

# Agenda

## Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: **Monday 22 April 2024**

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Time: **5.30 pm**

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Place: **Council Chamber**

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# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

## Membership

**Chair** Councillor Catherine Pope

**Vice-Chair** Councillor David Brocklebank

Councillor Roy Allan  
Councillor Lorraine Brown  
Councillor Andrew Dunkin  
Councillor Rachael Ellis  
Councillor Roxanne Ellis  
Councillor Grahame Pope  
Councillor Kyle Robinson-Payne  
Councillor Martin Smith  
Councillor Sam Smith  
Councillor Michelle Welsh  
Councillor Russell Whiting

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## **Role of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:**

- a) Hold the Executive to account
  - Review the performance and decisions of the Executive
  - Review the Council's progress in achieving policy aims and performance targets
  - Review the performance of individual services
- b) Develop and review policy
  - Help the Council and the Executive develop policy by studying issues in detail
  - Carry out research and consultation on policy
- c) Call-in Executive decisions
  - Exercise the right to call in decisions made by the Executive, but not yet implemented, if there is a need for the decision to be reviewed

d) Hold others to account

- The Overview and Scrutiny Committee can hold other public service providers to account for their activities and performance
- Undertake an annual review of the work of the Local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships

# AGENDA

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- 1 **Apologies for Absence and Substitutions**
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## MINUTES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Monday 11 March 2024

Councillor Catherine Pope (Chair)

Councillor David Brocklebank	Councillor Roxanne Ellis
Councillor Roy Allan	Councillor Grahame Pope
Councillor Lorraine Brown	Councillor Kyle Robinson-Payne
Councillor Jim Creamer	Councillor Martin Smith
Councillor Andrew Dunkin	Councillor Sam Smith
Councillor Rachael Ellis	Councillor Russell Whiting

Officers in Attendance: B Hopewell and E McGinlay

Guests in Attendance: Councillor Pearson

### 37 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Welsh, Councillor Creamer attended as substitute.

### 38 TO APPROVE, AS A CORRECT RECORD, THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 JANUARY 2024.

#### RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the above meeting, having been circulated, be approved as a correct record.

### 39 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

Councillors Rachel Ellis and Roxanne Ellis declared an interest in Item 4 to the agenda as members of the Gedling Play Forum.

### 40 PROGRAMME OF PORTFOLIO HOLDER ATTENDANCE.

Members welcomed Councillor Lynda Pearson, Portfolio Holder for Communities and Place to the meeting to examine her portfolio. Councillor Pearson gave an update to members on some key happenings within her portfolio.

No questions were received from Members in advance of the meeting, so Councillor Pearson delivered an update on the various areas of responsibility within her portfolio. She gave the following updates:

It was noted that the UK Shared Prosperity Fund had given the council the opportunity to review the Council's heritage strategy. The full strategy could be viewed on the council's website which included plans to support visitor economy, review the Heritage Way walking and cycling route, celebrate 50 years of Gedling and mark that 200 years had passed since Byron's death through event planning and community projects.

It was noted that many changes implemented since Covid-19 had affected the way in which the council had been supporting Community Events and Play. Much of the work had been co-produced with partners and improved community engagement whilst reflecting GBC priorities.

Members noted the upcoming events for 2024/25 which included a Voluntary and Community Sector Pride Event, the Arnold Summer Fair, Nottinghamshire Day, Remembrance Parade, Apprenticeship and jobs fair, the Bonnington Theatre Programme, Pop up Town Centre Events and more.

It was noted that the council had not yet adopted a community and voluntary service (CVS) programme, but tenders had been accepted and a decision would be made in due course. It was highlighted that a CVS programme would help commissioned Health & Wellbeing providers to deliver sustainable, neighbourhood-based services to individuals with recognised barriers to entry such as health/mental health issues, IT requirements and more.

Councillor Pearson delivered an update on the work undertaken and currently ongoing regarding rural affairs, communities and economic growth. This included an adopted outdoor play and pitch strategy, strength in communities programme, working with business advice surgeries, Hill Crest business park expansion in Calverton and more.

The Chair gave members the opportunity to ask questions.

Members asked what plans were in place to commemorate the 200 years since the passing of Lord Byron and how the Council planned to celebrate 50 years of Gedling.

Councillor Pearson agreed to distribute a copy of the full plan to Members.

Councillors asked whether the council planned to commemorate 80 years since the D-day landings in conjunction with the Royal British Legion (RBL).

Councillor Pearson confirmed that the council would liaise with the RBL to support them in commemorating the D-day landings where possible.

Members sought feedback on how well the CVS in Rushcliffe had been functioning in Gedling since spreading their remit across multiple areas.

Councillor Pearson agreed that a local CVS would have a better understanding on local needs and a framework was being implemented for a service similar to the CVS and tenders were ongoing.

Members queried whether feedback was available following community work with shopping centres across the borough.

Councillor Pearson confirmed that feedback had been received and would be included within a future report to Cabinet and a redacted version would also be made available to the public.

Members queried how feedback had been used to improve the council's ability to communicate and highlight events to the public and also queried the timelines for when the events were published.

Councillor Pearson agreed to circulate additional information to members on the timelines when publishing events and explained that the Council does seek feedback to improve the methods of communicating events where possible but highlighted that responses to surveys were low.

**RESOLVED:**

The Chair thanked Councillor Pearson for the information provided.

**41 GEDLING PLAN - Q3 PERFORMANCE**

Consideration was given to a report of the Senior Leadership Team, which was circulated in advance of the meeting, informing Members in summary of the position against Improvement Actions and Performance Indicators in the 2023-27 Gedling Plan at the end of Quarter 3.

Members queried how the targets were set for leisure facilities across the borough.

It was noted that KPIs were benchmarked against other authorities and some targets were set through consultations. It was highlighted that targets were monitored by SLT and reviewed regularly. It was agreed that specific data regarding theatre targets would be circulated to members.

Members queried job fair attendance, noting that the report did not include information as to where the attendees resided and queried whether another location would be useful to have greater reach.

The Monitoring Officer agreed to enquire about the geography of attendees to see if another location would be of use and circulate the information to members.

**RESOLVED:**

To note the report.

**42 UPDATE ON WELCOME AND WARM SPACES.**

Consideration was given to a report of the Health Development Officer, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, updating members of the transition from the warm spaces programme into the wider welcome and warm spaces programme.

Members queried whether there were any plans to expand participating venues in the future and if so, how it would be done.

It was noted that although the Council highlights warm spaces across the borough and assists them where possible, recent feedback showed that the council was unaware of some voluntary groups which could benefit from the council's efforts to promote them going forward.

Members expressed an interest in inviting the Health Development Officer to a future meeting to ask further questions.

**RESOLVED:**

To note the report.

**43 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME.**

Consideration was given to a report of the Democratic Services Manager, which had been circulated in advance on the meeting, updating Members on the scrutiny work programme.

Members asked for a review of the contacts magazine to review its cost, outreach methods and whether digitalisation would impact those who prefer a paper copy.

It was agreed to invite the Communications Manager to a future meeting.

Members expressed an interest in whether to invite the Integrated Care Board (ICB) to attend a future meeting and to ask Councillor Wheeler to provide an update on the access to dentistry within the borough.

It was agreed to ask the ICB to attend a future meeting.

Members expressed an interest in asking Gedling Play Forum to attend a future meeting.

It was agreed to ask the Gedling Play Forum to attend a future meeting.

Members expressed an interest in inviting Jigsaw Homes and Nottingham City Council's housing department to a future meeting.

It was agreed to ask Jigsaw Homes and Nottingham City Council's housing department to attend a future meeting.

**RESOLVED to:**

Note the report.

**44 ANY OTHER ITEM WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT.**

None.

The meeting finished at 6.40 pm

Signed by Chair:  
Date:

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## **Report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**Subject:** Programme of portfolio holder attendance

**Date:** 22 April 2024

**Author:** Democratic Services Manager

### **Purpose**

To consider the area of responsibility of Councillor Henry Wheeler, Portfolio Holder for Lifestyles, Health and Wellbeing as part of the programme of holding the executive to account.

### **Recommendation(s)**

#### **That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:**

- 1) Considers, asks questions and makes comment on the information provided and
- 2) Discusses any topics for potential inclusion in the future work programme;

## **1 Background**

At the 26 April 2021 Overview and Scrutiny Committee, members agreed to continue with a programme of attendance by portfolio holders, and relevant officers, at committee. Areas of performance, within each portfolio for examination, would be identified, and questions for portfolio holder submitted in advance of each meeting. 'Ad hoc' questions could also be put forward at the meeting itself.

Non-executive members would also be invited to submit questions for the portfolio holder.

## **2. 2023/2024 programme of portfolio holder attendance**

Councillor Henry Wheeler, Portfolio Holder for Lifestyles, Health and Wellbeing is attending the committee to give members the opportunity to examine his areas of responsibility which includes the below:

## Portfolio Holder – Lifestyles, Health and Wellbeing

Councillor Henry Wheeler

- Leisure Centres
- Sports development and physical activity
- Arts and culture, including Bonnington theatre/cinema
- Health promotion and development
- Social prescribing partnerships
- Loneliness and isolation
- Mental health, including dementia support

The report detailing performance indicators for quarter 3 of 2023-24 is attached at appendix 1 to the report.

### **3 Financial implications**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

### **4 Legal implications**

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

### **5 Equalities implications**

There are no equalities implications arising from this report

### **6 Carbon reduction/sustainability implications**














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

### **7 Appendices**

Appendix 1: All portfolio performance information





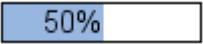
# Quarter 3 Performance Report

PI status		Action Status		Trends	
	Missed target		Cancelled		Improving
	Slightly below target		Overdue		No Change
	On or about target		Check Progress		Getting Worse
	Unknown		Not Started; In Progress		
	Data Only		Completed		









## Portfolio Owners Lifestyles, Health and Wellbeing

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Title	Service Area	Status	Completion Date	Progress Bar	Latest Notes
Adopt a new Leisure and Community Facilities Strategy for the Borough	Communities and Leisure		31-Mar-2024	<div style="width: 87%;"><div style="width: 87%;"></div></div> 87%	<p>In November 2023, Cabinet adopted the Strategic Outcomes Planning Model Stage One Strategy. Through extensive community and stakeholder consultation, an assessment of national and local strategy and a comprehensive assessment of local insight and community need a new vision, themes and outcomes have been adopted within the Strategy with an emphasis on enabling better health equality through physical activity.</p> <p>It is proposed the further insight and interventions work of the Strategic Outcomes Planning Model review be considered at Cabinet in Q4.</p>

Title	Service Area	Status	Completion Date	Progress Bar	Latest Notes
Review the Bonington Theatre and Cinema business plan to increase attendance, improve visitor experience and encourage wider community participation	Communities and Leisure		31-Mar-2024		The Strategic Outcomes Planning Model Strategy has been adopted in November 2023. Further insight and intervention work as part of this review is scheduled for further consideration by Cabinet in Q4 and this will include opportunities regarding the Bonington.

## Portfolio Owners Lifestyles, Health and Wellbeing

PI Code & Short Name	Responsible OUs	Q3 2023/24		Status	Trend compared to previous quarter	Latest Note
		Value	Target			
LI379 Average number of Swim School Members (12 month rolling period)	Communities and Leisure; Leisure	3,883	3,800			
LI027 Number of visits to leisure centres	Communities and Leisure; Leisure	280,463	248,175			
LI027f Number of attendances - Bonington Theatre	Communities and Leisure; Leisure	13,805	10,150			
LI085 Current number of DNA members	Communities and Leisure; Leisure	4,088	4,125			The DNA membership base at the end of Q3 has surpassed the start of the financial year membership base, which demonstrates steady growth through-out the year. The December promotion was particularly strong bringing in 255 new DNA members. As usual there will be an influx of new customers in January, which is a typical cycle in the leisure industry, which we hope to capitalise on with our marketing and communication plan

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## Report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee

**Subject:** Progress Report on Carbon Management Strategy

**Date:** 22 April 2024

**Author:** Climate Change Officer

### Wards Affected

All wards

### Purpose

To update Members on the progress of the Carbon Management Strategy and Action Plan.

### Key Decision

This is not a key decision.

### Recommendation(s)

#### THAT:

- 1) Members note the summary of actions and activities already undertaken by the Council so far this year.

## 1 Background

1.1 In March 2022, following public consultation to seek views from stakeholders, Cabinet approved a Carbon Management Strategy and Action Plan, which details over a 100 initiatives and programmes of work to ensure the Council and community achieve net zero Carbon emissions by 2030. There are 64 actions set out in the Action Plan that we are delivering to in this financial year (2023/24) and we are making good progress in 37 of these. Some of the actions delivered are shown in Appendix 3.

1.2 As part of our bid to address our carbon emissions, the Council commissioned APSE to refresh and calculate our carbon footprint, as they did in 2019/20, using data from July 2022 to July 2023. (Appendix 1). The table below shows the comparison of the emissions between 2019/20 and 2022/23:

Emissions Source	Scope	2019/20 Tonnes CO2e	2022/23 Tonnes CO2e	Difference
Natural Gas	1	499	599	20%
Vehicles	1	813	439	-46%
Electricity	2	363	266	-27%
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,675</b>	<b>1,304</b>	<b>-22%</b>

The table shows that overall, our carbon emissions have reduced by 22%, which indicates a significant move in the right direction, with more to come. The collation of data in the latest set of results for 2022/23 has improved, with more assets being identified. In 2022/23 there are 38 electricity meters and 14 gas meters reviewed and included in the data, whereas in 2019 there were only 7 electricity and 9 gas meters. Even with these additions the result has remained positive with a large reduction in carbon emissions resulting from the change in fleet fuel use in April 2023 from hydrocarbon diesel to hydrogenated vegetable oil (HVO) fuel. This has seen a 90% reduction per vehicle in CO2 emissions.

- 1.3 During the year, our Climate Change officer successfully submitted a bid and received funding from Cycling UK for the 'big bike workplace revival'. As a result, three events were organised and delivered by them, between January and March 2023. This allowed staff to access servicing of their bicycles and associated repairs, which were undertaken free of charge. 10 members of staff benefitted from this. (Appendix 3).
- 1.4 The Climate Change Officer has also worked with local schools in collaboration with the Neighbourhood Wardens to promote the 'car idling' campaign, to encourage vehicle users when dropping off their children at school, to switch off their engines whilst waiting outside the gates. This initiative received good national and local media attention and has served to drive down unnecessary vehicle emissions in such areas. (Appendix 3).
- 1.5 Gedling Borough Council has also introduced an innovative recycling scheme, which has been made available at the Arnold, Calverton and Carlton Forum leisure centres. The Leisure Loop Recycling Scheme makes it easier for swimmers to recycle many common items at their local centres such as goggles, swim caps, and floats. By November 2023 we had recycled approximately 30kg of swimming pool waste. This received good media coverage including an appearance on BBC East Midlands Today when the scheme was first launched. (Appendix 3).
- 1.6 The Climate Change Officer delivered the first Climate Change Assembly to over 315 children and all staff at Arnold Hill View Primary School to celebrate Earth Day in April 2023 (Appendix 3).
- 1.7 As previously stated, the Waste, Fleet and Depot Manager has implemented the transition of our existing fleet from Hydrocarbon diesel fuel to Hydrogenated Vegetable Oil (HVO) fuel in March 2023. This advanced renewable fuel works in the diesel engines used by our fleet vehicles and offers a fast and simple step towards Net Zero. The fuel is used without need for further capital expenditure or changes to our fleet infrastructure,

and though more expensive revenue wise, it nevertheless provides an effective solution on our journey towards decarbonisation. (Appendix 3).

- 1.8 The Green Rewards scheme, launched at the end of October 2021, has been extended for a further year. Green Rewards is an online platform designed to incentivise and encourage residents to undertake positive environmental behaviour change. The platform is a shared partnership project between the Nottinghamshire boroughs and districts and Nottingham City Council. To date, 613 Gedling borough residents have registered as members and this number is growing.
- 1.9 A collaborative bid led by Nottingham City Council has successfully secured £277,671 of Government funding from the Net Zero Living: Fast Followers competition. The bid was submitted in partnership with Gedling Borough Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Derby City Council, Derbyshire County Council, Broxtowe Borough Council, and Rushcliffe Borough Council. The competition funded by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero and Innovate UK, aims to accelerate progress towards local climate goals. Achieving net zero goals in the region requires partners to work together, and the Fast Followers funding will build on the positive collaboration between Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire moving forwards. This commenced in July 2023 and will run for two years.
- 1.10 The Climate Change Officer attended a Youth Council meeting in September 2023 to discuss how the Youth Council can get involved and this meeting generated various actions to follow up on. (Appendix 3).
- 1.11 In 2023, Nottinghamshire County Council received £5.55 million for Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) across the whole Nottinghamshire area. Gedling have been consulted on this and the council has put forward suggestions where these points could potentially be installed locally. We are hoping to work collaboratively in the future, to take this initiative forward.
- 1.12 During the year Gedling Borough Council were announced as 'winners' at the Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE), Annual Service Awards in September 2023 in the category 'Best Collaborative Working Initiative (with other public sector or third sector bodies)'. The entry was the Nottinghamshire Green Rewards - Helping Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City residents take action to reduce their carbon footprint and to help tackle climate change. The Council was selected as winners from a shortlisted group of 9 local authorities in this category, including some metropolitan and City councils, so a significant national win, which once again shows Gedling Borough Council and its partnering authorities are leading the way. (Appendix 3).
- 1.13 The Climate Change Officer made a compelling presentation on 'Gedling's journey to net zero' to the Parish Councils at the Parish Council Conference in November 2023. (Appendix 3). The Head of Environment also presented what support can be offered to residents on the impacts of flooding, caused by Climate Change.
- 1.14 To celebrate and promote National Recycling Week in October, the Climate Change Officer organised and delivered workshops. This included an interactive presentation on the importance of recycling paper and saving trees and how this directly links to climate change and then making new paper from the schools' waste paper. (Appendix 3).

- 1.15 Gedling Borough Council has been recognised for its actions to tackle the climate emergency. All councils across the country were graded on the delivery of their climate actions. In October 2023, the organisation Climate Emergency UK assessed all Councils across seven different sections. Councils were then given a percentage on how well they are delivering on their climate actions to achieve net zero. Gedling was graded the highest of the seven boroughs and districts councils in Nottinghamshire with 31%.
- 1.16 Our Climate Change Officer has been regularly communicating throughout the year with various groups, in particular supporting and providing updates for two of our local Climate Groups: Gedling Climate Group and Burton Joyce Climate Action Group. As part of this partnership support approach, Burton Joyce Climate group held a 'warm homes talk' for residents in October 2023. Additionally, the first 'Nature and Climate Convention' took place in November 2023, the first in the Borough and Nottinghamshire, with over 90 people attending. The progress made to date in this report covers many of the recommendations mentioned in the "*Climate and Nature Convention Report 2023*" (Appendix 4 & 5). The Climate Change Officer will continue to support Gedling Climate Change group, to deliver further in these action areas where practicable and possible. This is as well as working collaboratively at events such as at Arnot Hill Park in June and Gedling Country Park in August, promoting the Green Rewards and engaging on the sustainability and climate change message with members of the public. (Appendix 3).
- 1.17 In November, the first climate change debate took place in the Council Chamber, with 60 children taking part, it was chaired by the Mayor of Gedling and Climate Change Officer taking on board a Q&A session. (Appendix 3).
- 1.18 The Climate Change Officer has delivered two Carbon Literacy Training sessions to the Senior Leadership Team, Heads of Service Management and Elected Members. (Appendix 3).
- 1.19 A new fitness studio with state-of-the-art accessible equipment is being created at Carlton Forum Leisure Centre. All the new equipment not only meets the needs of disabled and other users but is also self-charging and does not require plugging into a power supply as well as LED lighting being installed in the studio. In terms of the move to promoting sustainable transport, Redhill Leisure Centre have installed 6 secure cycle lockers to encourage sustainable travel to and from the leisure centre. (Appendix 3).
- 1.20 The Climate Change Officer has put together a dedicated section on climate change on the Gedling Borough Council website, so that local residents can be informed and educated and in doing so understand the impact their footprint has on the Borough in terms of the need to reduce carbon emissions, as well as providing information for staff, on sustainability and climate change on the internal intranet.
- 1.21 In 2022/23, 2,388 trees were planted throughout the Borough in the Council's continuing move to mitigate against the effects of climate change. In 2023 Gedling Borough Council also installed new 'Tree Plotter' software to enable a robust tree stock inventory to be made. This is allowing the collection of live field data and effective and efficient tree stock management to take place. To date, 472 trees in the borough have been plotted and this number is rapidly growing. As the collection of Borough Council owned tree data increases it will allow information on the Borough's ecosystem to be made directly available including the amount of carbon sequestered. To date the amount of carbon sequestered for 2022/23 is 30,252.77kg. This is the amount annually removed from the



atmosphere and stored in the canopy's biomass, for the trees plotted to date.

Tree planting funds were explored and for parks and open spaces, the Urban Tree Challenge Fund was selected as the most suitable fund for our needs to assist with levelling up access to nature across Gedling Borough, planting trees in socially deprived urban areas with low canopy cover, in proximity to healthcare and educational facilities. An Urban Tree Challenge Funding bid was compiled by our Tree Officer and GBC were successful with the funding of 170 standard trees. A positive outcome from the Urban Tree Challenge Fund, means that parks and open spaces are becoming enhanced through the selection of trees appropriate to site. So far, various sites across the borough have been allocated funding for standard tree planting to level up access to nature and for their future maintenance to ensure they survive into the future.

- 1.22 In terms of Planning and New Housing Developments, Keepmoat is delivering on the first development of new homes that will produce up to 80% less carbon emissions than standard homes. The homes at Gedling Green, a development comprising of 33 new homes at the site of the former colliery will see properties that feature air source pumps, solar PV panels, increased levels of insulation and EV charging points to achieve and deliver to new future homes regulations.
- 1.23 An independent technical advisor has been appointed to assist in the submission of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Phase 3b Salix Application. The Council is currently awaiting a response, but the anticipated Council contribution would be in excess of £900k for a £2.1m Civic Centre project. Arnot Hill House and Burton Road projects have been deferred and will be reviewed at a later date.
- 1.24 The Council's Home Upgrade Grant (Phase 1) and the Local Authority Delivery Grant (Phase 3) schemes both concluded in 2023. As a result of both schemes a total of 69 energy efficiency measures were installed in 68 low energy performance homes for residents likely to be in fuel poverty.

The schemes were delivered in partnership with EON Energy Services Limited and Nottingham Energy Partnership to utilise a Government grant and spending a total of £774,089 to install the energy efficiency measures in eligible homes was delivered.

Over the course of the two schemes the project completed the installation of:

- external wall insulation at 25 homes,
- solar panels at 35 homes,
- loft insulation at 3 homes
- and smarter heating controls at 6 properties.

The scheme aimed to address fuel poverty and contribute to reducing carbon emissions. (Appendix 3).

## **2 Proposal**

- 2.1 It is proposed that members note the summary of actions and activities already undertaken by the Council so far this year.

### 3 Alternative Options

- 3.1 A more formalised approach including an annual report will be considered for future reports to Cabinet in line with the Carbon Management Strategy.

### 4 Financial Implications

- 4.1 The Council has committed to reducing its carbon footprint and will consider the Carbon agenda when approving projects through the Capital Programme when appropriate, and other projects funded through Revenue. The tables below set out the investment that the Council has committed to various projects that will have a positive impact on the Councils Carbon footprint.

This year the Council has spent circa £190k on capital schemes and £73k on revenue on the following:

<b>Capital Spend</b>
Solar PV panels at the Changing Places toilet at King George V. Arnold
Thermal windows in the Civic Centre; [Out to Tender]
Radiator Valves in the Civic Centre.
Water Heater Replacement Civic Centre (Phase 1)
Lambley Lane PV panels
Fitness Suite at Carlton Forum Leisure Centre
<b>Revenue Spend</b>
Climate Change Officer
EPC assessments, Community Centres – Brickyard, Westdale Lane, Burton Road & Killisick
Pavilions – Loft Insulation works, Various Pavilions
Leisure Loop Recycling scheme
Bike Lockers at Redhill Leisure Centre

#### Urban Tree Challenge Funding bid:

The Councils has made significant investment in planting trees in the Borough to help to mitigate the impact of climate change, this scheme is detailed in section 1.21 of this report and the table below sets out the investment of both the grant funding received of £113.9k and the Councils match funding of £28.5k.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Grant Funding</b>	<b>Match Funding</b>	<b>Total</b>
2023/24	£36,781	£9,195	£45,976
2024/25	£25,704	£6,426	£32,130
2025/26	£25,704	£6,426	£32,130
2026/27	£25,704	£6,426	£32,130
<b>Total</b>	<b>£113,893.</b>	<b>£28,473</b>	<b>£142,366</b>

## **5 Legal Implications**

- 5.1 Achieving net zero emissions of carbon dioxide by 2030 is not a legal requirement. However, the Council has agreed a motion that establishes an expectation to deliver widespread carbon reductions through the Carbon Management Strategy and Action Plan.

## **6 Equalities Implications**

- 6.1 The Carbon Management Strategy and Action Plan has been consulted on. This has given the opportunity for consideration of the views of residents, community groups and staff to be considered. An Equalities Impact Assessment was undertaken prior to adopting the Carbon Management Strategy and Action Plan.

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

- 7.1 This report gives an update on actions and activities undertaken so far on carbon reduction / environmental sustainability. Adopting the Carbon Management Strategy and Action Plan strengthens the carbon reductions for the future.

## **8 Appendices**

- 8.1 Appendix 1 – APSE Carbon Footprint Report
- 8.2 Appendix 2 – Carbon Management Action Plan
- 8.3 Appendix 3 – Examples of some of the work undertaken through the year 2023
- 8.3 Appendix 4 – Gedling ‘Nature and Climate’ Convention (GNCC) Report
- 8.4 Appendix 5 – Progress on areas of GNCC Report

## **9 Background Papers**

- 9.1 Carbon Management Strategy and Action Plan

## **10 Reasons for Recommendations**

- 10.1 To update Members on the actions and activities already undertaken by the Council so far this year.

### **Statutory Officer approval**

**Approved by:**

**Date:**

**On behalf of the Chief Financial Officer**

**Approved by:**

**Date:**

**On behalf of the Monitoring Officer**

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# **Gedling Borough Council Consultancy support – Carbon Footprint 2022/23**

Report Rev A

Report produced in November 2023



APSE (Association for Public Service Excellence) is a not for profit local government body working with over 300 councils throughout the UK. Promoting excellence in public services, APSE is the foremost specialist in local authority front line services, hosting a network for front line service providers in areas such as waste and refuse collection, parks and environmental services, leisure, school meals, cleaning, housing and building maintenance.

APSE Energy is APSE's local authority energy collaboration. The vision for the collaboration is to form an "effective collaboration of a large number of local authorities to enable and facilitate the local municipalisation of energy services. By this we mean the public and community, as well as private, ownership and managerial control of local energy generation, supply networks and delivery of energy efficiency works. Local authorities working together in this way would have great influence and would be able to deliver economies of scale in green energy to promote economic growth and combat fuel poverty.

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# GEDLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

## CONSULTANCY REPORT – CARBON FOOTPRINT 2022/23

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# 1 Introduction

This report provides an update of the carbon footprint for Gedling Borough Council which can be used to monitor performance for emitting carbon in the Council's own operations. The carbon footprint has been undertaken in accordance with best practise guidance by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol and calculated using conversion factors for the carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) published by Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ).

This report was based on data covering the period August 2022 to July 2023 and compares emissions from calendar year of 2019.

The carbon footprint is categorised into scopes, which cover:

**Scope 1 (direct)** emissions are from activities owned or controlled by the Council. Examples of Scope 1 emissions include emissions from combustion in council owned or controlled boilers, furnaces and vehicles.

**Scope 2 (indirect)** emissions are associated with purchased electricity, heat, steam and cooling. These indirect emissions are a consequence of the Council's energy use, but occur at sources that the Council do not own or control. Examples include grid supplied electricity and heat provided through a heat network.

**Scope 3 (other indirect)** emissions are a consequence of the Council's actions that occur at sources the Council do not own or control and are not classed as Scope 2 emissions. Examples of Scope 3 emissions include business travel by means not owned or controlled by the Council (grey fleet), disposing of the Council's own waste and purchased goods in the supply chain etc.



## 2 Carbon Footprint

### 2.1 Carbon Reporting Boundaries

The organisational boundaries determine what emissions are the responsibility of the Council or others. This can be based on who owns, operates, or exerts control over certain assets. The buildings categorised under Scope 1 & 2 within this report are those where energy is purchased or acquired and consumed by the Council. The vehicles categorised under Scope 1 are vehicles that the Council own, lease and operate purely for the Council's own operations.

Scope 3 emissions are classified under 15 different categories as detailed under Appendix B. As Scope 3 emissions are under the influence of the Council, but not under its direct control, it can be difficult to obtain the necessary data to calculate the associated carbon emissions from some Scope 3 sources. One of the larger contributors to carbon emissions is purchased goods and services.

Emissions from assets a company owns and leases to another entity, but does not operate, can either be included in Scope 3 or excluded from the inventory.

The Council is just reporting on Scope 1 & 2 emissions and not Scope 3.

#### 2.1.1 Out of Scope

Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) is a biodiesel that is used in many of the council owned vehicles. HVO is considered as 'net zero' to account for the CO<sub>2</sub> absorbed by fast-growing bioenergy sources during their growth. However, CO<sub>2e</sub> (see Glossary) emissions are still present in the form of N<sub>2</sub>O and CH<sub>4</sub> emissions which are not absorbed during growth. These emissions are included in the overall carbon emissions.

Although the HVO Scope 1 conversion factors contain a 'zero' value for CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, the Council should account for the impact of the CO<sub>2</sub> released through combustion of the fuel. This is shown as 'outside of scope' and is shown separately. This ensures that the Council is being transparent with regard to all potential sources of CO<sub>2</sub> from its activities.

### 2.2 Emissions

The carbon footprint has been calculated using data that was available to the Council during the reporting year.

Data was provided for the period of August 2022 to July 2023. The carbon conversion factors used were taken from 2023 as more of the date range was within 2023.

Appendix A is an Excel spreadsheet that shows a breakdown of the emissions by source. This can be used to develop a carbon strategy by identifying and approaching sources with the highest emissions.

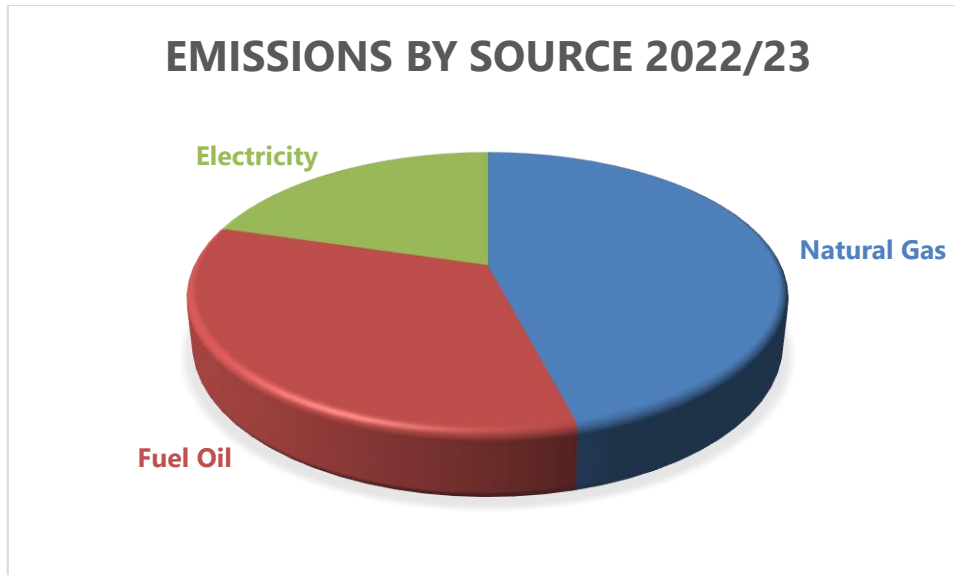
### 2.2.1 Emissions from the Councils operations

The figures below show the Scope 1 and 2 emissions from the Councils own operations for 2022/23.

**Table 1: Carbon emissions by source for the Council operations in 2022/23**

Emissions Source	Scope	% Split	Tonnes CO2e
Natural Gas	1	46%	599
Fuel Oil	1	34%	439
Electricity	2	20%	266
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,304</b>
Outside of Scope			339

**Chart 1: Carbon emissions by source for the Councils operations in 2022/23**



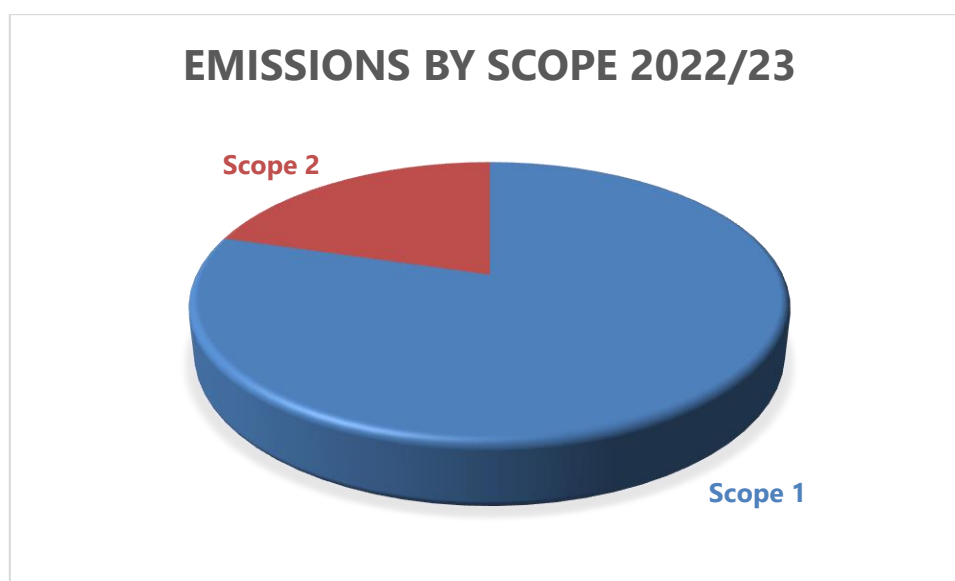
## 2.2.2 Emissions by Scope

The figures below show the split of Scope 1 and 2 emissions across the Council's operations:

**Table 2: Carbon emissions by scope**

Emissions Source	% Split	Tonnes CO2e
Scope 1	80%	1,038
Scope 2	20%	266
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,304</b>

**Chart 2: Carbon emissions by scope**



## 2.3 Comparison Between Years

The table below shows a comparison of the emissions between the calendar year of 2019 and August 2022 to July 2023:

Emissions Source	Scope	2019 Tonnes CO2e	2022/2023 Tonnes CO2e	Difference
Natural Gas	1	499	599	20%
Vehicles	1	813	439	-46%
Electricity	2	363	266	-27%
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>1,675</b>	<b>1,304</b>	<b>-22%</b>

The table shows that overall emissions have reduced by 22%.

In 2022/23 there are 38 electricity meters and 14 gas meters, whereas in 2019 there are 7 electricity meters and 9 gas meters. It is normal for more assets to be identified in later years as the quality of data improves.

However, the largest energy users are Arnold Leisure Centre, Richard Herrod Leisure Centre and the Civic Centre collectively making up 84% of the total gas and 71% of the total electricity in 2022/23. The additional meters make up a marginal amount of energy.

The volume of fuel used in vehicles is very similar across the two years, but the large reduction in carbon emissions is due to the use of HVO.

## 3 Notes and Observations

### 3.1 Scope 1 and 2 Emissions

Appendix A shows a separate tab for the fuel consumed in council owned vehicles and separate data was provided for the volume of fuel used at the depot. To calculate the overall emissions the total volume of fuel was used and not the fuel used in individual vehicles as it would be double counting to use both. The volume of fuel for individual vehicles is still shown in Appendix A so that the Council can monitor which vehicles use the most fuel and contribute towards the highest emissions.

Data was provided for the volume of engine oil and hydraulic oil. The carbon conversion factor for 'lubricants' was used for both sources.

The Council should develop a procedure for gathering and storing data as it is made available. The benefit of this is that the carbon reporting process is streamlined and progress towards targets can be tracked.

### 3.2 Scope 3 Emissions

Scope 3 emissions are separated into 15 different categories as shown in Appendix B which includes waste, staff travel and the purchased goods in the supply chain. Scope 3 emissions can amount to a higher proportion of total emissions than Scope 1 and 2 combined and represent the most significant opportunity to reduce carbon emissions and the impact to climate change. Understanding these risks through accurate and consistent measurement, evaluation and reporting should improve both resilience and reputation.

ASPE Energy can provide further guidance on how to gather Scope 3 data from third parties.

### 3.3 Exclusions

The Council has stated that the sites below have been excluded from the reporting:

Killisick Community Centre – There is one meter for both the community centre and the pavilion. This has been included and listed as Killisick pavilion.

Richard Herrod pavilion – This was previously tenanted and the tenant paid the bills so will not be able to provide usage figures for the period. The pavilion has been back under the Council's control for 6 months.

Breckhill Pavilion – This building was cut off and a new meter was installed. Cannot provide readings for the period.

The sites below are assets the Council own but are leased out and the tenant pays the utility bills. These should be included under Scope 3.

- Retail units; 20
- Industrial units; 23
- TA's; 16 properties
- Bestwood Lodge Hotel
- Mapperley Golf Club
- Carlton Cemetery Lodge (tenanted part)
- Redhill Cemetery Lodge (tenanted part).

## 4 Conclusion and Recommendations

- Use carbon footprint data and Appendix A to develop a strategy to become net zero carbon. APSE Energy can provide a desktop investigation to provide a trajectory up to the zero carbon target year and give an indication of what measures could be taken and their potential capital cost and cost/carbon savings.
- Sense check all data to confirm accuracy.
- Develop policies and processes for capturing data going forward and report on Scope 3 emissions.
- Develop policies to request emissions data from suppliers to gather Scope 3 data.
- Commission detailed energy audits of each site to identify what projects can be delivered to reduce carbon emissions and calculate the estimated cost can carbon savings.

## 5 Glossary

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
Carbon dioxide equivalent (CO <sub>2</sub> e)	The carbon dioxide equivalent (CO <sub>2</sub> e) allows the different greenhouse gases to be compared on a like-for-like basis relative to one unit of CO <sub>2</sub> and includes the six greenhouse gases with the greatest global warming potential (GWP).
Carbon footprint	A carbon footprint measures the total greenhouse gas emissions caused directly and indirectly by a person, organisation, event or product. A carbon footprint is measured in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO <sub>2</sub> e).
Council Vehicles	Vehicles that are owned or controlled by the Council. This does not include employee-owned vehicles that are used for business purposes.
Electricity	Electricity used at sites owned/controlled by the Council. This is reported as Scope 2, indirect emissions. The conversion factors used are for the electricity supplied to the grid that the Council purchase - they do not include the emissions associated with the transmission and distribution of electricity.
Gas	Primary fuel sources combusted at a site or in an asset owned or controlled by the Council.

**Appendix A** – A separate Excel spreadsheet showing a breakdown of the emissions by source.

**Appendix B** – Data that should be gathered to report on Scope 3 emissions.

The reporting of Scope 3 emissions is discretionary. The table below provides further guidance on the information required to calculate emissions from Scope 3.

Item	Category	Details Required
1	Purchased goods and services	<p>This category includes all upstream (i.e. cradle-to-gate) emissions from the production of products purchased or acquired by the Council in the reporting year. Products include both goods (tangible products) and services (intangible products).</p> <p>This category includes emissions from all purchased goods and services not otherwise included in the other categories of upstream scope 3 emissions (i.e. category 2 through category 8 below).</p> <p>Cradle-to-gate emissions include all emissions that occur in the life cycle of purchased products, up to the point of receipt by the Council. Cradle-to-gate emissions may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extraction of raw materials</li> <li>• Agricultural activities</li> <li>• Manufacturing, production, and processing</li> <li>• Generation of electricity consumed by upstream activities</li> <li>• Disposal/treatment of waste generated by upstream activities</li> <li>• Land use and land-use change</li> <li>• Transportation of materials and products between suppliers</li> <li>• Any other activities prior to acquisition by the reporting company</li> </ul> <p>Relevant purchases to the Council may include capital goods, such as office supplies, office furniture, computers, telephones, travel services, IT support, outsourced administrative functions, consulting services, janitorial, landscaping services, maintenance, repairs and operations.</p> <p>For accurate carbon reporting emissions, the Council should request cradle-to-gate emission factors for materials used by suppliers to produce purchased goods such as Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs). It is likely that many suppliers will not be able to provide all the emission data.</p>

		<p>If an EPD cannot be provided, supplementary information required includes the volume of product (kg) and the carbon emission factor (kg CO<sub>2</sub>e).</p> <p>A policy should be developed so that suppliers in the supply chain are required to provide this data as part of the contract, where the volume of goods is noteworthy.</p>
2	Capital goods	<p>Capital goods are final products that have an extended life and are used by the Council to manufacture a product, provide a service, or sell, store, and deliver merchandise. Capital goods are treated as fixed assets or as plant, property, and equipment (PP&amp;E). Examples of capital goods include equipment, machinery, buildings, facilities, and vehicles.</p> <p>The required information is the same as Category 1 above.</p> <p>A policy should be developed so that suppliers in the supply chain are required to provide this data as part of the contract.</p>
3	Fuel- and energy related activities (not included in Scope 1 or Scope 2)	<p>Transmission and distribution (T&amp;D) losses have been included and calculated from the data provided in Scope 2.</p>
4	Upstream transportation and distribution	<p>Category 4 includes emissions from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation and distribution of products purchased in the reporting year, between suppliers and its own operations in vehicles not owned or operated by the Council.</li> <li>•</li> <li>• Third-party transportation and distribution services purchased by the Council in the reporting year (either directly or through an intermediary), including inbound logistics, outbound logistics (e.g. of sold products), and third-party transportation and distribution between the Council's own facilities.</li> </ul>



		<p>The Council requires data on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quantities of fuel (e.g., diesel, petrol, jet fuel, biofuels) consumed</li> <li>• Amount spent on fuels</li> <li>• Distance travelled</li> <li>• Vehicle type</li> </ul> <p>This may include managed assets - Vehicles that are used by the Council but are not owned by the organisation and generally do not appear on the organisation's balance sheet, for example, maintenance contractor vehicles, outsourced refuse and recycling trucks, road sweepers, grounds maintenance mowers etc.</p> <p>A policy should be developed so that suppliers using their own vehicles are required to provide this data as part of the contract.</p>
5	Waste generated in operations	<p>This includes emissions from third-party disposal and treatment of waste generated in the Councils owned or controlled operations in the reporting year. This category includes emissions from disposal of both solid waste and wastewater.</p> <p>The Council should request volume and emissions data from the waste treatment company applicable to <b>its own waste stream</b>. If this cannot be provided, the emissions can be calculated by requesting the volume of waste, type and disposal method:</p> <p>Example of data required:</p> <p>Total weight (kg) of waste type and disposal method e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5,000kg municipal waste to landfill</li> <li>• 500kg organic garden waste to composting</li> <li>• 1,000kg metal recycled</li> <li>• 1,000kg plastic recycled</li> <li>• 1,000kg paper recycled</li> </ul> <p>Data is required for the volume of supply and wastewater in cubic metres (m<sup>3</sup>) from water bills.</p>

		Local authorities have an important role in waste prevention and sustainable waste management through awareness-raising campaigns, providing separate collection for recycling and food waste, and implementing waste-to-energy schemes. It is therefore voluntary on whether the Council choose to include the emissions from waste associated with the whole borough, or just the Council's own operation.
6	Business travel	<p>Travel for assets not owned or directly operated by the Council. This includes mileage for business purposes in cars owned by employees, public transport, hire cars etc.</p> <p>Require details for:</p> <p><u>Vehicle</u></p> <p>Fuel type, size of vehicle and distance for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Car</li> <li>• Motorbike</li> <li>• Taxis</li> <li>• Bus</li> <li>• Rail</li> </ul> <p><u>Flights</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Airport travelled to/from</li> <li>• Number of passengers</li> <li>• Class type</li> <li>• Distance</li> </ul> <p><u>Ferry</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foot or car passenger</li> <li>• Distance</li> </ul>
7	Employee commuting	<p>This category includes emissions from the transportation of employees between their homes and their worksites.</p> <p>Emissions from employee commuting may arise from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Car</li> <li>• Bus</li> <li>• Rail</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other modes of transportation</li> </ul> <p>Staff would be required to provide method of transport and distance travelled. It may be difficult and time consuming to collect accurate data.</p>
8	Upstream leased assets	<p>This category is applicable from the operation of assets that are leased by the Council.</p> <p>If the Council procures the energy then this should be considered as Scope 1 and 2.</p> <p>If the landlord is responsible for the Scope 1 and 2 emissions, the Council should include the reporting under Scope 3. An example may include an office that the Council lease from a private landlord. All energy bills may be included as part of the lease and the energy contract is under the name of the landlord. The Council should therefore request the energy data from the landlord and include this under Scope 3.</p> <p>Data required include the Scope 1 and 2 data from the leased asset.</p>
9	Downstream transportation and distribution	<p>This category includes emissions that occur in the reporting year from transportation and distribution of sold products in vehicles and facilities not owned or controlled by the Council in the reporting year.</p> <p>It is assumed that this category is not applicable to the Council as it does not manufacture and sell products.</p>
10	Processing of sold products	<p>It is assumed that this category is not applicable to the Council as it does not manufacture and sell products.</p>

11	Use of sold products	It is assumed that this category is not applicable to the Council as it does not manufacture and sell products.
12	End-of-life treatment of sold products	It is assumed that this category is not applicable to the Council as it does not manufacture and sell products.
13	Downstream leased assets	<p>This category is applicable where the Council is the landlord to a lessee.</p> <p>If the Council procures the energy on behalf of a lessee then this should be considered as Scope 1 and 2. An example of this is where the Council may lease a premises to a lessee and include all energy costs as part of the lease. The energy contract is under the name of the Council and is therefore reported under Scope 1 and 2.</p> <p>If the lessee is responsible for the Scope 1 and 2 emissions, the council should include the reporting under Scope 3. An example of this is a shop that the Council own and the occupant pays for the energy bills and the contract is under their name. The Council should request the energy data from the shop occupier and report this under Scope 3.</p> <p>Data required include the Scope 1 and 2 data from the leased asset.</p>
14	Franchises	It is assumed that this category is not applicable to the Council as it does not operate any franchises.
15	Investments	<p>This category includes scope 3 emissions associated with the Council's investments in the reporting year, not already included in scope 1 or scope 2. This category is applicable to investors (i.e. organisations that make an investment with the objective of making a profit) and organisations that provide financial services. This category also applies to investors that are not profit driven (e.g. multilateral development banks). Investments are categorised as a downstream scope 3 category because providing capital or financing is a service provided by the organisation.</p>

Category 15 is designed primarily for private financial institutions (e.g., commercial banks), but is also relevant to public financial institutions (e.g., multilateral development banks, export credit agencies) and other entities with investments not included in scope 1 and scope 2.

The Councils scope 3 emissions from investments are the scope 1 and scope 2 emissions of investees.

For purposes of greenhouse gas accounting, this standard divides financial investments into four types:

- Equity investments
- Debt investments
- Project finance
- Managed investments and client services

An example of the information required is the Scope 1 and 2 emissions from the bank where an investment is in place. This is based on the Council's proportional share of investment in the investee. If the Council has £1million invested in the bank and the banks total investments amount to £100million, the Council should report on 1% of the banks Scope 1 and 2 emissions.

It is assumed that this information will be difficult to collate from third parties and that the total emissions will be proportionally small compared to other emission sources and these emissions could be excluded from the reporting.

## **NEW MUNICIPALISM**

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# 4.0 Action Plan

It is intended to establish a 'Climate Change Reserve Fund' to action quick wins, small works and carbon efficiencies; this reserve could be drawn down from as specific initiatives are identified during the course of the Climate Change Team's work moving forward.

## 4.1 The Built Environment

Objectives	Actions	Timescales	Lead & Key Partners
<b>CMP01.</b> <b>Promote the uptake of energy efficiency technologies in commercial and domestic properties</b>	<b>01.</b> Consider the inclusion of local energy efficiency standards through the GBC Low Carbon Planning Guidance	Ongoing/reported annually	Lead: Head of Development & Place Key Partners: Planning Policy Manager Food Health & Housing Manager Climate Change Officer
	<b>02.</b> Maximise available funding and promote schemes to help retrofit housing within the borough, prioritising low EPC rated owner occupied and rented homes (both social & private), privately owned properties (D and below) and social landlord housing where possible.	<b>SP</b> April 2022 onwards	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Food, Health and Housing Manager Climate Change Officer

	03. Create or promote a scheme that helps simplify the retrofit market and reduce costs for property owners by creating a one-stop-shop for energy efficiency measures with pre-procured contractors.	March 2025	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Food, Health and Housing Manager Property Manager Climate Change Officer Communications Manager
	04. Investigate financial incentives for installing energy efficiency measures/low carbon technology in residential, commercial and industrial premises in Gedling	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare, Head of Environment Key Partners: Property Manager Food, Health and Housing Manager Climate Change Officer
	05 Ensure at least the minimum energy efficiency standards are achieved in new build social & private housing sector (Investigate non gas grid solutions)	Statutory requirements 2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Development & Place Key Partners: Planning Policy Manager Principal Building Control Officer Development & Regeneration Manager Food, Health and Housing Manager Climate Change Officer
	06. To regulate and enforce the minimum energy efficiency standard in rented accommodation. Linked to selective licensing &	Ongoing	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Food, Health and Housing Manager Senior Environmental Health Officer



	regulation of private rented housing.		Climate Change Officer Communications Manager
<b>CMP02. Provide support and guidance to the borough's residents and businesses to reduce their energy demand</b>	01. Work with residents and businesses across the borough on energy saving measures through developing materials and engagement i.e. local pop up-stalls/roadshows, with the aim of helping them to reduce fuel poverty.	<b>SP</b>  April 2022	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Development & Regeneration Manager Climate Change Officer Communications Manager
<b>CMP03. Minimise emissions in the construction of new buildings and ensure that these buildings are built with the highest energy efficiency standards</b>	01. Produce & adopt a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to ensure best practice by working with developers across the borough to encourage sustainable design and construction in new developments including thermal insulation, passive ventilation and cooling, heat source pumps in accordance with the Low Carbon Planning Guidance for Gedling Borough.	Dec 23	Lead: Head of Development & Place Key Partners: Building Control Manager
	02. Ensure regional procurement frameworks encourage developers to source locally	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Finance & ICT Key Partners: Economic Growth Manager Legal Services Manager
	03.		Lead: Head of Development & Place

	Work with Nottinghamshire County Council as lead Waste Authority to facilitate a local circular economy for material reuse in construction to reduce emissions, costs and improve sustainability	2023/24 onwards	Key Partners: Economic Growth Manager Climate Change Officer Communications Manager
	04 Investigate requiring new developments to provide a 'EPC certificate showing the carbon footprint of each property and its likely running cost	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Development & Place Key Partners: Building Control Team Leader Food, Health and Housing Manager Climate Change Officer
<b>CMP04. Continually improve the energy efficiency of the council's existing building stock and its services</b>	01. Introduce detailed energy use monitoring of the property portfolio, including the provision of Energy Performance Certificates and actively review our assets to identify where energy efficiency improvements can be made.	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare Key Partners: Property Manager Leisure Services, Parks & Street Care Climate Change Officer
	02. Call on the Government to provide the necessary powers and resources for us to deliver local action on climate change and provide strategic and financial leadership to drive ongoing carbon reductions	Throughout the strategy	Lead: Chief Executive Key Partners: Leader of the Council Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holders

	03. Identify existing sites that could be suitable for green technologies and infrastructure.	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare Key Partners: Property Services Climate Change Officer
	04. Consider energy efficiency as part of any reactive repair or refurbishment work by replacing old equipment with new energy efficient alternatives.	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare Key Partners: Property Manager Leisure Manager Business Development & Support Manager
	05. Carry out a review of opportunities to reduce the Information Technology carbon footprint by updating Information and Communications Technology (ICT) infrastructure with lower carbon equipment (including server equipment, printers, workstations etc) and enforcing power saving policies	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Finance & ICT Key Partners: IT Manager Managers of Services
	06. Review the carbon footprint of e-services and cloud-based services and consider how council service can best be delivered (including e-services, documents transfer and electronic postage and online public services).	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Finance & ICT Key Partners: IT Manager Managers of Services

	07. Continue the roll out of energy efficient plant equipment and lighting across the property portfolio including community buildings and facilities, and car park lighting e.g. LED lighting, power controls, heating systems	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare Key Partners: Property Manager
	08. Review purchasing/procurement policy to prioritise sustainability.	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Finance & ICT Key Partners: Procurement Officer Legal Services Manager Climate Change Officer

## 4.2 Transport

<b>CMP05</b> <b>Reduce the need to travel by diesel or petrol cars within the borough's boundaries</b>	01. Review the Air Quality Strategy to include carbon reduction targets	2024/25 onwards	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Scientific Officer Community Protection Manager
	02. Encourage employers to implement smarter working or home working initiatives to reduce employees' travel time and distance travelled, considering the use of fiscal policy as an incentive	March 2023	Lead: Chief Executive Key Partners: All Council staff Elected members

	<p>03. Promote active travel and the use of green spaces through social prescribing (including green gym, health walks, forest school etc)</p>	<p>March 2024</p>	<p>Lead: Head of Communities &amp; Leisure Key Partners: Economic Growth &amp; Regeneration Parks and Street Care Manager Climate Change Officer Communications Manager</p>
	<p>04. Ensure that new developments accord with active travel and are within easy reach of high-quality public transport and cycle network routes. To meet future requirements of the 20 minutes neighbourhood guidance.</p>	<p>2022/23 onwards</p>	<p>Lead: Head of Development &amp; Place Key Partners: Development &amp; Regeneration Manager Planning Policy Manager Health Development Officer Business Development &amp; Support Manager</p>
	<p>05. Work with partners across D2N2 to offer greater connectivity over the region.</p>	<p>2022/23 onwards</p>	<p>Lead: Head of Development &amp; Place Key Partners: Planning Policy Manager Scientific Officer Climate Change Officer Relevant stakeholders</p>
	<p><b>06. Develop a staff travel promotion/incentive scheme for sustainable travel to encourage uptake:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable (Bus, tram or train) &amp; Active Travel</li> </ul>	<p>March 2024</p>	<p>Lead: Head of Human Resources, Performance &amp; Service Planning</p> <p>Key Partners: Senior Assistant Accountant Climate Change Officer Communications Manager</p>

	<p>(walk, scooter, cycle) to/from work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cycle Purchase scheme – regular comms to promote the scheme, to include electric bikes</li> <li>• Business Travel – add wording to our internal claims system to encourage business travel by public transport where it is a viable option</li> <li>• Car driver allowance (additional rate for the driver if car sharing for business purposes only)</li> <li>• Discounts on buses via the Green Rewards App – to encourage new/existing staff to register – include details of the app in the Induction/ reminder in PDR's</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>March 2023</p> <p>March 2024</p> <p>April 2026</p>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roll out a car lease scheme</li> </ul>		
	<p>07. Widen access to the Staff Cycle purchase scheme &amp; influence businesses</p> <p>Improve the parking facilities &amp; security of bicycles at the Civic Centre</p>	<p>2022/23 onwards</p> <p>April 2023</p>	<p>Lead: Head of Human Resources, Performance &amp; Service Planning Head of Regeneration &amp; Welfare</p> <p>Key Partners: Senior Assistant Accountant Climate Change Officer Communications Manager</p>
	<p>08. Develop a strategy for further EV charging points across Gedling owned car parks.</p>	<p>March 2024</p>	<p>Lead: Head of Environment</p> <p>Key Partners: Scientific Officer Property Manager Finance Business Partner Car Parks Officer</p>
	<p>09. Work with employers within the borough to promote car sharing schemes.</p>	<p>2022/23 onwards</p>	<p>Lead: Head of Regeneration &amp; Welfare</p> <p>Key Partners: Local Businesses Climate Change Officer Communications Manager</p>
	<p>10 Encourage freight organisations to make the switch to electric vehicles and promote the use of cargo-bikes for final stage deliveries for SME's.</p>	<p>2022/23 onwards</p>	<p>Lead: Head of Regeneration &amp; Welfare</p> <p>Key Partners: Local Businesses Climate Change Officer Communications Manager</p>
<p><b>CMP05</b> <b>Promote the uptake of active travel</b></p>	<p>01. Advocate the development of active travel as part of the</p>	<p>March 2024 onwards</p>	<p>Lead: Head of Communities &amp; Leisure</p> <p>Key Partners:</p>

	delivery of community & leisure facilities strategies and health and wellbeing programmes.		Planning Policy Manager Business Development & Support Manager Community Partnership Manager Nottinghamshire County Council
	02. Seek to secure ongoing funding to support education, co-design and engagement to help commuters and visitors feel safe to make the switch to walking and cycling.	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Development & Place Key Partners: Planning Policy Manager Business Development & Support Manager Community Partnership Manager Climate Change Officer
	03. Encourage our own staff, local schools and businesses within our borough to consider travel by public transport, walking, cycling and car sharing. Promote events such as car free days, clean air days to promote the health benefits of walking and cycling..	<b>SP</b> March 2024	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Climate Change Officer Partners/stakeholders Community Partnership Officer Communications Manager
	04. Consider introducing a workplace travel grant for employers to encourage their employees to commute to work by cycling.	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare Key Partners: Scientific Officer Economic Growth Manager Local Businesses Climate Change Officer



<b>CMP06</b> <b>Support the deployment of electric vehicles</b>	01. Extend the provision of EV charging points across the borough's car parks.	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare Key Partners: Economic Growth Manager Property Manager Car Park Officer Financial Business Partner
<b>CMP07</b> <b>Reduce emissions from council fleet and private vehicle hire</b>	01. Investigate with partners a programme to replace / upgrade refuse trucks with ULEV/Biogas/Hydrogen/Hydrogenated Vegetable Oil Diesel fuelled vehicles fuelled vehicles.	<b>SP</b> March 2023	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Depot Services Manager External Stakeholders/Partners
	02. Investigate and replace/upgrade, all vans with electric powered vehicles (including establishing charging infrastructure).	March 2025	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Depot Services Manager External Stakeholders/Partners
	03. Integrate driver training with annual certification and investigate 'in cab' monitoring and route optimisation.	<b>SP</b> March 2024	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Depot Services Manager Business Development & Support Manager
	04. Introduce Taxi licensing minimum vehicle emission requirement (e.g. maximum age of vehicle, EURO class, emissions monitoring etc).	Ongoing	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Depot Services Manager Community Protection Manager Partners

### 4.3 Energy Generation

<b>CMP08</b> <b>Expand local low carbon energy generation in the borough</b>	<b>01.</b> In conjunction with research and other public sector partners, create a map of potential areas for low carbon generation across the Council's owned sites and building stock.	2024/25 onwards	Lead: Head of Development & Place Key Partners: D2N2 Midland Net Zero Hub Planning Policy Manager
	<b>02.</b> Work collectively to support the delivery of the D2N2 Energy Strategy and develop and deliver tangible energy action plans to support the area wide reduction of carbon emissions.	Ongoing	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Food, Health and Housing Manager Climate Change Officer
	<b>03.</b> To facilitate greater uptake of renewable energy generation, develop a suite of information and guidance materials following engagement with residents and lead partners.	Ongoing	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Climate Change Officer Community Partnership Manager Communications Manager
	<b>04.</b> Explore options to invest in alternative energy generation (e.g. PV farms, wind turbines)	Throughout the strategy	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare Key Partners: Planning Policy Manager Property Manager Food, Health and Housing Manager Climate Change Officer

	05. Undertake a feasibility study of opportunities to fit PV/alternative energy generation and storage to our property portfolio.	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare Key Partners: Property Manager Food, Health and Housing Manager Climate Change Officer
	06. Audit council leisure centres with a view to preparing a business case for installing PV systems on all roofs, pool covers and other energy saving initiatives. As part of strategic review of Leisure Services.	2024 onwards	Lead: Head Communities & Leisure Property Manager Leisure Manager Climate Change Officer
	07. In the council, for any additional energy that we require beyond our generation potential, we will look to purchase from renewable suppliers supplying 100% renewable energy tariffs.	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Finance & ICT Key Partners: Property Manager Procurement Officer Food, Health and Housing Manager Climate Change Officer
	08. Explore the possibility of establishing a community energy scheme with partners to deliver energy efficiency options such as Solar PV and heat source pumps.	2024/25 onwards	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare Key Partners: Community Partnership Manager Food, Health and Housing Manager Climate Change Officer

<b>CMP09</b> <b>Improve the borough's capacity to store locally generated renewable energy</b>	01. Undertake a feasibility study of opportunities with partners to incorporate energy storage alongside renewable generation on council buildings to allow maximum use of locally generated energy.	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare Key Partners: Property Manager
	02. Increase electricity storage locally, through communicating benefits, understanding financial and business cases.	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare Key Partners: Property Manager Registered social landlords/property suppliers.
<b>CMP10</b> <b>Promote low carbon energy initiatives that are affordable and accessible to all</b>	01. Promote access to appropriate nationally available grant funding, incentives, and access to finance, to support affordable energy generation for all.	Throughout the strategy	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare Key Partners: Property Manager Community Partnership Manager Food Health and Housing Manager Climate Change Officer
	02. Work with partners to explore an energy hub where residents, parish council's, local businesses and third sector organisations. can access	2023/24 onwards	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare Key Partners: Local Businesses Community Partnership Manager Residents

	information, advice and services provided by the council related to energy and going carbon neutral.		Climate Change Officer Communications Manager
	03. Promote incentives for low carbon heating and investigate additional finances/funding opportunities for low carbon heating.	Ongoing	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Community Partnership Manager Food, Health and Housing Manager Climate Change Officer

#### 4.4 Consumption and Behavioural Change

<b>CMP11 Increase local and low carbon production</b>	01. Identify and work with key influencers within Gedling on Carbon Management best practice.	Throughout the strategy	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Climate Change Officer Economic Growth Manager Local Businesses Community Partnership Manager Residents Communications Manager
	02. Support the development of cooperative, community owned and other collaborative ventures to foster more effective use and sharing of resources such as Gedling Play Forum, swap shops to encourage recycling.	Ongoing	Lead: Head of Communities & Leisure & Head of Environment Key Partners: Climate Change Officer Community Partnership Manager Localities Co-ordinators Economic Growth Manager
	03. Promote local & sustainable food/flower growing (Allotments,	Ongoing	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Community Partnership Manager

	community growing plots, schools growing projects, Abundance Projects as recommended by the Permaculture Association, and other initiatives for example 'Incredible Edible', and develop links to local fruit and veg businesses)		Localities Co-ordinators Residents and community groups Climate Change Officer
<b>CMP12</b> <b>Reduce consumption of high carbon produce</b>	01 Influence health & wellbeing partners running community education and outreach programmes to reduce meat consumption, whilst in turn, encouraging residents to take up plant-based diets,	Throughout the strategy	Lead: Head of Communities & Leisure Key Partners: Community Partnerships Manager Local Businesses Residents Climate Change Officer Other Partners Communications Manager
	02. Work in partnership with catering facilities to consider their carbon footprint in order to identify the biggest emissions areas so that they can be reduced and consumers can make informed choices.	Ongoing	Lead: Head of Environment Key partners: Economic Growth Manager Food, Health and Housing Manager Environmental Health Officers Residents Local Businesses Climate Change Officer Communications Manager
	03 Promote and encourage seasonal and local eating. E.g., Seasonal food markets	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare Key Partners: Economic Growth Officer Town Centre Manager Climate Change Officer

			Local Businesses Residents
<b>CMP13</b> <b>Buy and procure sustainably and maximise existing resources</b>	01. Signpost communities across the borough to explore the idea of sustainable swapping of goods through re-use schemes,	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Communities & Leisure Key partners: Climate Change Officer Community Partnerships Manager Economic Growth Manager Local Businesses Residents Other Partners Communications Manager
	02. Work with partners and networks in the borough to support SMEs across all sectors to become more sustainable and low carbon in their operations.	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare Key partners: Economic Growth Manager Local Businesses Food, Health and Housing Manager Residents Climate Change Officer Communications Manager
<b>CMP14</b> <b>Encourage environmental awareness</b>	03. Promote green business issues including energy efficiency, transport/travel planning, low carbon technology, 'green' accreditation and signposting to grants and support services etc.	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare Key partners: Climate Change Officer Economic Growth Manager Food, Health and Housing Manager Community Protection Manager
	04. Draw up and implement an Environmental Policy and raise cultural & behaviours awareness by implementing:	March 2023	Lead: Head of Environment/ Head of Human Resources, Performance & Service Planning Key Partners: Senior Leadership Team Heads of Service Managers

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update staff handbook/Induction process?</li> <li>• Pledges through the PDR process &amp; on the intranet</li> <li>• Introduce a simplified carbon literacy training module for all staff on the intranet</li> </ul>		IT Services Climate Change Officer Communications Manager
	05. Provide work experiences/placements opportunities, where possible to incorporate opportunities for learning environmental issues	Ongoing	Lead: Head of Human Resources, Performance & Service Planning Key Partners: Head of Environment Climate Change Officer
	06. Run a series of climate promotion events both internal for example 'Carbon Literacy training'. & external for parish councils, businesses and the public.	Ongoing	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Climate Change Officer Communications Manager Parish Council's Economic Growth Officer Local Businesses Community Partnerships Manager Localities Co-ordinators Residents Other Partners
	07. Promote various environmental awareness events, partnering with charities and organisation's to run activities in support of our net zero ambition and to celebrate progress.	<b>SP</b> Ongoing	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Climate Change Officer Communications Manager Parish Council's Community Partnerships Manager Localities Co-ordinators Residents



			Local Charities Communications Manager
	08. Review any Council Service Level Agreements to include sustainability criteria and raise awareness amongst our partners on the importance of this priority and support them to look at their own operations.	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Governance & Customer Services & Monitoring Officer Key Partners: Heads of Department Legal Services Manager Procurement Officer Climate Change Officer
	09. Set up platform for residents to make their own climate declarations and reduce their carbon footprint.	<b>SP</b> March 2023	Lead: Head of Environment Key partners: Food, Health and Housing Manager Scientific Officer Climate Change Officer IT Services Communications Manager
	10.. Promote through business networks & Community engagement networks such as the Youth Council to inform the delivery of the carbon management plan <b>accordingly</b> .	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Communities & Leisure Key Partners: Climate Change Officer Economic Growth Manager Businesses representatives Community Partnerships Manager Communications Manager

#### 4.5 Waste Reduction and Recycling

<b>CMP15</b> <b>Minimise the borough's waste and its impact on the environment</b>	01. Engage the public, communities, schools and businesses through	<b>SP</b> March 2023 onwards	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Depot Service Manager Climate Change Officer
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	borough wide behavioural change initiatives and information campaigns to provide a greater understanding of waste issues, where local waste goes and best practices to reduce the volume of waste and recycle correctly.		Community Partnership Manager Communications Manager Business Development & Support Manager
	02. Promote SMART (Save Money and Reduce Trash) shopping to encourage households to buy items with less packaging, use reusable bags and buy refill packs.	2024/25 onwards	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare Key partners: Climate Change Officer Economic Growth Manager Local Businesses Residents Depot Service Manager Communications Manager
	03. Promote at council events environmental initiatives and consider a carbon clever brand.	<b>SP</b> March 2024	Lead: Head of Environment Key partners: Climate Change Officer Community Partnerships Manager Communications Manager
	04. Use social media to promote initiatives such as 'Recycling Week (linking into Plastic Clever Council).	<b>SP</b> March 2024	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Communications Manager Climate Change Officer Depot Service Manager
	05. Encourage waste prevention as part of the Council's own activities and operations	Ongoing	Lead: Head of Environment Key partners: All Heads of Service All Council staff Elected members

	06. Explore the concept of an Arnold Market environmental policy standards documents to address sustainability, plastic packaging and bags etc.	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare Key partners: Economic Growth Manager Town Centre Manager Food, Health and Housing Manager Climate Change Officer
	07. Explore options for the roll out of food waste recycling.	March 2025/26	Lead: Head of Environment Key partners: Depot Service Manager in conjunction with partners such as the County Council as Lead Waste Authority
	08. Install public drinking fountains that reduce the need for plastic consumption.	March 2024	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Business Development & Support Manager Parks Development Officer Climate Change Officer
	09. Encourage a repair and reuse economy by exploring possible subsidies, creating a repurpose/recycle economy.	March 2023	Lead: Head of Regeneration & Welfare & Head of Environment Key partners: Climate Change Officer Economic Growth Manager Community Partnerships Manager Charities Local Businesses
	10. Adopt and promote the use of electronic payments and documentation, moving away from sending	March 2023	Lead: Head of Finance & ICT Key partners: Finance Business Partners All Departments

	cheques and look to make payments electronically. Switch over to e-billing for companies that we still receive paper invoices from (where available). Increase use of email for remittances / invoices / reminders etc.		Residents
	11. Explore the opportunity for commercial food waste collection and potential for anaerobic digestion.	March 2025/26	Lead: Head of Environment Key partners: Depot Service Manager in conjunction with partners such as the County Council as Lead Waste Authority
	12. Research the feasibility of moving towards a near-to closed-loop composting service in which food waste can create compost to grow veg locally to put back into the community.	March 2025/26 – speak to Mel?	Lead: Head of Environment Key partners: Depot Service Manger Climate Change Officer Community Partnerships Manager Localities Co-ordinators
<b>CMP16</b> <b>Maximise the amount of domestic waste that is recycled in the borough</b>	01. Seek to reduce contamination levels through publicity and promotion and target areas. (where contamination is particularly prevalent).	Ongoing	Lead: Head of Environment Key partners: Depot Service Manager Climate Change Officer Business Development & Support Manager Communications Manager
	02.. Ensure that householders are encouraged to recycle and compost through	Ongoing	Lead: Head of Environment Key partners: Depot Service Manager Climate Change Officer

	promotional campaigns that inform them what can be recycled and composted and monitor that the right things are in the correct bins.		Communications Manager
	03.. Deliver to the principals of the JWMC Nottinghamshire Principles for the Reduction of Contamination. Issue S46 Fixed penalty notices to repeat offenders.	Ongoing	Lead: Head of Environment Key partners: Depot Service Manager Community Protection Manager Communications Manager
<b>CMP17</b> <b>Promote a culture of reuse</b>	01. Run more promotional campaigns to schools and householders to encourage everyone to reuse waste	<b>SP</b> March 2024	Lead: Head of Environment Key partners: Depot Service Manager Climate Change Officer Communications Manager
	02.. Develop an A-Z re-use and recycling directory which explains how and where to re-use and recycle a range of items and materials.	<b>SP</b> March 2024	Lead: Head of Environment Key Partners: Climate Change Officer Community Partnerships Manager Economic Growth Officer Depot Service Manager Communications Manager
	03. Promote existing on-line reuse schemes (Freecycle, Freegle etc.)	March 2024	Lead: Head of Environment Key partners: Climate Change Officer Depot Service Manager Communications Manager
	04. Ensure that bulky waste is re-used wherever possible	Ongoing	Lead: Head of Environment Key partners: Climate Change Officer

	as an alternative to disposal, collaborating with local charitable groups.		Depot Service Manager Communications Manager
<b>CMP18</b> <b>Reduce the carbon impact of waste management in Gedling Borough, ensuring that our services become more economic, efficient, and effective</b>	01. Explore the potential installation and use of vehicle monitoring systems to optimise fleet performance and on-going eco-driver training courses to ensure optimal use of vehicles by Council staff.	<b>SP</b> March 2024	Lead: Head of Environment Key partners: Depot Service Manager
	02. Continue to investigate use of lower carbon fleet technologies and drive down annual energy consumption in fleet vehicles.	March 2023	Lead: Head of Environment Key partners: Depot Service Manager

#### 4.6 Green Infrastructure – Carbon Offsetting

<b>CMP19</b> <b>Offset residual emissions from hard to reduce sources</b>	01. Review and evaluate the establishment of a carbon offset fund for developers to pay into when a certain high level of energy efficiency of buildings is not able to be met.	2026/27 onwards	Lead: Head Development & Place Key partners: Planning Policy Manager
	02	2023/24 onwards	Lead: Head of Development & Place

	Delivery of Biodiversity Net Gain for new developments by at least 10%. Promote Natural Climate Solutions for Gelding in partnership with landowners/managers.		Key partners: Planning Policy Manager Economic Growth Manager Communications Manager
	03 Audit and assess key sites across the borough for Green Infrastructure to help improve the resilience of the borough to climate related risks such as flooding and heatwaves.	2022/23 onwards	Lead: Head of Development & Place Key partners: Planning Policy Manager Climate Change Officer Economic Growth Manager Property Manager
	04 Increase biodiversity using tree planting plans on council open space portfolio. To explore grant funding initiatives for residents.	<b>SP</b> March 2024	Lead: Head of Environment Key partners: Tree Officer Climate Change Officer
	05 Create more 'bee friendly' meadow areas on green spaces, and let grasslands grow to encourage greater biodiversity.	<b>SP</b> March 2024	Lead: Head of Environment Key partners: Tree Officer Climate Change Officer Parks and Street Care operations Manager
	06. Reduce the use of herbicides and ban the use of Glyphosate to protect bees and pollinators.	Ongoing	Lead: Head of Environment Key partners: Tree Officer Climate Change Officer

			Parks and Street Care Operations Manager
07. Promote sustainable management of sports clubs / grounds (best practice case studies, grants etc).	March 2024	Lead: Head of Communities & Leisure & Head of Environment Key partners: Leisure Managers Parks and Street Care Operations Manager Climate Change Officer	
08. Review and update the standards and conditions document for allotments – sustainability, materials, waste, energy, water supply and capture etc.	March 2025	Lead: Head of Environment Key partners: Parks and Street Care Operations Manager Climate Change Officer	
09. Develop planning policies to promote sustainable construction and design including e.g. for energy efficiency and low carbon developments renewable energy climate adaptation; green infrastructure [Provision of allotments avoidance measures in new developments (including SUD's, natural flood management (NFM)], travel plans (encouraging modal shift and active travel,	Ongoing	Lead: Head of Development & Place Key partners: Planning Policy Manager Economic Growth Manager Property Services Manager Parks and Street Care Operations Manager Climate Change Officer	

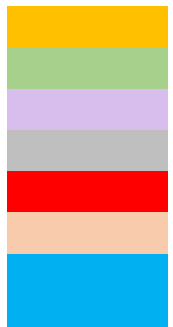


	provision of EV charging points, cycle/walking routes and connectivity investment.		
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**Key**

**Lead**

- Head of Environment & Place
- Head of Environment
- Head of Regeneration & Welfare
- Head of Finance & ICT
- Chief Executive
- Head of Communities & Leisure
- Head of Human Resources, Performance & Service Planning



**Service Planning**

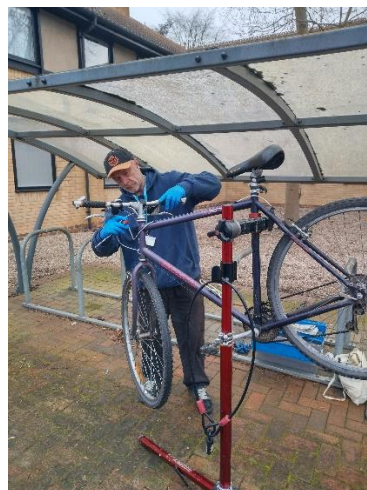
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### Appendix 3: Examples of some of the work undertaken throughout 2023:

Litterpicking at Burntstump park – March/April 2023



Dr Bike session for staff bicycles, January- March 2023:



Promoting Idling policy outside Ernehale Junior School, February 2023



Carlton Forum Lesuire Centre, introduction of Pool waste recycling, March 2023



Celebrating Earth day at Arnold View Primary School, April 2023:





Promoting HVO refuse vehicle, April 2023



Promoting Green Rewards at Gedling Country Park Event, August 2023



Representatives of the Youth Council, September 2023



APSE Winners for best collaborative working, September 2023



Parish Council Conference, October 2023:



National Recycling Week: making paper





Climate Change Debate, Council Chamber November 2023



Carbon Literacy Training: held in January & November 2023



Redhill Leisure Centre: Cycle Lockers, December 2023



Tree planting at Gedling Country Park, December 2023



Keepmoat: Future Homes



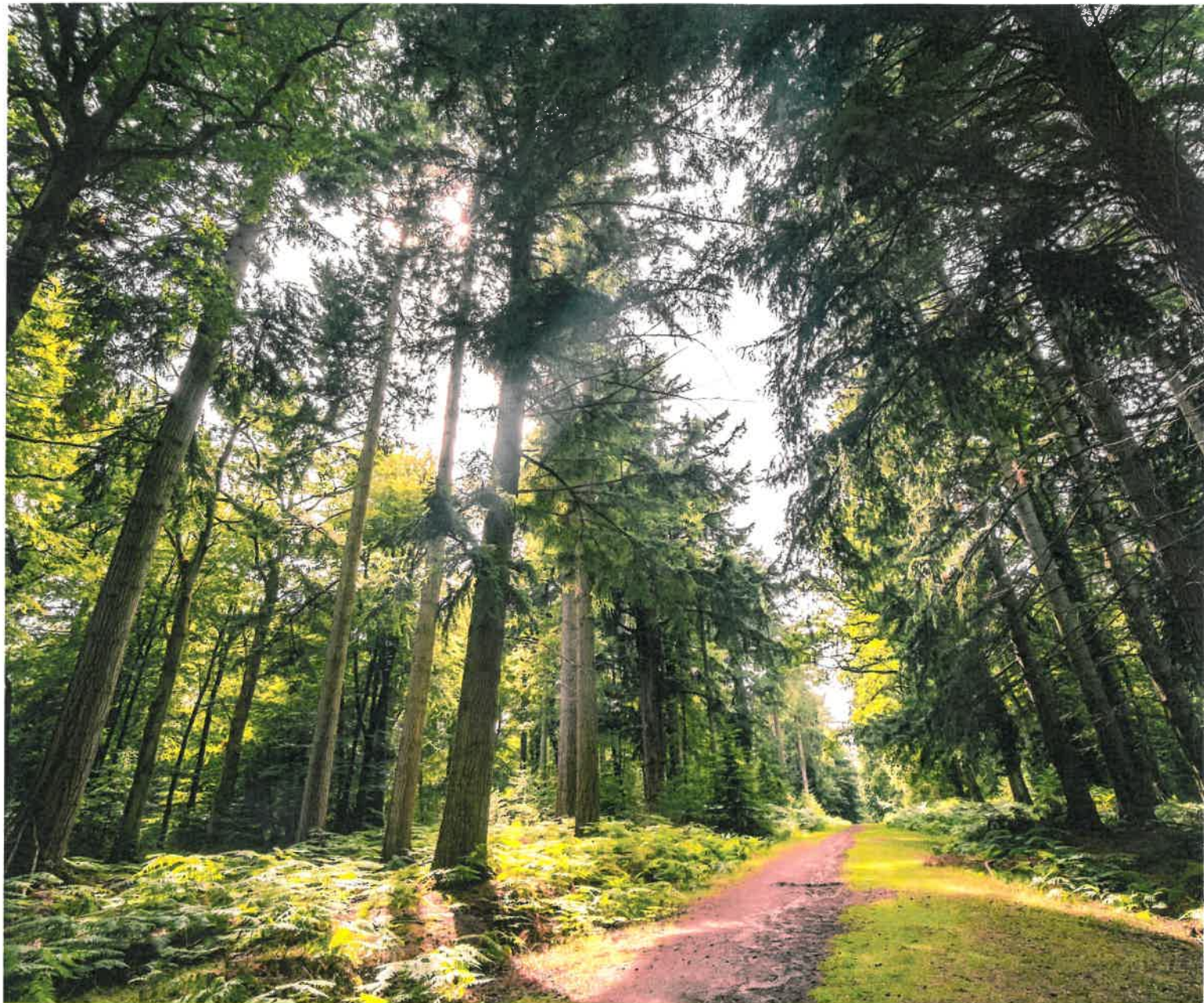
Retrofit scheme:

House with solar panel installed

House with solid wall Insulation







# Climate and Nature Convention Report 2023







## Climate and Nature Convention Report 2023

18<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Organised by Gedling Climate Change Group



“

*When ordinary people come together anything is possible.*

*So please do not read this report with “Well we can’t do that” or “That’s not in our remit.” Instead ask yourself “How can I help make that happen?”*

*The alternative is to watch helplessly while the planet hits 3C or more above pre-industrial temperatures and increased flooding and heatwaves in Gedling Borough and elsewhere make life harder and harder for us and our children.*

”



**“Thanks for a stimulating event, scary and motivating”**

## Foreword

While 90 citizens came together in the Civic Centre in Arnold, Nottinghamshire to discuss what needs to be done to tackle the worsening climate and nature crises, the planet sent a stark and frightening message:

November 18<sup>th</sup> was the first day ever that the planet reached over 2<sup>o</sup>C above preindustrial temperatures. 2023 will be the hottest year since records began.

This report represents both a plea and a demand for more rapid and far-reaching action from our political representatives, to both mitigate and adapt to the reality of what these crises will bring – more flooding, more heatwaves, more storms across the world and in our local area. None of us, or our natural surroundings, will be immune from their impacts.

### TIME IS RUNNING OUT

Gedling Climate Change Group are grateful to all the participants for their time, energy and enthusiasm as well as the local community groups who helped mould the event and promote it more widely. We are also grateful to the local Borough Council for providing the Civic Centre with all its facilities to enable the event to take place.

## The Convention

An open invitation to this convention was taken up by 120 local citizens, 90 of whom gave up their day to consider the Climate and Nature Crises. Attendees listened to two keynote speakers, one setting out the science of climate change and the other the awful consequences of global warming on us and our natural world. Then, importantly, participants in small group discussions talked about what could and/or should be done about these crises. It clearly shows that climate and nature are high up the agenda of a growing number of residents.

This was in essence a Community Assembly, a new and compelling way to engage with local people and gather their views. Participants were also asked to vote on ideas they thought were particularly important – thus giving an indication of strength of feeling.

It is now time for politicians to consider these ideas and start to incorporate them into their Carbon Management Strategy and, importantly, agree timetabled and measurable targets for which they can be held accountable.

## The Results

For each area, the total number of votes received is recorded, plus the number of groups who raised the issue in their discussions. Comments in *grey italics* have been added from Gedling Climate Change Group's perspective. All illustrative quotes were taken from convention attendees.



## 1// New Buildings

69 votes  
6 out of 8 groups

All new buildings – private, public, residential and commercial new builds - should be fit to meet the demands of our changing climate.

Higher levels of insulation and glazing, solar panels on all appropriate roofs, a charging point and zero carbon heating systems e.g. heat pumps installed.

- This should be mandatory. *Failure to do this will result in higher costs for the owners, as all buildings will need to be retrofitted sooner rather than later.*
- *National planning and building regulations need urgent overhaul to ensure all new builds are required to meet the highest standards to reduce carbon emissions. Meanwhile many councils are putting these standards in place in their areas.*

## 2// Community Engagement and Public Education

38 votes  
6 out of 8 groups

There was a lot of support for a whole variety of ideas around ensuring that the public were both informed about the climate and nature crises and properly engaged and consulted about solutions.

- We need politicians more visibly committed to the green agenda.
- Achieved through creating a ripple effect for positive change e.g. promoting communication skills for how to talk to people about climate and renewables through use of stories. This was an area that many people felt the local councils were well placed to do much more of as well as enabling grassroots voluntary organisations to do the same.
- These ideas included: setting up systems to offer talks to community groups of all kinds including young people, BAME groups, older people; positive community fun activities; community-led decision making – citizens' assemblies which create informed and better-quality debate and engagement - received significant support; Eco buddy schemes; countering climate anxiety.
- *It took a small local group (Gedling Climate Change Group) to initiate such a well-supported event – use of the civic centre may well have contributed to its success. In addition, GCCG would like to see all local councillors, Members of Parliament and officers receive significant and on-going mandatory training on Climate and Nature issues.*

“Thank you  
for organising  
an inspiring  
event”





### 3// Existing Buildings

34 votes  
5 out of 8 groups

All existing buildings to have relevant adaptations to reduce their emissions:

- Retrofitting: insulation (external or internal), solar panels with feed-in tariffs, green heating.
- There should be incentive grants to encourage this take-up and publicity on the savings that would be made.
- Consider incentivising building owners through increased rates if improvements not taken up. Maybe putting % of inheritance tax to retrofitting homes.
- Turn empty shops into well-insulated, affordable accommodation for young people.
- *Planning regulations should ensure these actions are easier and cheaper and keeping a register of approved contractors would prevent exploitation of customers as the transition is ramped up.*

### 4// Transport

29 votes  
6 out of 8 groups

There were many comments around the need to reduce carbon emissions from the way we travel and plan communities.

- Public local transport use to be increased through better and cheap or free (subsidised) local bus services – so that car use is reduced for short journeys. Ticketing should be integrated.
- No new road building unless it is shown to reduce carbon emissions.
- Improved cycling and walking provision for all new roads and, importantly, where feasible all existing roads.
- Speed limit reductions – urban 20mph and motorways to 50/60mph – reduces emissions and reduces accidents/fatalities. *Reducing urban speed limits would also encourage more people to cycle, especially women, as it makes it safer.*
- Reduce need for car use for transporting children to school. Introduction of School Streets (reducing traffic and parking round schools, especially at drop-off and pick-up times) for primary and better public transport for secondary schools. *This would reduce air pollution for children, the most vulnerable to fossil fuel pollutants.*
- Re-nationalise the railways and reduce fares to incentivise use.
- Fossil fuel for transport should be taxed more, thereby reducing carbon emissions and making other alternatives financially viable. Some support for banning short haul flights. *Aircraft fuel is not taxed at all now and flying creates disproportionately high emissions.*
- More charging points to encourage a move to electric cars.
- Planning communities where everyone has easy access to necessary services. Transition towns.
- Reduce business rates for local shops that source products within 50km away.

“Great speakers - thought provoking”



## 5// Education in Schools

20 votes  
5 out of 8 groups

It was recognised that children influence parents. So ensuring children are engaged in the wider climate and nature challenges can both have a long-term and short-term impact on public opinion.

- What support is available to teachers to communicate about climate change in a way which gives hope as well as communicating the need for urgent action?
- Should it be a mandatory part of the curriculum? *There is a new Natural History GCSE to be launched in Sept 2025, which includes sustainability but it is not part of the core curriculum.*

## 6// Energy and Green Jobs

20 votes  
4 out of 8 groups

There were several suggestions around energy and energy policy – phasing out fossil fuel use and replacing with renewables and nuclear.

- Promotion of community renewable energy ownership and eg Ripple Energy (where individuals can own part of wind and solar farms)
- There was some support for nationalising energy presumably to ensure renewables were prioritised.
- Investment in green jobs should be prioritised.

## 7// Local Accountability

19 votes  
3 out of 8 groups

- All Council strategies, policies and decisions should contain a written Climate and Nature Impact Assessment – this will ensure that councillors take account of how their decisions are compatible with a secure future for citizens. This would provide improved transparency.
- There was also support for the publication of environmental targets monitored by residents.
- Sewage treatment was specifically mentioned as needing urgent action.
- Gedling Borough Council booklet 'If you want to be green' should be updated annually and promoted via social media. The Council should publish this report on their website and social media. *It is acknowledged that Gedling BC declared a Climate Emergency in December 2019 and have a Carbon Management Strategy 2021-30 and aim to be net zero by 2030. However, the plan lacks any meaningful interim targets by which the Council can be measured. This target for net zero only applies to council buildings and there has been no measurement since 'baseline figures' from 2018. It would also not appear to include emissions from building activity and resulting extra housing stock passed through the borough planning process.*



“Really educational and inspiring”



## 8// Controlling Water

13 votes  
5 out of 8 groups

The flooding in Gedling Borough is clearly a big concern for residents.

- Stop approving planning permission for new housing on flood plains.
- Should all houses have soakaways, water butts and reduced areas of paving? Should new builds have water-capturing systems, which could reduce demand for water as well as prevent run-off.
- It has also been suggested we ban artificial grass.
- People raised natural ways to reduce flooding – rain gardens in new developments, introduction of beavers and slowing down stream and river water by encouraging them to meander across flood plains.
- More trees to be planted in the borough. It should be made clear how newly planted trees will be cared for – increasing the survival rates of young trees, especially during drought.
- Water companies should be nationalised.

## 9// Food Waste

11 votes  
3 out of 8 groups

The wastage of food as well as the disposal of food waste generated significant discussion.

- Can we do more to ensure that food from households is not wasted and food from shops is not thrown away but provided to those that need it.
- Are sell-by dates appropriate?  
In addition, could the Council not have a food waste collection from both households and businesses to prevent it going into land fill, causing methane production and instead be a source for fuel for biodigesters?

*“Where are the young people and communities of colour?”*



## 10// Recycling

10 Votes

4 out of 8 groups

- We need a national recycling strategy for improved and more consistent recycling.
- Better and clearer information on what can be recycled could make it easier for residents to recycle more, with the Council promoting this better.
- Re-use also mentioned as well as reducing packaging, especially plastic wrapping and bottles, through a green tax and banning single-use plastic.
- Encourage pop-up repair shops. Move away from consumerist and growth strategies.
- *The time for a wider discussion on our throw-away society is urgently needed. Too much "stuff" is bought and then thrown away rather than repaired – destroying natural environments for the raw materials needed to make them and then creating waste when thrown away or inadequately recycled. What is the Council doing to consider and promote a circular waste economy?*

## 11// Allotments and Community Garden and Greening

5 votes

4 out of 8 groups

Allotments, country parks and community gardens and public spaces are seen as having personal as well as wider benefits to society and nature.

- What more can the Council do to promote them, allocate more land for green spaces, including as part of new developments and improve the facilities available at existing allotment sites?
- The wider use of roadside verges and central reservations would improve biodiversity, as would the introduction of swift boxes to some houses.

## 12// Miscellaneous

- Food education and promotion of the health and climate benefits of reducing meat consumption (6 votes, 1 out of 8 groups)
- Change agricultural subsidies to encourage regenerative agriculture. (4 votes, 1 out of 8 groups)



*“Hope a manifesto comes out of it”*



## Closing Comments

While the voting on these issues helps to give a bit of focus on the things that participants thought were particularly important, it is worth reminding readers that everyone had a limited number of votes. Thus, just because an idea scored fewer votes does not mean this is not a useful thing to do or is not supported by many participants.

Please read this in the spirit of it being a catalyst for urgent action and as just the start of the means by which local people can have their say on the biggest challenge that has faced us all. It is incumbent on our local and national politicians, business leaders and citizens to listen, be bold and put in place a liveable future for all of us, all our children and all our grandchildren.

The Gedling Climate Change Group will be continuing to work hard locally to ensure the outcomes of the Convention are pursued. If you like to join us, please contact us at [gedlingccg@gmail.com](mailto:gedlingccg@gmail.com)

*“Really great,  
loved the focus  
on action”*





*“Thanks for an enjoyable day - so well organised and constructive”*

# LOCAL CLIMATE ACTION STARTS HERE





## **Progress made to date on area's identified in the Climate and Nature Convention Report 2023**

### **1. New Buildings**

The Council has adopted Low Carbon Planning Guidance (May 2021). This complements the relevant existing and future building regulations and intends to provide:

- Practical guidance on forms of sustainable design and construction;
- Guidance to help inform planning applications for major development and the development management process;
- Sign-posting to best practice examples and guidance; and
- A checklist guide for developers to assist in the submission of major planning applications.
- The energy efficiency of new buildings is controlled through the Building Regulations.

Within Gedling Borough the first commercial development of new homes on Lambley Lane, Gedling that will produce up to 80% less carbon emissions than standard homes is underway. The development comprising of 33 new homes will deliver sustainable, energy efficient new homes to area. It is the first to be built in the UK where every home fully complies with the Future Homes Standard. The 33 feature air source pumps, solar PV panels, increased levels of insulation and EV charging points to achieve the new future homes regulations which is set out to replace traditional Building Regulations for new dwellings.

### **2. Community Engagement and Public Education**

Gedling Borough Council have declared a climate emergency in 2019. In 2022 the Carbon Management Strategy was approved by cabinet. Many of our members have received carbon literacy training in 2023, including our Portfolio Holder Cllr Viv McCrossen.

In 2021, Gedling Borough Council employed a dedicated Climate Change Officer who coordinates and delivers the climate work across the Council.

Please refer to sections of 1.8, 1.9, 1.10, 1.12, 1.13, 1.16, 1.17 of the cabinet report.

### **3. Existing Buildings**

Please refer to section 1.23 and 1.24 of the cabinet report.

### **4. Transport**

Gedling Borough Council will continue to work in partnership in with Nottinghamshire Council Highways department. Refer to section 1.11 of the cabinet report to progress in this going forward.

### **5. Education in Schools**

The Climate Change Officer engages with local schools in the borough to deliver sustainability and climate change and promotes the international Eco-Schools programme.

## **Progress made to date on area's identified in the Climate and Nature Convention Report 2023**

Government is responsible for any changes in the curriculum.

### **6. Energy and Green Jobs**

Through the Local Energy Area planning and devolution, it is hoped this will lead to further growth and prioritisation as well further investment in the green sector.

### **7. Local Accountability**

Gedling Borough Council Gedling Borough Council declared a climate change emergency alongside a pledge to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2030. We are committed to minimising the Council's adverse environmental impacts while enhancing the quality of life for the people of Gedling Borough Council.

We have a written Environment Policy statement that affirms the council's commitment to the climate emergency. It outlines the councils' intentions and priorities and aligns with the Carbon Management Strategy and action plan. It lays the foundation for the council projects, initiatives and future partnerships and collaborations.

Gedling Borough Council have developed and are proposing 'a climate impact assessment. To drive this forward to ensure we examine and analyse our policies, processes and decisions to determine what the impacts are on the climate and carbon reduction:

A climate impact assessment should be completed for any project, policy, decision where there are identified carbon impacts and appended to decision reports. This will be rolled out shortly.

The Gedling Borough Council website contains the latest information including 'if you want to be green' and is updated regularly [Become a greener you - Gedling Borough Council](#). Refer to section 1.20 of the cabinet report.

### **8. Controlling Water**

Planning permission for new residential development is only approved in areas which are at a low risk of flooding. Where there is any risk, a full flood risk assessment is required including mitigation measures which are agreed by the Environment Agency and the Lead Local Flood Authority, prior to the commencement of any development. The Council ensures that the implemented measures are incorporated into the approved development.

The Low Carbon Planning Guidance (May 2021) encourages the use of water efficiency measures such as low flush toilets and grey water recycling, to be incorporated into new developments. Sustainable Urban Drainage systems (SUDs) are also encouraged for all new developments.

Gedling Borough Council would not permit artificial grass as part of landscaping proposals for new housing developments. Instead, we seek to ensure that

## **Progress made to date on area's identified in the Climate and Nature Convention Report 2023**

landscaping schemes comprise of native planting species. If any newly planted trees become diseased within 5 years, we require their replacement.

In addition to trees planted by developers through the creation of new public open spaces, Gedling Borough Council has planted 2,388 trees in our parks.

Gedling Borough Council as a local authority support Nottinghamshire County Council as lead Flood authority as part of Nottingham & Nottinghamshire Local Resilience Forum which has been established "to maintain effective multi-agency arrangements to respond to major incidents and emergencies, such as flooding, to minimise the impact of those incidents on the public, property and environment. In a flood situation they provide a robust response.

The Council's Planning Section also works with Developers as regards water capture and control measures. All developments must now have sustainable drainage system to collect any surface water from the new development and store it for later slow release. These areas provide areas for increased Biodiversity. We are additionally planting more trees in the Borough than we ever have previously. The trees are maintained by our Parks Rangers who ensure they are correctly staked and tied and are watered using our watering vehicle.

### **9. Food Waste**

As Lead Waste Authority Nottinghamshire County Council are responsible along with waste contractor 'Veolia', for the introduction of a new Food waste service to residents and business across Nottinghamshire. It has been decided that the delivery of a food waste service to residents will commence in October 2027. Details as regarding how the new and adapted services will be paid for have yet to be decided. Government has indicated that it will pay for freighters, and bins and food caddy containers through capital funding, but further details on the delivery of this service have yet to be worked out.

### **10. Recycling**

The Environment Act 2021 is bringing about significant changes in the industry. As the National 'Recycle week' ended 21 October 2023, the Government and DEFRA launched new Waste reforms to make it easier for household and Businesses to recycle by introducing a simpler approach to waste collections. This 'Common sense approach' – Simpler Recycling – was formerly known as Consistency in Household and Business Recycling in England. So, for the first time, people across England will be able to recycle the same materials. This will lead to improved and consistent recycling across England, and stop the current confusion faced by residents as regards what can be recycled and what cannot. It will in the future see plastic, trays, carrier bags, plastic film, foils trays, tetra packs and other items collected in the waste stream when currently they are not.

A new Extended Producer Responsibilities scheme introduced in 2023, also sees the introduction of legislation aimed at further increasing recycling by making 'packaging producers' responsible for household packaging recycling and recovery costs.

## **Progress made to date on area's identified in the Climate and Nature Convention Report 2023**

### **11. Allotments and Community Gardens and Greening**

In terms of 'Allotment and Community Garden' provision three sites in the Borough are directly managed and a further 5 sites across the borough are managed by an allotment association, regulated by a lease agreement.

All sites have full tenancies for the plots at present and the Council and the Allotment Trustees promote the sites and maintain a waiting list for them.

New Allotment Sites are planned through Developer planning regulations and will be delivered at Magenta Way on Teal Close, at Top Wighay and Westhouse Farm, in Bestwood. The County Council are responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of all roadside verges and street trees. Gedling Borough Council is responsible for all the parks and green spaces and uses its Section 106 Open Space supplementary planning guidance regulations, to allocate more land for green space on new Developments. The parks section regularly introduce wildflower bee friendly meadows and operate a 'no mow May' policy to increase biodiversity in areas of green space where we are able.

### **12. Miscellaneous**

Gedling Borough Council will continue to promote health and climate benefits.

The Government are responsible for implementing and taking new approaches on agricultural subsidies.



## Report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee

**Subject:** Update Report on the Bee Friendly Pollinator Policy

**Date:** 22 April 2024

**Author:** Head of Environment.

### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Scrutiny members with information on the application of the Council's Bee Friendly Pollinator policy and the actions being taken to stop the decline of bee and pollinating insect populations by the creation of biodiverse pollination habitats and the banning of the use of harmful herbicides and pesticides on Council owned land.

The report follows a Council motion, on 27 January 2021, regarding the adverse effects of the use of herbicides and pesticides on land in the UK that is impacting on Bee and other pollinating species, leading to their decline.

Bees and other pollinators play an essential role in the Earth's ecosystems, and are vital to our food crops, our gardens, and our countryside, but they are declining – some species have become extinct, others are declining in range. Bees not only help maintain biodiversity but also pollinate plants which produce food. The Government has estimated that these pollinators are worth around £500 million to the UK food and fruit industries alone; bees therefore help keep healthy habitats for people and nature.

This pollinator decline is due to various external influences. These causes include disease, climate change, loss of habitat and the use of insecticides such as neonicotinoids ('neonics'). Neonicotinoid use has been linked in a range of studies to adverse ecological effects, including honeybee colony collapse disorder.

The World Health Organisation's cancer agency has recently declared that herbicides that include glyphosate may be carcinogenic to humans. Glyphosate lab trials have shown impact on bee behaviours, although not on their foraging efficiency.

Local authorities have a Duty to have regard to the conservation of biodiversity in exercising their functions, introduced by the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act, which came into force on 1 October 2006 and in subsequent more recent acts. The Duty affects all public authorities and aims to raise the profile and visibility of biodiversity, to clarify existing commitments regarding biodiversity, and to make it a natural and integral part of policy and decision making. Conserving biodiversity includes restoring and enhancing species' populations and habitats.

### Recommendation(s):

#### That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- Notes the report and makes comments as appropriate.

## 1. Background

On 27 January, the Council was asked to consider a motion under Standing Order 12 to resolve to protecting bees and pollinators and resolved to do the following:

- 1.1 Write to the Environment Secretary and Gedling Borough's local Members of Parliament, condemning the UK Government's recent authorisation in England of the use of a pesticide containing the neonicotinoid thiamethoxam, despite an EU-wide ban on its outdoor use two years ago and an explicit Government pledge to keep the restrictions.
- 1.2 Call on the UK Government to fund proper research into the hazards of glyphosates on human and nature's health.
- 1.3 Cease the use of neonicotinoids and glyphosates on all public access land that it manages in a proactive effort to reverse the destruction of the bees and pollinators and protect human health.
- 1.4 Explore other ways in which to enhance and protect bee and pollinator habitats and encourage environmental growth. This Council will therefore produce a Bee/Pollinator Action Plan. This action plan to include some of the following:
  - a) Protecting pollinator habitats via the planning process
  - b) Encouraging all new developments to provide for pollinators
  - c) Stopping the use of insecticides on local authority land
  - d) Establishing wildflower meadows on un-used areas of parks and public greenspace
  - e) Planting pollinator-friendly plants as part of amenity planting in parks, gardens and green spaces
  - f) Planting trees for bees – blossom producing spring flowering trees such as apple, cherry, hawthorn, blackthorn, willow
  - g) Working with Nottinghamshire County Council to manage road verges for spring and late summer flowers.

The motion was approved.

Working with various community 'Parks Friends of Groups' in the Borough, it was recognised that demonstrating the local authority's stance as a community influencer, through positive communications, would have a key role to play in encouraging local councils, community groups and individual residents adopting similar stances in the future.

## 2. Update on Implementation of the Policy

### 2.1 **Establishing wildflower meadows on un-used areas of parks and public greenspace**

In Summer 2021 Gedling Borough Council Parks and Street Care (PASC) Services started to introduce changes to its Parks and Green Spaces maintenance regime. It carried out an audit of its open spaces and identified un-used areas within its parks and green spaces that could be set aside as open grassland wildflower habitats and areas for tree planting to provide much needed habitat for pollinators. These include Gedling Country Park, Arnot Hill Park, Burton Road Jubilee Park, Digby Park, The Hobbucks, Breck Hill Park, Lambley Lane,



Willow Park and Arno Vale Park. The total area now set aside for wildflower meadows is 5.5 acres and is growing each year.

The Service additionally reduced its cutting regime in these areas to one per annum, to provide greater gains for pollinators.

Each year (running April to May and September to October) other areas remain free of cutting to allow pollinators forage during optimum flowering and feeding periods. Over time, this approach is creating an extensive network of habitat mosaics, which are managed to optimise the range of habitats provided for pollinators across our open spaces network.

## 2.2 **Planting pollinator-friendly plants as part of amenity planting in parks, gardens and green spaces**

Further planting of both trees and wildflower meadow habitat has been undertaken at our Country Parks, Green Flag Parks and Recreation Grounds. Species-rich grassland and trees for the benefit of pollinators have been included in landscaping, for example at Gedling Country Park, Digby Park, Arno Vale and Thackeray's Recreation Grounds.

Tree planting, which includes sheltering and overwintering habitat, and increasing the number of flowering, pollen rich species, includes, blossom producing spring flowering trees such as apple, cherry, hawthorn, blackthorn and willow. Over the last 5 years we have planted 9499 native tree species.

2019/20	660
2020/21	1104
2021/22	1691
2022/23	2388
2023/24	3656

Our Council's country parks are managed for the benefit of biodiversity, and pollinators are an integral part of this activity with open grassland areas managed to maintain flowering plants and grasses. The aim being to create greater diversity and optimum soil conditions. At Gedling Country Park the habitat is specifically managed for the benefit of Dingy Skipper Butterflies, providing foraging and nesting opportunities.

## 2.3 **Stopping the use of insecticides on local authority land**

In January 2021 the Council stopped the use of neonicotinoids and glyphosates across all public access land that it manages in a proactive effort to reverse the destruction of the bees and pollinators and protect human health. The arising action plan enshrined this resolve and confirmed no use of the damaging Neonicotinoid or glyphosate weedkillers.

At the time members wrote to the Environment Secretary and Gedling Borough's local Members of Parliament, condemning the UK Government's recent authorisation in England of the use of a pesticide containing the neonicotinoid thiamethoxam, despite an EU-wide ban on its outdoor use and an explicit

Government pledge to keep the restrictions. They called on the UK Government to fund proper research into the hazards of glyphosates on human and nature's health.

The Council's PASC Services department has also been trialling alternatives to herbicide use. However, no viable, effective, affordable and environmentally friendly alternatives have yet been found. Work continues on this and various opportunities to further explore pesticide use reduction and trial alternatives.

Working with local schools and community groups – Bee Friendly opportunities have been developed, focussing on the range of actions that could be taken at the local level by such.

Raising awareness and mobilising local community groups – 4,000 plus trees have been planted since 2001, many have been orchards in our Country Parks and school grounds.

#### **2.4 Working with Nottinghamshire County Council to manage road verges for spring and late summer flowers**

Our partner Highways authority has also introduced a 'No Mow May' campaign in 2023 and delays its end of season cuts to maintain flowering plants and grasses for as long as practically reasonable.

#### **2.5 Protecting pollinator habitats via the planning process and encouraging all new developments to provide for pollinators**

Many of Gedling Borough's richest wildflower grasslands have been identified as sites of local importance for nature and biodiversity. These sites are protected through policies in the Council's Local Development Plan. The local development plan also contains policies to protect areas rich in biodiversity within the wider countryside from inappropriate development and identifies green networks within major settlements.

Continued biodiverse habitat surveying will assist with both the identification of and improvement of areas of existing species rich wildflower grassland under recent Biodiversity Net Gain and offsetting, planning policy changes. Such ecological surveys will help in the protection, enhancing, creation and mapping of these beneficial habitats to ensure that they thrive and grow.

All new developments in the future will additionally have to evidence Biodiversity net gain (BNG) which is a way of creating and improving natural habitats. BNG makes sure a new development has a measurably positive impact ('net gain') on biodiversity, compared to what was there before development. This is now mandatory from 12 February 2024 and part of Gedling Borough's planning policy.

### **3 Proposal**

That the committee note the report and makes comments as appropriate.

#### **4 Alternative options**

The committee could choose not to note the report and give any comments, but this would go against their wish to review the delivery of the motion.

#### **5 Financial implications**

Existing revenue and grant funding opportunities were used to fund this work. No additional council resources were utilised for the delivery of this motion.

#### **6 Legal implications**

None.

#### **7 Equalities implications**

Our Parks and Open Spaces support people in need of health and welfare opportunities. They provide area for people to take exercise and recreation and in doing so improve their mental health and overall fitness.

#### **8 Carbon reduction/environmental sustainability implications**

Other than the obvious 'carbon mitigation', in trapping CO2 emissions. There are no carbon implications as a direct result of this report.

#### **9. Appendices**

Appendix 1: List of Bee Friendly meadow habitats created on Council owned land.

Appendix 2: Promotional information used in support of the initiative.

Appendix 3: Bee Friendly Pollinator Policy and Action Plan. [Separate document].



The Community Orchard at Breck Hill

Appendix 1

**List of Bee Friendly meadow habitats created on Council owned land to-date.**

- 1 GCP Car Park
- 2 GCP Ivan Gollop Bee Friendly Garden
- 3 GCP Holocaust Memorial Garden
- 4 GCP 6700m<sup>2</sup> Wildflower meadow and Orchard
- 5 Arno Vale Recreation Ground
- 6 The Hobbucks LNR x 3 Meadows

- 7 Burton Road Recreation Ground
- 8 Willow Park
- 9Lambley Lane Recreation Ground
- 10 Arnot Hill Park x 2 Meadows
- 11 Digby Park Arboretum and Wildflower Meadows
- 12 Burntstump Country Park Field Margins
- 13 Breckhill Rec Community Orchard and Wildflower Meadow
- 14 Muirfield Road Recreation Ground - Community Orchard
- 15 Bestwood Country Park Field Area Margins
- 16 Carlton Hill Recreation Ground Banks
- 17 Newstead Banks

Appendix 2

**Promotional information used in support of the initiative.**

# PLEASE EXCUSE THE WEEDS WE ARE FEEDING THE BEES!

By allowing the grass and natural native vegetation to grow in this area we are increasing pollinator habitat for insects and wildlife



**Gedling**  
Borough Council

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**Gedling**  
Borough Council

# Bee/Pollinator Policy & Action Plan

**PLEASE EXCUSE  
THE WEEDS  
WE ARE FEEDING  
THE BEES!**

By allowing the grass and natural native vegetation to grow in this area we are increasing pollinator habitat for insects and wildlife



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## 1. Forward

Gedling Borough Council's Bee/Pollinator Policy and Action Plan is about changes both the Council and all of us can make, to protect the habitats and food sources used by these vital insects which are so important for producing the food we eat and for pollinating the plants that make up the diverse habitats of the Boroughs gardens, parks, green spaces and countryside.

We've already started to make a difference to how we manage our landscape, the Borough's Parks and Green Spaces, but there's no doubt that much still needs to be done by both individuals and communities to ensure our pollinators not only survive but thrive when there are so many threats to their existence.



Portfolio Holder for Climate  
Change and Natural Habitat  
Cllr Viv McCrossen

## 2. Introduction

This document is Gedling Borough Council's Pollinator Policy and Action Plan. It outlines and supports work being undertaken to protect bees as pollinators in the Borough by both our staff and our residents.

Its purpose is to encourage residents of the Borough to mobilise. Businesses, schools, gardeners, farmers, the old and the young - everybody who lives here - to act to improve the habitat and the food sources of bees and to reverse their continuing decline.

This Action Plan sets out what Gedling Borough Council is doing to help these insects vital to our environment, food and economy. It is written to:

- Make the council a community leader in action for pollinators, showing the way in its own operations and land management, and by supporting others to do the same.
- Ensure that pollinators' needs are always considered throughout the Council's work and services.
- Put the conservation of pollinators and their habitats at the heart of the council's land management and planning.
- Make the Council a significant contributor to the recovery of pollinator populations, supporting both biodiversity and the county's food producers.

Gedling Borough Council's Pollinator Action Plan commits the Council to:

- Manage the land it owns to help control and influence the way pollinators' habitat and forage.
- Work with partners across the Borough to better protect pollinators and improve the habitats on which they rely.
- Raise awareness of the importance of pollinators and the need to safeguard these vital insects, mobilising residents to consider taking their own action within communities, workplaces, schools, and homes.
- Monitor and evaluate its action for pollinators to understand the impact of our efforts to better direct action and resources to where they are most needed.

## 3. What are pollinators?

Pollinators are essential to our environment, our food production, and our lives. They are so-called because they carry the reproductive pollen grains from flower to flower, enabling fertilisation for seeds, nuts and fruit to be produced. Through pollination, new generations of plants grow, which in turn support wild habitats and other wildlife. Without pollination, most wild and cultivated plants, from trees to strawberries, could not reproduce.

They are central to fruit and crop production – and serve crops like oil seed rape, clovers and other nitrogen fixing plants, important for livestock grazing and wildflowers.

They add to the diversity of plant species, habitats and wildlife in the Borough as well as its natural beauty, making it a better place to live, to enjoy and to visit. Losing our pollinators would be a major ecological and economic disaster.

Many different insect groups are excellent pollinators. The best known of them are bees, including bumblebees, solitary bees and the honeybee. But other insects are equally vital for pollination including wasps, hoverflies, moths and butterflies.

Even some beetles, mosquitoes and ants have a pollinating role. Many plants have evolved to offer nectar to attract insects. Whilst insects are feeding on a flower's nectar or collecting pollen to feed to their young, pollen grains stick to the insects' bodies and transfer to the reproductive organs of the next flower they visit.



#### 4. What's causing the loss?

The loss of pollinators is a direct threat to our ability to feed ourselves. Without bees, hoverflies and other insects visiting flowers there would be no fruit, coffee, nuts, olives, vegetables and fewer flowers in our gardens or countryside.

Despite their importance, pollinators are in serious decline as a result of habitat loss, pesticides and climate change. The Bumblebee Conservation Trust reports that two species of bumblebees went extinct in the past 80 years, with eight species, a third of those remaining, now endangered. Butterfly Conservation reports similar concerns, with over three-quarters of our butterfly species having declined since 1976<sup>1</sup> and two-thirds of our common and widespread moths declined between 1968 and 2007<sup>2</sup>.

In 2022, the citizen science survey Bugs Matter<sup>3</sup> reported a decline in flying insects by 59% between 2004 and 2021. These figures indicate a rapidly declining trend in insect abundance nationwide, consistent with research that has shown declining trends globally.

1 <https://butterfly-conservation.org/sites/default/files/soukb-2015.pdf>

2 <https://butterfly-conservation.org/sites/default/files/202103/StateofMothsReport2021.pdf>

3 Bugs Matter ([kentwildlifetrust.org.uk](http://kentwildlifetrust.org.uk))

The main threats to pollinators are habitat loss, climate change, pesticides, disease, and invasive species.

## 5. Habitat Loss

Changes in our land use, including insensitive urban development and intensive farming, have resulted in habitat loss and fragmentation, the most significant cause of pollinator decline.

Pollinators need flowers to forage and places to shelter, nest and overwinter, within vegetation, hedgerows, and soil. But since the Second World War, we have lost 97% of our wildflower meadows because of modern farming practices and urban development. Where wildflower-rich habitats do still exist, these are often small, isolated areas separated by land uses hostile to pollinators, making it difficult for insects to move around our landscapes.

## 6. Climate Change

By disrupting seasonal patterns and flowering periods of plants, climate change is impacting pollinators. It affects the timing of flowering plants that they rely on for food and disrupts nesting behaviours and emergence after winter. It is also thought that a warming climate could restrict or alter the range of pollinators.

## 7. Pesticides

The increased use of pesticides has adversely impacted pollinators and the plants on which they depend. Neonicotinoid pesticides are particularly harmful to bees, affecting their central nervous system, and consequently are now under a general ban across the European Union. Furthermore, some routinely used herbicides have also been shown to affect pollinators and their use, of course, reduces the availability of food plants throughout the year.





## 8. Diseases and Invasive Species

Evidence suggests that some honeybee diseases can spread to our wild bumblebees. A further threat is invasive species such as the Asian hornet, which if allowed to take hold could devastate our native bee populations.

Pollinators have been in serious decline for many years and a loud and clear message is coming from scientists, wildlife organisations that they need help and quickly otherwise all of us, plants, pollinators and people, face challenges with our food sources.

## 9. What Do Pollinators Need - Key Findings

### Food

Pollinators need food which for them is nectar and pollen foraged from a variety of flowering plants.

### Shelter

They also need to be able to shelter, nest and overwinter in diverse habitats such as hedgerows, scrub and tall grass, burrows and holes in tree trunks. Many have different needs again in their larval (young) stages. Honeybees have their shelter (hives) provided but they still have problems in common with other pollinators.



### Areas to Forage

Foraging grounds for all pollinators have been steadily eroded. All pollinators need flowering, semi-natural habitats like wildflower meadows, hedgerows and woodland edges. They need agricultural landscapes which have unimproved grassland, hay meadows, clover-rich grassland, orchards and arable crops. In Nottinghamshire many of these are declining and are in short supply. Large fields of wind pollinated crops, like wheat, do not support pollinating insects.

## **Habitats**

It's not only the countryside where pollinators' needs can be better met. They can find food and shelter in gardens, parks, roadside verges and any other green space area. It's quite easy to provide for pollinators by making sure they have the right plants. They include common knapweed in wildflower meadows, red clover in pasture, hawthorn and bramble in hedgerows and woodland, and cosmos in bedding areas.

## **10. Why an Action Plan?**

Environmental groups such as Friends of the Earth and the various Wildlife Trust Conservation groups say that a pollinator action plan like Gedling Borough's Plan can:

- ensure pollinators' needs are taken into account across a local authority's boundary;
- raise the awareness of pollinators' needs across all of a local authority's staff, contracts and networks;
- do the same in local communities through its staff and elected members who represent those communities;
- help to identify previously unrecognised ways to help pollinators;
- ensure the wellbeing of pollinators as a principal consideration in land management;
- help pollinator populations to recover to the benefit of farming and food production;

## **11. Corporate Context**

*Sustainable Environment* - To promote a sustainable environment. Improving Biodiversity across the Borough.

*Healthy Lifestyles* - To promote the health and wellbeing of our residents.

*Provide an Attractive and Sustainable Local Environment* - That Local People Can Enjoy.

*Support Physically Active Lifestyles* - Develop and implement a plan to raise awareness of and maximise usage of our local parks and open spaces, which includes: 'Allotments and Community Gardens'.

*Reduce Levels of Loneliness and Isolation.* - Directly support local groups such as the Community Growing Spaces and Allotment Associations to help tackle loneliness and isolation

## **12. Review of Actions to-date in Gedling Borough**

### **Background**

Bee Pollinator Actions Since January 2021.

## **Establishing wildflower meadows on un-used areas of parks and public greenspace**

In Summer 2021 Gedling Borough Council PASC Services started to introduce changes to its Parks and Green Spaces maintenance regime. It carried out an audit of its open spaces and identified areas within its parks and green spaces that could be set aside as open grassland wildflower habitats and areas for tree planting to provide much needed habitat for pollinators. These include Gedling Country Park, Arnot Hill Park, Burton Road Jubilee Park, Digby Park, The Hobbucks, Breck Hill Park, Lambley Lane, Willow Park and Arno Vale Park. The total area now set aside for wildflower meadow is areas 5.5 acres and growing each year.

The Service additionally reduced its cutting regime in these areas to one per annum, to provide greater gains for pollinators.

Each year (running April to May and September to October) it retains forage for pollinators free of cutting for the optimum flowering and feeding period. Over time, this approach is creating an extensive network of habitat mosaics, which are managed to optimise the range of habitats provided for pollinators across our open spaces network.

## **Planting pollinator-friendly plants as part of amenity planting in parks, gardens and green spaces**

Further planting of pollinators at our Country Parks, Green Flag Parks and Recreation Grounds – species-rich grassland and trees for the benefit of pollinators have been included in landscaping. For examples at Gedling Country Park, Digby Park, Arno Vale and Thackeray's Recreation Grounds.

## **Planting trees for bees – blossom producing spring flowering trees such as apple, cherry, hawthorn, blackthorn, willow**

Tree planting which includes sheltering and overwintering habitat and increasing the number of flowering, pollen rich plants.

The Council's country parks are managed for the benefit of biodiversity, and pollinators are an integral part of this activity with open grassland areas managed to maintain flowering plants and grasses. The aim being to create greater diversity and optimum soil conditions. At Gedling Country Park the habitat is specifically managed for the benefit of Dingy Skipper Butterflies, providing foraging and nesting opportunities.



### **Stopping the use of insecticides on local authority land**

In January 2021 the Council stopped the use of neonicotinoids and glyphosates across all public access land that it manages in a proactive effort to reverse the destruction of the bees and pollinators and protect human health. The arising action plan enshrined this resolve and confirmed no use of the damaging Neonicotinoid or glyphosate weedkillers.

At the time members wrote to the Environment Secretary and Gedling Borough's local Members of Parliament, condemning the UK Government's recent authorisation in England of the use of a pesticide containing the neonicotinoid thiamethoxam, despite an EU-wide ban on its outdoor use and an explicit Government pledge to keep the restrictions. They called on the UK Government to fund proper research into the hazards of glyphosates on human and nature's health.

The Council's PASC Services department have also been trialling alternatives to herbicide use, however, no viable, effective, affordable and environmentally friendly alternatives have yet been found. Work continues on this and various opportunities to further explore pesticide use reduction and trial alternatives.

Working with local schools and community groups – Bee Friendly opportunities have been developed, focussing on the range of actions that could be taken at the local level by such.

Raising awareness and mobilising local community groups – 4,000 plus trees have been planted since 2001, many have been orchards in our Country Parks and school grounds.

### **Working with Nottinghamshire County Council to manage road verges for spring and late summer flowers**

Our partner Highways authority has also introduced a 'No Mow May' campaign in 2023 and delays its end of season cuts to maintain flowering plants and grasses for as long as practically reasonable.



## **Protecting pollinator habitats via the planning process and encouraging all new developments to provide for pollinators**



Many of Gedling Borough's richest wildflower grasslands have been identified, as sites of local importance for nature and biodiversity. These sites are protected through policies in the Council's Local Development Plan. The local development plan also contains policies to protect areas rich in biodiversity within the wider countryside from inappropriate development and identifies green networks within major settlements.

Continued biodiverse habitat surveying will assist with both the identification of and improvement of areas of existing species rich wildflower grassland under recent Biodiversity Net Gain and offsetting, planning policy changes. Such ecological surveys will help in the protection, enhancing, creation and mapping of these beneficial habitats to ensure that they thrive and grow.

All new developments in the future will additionally have to evidence Biodiversity net gain (BNG) which is a way of creating and improving natural habitats. BNG makes sure a new development has a measurably positive impact ('net gain') on biodiversity, compared to what was there before development. This is now mandatory from 12 February 2024 and part of Gedling Boroughs planning policy.

### The Bee Friendly Pollinator Action Plan

#### OBJECTIVE 1

For Gedling Borough Council to manage the land it owns, controls and influences, in a way which benefits pollinators' habitat and forage

The Council will:

- Continue to review its land management practices and put in place, where it can, revised grass-cutting and maintenance regimes and apply pollinator-friendly planting. This applies to the country parks, cemeteries grounds, recreation grounds and our green spaces.
- Introduce an outright ban to ensure that neonicotinoids are never used on Council owned or managed land.
- Continue to lobby against any reintroduction or emergency use of neonicotinoids.
- Introduce an outright ban on the use of glyphosate across land owned or managed by the Council and review new alternative methodologies as they become available.
- Identify ways to create corridors for wildlife throughout the landscape within and adjacent to the Council's estate.
- Look for opportunities to 'green' its land assets and buildings with pollinator friendly planting and such things as bee hotels.
- Ensure the needs of pollinators are recognised across the range of Council services and functions and are considered within all strategies and policies which may impact on, or present opportunities for, pollinators.
- Develop approaches within the Council's planning services that will help to protect pollinator habitats.
- Provide training, as required and appropriate, for staff involved in land management to increase their understanding of the needs of pollinators and how they can help them in the course of their work.

#### OBJECTIVE 2

For Gedling Borough Council to work with partners across the county to better protect pollinators and improve the habitats on which they rely.

The Council will:

- Promote and support landscape scale projects that deliver habitat connectivity for pollinators.
- Work with the Council's planning and grounds maintenance teams to deliver improvements for pollinator habitats at the local level through, for example, their management of greenspace, local plans and development management.
- Where possible work to influence, our parish and town councils, communities, land owners, businesses and schools and support them to take action for pollinators.

### **OBJECTIVE 3**

For Gedling Borough Council to raise awareness of the importance of pollinators and the need to safeguard these vital insects, mobilising our residents where we are able to take their own action within communities, workplaces, schools and homes.

The Council will:

- Deliver a rolling communication campaign to inform and influence the residents of the borough and engage them in action for pollinators.
- Encourage and support pollinator friendly gardening, especially in its allotments.
- Support schools in activities relating to pollinators through access to resources and activities.
- Build an expert network of advisors and mentors to help to guide and steer Plan Bee actions across the borough. hedgerows provide nesting sites for small mammals such as mice and field voles. Unused plots may support a range of wild plants and other wildlife.

### **OBJECTIVE 4**

For Gedling Borough Council to monitor and evaluate its action for pollinators, so that we understand the impact of our efforts and direct continued action and resources to where they are most needed.

The Council will:

- Publish a Pollinator Policy and Action Plan to set actions and periodically report progress.
- Keep up to date on the latest scientific evidence on pollinator health and respond as appropriate in respect of decision-making, asset management and service delivery.

### **OBJECTIVE 5**

For Gedling Borough Council to manage the land it owns, controls and influences in a way which benefits pollinators' habitat and forage including.

- Annual ecology surveys with monitoring of results.
- Number (area) of Borough estate sites with established wildflower areas.
- Number (area/length) of parks and open spaces with conservation cuts.
- Stop pesticide/herbicide use on Borough managed parks and open spaces, and manage estate in an active manner for pollinators.
- Gedling Borough Council will work with partners across the borough and county, including parish councils, to better protect pollinators and improve the habitats on which they rely.
- Raise awareness of the importance of pollinators and the need to safeguard them using Facebook and other social media engagement.
- Mobilise residents of the Borough to take their own action within their homes, communities, workplaces, schools, landowners, businesses etc.

## **THE LONG-TERM PLAN**

This document is a continuing plan which is intended to be long term. The many actions set out and the raising of understanding and determination to act among the borough's residents will necessarily take time. It will come in phases; some of the work, like changing grass cutting regimes, has already taken place other setting aside of wildflower areas will take place again in the future. The need for action for pollinators, cannot be understated. It is imperative that we all engage in this policy and action plan to ensure the long terms survival of our biodiverse habitats.



## Report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee

**Subject:** Update Report on the Quiet Firework Policy

**Date:** 22 April 2024

**Author:** Head of Environment

### Purpose

The purpose of the report is to update Scrutiny members with information on the application of the Council's Quiet Fireworks policy in relation to firework displays held on Council owned land.

The report follows a Council motion on 27 January 2021, regarding the adverse effects that loud noise from fireworks can have on the welfare of vulnerable people and animals. The Council resolved to launch a public campaign to raise awareness of these impacts in the Borough, encourage advance advertising of planned firework events and promote alternative forms of activity such as quiet fireworks or other light displays. It also resolved to look at how fireworks are used at Council events with a view to move away from loud fireworks.

### Recommendation:

#### That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- **Note the report and makes comments as appropriate**

### Background

- 1.1 On 27 January 2021, the Council was asked to consider a motion under Standing Order 12 to resolve to:
- 1.2 Require all public firework displays within the local authority boundaries to be advertised in advance of the event, allowing residents to take precautions for their animals and vulnerable people.
- 1.3 Actively promote a public awareness campaign about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people – including the precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks.
- 1.4 Write to the UK Government and Gedling Borough's two local Members of Parliament urging them to introduce legislation to limit the maximum noise level of fireworks to 90dB for those sold to the public for private displays and to support the RSPCA in their campaign to ensure the safety of all animals.
- 1.5 Encourage local suppliers of fireworks to stock 'quieter' fireworks for public display.

- 1.6 Write to the Leader and Chief Executive of Nottinghamshire County Council inviting and encouraging them to also take the action outlined in points 1.1 – 1.5 above.
- 1.7 Work with Nottinghamshire County Council and all other relevant authorities to ensure existing legislation regarding purchase of and setting off fireworks is enforced across our borough and county.
- 1.8 The motion was approved.
- 1.9 With only three Borough Council authorised events that have fireworks as part of their event programme, it was recognised that an important role demonstrating the local authority's stance as a community influencer, through positive communications, would have a key role to play in encouraging local councils, community groups and individual residents adopting similar stances in the future.

### **Update on Implementation of the Policy**

- 2.1 Noise controls on firework displays announced by Broxtowe Borough Council in July 2020, Nottingham City Council in January 2021, and Rushcliffe Borough Council in March 2021 were received positively by residents and the policy has been well received in Gedling since its' introduction in January 2021.
- 2.2 Local fireworks suppliers are being encouraged to stock quieter fireworks, limited to the maximum noise level of fireworks to 90dB for those sold to the public for private displays. To help minimise the disruption of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people, low/reduced noise fireworks are now commonly available on the UK domestic sales market with Asda, Tesco, Morrisons and Aldi all stocking low noise varieties. In 2019, Sainsbury's took the decision to ban firework sales entirely.
- 2.3 Most commercial display companies offer low/reduced noise fireworks as a customisable option on professional displays. There is no significant price premium for reduced noise options. Low noise fireworks, i.e. those under 90dB are not completely silent but are restricted to a comfortable prescribed level.
- 2.4 All public displays on council owned land are advertised in advance to actively promote public awareness about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people to allow residents to take precautions for them, and the Council will actively promote the RSPCA's public awareness campaign: #BangOutOfOrder campaign to raise awareness of the impact of fireworks on animals, highlighting precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks at key times of the year such as Bonfire Night, New Year, Chinese New Year and Diwali. An example 'Record of a Decision' to hold such an event is attached at Appendix 3. Your attention is drawn to paragraph point 5 of the 'Record'.
- 2.5 Partnership work with other relevant authorities is ensuring that existing legislation regarding the purchase of and setting off fireworks is enforced across our borough and county and the council continue to work with community groups to ensure the rules around only using quiet fireworks are adhered to.
- 2.6 The UK Government and Gedling Borough's two local Members of Parliament have been written to, to urge them to introduce legislation to limit the maximum noise level of fireworks to 90dB for those sold to the public for private displays and to support the RSPCA in their campaign to ensure the safety of all animals.

2.7 The Leader and Chief Executive of Nottinghamshire County Council have been written to, to invite and encourage them to consider application of a similar policy to the Council's, to be applied Countywide.

### 3 **Proposal**

That the committee note the report and makes comments as appropriate.

### 4 **Alternative options**

The committee could choose not to note the report and give any comments, but this would go against their wish to review the delivery of the motion.

### 5 **Financial implications**

No additional council resources were utilised specifically for the motion.

### 6 **Legal implications**

None.

### 7 **Equalities implications**

The Quiet Fireworks initiative supports vulnerable people at risk of being disturbed by loud noises held at such firework events and helps them combat panic, isolation and loneliness.

### 8 **Carbon reduction/environmental sustainability implications**

There are no immediate carbon implications as a direct result of this report.

### 9 **Appendices**

Appendix 1: Quiet Firework Policy.

Appendix 2: List of firework events held in the Borough, including those held on Council owned land.

Appendix 3: Example Record of Decision made by an Officer to give permission for a community group, the Warren Action Group, to hold their Annual Free Fireworks Display at Muirfield Recreation Ground.





**Gedling**  
Borough Council



# Quiet Fireworks Policy

M Cryer - Head of Environment  
Review: April 2024



If you wish to use council-owned land for a function or event, you will only be permitted to allow the release of silent/quiet fireworks. This also applies to any events supported by the council, including those not on council land.

Loud noise from fireworks can have an adverse effect on the welfare of vulnerable people and animals:

- Children and adults with sensory processing disorders or who are on the autistic spectrum can have hyper sensitivities to sound, light, touch, taste, smell and pain which stimulate anxiety and feelings of being overwhelmed or confused. These feelings are also common for people with conditions that affect the brain or nervous system, such as Dementia.
- People with hearing conditions such as hyperacusis, which can cause a difficulty in tolerance and volume of sounds that would not be considered loud by individuals with normal hearing.
- People with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) may have difficulties with loud sounds such as an exaggerated startle response, fear of sound (phonophobia) or aversion to specific sounds (misophonia), which may trigger flashbacks or panic attacks.
- People with respiratory conditions such as asthma, COPD and lung disease may also experience adverse impacts of the air pollutants and particulate matter expelled by fireworks, though air quality degradation is short-term.
- Significant fear and distress can be caused to all animals due to the sudden noise.

Fireworks are often used throughout the year to mark different events, and while they can bring much enjoyment, for some they can be stressful, especially for vulnerable people, pets, livestock and other wildlife. Not only can they cause psychological stress, they can also lead to serious injuries as they attempt to run away or hide from the noise.

All public displays on council owned land will be advertised in advance to actively promote public awareness about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people to allow residents to take precautions for them, and the council will actively promote the RSPCA's public awareness campaign: #BangOutOfOrder campaign to raise awareness of the impact of fireworks on animals, highlighting precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks.

Working in partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council and other relevant authorities, we will ensure existing legislation regarding the purchase of and setting off fireworks is enforced across our borough and county. Local fireworks suppliers will be encouraged to stock quieter fireworks, limited to the maximum noise level of fireworks to 90dB for those sold to the public for private displays. This will help minimise the disruptions and the council will be working with community groups to ensure the rules around only using quiet fireworks are adhered to.

**List of firework events held in the Borough, including those held on Council owned land.**

Public displays held annually within the Borough:

Muirfield Road Recreation Ground - bonfire event, 5 November **[GBC owned land]**

Killisick Rec – Scouts Bonfire **[GBC owned land]**

Woodborough Village Fireworks, 5 November – 5pm

Elwes Arms, Carlton, 5 November – 6pm

Mellish RFC bonfire and Fireworks, Mapperley, 6 November – 6pm

Bonfire Bonanza at Notts Maze, Arnold, 4 November – 6.30pm

4th Carlton Scout Groups Firework and bonfire night at KGV, Standhill Rec, Carlton, 6 November – 7pm **[GBC owned land]**

Bonfire Night, Top Club, Calverton, 6 November – 7.30pm

Papplewick YFC Bonfire and Fireworks Display, Ravenshead Farm Shop, 5 November

Record of Decision made by an Officer

1 **TITLE**

Event: Warren Action Group (WAG) Annual Free Fireworks Display

2 **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

To give permission for WAG to organise a firework display at Muirfield Recreation Ground on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November between 5:30pm to 8:30pm (fireworks to start at 7:30pm)

10 **IS THIS A KEY DECISION**

No

11 **DECISION MADE BY**

Head of Environment

5 **DECISION**

That WAG be allowed to run their event at Muirfield Recreation Ground on the above dates and times. Estimated attendance up to 500. **WAG have liaised with the Firework company to ensure the reduction of the decibels of the fireworks and will market the event widely within the area ensuring residents have prior knowledge of the event.**

This decision is dependent on correct insurance and the issue of a user licence agreement indemnifying Gedling Borough Council in the event of accident for any activities held on the park. WAG will have also consulted the Nottinghamshire Safety Advisory Group to assist with an event management plan having full regard for health & safety at the event. The management plan will be approved prior to the event.

6 **REASON FOR DECISION**

To encourage use of the Council's Parks and Open Spaces.

7 **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

Not to hold the event.

8 **PRINCIPAL GROUPS CONSULTED**

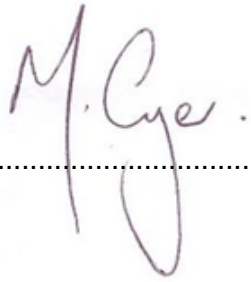
e.g. The Environment Portfolio Holder, Corporate Director and Ward Members.

9 **DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED**

Insurance Certificate, GBC user licence agreement issued by legal section and an Event Management Plan approved by the Notts Safety Advisory Group.

10 **DECLARED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

None.



SIGNED: ..... DATE: 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023

## Report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee

**Subject:** Corporate Risk Management Scorecard Quarter 3 2023/24

**Date:** 22 April 2024

**Author:** Head of Finance and ICT

### 1. Purpose of the Report

To update members on the current level of assurance that can be provided against each corporate risk.

#### Recommendations:

#### That Members:

- Note the progress of actions identified within the Corporate Risk Register.

### 2. Background

The current Risk Management Strategy & Framework was last considered and approved by the Cabinet in October 2017. It is due for renewal this financial year, and a new Risk Management Framework forms part of the agenda for this meeting with the final version to be recommended to Cabinet for approval in March.

As part of the review of the Risk Management Strategy, a process review of internal risk management and risk registers has been undertaken with a view to making the system and reporting of risks more automated.

The purpose of the current Strategy and Framework is to define how risks are managed by the Council. It provides guidance on the processes, procedures, roles, and responsibilities for risk, and it sets out the context on how risks are to be managed. It defines the key role for the Audit Committee as providing independent assurance to the Council with regard to the effectiveness of the risk management framework and the associated control environment. This includes the monitoring of the framework and ensuring the implementation of all audit actions.

The Corporate Risk Register is a key enabler of the Strategy and Framework and provides assurance on the key risks identified as corporate risks.

Existing risks identified within both the Council’s corporate and operational service risk registers are subject to quarterly review by senior management and on an ongoing basis through the work of Internal Audit.

### **3. Corporate Risk Register**

This approach has meant that some of the risks included within the Corporate Risk Register have been set at a relatively high score with the expectation that as mitigation measures are properly recorded or actions taken, then these risks should start to improve over the coming months. This is not to say that all risks will return to ‘green’, as mitigation measures can only go so far, and some risks may always be inherently ‘red’ or ‘amber’ as the score reflects the potential impact on the Council and the likelihood of that event occurring.

The Corporate Risk Register and supporting comments as at the end of December 2023 are appended to this report, and this includes a summary of all control gaps identified on the Council’s Corporate Risk Register at quarter 3.

### **4. Financial Implications**

None arising directly from this report.

### **5. Legal Implications**

The Council is required to have risk management arrangements in place as part of its functions under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

### **6. Equalities Implications**

None arising directly from this report.

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

None arising directly from this report.

### **8. Appendices**

Appendix 1 - Corporate Risk Register Monitoring – Quarter 3, period ending 31 December 2023

Appendix 2 - Risk Management Scoring Matrix


Appendix 3 – Risk Definitions


#### **Statutory Officer Approval**

**Approved by:** Chief Financial Officer  
**Date:**


**Approved by:** Monitoring Officer  
**Date:**

## Appendix 1 - Corporate Risk Register Monitoring – Quarter 1 – Period Ending 31 December 2023

1	<p><b>FAILURE TO PREVENT BUDGET OVERHEATING ONCE THE BUDGET HAS BEEN SET</b></p> <p><b>Owner:</b> Head of Finance &amp; ICT</p> <p><b>Current Risk:</b> GREEN B2, low likelihood / minor impact</p> <p><b>Direction of Travel:</b> 22/23 Q1 D3; Q2 D3; Q3 B3; Q4 B1. 23/24 Q1 B1; Q2 B1; Q3 B2;</p> <p><b>Definition:</b></p> <p><i>Shorter term implications of overspending budgets or not collecting as much income as forecasted. This can cause adverse impact on Council balances.</i></p> <p><b>Key Risk Driver:</b> Financial Impact</p> <p><b>Raw Risk:</b> RED E3, very high likelihood / serious impact (£50k - £500k)</p> <p><b>Commentary:</b></p> <p>Budget monitoring reports are presented to Cabinet on a quarterly basis, and reflect a review of current year budgets and spend to date. They also recognise any trends (both underspends and overspends) as reported in the year-end outturn report.</p> <p><u>Actions completed to quarter 3:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quarter 1 budget monitoring report was presented to Cabinet on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023. This reported a forecast NIL variance at year end.</li> <li>• Quarter 2 budget monitoring was reported to Cabinet on 9 November 2023 this reported an overall underspend, however there were significant departmental overspends identified which if not controlled could change the overall position at Quarter 3 and therefore increase the risk.</li> <li>• Quarter 3 budget monitoring report was reported to Cabinet on 31 January 2024, whilst it showed a balanced budget position, some significant overspends have been identified in some service areas which have been addressed with appropriate heads of service. The overspends can be offset with additional income and savings from other service areas thus maintaining a balanced budget</li> </ul>	
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	<p>position. As the years budget risk reserve has been fully utilised additional overspends in quarter 4 may not be able to be offset with savings from other areas, therefore, the risk of an overall overspend in year has increased for Quarter 3.</p> <p><u>Actions outstanding:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As a result of overspends identified in quarter 2 &amp; 3 in areas of PASC and Waste, actions are being considered to reduce the overspend continuing into the last quarter.</li> <li>• Zero based budget exercises are being considered for the PASC &amp; Waste due to continuous overspends.</li> </ul>
2	<p><b>FAILURE TO MAINTAIN FINANCIAL INTEGRITY</b></p> <p><b>Owner: Head of Finance and IT</b></p> <p><b>Current Risk: RED E4, very high likelihood / major impact £500k to £1m</b></p> <p><b>Direction of Travel: 22/23 Q1 E4; Q2 E4; Q3 E4; Q4 E4. 23/24 Q1 E4; Q2 E4; Q3 E4</b> </p> <p><b>Definition:</b></p> <p><i>Affecting the ability of the Council to meet its financial commitments in the longer term.</i></p> <p><b>Key Risk Driver:</b> Financial Impact</p> <p><b>Raw Risk Value:</b> RED E5, very high likelihood / critical impact (£1M+)</p> <p><b>Commentary:</b></p> <p>The preparation of a balanced budget is a fundamental requirement placed on all local authorities, and this can only be achieved by the control of expenditure and the maintenance or improvement in income. The main financial risk issue continues to be the delivery of the ongoing £2.857m efficiency target against a backdrop of pay rises, fuel and energy price increases, and national pressures around the future of local government funding.</p> <p><u>Actions completed to quarter 3:</u></p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Medium Term Financial Plan was presented to Council on 2 March 2023 as part of the 2023/24 General Fund Revenue Budget report. It set a future efficiency target of £2.857m and officers, completed a review of budgets and a programme of proposed efficiencies have will be put forward for consideration as part of budget setting for 2024/25.</li> <li>• The budget report for 2024/25 is nearing completion and will be presented to Cabinet on 21 February 2024 and Full Council on 6 March 2024.</li> <li>• Proposed Efficiencies have been presented to Portfolio Holder to agree plans for delivery in 2024/25, 2025/26 and 2026/27</li> </ul> <p><u>Actions outstanding</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of a Procurement and Contract Management Strategy to ensure value for money in purchasing. This will reflect the recommendations arising from the internal audit reviews of both Contract Management and Procurement. It will also need to reflect changes arising from the new UK Procurement Bill currently progressing through parliament. TARGET DATE: April 2024.</li> <li>• Development and implementation of a Charging Strategy to maximise current income streams and identify new income opportunities in accordance with all relevant statutory and corporate requirements. TARGET DATE: June 2024.</li> <li>• Completion of additional Internal Audit work required on main financial systems in response to the alleged fraud in 2022, and ongoing liaison with External Audit. To be presented to Audit March 2024.</li> </ul>
3	<p><b>FAILURE TO PROTECT STAFF, INCLUDING HEALTH &amp; SAFETY ISSUES</b></p> <p><b>Owner: Corporate Director</b></p> <p><b>Current Risk: AMBER C3, significant likelihood / serious impact</b></p> <p><b>Direction of Travel: 22/23 Q1 B3; Q2 B3; Q3 C3; Q4 C3. 23/24 Q1 C3; Q2 C3; Q3 C3</b> </p> <p><b>Definition:</b></p>

	<p><i>Ineffective systems, processes and equipment that can present danger to individuals or groups of employees.</i></p> <p><b>Key Risk Driver:</b> Health &amp; Safety</p> <p><b>Raw Risk Value:</b> RED D4, high likelihood / major impact (loss of life / major illness)</p> <p><b>Commentary:</b></p> <p>All staff should feel safe at work and be protected against all dangers wherever possible.</p> <p><u>Actions completed to quarter 3:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Health and Safety team continued their programme of inspections and corporate review of risk assessments. This process has identified a number of risks which need to be addressed and some risk assessments which are overdue for review and/or with appropriate control measures not being fully identified, for which mitigations are being planned. It was hoped that the risk level would reduce in quarter 3, however some actions to address risk remain outstanding at quarter 3, staff shortages in some areas has meant actions have not been completed in a timely manner.</li> <li>• The rollout of the new Civic centre emergency evacuation procedure was implemented in quarter 3, with one test completed and more planned for quarter 4.</li> <li>• Health and Safety internal audit was completed in quarter 3 with an overall moderate assurance, there were some actions around risk management with training highlighted. Resourcing remained an issue in quarter 3 however the Health &amp; Safety Officer returned from maternity leave in January so overall risk may reduce in quarter 4.</li> </ul> <p><u>Actions outstanding:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To continue with the programme of health and safety inspections to determine the corporate-wide risk position and ensure the delivery of mitigation actions to address identified risks. TARGET DATE: April 2024.</li> </ul>
4	<p><b>FAILURE TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN STAFF, AND MAINTAINING INTERNAL CAPACITY</b></p> <p><b>Owner:</b> Head of HR, Performance &amp; Service Planning</p> <p><b>Current Risk:</b> AMBER C3, significant likelihood / serious impact</p>

**Direction of Travel:** 22/23 Q1 C3; Q2 C3; Q3 C3; Q4 C3.  
23/24 Q1 C3; Q2 C3; C3



**Definition:**

*Associated with the particular nature of each profession, internal protocols, managerial abilities, and sickness levels.*

**Key Risk Driver:** Service Provision


**Raw Risk Value:** AMBER C3, significant likelihood / serious impact (significant elements of a service suspended / reduced)

**Commentary:**

Like nearly all councils, Gedling is experiencing difficulties with recruitment, particularly with professional roles such as planning and finance. Uncertainty also still remains in the future if, for example, funding reductions impact upon the Council's ability to deliver public services.

Actions completed to quarter 3:

- Pentana is now more actively used by officers to manage projects, risks, audit recommendations, carbon management actions, equality actions which will provide an indicator where officers are struggling to deliver due to capacity issues.
- Discussions have been had within Corporate Management Team to share experience and ideas for improving recruitment and retention, some teams have adopted "grow your own" approach and in some areas career grading has been used to attract candidates successfully.
- HR have met with comms to look at the recruitment page and individual recruitment campaigns to try and attract candidates.
- Staff survey was launched with all staff with results fed to Heads of Service to develop action plans for their services to improve on areas where staff have identified issues.
- A review of Agile Working is currently underway with a review of office /desk space having been completed during quarter3.
- A new Workforce Strategy as prepared which set out actions for improvement. (this was presented to SLT in November 23 and has been considered by ACSC).
- High internal audit finding - there were low completion rates of Performance Development Reviews (PDR) which impacts the Council's ability to fully review the skills base of all staff and ensure staff have the necessary skills and tools - including training - to undertake their roles, deliver to expected standards and ensure future development opportunities. A new programme of PDRs has been promoted with PDRs underway and to be completed in quarter 4.

	<p><u>Actions outstanding:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to monitor the national review of the impact of the national living wage on local government pay scales and assess the impact for Gedling. TARGET DATE: n/a.</li> <li>• Investigate opportunities for the introduction of apprenticeships in areas experiencing particular recruitment issues. TARGET DATE: April 2024.</li> <li>• Continue to work with the universities to facilitate the Supported Intern Placement Programme. TARGET DATE: n/a.</li> <li>• Review recruitment options, including a refresh of the website recruitment pages, and which enhances the Council's offer in terms of flexible working and accessibility. TARGET DATE: April 2024.</li> <li>• Continue the review of agile working arrangements currently in place, forming a view on future work needs and requirements, and determining a strategy that will have a positive impact on recruitment and retention of staff. The first step is to review the use of office and desk space / patterns of working within the Civic Centre. TARGET DATE: April 2024.</li> <li>• To monitor the impact of workforce capacity on delivery of the Gedling Plan and compliance with governance requirements by identifying practical measures to reduce the pressure within teams and the fragility of some services. TARGET DATE: April 2024.</li> </ul>
5	<p><b>FAILURE TO PROPERLY UTILISE EXISTING ICT, REACT TO TECHNOLOGY CHANGES, AND PREVENT DATA LOSS</b></p> <p><b>Owner: Head of Finance &amp; IT</b></p> <p><b>Current Risk: Red D3, high likelihood / serious impact</b></p> <p><b>Direction of Travel: 22/23 Q1 C3; Q2 C3; Q3 C3; Q4 C3. 23/24 Q1 C3; Q2 C3; Q3 D3</b></p> <p><b>Definition:</b></p> 

*The capacity of the Council to deal with the pace / scale of technological change, or its ability to use technology to address changing demands. Challenges over the security, storage and retention of both electronic and manual records, and data.*

**Key Risk Driver:** Objectives

**Raw Risk Value:** RED D4, high likelihood / major impact (directorates objectives not met)

**Commentary:**

Good IT is key to the delivery of efficient Council services, and the development of a coherent Digital Strategy is essential.

Actions completed to quarter 3:

- SLT received the findings of the external review of the ICT service, evaluating current service provision and resourcing (baseline review).
- Emergency Response Plan for cyber security incidents approved by SLT.
- An internal Digital Transformation team has been established and continues to work alongside the external consultants to produce a strategy.
- An external consultant Change Network was procured to prepare an IT Strategy, road map and target operating model for ICT, this is nearing completion and is expected in January 24. The Strategy has identified some weaknesses in the ICT environment which will be addressed as part of the road map, therefore the risk has increased in quarter 3.
- Information Security Policy was reviewed and approved by Cabinet on 7 September.

Actions outstanding:

- Completion of the ICT Strategy and other outputs from Change Network working with the Digital Transformation team TARGET DATE – March 2024.
- Establishment of governance arrangements to approve ICT projects – March 2024

6

## FAILURE TO PROTECT & UTILISE PHYSICAL ASSETS

**Owner: Head of Regeneration & Welfare**



**Current Risk: RED C4, significant likelihood / major impact**

**Direction of Travel: 22/23 Q1 C3; Q2 C3; Q3 C3; Q4 C3.  
23/24 Q1 C3; Q2 C4; Q3 C4**

### Definition:

*Buildings that are fit for purpose, safe, secure, and meet legislative requirements for fire, asbestos, and water-testing. Land, buildings and other assets to be recorded on a database.*

**Key Risk Driver:** Health & Safety


**Raw Risk Value:** RED D4, high likelihood / major impact (loss of life / major illness)

### Commentary:


The Council owns and manages a number of buildings and it is important that these are all checked on a regular basis and maintained through an up-to-date Asset Management Plan and Strategy. In addition the Council has some management/maintenance responsibility for joint use buildings such as Leisure Centres which are important assets in delivering the Leisure function. The risk in this area has increased due to some issues at Carlton Forum leisure centre drainage. The risk is being managed but the Council is working with the County Council to mitigate risk in the longer term.


### Actions completed to quarter 3:


- General condition surveys are now in place for the majority of the main operational estate.
- A new compliance regime has been introduced for all Council assets (fire, asbestos, water testing).
- Meeting with the County Council to discuss solutions to drainage issues at Leisure Centre, works likely in April 2024, funding arrangements currently being negotiated with the County taking consideration of the joint use agreement.
- Asset Management surveys are being hindered by lack of an integrated asset management system, with asset details held on multiple spreadsheets and folders.


	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compliance management arrangements have been introduced across pavilions and community centres and conditions surveys being introduced in 2024/25.</li> </ul> <p><u>Actions outstanding:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cyclical update of property condition surveys, starting with those about to expire e.g. pavilions. TARGET DATE: March 2024.</li> <li>• Produce a new Property Asset Management Plan. TARGET DATE: March 2024.</li> <li>• Review the suitability of Council-owned temporary accommodation and establish a short and long term maintenance programme. TARGET DATE: March 2024.</li> </ul>
7	<p><b>FAILURE TO REACT TO CHANGES IN LEGISLATION</b></p> <p><b>Owner: Corporate Director</b></p> <p><b>Current Risk: RED D3, significant likelihood / serious impact</b></p> <p><b>Direction of Travel: 22/23 Q1 C3; Q2 C3; Q3 C3; Q4 C3. 23/24 Q1 C3; Q2 D3; Q3 D3</b> </p> <p><b>Definition:</b></p> <p><i>Associated with current or potential changes in national or European law which can lead to possible breaches of legislation. Assessing the wider implications of new legislation on both the Council and its residents.</i></p> <p><b>Key Risk Driver:</b> Financial Impact</p> <p><b>Raw Risk Value:</b> RED D4, high likelihood / major impact (£500k - £1m)</p> <p><b>Commentary:</b></p> <p>Legislation changes are progressed through parliament and can ultimately affect any Council service. A watching brief on their progression from Bills to Acts is therefore essential. The risk in this area has increased in quarter 2 following the introduction of mandatory qualification requirements for Building Control officers which must be obtained before 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024. This is impacting the current workforce</p>



	<p>and will impact on the ability to deliver the statutory building control function if qualification is not completed.</p> <p><u>Actions completed to quarter 3:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building Control staff are being supported through the qualification this action is ongoing TARGET Date 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024.</li> <li>• Investigations have commenced into alternative arrangements for Building Control in the event of staff no longer wishing to pursue qualification or not obtaining.</li> <li>• Received confirmation that changes to the pension scheme following McCloud case the impact is low.</li> </ul> <p><u>Actions outstanding:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New waste reforms were announced by government on 23 October 2023 to improve and simplify the approach to waste collections in England, such as the introduction of a free weekly food waste collection, and we await further guidance and confirmation of resources needed to implement those changes. TARGET DATE: n/a.</li> <li>• Changes to the procurement act are expected to come into force in October 2024, training of officers with responsibility for the procurement strategy needs to be sourced and undertaken in order to ensure the changes can be included in the strategy in 2024/25.</li> </ul>
8	<p><b>FAILURE OF CONTRACTORS OR PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS – CONTRACTUAL BREACHES</b></p> <p><b>Owner: Head of Finance &amp; IT</b></p> <p><b>Current Risk: AMBR C3, significant likelihood / serious impact</b></p> <p><b>Direction of Travel: 22/23 Q1 B3; Q2 B3; Q3 C3; Q4 C3. 23/24 Q1 C3; Q2 C3; Q3 C3</b> </p> <p><b>Definition:</b></p> <p><i>Associated with the failure of contractors and partnership arrangements to deliver services or products to the agreed cost and specification.</i></p> <p><b>Key Risk Driver: Financial Impact</b></p>

	<p><b>Raw Risk Value:</b> RED D3, high likelihood / serious impact (£50k - £500k)</p> <p><b>Commentary:</b></p> <p>This risk focusses on perceived weaknesses in the procurement and contract management processes.</p> <p><u>Actions completed to quarter 3:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The implementation of some actions resulting from the Contract Management and Procurement internal audits.</li> <li>• Captured feedback on current procurement arrangements to consider future changes.</li> </ul> <p><u>Actions outstanding:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of the new Contract Register and Contract Management module as part of the Intend procurement system. TARGET DATE: June 2024.</li> <li>• Review indemnity clauses in terms and conditions for new contracts to ensure that they reflect the Council’s risk appetite. TARGET DATE: June 2024 – this will align with wider review of contract terms as part of Procurement Act review.</li> </ul>
9	<p><b>INABILITY TO DEFEND ONE-OFF CHALLENGES TO A COUNCIL DECISION OR NEW COMPENSATION TREND EMERGES</b></p> <p><b>Owner: Corporate Director</b></p> <p><b>Current Risk: GREEN A3, very low likelihood / serious impact</b></p> <p><b>Direction of Travel: 22/23 Q1 A3; Q2 A3; Q3 A3; Q4 A3. 23/24 Q1 A3; Q2 A3; Q3 A3</b> </p> <p><b>Definition:</b></p> <p><i>Councils are increasingly vulnerable to judicial reviews and new compensation claims.</i></p> <p><b>Key Risk Driver:</b> Financial Impact</p>

	<p><b>Raw Risk Value:</b> RED E3, very high likelihood / serious impact (£50k - £500k)</p> <p><b>Commentary:</b></p> <p>These may arise as a result of a national policy change, Council decision, or lack of action.</p> <p><u>Actions completed to quarter 3:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completion of restructure of legal services means full team which will support capacity to defend one off challenges.</li> <li>• As reported to Environment and Licencing Committee in January 2023, some taxi licensing fees were overcharged and a process of refunds is now operational. A new methodology for calculating the fees has been developed to ensure there will be no reoccurrence going forward.</li> <li>• No Change in risk, no specific threats identified and there is adequate resource in legal services to support any potential challenges.</li> </ul> <p><u>Actions outstanding:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National interest around “employment status” and “worker rights” continues to develop. We need to complete the work on assessing the employment status of individuals working for the Council to ensure that legislative and corporate requirements are met. TARGET DATE: n/a.</li> </ul>
10	<p><b>FAILURE TO MAINTAIN SERVICE STANDARDS, CUSTOMER SATISFACTION, AND/OR MEET CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS</b></p> <p><b>Owner: Corporate Director</b></p> <p><b>Current Risk: GREEN B1, low likelihood / negligible impact</b></p> <p><b>Direction of Travel: 22/23 Q1 B1; Q2 B1; Q3 B1; Q4 B1. 23/24 Q1 B1; Q2 B1; Q3 B1</b> </p> <p><b>Definition:</b></p> <p><i>Related to channel shift to more digital on-line services but retaining the availability of face-to-face services. Affecting the competitiveness of the service (in terms of cost or quality) and/or its ability to deliver best value.</i></p>

	<p><b>Key Risk Driver:</b> Reputation</p> <p><b>Raw Risk Value:</b> RED D4, high likelihood / major impact (adverse national publicity)</p> <p><b>Commentary:</b></p> <p>This risk refers to deliver of service to the customer and ensuring equal access for all.</p> <p><u>Actions completed to quarter 3:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring of complaints in terms of number, underlying reasons and other trends is continuing. With closer work with waste Services to support in responses.</li> <li>• A new Customer Services Strategy to improve customer engagement and ensure customer service standards are maintained has been developed and approved.</li> <li>• Customer Services Outreach centre in Bestwood was launched and has been positive for residents.</li> <li>• Webchat now launched and has received a positive response from users.</li> </ul> <p><u>Actions outstanding:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to monitor and respond as necessary to the impact upon the Council of potential staffing capacity issues in key areas. TARGET DATE: n/a.</li> <li>• Assess impact of staff movement in Customer services to support the implementation of the waste management system, risk may increase in quarter 4 as a result of this.</li> </ul>
11	<p><b>FAILURE TO PREVENT DAMAGE TO THE COUNCIL'S REPUTATION</b></p> <p><b>Owner: Chief Executive</b></p> <p><b>Current Risk: GREEN B2, Low likelihood / minor impact</b></p> <p><b>Direction of Travel: 22/23 Q1 B2; Q2 B2; Q3 B2; Q4 B2. 23/24 Q1 B2; Q2 B2; Q3 B2</b></p> 

	<p><b>Definition:</b></p> <p><i>Related to the Council’s reaction to a specific event or issue, or generally a downturn in quality of service.</i></p> <p><b>Key Risk Driver:</b> Reputation</p> <p><b>Raw Risk Value:</b> RED D4, high likelihood / major impact (adverse national publicity)</p> <p><b>Commentary:</b></p> <p>The failure to effectively manage and control corporate risks as set out in this report would have a detrimental impact on the reputation of the Council. In recent months we have seen several councils issue warnings around finances, and for Gedling this continues to be our highest risk score. One of the major risks for all local authorities is to <u>not</u> meet their promises made in achieving climate change. For Gedling we aim to be carbon neutral by 2030.</p> <p><u>Actions completed to quarter 3:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council has numerous actions for delivery as part of the Carbon Management Strategy Action Plan and work has continued on these.</li> <li>• The Corporate Environment Group has met to monitor delivery of carbon management actions and presented an update to Cabinet.</li> </ul> <p><u>Actions outstanding:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual officers, as well as the Corporate Environment Group, to continue to deliver actions as part of the Carbon Management Strategy Action Plan. TARGET DATE: n/a.</li> <li>• Senior staff management restructure to take place. TARGET DATE: April 2024.</li> </ul>
12	<p><b>FAILURE TO REACT TO AN ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENT OR MALICIOUS ACT</b></p> <p><b>Owner: Corporate Director</b></p> <p><b>Current Risk: AMBER C3, significant likelihood / serious impact</b></p>

**Direction of Travel:** 22/23 Q1 B1; Q2 B3; Q3 C3; Q4 C3.  
23/24 Q1 C3; Q2 C3; Q3 C3



**Definition:**

*Council reaction to a natural occurrence e.g. widespread flooding, or other events such as fire and explosions.*

**Key Risk Driver:** Reputation

**Raw Risk Value:** RED D4, high likelihood / major impact (adverse national publicity)

**Commentary:**

Climate change is expected to require businesses (including Councils) and individuals to adapt their behaviour to reduce the potential of extreme weather events and other risks to public health. This risk also covers preparing for any potential malicious act.

During October the Council mobilised a response to the impacts of Storm Babet and its subsequent recovery actions. The Council is now taking a significant role in inspecting properties and facilitating recovery and improvement payments to local residents and businesses.


There was a high internal audit finding in relation to Business Continuity Plans *“The Council’s BIAs are out of date, of varying quality and the template does not adequately cover business continuity planning, although the Council are currently refreshing these.”* Actions have commenced in quarter 2 to address this.

Actions completed to quarter 3:

- .Departmental Business Continuity Plans largely completed, contractor to be procured to review and assist in corporate BCP completion.
- Corporate Management Team met to review BCPs and identify outstanding actions within departments.
- Winter plan review completed.

Actions outstanding:

- Update of corporate business continuity plan. TARGET DATE: March 2024 – external support now secured to finalise this.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain a watching brief on the requirements of Martyn’s law (protection for the public from terrorism at public venues). TARGET DATE: n/a.</li> <li>• Continue delivery of flood grants scheme for properties affected by Recent Storms and finalise lessons learned from Babet and Henk. TARGET DATE : ongoing</li> </ul>
13	<p><b>FAILURE TO REACT TO SOCIO-ECONOMIC TRENDS</b></p> <p><b>Owner: Chief Executive</b></p> <p><b>Current Risk: GREEN B2, low likelihood / minor impact</b></p> <p><b>Direction of Travel: 22/23 Q1 B2; Q2 B2; Q3 B2; Q4 B2. 23/24 Q1 B2; Q2 B2; Q3 B2</b> </p> <p><b>Definition:</b></p> <p><i>Relating to the effects of changes in demographic, residential, or socio-economic trends on the Council’s ability to meet its objectives.</i></p> <p><b>Key Risk Driver:</b> Reputation</p> <p><b>Raw Risk Value:</b> RED D3, high likelihood / serious impact (adverse regional publicity)</p> <p><b>Commentary:</b></p> <p>This risk relates to the long term view and horizon scanning of potential changes required and modes of delivery for our services.</p> <p><u>Actions completed to quarter 3:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Gedling Plan 2023-27 was finalised following a review of strategic direction in light of available resources and was approved by full Council on 2 March 2023.</li> <li>• Service Planning for 2024/25 has commenced with a focus on socio-economic data</li> </ul> <p><u>Actions outstanding:</u></p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This long term work will require Gedling to work with partners from within the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire regions to deliver a long term strategy as part of the new Mayoral authority from May 2024. TARGET DATE: n/a.</li></ul>
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**HIGH RISK AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS RAISED IN PREVIOUS YEARS BUT NOT YET IMPLEMENTED:**

There are no high risk audit recommendations from previous years that have not been addressed and implemented, however there are some medium level actions from previous years in relation to contracts, procurement and risk which are currently being addressed and should be completed in 2023/24 as detailed in the internal audit follow up report.

**HIGH RISK AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS RAISED IN THIS FINANCIAL YEAR:**

Up to Quarter 2 there have been two, one from the 'Workforce Strategy' audit and one from the 'Business Continuity and Emergency Planning' audit, and these have been included under risk 4 and risk 12 respectively.

During quarter 3 the internal audit on the main financial systems was undertaken with some high-risk recommendations due to the recent fraud coming out of this audit. The findings of the audit and a discussion of remedial actions taken so far will be discussed as an exempt part of this meeting.

## APPENDIX 2 - RISK MANAGEMENT SCORING MATRIX

<b>Likelihood</b>	Very High	E				2	
	High	D			5,7		
	Significant	C			3,4,8,12	6	
	Low	B	10	1,11,13			
	Very Low	A			9		
			1	2	3	4	5
			Negligible	Minor	Serious	Major	Critical
			<b>Impact</b>				

## APPENDIX 3 – RISK DEFINITIONS

	IMPACT				
	Negligible	Minor	Serious	Major	Critical
<b>Financial Impact</b>	£0 - £10k	£10k - £50k	£50k - £500k	£500k - £1M	£1M+
<b>Service Provision</b>	No effect	Slightly reduced	Significant elements of a service suspended/ reduced	Service suspended short term / reduced	Service suspended long term, statutory duties not delivered
<b>Health &amp; Safety</b>	Sticking plaster/ first aider	Broken bones/ illness	Multiple injuries / illness	Loss of life / major illness	Major loss of life / large scale major illness
<b>Objectives</b>		Objectives of one section not met	Service objectives not met	Directorate objectives not met	Corporate objectives not met
<b>Morale</b>		Some hostile relationship and minor non co-operation	Major non co-operation	Industrial action	Mass staff leaving / unable to attract staff
<b>Reputation</b>	No media attention/ minor letters	Adverse local media	Adverse regional publicity	Adverse national publicity	Remembered for years!!
<b>Government relations</b>		Poor assessment	More than one poor assessment	Service taken over temporarily	Service taken over permanently

	LIKELIHOOD				
	Very Low	Low	Significant	High	Very High
<b>Probability</b>	< 10%	10% to 35%	35% to 65%	65% to 90%	> 90%
<b>Timing</b>	Next ten years	Next year to five years	Next 12 months	Next 6 months	Next week / this month

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## Report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee

**Subject:** Scrutiny work programme

**Date:** 22 April 2024

**Author:** Democratic Services Manager

### Purpose of the Report

To provide an update on the scrutiny work programme.

### Recommendation(s)

#### That the overview and scrutiny committee:

- 1) Discusses the draft work programme and identifies any further areas for examination for the 2023/24 year.

## 1 Work programme

A draft programme was discussed at the last committee and an updated version has been attached as appendix 1.

As discussed at previous meetings, there will be future examination of the following areas which has been added into the programme:

- partner performance
- update on welcome and warm spaces
- update on bee friendly and fireworks policies
- Gedling Plan, performance priorities and projects

The programme of portfolio holder attendance will continue, as will other standing items such as performance, and members are invited to put forward any additional ideas for inclusion in the work programme.

## 2 Financial implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

**3 Legal implications**

There are no legal implication arising from this report.

**4 Equalities implications**

There are no equality implications arising from this report.

**5 Carbon Reduction/Environmental Sustainability implications**

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

**6 Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Draft work programme for 23/24 year

## Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme 2023/24 - DRAFT

	Programme of portfolio holding to account	Performance review	Reports/items at committee	Current reviews/responses	Suggestions for partner performance reviews
22 Apr 24	Councillor Wheeler (Confirmed)	Corporate Risk Management Scorecard Quarter 3 23/24  Update on carbon management strategy and action plan	Update on bee friendly policy  Update on fireworks policy		
15 July 24	Cllr Viv McCrossen (TBC)	Corporate Risk Management Scorecard Quarter 4 23/24	Q4 performance  Contacts Magazine update	Update on sewerage review recommendations	Jigsaw Homes
30 Sep 24	Councillor Clarke (Confirmed)			Review of effectiveness of hybrid working	Gedling Play Forum
15 Nov 24	Councillor David Ellis (TBC)		Complaints	Review of fly tipping and litter management across the borough	
15 Jan 25	Councillor Kathryn Fox (TBC)				
10 Mar 25	Councillor Jenny Hollingsworth (TBC)			Review of public parks	
Rolling issues			Procurement policy  Rural area links – public transport offerings	Review of Gedling Plan and performance priorities/projects	



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