

# Birmingham City Council

## Neighbourhoods Overview and Scrutiny Committee

6<sup>th</sup> March 2024



**Subject:** Delays in Births and Deaths Registrations  
**Report of:** Sajeela Naseer, Director of Regulation and Enforcement  
**Report author:** Bev Nash, Head of Bereavement and Registration Services

### 1 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update since the last report was presented on 26 September 2022

### 2 Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the report is noted.

### 3 Any Finance Implications

- 3.1 The improvements to the service delivery referred to in appendix 1 will enable the ongoing generation of income to meet the budget requirements.

### 4 Any Legal Implications

- 4.1 The Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953 imposes a duty upon a Local Authority to register the birth of every child by the Registrar of Births and Deaths for the sub-district in which the child was born before the expiration of 42 days from the date of birth.
- 4.2 And, subject to the provisions of this Act, the death of every person dying in England or Wales and the cause thereof shall be registered by the registrar of births and deaths for the sub-district in which the death occurred within five days of the death.
- 4.3 Council recognises that the Coroners Service is an independent judicial function separate from the local authority and under the present law, its performance management is the responsibility of the Chief Coroner for England and Wales, not the City Council.

## **5 Any Equalities Implications**

5.1 The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- The protected characteristics and groups outlined in the Equality Act are Age; Disability; Gender Reassignment; Marriage and Civil Partnership; Pregnancy and Maternity; Race; Religion and Belief; Sex, and Sexual Orientation.

5.2 To meet the needs of Birmingham's diverse community the service area provide urgent death registrations for faith or other reason. Appointments are generally available on the same or next day on receipt of the required documentation.

## **6 Appendices**

6.1 Update on delays in birth and death registrations