixed interest rate exposure:  
LOCAL INDICATOR - Investment Only  
LOCAL INDICATOR - Borrowing Only  
f) Upper limit for variable interest rate exposure:  
LOCAL INDICATOR - Investment Only  
LOCAL INDICATOR - Borrowing Only

	2021/22 Original Estimate (Council 4/3/21)	2021/22 Position at 30-Jun-21
£	10,868,300	£ 10,298,400
£	15,290,400	£ 14,171,900
	34%	34%
	17.70%	20.09%
	0.00%	0.00%
	17.70%	20.09%
	0.00%	0.00%
£	16,964,900	£ 9,811,577
	16%	10%
£	18,000,000	£ 9,811,577
£	1,500,000	£ -
£	19,500,000	£ 9,811,577
£	19,000,000	£ 9,811,577
£	1,500,000	£ -
£	20,500,000	£ 9,811,577
£	3,000,000	£ -
	40%	0%
	40%	0%
	50%	0%
	50%	0%
	100%	100%
	100.00%	52.81%
	100.00%	100.00%
	100.00%	47.19%
	50.00%	0.00%

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## Report to Cabinet

**Subject:** Quarterly Budget Monitoring and Virement Report – Quarter 1 June 2021

**Date:** 5 August 2021

**Author:** Senior Leadership Team

### Wards Affected

Borough-wide

### Purpose

- To update Cabinet on the forecast outturn for Revenue and Capital Budgets for 2021/22. The budgets include all approved carried forward amounts from the 2020/21 financial year.
- To request approval from Cabinet for the changes to the budget as set out in this report.

### Key Decision

This is a key decision.

### Recommendation(s)

**Members are recommended to:**

- 1) To approve the General Fund Budget virements set out in Appendix 1;**
- 2) To note the use of reserves and funds during quarter one as detailed in Appendix 2;**
- 3) To approve the changes to the capital programme included in paragraph 2.4.**

### 1. Background

- 1.1 The Council has made a commitment to closely align budget and performance management. This is in line with accepted good practice.
- 1.2 To deliver this commitment, systems to monitor performance against revenue and capital budgets, improvement activity and performance indicators have all been brought together and are now embedded in the way the Council

works. Whilst the budget and performance information is presented in 2 separate reports, they are reported to Cabinet together and will appear on the same agenda.

## 2. Proposal

### 2.1 General Fund Revenue Budget Summary

The following table summarises the overall financial position of the General Fund Revenue Budget and the expected total spend for the year. This information has been compiled using the best information made available to Financial Services by the relevant spending officers as at 30 June 2021. The Council's General Fund outturn is projected to be in line with the approved budget of £11,654,300.

#### General Fund Revenue Budget 2021/22 – Change Analysis

	£
<b>Net Council Budget for 2021-22 approved by Council on 5 March 2021 and Cabinet's Maximum Budget is:</b>	<b>11,654,300</b>
Up to the end of June 2021 expenditure less income totalled	2,639,926
In the remaining 9 months of year we expect net expenditure to be	11,806,274
<b>Total net revenue spend for the year is currently expected to be</b>	<b>14,446,200</b>
<b>Proposed Transfer From Earmarked Reserves For Approval</b>	<b>(2,791,900)</b>
<b>Net (Under)/ Overspend 2021/22</b>	<b>0</b>

Appendix 1 outlines how the General Fund Revenue budget is divided between the Portfolios of the Council and includes a detailed variance analysis identifying the current proposed changes for quarter one against the approved budget for each Portfolio area. Cabinet is recommended to approve these changes.

The major variances detailed in Appendix 1 include:

Expenditure:

- Additional Agency expenditure in Waste Services & Street Care of £49,200 due to the cover of staff absent from Covid-19 related sickness and self-isolation;

- Vacancy savings in Leisure Centres of (£40,300) due to extended Covid-19 restrictions;

#### Income:

- Additional Government Grant income (£133,700) for Covid-19 related Containment & Enforcement, this has been offset with an equivalent expenditure budget for delivery in 2021/22;
- Additional income of (£42,000) from the Furlough of Leisure and Community centre staff due to continued Covid-19 related restrictions;
- Additional income at Richard Herrod Centre due to an extension of the licence for the NHS vaccination centre (£26,000);
- Additional Housing Benefits related New Burdens Grants of (£57,200) offset with an equal contribution to reserves;
- Lower Income Compensation Grant from the Government expected of £115,900 due to Furlough payments, staff savings and lower income losses than initially anticipated during the first quarter in Leisure Centres;
- Removal of income relating to Phase 2 of the Selective Licencing scheme £66,500 which has been deferred for a later implementation date due to Covid-19, offset with reduced contribution from reserves;
- Lower Car Park Pay and Display income expected of £16,300 due to continued Covid -19 related restrictions.

Details of the budget virements authorising the usage of Earmarked Reserves and Revenue Budget Funds as approved by the Chief Financial Officer and relevant Corporate Director in accordance with Financial Regulations are set out in **Appendix 2**. No virements were approved by Portfolio Holders for amounts of £50,000 or less during quarter one.

## 2.2 Budget Implications arising from the Covid-19 Pandemic

- 2.2.1 The Financial impact of ongoing Covid-9 related restrictions in 2021/22 is not expected to be as significant as that experienced in 2020/21. However, with cases rising at a national level during the first quarter of 2021/22 there has been an increase in the number of people required to self-isolate. The Council services most affected are front line services.

The tables below detail the estimated additional expenditure pressures of £55,400 and the estimated income losses for the full year of £16,300 giving a total estimated budget impact of £71,700 in 2021/22. These pressures are presented net of any related savings or additional income that have been identified.

<b>2021/22 Covid-19 Related Expenditure and Income Losses</b>	
<b>Expenditure:</b>	<b>£</b>
Waste Management additional drivers and loaders	45,000
Street Care additional staff	4,200
Additional Cleaning of the Civic Centre	6,200
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>55,400</b>
<b>Income:</b>	
Car Park Pay & Display income	<b>16,300</b>
<b>Total Covid-19 Related Pressures</b>	<b>£71,700</b>

There is uncertainty on how long cases will continue to rise and the need for self-isolation, the costs in the table above are based on a reasonable forecast for the first 6 month of 2021/22, if the Pandemic continues to spread throughout the year there is likely to be further impact on budgets.

#### Income Compensation Scheme Grant

In 2020/21 the government announced the introduction of an income guarantee scheme, recognising the impact the pandemic has had on income from sales, fees and charges. This Government further announced its intention to extend this scheme to cover losses incurred in the first three months of 2021/22. The income guarantee scheme operates on a principles-based approach and includes a 5% deductible rate based on the 2020/21 approved budget, with the government providing compensation for 75p in every pound of relevant loss thereafter.

Eligible income losses for 2021/22 are only expected for losses in Leisure, Community Centres and Car Parking income.

The three months claim for 2021/22 has not yet been compiled but based on current information we estimate the grant from the income guarantee scheme to be c **£152,000**, which is £116,000 lower than the amounts already included in 2021/22 budgets of £268,000. This difference is due to lower losses than expected in the first three months and additional Furlough payments and savings on unfilled vacancies due to extended closures and continued restrictions in Leisure Centres.

The reduction in the Income Compensation Grant stated above of £116,000 can be partially offset with other revenue savings across portfolios however in order to maintain the revenue budget at its maximum approved level Appendix 1 includes a contribution from the Leisure Strategy Reserve of £22,700 to offset the remaining balance.

The Council have also claimed in 2021/22 for funding under the Government's

Job Retention Scheme, to cover for the cost of furloughing casual staff at the Leisure Centres and Community Centres, estimated at **£42,000**.

#### Total Covid Related Impact on Net Council Budget

The Quarter 1 position of the total net budget impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic compared to that previously reported at Outturn is as follows:

<b>Budget Implications Covid-19</b>	<b>Actual 2020/21 For Information</b>	<b>Original Estimate 2021/22</b>	<b>Quarter 1 Variance</b>	<b>Revised Estimate 2021/22</b>
	£	£	£	£
Expenditure Pressures	644,900	0	55,400	55,400
Income Losses	3,260,900	1,056,000	16,300	1,072,300
Improvements In Leisure Income			(75,000)	(75,000)
<b>Total Budget Pressure</b>	<b>3,905,800</b>	<b>1,056,000</b>	<b>(3,300)</b>	<b>1,052,700</b>
Government Grant Funding:				
Emergency Funding	(1,570,000)	(534,700)	0	(534,700)
Income Compensation	(1,588,800)	(268,000)	116,000	(152,000)
Job Retention (Furlough)	(362,600)	0	(42,000)	(42,000)
<b>Total Grants</b>	<b>(3,521,400)</b>	<b>(802,700)</b>	<b>74,000</b>	<b>(728,700)</b>
<b>Net Total Budget Impact</b>	<b>384,400</b>	<b>253,300</b>	<b>70,700</b>	<b>324,000</b>

#### Covid Related Impact General Fund Financing Budget – Collection Fund

The original estimates for the 2021/22 Medium Term Plan General Fund Financing budgets includes the estimated impact of the Collection Fund 2020/21 related deficit (which exceptionally must be charged to the General Fund Balance over 3 years 2021/22 to 2023/24 to mitigate the adverse impact of Covid on collection rates) offset by the Government Local Tax Income Guarantee (TIG) Grant, totalling a net cost of £184,000.

However, as detailed in the 2020/21 budget outturn report to Cabinet in July, TIG of £318,900 has been recognised earlier in 2020/21, and subsequent to finalising that report an administrative error was identified by MCHLG in the claim process for TIG which further reduces the total amount of TIG due by £46,000 to be accounted for in 2021/22.

The table below details the final position for the 2020/21 related Collection Fund deficit and TIG which will be recognised over 2020/21 to 2023/24,

demonstrating a net budget impact over that period of **£311,100**.

<b>Financing Budgets Implications Covid-19</b>	<b><i>Actual 2020/21 For Information</i></b>	<b>Original Estimate 2021/22- 2023/24</b>	<b>Impact of 2020/21 Deficit Variance</b>	<b>Revised Estimate 2021/22- 2023/24</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Council Tax	0	58,000	15,000	73,000
Business Rates		844,000	(333,000)	511,000
<b>2020/21 Collection Fund Def.</b>		<b>902,000</b>	<b>(318,000)</b>	<b>584,000</b>
Council Tax	(65,100)	(61,000)	61,000	0
Business Rates	(253,800)	(657,000)	703,000	46,000
<b>Local Tax Income Guarantee Grant</b>	<b>(318,900)</b>	<b>(718,000)</b>	<b>764,000</b>	<b>46,000</b>
<b>Total Budget Impact</b>	<b>(318,900)</b>	<b>184,000</b>	<b>446,000</b>	<b>630,000</b>

There remains an amount of uncertainty around the continued impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on both expenditure and income in 2021/22 due to:

- the ongoing potential for a resurgence of the virus in the community and the impact of staff self-isolating;
- uncertainty surrounding the capacity of, recovery of, and the future demand for, our chargeable services which will impact on the actual income received from sales, fees and charges. The key risk issue is leisure centre income which has been fully reviewed in light of the required re-occupation restrictions and potential demand but this will be further informed by actual attendance rates;
- the impact of the economic downturn on the demand for our services for those most directly affected e.g. by predicted job losses.

The impact of Covid will continue to be closely monitored throughout the year in order to mitigate the projected deficit, either by identifying in-year savings or the use of earmarked reserves.

### **2.3 Efficiency programme – Progress Update**

Since 2014/15 the Council has approved five separate budget reduction programmes totalling £6.5m net of risk provision, including the new programme of £584,000 approved during the 2021/22 budget process.

Of the total programme, £1,415,200 remains to be delivered over 2021/22 to 2024/25.

In terms of 2021/22, the programme due for delivery is £1,055,400, which includes project deferrals identified in quarter 4 of 2020/21. There are no amendments to the efficiency programme at Quarter 1.

Delivery of the 2021/22 programme will continue to be monitored and an update provided in future reports.

## 2.4 **Capital Programme**

Appendix 3 details the current projected position on the Capital Programme and its financing for 2021/22, analysed by Portfolio, and this is summarised in the table below. Cabinet is recommended to approve these changes.

Quarter 1 amendments to the current capital programme of (£2,886,100) are presented in the table below.

<b>Capital Budget 2021/22 - Change Analysis</b>	
	<b>£</b>
<b>Original 2021/22 budget approved by Council on 4 March 2021</b>	<b>10,868,300</b>
Council Approved Carry Forwards from 2020/21	1,787,400
<b>Schemes Approved by the Leader in Quarter 1</b>	
Arnold Market - Additional Budget	464,000
Green Homes Grant Funded Scheme	64,800
<b>Current approved budget for 2021/22</b>	<b>13,184,500</b>
<b>Proposed Amendments to the Programme at Quarter 1</b>	
<b>Additional to existing Schemes:</b>	
Disabled Facilities Grant by additional Grant	110,200
<b>Schemes Proposed for Deferral:</b>	
Calverton Enterprise Units	(1,370,000)
Hazleford Way Industrial Units	(350,000)
Burton Road Affordable Housing	(740,300)
Station Road Affordable Housing	(495,000)
Vehicle Replacement Programme	(41,000)
<b>Total Proposed Amendments</b>	<b>(2,886,100)</b>
<b>Revised Capital Programme 2021/22</b>	<b>10,298,400</b>
Actual Expenditure to Quarter 1 2021/22	1,030,300
Estimated Expenditure Quarter 2 - 4 2021/22	9,268,100
<b>Projected Outturn</b>	<b>10,298,400</b>

Total schemes proposed for deferral are £2,996,300; details of major schemes are as follows:

- Calverton Enterprise Units (£1,370,000) – Grant funding has not yet been secured in order to progress this scheme, delays are due to the economic uncertainty caused by the Covid-19 Pandemic. The business

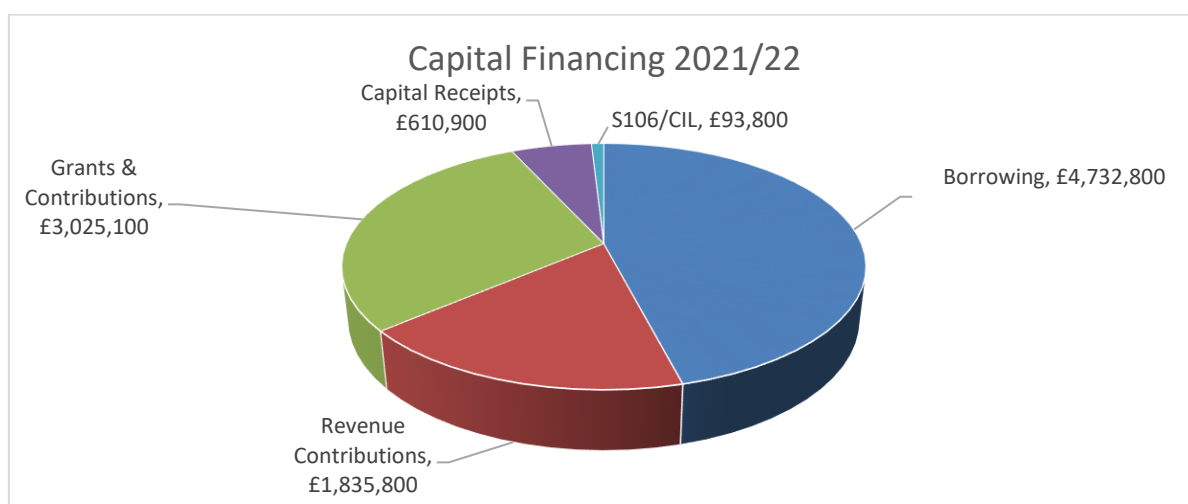
case will be reviewed and if the scheme is still financially viable a bid will be submitted to the LEP for the next available round of funding.

- Hazleford Way Industrial Units (£350,000) – The scheme has been further deferred to 2022/23 in order to assess the viability of leasing the units in the wake of the Covid-19 Pandemic.
- Burton Road Affordable Housing (£740,300) & Station Road (£495,000) – There has been a slight delay in the scheme due to the appointment of an Architect, pre-construction works are currently underway with on-site construction due to commence early in 2022/23.
- Vehicle Replacement Programme (£41,000) - Deferral of replacing a vehicle due to its current condition being better than expected resulting in an extension to its useful life of an additional year.

Capital schemes are monitored on a quarterly basis and meetings are currently held between finance officers and service/project officers.

## 2.5 **Capital Programme Financing**

The projected method of financing the current capital programme requirement of £10,298,400 is detailed in Appendix 3 and summarised in the chart below.



## 2.6 **Capital Receipts Monitoring**

When the Council sells General Fund assets it is permitted to use this income to fund capital expenditure. The initial capital receipts estimate for 2021/22 projects that £610,900 will be generated and used to finance the capital programme in 2021/22. There is no change to the capital receipts estimate projected at quarter 1 monitoring.

## 3. **Alternative Options**

Option – Not to amend the original Council approved budgets during the year to reflect the latest projected outturn position.



Advantages:

- The final outturn position of the Council can be easily compared to its original intentions when the budget was set and areas of budget risk identified.

Disadvantages:

- Budgets not aligned to current budget pressures resulting in increased likelihood of budget overspend and emerging Council priorities not being addressed;
- Restrict the effectiveness of medium term planning process and preparation of the forward budget if pressures and areas of efficiency are not readily identifiable during budget preparation;
- Budget not reflective of latest performance information.

Reason for rejection – the option is not likely to result in the best outcomes in financial management or support delivery of priorities.

#### **4 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 The nature of the report is such that it has significant resource implications across the Council. The report itself demonstrates how resources are being managed.

#### **5 Legal Implications**

- 5.1 None arising directly from this report.

#### **6 Equalities Implications**

- 6.1 None arising directly from this report.

#### **7 Carbon Reduction/Environmental Sustainability Implications**

- 7.1 None arising directly from this report.

#### **8 Appendices**

Appendix 1 - General Fund Revenue Budget 2021/22 – Budgetary Control Report

Appendix 2 - Use of Reserves and Revenue Fund Budgets

Appendix 3 - Capital Programme 2021/22 – Budgetary Control Report

#### **9 Background Papers**

## Detailed Quarterly Budgetary Control Exception Reports

### **10 Reasons for Recommendations**

- 10.1 To align the budgets to the current pressures and priorities and ensure the delivery of Council objectives is supported.

#### **Statutory Officer Approval**

**Approved by:** Chief Financial Officer  
**Date:** 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021

**Approved by:** Monitoring Officer  
**Date:** 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021

**Grand Summary****Revenue Quarterly Budgetary Control Report****Period 202103**

	<b>Current Approved Budget</b>	<b>Profiled Budget</b>	<b>Actual to date</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Projected Outturn</b>	<b>Projected Annual Variance</b>
	£	£	£	£		£	£
Community Development	1,465,900	287,350	155,436	-131,914	-46	1,460,700	-5,200
Housing, Health & Well-being	3,331,700	53,194	-211,787	-264,981	-498	3,289,000	-42,700
Public Protection	1,377,400	152,500	177,775	25,276	17	1,443,900	66,500
Environment	4,753,100	222,441	60,276	-162,164	-73	4,793,300	40,200
Growth & Regeneration	827,500	125,975	213,418	87,443	69	838,900	11,400
Resources & Reputation	2,592,600	2,291,895	2,244,806	-47,089	-2	2,620,400	27,800
<b>Total Portfolio Budget</b>	<b>14,348,200</b>	<b>3,133,355</b>	<b>2,639,926</b>	<b>-493,429</b>	<b>-16</b>	<b>14,446,200</b>	<b>98,000</b>
<b>Transfer to/ -from Earmarked Reserves</b>	<b>-2,693,900</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-2,791,900</b>	<b>-98,000</b>
<b>Net Council Budget (Cabinets General Fund Maximum Budget)</b>	<b>11,654,300</b>					<b>11,654,300</b>	<b>0</b>

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PORTFOLIO****BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT - JUNE 2021****REVENUE ITEMS TO BE REPORTED**

Budget Head	Current Approved Budget	Latest Projected Outturn	Net Budget Variance		Reason for Variance (New Items Only)
			Favourable £'000	Adverse £'000	
<b><u>Community Grants</u></b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>			
Supplies & Services	192.0	199.5		7.5	Gedling NHS Good Sam Learning and Integration pilot project, fully funded by Grant
Revenue Income	0.0	(7.5)	7.5		
<b><u>Community Centres</u></b>					
Employee Expenses	154.5	146.0	8.5		Unfilled vacancies due to Covid restrictions on opening. NNDR savings following new lease at Haywood Road CC. Reduced income on bookings due to Covid restrictions still being in place Furlough income due as Covid-19 restricted openings.
Premises Related Expenses	54.1	51.4	2.7		
Revenue Income	(111.9)	(105.9)		8.7	
			2.7		
<b><u>All other budget heads</u></b>					
Including items previously reported	1,177.2	1,177.2			
<b>PORTFOLIO TOTAL</b>	<b>1,465.9</b>	<b>1,460.7</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>Net Portfolio Total £5.2K Favourable</b>

**HOUSING, HEALTH & WELLBEING PORTFOLIO****BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT - JUNE 2021****REVENUE ITEMS TO BE REPORTED**

Budget Head	Current Approved Budget	Latest Projected Outturn	Net Budget Variance		Reason for Variance (New Items Only)
			Favourable £'000	Adverse £'000	
<b><u>Housing Needs</u></b>	£'000	£'000			
Premises Related Expenses	34.3	66.3		32.0	Housing provision for victims of Domestic Abuse, offset by grant funding below.
Supplies and Services	303.2	348.6		34.5	Provision for Rough Sleeping & Next Steps Accommodation offset with Grant funding below.
				10.9	Additional software requirements offset with a contribution from reserves.
Revenue Income	(382.5)	(449.0)	34.5		New grant funding received rough sleeping and Next Steps Accommodation.
			32.0		Grant Funding for housing victims of Domestic Abuse.
<b><u>Leisure Centres</u></b>					
Employee Expenses	1,648.5	1,608.2	40.3		Unfilled vacancies due to continued Covid-419 restrictions.
Revenue Income	(1,413.4)	(1,452.7)	39.3		Furlough of Leisure staff due to continued Covid-19 related restrictions.
		116.0		116.0	Expected reduction in the Governments Income Compensation Scheme Grant due income losses being lower than anticipated, furlough income and staff savings from additional closures and restrictions.
<b><u>Carlton Forum LC</u></b>					
Revenue Income	0.0	1.4		1.4	Licence agreement for Fun Fairs at Carlton Forum playing fields transferred to Environment Portfolio following transfer of service.
<b><u>Arnold Leisure Centre</u></b>					
Revenue Income	(344.5)	(355.5)	11.0		Additional income due to increase in swimming lessons following re-opening.

**HOUSING, HEALTH & WELLBEING PORTFOLIO****BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT - JUNE 2021****REVENUE ITEMS TO BE REPORTED**

Budget Head	Current Approved Budget	Latest Projected Outturn	Net Budget Variance		Reason for Variance (New Items Only)
			Favourable £'000	Adverse £'000	
<b><u>Arnold Theatre</u></b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>			
Revenue Income	(165.8)	(179.8)	14.0		Grant funding from the British Film Industry and Nottingham Media Centre awarded for Covid-19 related losses, offset by actual income losses at the Cinema.
<b><u>Richard Herrod Centre</u></b>					
Revenue Income	(328.7)	(354.0)	26.0		Rental income from the NHS Mass Vaccination Centre Licence agreement which has been extended to September 2021.
				0.7	Licence agreement for pavilion transferred to the Environment portfolio following transfer of the service.
<b><u>Housing Benefit Administration</u></b>					
Employee Expenses				12.0	Additional expenditure on employee costs due to Covid-19 related activities offset with a contribution from the New Burdens Reserve.
	390.9	402.9			Additional expenditure on Software, offset by Test & Trace and New Burdens grants received below.
Supplies and Services	30.1	38.5		8.4	New Burdens grants offset by expenditure budget above and contribution to reserves.
Revenue Income	(360.3)	(421.8)	61.5		
All other budget heads Including items previously reported	3,919.9	3,919.9			
<b>PORTFOLIO TOTAL</b>	<b>3,331.7</b>	<b>3,289.0</b>	<b>258.6</b>	<b>215.9</b>	<b>Net Portfolio Total £42.7K Favourable</b>

**PUBLIC PROTECTION PORTFOLIO****BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT - JUNE 2021****REVENUE ITEMS TO BE REPORTED**

Budget Head	Current Approved Budget	Latest Projected Outturn	Net Budget Variance		Reason for Variance (New Items Only)
			Favourable	Adverse	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
<b><u>Public Sector Housing</u></b>					
Revenue Income	(151.6)	(85.1)		66.5	Removal of income from Phase 2 of the Selective Licencing Scheme due to delayed implementation offset with reduced contribution from reserves.
<b><u>All other budget heads</u></b>	1,529.0	1,529.0			
Including items previously reported					
<b>PORTFOLIO TOTAL</b>	<b>1,377.4</b>	<b>1,443.9</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>66.5</b>	<b>Net Portfolio Total</b> <b>£66.5K Adverse</b>

**ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO****BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT - JUNE 2021****REVENUE ITEMS TO BE REPORTED**

Budget Head	Current Approved Budget	Latest Projected Outturn	Net Budget Variance		Reason for Variance (New Items Only)
			Favourable	Adverse	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
<b><u>Waste Management</u></b>					
Employee Expenses	1,683.2	1,728.2		45.0	Additional expenditure on agency cover for self-isolating staff and sickness due to Covid-19.
<b><u>Street Care</u></b>					
Employee Expenses	580.7	584.9		4.2	
<b><u>Car Parks</u></b>					
Income	(347.9)	(331.6)		16.3	Anticipated loss of income due to continued Covid-19 restrictions on Pay & Display
<b><u>Parks</u></b>					
Employee Expenses	650.5	640.5	10.0		Vacancy on the new Tree Inspector post partly offset by the related overspend on Tree inspections & surveys in Growth & Regeneration Portfolio..
Premises Related Expenses	172.9	165.3	7.6		Outturn correction accrual exceeds expenditure.
Revenue Income	(131.4)	(134.9)	1.4		External Donation received for GCP projects.
			2.1		Transfer of licence agreements for Fun Fairs and Pavilion from Leisure Services



**ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO****BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT - JUNE 2021****REVENUE ITEMS TO BE REPORTED**

Budget Head	Current Approved Budget	Latest Projected Outturn	Net Budget Variance		Reason for Variance (New Items Only)
			Favourable	Adverse	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
<b><u>Parks - External Works</u></b>					Underspending due to vacancies, offset with additional Agency expenditure on Street Care.
Employee Expenses	332.3	328.1	4.2		
<b><u>All other budget heads</u></b> (including items previously reported)	1,812.8	1,812.8			
<b>PORTFOLIO TOTAL</b>	<b>4,753.1</b>	<b>4,793.3</b>	<b>25.3</b>	<b>65.5</b>	<b>Net Portfolio Total £40.2K Adverse</b>

**GROWTH & REGENERATION PORTFOLIO****BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT - JUNE 2021****REVENUE ITEMS TO BE REPORTED**

Budget Head	Current Approved Budget	Latest Projected Outturn	Net Budget Variance		Reason for Variance (New Items Only)
			Favourable £'000	Adverse £'000	
<b><u>Development Mgmt Serv. Support</u></b>	£'000	£'000			
Employee Expenses	92.9	97.3		4.4	Redundancy Costs due to restructure offset with contribution from Transformation Reserve.
<b><u>Development Management</u></b>					
Supplies & Services	15.4	22.4		7.0	Additional expenditure on tree inspections & surveys costs offset with vacant Tree Inspector saving in the Environment Portfolio.
<b><u>All other budget heads</u></b> (including items previously reported)	719.2	719.2			
<b>PORTFOLIO TOTAL</b>	<b>827.5</b>	<b>838.9</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>Net Portfolio Total £11.4K Adverse</b>

**RESOURCES & REPUTATION PORTFOLIO**  
**BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT - JUNE 2021**  
**REVENUE ITEMS TO BE REPORTED**

Budget Head	Current Approved Budget	Latest Projected Outturn	Net Budget Variance		Reason for Variance (New Items Only)
			Favourable £'000	Adverse £'000	
<b><u>Corporate Management</u></b>	£'000	£'000			
Employee Expenses	480.6	474.2	6.4		Saving due to part year Corporate Director vacancy.
<b><u>Public Offices</u></b>					
Supplies & Services	26.7	32.9		6.2	Additional cleaning of the Civic Centre due to Covid-19 Pandemic.
<b><u>Insurance Premiums</u></b>					
Supplies & Services	272.6	276.0		3.4	Increase in Insurance premiums..
<b><u>Communications &amp; Publicity</u></b>					
Employee Expenses	150.5	156.3		5.8	Redundancy Costs due to restructure offset with contribution from Transformation Reserve.
<b><u>Legal Services</u></b>					
Employee Expenses	279.3	308.1		28.8	Redundancy Costs due to restructure offset with contribution from Transformation Reserve.
<b><u>Central Provisions</u></b>					
Year 2 Contain Funding	0.0	0.0	133.7	133.7	Government Contain Grant Funding offset budget for delivery of the scheme.
Income Compensation Scheme	(268.0)	(278.0)	10.0		Additional expected Income Compensation Scheme Grant from Government for 3 Months 2021/22 for loss of pay & display parking Lower income compensation from Leisure Centres due to lower losses than anticipated, additional staff savings and
<b><u>All other budget heads</u></b> (including items previously reported)	1,650.9	1,650.9			
<b>PORTFOLIO TOTAL</b>	<b>2,592.6</b>	<b>2,620.4</b>	<b>150.1</b>	<b>177.9</b>	<b>Net Portfolio Total £27.8K Adverse</b>

**EARMARKED RESERVES****BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT - JUNE 2021****REVENUE ITEMS TO BE REPORTED**

Budget Head	Current Approved Budget	Latest Projected Outturn	Net Budget Variance		Reason for Variance (New Items Only)
			Favourable	Adverse	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
<b><u>Transfer to/from Reserves</u></b>					
<b><u>Housing Needs</u></b>					
Contribution from New Burdens Reserve		(10.9)	10.9		Housing Allocation Policy software.
<b><u>Housing Benefit Administration</u></b>					
Contribution to New Burdens Reserve		57.2		57.2	New Burdens grants received.
Contribution from New Burdens Reserve		(4.1)	4.1		Test & Trace new software.
		(12.0)	12.0		Contribution from New Burdens Reserve for Covid-19 related staffing.
<b><u>Public Sector Housing</u></b>					
Selective Licencing - Contribution from Reserves		(66.5)	66.5		Selective Licencing Phase 2 delayed implementation offsets reduced income.
<b><u>Corporate Management</u></b>					
Phase 3 Restructure		(39.0)	39.0		Redundancy costs following the implementation of Phase 3 restructures in Planning, Legal and Communications
<b><u>Leisure Services</u></b>					
Contribution from Leisure Strategy Reserve to cover net budget shortfall		(22.7)	22.7		Leisure Strategy Reserve for Budget shortfall due to lower income compensation claim
<b><u>All other budget heads</u></b>					
Including items previously reported	(2,693.9)	(2,693.9)			

RESERVES TOTAL	(2,693.9)	(2,791.9)	155.2	57.2	Net Reserves Total £98K Net Contribution from Reserves
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**Virements Approved for the use of Earmarked Reserves**  
**Quarter Ended June 2021**

Usage of Earmarked Reserves		
		£
<b>1</b>	<b>Community Development</b>	
	Humanitarian projects - ongoing	43,400
	Contribution from Earmarked Reserves - Community Development	-43,400
	Cinderpath project works grant	3,400
	Contribution from Earmarked Reserves - Community Development	-3,400
	Youth Engagement and consultation project	5000
	Contribution from Earmarked Reserves - Community Development	-5000
	Staffing provision for untaken leave required to be covered	4400
	Contribution from Earmarked Reserves - Community Centres	-4400
<b>2</b>	<b>Housing Health &amp; Wellbeing</b>	
	Community Development Officer - continuation of post	41,300
	Contribution from Earmarked Reserves - Community Development	-41,300
	Community Health & Wellbeing Coordinator - continuation of post	11,200
	Contribution from Community & Crime Reserve	-11,200
	Big Wave Swim project	12,000
	Contribution from Earmarked Reserves - Leisure Services	-12,000
	Staffing provision for untaken leave required to be covered	111,000
	Contribution from Earmarked Reserves - Leisure Services	-111,000
	Legal costs for claim still in negotiation	16,300
	Contribution from Earmarked Reserves - Leisure Services	-16,300
	Arnold LC maintenance to fund the capital Lift works	41,200
	Contribution from Earmarked Reserves - Leisure Services	-41,200
<b>3</b>	<b>Public Protection</b>	
	Temp Housing and Health Coordinator	15,000
	Contribution from Community & Crime Reserve	-15,000
<b>4</b>	<b>Environment</b>	
	Donations to be used for benches and trees in parks	3,700
	Contribution from Earmarked Reserves - Park Improvements	-3,700

4	<b>Growth &amp; Regeneration</b>	
	Intervention Pot - Economic Growth	46,600
	Contribution from NNDR Pool Reserve	-46,600
5	<b>Resources &amp; Reputation</b>	
	ARG 2020-21 grants	540,400
	Contribution from ARG Reserve	-540,400
	Bike facilities at Civic Centre	4,000
	Contribution from Asset Management Reserve	-4,000
	Estates Management consultancy works	5,700
	Contribution from Asset Management Reserve	-5,700
	Overtime & holiday payments made as a result of Covid	20000
	Contribution from Earmarked Reserves - New Burdens Revs & Benefits	-20000
	Empty Homes Review	10000
	Contribution from Earmarked Reserves - New Burdens Revs & Benefits	-10000
	Procurement Fees	5000
	Contribution from Efficiency & Innovation Reserve	-5000
	H&S e learning programme	6700
	Contribution from Risk Mgmt Reserve	-6700
	Arnold Market Place project	497000
	Contribution from various reserves	-497000
	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£1,443,300</b>
	<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>-£1,443,300</b>

Usage of Revenue Budget Funds		
		£
	Nothing to report	
	<b>General Fund Total</b>	



**Capital Programme Expenditure & Resourcing**  
**Quarter 1 June 2021**

Capital Expenditure	Original Budget	Carry Forwards
	£000	£000
Community Development	0.0	3.7
Health & Housing	2,587.5	54.9
Public Protection	1,720.0	405.8
Environment	1,560.5	227.4
Growth & Regeneration	4,195.3	419.5
Resources & Reputation	805.0	676.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,868.3</b>	<b>1,787.4</b>

Capital Financing	Original Budget	Carry Forwards
	£000	£000
Borrowing	5,393.0	560.4
Revenue Contributions	1,139.2	382.6
Capital Rceipts	610.9	0.0
S06/CIL	882.8	0.0
Grants & Contributions	2,842.4	844.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,868.3</b>	<b>1,787.4</b>

### Appendix 3

Leader Approvals	Qtr1 Proposals	Revised Capital Programme Q1
£000	£000	£000
0.0	0.0	3.7
0.0	(1,235.30)	1,407.1
64.8	110.20	2,300.8
0.0	(41.00)	1,746.9
464.0	(1,720.00)	3,358.8
0.0	0.00	1,481.1
<b>528.8</b>	<b>(2,886.10)</b>	<b>10,298.4</b>

Leader Approvals £000	Qtr1 Proposals £000	Total £000
	(1,220.60)	4,732.8
494.0	(180.00)	1,835.8
		610.9
	(789.00)	93.8
68.4	(730.10)	3,025.1
<b>562.4</b>	<b>(2,919.70)</b>	<b>10,298.4</b>



## **Report to Cabinet**

**Subject:** Forward Plan

**Date:** 5 August 2021

**Author:** Democratic Services Manager

### **Wards Affected**

All

### **Purpose**

To present the Executive's draft Forward Plan for the next four month period.

### **Key Decision**

This is not a Key Decision.

### **Recommendation(s)**

**THAT:**

**Cabinet notes the contents of the draft Forward Plan making comments where appropriate.**

## **1 Background**

- 1.1 The Council is required by law to give to give notice of key decisions that are scheduled to be taken by the Executive.
- 1.2 A key decision is one which is financially significant, in terms of spending or savings, for the service or function concerned (more than £500,000), or which will have a significant impact on communities, in two or more wards in the Borough.
- 1.3 In the interests of effective coordination and public transparency, the plan includes any item that is likely to require an Executive decision of the Council, Cabinet or Cabinet Member (whether a key decision or not). The Forward Plan covers the following 4 months and must be

updated on a rolling monthly basis. All items have been discussed and approved by the Senior Leadership Team.

## **2 Proposal**

- 2.1 The Forward Plan is ultimately the responsibility of the Leader and Cabinet as it contains Executive business due for decision. The Plan is therefore presented at this meeting to give Cabinet the opportunity to discuss, amend or delete any item that is listed.

## **3 Alternative Options**

- 3.1 Cabinet could decide not agree with any of the items are suggested for inclusion in the plan. This would then be referred back to the Senior Leadership Team.
- 3.2 Cabinet could decide to move the date for consideration of any item.

## **4 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

## **5 Legal Implications**

- 5.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

## **6 Equalities Implications**

- 6.1 There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

## **7 Carbon Reduction/Environmental Sustainability Implications**

- 7.1 There are no carbon reduction/sustainability implications arising from this report.

## **8 Appendices**

- 8.1 Appendix 1 – Forward Plan

## **9 Background Papers**

- 9.1 None identified

## **10 Reasons for Recommendations**

- 10.1 To promote the items that are due for decision by Gedling Borough Council's Executive over the following four month period.

**Statutory Officer approval****Approved by:**

Chief Financial Officer

**Date:**

31/8/2020 (report content)

**Approved by:**

Monitoring Officer

31/8/2020 (report content)

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## **FORWARD PLAN FOR THE FOUR MONTH PERIOD 1 AUGUST 2021 TO 30 NOVEMBER 2021**

This Forward Plan sets out the details of the key and non-key decisions which the Executive Cabinet, individual Executive Members or Officers expect to take during the next four month period.

The current members of the Executive Cabinet are:

Councillor John Clarke – Leader of the Council

Councillor Michael Payne – Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Resources and Reputation

Councillor Peter Barnes – Portfolio Holder for Environment

Councillor David Ellis – Portfolio Holder for Public Protection

Councillor Gary Gregory – Portfolio Holder for Community Development

Councillor Jenny Hollingsworth – Portfolio Holder for Growth and Regeneration

Councillor Viv McCrossen – Portfolio Holder for Young People and Equalities

Councillor Henry Wheeler – Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing.

Anyone wishing to make representations about any of the matters listed below may do so by contacting the relevant officer listed against each key decision, within the time period indicated.

Description of the decision	Date decision is expected to be taken and who will take the decision?	Responsible Officer	Documents to be considered by the decision maker	Cabinet Portfolio	Open / Exempt (and reason if the decision is to be taken in private)  Is this a Key Decision?
<b>Prudential Code Indicator Monitoring 2021/22 and Quarterly Treasury Activity Report for Quarter 1</b> To inform Members of the performance monitoring of the 2021/22 Prudential Code Indicators, and to advise Members of the quarterly Treasury activity as required by the Treasury Management Strategy.	<b>5 Aug 2021 Cabinet</b>	Sue Healey, Principal Accountant	Officer Report	Portfolio Holder for Resources and Reputation	Open  No
<b>Budget Monitoring (Q1) and Virement Report</b> To update members on financial performance information for the 1st quarter of the 2021/22 year.	<b>5 Aug 2021 Cabinet</b>	Tina Adams, Principal Finance Business Partner	Officer Report	Portfolio Holder for Resources and Reputation	Open  Yes
<b>Quarter 1 Performance</b> To inform Cabinet in summary of the position against Improvement Actions and Performance Indicators in the 2021/2022 Gedling Plan for the most recent quarter.	<b>5 Aug 2021 Cabinet</b>	Alan Green, Performance and Project Officer	Officer Report	Leader of the Council	Open  Yes
<b>Carbon Reduction Action Plan</b> To agree a carbon reduction action plan for the Council's operations.	<b>7 Oct 2021 Cabinet</b>	Melvyn Cryer, Head of Environment	Officer Report	Portfolio Holder for Environment	Open  Yes
<b>Equality and Diversity Policy and Action Plan</b> To update Members following the public consultation on the draft Equality and Diversity Policy and Equality Framework and Action Plan and seek approval for adoption.	<b>7 Oct 2021 Cabinet</b>	Alison Ball, Director of Corporate Resources	Officer Report	Portfolio Holder for Young People and Equalities	Open  Yes
<b>Environmental Enforcement Policy</b> Update to the approach to environmental enforcement policy to include priorities for enforcement and approaches	<b>7 Oct 2021 Cabinet</b>	Alice Davey, Corporate Director of Environment, Communities and Leisure, Kevin	Officer Report	Portfolio Holder for Public Protection	Open  Yes



Description of the decision	Date decision is expected to be taken and who will take the decision?	Responsible Officer	Documents to be considered by the decision maker	Cabinet Portfolio	Public / Exempt (and reason if the decision is to be taken in private)  Is this a key decision?
		Nealon, Community Protection and Pollution Control Manager			
<b>Draft Waste &amp; Recycling Policy</b> Seeking permission to consult on the draft waste and recycling policy	<b>7 Oct 2021 Cabinet</b>	Melvyn Cryer, Head of Environment	Officer Report	Portfolio Holder for Environment	Open  Yes
<b>Prudential Code Indicator Monitoring 2021/22 and Quarterly Treasury Activity Report for Quarter 2</b> To inform Members of the performance monitoring of the 2021/22 Prudential Code Indicators, and to advise Members of the quarterly Treasury activity as required by the Treasury Management Strategy.	<b>4 Nov 2021 Cabinet</b>	Sue Healey, Principal Accountant	Officer Report	Portfolio Holder for Resources and Reputation	Open  Yes
<b>Budget Monitoring (Q2) and Virement Report</b> To update members on financial performance information for the 2nd quarter of the 2021/22 year.	<b>4 Nov 2021 Cabinet</b>	Tina Adams, Principal Finance Business Partner	Officer Report	Portfolio Holder for Resources and Reputation	Open  Yes
<b>Gedling Plan Quarter 2 Performance Report</b> To inform Cabinet in summary of the position against Improvement Actions and Performance Indicators in the 2021/2022 Gedling Plan for the most recent quarter.	<b>4 Nov 2021 Cabinet</b>	Alan Green, Performance and Project Officer	Officer Report	Leader of the Council	Open  Yes
<b>Sport and Physical Activity Strategy</b> The sport and physical activity strategy for Gedling Borough Council 2021	<b>4 Nov 2021 Cabinet</b>	Lance Juby, Head of Communities and Leisure	Officer Report	Portfolio Holder for Community Development	Open  Yes

Description of the decision	Date decision is expected to be taken and who will take the decision?	Responsible Officer	Documents to be considered by the decision maker	Cabinet Portfolio	Public / Exempt (and reason if the decision is to be taken in private)  Is this a key decision?
<b>Prudential Code Indicator Monitoring 2021/22 and Quarterly Treasury Activity Report for Quarter 3</b> To inform Members of the performance monitoring of the 2021/22 Prudential Code Indicators, and to advise Members of the quarterly Treasury activity as required by the Treasury Management Strategy.	<b>27 Jan 2022 Cabinet</b>	Sue Healey, Principal Accountant	Officer Report	Portfolio Holder for Resources and Reputation	Open  No
<b>Quarterly (Q3) Budget Monitoring and Virement Report</b> To update members on financial performance information for the 3rd Quarter of the 2021/22 year.	<b>27 Jan 2022 Cabinet</b>	Tina Adams, Principal Finance Business Partner	Officer Report	Portfolio Holder for Resources and Reputation	Open  Yes
<b>Gedling Plan Quarter 3 Performance Report</b> To inform Cabinet in summary of the position against Improvement Actions and Performance Indicators in the 2021/2022 Gedling Plan for the most recent quarter.	<b>27 Jan 2022 Cabinet</b>	Alan Green, Performance and Project Officer	Officer Report	Leader of the Council	Open  Yes
<b>Prudential and Treasury Indicators and Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2022/23</b> To present for Members' approval the Council's Prudential Code Indicators and Treasury Strategy for 2022/23, for referral to Council.	<b>10 Feb 2022 Cabinet</b>  <b>3 Mar 2022 Council</b>	Sue Healey, Principal Accountant	Officer Report	Portfolio Holder for Resources and Reputation	Open  Yes
<b>Capital Programme and Capital Investment Strategy</b> To approve the capital investment strategy and capital spending programme for the next financial year.	<b>10 Feb 2022 Cabinet</b>  <b>3 Mar 2022 Council</b>	Alison Ball, Director of Corporate Resources	Officer Report	Portfolio Holder for Resources and Reputation	Open  Yes
<b>General Fund Budget 2022/23</b> For Cabinet to recommend to Council the revenue budget for the next financial year.	<b>10 Feb 2022 Cabinet</b>  <b>3 Mar 2022 Council</b>	Tina Adams, Principal Finance Business Partner	Officer Report	Portfolio Holder for Resources and Reputation	Open  Yes