

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

TUESDAY, 13 JULY 2021 AT 14:00 HOURS
IN THE REP STUDIO THEATRE, CENTENARY SQUARE, BROAD STREET, BIRMINGHAM, B1 2EP

A G E N D A

1 NOTICE OF RECORDING

Lord Mayor to advise that this meeting will be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via <https://birmingham-city-council.livevideostream.co.uk/> and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Members are reminded that they must declare all relevant pecuniary and non pecuniary interests arising from any business to be discussed at this meeting. If a disclosable pecuniary interest is declared a Member must not speak or take part in that agenda item. Any declarations will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

1 - 320

3 MINUTES

To confirm and authorise the signing of the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 22 June 2021.

4 LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(1400-1410)

To receive the Lord Mayor's announcements and such communications as the Lord Mayor may wish to place before the Council.

5 PETITIONS

(10 minutes allocated) (1410-1420)

To receive and deal with petitions in accordance with Council Rules of Procedure (B4.4 E of the Constitution)

As agreed by Council Business Management Committee a schedule of

outstanding petitions is available electronically with the published papers for the meeting and can be viewed or downloaded.

6 QUESTION TIME

(70 minutes allocated) (1420-1530)

To deal with oral questions in accordance with Council Rules of Procedure (B4.4 F of the Constitution).

- A. Questions from Members of the Public to any Cabinet Member or Ward Forum Chair (20 minutes)
- B. Questions from any Councillor to a Committee Chair, Lead Member of a Joint Board or Ward Forum Chair (up to 10 minutes)
- C. Questions from Councillors other than Cabinet Members to a Cabinet Member (up to 20 minutes)
- D. Questions from Councillors other than Cabinet Member to the Leader or Deputy Leader (up to 20 minutes)

7 APPOINTMENTS BY THE COUNCIL

(5 minutes allocated) (1530-1535)

To make appointments to, or removal from, committees, outside bodies or other offices which fall to be determined by the Council.

321 - 434 **8 UPDATE ON BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL'S CONTINUING RESPONSE TO COVID-19 AND PROPOSED APPROACH TO RECOVERY**

(45 minutes allocated) (1535-1620)

To consider a report of the Cabinet.

The Leader, Councillor Ian Ward to move the following Recommendation:

"That the report be noted."

(break 1620-1650)

435 - 436 **9 MOTIONS FOR DEBATE FROM INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS**

(90 minutes allocated) (1650-1820)

To consider the attached Motions of which notice has been given in accordance with Council Rules of Procedure (B4.4 G of the Constitution).



**MEETING OF BIRMINGHAM
CITY COUNCIL
22 JUNE, 2021**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL HELD
ON TUESDAY, 22 JUNE, 2021 AT 1400 HOURS IN THE LYTTLETON
THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM MIDLAND INSTITUTE, MARGARET STREET,
BIRMINGHAM**

PRESENT:- Lord Mayor (Councillor Mohammed Afzal) in the Chair

Councillors

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Mohammed Aikhlaj | Charlotte Hodivala | John O'Shea |
| Robert Alden | Shabrana Hussain | Robert Pocock |
| Mohammad Azim | Timothy Huxtable | Julien Pritchard |
| Nicky Brennan | Morriam Jan | Hendrina Quinnen |
| Tristan Chatfield | Meirion Jenkins | Carl Rice |
| Zaker Choudhry | Brigid Jones | Dominic Stanford |
| Liz Clements | Mariam Khan | Martin Straker Welds |
| Maureen Cornish | Mike Leddy | Saima Suleman |
| Phil Davis | John Lines | Sharon Thompson |
| Jayne Francis | Ewan Mackey | Ian Ward |
| Fred Grindrod | Majid Mahmood | Ken Wood |
| Paulette Hamilton | Karen McCarthy | Waseem Zaffar |
| Roger Harmer | Simon Morrall | |

NOTICE OF RECORDING

19496 The Lord Mayor advised that the meeting would be webcast for live and subsequent broadcasting via the Council's internet site and that members of the Press/Public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.

The Lord Mayor reminded Members that they did not enjoy Parliamentary Privilege in relation to debates in the Chamber and Members should be careful in what they say during all debates that afternoon.

The Lord Mayor reminded Members to ensure that their mobile phones were turned on to silent. There was a list of speakers for each item. Members were asked to remain silent as the microphones for the webcast will pick up sounds across the Theatre. Finally Members should stand when speaking as they would in the Council Chamber.

5092

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 19497 The Lord Mayor reminded Members that they must declare all relevant pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests relating to any items of business to be discussed at this meeting

Any declarations would be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. No declarations of interests were declared.

MINUTES

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and –

- 19498 **RESOLVED:-**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 25 May, 2021 having been circulated to each Member of the Council, be taken as read and confirmed and signed.

LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 19499 There were no Lord Mayor's announcements.
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PETITIONS

Petitions Relating to City Council Functions Presented at the Meeting

The following petitions were presented:-

(See document No. 1)

In accordance with the proposals by the Members presenting the petitions, it was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and -

- 19500 **RESOLVED:-**

That the petitions be received and referred to the relevant Chief Officer(s) to examine and report as appropriate.

Petitions Update

The following Petitions Update had been made available electronically:-

(See document No. 2)

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and -

19501 **RESOLVED:-**

That the Petitions Update be noted and those petitions for which a satisfactory response has been received, be discharged.

QUESTION TIME

19502 The Council proceeded to consider Oral Questions in accordance with Council Rules of Procedure (B4.4 F of the Constitution).

Details of the questions asked are available for public inspection via the Webcast.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE COUNCIL

Following nominations it was:-

19503 **RESOLVED:-**

That appointments be made by the City Council for Members to serve on the Committees and other bodies set out below:-

Licensing and Public Protection Committee

Councillor Martin Straker-Welds (Lab) in place of Councillor Olly Armstrong (Lab) for the period ending with the next Annual Meeting of the Council;

WMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Shabrana Hussain (Lab) in place of Councillor Julie Johnson (Lab) for the period ending with the next Annual Meeting of the Council;

WMCA Strategic Economic Delivery Board

Confirm the appointment of the Leader, Councillor Ian Ward (Lab) to the WMCA Strategic Economic Delivery Board for the period ending with the next Annual Meeting of the Council.

Planning Committee

Councillor Dominic Stanford (Con) in place of Councillor Simon Morrall (Con) for the period ending with the next Annual Meeting of the Council.

UPDATE ON BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL'S CONTINUING RESPONSE TO COVID-19 AND PROPOSED APPROACH TO RECOVERY

- 19504 The Lord Mayor advised that due to the continuing Covid restrictions affecting the meeting the report of the Cabinet providing an update on the Council's continuing response to Covid 19 and the proposed approach to recovery would be deferred until the next meeting.
-

ANNUAL REPORT:LATE REPORTS NOT ON THE FORWARD PLAN AND THOSE AUTHORISED FOR IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION

The following report of the Council Business Management Committee was submitted:-

(See document no. 3)

The Leader of the Council Ian Ward moved the motion which was seconded.

The Motion having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be carried.

It was therefore

- 19505 **RESOLVED:-**

That the report be noted.

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE FROM INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

- 19506 That due to the continuing Covid restrictions affecting the meeting the Motions for debate from Individual Members would be deferred until the next meeting.
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DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 19507 It was noted that the July Council Meeting will now be held on 20 July 2021 owing to the changes to the ending of Covid restrictions.
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The meeting ended at 1542 hours.

APPENDIX

Questions and replies in accordance with Council Rules of Procedure B4.4 F of the Constitution:-

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR CHARLOTTE HODIVALA

A1 Contracts

Question:

Has any of the following companies had any contracts with the Council or third parties used by the Council, for example CAZ equipment?

Rikvision

Alibaba

Huawei

Nuctech

China National Nuclear Corporation

Answer:

There is no Council spend or contracts with any of the named organisations.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR DAVID BARRIE**

A2 Social Media

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of all social media companies the Council has used in the last 6 years, including how much has been spent on each and for what?

Answer:

The Council has used over the past 6 years, Twitter, You Tube, Facebook, Instagram, Linked In and Tik Tok

Corporate Comms has used paid for advertising to boost posts on Facebook and Linked In to support various campaigns as per the breakdown below.

| Year | Type of Spend | Amount | Details / Campaigns |
|---------|-------------------|--------|---|
| 2015-16 | Facebook Adverts | £300 | BBC Good Music Awards |
| 2016-17 | Facebook Adverts | £1458 | Adoption / Budget Consultation / Green Waste / Zero Hero |
| 2017-18 | Facebook Adverts | £2418 | UTSAV / Clean Air Day / Waste management / Budget Consultation / |
| 2018-19 | Facebook Adverts | £2198 | Elections / Urban Cohesion / Rental hubs |
| 2019-20 | Facebook Adverts | £1005 | CAZ Taxi drivers / Christmas Waste / EUSSS |
| 2020-21 | Facebook Adverts | £8,047 | Public Health / Covid / CAZ / Our Future Our City / Be Bold Be Birmingham |
| 2020-21 | Linked In Adverts | £425 | Public Health Covid |
| 2021-22 | Facebook Adverts | £67 | Our Future Our City |

5097

| | | | |
|-------|--|--------|--|
| Total | | £15918 | |
|-------|--|--------|--|

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP**

A3 Social Media Contracts

Question:

Since 2015, has the Council hired any companies to monitor social media or traditional media criticising the Council, if so, please include details of each contract?

Answer:

Corporate Communications have used the following media monitoring companies to provide all mentions, regardless of the tone, of 'Birmingham City Council' in Print Media, Broadcast Media, Online media and social media.

2015 – 2017 Precise Media Monitoring £10,198 p.a.

2017 – 2019 Veullio Media Monitoring £10,500 p.a

2019 onwards Veullio Media Monitoring £9,960 p.a.

We have also used Orlo, a platform which allows us to schedule social media posts and allows evaluation of these posts, and monitor responses to them, regardless of tone.

2017 - £5200

2018 - £5460

2019 - £8000

2020 – £8000

2021 – £10000

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR SIMON MORRALL**

A4 Building Survey

Question:

It is standard practice for the Council to survey a building before buying it?

Answer:

It is dependent on the property in question.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR ALEX YIP**

A5 Buildings Bought

Question:

How many buildings has the Council bought since 2012 without a survey before purchase for what total cost?

Answer:

Without specific information, this will take an excessive amount of officer time to collate.

If Councillor Yip can provide more precise details of his request, I will ask officers to respond accordingly.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR MATT BENNETT**

A6 Birmingham Smithfield

Question:

What is the cost for the temporary use of Birmingham Smithfield for the purposes of hosting the 3x3 basketball, 3x3 wheelchair basketball and beach volleyball events for the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games including planning, construction and removal costs, including any money paid to LendLease, or adjustment to other payments or from them to compensate for the use and delays to permanent construction?

Answer:

The costs to be incurred by the Council in preparing the site for Games use are limited to costs associated with the demolition of the site (including Manor House and the car parks at Moat Lane and Pershore Street) prior to handover to the Birmingham 2022 Organising Committee. It is estimated that the required works will cost approximately £3.6million, to be funded in the first instance through Council borrowing.

In the absence of the Games, these works would have been undertaken at a later date as a part of the redevelopment scheme, and would be the subject of an application for Enterprise Zone funding.

The underlying costs will continue to form a part of the forthcoming Enterprise Zone funding application, with the additional interest costs incurred as a result of the acceleration of these works agreed to be fully funded by the Birmingham 2022 Organising Committee.

The Commonwealth Games will generate a significant economic benefit for Birmingham, enhance the city's image nationally and internationally and provide a lasting legacy to the benefit of all Birmingham citizens.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR DAVID PEARS**

A7 Paradise Circus Queensway

Question:

Please set out the steps involved in the decision to rename Paradise Circus Queensway 'Lyon Queensway', including who made the decision, who was consulted and the costs involved (including costs of consultation and costs of new signage etc)?

Answer:

There was a requirement to rename Paradise Circus Queensway in 2016, as it is no longer a roundabout otherwise known as a 'Circus'. It was therefore suggested by then Birmingham City Council Leader Councillor Bore, that the substantial part of Paradise Circus Queensway (leading between Suffolk Street Queensway and Summer Row) could be renamed as Lyon Queensway. This would further develop Birmingham's relationship with Lyon, our partner city, and reciprocate their naming of Avenue de Birmingham.

Consultation with Ward Councillors was undertaken in October 2016. Local residents were consulted in February 2017, and again in the form of the display of public notices in July 2018 as part of the Public Health Act. The name received no objections. The name was changed on 20th December 2018, however due to the ongoing roadworks no nameplates have been installed yet.

The renaming fee in 2016 was £1,080. As there were no objections, there were no other fees such as the Magistrates Court. The approximate cost of officer time in undertaking this process was £3,700. As the number/location of nameplate signs needed has not yet been confirmed, or any fabrication/installation undertaken, these costs are not available. An approximate cost for one sign (including posts and foundations) is £250.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR ADRIAN DELANEY**

A8 Council Review

Question:

Please provide a copy of all paperwork, reports commentary and recommendations from the Council review of statues and road names?

Answer:

Officers have made an initial assessment of civic statues and monuments including those that have been identified by action groups and others as to having links with the transatlantic slave trade and/or colonialism. This information is available and will help inform the initial work to review our statues and monuments.

We will also ensure that other plaques accompanying our monuments properly and fully explain their historical context, where appropriate. A primary piece of academic research has been commissioned by BMT regarding James Watt, particularly his links with the transatlantic slave trade, to help inform a new plaque prior to the re-installation of the Boulton, Watt, Murdoch (The Golden Boys) Statue in Centenary Square. This will also be used to write further information that can be accessed via a web page – for example via a QR Code from a mobile device.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR EDDIE FREEMAN**

A9 Cost of Reviews

Question:

What is the cost of the review into statues and road names, included costs already incurred and costs projected to be spent?

Answer:

Officers have collated an internal summary of civic statues and monuments including those that have been identified by action groups and others as to having links with the transatlantic slave trade and/or colonialism.

We will ensure that plaques accompanying our monuments properly and fully explain their historical context, where appropriate.

A primary piece of academic research has been commissioned and undertaken regarding James Watt, particularly his links with the transatlantic slave trade, to help inform a new plaque prior to the re-installation of the Boulton, Watt, Murdoch (The Golden Boys) Statue in Centenary Square. This information will also be used to provide further information that can be accessed via a web page – for example via a QR Code from a mobile device.

The cost of work to date is £4,700 and was commissioned by Birmingham Museums Trust using capacity from their 2020-21 repairs & maintenance budget for maintaining civic statues & monuments. However, this doesn't include the cost of the designing and fabricating of a new plaque and setting up QR codes in 2021-22 which has yet to be determined.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE ALDEN**

A10 Costs

Question:

What is the cost of everybody's battle, everybody's business work, including office time and all follow up reports and consultation so far?

Answer

"Everyone's Battle, Everyone's Business" is a major priority for this Council and the work undertaken to date has constituted core business for the Council's Equalities Team, supported by the Council's communications team as part of their everyday duties. A sum of £6,000 was paid for commissioned work undertaking promotional activities linked to the consultation".

This Labour Council is committed to equalities. It is to be hoped that the opposition group on the council also takes this work seriously.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR TIMOTHY HUXTABLE**

A11 EY Report – Home to School Transport 6

Question:

On what date did you, as Leader of the Council, receive and read the full 200 page EY report with appendices on Home to School Transport?

Answer:

The Improving Home to School Transport Report went to Cabinet on 15th December 2020 and after a Scrutiny call in on 6th January the report was amended and approved by the Executive on 19th January 2021.

To incorporate further consultation with parents and carers, EY held four facilitated feedback sessions between the 20th and 27th January and the views were collated and incorporated as an addendum to the main report. I received this on 29th March 2021.

A Leader's taskforce was also established to work with parents and carers to address concerns and move forward. These monthly meetings commenced in January 2021 and have been very constructive. A further public meeting with parents and carers is to be held on 21st July 2021.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR PETER FOWLER**

A12 Travel

Question:

How did you travel to and from the airport in both Birmingham and Belfast to make your Twitter video for the already purchased hydrogen buses (If by car/taxi please state make, model and year)?

Answer:

This activity formed a small part of a wider programme including securing a more strategic relationship with the manufacturer to enable longer term benefits of supply chain jobs for Birmingham, an apprenticeship scheme and opportunities for research and development.

WrightBus is one of the market leaders in hydrogen fuel technology and discussions were undertaken to explore how this may be beneficial to the city in respect of other vehicle types and importantly refuelling infrastructure requirements and cost considerations.

Bearing in mind the importance of this visit and the potential future gains for Birmingham, I did not note the make, model or year of the taxis used, as I was focussed on the important matters at hand.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR KEN WOOD**

A13 Carbon Footprint

Question:

What was the total carbon footprint of your visit to Belfast to make the video for the already purchased hydrogen buses?

Answer:

The smartphone video referenced was taken at the WrightBus factory as part of the pre-delivery inspection of the Council's hydrogen buses ahead of final payments and the subsequent transfer of ownership.

This activity formed a small part of a wider programme including securing a more strategic relationship with the manufacturer to enable longer term benefits of supply chain jobs for Birmingham, an apprenticeship scheme and opportunities for research and development.

WrightBus is one of the market leaders in hydrogen fuel technology and discussions were undertaken to explore how this may be beneficial to the city in respect of other vehicle types and importantly refuelling infrastructure requirements and cost considerations.

A return flight from Birmingham to Belfast generates approximately **113kg CO2 using** a carbon estimation calculator. Based on an average utilisation rate of 88 people, this equates to around 1.28kg of CO2 emissions per person for a return trip at a total contribution of 5.14kg/CO2 based on four people travelling on same flight.

The airline industry (including Aer Lingus and Easy Jet as the airlines used), participate in the highest standard carbon offsetting projects, that meet Gold Standard and Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) accreditation through implementing carbon off-setting for every flight.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR DARIUS SANDHU**

A14 Filming

Question:

Who filmed the social media videos posted on Twitter during your visit to Wright Buses Limited to view the already purchase Hydrogen Buses?

Answer:

Councillor Waseem Zaffar.

This activity formed a small part of a wider programme including securing a more strategic relationship with the manufacturer to enable longer term benefits of supply chain jobs for Birmingham, an apprenticeship scheme and opportunities for research and development.

WrightBus is one of the market leaders in hydrogen fuel technology and discussions were undertaken to explore how this may be beneficial to the city in respect of other vehicle types and importantly refuelling infrastructure requirements and cost considerations.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR MAUREEN CORNISH**

A15 Funding for Trip

Question:

Who paid for the trip to Belfast to view the Hydrogen Buses at what total cost?

Answer:

The total cost of the visit was £1,133.50 funded equally between Birmingham City Council and the EU Jive Hydrogen Bus project.

This activity formed a small part of a wider programme including securing a more strategic relationship with the manufacturer to enable longer term benefits of supply chain jobs for Birmingham, an apprenticeship scheme and opportunities for research and development.

WrightBus is one of the market leaders in hydrogen fuel technology and discussions were undertaken to explore how this may be beneficial to the city in respect of other vehicle types and importantly refuelling infrastructure requirements and cost considerations.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR DOMINIC STANFORD**

A16 Council Officers

Question:

Did any Council Officers accompany you on the trip to Belfast to view the Hydrogen Buses? Please state post titles if so.

Answer:

The officers who attended were the Assistant Director Transport and Connectivity (Senior Responsible Officer for the Hydrogen Bus project) and Specialist Energy Manager (Project and Contract Manager for the Hydrogen Bus project).

This activity formed a small part of a wider programme including securing a more strategic relationship with the manufacturer to enable longer term benefits of supply chain jobs for Birmingham, an apprenticeship scheme and opportunities for research and development.

WrightBus is one of the market leaders in hydrogen fuel technology and discussions were undertaken to explore how this may be beneficial to the city in respect of other vehicle types and importantly refuelling infrastructure requirements and cost considerations.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR MEIRION JENKINS**

A17 CAZ Exemption

Question:

Please list all the reasons that a permanent or temporary exemption for the CAZ has been granted to at least one person so far?

Answer:

Exemptions are listed on the Brum Breathes website - www.brumbreathes.co.uk

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR GARY SAMBROOK**

A18 Chemical Make Up

Question:

What was the exact chemical make up of the smoke released by the Council to mark the CAZ, including the total volume and each separate quantities of each component?

Answer:

A data sheet for both of the products used as part of the event that took place on 1 June 2021 is provided.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR SUZANNE WEBB**

A19 Social Media

Question:

In the last 3 years, please list all social media accounts including Twitter handles etc, to which the Council has in anyway controlled, or paid any money or offered incentives in order to promote any particular messages or campaigns. Where has this been done via a third party contracted to manage specific campaigns (eg clean air zone launch), please provide the name of the organisation as well as all the social media accounts they have used/paid/incentivised, including the cost of each payment and the specific campaign or message it was linked to.

Answer:

All social media accounts controlled by the Council are listed here

<https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/socialmedia>

Not all of these are run or managed by the corporate communications team but are run by BCC staff in the relevant service areas.

BCC's communications team generally does not contract third parties to promote messaging via our own social media channels.

We do use third parties to amplify our messages via their own channels and ensure that we reach and engage with as many Birmingham citizens as possible. The outputs are measured and evaluated to ensure outcomes are achieved.

When it is necessary to use external agencies for support the emphasis is to use the talented local Birmingham creative sector to support the Council in engaging with citizens.

These are the companies that the Corporate Communications team have used, there may be other companies that have been used out in the directorates, which Communications would not have oversight of:

2021/22

| Campaign / Event | Company | Notes | Amount |
|-------------------------------|---------------|--|--------|
| Waste investment launch | Updates Media | Promotion via social channels | £2,250 |
| Covid Community Champions | Updates Media | Promotion via social channels | £600 |
| Be Bold Be Birmingham tik tok | Updates Media | Promotion of launch via social channels and content creation | £4,995 |

2020-21

| Campaign / Event | Company | Notes | Amount |
|--|-----------------|---|---------|
| Covid anniversary commemorations filming | Clive Reeves PR | Content creation for social media | £5,000 |
| Brum We Can | HDY | Social media campaign on platforms owned by BCC, managed in collaboration with HDY. This covers video production and photography, in-depth interviews, content curation and copywriting. | £40,000 |
| Our Future City Plan | Clive Reeves PR | Public consultation campaign commissioned by inclusive growth to provide film, graphics and social media content including webinars for the campaign + platform support. Content posted onto corporate social media accounts by Comms Team. | £10,236 |
| Virtual Holocaust Memorial Event | Clive Reeves PR | Commissioned by Lord Mayor's office to film an online event, which was | £3,300 |

| Campaign / Event | Company | Notes | Amount |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|---|---------|
| | | promoted and shared via BCC socials by the Comms team | |
| Budget engagement | Updates Media | Promotion of budget engagement across social channels including videos | £7,200 |
| Charity Christmas Campaign | Story Comms | Campaign using the hashtag #BrumWeCan, to highlight work being done by local charities to support residents during the Christmas holidays. This included videography, content creation, curation, and copywriting | £12,600 |
| The Big Birmingham Cook-a-long | Liquid | Live You Tube event starring Glynn Purnell, aimed at raising awareness of 'Change into Action' programme. Content shared on social channels | £9,900 |
| Virtual Remembrance Sunday Event | Clive Reeves PR | Commissioned by Lord Mayor's office to film a dawn commemoration as part of the city's online act of remembrance and also a 'We will remember them' montage of dignitaries, civic representatives and military personnel. Shared on BCC social channels | £3,540 |

| Campaign / Event | Company | Notes | Amount |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---------------|
| Christmas Waste campaign | Reach PLC | Campaign to highlight Christmas waste arrangements, HRC opening times & recycling hints. Online Ads and also on Reach social channels | £7,560 |
| Equalities campaign | Updates Media | Promotion of Equalities consultation via social channels | £5,000 |
| Proud Host City Engagement | Beatfrecks | Content creation on for What makes Birmingham survey for use on Social media | £3,650 |
| Let's Be Together Podcast promotion | Reach PLC / Updates Media | Promotion of Covid podcast on social channels | £11,913 |
| Be Bold Be Birmingham | Updates Media | CWG 500 days to go social channels takeover | £1,500 |
| No Bull | Birmingham Publishing Group | Covid safety campaign, promotion of messaging on 'I Choose Birmingham' social channels | £1,950 |

2019-20

| Campaign / Event | Company | Notes | Amount |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|---|---------------|
| Climate Change & Sustainability Video | Clive Reeves PR | Video for use on social channels | £4,500 |
| Once Upon A Time... book | Liquid | Marketing campaign around the book profiling inspirational women from Birmingham, includes content creation for social channels | £6,750 |
| Tackling homelessness documentary | Tinker Taylor | For use on social channels | £7,750 |

| Campaign / Event | Company | Notes | Amount |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---|---------------|
| Love Your Street | Updates Media | Content creation and promotion on social channels of "all out" community clean up day in Alum Rock | £3,100 |
| Facebook recycling game | Sparks Creative | Development of game to raise awareness of what can be recycled in domestic recycling bins for use on social channels | £8,950 |
| Budget Consultation Facebook live | Updates Media | Hosting of Facebook live event | £2,500 |
| Christmas Waste Campaign | Reach PLC | Campaign to highlight Christmas waste arrangements, HRC opening times & recycling hints. Online Ads and also on Reach social channels | £8,000 |
| Brum Account | Updates Media | Content creation for social channels promoting online citizen accounts | £4,500 |

The following were funded via grant funding external to BCC budget

| Campaign / Event | Company | Notes | Amount |
|------------------------------------|----------------|--|---|
| Covid New Year compliance campaign | Beatfrees | Influencer messaging and online campaign to reach a younger audience | £12,000 |
| Launch of the CAZ | TMP | Social media advertising around the launch of the CAZ | Phase 1: £10,000 Phase 2: £9,275 Phase 3: £85,000 |
| Launch of the CAZ | Story Comms | This agency was approached to work up some comms around | £35,000 |

| Campaign / Event | Company | Notes | Amount |
|-------------------|-----------------|--|---|
| | | the launch. For this the came up with the idea of the smoke launch and production of some cinematic film pieces and would have created content for social media use and used influencer marketing | |
| Launch of the CAZ | Voiceboxx | Commissioned to deliver marketing and engagement strategies to promote the exemption permits and support for taxis. As part of this they have delivered: Resident mail outs; Stakeholder comms packs; Market research on design concepts (CAZ and Reg); Created content for social media; Post launch messaging - telling the clean air story via their social channels. | Pre launch £30,000 Post launch £25,000 |
| Launch of the CAZ | Sparks Creative | Created content for social media. Commissioned to create the animated film series | £30,000 |
| Launch of the CAZ | Clive Reeves PR | Brought in to deliver an engagement strategy targeting taxi drivers, including providing content for social media | £27,000 |

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR BRUCE LINES**

A20 Vehicles

Question:

On what date did the Council agree to purchase the 22 hydrogen buses?

Answer:

The Council did not agree to buy 22 hydrogen buses.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR JOHN LINES**

A21 ERDF Fund

Question:

Please provide a full breakdown of the new EDRF Welcome Back Fund and its previous incarnation of 'Reopening High Streets Safely Fund' including for each High Street what has been spent to date, on what measures and what funding is planned to be spent on what going forward?

Answer:

ERDF Reopening High Streets Safely Fund (2020)

Birmingham was allocated £1,016,937 from ERDF Reopening High Streets Safely Fund in June 2020. The funding was primarily to assist the safe reopening of high streets during the Covid pandemic.

The grant resources could only be used to fund the following four activities:

1. Support to develop an action plan for how the local authority may begin to safely reopen their local economies.
2. Communications and public information activity to ensure that reopening of local economies can be managed successfully and safely.
3. Business-facing awareness raising activities to ensure that reopening of local economies can be managed successfully and safely.
4. Temporary public realm changes to ensure that reopening of local economies can be managed successfully and safely.

In the first round of funding the majority of funds were allocated to temporary changes to the public realm followed by Covid safety communications and smaller amounts on footfall counters, staffing etc. Business Advice was available through GBSLEP therefore no further funds were allocated from RHSSF.

The approach taken to the Reopening High Streets Safely Fund was reported to Cabinet at the time.

Breakdown of spend by area:

5121

| Location | Covid Safety Communications spend to date | Temporary Public Realm spend to date | Total spend to date |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| BIDs | | | |
| Retail BID | £16,576 | 0 | £16,576 |
| Colmore BID | £11,749 | 0 | £11,749 |
| JQ BID | £11,749 | £65,000 | £76,749 |
| Southside BID | £18,249 | £80,110 | £98,359 |
| Westside BID | £11,749 | £8,470 | £20,219 |
| Northfield BID | £18,590 | £21,833 | £40,423 |
| Harborne BID | £11,749 | £46,894 | £58,643 |
| Kings Heath BID | £11,749 | 0 | £11,749 |
| Erdington BID | £18,705 | 0 | £18,705 |
| Soho Road BID | £18,749 | £22,077 | £40,826 |
| Acocks Green BID | £15,783 | 0 | £15,783 |
| Sutton Coldfield BID | £17,714 | 0 | £17,714 |
| UCF locations where no BIDs | | | |
| Perry Barr | £2,096 | £4,118 | £6,214 |
| Bordesley Green | 0 | £24,836 | £24,836 |
| Coventry Rd – Small Heath | £2,926 | £20,499 | £23,425 |
| Stechford | £1,864 | £3,958 | £5,822 |
| Meadway | 0 | £7,846 | £7,846 |
| Stirchley | £4,000 | 0 | £4,000 |
| Alum Rock Road | £3,857 | £15,564 | £19,421 |
| Other areas | | | |
| Sheldon | £925 | 0 | £925 |
| Longbridge | £2,400 | £9,258 | £11,658 |
| Aston | 0 | £20,392 | £20,392 |
| Shard End | 0 | £6,660 | £6,660 |
| Moseley | 0 | £16,093 | £16,093 |
| Cotteridge | 0 | £10,872 | £10,872 |
| Selly Oak | 0 | £10,285 | £10,285 |
| Digbeth | £737 | 0 | 0 |
| Stratford Rd | 0 | £14,768 | £14,768 |
| TOTAL | £201,916 | £580,514 | £782,430 |

In addition to the above footfall data and devices were purchased to monitor the impact of covid (£55,280)

Staffing costs to deliver the fund (Project Officer, Transport Officers, ERDF Admin support through European and International Team £117,176)

Of the remaining balance there is some further spend allocated for covid safety communications for BIDs and temporary changes to public realm.

ERDF Welcome Back Fund (2021)

Birmingham has been allocated a further £1,016,937 in the second round of funding from the Government to assist in the re-opening of high streets. The previous fund 'Reopening High Streets Safely' is now called the 'Welcome Back' Fund.

The guidance is more flexible with the Welcome Back Fund enabling a broader approach, supporting areas to drive footfall whilst allowing for planting, graffiti removal, deep cleaning etc. It is felt that this time the majority of grant funding should be targeted at beautification of areas to support the visitor economy, and particularly encouraging seating/café culture to improve footfall and dwell time in the city centre and urban centre locations.

In line with the first-round funding approach, it is proposed that all BID areas and all areas in the Urban Centre Framework are targeted for support. There are 12 BID areas and the 7 other areas in the UCF where there is no BID (a total of 19 high streets). Resources are also earmarked for other locations in the city where business communities/forums come forward, seeking support. Engagement with these areas will be through Ward Councillors and existing contacts through colleagues within BCC.

Having engaged with BIDs, other local groups and key internal stakeholders, an expenditure framework has been developed for the Welcome Back Fund (shown below). Key themes which emerged from the consultation are:

- Beautification of areas to support the visitor economy through graffiti removal and additional deep cleaning
- Improving spaces through planting, seating, wardens etc to encourage people to come into high streets
- Events to drive footfall
- Temporary public realm changes which include maintenance and removal of the barriers/bollards installed to aid social distancing
- A strategic/visioning review of a new future for high streets in Birmingham

| Table One: Proposed Expenditure Framework | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--------------|
| Activity | Phase 1 <i>June-August 2021</i> | Phase 2 <i>Sept-Dec 2021</i> | Phase 3 <i>Jan-March 2022</i> | Total |
| SCOPE 1: ACTION PLAN | | | | |
| Monitoring | | | | £10k |
| SCOPE 2: COMMUNICATIONS | | | | |
| Communications | | | | £0 |

| SCOPE 3: SMALL BUSINESS RE-OPENING ADVICE | | | | |
|---|--|------|------|-------|
| Advising Businesses | | | | £0 |
| SCOPE 4: TEMPORARY CHANGES TO PUBLIC REALM | | | | |
| Temporary changes to public space, including maintenance, removal and seating | £150k | £50k | | £200k |
| SCOPE 5: SUPPORT AND PROMOTE A SAFE PUBLIC ENVIRONMENT FOR A LOCAL AREA’S VISITOR ECONOMY | | | | |
| 5.1 Graffiti removal, deep cleaning, flytipping | Procured by BCC as city wide activity up to March 2022 | | | £276k |
| 5.2 Additional outdoor seating, wardens, planting etc. | To cover twelve BID areas and delivered across phases | | | £120k |
| 5.3 Additional outdoor seating, planting plus any other activities identified. | To cover areas within UCF with no BID (seven areas) and others that may come forward for support across phases | | | £50k |
| 5.4 Events | To cover event activity currently being considered by BID, UCF and other areas across the city | | | £248k |
| SCOPE 6: SUPPORT LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO DEVELOP PLANS FOR RESPONDING TO THE MEDIUM-TERM IMPACT OF COVID-19 INCLUDING TRIALLING NEW IDEAS PARTICULARLY WHERE THESE RELATE TO THE HIGH STREET | | | | |
| Strategic visioning review of the future of High Streets | £10k | £10k | £10k | £30k |
| OTHER | | | | |
| ERDF Admin | | | | £41k |
| Project Officer | | | | £41k |

The Welcome Back Fund expenditure was approved by Cabinet on Tuesday 8 June 2021

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR ADAM HIGGS**

B1 Data Protection Training

Question:

Prior to December 2020, what data protection training did staff have to undertake?

Answer:

Our data protection training is reviewed regularly to ensure that it is in line with best practice; accordingly, requirements may change from year to year.

2016-2017

In 2016 and 2017, there were four separate eLearning modules that all BCC employees (including agency workers) had to complete.

These were:

- Introduction To Information Governance 2016
- Introduction to Information & IT Security 2016
- Records Management 2016
- Data Quality 2016

2018

In 2018, with the introduction of GDPR legislation, the approach taken was to split learning across three levels:

Awareness level

A GDPR eLearning module was made available in March 2018 and all staff were required to complete it.

For staff working offline, module content was provided in a hard copy workbook format which was made available to managers to access, print off and issue to employees. Managers were responsible for ensuring that the workbooks were completed, with signed completion sheets returned to the Workforce Development team to update individual learning records.

Intermediate/Expert level

A contract award was made to an external training provider to carry out three training courses. These were:

- GDPR Practitioner status (24 staff, 4 day course)

- Records Management (12 staff, 1 day course)
- Data Protection Impact Assessments and Audits (12 staff)

The provision of these courses ensured that key BCC staff were professionally trained in the obligations contained within GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018. These courses commenced in January 2019.

2019

In 2019, a new suite of eLearning modules were launched. These included three mandatory modules that all staff were required to complete:

- Data Protection, GDPR and Information Security 2018
- Freedom of Information Act 2018
- Records Management and Data Quality 2018

Again workbooks/leaflets were provided to managers to enable 'off-line' employees to complete the training.

2020

In January 2020 a new mandatory Data Protection eLearning module was launched, with all employees asked to complete by 31st December 2020.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR JOHN LINES**

B2 Mandatory Training

Question:

What is the take up rate of any mandatory data protection training for staff broken down by Directorate as of January 2021?

Answer:

| Directorate | Number of staff completed Data Protection module Jan – Dec 2020 | % completion rate from headcount |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Adult Social Care | 1488 | 93% |
| Commonwealth Games | 12 | 100% |
| Digital and Customer Services | 1433 | 98% |
| Education and Skills | 1281 | 97% |
| Finance and Governance | 841 | 64% |
| HR/OD | 174 | 97% |
| Inclusive Growth | 687 | 99% |
| Neighbourhoods | 2353 | 85% |
| Partnership, Insight and Performance | 150 | 97% |
| | | |
| Total | 8419 | 88% |

Moving forward in **2021** in addition to the mandatory e learning modules we are facilitating monthly virtual instructor led workshops where people will be able to learn from case studies, data breaches and best practice. These workshops will also enable the delegate to explore Data Protection in the context of their role and working environment.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR GARETH MOORE**

B3 Data Breaches

Question:

How many data breaches have been found by the Council in each of the last 3 years and of these, how many were reported to the Information Commissioner?

Answer:

- April 2018 to March 2019 (158)
 - Out of the 158 there was 1 that was notified to the ICO
- April 2019 to March 2020 (165)
 - Out of the 165 there were 4 that were notified to the ICO
- April 2020 to March 2021 (144)
 - Out of the 144 there was 1 notified to the ICO

Please Note: None of the breaches notified to the ICO has resulted in a fine.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR RON STORER**

B4 Data Protection Training

Question:

By Directorate, how many staff have completed data training?

Answer:

| Directorate | Number of staff completed Data Protection module Jan – Dec 2020 |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Adult Social Care | 1488 |
| Commonwealth Games | 12 |
| Digital and Customer Services | 1433 |
| Education and Skills | 1281 |
| Finance and Governance | 841 |
| HR/OD | 174 |
| Inclusive Growth | 687 |
| Neighbourhoods | 2353 |
| Partnership, Insight and Performance | 150 |
| | |
| Total | 8419 |

2021 mandatory bundle is reported once all modules within that bundles have been completed. These were launched April 2021 and include 2 modules on “Protecting Information” which includes a module on Cyber Security

Completion as at 2 June 2021

| Directorate | Number of staff completed Protecting Information modules since Jan 2021 |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Adult Social Care | 211 |
| Commonwealth Games | 0 |
| Digital and Customer Services | 311 |
| Education and Skills | 141 |
| Finance and Governance | 131 |
| HR/OD | 28 |
| Inclusive Growth | 85 |
| Neighbourhoods | 245 |
| Partnership, Insight and Performance | 40 |
| | |
| Total | 1192 |

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR MEIRION JENKINS**

B5 Data Breaches

Question:

As Lead Member for data protection across the Council, when were the two data breaches relating to the school bus passes and the details of foster children given to birth mother first reported to you?

Answer:

The school bus passes data breach was reported to the Deputy Leader week commencing 22nd February 2021.

The data breach relating to the details of foster children given to a birth mother was notified to the Birmingham Children's Trust Management team on 11th May 2020. There are separate contractual procedures for reporting data breaches within the Children's Trust.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR ADRIAN DELANEY**

B6 Data Breaches 2

Question:

In the last 3 years, how many data protection breaches have resulted in disciplinary action?

Answer:

There have been 14 cases of actual or potential data protection breaches which have resulted in the commencement of disciplinary proceedings.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP**

B7 Streaming

Question:

With Birmingham City Councils meeting streaming provider having changed the internet browser requirements for its new portal hosted on its website, how much testing has been carried out ensure it complies with the requirements of all the various disabled groups?

Answer:

We are aware that new online accessibility guidelines came into force in September 2020. In response, Civico have designed new Public Engagement portal, through which citizens can access the Council's library of live and archived webcasts of public meetings (together with agendas and supporting documents).

Online site checkers are used to test and validate the site's accessibility performance against Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG). As part of the development process for the new portal, Civico beta tested the site and invited comment and feedback from users and partners, including users with additional accessibility requirements.

Councillors should note that, following the end of the Civico contract on 30th June 2021, and the move to the BMI, web-streaming of Council meetings will be moved to YouTube from 1st July 2021 onwards.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR DAVID BARRIE**

B8 Phone Lines

Question:

What was the exact error that caused the Council phone lines to be down on 19th May 2021 and specifically was this a fault affecting all incoming to the Council or with the forwarding of those calls to people working from home?

Answer:

The Incident on the 19th May 2021 was as a result of a supplier global outage, this therefore affected all the supplier's customers, including Birmingham City Council. It affected any user on the supplier's platform and was not specific to those working from home.

The incident was not caused by a single specific error, the suppliers Root Cause Analysis concluded,

1. Initially a number of the supplier's ISP's were forcing connection and refresh issues as they were not releasing sessions as per normal behaviour.
2. The supplier initiated manual clearing of these sessions which is a normal course of action in these instances.
3. A secondary fault then caused an unprecedented overload of connections to the platform. The suppliers mass connection security was defending the network – this impacted customer connections.
4. As investigations continued the decision was made to reset all ISP sessions within the supplier's clusters one by one - and once this work was completed these connections returned into expected normal service.

Following resolution, the supplier immediately implemented plans to mitigate the risk of a repeat event and has implemented enhanced monitoring.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR CHARLOTTE HODIVALA**

B9 Issues – Home Working

Question:

On how many occasions, on what dates and for how long were there any issues with home working staff being able to connect to incoming calls to the Council, broken down by Department?

Answer:

There have been 219 calls raised over the past 12 months where homeworking staff may not have been able to connect to incoming calls. All of these issues have been dealt with.

50% of those calls were user education or user knowledge related or were resolved by the customer.

95% of calls resolved for Cirrus were resolved within in SLA (208 of 219 calls)

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR DEBBIE CLANCY**

B10 Complaints

Question:

List the number of complaints broken down by type, staff have made in the last year relating to software or hardware not working?

Answer:

Complaints within Information, Technology & Digital Services are classified as an expression of dissatisfaction in relation to any aspect of performance or service delivery, either orally or in writing, from an internal or external customer. A complaint may be about an individual member of staff, a team or service.

There have been no complaints for hardware or software within the last 12 month period.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR TIMOTHY HUXTABLE**

B11 Complaints 2

Question:

List the number of complaints broken down by type from residents experiencing difficulties and delays reaching the Council in the last year, including complaints received via Councillors?

Answer:

We have received 13 complaints over the last 12 months in relation to citizens experiencing difficulties in reaching the council.

| Concern | Number of incidences |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| Length of time on hold | 6 |
| No return call | 3 |
| Call termination | 1 |
| Incorrect information | 1 |
| IVR issue | 1 |
| Escalation process not followed | 1 |

The new complaints programme will deliver a greater emphasis on the collation of root causes behind complaints and enable more detailed analysis to identify concerns and improve customer service.

CITY COUNCIL – 22 JUNE 2021

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR ALEX YIP**

B12 Accessibility of Streaming

Question:

What provisions are in the contract with Civico for Council meeting web streaming to ensure accessibility of streams and archived footage in different formats, including mobile devices and older or alternative browsers?

Answer:

Civico have advised that they use a dedicated transcoder engine that transcodes our streams into all of the necessary formats for all common devices and browsers. As a background system function, the system identifies the video format required by each and every device that is requesting a video stream. It then provides the required video file in the correct format for the device making the request. For reasons of security and accessibility, the system does not support web browsers that no longer provide security updates, or that do not support the latest web technologies for web accessibility features and functionalities.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR DAVID PEARS**

B13 Training – Complaints Champions

Question:

What training have complaints champions been given, broken down by area in Council, type of training and length of each session/course?

Answer:

A set of training sessions has been developed to support all staff working as complaints champions.

For staff already with the Council they have undertaken an initial 4 days of training courses which included:

Day 1 – Overview of the Complaints Policy and Processes, Definitions, Root Cause Analysis and Quality Monitoring

Day 2 – Introduction to Soft Skills – Customer Interaction

Day 3 – Soft Skills - Dealing with Difficult Situations

Day 4 - Complaint Resolution and Letter Writing Training

For staff joining the Council an additional two days were added to their training to look at:

- An Induction and Introduction to working with the Council
- Introduction in I casework - the IT system used to manage complaints correspondence.

Additional training has also been scheduled as required on reporting with the new technology available.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR PETER FOWLER**

B14 Staff – Complaints Department

Question:

How many people working in the complaints department currently and each June for the previous five years?

Answer:

The new complaints project is addressing how the Council manages, responds to and learns from complaints to then improve services for citizens and reduce future complaints from being needed.

Handling complaints is part of everyone's job within the Council and staff will respond to complaints as part of their daily duties in the services where they are based.

The complaints project has identified that in 2020 there were 31.5 FTE staff dedicated to complaint handling.

As part of the Council's commitment and investment to improve Customer Services with additional resourcing, the number of FTE staff dealing with complaints is planned to increase to 61.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE ALDEN**

B15 Information – Data Breaches

Question:

Please list, broken down by directorate and department, the details of every data breach recorded by the Council in the last two years, specifying:

Date of incident

Number of people's data affected

Nature/brief summary of the incident

Reason it happened

Changes made/actions taken following the incident.

Answer:

The attached table highlights details recorded via the data breach recording process for the period June 2019 to May 2021 and sets out information known at the time of reporting. Each breach is designated a category, and these are outlined below to indicate a brief summary/ reason for the breach.

- Unauthorised disclosure – unauthorised disclosure of personal data to third party
- Email Disclosure – information sent to wrong email addresses or group mail boxes.
- Stolen from vehicle - documents left in vehicles which were stolen.
- Lost documents – documents lost in transit.
- Contact centre – unauthorised disclosure by contact centre staff.

Every breach is assessed for possible notification to the ICO but not all breach will require any further action or changes to place because of the specific nature of each breach, e.g. where an email has been sent in error and has been recalled or deleted no further action is needed.

| REF | Date Reported | Directorate | Division | Approximately how many individuals have been affected? | Nature/Reason |
|----------|---------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| DBN9992 | 03/06/2019 | Education & Skills | Education | 8700 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN9993 | 03/06/2019 | Education & Skills | Library of Birmingham | Not known | Email Disclosure |
| DBN9994 | 06/06/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 2 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN9995 | 07/06/2019 | Inclusive Growth | Transport and Connectivity | 132 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN9996 | 11/06/2019 | Human Resources | HR Operations | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN9997 | 11/06/2019 | Neighbourhoods | Coroners | 0 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN9998 | 13/06/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | Revenues & Benefits | 3 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN9999 | 14/06/2019 | Human Resources | Schools HR | 3 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99910 | 14/06/2019 | Human Resources | Schools HR Services | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99911 | 18/06/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | CAPITA | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99912 | 21/06/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | Economy | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99913 | 21/06/2019 | Finance and Governance. | Legal Services | Not known | Lost Documents |
| DBN99914 | 24/06/2019 | Finance and Governance. | Legal Services | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99915 | 25/06/2019 | Neighbourhoods | Housing | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99916 | 28/06/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | Education and Skills | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99917 | 01/07/2019 | Adult Social Care | ADULTS SOCIAL CARE | 2 | Lost Documents |
| DBN99919 | 10/07/2019 | Finance and Governance. | Legal Services | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99920 | 29/07/2019 | Finance and Governance. | Legal | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99921 | 01/08/2019 | Education & Skills | Digital and Customer Services | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99922 | 12/08/2019 | Human Resources | Schools HR | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99923 | 15/08/2019 | Adult Social Care | Business Support | 0 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99924 | 16/08/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | Revenue and Benefits | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99925 | 19/08/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | Business Improvement | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99926 | 28/08/2019 | Inclusive Growth | Planning Management | 164 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99927 | 29/08/2019 | Finance and Governance. | Legal and Governance | 110 | Lost Documents |

| | | | | | |
|----------|------------|-----------------------------|--|-----------|-------------------------|
| DBN99928 | 29/08/2019 | Finance and Governance. | Governance | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99929 | 30/08/2019 | Neighbourhoods | Regulation and Enforcement | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99930 | 02/09/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | Revenues and Benefits | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99931 | 03/09/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | Development | Not known | Contact Centre |
| DBN99932 | 03/09/2019 | Inclusive Growth | Planning and Development | Not known | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99933 | 04/09/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | Revenues and Benefits | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99934 | 04/09/2019 | Adult Social Care | Digital and Customer Services | 4 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99935 | 04/09/2019 | Human Resources | Corporate HR | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99936 | 06/09/2019 | Finance and Governance. | Transactional Services | 374 | Lost Documents |
| DBN99937 | 09/09/2019 | Human Resources | HR Organisation and Development | 3 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99938 | 10/09/2019 | Finance and Governance. | Legal Services | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99939 | 12/09/2019 | Education & Skills | Inclusion & SEND | 10 | Lost Documents |
| DBN99940 | 13/09/2019 | Neighbourhoods | HOUSING | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99941 | 17/09/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 34 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99942 | 19/09/2019 | Education & Skills | Skills and Employability | 7197 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99943 | 26/09/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | Business Improvement and Customer Services | 3 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99944 | 01/10/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | Business and Customer Services | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99945 | 02/10/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99946 | 02/10/2019 | Neighbourhoods | Housing Options Service | 4 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99947 | 03/10/2019 | Adult Social Care | Hospitals | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99948 | 03/10/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99949 | 03/10/2019 | Inclusive Growth | Transportation & Connectivity | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99950 | 09/10/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | Revenues and benefits | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |

| | | | | | |
|----------|------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|----|-------------------------|
| DBN99951 | 17/10/2019 | Finance and Governance. | Legal and Governance Department | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99952 | 10/10/2019 | Education & Skills | Business Support | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99953 | 17/10/2019 | Finance and Governance. | Legal and Governance Department | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99954 | 11/10/2019 | Education & Skills | Access to Education | 10 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99955 | 11/10/2019 | Education & Skills | Education and Safeguarding | 4 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99956 | 11/10/2019 | Adult Social Care | n/a | 0 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99957 | 14/10/2019 | Adult Social Care | Hospital Acute | 3 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99958 | 17/10/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99959 | 17/10/2019 | Neighbourhoods | Housing Management | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99960 | 17/10/2019 | Inclusive Growth | Highways | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99961 | 18/10/2019 | Finance and Governance. | Payroll & Pensions | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99962 | 22/10/2019 | Education & Skills | Inclusion & SEND | 11 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99963 | 21/10/2019 | Adult Social Care | Adult Social Care | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99964 | 23/10/2019 | Adult Social Care | Commissioning | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99965 | 24/10/2019 | Finance and Governance. | Legal Services | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99966 | 24/10/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | Customer Services & Business Support | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99967 | 24/10/2019 | Adult Social Care | commissioning | 5 | Stolen From Vehicle |
| DBN99968 | 25/10/2019 | Finance and Governance. | Legal Services | 3 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99969 | 01/11/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | Customer Services | 3 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99970 | 08/11/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | Education and Skills | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99971 | 19/11/2019 | Neighbourhoods | Housing Options | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99972 | 21/11/2019 | Finance and Governance. | Legal and Governance | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99973 | 21/11/2019 | Finance and Governance. | Legal & Governance | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99974 | 26/11/2019 | Finance and Governance. | Legal and Governance | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99975 | 27/11/2019 | Neighbourhoods | Housing | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99976 | 28/11/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | Business Improvement and Support | 2 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99977 | 29/11/2019 | Neighbourhoods | Housing | 38 | Email Disclosure |

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| DBN99978 | 29/11/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | Business Improvement | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99979 | 03/12/2019 | Education & Skills | Early Years and Childcare Service | 0 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99980 | 03/12/2019 | Birmingham Children's Trust | Bct | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99981 | 10/12/2019 | Education & Skills | SEND | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99982 | 12/12/2019 | Neighbourhoods | Housing Services | 3 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99983 | 18/12/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99984 | 18/12/2019 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99986 | 18/12/2019 | Human Resources | Schools HR | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99987 | 09/01/2020 | Finance and Governance. | Finance & Governance | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99988 | 07/01/2020 | Finance and Governance. | Legal & Governance | 20 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99989 | 09/01/2020 | Education & Skills | Education & Skills | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99990 | 09/01/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | strategic services | 0 | Stolen From Vehicle |
| DBN99991 | 09/01/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Housing | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99992 | 09/01/2020 | Education & Skills | Travel Assist | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99993 | 10/01/2020 | Finance and Governance. | Corporate Procurement | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99994 | 10/01/2020 | Adult Social Care | hospital service- adults | 4 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99995 | 14/01/2020 | Human Resources | HR and Organisation Development | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99996 | 14/01/2020 | Adult Social Care | Adult Social Care | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99997 | 15/01/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | IT&D | Not known | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN99998 | 20/01/2020 | Education & Skills | Travel Assist | 1577 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN99999 | 21/01/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Legal and Governance | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999100 | 22/01/2020 | Adult Social Care | Social Care Directorate | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999101 | 23/01/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | Education & Skills Business Improvement | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999102 | 23/01/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999103 | 24/01/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | IT&D | 2 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999104 | 27/01/2020 | Education & Skills | Data and Intelligence team | 31 | Unauthorised Disclosure |

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|-----------|------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| DBN999105 | 29/01/2020 | Inclusive Growth | Planning/Transportation | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999106 | 30/01/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999107 | 30/01/2020 | Finance and Governance. | Legal and Democratic Services | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999108 | 03/02/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | Customer Services | 2 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999109 | 04/02/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Housing | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999110 | 07/02/2020 | Adult Social Care | Assessment and Support Planning | 4 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999111 | 13/02/2020 | Inclusive Growth | property service | Not known | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999112 | 13/02/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Housing | 2 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999113 | 14/02/2020 | Education & Skills | Travel Assist | 8 | Lost Documents |
| DBN999114 | 18/02/2020 | Education & Skills | SEND | 2 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999115 | 18/02/2020 | Birmingham Children's Trust | Digital & Customer Services | Not known | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999116 | 21/02/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Regulation and Enforcement | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999117 | 21/02/2020 | Adult Social Care | Adults | 50 | Lost Documents |
| DBN999118 | 24/02/2020 | Education & Skills | Children & Young People | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999119 | 26/02/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | Revenues, Benefits & Rents | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999120 | 26/02/2020 | Finance and Governance | Financial Transactions Section | 2 | Lost Documents |
| DBN999121 | 27/02/2020 | Adult Social Care | Operational Commissioning | Not known | Unauthorised disclosure |
| DBN999122 | 25/02/2020 | Adult Social Care | Day Opportunities | N/A | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999123 | 02/03/2020 | Adult Social Care | Northfield team | 9 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999124 | 03/03/2020 | Adult Social Care | Adult Social Care and Health | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999125 | 10/03/2020 | Adult Social Care | adult social care-hospitals | Not known | Lost Documents |
| DBN999126 | 11/03/2020 | Human Resources | HR Services for Schools | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |

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| DBN999127 | 12/03/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999128 | 13/03/2020 | Education & Skills | Children's | 4 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999129 | 13/03/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Regulation & Enforcement | 100 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999130 | 13/03/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Street Scene, | Not known | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999131 | 23/03/2020 | Adult Social Care | Quality and Improvement | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999132 | 24/03/2020 | Inclusive Growth | Highways & Infrastructure | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999133 | 27/03/2020 | Education & Skills | Skills and Employability | 16 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999134 | 31/03/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | Business Support | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999135 | 31/03/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Housing Management | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999136 | 03/04/2020 | Adult Social Care | Quality and Practice Learning | 4 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999137 | 06/04/2020 | Inclusive Growth | property services | 9 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999138 | 14/04/2020 | Education & Skills | Education and Skills | 2 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999139 | 15/04/2020 | Neighbourhoods | waste | 200 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999140 | 17/04/2020 | Education & Skills | LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM | 1,320 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999141 | 22/04/2020 | Finance and Governance | Legal and Governance | 14 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999142 | 23/04/2020 | Education & Skills | Early Years and Childcare Service | 2 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999143 | 28/04/2020 | Education & Skills | School . | Not known | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999144 | 29/04/2020 | Inclusive Growth | Transportation & Connectivity | 14 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999145 | 29/04/2020 | Education & Skills | School Admissions and Fair Access | 2 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999146 | 30/04/2020 | Education & Skills | School Admissions and Fair Access | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999147 | 30/04/2020 | Education & Skills | School Admissions and Fair Access | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999148 | 04/05/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Housing | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |

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| DBN999149 | 11/05/2020 | Finance and Governance | Legal and Governance | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999150 | 12/05/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | POSTAL SERVICES | 0 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999151 | 13/05/2020 | Adult Social Care | Adults | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999152 | 13/05/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | Business Improvement - Supporting Adults | 13 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999153 | 14/05/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Housing | Not known | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999154 | 14/05/2020 | Inclusive Growth | Transport & Connectivity | N/A | Lost Laptop |
| DBN999155 | 19/05/2020 | Inclusive Growth | Transport and Connectivity | 50 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999156 | 21/05/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | Education and Skills | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999157 | 21/05/2020 | Education & Skills | Complex Needs | 3 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999158 | 21/05/2020 | Finance and Governance | Education & Skills | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999159 | 22/05/2020 | Education & Skills | SEND and Inclusion | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999160 | 27/05/2020 | Education & Skills | Education & Skills | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999161 | 02/06/2020 | Adult Social Care | adult social care | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999162 | 03/06/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999163 | 05/06/2020 | Adult Social Care | Adult Social Care | 70 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999164 | 05/06/2020 | Education & Skills | INCLUSION/SEND | 2 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999165 | 04/06/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | Corporate contact centre | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999166 | 09/06/2020 | Adult Social Care | Adult Social Care | Not known | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999167 | 12/06/2020 | Finance and Governance | Birmingham Audit | Not known | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999168 | 17/06/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | Customer Services | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999169 | 18/06/2020 | Adult Social Care | Early Intervention | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999170 | 18/06/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999171 | 18/06/2020 | Assistant Chief Executive | Public Health | 3 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999172 | 21/06/2020 | Inclusive Growth | Planning & Development | 100 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999173 | 22/06/2020 | Finance and Governance | Legal Services | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |

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| DBN999174 | 24/06/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999175 | 24/06/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | POSTAL SERVICES | Not known | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999176 | 24/06/2020 | Birmingham Children's Trust | North West Central Area Services | two | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999177 | 29/06/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Regulation and Enforcement | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999178 | 30/06/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Housing | 2 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999179 | 01/07/2020 | Adult Social Care | ADULTS | 25 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999180 | 01/07/2020 | Education & Skills | Senior Directorate Team | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999181 | 02/07/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Bereavement Services | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999182 | 07/07/2020 | Education & Skills | Inclusion and SEND | 7 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999183 | 07/07/2020 | Neighbourhoods | housing | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999184 | 09/07/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999185 | 13/07/2020 | Adult Social Care | Adults Assessment and Support Planning | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999186 | 13/07/2020 | Adult Social Care | Social Care | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999187 | 14/07/2020 | Adult Social Care | Commissioning | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999188 | 15/07/2020 | Finance and Governance | Transactional Services | 63 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999189 | 15/07/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Regulation and Enforcement | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999190 | 17/07/2020 | Education & Skills | Education and Skills | 15 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999191 | 21/07/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Neighbourhoods | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999192 | 22/07/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | Business Improvement | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999193 | 29/07/2020 | Adult Social Care | Assessment and Support Planning | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999194 | 29/07/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Regulation & Enforcement | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999195 | 30/07/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Housing Options | 136 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999196 | 05/08/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | Education and Skills Business Support | 2 | Email Disclosure |

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| DBN999197 | 11/08/2020 | Adult Social Care | ADULT AND SOCIAL CARE HEALTH | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999198 | 14/08/2020 | Education & Skills | Business Support | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999199 | 19/08/2020 | Education & Skills | Early Years and Childcare Service | 33 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999200 | 08/09/2020 | finance and Governance | Education & Skills | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999201 | 10/09/2020 | Education & Skills | Education & Early Years | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999202 | 16/09/2020 | Adult Social Care | Commissioning | 32 | unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999203 | 17/09/2020 | Education & Skills | Education | 0 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999204 | 18/09/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999205 | 21/09/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Housing | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999206 | 21/09/2020 | Adult Social Care | Adult Social Care | 2 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999207 | 21/09/2020 | Education & Skills | Education Infrastructure | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999208 | 21/09/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | Service Improvement Team | Not known | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999209 | 22/09/2020 | Finance and Governance | Legal and Governance - Legal Services | 0 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999210 | 05/10/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | contact centre | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999211 | 13/10/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Housing Options | 0 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999212 | 08/10/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Housing | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999213 | 09/10/2020 | Adult Social Care | Assessment and support planning | 1 | Unauthorised disclosure |
| DBN999214 | 14/10/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | Customer Services | 1 | Unauthorised disclosure |
| DBN999215 | 14/10/2020 | Inclusive Growth | Planning and Development | 10 | Unauthorised disclosure |
| DBN999216 | 14/10/2020 | Adult Social Care | Quality and Performance | 3 | Unauthorised disclosure |
| DBN999217 | 15/10/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | Not Known | Unauthorised disclosure |
| DBN999218 | 19/10/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Neighbourhoods | 1 | Unauthorised disclosure |
| DBN999219 | 21/10/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | Business Support | 4 | Unauthorised disclosure |
| DBN999220 | 21/10/2020 | Finance and Governance | Cityserve | 48 | Lost Documents |

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| DBN999221 | 27/10/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 1 | Unauthorised disclosure |
| DBN999222 | 28/10/2020 | Adult Social Care | Quality and Practice Learning Team | 8 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999223 | 29/10/2020 | Adult Social Care | Commissioning | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999224 | 30/10/2020 | Neighbourhoods | HOUSING | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999225 | 02/11/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Regulation and Enforcement, | 40 | Stolen From Vehicle |
| DBN999226 | 03/11/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Regulation and Enforcement | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999227 | 05/11/2020 | Education & Skills | Inclusion & SEND | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999228 | 11/11/2020 | Education & Skills | Skills and Employability | 27 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999229 | 11/11/2020 | Adult Social Care | Adults social care | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999230 | 17/11/2020 | Inclusive Growth | Digital & Customer Services | 2 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999231 | 01/12/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | Digital & Customer Services | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999232 | 03/12/2020 | Education & Skills | Early Years and Childcare Service | Not known | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999233 | 04/12/2020 | Adult Social Care | Commissioning | 100 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999234 | 07/12/2020 | Finance and Governance | Legal and Governance | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999235 | 07/12/2020 | Adult Social Care | Family Group Conference | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999236 | 08/12/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | Revenues & Benefits | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999237 | 11/12/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Housing Management | 3 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999238 | 14/12/2020 | Inclusive Growth | Transport & Connectivity | 20 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999239 | 15/12/2020 | Digital & Customer Services | Customer Services | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999240 | 17/12/2020 | Education & Skills | SENAR | 3 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999241 | 17/12/2020 | Education & Skills | SENA | 100 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999242 | 18/12/2020 | Education & Skills | Early Years and Childcare Service | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999244 | 21/12/2020 | Finance and Governance | Corporate Finance | 20 | Unauthorised Disclosure |

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| DBN999245 | 23/12/2020 | Neighbourhoods | Business Support | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999246 | 27/12/2020 | Assistant Chief Executive | Public Health | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999247 | 04/01/2021 | Adult Social Care | Early Intervention Community Team | 7 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999248 | 08/01/2021 | Neighbourhoods | Regulation and Enforcement | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999249 | 11/01/2021 | Education & Skills | Education and Early Years | 5 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999250 | 12/01/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999251 | 14/01/2021 | Education & Skills | SENA | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999252 | 18/01/2021 | Adult Social Care | Social Work | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999253 | 20/01/2021 | Education & Skills | SEND and Inclusion | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999254 | 22/01/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 56 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999255 | 22/01/2021 | Birmingham Children's Trust | Legal | Not known | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999256 | 27/01/2021 | Education & Skills | Education & Skills | 90 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999257 | 27/01/2021 | Neighbourhoods | Housing Options | 2 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999258 | 27/01/2021 | Neighbourhoods | Housing Options | 2 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999259 | 29/01/2021 | Adult Social Care | Adult Social Care | 4 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999260 | 31/01/2021 | Inclusive Growth | Public Health Division | 3 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999261 | 01/02/2021 | Adult Social Care | Adult and Communities | Not known | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999262 | 02/02/2021 | Adult Social Care | Occupational Therapy | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999263 | 03/02/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | Not known | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999264 | 04/02/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | Contact Centre | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999265 | 05/02/2021 | Human Resources | The GDPR breach relates to the Housing Service | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999266 | 08/02/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999267 | 16/02/2021 | Education & Skills | SENA | 2 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999268 | 17/02/2021 | Neighbourhoods | Neighbourhoods | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |

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| DBN999269 | 17/02/2021 | Education & Skills | Business Improvement | 200 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999270 | 18/02/2021 | Education & Skills | Business Improvement | 2000 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999271 | 24/02/2021 | Education & Skills | Access to Education | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999273 | 26/02/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | The Rent Service | 1 | email Disclosure |
| DBN999272 | 26/02/2021 | Education & Skills | SEND and Inclusion | 2. | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999274 | 02/03/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | Education and Skills | 20 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999275 | 03/03/2021 | Finance and Governance | Legal and Governance | 17 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999276 | 03/03/2021 | Finance and Governance | legal | 14 | Lost Documents |
| DBN999277 | 10/03/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 3 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999278 | 12/03/2021 | Adult Social Care | Adult Care | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999279 | 17/03/2021 | Adult Social Care | Adult Social Care | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999280 | 19/03/2021 | Education & Skills | Early Years | 3 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999281 | 24/03/2021 | Education & Skills | Inclusion and Send | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999282 | 29/03/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999283 | 31/03/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | Education and Skills | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999284 | 06/04/2021 | Neighbourhoods | Regulation and Enforcement | Not known | Lost Documents |
| DBN999285 | 12/04/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999286 | 13/04/2021 | Neighbourhoods | Landlord Services | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999287 | 13/04/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | Revenues and Benefits | 3 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999288 | 14/04/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | Business Support | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999289 | 15/04/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | Business & Customer Support | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999290 | 16/04/2021 | Finance and Governance | Labour Group Office | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999291 | 16/04/2021 | Adult Social Care | Commissioning (Adult Care) | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999292 | 18/04/2021 | Education & Skills | Inclusion and SEND | 2 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999293 | 19/04/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999294 | 20/04/2021 | Education & Skills | Inclusion & SEND | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |

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| DBN999295 | 22/04/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | Business Support | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999296 | 22/04/2021 | Neighbourhoods | housing options | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999297 | 28/04/2021 | Neighbourhoods | Parks and Nature Conservation | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999298 | 28/04/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | Adult Social Care | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999299 | 29/04/2021 | Education & Skills | Inclusion & Send | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999300 | 04/05/2021 | Adult Social Care | Adult Social Care | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999301 | 07/05/2021 | Education & Skills | Access to Education, | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999302 | 07/05/2021 | Education & Skills | SEND and Inclusion | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999303 | 11/05/2021 | Finance and Governance | Legal Services | 3 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999304 | 11/05/2021 | Finance and Governance | Legal & Democratic | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999305 | 11/05/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | Revenues & Benefits | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999306 | 13/05/2021 | Inclusive Growth | Property Services | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999307 | 13/05/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | Revenues | 2 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999308 | 14/05/2021 | Partnership Insight & Prevention | Public Health - | 200 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999309 | 17/05/2021 | Adult Social Care | Quality and Improvement | 2 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999310 | 20/05/2021 | Neighbourhoods | HOUSING | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999311 | 20/05/2021 | Neighbourhoods | Regulation and Enforcement | 2 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999312 | 25/05/2021 | Education & Skills | SENAR | 1 | Unauthorised disclosure |
| DBN999313 | 25/05/2021 | Adult Social Care | Adults | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999314 | 27/05/2021 | Neighbourhoods | Regulation and Enforcement | 3 | Lost Documents |
| DBN999315 | 27/05/2021 | Adult Social Care | Adults | 13 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999316 | 28/05/2021 | Neighbourhoods | Bereavement Services | 1 | Unauthorised disclosure |
| DBN999317 | 28/05/2021 | Education & Skills | Education & Skills | 7 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999318 | 03/06/2021 | Neighbourhoods | Housing Options Service | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999319 | 04/06/2021 | Education & Skills | Inclusion & Send | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999320 | 07/06/2021 | Neighbourhoods | regulation and enforcement | 1 | Lost Documents |
| DBN999321 | 08/06/2021 | Finance and Governance | Legal & Governance | 4 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999322 | 08/06/2021 | Education & Skills | Skills and Employability | 28 | Stolen From Vehicle |

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| DBN999323 | 10/06/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 1 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999324 | 10/06/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | REVENUES AND BENEFITS | 13 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999325 | 10/06/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | Education and Skills | 7 | Email Disclosure |
| DBN999326 | 10/06/2021 | Digital & Customer Services | Education and Skills | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999327 | 15/06/2021 | Education & Skills | SEND | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999329 | 15/06/2021 | Education & Skills | Inclusion & Send | 1 | Unauthorised Disclosure |
| DBN999330 | 15/06/2021 | Adult Social Care | The Learning and Development Service | 1 | Email Disclosure |

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE ALDEN

C1 Journey Time

Question:

What was the average journey time for children in Council funded transport to Uffculme School in February 2020 and February 2021 and in November 2019 and November 2020?

Answer:

Uffculme covers primary and secondary provision and the statutory guidance maximums are what are worked to for pupils depending on their age.

November 2019

In November 2019, (prior to the Covid pandemic) the Council had 19 routes operating to Uffculme and the average journey time (across primary and secondary) was 1 hour 5 mins. At this point primary and Secondary children were mixed on home to school transport but no Primary child was on the bus for longer than 45 mins and no Secondary pupil for longer than 75 mins.

February 2020 (also prior to the first lockdown)

Uffculme School had 19 routes which served both sites of the School. The average journey time (from picking up the first pupil to arriving at School - measured across primary and secondary) was 1 hour with no primary pupil journey times exceeding 45 minutes and no secondary pupil exceeding 75 minutes.

After lockdown 1, pupils returned to in person learning at School in May 2020 but the school then operated routes to each site on specific vehicles (so no longer mixing primary and Secondary on the same route).

November 2020

The average journey time (across primary and secondary) was 50 mins in November 2020. Primary pupils 30 mins. Secondary 50 mins.

February 2021

In February 2021 – this was during the third lockdown and Schools were closed for in person learning with the exception of attendance by vulnerable children and children of key workers. Uffculme had about 60% occupancy of pupils. There was also less traffic as people worked from home or were furloughed and non-essential shops were closed. Owing to lockdown 3 and less traffic / fewer pupils travelling then the average journey time (across primary and secondary) was reduced to 45 mins (average 25 mins for primary pupils where attending).

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR TIMOTHY HUXTABLE**

C2 Journey Time – Mayfield School

Question:

What was the average journey time for children in Council funded SEN transport to Mayfield School in February 2020 and February 2021 and in November 2019 and November 2020?

Answer:

Mayfield covers primary and secondary provision and the statutory guidance maximums are what are worked to wherever possible for each pupil by age.

Journey times in the last eighteen months or so have been influenced by 3 lockdowns, school closures (except for vulnerable pupils and pupils of key workers) and less traffic on the roads owing to lockdowns and people working from home/being furloughed etc.

The information provided relates to journey time from the first pick up to arrival at school.

November 2019

Average journey time across primary and secondary (pre pandemic) – 1 hour with no primary journey time exceeding 45 minutes and no secondary journey exceeding 75 minutes.

February 2020

Average journey time across primary and secondary (just prior to lockdown 1) – 1 hour with no primary journey time exceeding 45 minutes and no secondary journey exceeding 75 minutes.

November 2020

Average journey time across primary and secondary (schools are open but less traffic generally) – 55 mins (primary average 25 minutes).

February 2021

Average journey time across primary and secondary (Lockdown 3 – schools are closed to in person teaching except for vulnerable pupils and pupils of key workers plus less traffic) – 50 mins (primary average 25 minutes).

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR PETER FOWLER**

C3 Budgeted Cost – 365 Software

Question:

What was the original budgeted cost, the amount spent so far and the current anticipated final cost of the roll out of 365 software to allow parents to track home to school transport?

Answer:

The original contract was set as a 2 year contract with option to extend for a further 2 years. The total cost for 4 years is £518,000 (with £129,500 paid to date). This remains unchanged since the original award.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR MEIRION JENKINS**

C4 Timescales – 365 Software

Question:

What was the original planned timescales and what is the current projected completion date of the full roll out of 365 software to allow parents to track home to school transport?

Answer:

It is really important that we thoroughly test and pilot the software prior to go live. As such, it was originally hoped to have the software in place prior to the start of the new academic year 2021/22. However, as explained at the Leader's Home to School Transport Task and Finish Group, the Programme Manager is reviewing the testing to date and will provide revised dates in due course once this analysis is complete to take into account the need for testing and piloting across both the Council and its suppliers to support our safeguarding, safety and quality assurance improvements.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID BARRIE

C5 EHCP Information

Question:

Please provide, broken down by area of need, year group, number of children & young people with EHCPs who are currently:

Answer:

• Without a school place

| Yr Grp | ASC | C&L | SEMH | SENSORY | Total |
|--------|-----|-----|------|---------|-------|
| 0 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 11 |
| 1 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 11 |
| 2 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 5 |
| 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 7 |
| 4 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 |
| 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| 6 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 9 |
| 7 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 2 | 21 |
| 8 | 10 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 21 |
| 9 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 14 |
| 10 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 0 | 14 |
| 11 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 12 |
| | | | | | 130 |
| Yr Grp | ASC | C&L | SEMH | SENSORY | Total |
| 12 | 2 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 13 |
| 13 | 2 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 12 |
| 14 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 15 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| 16 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 17 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 4 |
| Total | 53 | 24 | 80 | 7 | 34 |

Out of the 130 CYP in reception to year 11, 29 have a school place secured for September 2021.

• In a mainstream school but awaiting a special school placement

| Yr Grp | ASC | C&L | SEMH | SENSORY | Total |
|--------|-----|-----|------|---------|-------|
| -1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 0 | 16 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 24 |
| 1 | 35 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 39 |
| 2 | 16 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 19 |

| Yr Grp | ASC | C&L | SEMH | SENSORY | Total |
|--------|-----|-----|------|---------|-------|
| 3 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 16 |
| 4 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| 5 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 10 |
| 6 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 8 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 6 |
| 9 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| 10 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| 11 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Total | 95 | 25 | 12 | 3 | 135 |

• **Having Section F provision met through the Home Bridging Team**

These pupils are having interim education delivered by the Home Bridging Team whilst an appropriate placement is identified. Please note this is interim education, therefore all provision set out in Section F will not be met by the Home Bridging Team.

• **Having Section F provision met by other home- based providers**

These pupils are having interim education delivered by tuition providers whilst an appropriate placement is identified. Please note this is interim education, therefore all provision set out in Section F will not be met by these providers.

**Please note, these numbers do not include those CYP who have education delivered in accordance with Section 61 of the Children and Families Act 2014*

| Yr Grp | ASC | C&L | SEMH | Sensory | Not Recorded | Total |
|--------|-----|-----|------|---------|--------------|-------|
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| 3 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 6 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| 7 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| 8 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 7 |
| 9 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 12 |
| 10 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 10 |
| 11 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 12 |
| 12 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 10 |
| 13 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 8 |
| 14 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 15 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 17 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Total | 32 | 13 | 24 | 5 | 15 | 89 |

The Home Bridging Team are in regular contact with families and support through online teaching, sharing resources for families to deliver or signposting online sites where CYP can engage with learning opportunities.

The Home Bridging Team continue to work remotely so are unable to deliver teaching within the home and there continues to be families who are at this time do not want to have a tutor coming into the home because of concerns around Covid-19.

The team work closely with other professionals who are working with the child and family and share key information to ensure the best support is actioned.

- **Have annual reviews recommending change of placement that have not yet been actioned**

This information will be provided to you by Friday 25th June.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR BRUCE LINES**

C6 Information

Question:

For the period January 2020 - present please provide the following data, all broken down by type (Refusal to Assess, Refusal to Issue, Section B,F,I):

- **The number of appeals against the Council registered by SENDIST**
- **The number of appeals conceded by the local authority prior to hearings**
- **The number that went to hearing where the appeal was dismissed (i.e. the local authority's decision was deemed to be correct)**
- **The number of resulting tribunal orders which have not yet been complied with by the Council**

For ease of reference, you provided this data at the 23rd February Full Council meeting, so you will simply need to update those tables.

Answer:

The number of appeals against the Council registered with SENDIST

1. Number of Appeals registered in 2020: 263
2. Number of Appeals registered to date in 2021: 106

| | 2020 | 2021 |
|----------------------------------|------|------|
| Refusal To Assess | 45 | 20 |
| Refusal To Issue | 28 | 10 |
| Contents (not section I of EHCP) | 11 | 6 |
| Sections B F and I of EHCP | 41 | 14 |
| Section I of EHCP | 137 | 56 |
| Proposal to cease EHCP | 1 | 0 |

The number of appeals conceded by the local authority prior to hearings

| | 2020 | 2021 |
|-------------------------------------|------|------|
| Refusal To Assess | 37 | 14 |
| Refusal To Issue | 34 | 3 |
| Multiple sections of EHCP | 20 | 0 |
| Sections B F and I of EHCP (not NT) | 0 | 1 |
| Cease EHCP | 1 | 0 |
| Section I of EHCP | 98 | 6 |
| National Trial | 4 | 0 |
| Total | 195 | 24 |
| | | |

*these figures also indicated decisions made by Consent where parties have agreed an outcome without the need for a hearing.

| Conceded by 6 weeks | 2020 | 2021 |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| | Conceded | Conceded |
| Refusal To Assess | 34 | 13 |
| Refusal To Issue | 20 | 3 |
| Multiple sections of EHCP (not I) | 1 | 0 |
| Sections B F and I of EHCP (not NT) | 4 | 0 |
| Cease EHCP | 0 | 0 |
| Section I of EHCP | 41 | 2 |
| Total | 100 | 18 |
| | | |

Case Dismissed (where the tribunal upheld the LA decision)

2020 = 12

| | 2020 |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| Refusal To Assess | 4 |
| Refusal To Issue | 2 |
| Multiple sections of EHCP | 1 |
| Sections B F and I of EHCP (not NT) | 0 |
| Section I of EHCP | 5 |

2021= 0 (to date)

The number of resulting tribunal orders which have not yet been complied with by the Council

The LA currently has three recent orders from SENDIST following a decision that require actions outstanding within the tribunal timeframe.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR EWAN MACKEY**

C7 EHCP – Phase Transfer Decisions – Reception

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of the number of EHCP phase transfer decisions made for Reception and, of those, the number for which the statutory deadline of 15th February was complied with, for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021.

Answer:

2019 – 109 out of 109 Final EHC Plans were issued by 15th February deadline

2020 - 59 out of 66 Final EHC Plans were issued by 15th February deadline

2021 – 0 out of 41 Final EHC Plans were issued by 15th February deadline

Although the final plan was not issued by the 15th February 2021 the amendment notices were sent to parents to accept the school placement identified for 26 out of 41.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR DARIUS SANDHU**

C8 EHCP – Phase Transfer Decisions – Secondary

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of the number of EHCP phase transfer decisions made for Secondary and, of those, the number for which the statutory deadline of 15th February was complied with, for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021.

Answer:

2019 – 565 out of 618 Final EHC Plans were issued by 15th February deadline

2020 – 391 out of 567 Final EHC Plans issued by 15th February deadline

2021 – 0 out of 633 Final EHC Plans were issued by 15th February deadline

Although the final plan was not issued by the 15th February 2021 the amendment notices were sent to parents to accept the school placement identified for 405 out of the 633.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR DOMINIC STANFORD**

C9 EHCP – Phase Transfer Decisions – Post 16

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of the number of EHCP phase transfer decisions made for Post 16 and, of those, the number for which the statutory deadline of 31st March was complied with, for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021.

Answer:

2019 – 1371 out of 1399 were issued decisions by 31st March deadline. 979 were issued final EHCPs and 392 were issued a Cease to Maintain (CTM) decision with 28 outstanding cases due to them being in custody, hospital, moved out of LA or Tribunal.

2020 - 0 out of 1460 were issued Final EHC Plans by 31st March deadline. The Covid-19 lockdown on 18/03/2020 had implications on staff access to the office and affected the ability to print the letters. 1340 out of 1460 received proposed decisions by 03/03/2020 which was followed by 1008 receiving decisions letters on 28/04/2020 followed by amended EHCP's by 31/05/2020. The decision was taken not to send 332 final CTM letters due to the anxiety it would cause families during lockdown. These were added to the 2021 cohort below.

2021 – 1120 out of 1723 received decisions by 31st March 2021. To date 726 final EHCP have been issued, 914 have been issued with a CTM and 85 have yet to receive final EHC Plans. We continue to prioritise the outstanding cases that are being dealt with combining the annual review process.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR ADAM HIGGS**

C10 Mediation Meetings

Question:

For the years 2019,2020 and 2021 please provide the number Mediation meetings requested under the SEND Code of Practice and the number of those requests that were complied with under the same Code of Practice.

Answer:

2019:

Number of requests made for mediation 165

Reporting from this period does not indicate whether mediation was attended but the assumption would be that attendance would have been at all sessions.

2020:

105 requests for mediation recorded;

77 mediation sessions were required and attended.

2021:

48 requests for mediation recorded

To date 7 mediation sessions have been held.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR RON STORER**

C11 Decisions – EHCP Assessment 1

Question:

How many requests for an EHCP assessment are currently awaiting a decision and, of those, how many have been waiting for longer than the statutory 6 week time period?

Answer:

There are currently 176 assessment requests awaiting a decision of which two assessment requests have been waiting for longer than the statutory 6 week time period

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR MAUREEN CORNISH**

C12 Decisions – EHCP Assessment 2

Question:

How many EHCP assessments are currently awaiting a decision and/or issuing of a final plan and, of those, how many have been waiting for longer than the statutory 20 week time period?

Answer:

There are 639 live assessments - 62 of these assessments are currently over the 20 weeks statutory time period

- Awaiting decision to assess within timescales - 173
- Awaiting decision to assess over timescales - 2
- Awaiting decision to issue in timescales - 302
- Awaiting decision to issue over timescales – 49
- Awaiting Final within timescales - 88
- Awaiting Final Over timescales - 25

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR ADRIAN DELANEY**

C13 Breakdown of Data

Question:

For the period January 2021 - present please provide a breakdown of the following data:

The number of decisions that SHOULD have been made by the SEND Department that would have been appealable to the SENDIST (this includes requests for assessment, issuing of plans, contents of final plans and placements, as well as decisions to amend following annual reviews and transfer reviews)

- **The number of decisions that were ACTUALLY made (same criteria as above)**
- **Of those, the number of decisions that were outstanding from the period prior to January 2021**
- **The number of appeals registered by SENDIST**
- **The number of appeals conceded by the local authority prior to hearings**
- **The number that went to hearing where the appeal was dismissed (i.e. the local authority's decision was deemed to be correct)**
- **The number of resulting tribunal orders which have not yet been complied with by the Council**
- **The number of Judicial Review pre-action protocol letters sent on behalf of parents relating to SEND matters**

Answer:

- **The number of decisions that SHOULD have been made by the SEND Department that would have been appealable to the SENDIST**
 - Number of initial requests for Education, Health and Care (EHC) assessments refused - 73
 - Number of assessments completed and a decision made not to issue an EHC plan - 86
 - Number with an EHC plan as at 16 June 2021- 10,603 (5,000 reviews expected to have been received at this point)
 - Number of EHC plans ceased because the special educational needs of the child or young person are being met without an EHC plan - 0

Total Appealable Decisions that should have been made– 5,156

- **The number of decisions that were ACTUALLY made (same criteria as above)**
 - Number of initial requests for Education, Health and Care (EHC) assessments refused - 73

- Number of assessments completed and a decision made not to issue an EHC plan – 86
- Number with an EHC plan Finals issued following review as at 16 June 2021 - 1,300
- Number of EHC plans ceased because the special educational needs of the child or young person are being met without an EHC plan - 0

Total Appealable Decisions actually made– 1,459

- **Of those, the number of decisions that were outstanding from the period prior to January 2021**

1,399 where reviews have been received in 2021, however final has not been issued.

The other 2,298 is where reviews are expected to be received from settings, however have not been received.

- **The number of appeals registered by SENDIST**

106

- **The number of appeals conceded by the local authority prior to hearings**

24

- **The number that went to hearing where the appeal was dismissed (i.e. the local authority's decision was deemed to be correct)**

0

- **The number of resulting tribunal orders which have not yet been complied with by the Council**

The LA currently has three recent orders from SENDIST following a decision that require actions outstanding within the tribunal timeframe.

- **The number of Judicial Review pre-action protocol letters sent on behalf of parents relating to SEND matters**

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**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR SIMON MORRALL**

C14 EHCP Annual Reports

Question:

From the period January 2020 - present how many EHCP annual review reports were submitted and, of those, how many resulted in decisions being made within the statutory period of 4 weeks and amendments being made within 8 weeks?

Answer:

There have been 7,360 Annual Reviews submitted between January 2020 to present. Of these 3,495 have decisions made, with 140 decisions being made with 4 weeks.

Of the 7,360 reviews 3,244 resulted in amendments being issued with 412 being issued within 8 weeks.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR GARETH MOORE**

C15 EY Report – Home to School Transport 1

Question:

On what date was EY report into Home to School Transport updated on the Council's website to be the full 200 page version with appendices?

Answer:

25th May 2021.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR DEBBIE CLANCY**

C16 EY Report – Home to School Transport 2

Question:

Why was the full 200 page EY report on Home to School Transport with appendices not provided before the Cabinet decision?

Answer:

At the public meeting on 24th November the issue of parental engagement specifically in relation to the review was raised. The Inquiry had heard feedback from parents and carers, schools, elected members and staff, about what had gone wrong and what the service should do better.

The Chair of the PCF and EY met on the 30th November following the Chair's review of the report. At which it was agreed that the Cabinet Member in liaison with the PCF would arrange a series of parental engagement sessions in January 2021.

It was agreed to hold four facilitated feedback sessions between the 20th and 27th January to incorporate further feedback from parents and carers on the document. These views will be incorporated as an addendum to the report.

This was also set out when the report was represented to Cabinet in January 2021, following Overview and Scrutiny Call In and it was agreed to amend the recommendation to read as follows:

Recommendation 2.2: Note the Inquiry's findings and recommendations and; note the approach to incorporating additional input of parents and carers agreed with the Parent Carer Forum on the 30th November.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR EDDIE FREEMAN**

C17 EY Report – Home to School Transport 3

Question:

On what date did you, as one of the Cabinet Members responsible, receive and read the full 200 page EY report with appendices on Home to School Transport?

Answer:

29th March 2021.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR CHARLOTTE HODIVALA**

C18 Action Plan – EY Investigation

Question:

Please provide a copy of the latest version of the action plan that resulted from the EY investigation into Home to School Transport, including original target date, date completed or latest forecast completion date and action owner?

Answer:

The current Home to School Service Plan is provided in a landscape summary table format from page 2 of this document (please note there are 4 pages in total to this document).

| Workstream | Work Package | Activities | Owner | Status | Start Date | End Date | Reforecast End Date (if applicable) |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|--------------------|------------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Transport Applications | Bus Pass Backlog | Q-Pass contract obtained (12 month) | Transport Operations Manager | Completed | 22-Apr | 30-Apr | |
| Transport Applications | Bus Pass Backlog | Q-Routes contract extension obtained (12 month) | Transport Operations Manager | Completed | 22-Apr | 30-Apr | |
| Transport Applications | Bus Pass Backlog | Review bus pass process – why has it happened/how do we resolve | Eligibility Review Officer | Completed | 22-Apr | 21-May | |
| Transport Applications | Bus Pass Backlog | Improve bus pass process (evidence of low income / distance to school / provide school info) | Transport Operations Manager | In Progress | 22-Apr | 30-Jul | |
| Transport Applications | Bus Pass Backlog | Brief staff on new process | Transport Operations Manager | Completed | 03-May | 21-May | |
| Eligibility Assessments/Applications | Confirm data from SENAR: starters, leavers, movers | Nursery | SENAR Programme Mgr | In Progress | 22-Apr | 28-May | 01-Jul |
| Eligibility Assessments/Applications | Confirm data from SENAR: starters, leavers, movers | Secondary Transfers | SENAR Programme Mgr | In Progress | 22-Apr | 28-May | 01-Jul |
| Eligibility Assessments/Applications | Confirm data from SENAR: starters, leavers, movers | Leavers (manual identification) | Transport Operations Manager | In Progress | 22-Apr | 25-Jun | |
| Eligibility Assessments/Applications | New approach to eligibility assessments | Review how we look at data (look at task and finish approach) / eligibility / tell parents / transport arrangement | Transport Operations Manager | Completed | 22-Apr | 30-Apr | |
| Eligibility Assessments/Applications | New approach to eligibility assessments | Agree approach and resources | Transport Operations Manager | Completed | 22-Apr | 30-Apr | |
| Eligibility Assessments/Applications | New approach to eligibility assessments | Continue to work with SENAR to align information required in transport eligibility assessments with that provided in the writing of EHCPs | Transport Operations Manager | In Progress | 07-Jun | 31-Jul | |
| Eligibility Assessments/Applications | New approach to eligibility assessments | Secondary/Post 16: Conduct a process to use EHCP, considering whether already in receipt of transport to see if likely to be eligible | Transport Operations Manager | In Progress | 03-May | 09-Jul | |
| Eligibility Assessments/Applications | New approach to eligibility assessments | Presume eligibility for those where possible and write letter- including offer of independent travel training to all secondary/post 16 where eligibility is presumed | Transport Operations Manager | Completed | 03-May | 28-May | |
| Eligibility Assessments/Applications | New approach to eligibility assessments | Consult with Rachel Edwards on content of letters | Transport Operations Manager | Completed | 03-May | 28-May | |
| Eligibility Assessments/Applications | New approach to eligibility assessments | Legal advice on amending process around eligibility (instead of need to appeal, ask families if they would they like to submit further information) | Eligibility Review Manager | Completed | 10-May | 04-Jun | |
| Eligibility Assessments/Applications | New approach to eligibility assessments | Complete eligibility assessments for 0-25 | Transport Operations Manager | In Progress | 22-Apr | 25-Jun | |
| Eligibility Assessments/Applications | Communications | Find out press to post system owner 'hybrid mail' and make sure they are ready for travel plans | Head of Service / Transport Operations Manager | In Progress | 03-May | 25-Jun | |
| Eligibility Assessments/Applications | Communications | Timeline for parents to be added to local offer | Comms & Engagement Lead | In Progress | 03-May | 18-Jun | |
| Eligibility Assessments/Applications | Communications | Letters out to finalise transport eligibility (if applied on time) | Head of Service | In Progress | 14-Jun | 25-Jun | |
| Eligibility Assessments/Applications | Communications | Holding letter to SEN students stating they will hear about transport arrangements by second week in July if EHCP | Head of Service | In Progress | 07-Jun | 18-Jun | |
| Eligibility Assessments/Applications | Communications | Post 16 Contact -recognising things will change | Head of Service | In Progress | 07-Jun | 18-Jun | |
| Eligibility Assessments/Applications | Communications | Panel meetings held throughout summer (revised approach to raise queries as applications are processed) | Transport Operations Manager | No longer required | 05-Jul | 30-Jul | |

| Workstream | Work Package | Activities | Owner | Status | Start Date | End Date | Reforecast End Date (if applicable) |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|-------------|------------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Processes & Resources | School Engagement | Agree and name contact for all schools over the summer to do data checks | Transport Consultant / Comms & Engagement Lead | Completed | 03-May | 21-May | |
| Processes & Resources | Route Planning & Mobilisation | Route planning | Transport Operations Manager | In Progress | 03-May | 30-Jul | |
| Processes & Resources | Route Planning & Mobilisation | Brief operators on clean air zone | Transport Consultant | Completed | 03-May | 21-May | |
| Processes & Resources | Route Planning & Mobilisation | Confirm data | Transport Operations Manager | In Progress | 03-May | 28-May | 01-Jul |
| Processes & Resources | Route Planning & Mobilisation | Share data with operators | Transport Operations Manager | In Progress | 03-May | 28-May | 01-Jul |
| Processes & Resources | Route Planning & Mobilisation | Confirmation staff are ready (operators) for clean air zone– ask drivers to dummy run | Transport Consultant | Completed | 03-May | 28-May | |
| Processes & Resources | Route Planning & Mobilisation | Repeat confirmation and full dummy runs for clean air zone | Transport Consultant | Not Started | 01-Aug | 14-Aug | |
| Processes & Resources | Route Planning & Mobilisation | Using data we need to start planning travel arrangements (early years + school) | Transport Operations Manager | In Progress | 03-May | 28-May | 01-Jul |
| Processes & Resources | Route Planning & Mobilisation | Post 16: provisional planning (<i>cannot confirm arrangements until exam results known</i>) – based on intended placements | Transport Operations Manager / SENAR Programme Manager | In Progress | 07-Jun | 25-Jun | |
| Processes & Resources | Route Planning & Mobilisation | Early years + school age: all placements confirmed and communicated | SENAR Programme Mgr | In Progress | 07-Jun | 25-Jun | |
| Processes & Resources | Team Structure | Team restructure and allocation | Transport Operations Manager | Completed | 22-Apr | 23-Apr | |
| Processes & Resources | Team Structure | Clear team sheet | Transport Operations Manager | Completed | 22-Apr | 30-Apr | |
| Processes & Resources | Team Structure | All staff briefing | Transport Operations Manager | Completed | 26-Apr | 30-Apr | |
| Processes & Resources | Team Structure | Tracking progress – alignment to KPIs | Transport Operations Manager | Completed | 26-Apr | 08-May | |
| Processes & Resources | Development of Guides | Identification of guide manager | Compliance & Contracts Mgr & Guides Travel Assist Supervisor | In Progress | 26-Apr | 22-Jun | |
| Processes & Resources | Development of Guides | Identify phone line for guide co-ordinators to access | Compliance & Contracts Mgr & Guides Travel Assist Supervisor | Completed | 24-May | 04-Jun | |
| Processes & Resources | Development of Guides | Develop guide training plan | Compliance & Contracts Mgr & Guides Travel Assist Supervisor | In Progress | 03-May | 16-Jul | |
| Processes & Resources | Development of Guides | Develop guide training | Compliance & Contracts Mgr & Guides Travel Assist Supervisor | In Progress | 03-May | 02-Jul | |
| Processes & Resources | Development of Guides | Develop guide code of conduct | Compliance & Contracts Mgr & Guides Travel Assist Supervisor | In Progress | 24-May | 16-Jul | |
| Processes & Resources | Development of Guides | Guide transition and training for 365, including phones allocated to guides | Compliance & Contracts Mgr & Guides Travel Assist Supervisor | Not Started | 07-Jun | 30-Jul | 31-Aug |
| Processes & Resources | Development of Guides | Ensure guides are clear on emergency processes | Compliance & Contracts Mgr & Guides Travel Assist Supervisor | In Progress | 03-May | 04-Jun | 31-Aug |
| Processes & Resources | Development of Guides | Ensure guide data (DBS,etc.) is up to date and cleansed | Compliance & Contracts Mgr & Guides Travel Assist Supervisor | In Progress | 26-Apr | 25-Jun | |
| Processes & Resources | Mobilisation Planning | CV reviews and interviews (staff appointed by early May) | Contracts & Compliance Manager | Completed | 03-May | 14-May | |
| Processes & Resources | Mobilisation Planning | Create mobilisation plan | Mobilisation Manager | In Progress | 03-May | 02-Jul | |
| Processes & Resources | Mobilisation Planning | Identify contingency guides | Guides Travel Assist Supervisor | Completed | 03-May | 04-Jun | |
| Processes & Resources | Mobilisation Planning | Confirm DfE funding (covid arrangements) | Transport Consultant | Completed | 03-May | 04-Jun | |
| Processes & Resources | Mobilisation Planning | Check all operators are ready for post half term + potential contingency arrangements | Transport Consultant | Completed | 03-May | 04-Jun | |
| Processes & Resources | Mobilisation Planning | Agree roles | Mobilisation Manager | In Progress | 03-May | 02-Jul | |
| Processes & Resources | Mobilisation Planning | Assurance and checkpoints for progress | Mobilisation Manager | In Progress | 03-May | 02-Jul | |
| Processes & Resources | Mobilisation Planning | Interim milestone | Mobilisation Manager | In Progress | 03-May | 02-Jul | |
| Processes & Resources | Call Handling | Look at if the contact centre should be centrally based | Head of Service | In Progress | 21-Jun | 16-Jul | |

| Workstream | Work Package | Activities | Owner | Status | Start Date | End Date | Reforecast End Date (if applicable) |
|-----------------------|------------------|---|--|-------------|------------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Processes & Resources | Call Handling | Dedicated staff for call handling | Transport Operations Manager | In Progress | 03-May | 22-Jun | |
| Processes & Resources | Call Handling | Pre-empt busy days – start of term/first day of the week | Transport Operations Manager | Completed | 03-May | 15-May | |
| Processes & Resources | Call Handling | Utilising social media to put messages out – 365 to also help | Transport Operations Manager / Comms & Engagement Lead | In Progress | 17-May | 02-Jul | |
| Processes & Resources | Call Handling | Contingency planning for 7th June (post half term) to manage anticipated increased demand to be in place for 4th June | Transport Operations Manager | Completed | 17-May | 04-Jun | |
| Route Re-Procurement | NEAT | Review routes - identifying high risk and extension routes and sign-off | Contracts & Compliance Manager | Completed | 22-Apr | 28-May | |
| Route Re-Procurement | NEAT | School engagement on proposed routes (head teacher and school grouping meetings) | Head of Service | Completed | 22-Apr | 30-Apr | |
| Route Re-Procurement | NEAT | Pupil engagement on proposed routes (pupil grouping meetings) | Head of Service | Completed | 03-May | 28-May | |
| Route Re-Procurement | NEAT | Mobilisation: add all routes onto DPS and confirm timetables | Head of Service & Direct Reports | In Progress | 03-May | 02-Jul | |
| Route Re-Procurement | DPS | Review routes using as is data (i.e. removing leavers/adding starters/identifying long journeys or those with issues) and sign-off high risk routes | Contracts & Compliance Manager | In Progress | 22-Apr | 28-May | 01-Jul |
| Route Re-Procurement | DPS | School engagement on proposed routes (head teacher and school grouping meetings) | Head of Service | In Progress | 22-Apr | 30-Apr | 15-Jul |
| Route Re-Procurement | DPS | Pupil engagement on proposed routes (pupil grouping meetings) | Head of Service | In Progress | 03-May | 28-May | 15-Jul |
| Route Re-Procurement | DPS | Mobilisation: re-routing and confirm timetables | Head of Service & Direct Reports | In Progress | 03-May | 02-Jul | |
| Process Improvements | PTB Payments | Review payment process (in year) | Legal & Comms & Engagement Lead | Completed | 24-May | 02-Jul | |
| Process Improvements | PTB Payments | PCF sign off (in year) | Head of Service | Completed | 24-May | 02-Jul | |
| Process Improvements | PTB Payments | Review payment process (new year) | Legal & Comms & Engagement Lead | Not Started | 24-May | 02-Jul | 01-Aug |
| Process Improvements | PTB Payments | PCF sign off (new year) | Head of Service | Not Started | 24-May | 02-Jul | 01-Aug |
| Process Improvements | Post 16 Payments | Review payment process (in year) | Legal & Comms & Engagement Lead | Completed | 24-May | 02-Jul | |
| Process Improvements | Post 16 Payments | PCF sign off (in year) | Head of Service | Completed | 24-May | 02-Jul | |
| Process Improvements | Post 16 Payments | Review payment process (new year) | Legal & Comms & Engagement Lead | Not Started | 24-May | 02-Jul | 01-Aug |
| Process Improvements | Post 16 Payments | PCF sign off (new year) | Head of Service | Not Started | 24-May | 02-Jul | 01-Aug |
| Process Improvements | Appeals Training | Legal to provide training | Senior Solicitor | In Progress | 24-May | 02-Jul | |
| Process Improvements | Appeals Training | Legal advisor/clerk to be scoped | Senior Solicitor | In Progress | 24-May | 02-Jul | |

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, SKILLS
AND CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE ALDEN**

D1 EY Report – Home to School Transport 4

Question:

On what date did you, as one of the Cabinet Members responsible, receive and read the full 200 page EY report with appendices on Home to School Transport?

Answer:

The Improving Home to School Transport Report was presented to Cabinet on 15th December 2020 and after a Scrutiny call in on 6th January the report was amended and approved on 19th January 2021. As a member of the Executive I was fully involved in this process and have taken a keen interest in the positive improvements that are now being made.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, SKILLS AND CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR MIKE WARD

D2 Level 3 Qualifications for all adults

Question:

The Education Secretary has [announced adults over 24 will be able to access fully-funded courses to achieve a first full level 3 qualification](#) as part of the Lifetime Skills Guarantee.

As councils have been encouraged to raise awareness about the initiative, could the Cabinet Member indicate how this has been advertised in the City so residents can take full advantage of the scheme?

Answer:

Adult Education providers in the city are promoting Level 3 provision that is fully funded, either through the National Skills Fund (part of the Lifetime Skills Guarantee) or through ‘funding flexibilities’ awarded by the West Midlands Combined Authority in the following ways:

- Providers’ websites and their Social Media channels
- At Learning Progression events and Open Days
- Through the WMCA and other stake holders, such as the National Careers Service

The City Council, through its Adult Education Service has promoted fully funded Level 3 provision since the start of this academic year, using ‘funding flexibilities’ awarded by the West Midlands Combined Authority. This initial programme was set up in alignment with the Lifetime Skills Guarantee with a view to start promotion and increase participation in time for the start of the National Skills Fund, in April 2021.

The majority of the Council’s Level 3 provision is in the Health and Care sector and the Early Years sector. Labour Market Intelligence from Emsi Analyst indicates that last year there were 16,677 vacancies in nursing, 7,450 vacancies in the Early Years sector and a further 8,914 vacancies for care assistants/healthcare workers.

To date, ca. 100 residents have benefited from this fully funded provision in Healthcare Support, Understanding Autism, Understanding Mental Health, Early Years Educator and Supporting Teaching and Learning.

For the academic year 21-22 this provision will increase to also include the National Diploma in Computing for Creative Industries, Advanced Certificate in Bookkeeping and the Early Years Educator Diploma. The Service will offer a total of 280 places in Level 3 provision.

The Service has a high rate of positive destinations into employment, with 37% of learners moving into employment in 19-20 across all provision. This rate is higher in Level 3 courses, which are directly linked to employers, such as our Supporting Teaching and Learning programmes and our Early Years Educator programme.

The council's Adult Education Service has now a partnership in place with South and City College to provide further progression from Level 2 into fully funded Level 3 provision at SCCB. This pathway will be promoted at FE Choices events, in Social Media and Service's website. The pathways will include Level 3 provision on Leadership & Management, Human Resource Business Studies, Cyber Security, Web Development Web and data technologies amongst others.

We have now started enrolling onto our Level 3 provision for next academic year, being offered in our community centres across the city from Aston to Sparkhill to Northfield and the city centre at the Library of Birmingham. We will have 3 intense enrolment weeks in July and to continue throughout August and the Autumn term.

BAES is live for enrolments now. Our 2021/22 brochure is available from our homepage at <https://www.learnbaes.ac.uk/> or directly through this link: https://bit.ly/BAES_Courses_21-22

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, SKILLS AND CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR BABER BAZ

D3 Summer Schools

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member provide details on proposals for Summer Schools during the forthcoming summer recess?

Answer:

Earlier this year the government announced funding for secondary schools to deliver a short summer school with a blend of academic education and enrichment activities.

We have ensured all Birmingham schools are aware of this programme and the need to secure the funding for their summer schools by 30th June 2021. We have been informed by the DfE that so far over 120 schools in Birmingham have made arrangements to hold a summer school.

Schools are free to determine which pupils, from which year group(s) would most benefit from a summer school. However, it is likely that most schools will choose to focus provision primarily on pupils making the transition into year 7 in September.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, SKILLS AND CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR ROGER HARMER

D4 Academies

Question:

It has been reported schools will be offered a trial period to form partnerships with Academy Trusts for up to 18 months, without making any formal commitment.

Could the Cabinet Member confirm if any city schools are considering taking up this offer?

Answer:

Schools would approach the Department for Education directly if they were interested in this and I have not been made aware of any schools who are considering taking up this offer.

CITY COUNCIL – 22 JUNE 2021

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, SKILLS AND CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR MORRIAM JAN

D5 Education Standards

Question:

Further to the recent data that has been released around maths attainment, could the Cabinet Member explain what is going to be done to improve standards for City children, so they don't fall further behind and truly become the lost generation due to the pandemic?

Answer:

Birmingham schools are committed to supporting their pupils and have worked tirelessly to help children and young people catch up.

However, I remain extremely concerned about the level of funding that has been announced by the government for schools to support pupils to catch up on lost learning.

I wrote to the Secretary of State on 3rd June 2021 to raise concerns that the £1.4bn plan announced by the government will fall seriously short of what is required to help children and young people recover the educational ground lost during the pandemic. The figure announced equates to just £50 extra per pupil per year and falls 90 per cent short of the amount proposed by the Education recovery commissioner Sir Kevan Collins.

I am yet to receive a response to my letter but hope that the government will reconsider and ensure schools are adequately funded to address the challenges they face.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR PETER FOWLER**

E1 EY Report – Home to School Transport 5

Question:

On what date did you, as one of the Cabinet Members responsible, receive and read the full 200 page EY report with appendices on Home to School Transport?

Answer:

The improving Home to School Transport Report was presented to Cabinet on 15th December 2020 and after a Scrutiny call in on 6th January the report was amended and approved on 19th January 2021. As a member of the Executive I was fully involved in this process and have taken a keen interest in the positive improvements that are now being made.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR SIMON MORRALL**

E2 Planned Procurement Activities

Question:

At what point should a contract appear on the planned procurement activities?

Answer:

Contracts or procurements should be included within the PPAR report where the procurement activity is due to commence within the period set out within the report and in a way that provides sufficient time to allow the procurement to be undertaken and contracts awarded prior to the expiry of any existing arrangements.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR ADAM HIGGS**

E3 Diesel Generators

Question:

How much has the Council spent since 2012 on the purchase, hire, lease or running cost of diesel generators? (broken down by year and what spent on)

Answer:

An answer this question is not possible as this type of spend is not recorded at this level of granularity. The spend is across multiple suppliers and contracts that may include spend on non-diesel items.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR EDDIE FREEMAN**

E4 Diesel Generators

Question:

How much has the Council spent since 2012 on the purchase, hire, lease or running cost of diesel vehicles? (broken down by year, engine size and what spent on)

Answer:

The Council spend in this area is across multiple suppliers and contracts including through the use of p-cards. The records do not show in detail whether the purchase or supply was in relation to a specific type of vehicle.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID BARRIE

E5 Total Income

Question:

What was the total income for the last four years for parking fees and fines for parking and traffic offences (bus lane infringements etc) and what is the projected income for the next 4 years (not including clean air zones fees and fines)

Answer:

The total income for the last four years for parking fees and fines for parking and traffic offences (bus lane infringements, etc) is shown in the table below:

| Description | 2017/18 £ | 2018/19 £ | 2019/20 £ | 2020/21 £ | TOTAL £ |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Parking Fees | 14,760,690 | 16,079,260 | 17,515,143 | 6,341,757 | 54,696,850 |
| Parking & Traffic Offences - Fines | 5,783,623 | 6,980,835 | 8,540,635 | 5,643,464 | 26,948,557 |
| Total | 20,544,313 | 23,060,095 | 26,055,778 | 11,985,221 | 81,645,407 |

The budgeted income for the next four years for parking fees and fines for parking and traffic offences (bus lane infringements, etc) is shown in the table below:

| Description | 2021/22 Budget £ | 2022/23 Budget £ | 2023/24 Budget £ | 2024/25 Budget £ |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Parking Fees | 17,163,864 | 17,163,864 | 17,163,864 | 17,163,864 |
| Parking & Traffic Offences - Fines | 6,693,178 | 6,693,178 | 6,693,178 | 6,693,178 |
| Total | 23,857,042 | 23,857,042 | 23,857,042 | 23,857,042 |

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID PEARS**

E6 Anticipated Income

Question:

What is the anticipated income within the MTFS from fees and fine, broken by each category, from the CAZ for the next four years?

Answer:

The following table sets out the forecast CAZ income for the next four years currently assumed within the MTFS, as approved by Council in the February 2021 Budget Report.

| Description | 2021/22 £000 | 2022/23 £000 | 2023/24 £000 | 2024/25 £000 | Total £000 |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| CAZ D Charge Income | 21,047 | 17,845 | 14,454 | 11,063 | 64,409 |
| CAZ Penalty Income | 5,839 | 5,207 | 4,243 | 3,280 | 18,569 |
| CAZ Total Income | 26,887 | 23,052 | 18,697 | 14,343 | 82,979 |

It should be noted that the forecast is based on the original modelling and assumptions used in the December 2018 Full Business Case. The forecast is being reviewed based on information being generated from the live scheme, with any revisions being built into the MTFS refresh and a further update will be shared with Cabinet at the earliest opportunity.

CITY COUNCIL – 22 JUNE 2021

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR DEBBIE CLANCY**

E7 Cost – Member Development Course

Question:

What is the total cost of delivering each Member Development course currently offered or about to be offered? Please break this down by individual course and between external and internal costs. Where an external company or individual trainer is used, please specify who this is?

Answer:

Centrally delivered Member courses and sessions over the last 12 months have mostly been delivered internally, relying on employees stepping in to deliver sessions. The one externally run– Treasury Management training by Arlingclose in July 2020 – was provided as part of the Council's service from the Treasury Advisor. Other training has been supported by the LGA at no additional cost to the Council. In addition, departments and party groups may have paid for members to go on courses, but this information is not held centrally. There is currently no centrally held budget for Member Development.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR GARETH MOORE**

E8 JNC Level Appointments

Question:

**In each year since 2016, how many new JNC level appointments were made?
(broken down by either permanent, fixed term or temporary contracts)**

Answer:

2016:

Permanent = 17 (8 internal promotions, 9 external hires)

FTC = 2 (2 external hire)

Temporary = 1 (1 acting up)

Total = 20 (9 internal promotions, 11 external hires)

2017:

Permanent = 6 (2 internal promotions, 4 external hires)

FTC = 2 (2 external hires)

Total = 8 (2 internal promotions, 6 external hires)

2018:

Permanent = 6 (3 internal promotions, 3 external hires)

FTC = 1 (1 external hire)

Temporary = 4 (4 acting ups)

Total = 11 (7 internal promotions, 4 external hires)

2019:

Permanent = 13 (2 internal hiring's, 11 external hires)

Temporary = 1 (1 acting up)

Total = 14 (3 internal hiring's, 11 external hires)

2020:

Permanent = 3 (3 external hires)

Temporary = 3 (2 acting up, 1 secondary contract)

Total = 6 (3 internal, 3 external)

2021:

Permanent = 2 (2 external hires)

FTC = 1 (1 external hire)

Total = 3 (3 external hires)

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR MAUREEN CORNISH**

E9 JNC Level Appointments 2

Question:

In each year since 2016, what proportion of JNC appointments (broken down by either permanent, fixed term or temporary contracts) were given to employees who live outside the West Midlands Metropolitan area or more than 30 miles from Birmingham City Council House?

Answer:

2016:

Permanent = 5 (5 external appointments)

FTC = 2 (2 external appointments, however 1 relocated to Birmingham within 1 month of employment starting)

Total = 7 (7 external appointments), which is 35% of total new starters.

2017:

Permanent = 3 (3 external appointments)

FTC = 1 (1 external appointment)

Total = 4 (4 external appointments), which is 50% of total new starters.

2018:

Permanent = 4 (1 internal appointment, 3 external appointments)

Fixed Term Contract = 1 (1 external appointment)

Temporary = 1 (1 acting up)

Total = 6 (2 internal appointments, 4 external appointments), which is 54.55% of new starters.

2019:

Permanent = 6 (6 external appointments), which is 43.86% of new starters.

2020:

Permanent = 2 (2 external appointments), which is 33.33% of new starters.

2021:

Permanent = 2 (2 external appointments), which is 66.66% of new starters.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR KEN WOOD**

“E10 JNC Level Appointments 3

Question:

In each year since 2016, how many JNC levels employees have left the organisation?

Answer:

2016 = 18

2017 = 18

2018 = 21 (8 of which due to Birmingham Children’s Trust becoming a separate entity)

2019 = 13

2020 = 7

2021 = 2 (1 of which is a still employed by BCC but is due to leave later in the year)

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR TIMOTHY HUXTABLE**

E11 JNC Level Appointments 4

Question:

In each year since 2012, split between JNC and NJC employees, how many employees have left the organisation with a redundancy or other form of financial exit package that have then returned in any form of paid capacity?

Answer:

Due to the large volumes of data that require analysis and the complexity of the question there is insufficient time available to provide an answer. Once the analysis has been completed the answer will be forwarded.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR ADRIAN DELANEY**

E12 Online Payment System - CAZ

Question:

Please provide a copy of the signed and dated contracts with Stripe and GoCardless for the online payment system for the Clean Air Zone (suitably redacted for commercial sensitivity)

Answer:

These contracts are with Legal Services who are reviewing the content with the Privacy Information Law Team. Redacted copies will be forwarded as soon as they are available.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND
SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR GARETH MOORE**

F1 NDH Care Limited

Question:

**How many social care does the Council currently have with services provided
by NDH Care Limited?**

Answer:

Birmingham City Council currently has 285 service users supported by NDH Care Ltd (at 16/6/21).

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND
SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR MAUREEN CORNISH**

F2 Social Care Users

Question:

How many social care users have been placed by the Council with NDH Care Limited since the safeguarding referral from West Midlands Ambulance Service on 31st January 2020, that formed part of the Local Government Ombudsman complaint Ref 20 003 832?

Answer:

Birmingham City Council has placed 570 service users with NDH Care Ltd since 31st January 2020. NDH Care Ltd are currently supporting 285 service users funded by Birmingham City Council.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL TILSLEY

F3 COVID Marshalls

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member provide full details of the number of Covid Marshalls currently employed by the Council focusing in particular on (a) the locations they cover (b) powers they have and (c) the annual cost of this service as well as indicating if there will be any expansion to this service?

Answer:

50 Covid Marshalls are currently employed through a recruitment agency

- a) 38 are City Covid Marshalls that cover all wards of Birmingham. They are asked to spend more of their patrol time in the wards that have the higher number of Covid positive cases currently recorded and this is determined on a weekly basis. Covid Marshalls can be moved daily to such areas should a rapid spike in positive Covid cases in an area be detected.

City Covid Marshalls further concentrate around high footfall areas such as shopping centres and shopping areas. The City Centres and Bid areas are covered daily.

City Covid Marshalls also provide assistance in situations where people are queuing for services of particular settings such as food banks, vaccination centres, schools and surge testing sites when these are in operation.

Recently City Covid Marshalls have assisted with ensuring persons are isolating following a positive Covid test.

12 are Park Covid Marshalls which work out of Sutton park and Kings Heath park but cover the whole of the Parks land portfolio. They undertake a similar role.

- b) Both City and Park Covid Marshalls do not have enforcement powers delegated to them. The Government were clear at the outset that Covid Marshalls should not regulate. They use education and persuasion interventions, including giving out free face coverings to the public. They provide education and advice regarding social distancing, face coverings, sanitisers and business Covid mitigations currently available to assist business.

- c) The Covid Marshal service was expanded in May 21 from 24 City and 8 Park Marshals to the current total number of 50.

The current expanded Covid Marshal service costs £87,300 per month. The estimated annual service is therefore £1,047,600. This is funded through Government grant monies to tackle Covid19.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR MIKE WARD

F4 Leisure Centres

Question:

The BBC have recently reported a third of council-run leisure centres in England are facing permanent closure. The District Councils' Network has said £325 million is urgently needed to save the sector with its survey showing 117 centres could run out of money within months, while nearly 80 per cent of those that can stay open say they will have to cut services.

Could the Cabinet Member update the Council on the situation in regard to re-opening City Council leisure facilities?

Answer:

Due to the impact of COVID-19, leisure facilities have had to close during each lockdown and operate with reduced visitor capacity when open. This has resulted in significantly lower levels of income generation over the past year. The Council has supported its Sport and Wellbeing service through schemes such as Supplier Relief, Sport England's National Leisure Recovery Fund, and Government provided compensation available for the loss of income.

As a result all of the Council's directly and externally managed leisure and wellbeing facilities re-opened as soon as was permitted on 12th April 2021 for individual gym and swim sessions and under 18's activities. From 17th May 2021, group fitness classes resumed. However, the service is still required to comply with sector specific Covid19 guidance which limits the number of customers who can access the facilities at any one time to maintain social distancing. Council leisure facilities and their various operators will therefore continue to face significant financial challenges over the forthcoming recovery period which is anticipated to take at least 18 months and ongoing support will be required to support the sector.

CITY COUNCIL – 22 JUNE 2021

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR NEIL EUSTACE

F5 Easing Lockdown

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member provide a report on the number of infractions Enforcement Officers have recorded in city pubs and bars since lockdown eased on 12 April?

Answer:

Since the easing of lockdown measures on 12 April 2021, enforcement officers have undertaken 321 Covid compliance checks of hospitality venues (e.g. pubs, bars, cafes and restaurants) across the city. Of these 25 city pubs and/or bars were recorded as non-compliant due to infractions found by officers during their visits and have been requested to make alterations to be Covid compliant.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND
NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR RON STORER**

G1 Housing Conditions Review 1

Question:

Please provide a copy of the last Housing Conditions Review to have been completed by the Council.

Answer:

In regard to private sector housing condition survey please see below the document requested. For City Council dwellings, stock condition information is currently updated in our property management system Apex. This is a live system, updated on a rolling basis from stock condition surveys and capital works completions rather than there being a separate housing condition review. However, we are planning to commission a stock condition survey (for BCC dwellings) which is due to be completed within 18 months.



Birmingham Housing
Condition Survey 201



Private Sector House Condition Survey 2010
May 2010

DRAFT REPORT

Birmingham City Council
Working in partnership with



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Executive Summary

Introduction

Private Sector House Condition Surveys (HCS) are conducted on a regular basis by local authorities as a means of maintaining a detailed picture of housing conditions in the private sector (owner occupied and privately rented homes). Such a picture forms a useful evidence base on which to build strategies and inform investment decisions, and feed into statistical returns and other internal reports. The information is also useful in presenting the potential obligations on an authority in relation to current housing legislation:

- Section 3 Housing Act 2004
- Regulatory Reform (Housing Assistance) (England and Wales) Order 2002 (RRO)

The survey was a sample survey of 1,800 dwellings, covering all private sector tenures excluding registered social landlord (RSL) or housing association properties. A sample of 3,600 was drawn with final total of 1,798 full surveys being undertaken.

In order to place the findings in context, comparisons are made to the English House Condition Survey (EHCS) 2007 and the Survey of English Housing 2007-2008, both of which are published by Communities and Local Government (CLG). Some comparative data is drawn from the Family Resources Survey 2007-2008 which is published by the Department for Works and Pensions (DWP).

General survey characteristics

The following list gives some of the key features of Birmingham's housing stock and population compared with national averages:

- A substantially higher proportion of the stock was built before 1945 than that found nationally (56.2% compared with 42.7%), with a much lower proportion of the stock built post 1944 to that found nationally (43.8% compared with 57.3%).
- The tenure profile differs from the national profile with a lower proportion of owner occupation (64% compared with 70%) and a slightly lower level of privately rented accommodation (10% compared with 12%). Social housing, however, had a much higher proportion (25% compared with 18%).
- The stock had much higher proportions of semi-detached houses and to a lesser degree small terraced houses and low rise purpose built flats (less than 6 storeys) but with lower proportions of all other dwelling types.

- There are more heads of household aged 65 years and older than nationally (29.1% compared with 24.4%) which does have implications for private sector housing policy due to the potentially greater need for support typically associated with older households.
- The figures for length of residence suggest a slightly lower turnover in the housing stock than nationally (33.7% compared with 35.4%).
- Overall average incomes are well below those reported for England.
- The proportion of households with an income of less than £15,000 was 39.7% compared to 25.1% nationally with some implications for repair and improvement in the private sector dwelling stock.
- Benefit receipt at 35% is more than double the national average of 17%.

The table shows a summary of key findings from the House Condition Survey:

| Characteristic | Owner occupied | Privately rented | All private sector stock | England |
|--|----------------|------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| Dwellings | 270,660 | 44,100 | 314,760 | |
| Per cent of stock ¹ | 64% | 10% | 75% | |
| Non decent | 99,220 | 18,360 | 117,580 | |
| Rate | 36.7% | 41.6% | 37.4% | 35.8% |
| Vulnerable in decent homes ² | 31,960 | 9,730 | 41,690 | |
| Rate | 57.8% | 54.9% | 57.2% | 61.0% |
| Category 1 hazard | 59,530 | 9,430 | 68,960 | |
| Rate | 22.0% | 21.4% | 21.9% | 23.2% |
| In Fuel Poverty | 39,600 | 8,100 | 47,700 | |
| Rate | 14.6% | 18.4% | 16.9% | 13.2% |
| Mean SAP ³ | 52 | 52 | 52 | 48 |
| Residents over 65 | 78,230 | 3,870 | 82,110 | |
| Rate ⁴ | 32.0% | 10.4% | 29.1% | 24.4% |
| Households in receipt of benefit | 75,800 | 21,600 | 97,400 | |
| Rate ⁴ | 31% | 55% | 35% | 17.0% |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Percentages given as a proportion of total housing stock, the remaining 25% is all social housing, which was not surveyed as part of this study 2. Refers to households in receipt of an income or disability benefit, as defined under former Public Service Agreement 7 objectives 3. SAP is the government's Standard Assessment Procedure for rating energy efficiency on a scale of 1 (poor) to 100 (excellent) 4. As a percentage of occupied dwellings, not all dwellings | | | | |

Decent Homes Standard

It is Government policy that everyone should have the opportunity of living in a "decent home". The Decent Homes Standard contains four broad criteria that a property should:

- A - be above the legal minimum standard for housing, and
- B - be in a reasonable state of repair, and
- C - have reasonably modern facilities (such as kitchens and bathrooms) and services, and
- D - provide a reasonable degree of thermal comfort (effective insulation and efficient heating).

All of these criteria are described in more detail in their own individual chapters in the main report.

Cost implications for repair and improvement

The cost to make dwellings decent in the private sector provides an idea of the cost of bringing dwellings up to a good standard. The costs are the total sum that would be needed for remedial and improvement work, regardless of the source of funding. They take no account of longer term maintenance, which would be in addition to these costs.

| Reason | Total Cost (£ million) | Cost per dwelling (£) |
|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Category 1 Hazard | £418.5 | £6,070 |
| Repair | £199.5 | £4,610 |
| Amenities | £104.0 | £18,960 |
| Thermal comfort | £76.4 | £1,120 |
| Total | £798.4 | £6,800 |

Category 1 hazards

One of the most significant changes under the Housing Act 2004 was a change in the minimum standard for housing. The fitness standard was removed and replaced by the Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS). The Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) is a prescribed method of assessing individual hazards, rather than a general standard to give a judgment of fit or unfit. The HHSRS is evidence based – national statistics on the health impacts of hazards encountered in the home are used as a basis for assessing individual hazards.

The HHSRS system deals with a much broader range of issues than the previous fitness standard. It covers a total of 29 hazards in four main groups described in more detail in the main report:

- Primary hazard failures in Birmingham are excess cold, falling on stairs etc and falling on level surfaces.
- Category 1 hazards are strongly associated with older dwellings and with dwellings occupied by households with an income under £10,000, those aged over 65, those in receipt of a benefit and by households where there is a person with a disability.
- Category 1 hazards are equally associated with both the owner occupied and privately rented sectors and with converted flats.

Energy Efficiency

Energy efficiency is a key consideration in private sector housing and the following illustrates some of the issues:

- Fuel poverty at 16.9% is higher than that the rate found in England at 13.2%. The cost of remedial works to the 39,600 owner occupied dwellings in fuel poverty (i.e. spending more than 10% of income on heating) is just under £65 million.
- The mean SAP (energy rating on a scale of 0 (poor) to 100 (good)) is 52 in Birmingham, which is higher than that found nationally in private sector properties (48).
- The least energy efficient dwellings are older dwellings (pre 1919); and converted flats (although these only represent 1.4% of the total private sector housing stock). The mean SAP rating for both the owner occupied and private rented stock was 52.
- Improving energy efficiency will contribute towards a range of Birmingham's corporate priorities and indeed contribute to a wide range of issues e.g. reduced carbon emissions, tackling fuel poverty, elimination of Cat 1 hazards, improved health and well being – warmer, better homes
- The level of excess cold hazards is an issue given the numbers of older residents in Birmingham and the potential link with cold related illnesses

What of the future?

The replacement of Best Value Performance Indicators with Public Service Agreements (PSAs), introduced flexible target setting from the list of 198 PSAs. The most relevant to the condition of private sector housing are:

- PSA17 Tackle poverty and promote greater independence and well-being in later life;
- PSA20 Increase long term housing supply and affordability;
- NI 186 Per Capita CO2 emissions
- NI 187 Fuel Poverty

The national housing agenda is changing priorities, and moving away from dwelling condition toward:

- provision of sufficient affordable housing for all
- the health, safety and well being of occupiers
- reduction in carbon emissions through improved energy efficiency

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the survey

- 1.1.1 Private Sector House Condition Surveys (HCS) are conducted on a regular basis by local authorities as a means of maintaining a detailed picture of housing conditions in the private sector. Such a picture forms a useful evidence base that can feed into statistical returns and other internal reports. The information is also useful in presenting the potential obligations on the authority in relation to current housing legislation, outlined in more detail in Appendix D.
- 1.1.2 In 2010 Birmingham City Council commissioned a comprehensive House Condition Survey to address this legal requirement, and also to inform the housing strategy and other housing policies. The survey work in Birmingham was conducted in the early part of 2010.
- 1.1.3 In addition to the mandatory duties outlined in Appendix D there are a number of non-mandatory powers available to the Authority under the Housing Act 2004. These include: taking the most satisfactory course of action in relation to category 2 hazards under the HHSRS (hazard categories are defined in chapter 5 of this report); additional licensing of HMOs that do not fall under the definition for mandatory licensing and serving of overcrowding notices. Part 3 of the Housing Act 2004, provides for selective licensing of other private rented sector accommodation subject to certain conditions being met.
- 1.1.4 This report will provide much of the evidence base, recommended under the ODPM guidance 05/2003, for the Authority's private sector renewal strategy. In addition, information in the report is likely to prove useful as a source for a wide variety of private sector housing issues.

1.2 Nature of the survey

- 1.2.1 The survey was a sample survey of a nominal 1,800 dwellings and covered the owner occupied and privately rented tenures (RSL dwellings were excluded). The survey was based on a stratified random sample of addresses in Birmingham, in order to gain a representative picture across the City. A sample of 3,600 was drawn with, in practice, 1,798 surveys being undertaken in total.
- 1.2.2 Each of the 1,798 surveys conducted contained information on the following areas: General characteristics of the dwelling; condition of the internal and external fabric; provision of amenities; compliance with housing health and safety; age and type of elements; energy efficiency measures; compliance with the Decent Homes Standard and socio-economic information about the household (where occupied).

- 1.2.3 Survey sampling was conducted within ten sub areas (see area sub-area details below) although the Ladywood sub-area did not include and city centre dwellings. The rationale behind selecting these sub-areas is described in section 1.5 on sub-area analysis.

1.3 Central Government Guidance on house condition surveys

- 1.3.1 The 1993 Department of the Environment Local House Condition Survey Guidance Manual sets out a methodology that includes a detailed survey form in a modular format, and a step-by-step guide to survey implementation.
- 1.3.2 The 1993 guidance was updated in 2000 and under the new guidance local authorities are encouraged to make full use of the data gathered from house condition surveys in conjunction with data from other sources. Also included is guidance on the Housing Health and Safety Rating System. The 2010 Birmingham City Council HCS followed the ODPM 2000 guidance.
- 1.3.3 The Comprehensive Local Authority Stock Survey Information Collation (CLASSIC) software system (a CPC package) was used to analyse the results of the survey and to produce the outputs required from the data to write this report.

1.4 Comparative statistics

- 1.4.1 Comparisons to the position for all England were drawn from the 2007 English House Condition Survey (EHCS) and the Survey of English Housing 2007-2008, both published by Communities and Local Government (CLG) and available as a download document from their website. Additionally, some comparisons were made with the Family Resources Survey published by the Department for Works and Pensions (DWP).

1.5 Sub-area analysis

- 1.5.1 The sampling was based on a very detailed regime to give a representative picture of the stock as a whole. Although the sample was drawn at the neighbourhood level, these areas are far too small to allow for meaningful reporting due to the level of statistical variance that occurs when looking at extremely small samples. As a consequence the survey findings were grouped into two main analysis sets; Overall City, with 10 geographic sub-areas (a number of sub-areas which still allows effective analysis of the results given the overall sample size) and Housing Market Assessment (HMA), with 9 geographical sub-areas. However, dwellings within the city centre did not form part of this survey. As a consequence, outside of the general profile in Chapter 2, all of Chapter 3 (social data) and the remaining sub-area analysis will exclude city centre properties. This will partially

affect the Ladywood sub-area, with the city centre sub-area, within the HMA areas, being completely excluded.

Figure 1.1 Sub areas

1.5.2 Table 1.1 shows the private sector stock totals by sub-area and table 1.2 by HMA area.

Table 1.1 Private Sector stock totals by sub-area

| Areas | Dwellings | Percent |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Edgbaston | 31,460 | 10.0% |
| Erdington | 29,070 | 9.2% |
| Hall Green | 32,460 | 10.3% |
| Hodge Hill | 28,400 | 9.0% |
| Ladywood | 22,330 | 7.1% |
| Northfield | 29,810 | 9.5% |
| Perry Barr | 34,940 | 11.1% |
| Selly Oak | 33,200 | 10.5% |
| Sutton Coldfield | 39,300 | 12.5% |
| Yardley | 33,790 | 10.7% |
| Total | 314,760 | 100% |

Source: 2009 House Condition Survey

Table 1.2 Private Sector stock totals by HMA area

| Areas | Dwellings | Percent |
|-----------------------|----------------|-------------|
| East Birmingham | 31,140 | 9.9% |
| Eastern Periphery | 32,770 | 10.4% |
| North West Birmingham | 23,320 | 7.4% |
| Northern Periphery | 4,530 | 1.4% |
| Northern Suburbs | 39,470 | 12.5% |
| South West Birmingham | 57,560 | 18.3% |
| Suburban Ring North | 45,340 | 14.4% |
| Suburban Ring South | 68,240 | 21.7% |
| City Centre | 12,390 | 3.9% |
| Total | 314,760 | 100% |

1.6 Statistical Variance and Standard Deviation

- 1.6.1 By definition, sample surveys are seeking to give an accurate representation of a larger number of dwellings than those surveyed. The total to be represented is referred to in statistical terms as the 'population', and in the case of this survey the population was all private sector dwellings in Birmingham. Because any figure from a survey is based on a sample, it will be subject to some degree of variation. This statistical variance can be expressed in terms of 'confidence limits' and 'standard deviation'.
- 1.6.2 Standard deviation is the amount by which a given figure may be inaccurate either above or below its stated level. Confidence limits state that if the entire survey process were repeated, out of how many of these repetitions would there be confidence in staying within the

variation. Traditionally, and in the case of this report, 95% confidence limits have been used, which state that if the survey were carried out 100 times, in 95 cases the standard deviation would be a given amount.

- 1.6.3 It should be borne in mind, therefore, that the figures in this report are estimates, and it is for this reason that figures are rounded, as described below. More detail on the calculation of standard deviation is given in the appendices.

1.7 Presentation of figures

- 1.7.1 Due to the nature of statistical variation, as outlined above, it is not necessary to quote each individual figure to the nearest dwelling, as this implies a spurious level of accuracy. As with the English House Condition Survey (EHCS), figures in this report are either quoted to the nearest 100 dwellings or 10 dwellings, dependent upon the size of any given figure. Percentages within the report are only quoted to 1 decimal place for the same reason.

2 Profile of the private sector housing stock

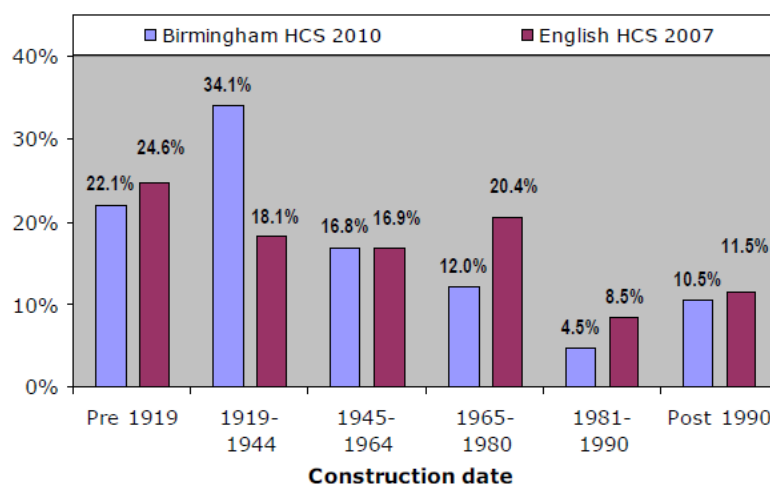
2.1 Size of the dwelling stock

2.1.1 At the time of the survey there were an estimated 314,760 private sector dwellings in Birmingham. The 314,760 total for the stock was the estimated private sector stock total, provided by Birmingham City Council and based on Council Tax Records. Individual weights were created for each dwelling surveyed, in accordance with the stratified sampling regime, such that each survey would represent a specific number of dwellings within Birmingham. Details of the sample stratification and weighting method are given in the Appendices.

2.2 Age of the dwelling stock

2.2.1 The age profile of the 314,760 owner occupied and privately rented stock in Birmingham was different to the national average with a significantly higher proportion than nationally of dwellings built between 1919 and 1944 (34.1% compared with 18.1%) but with lower proportions of all other age groups.

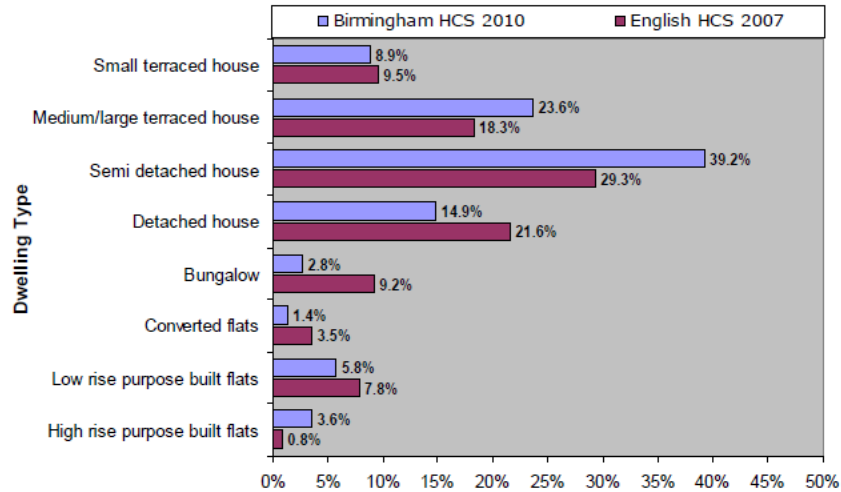
Figure 2.1 Dwelling age profile England and Birmingham



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey & EHCS 2007

2.3 Dwelling type profile

Figure 2.2 Dwelling type profile Birmingham and England



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey & EHCS 2007

2.3.1 The building type profile in Birmingham differed from the national pattern with higher proportions of medium/large terraced and semi-detached houses and a much higher level of high rise purpose built flats (6 or more storeys) with 3.6% compared to 0.8% found in the EHCS 2007. All other dwelling types had lower proportions.

2.4 Tenure

2.4.1 Table 2.1 draws tenure comparisons between the stock profile for Birmingham and that for England as a whole.

Table 2.1 Tenure proportions

| Tenure | Dwellings | Percent | EHCS 2007 |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Owner occupied | 270,660 | 64% | 70% |
| Privately Rented | 44,100 | 10% | 12% |
| Private Sector Stock | 314,760 | 75% | 82% |
| Housing Association (RSL) | 41,010 | 10% | 9% |
| Local Authority | 65,170 | 15% | 9% |
| Social Housing | 106,180 | 25% | 18% |
| All Tenures | 420,940 | 100% | 100% |

Source: 2010 House Condition Survey & EHCS 2007

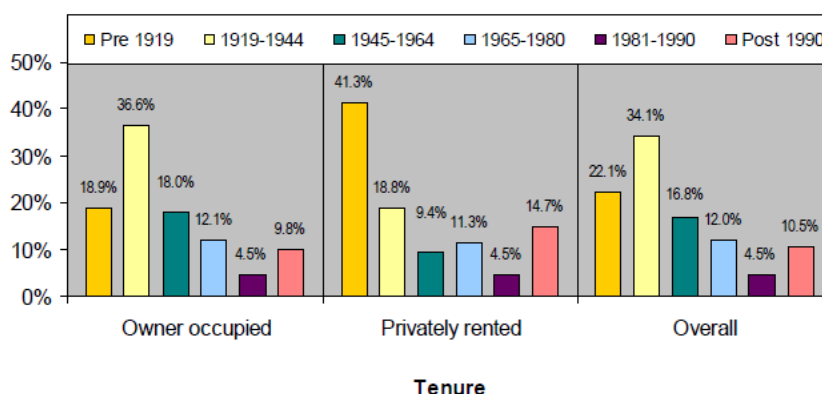
2.4.2 The survey included for owner occupied and privately rented stock only, but the breakdown given in Table 2.1 includes social housing tenure for the sake of comparative purposes with the EHCS.

2.4.3 The tenure profile in Birmingham showed some significant differences to the national averages with a much lower level of owner occupation than that found nationally (64% compared with 70%) with the privately rented sector being represented at a slightly lower rate than nationally (10% compared with 12%). The overall proportion of social housing was, however, much higher at 25% compared with 18% nationally.

2.5 Tenure and age comparisons

2.5.1 Figure 2.3 illustrates the differing dwelling age profile between the main private tenures.

Figure 2.3 Tenure by date of construction



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

2.5.2 As might have been expected, the owner occupied stock (at 64% of all dwellings) had a similar age profile to the overall stock position, with figures of approximately 73.6% for homes built pre 1965 which was just higher than that for the overall stock (73.0%). The privately rented sector had the highest proportion of pre 1919 dwellings by a very significant margin at 41.3% compared with 22.1% overall.

2.6 Dwelling Use and Houses in Multiple Occupation

2.6.1 Dwellings may be one of several different building types but these types may have different uses, for example a semi-detached house may have been converted into flats or be occupied as a House in Multiple Occupation (HMO).

Table 2.2 Dwelling use

| Dwelling use | Dwellings | Percent |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------|
| House | 279,020 | 88.6% |
| Purpose Built Flat | 30,500 | 9.7% |
| Converted Flat | 3,080 | 1.0% |
| HMO | 960 | 0.3% |
| Licensable HMO | 1,200 | 0.4% |
| Total | 314,760 | 100% |

Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

- 2.6.2 The vast majority of dwellings (88.6%) were houses generally occupied as built. Of the remainder, most were purpose built or converted flats. An estimated 0.7% of dwellings were HMOs, representing 2,160 buildings being used to house multiple households. The national average for HMOs is approximately 2%.
- 2.6.3 The definition of HMO is that used in the Housing Act 2004, of which only some may potentially be subject to mandatory licensing (described below). Some converted flats now come within the new HMO definition which explicitly includes converted flats where the work does not meet specified standards (generally the Building Regulations 1991) and where less than two thirds are owner occupied.
- 2.6.4 HMOs formed only a very small proportion of the private sector stock in Birmingham with 960 being identified as potentially licensable HMOs, which are three or more storey HMOs with shared amenities and five or more tenants in two or more households. It should be borne in mind, however, that figures from the survey are estimates derived from the sample of properties inspected and are therefore subject to variation. It is important that the local authority should continue to adopt measures that ensure any potentially licensable HMOs are brought to light.

2.7 Vacant dwellings

- 2.7.1 Vacant dwellings can be difficult to identify and there are frequently problems in gaining access. By using a combination of sources, including the survey, Council Tax lists, the Census and the Council's own figures, it was possible to estimate that there were 10,200 vacant dwellings, 3.2% of the private housing stock within Birmingham. The national average is approximately 4.1%.
- 2.7.2 Based on the results taken from the stock condition survey it was estimated that 2,590 (0.8%) of the private sector dwellings within Birmingham were long-term vacant, defined as any dwelling vacant for six months or more, or subject to unauthorised occupation. However, as figures from the survey are estimates derived from the sample of properties inspected they are subject to variation.

Table 2.3 All dwellings by Occupancy Status

| Vacancy Status | Dwellings | Percent |
|-------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Occupied | 304,560 | 96.8% |
| Vacant awaiting new owner | 2,060 | 0.7% |
| Vacant awaiting new tenant | 1,260 | 0.4% |
| Vacant awaiting demolition | 340 | 0.1% |
| Vacant being modernised | 2,590 | 0.8% |
| Long term vacant* | 3,950 | 1.3% |
| Total vacant dwellings | 10,200 | 3.2% |
| Total stock | 314,760 | 100.0% |

* Includes vacant dwellings to let where they are being modernised prior to letting or have not been let for over 6 months
Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

- 2.7.3 The overall estimated proportion of long term vacant properties (taken from the survey results) at 1.3% was just below the average for England (approximately 1.5%). Nonetheless, the estimated 2,590 long-term vacant properties represent a significant wasted resource, an issue that the Council is already tackling through its Empty Properties Strategy 2007-2012, which provides for an overall target of 1,400 properties being returned to use by 2012.

3 Profile of Residents

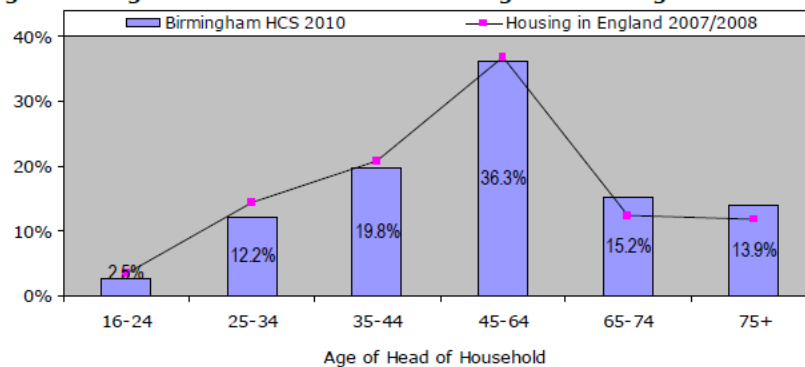
3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 This chapter will look at some of the key characteristics of households within the surveyed dwellings to determine whether links exist with dwelling condition. As the data can only be collected from occupied dwellings the results are set against a total occupied stock of 281,970.

3.2 Age Profile

3.2.1 The following chart examines the age distribution, of heads of household within the stock, both for Birmingham and for England as a whole.

Figure 3.1 Age of head of household Birmingham and England



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey & Family Resources Survey 2007-2008

3.2.2 Data collected as part of the survey indicated that the age profile of heads of household in Birmingham differed from the national position. There were lower proportions of heads of household aged between 25 and 64 years (68.3% compared with 72.2%), but with higher proportions for those aged 16 to 34 (4.8% compared with 3.4%). Looking specifically at heads of household aged over 65 years the figure for Birmingham is 29.1% compared with 24.4% nationally. This does have implications for private sector housing policy due to the potentially greater need for support typically associated with older households.

3.3 Household types

- 3.3.1 Table 3.1 gives the distribution of different household types, within the stock, and compares this to England as a whole. Household types were derived from interviewing occupiers and determining the number of adults and children within the household. These figures were then used to determine household type. For example, two or more adults who are not a couple were considered an 'other multi-person household' for the purposes of this analysis which follows the convention used in the Survey of English Housing.

Table 3.1 Household type distribution

| Household type | Birmingham 2010 | | England 2008 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|
| Couple no Dependent Child | 103,210 | 36.6% | 39.2% |
| Couple with Dependent Child | 81,310 | 28.8% | 22.9% |
| Lone parent with dependent child | 21,360 | 7.6% | 4.7% |
| One person household | 54,620 | 19.4% | 25.7% |
| Other multi-person household | 21,460 | 7.6% | 7.5% |
| Total Household Type | 281,960 | 100% | 100% |

Source: 2010 House Condition Survey & Survey of English Housing 2007/2008

- 3.3.2 The distribution of households by type showed differences to the national position. The proportion of couples with dependent children was higher than the national average (28.8% compared with 22.9%) as was lone parent with dependent child (7.6% compared with 1.7%). Other multi person households had a slightly higher rate but all other household types has proportions that were below their national comparators.

3.4 Length of residence

- 3.4.1 The proportion of households who had been resident for up to 5 years was 33.7%; similar data taken from the Survey of English Housing 2007/2008, showed that 35.4% of residents had lived in their dwellings for between one and five years. Conversely, 32.4% had lived at their present address for 20 years or more. The area with the highest proportion of residents that had lived there for up to 5 years was Edgbaston (39.6%).

Table 3.2 Length of residence

| Area Name | 1 to 5 years | 6 to 10 years | 11 to 15 years | 16 to 20 years | 21 to 25 years | 26 to 30 years | Over 30 years |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Edgbaston | 39.6% | 15.1% | 12.6% | 6.9% | 5.9% | 6.1% | 13.9% |
| Erdington | 32.4% | 25.4% | 6.9% | 10.0% | 8.8% | 4.1% | 12.5% |
| Hall Green | 32.9% | 15.8% | 9.4% | 9.0% | 11.8% | 6.8% | 14.3% |
| Hodge Hill | 33.9% | 17.5% | 8.5% | 11.3% | 8.1% | 4.9% | 15.9% |
| Ladywood | 35.1% | 11.3% | 10.0% | 7.6% | 10.4% | 10.2% | 15.4% |
| Northfield | 28.8% | 21.9% | 8.3% | 6.3% | 8.9% | 5.2% | 20.5% |
| Perry Barr | 34.6% | 19.0% | 5.7% | 8.8% | 5.1% | 8.9% | 17.8% |
| Selly Oak | 31.7% | 12.3% | 5.8% | 11.0% | 9.7% | 7.1% | 22.2% |
| Sutton Coldfield | 32.8% | 18.3% | 8.4% | 7.4% | 7.4% | 11.4% | 14.3% |
| Yardley | 35.8% | 10.5% | 9.1% | 6.8% | 10.8% | 10.4% | 16.6% |
| Birmingham | 33.7% | 17.0% | 8.3% | 8.5% | 8.5% | 7.5% | 16.4% |

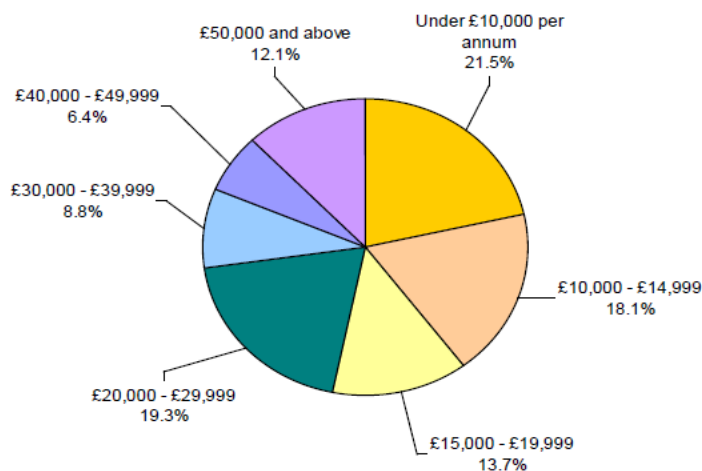
Excludes City Centre dwellings

Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

3.5 Income

- 3.5.1 Residents were asked about the income of the head of household and, where appropriate, the partner of the head of household. Responses were combined to give a gross household income and the results of these are given below.

Figure 3.2 Household incomes in bands



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

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Table 3.3 Number of households within each income band

| Income band | No. of households Birmingham 2008 | | Survey of English Housing * |
|-------------------------|---|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| Under £10,000 per annum | 60,680 | 21.5% | 13.2% |
| £10,000 - £14,999 | 51,170 | 18.1% | 11.9% |
| £15,000 - £19,999 | 38,710 | 13.7% | 10.4% |
| £20,000 - £29,999 | 54,480 | 19.3% | 19.4% |
| £30,000 - £39,999 | 24,730 | 8.8% | 15.3% |
| £40,000 - £49,999 | 18,070 | 6.4% | 10.1% |
| £50,000 and above | 34,130 | 12.1% | 19.7% |
| Total | 281,970 | 100% | 100.0% |

* Source: Survey of English Housing 2007-2008
Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

- 3.5.2 The figures in figure 3.2 and the table 3.3 show that there were higher proportions than the national average of households with an income of less than £20,000 but with generally lower proportions for incomes above that. The proportion of households within Birmingham with an income of less than £15,000 (39.7% compared with 25.1% nationally), does suggest affordability will be an issue affecting repair and improvement in the private sector dwelling stock.

Table 3.4 Average weekly income by tenure

| Tenure | Birmingham HCS 2010 | England 2008 |
|------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Owner occupied | £477 | £730 |
| Privately rented | £355 | £490 |

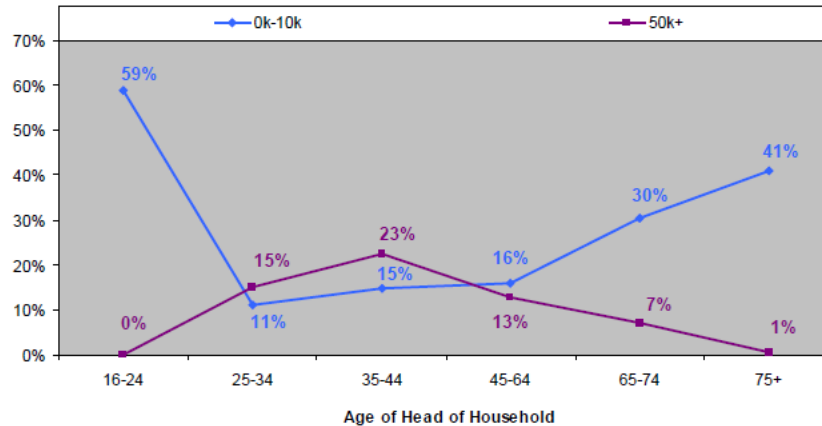
Source: 2010 House Condition Survey & Survey of English Housing 2007-2008

- 3.5.3 These figures demonstrate that recent average incomes for heads of household and where appropriate their partner were in Birmingham lower than the averages for England, particularly so for owner occupiers who have average incomes that are 34.3% lower than the national average with the privately rented tenure group being 27.5% lower.

3.6 Income and age of head of household

- 3.6.1 Variations in income level are often associated with social characteristics such as the age of head of household, household type, disability etc. This section looks at the data from the survey to see what links can be shown and the possible associations between those links and unsatisfactory housing conditions described later.

Figure 3.3 High and low incomes by age of head of household



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

- 3.6.2 Figure 3.3 illustrates that low income (annual household income below £10,000 per annum) was most strongly associated with the younger, those aged 16 to 24, and the older age groups (65 years and older). High incomes were predominantly associated with households aged between 25 – 64 years. This pattern suggests that the greatest need for assistance to vulnerable occupiers is at the youngest and oldest ends of the age range.

3.7 Income and household type

- 3.7.1 Table 3.5 compares low and high annual household income figures by household type.
- 3.7.2 Table 3.5 does show that clear associations exist. One person households were most strongly associated with low incomes, followed by other multi-person households and lone parents with dependent child. Couple with dependent child households had greater proportions of high incomes followed by couples with no dependent child.

Table 3.5 Low and High household incomes by household type

| Household Type | Low income (household income less than £10,000 per annum) | Middle income (household income £10k- £30k per annum) | High income (household income above £30,000 per annum) |
|----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Couple no Dependent Child | 14% | 55% | 31% |
| Couple with Dependent Child | 13% | 48% | 38% |
| Lone parent with dependent child | 30% | 62% | 8% |
| One person household | 39% | 53% | 8% |
| Other multi-person household | 36% | 53% | 11% |

Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

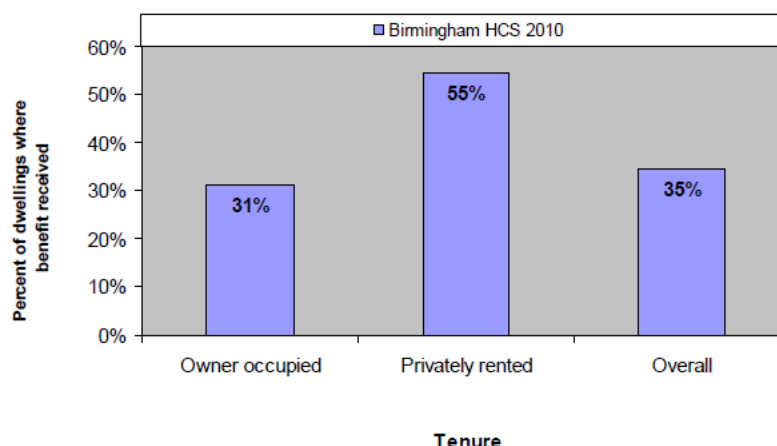
3.8 Income and residents with disabilities

- 3.8.1 It is important to note that this survey used a broad definition of disabled person. This included residents that were frail elderly, as well as registered disabled persons and other persons with a disability.
- 3.8.2 There is a strong association between disability and income, as 30% of households with a disabled resident had a household income below £10,000 per annum, compared with 19% where there is no person with a disability. This represents approximately 17,700 such dwellings in Birmingham. The residents of these dwellings may not only have had physical difficulty dealing with repairs, but may be less likely to be able to afford alternative provision.

3.9 Benefit receipt

- 3.9.1 In addition to income, householders were asked if anyone within the dwelling was in receipt of one or more of a range of means tested benefits. Overall 97,400 (35%) households were estimated to be in receipt of a benefit. At the national level 17% of private sector households had at least one resident in receipt of a benefit which is significantly less than that found within this survey. The distribution of benefit receipt by tenure showed the highest proportion by a significant margin for the privately rented sector at 55% compared with 31% in the owner occupied sector.

Figure 3.4 Benefit receipt by tenure



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

3.10 Value of dwellings and equity

- 3.10.1 Owner occupiers were asked about the value of their dwelling, the level of any outstanding mortgage, any other debt and the consequent total equity. This was to allow the relationship between available equity and dwelling condition to be examined. Such relationships are relevant to the Regulatory Reform Order 2002; Government guidance focuses on local authorities moving towards facilitating loans/equity release rather than giving grants when offering financial assistance to householders.
- 3.10.2 The average value of a dwelling in Birmingham was £151,000. This figure was based on the average sale prices in Birmingham compiled by the Land Registry from January to March 2010. The figure was below the average value across the UK of £235,000. The average price in Birmingham was the third highest out of the 8 authorities in the West Midlands.
- 3.10.3 The average mortgage level for owner-occupied dwellings in Birmingham, based upon occupier responses, was £68,000 resulting in an average equity of £83,000 per dwelling using the Land Registry average value.

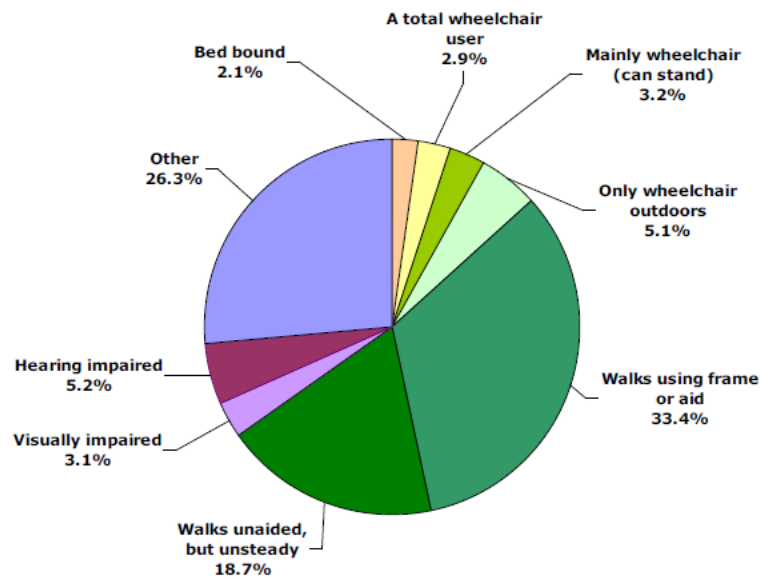
3.11 Residents with disabilities

- 3.11.1 Residents were asked if any member of the household suffers from a long term illness or disability. It was estimated from the results of this question that 47,300 (16.8%) occupied dwellings had at least one resident with a long term illness or disability. Residents were further

asked to choose the condition that best described their disability and the figure 3.5 illustrates the results of this.

- 3.11.2 Initially it may seem that 16.8% is a relatively high proportion of households where at least one household member had a disability. The definition used, however, was very broad and it can be seen from the figure 3.5 that 52% of people who indicated that they had a long term illness or disability stated that their disability was either walking using a frame or walking unaided, but unsteadily or that their disability allowed full mobility.

Figure 3.5 Residents with disabilities by type



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

- 3.11.3 In order to address the specific housing needs of residents with a disability, the provision of Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG) by local authorities remains mandatory. The potential requirement for adaptations for disabled occupiers and the potential DFG demand are discussed in more detail below.

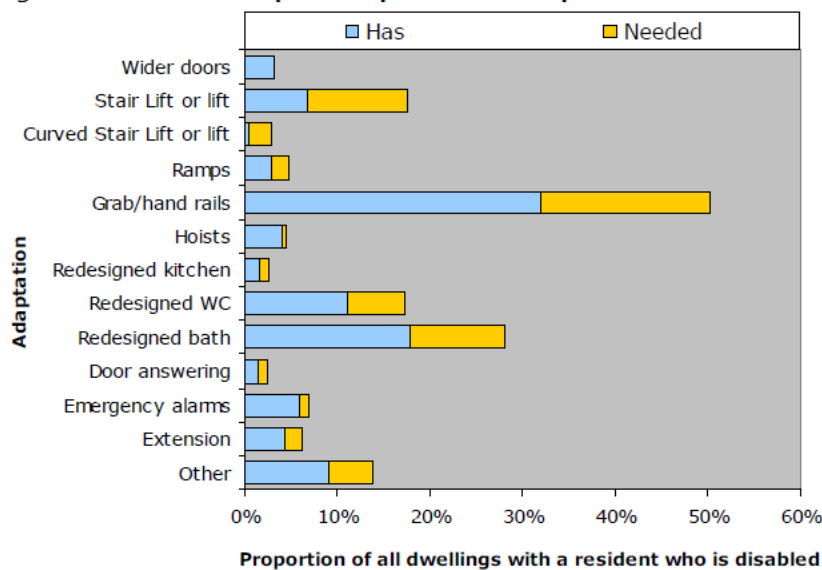
3.12 Adaptations

Where it was indicated that a member of the household suffered from a long term illness or disability, the survey form included a section regarding the existing provision of adaptations and also whether the occupier felt there was the need for further adaptations.

3.12.1 The provision of adaptations for disabled residents is mandatory under the Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG) scheme, and local authorities must consider this when assigning budgets to housing provision. There are certain factors that mitigate this demand: firstly, DFGs are subject to means testing and secondly, there needs to be an assessment by an Occupational Therapist who will consider whether an adaptation is necessary and appropriate and also by the authorities disability service to establish if any recommended adaptations can be reasonably and practically undertaken taking into account the construction and configuration of the dwelling.

3.12.2 The following chart illustrates the proportion of dwellings, with residents who had existing adaptations and their perceived need for further adaptations; although it should be made clear that the following need data has not been included as a direct result of a formal assessment of need. The chart is broken down by adaptation type.

Figure 3.6 Disabled adaptations present and required



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

- 3.12.3 Figure 3.6 shows that grab/hand rails had the highest level of current provision, present in 32.0% of dwellings occupied by a resident with a disability, followed by redesigned bathrooms at 18.0%. The most needed was also the provision of grab/hand rails (18.4%) followed by a stair lift or lift at 10.8%. When looking at the ratio of 'need' to 'have', the provision of stair (straight or curved) lifts had the highest rates followed by the provision of hoists.
- 3.12.4 Table 3.6 takes the figures for adaptations a step further and looks at the numbers of adaptations needed and the cost of carrying out those adaptations. Costs are estimated averages for each of the elements listed below. As a full test of resources is the only accurate way of providing a figure for costs after means testing, some assumptions have been made in order to provide an estimated figure, with those on an income of less than £10,000 assumed to have a nil contribution, those on an income of between £10,000 and £25,000 having a 50% contribution and those on an income above that paying the full amount.

Table 3.6 Cost of adaptations for the disabled

| Adaptations | Adaptations* | Adaptations Cost | Cost after means testing |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Wider doors | 0 | £0 | £0 |
| Straight Stair lift | 5,100 | £15,303,000 | £10,744,000 |
| Curved stair lift | 1,200 | £8,077,000 | £2,412,000 |
| Ramps | 900 | £2,339,000 | £1,279,000 |
| Grab/hand rails | 8,700 | £4,342,000 | £2,551,000 |
| Hoists | 200 | £430,000 | £430,000 |
| Redesigned kitchen | 400 | £2,359,000 | £505,000 |
| Redesigned WC | 3,000 | £7,395,000 | £4,433,000 |
| Redesigned bath | 4,700 | £23,695,000 | £13,762,000 |
| Door answering | 400 | £1,310,000 | £1,310,000 |
| Emergency alarms | 500 | £542,000 | £378,000 |
| Extension | 800 | £20,127,000 | £8,051,000 |
| Other | 2,200 | £1,122,000 | £734,000 |
| Total | 28,100 | £87,041,000 | £46,589,000 |

*Figures are for numbers of adaptations, some dwellings may need multiple adaptations
Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

- 3.12.5 The total cost of all adaptations that could potentially be fitted to benefit residents with a disability was just over £87.0 million. When means testing had been applied this total reduced to just over £46.6 million, which reflects the fact that there are some residents with disabilities with average or above average incomes.
- 3.12.6 It should be considered that two factors will affect the £46.6 million in terms of DFGs. Firstly, the figure does not contain any reduction for occupiers that would not be considered after a visit by an occupational therapist, as this cannot easily be factored in. Secondly, many of the residents may not have been aware of the need for an adaptation, may

not have wanted an adaptation or may not have been aware that DFGs are available. The £46.6 million figure is an estimate of the amount that would need to be spent by the authority on adaptations, although this would be spread over a period of five years.

- 3.12.7 The figure is, however, indicative only and could vary substantially if there are significant adaptations for children (applications for which are no longer subject to the test of resources), which would significantly increase the authorities overall contribution. The figure does, however, give some indication of the potential demand for DFG that should be taken into account when considering future DFG budgets.

3.13 Ethnic origin

- 3.13.1 Residents were asked to specify the majority ethnic origin type within their household and the results are given in table 3.7:

Table 3.7 Ethnic origin

| Ethnic Origin | Households | Per cent | England |
|-----------------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| White UK | 172,010 | 61.0% | White UK |
| Bangladeshi | 27,800 | 9.9% | Bangladeshi |
| Pakistani | 26,320 | 9.3% | Pakistani |
| Indian | 15,830 | 5.6% | Indian |
| Black Caribbean | 9,340 | 3.3% | Black Caribbean |
| White Other | 8,150 | 2.9% | White Other |
| White Irish | 5,610 | 2.0% | White Irish |
| Black African | 4,050 | 1.4% | Black African |
| Chinese | 3,330 | 1.2% | Chinese |
| Other | 2,150 | 0.8% | Other |
| Kashmiri | 2,050 | 0.7% | Kashmiri |
| White/Black Caribbean | 1,780 | 0.6% | White/Black Caribbean |
| Black Other | 1,320 | 0.5% | Black Other |
| White/Asian | 1,250 | 0.4% | White/Asian |
| White/Black African | 430 | 0.2% | White/Black African |
| Vietnamese | 410 | 0.1% | Vietnamese |
| Other Mixed | 50 | 0.0% | Other Mixed |
| No details given | 90 | 0.0% | No details given |
| Total | 281,970 | 36.1% | Total |

Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

- 3.13.2 The majority of households described their ethnic origin as being predominantly White British (61.0% compared with 88.2% nationally), with the next highest proportion being Bangladeshi at 9.9% followed by Pakistani (9.3%) and Indian (5.6%). The overall proportion of BME households was 39.0%, compared with 11.8% nationally.

3.14 Overcrowding

- 3.14.1 In the ODPM report Overcrowding in England: the national and regional picture it stated that "Households that are statutorily overcrowded are so rare that a reliable estimate of numbers cannot be produced at a national (England) level even using data from the Survey of English Housing and the 2001 English House Condition Survey, which are relatively large surveys. It follows that estimates for individual regions cannot be produced using these sources".
- 3.14.2 As with the above comments, this survey, which is considerably smaller than both of those mentioned, cannot produce any results that would be of any statistical relevance. Given that and issues revolving around the sample size, this section attempts to provide some basic information on the level of estimated overcrowding within Birmingham.
- 3.14.3 The existing statutory overcrowding standards were set in 1935 and restated in Part 10 of the Housing Act 1985, and include both a room standard and a space standard.
- 3.14.4 In the Court of Appeal case *Elrify v. City of Westminster Council* (2007) it was established that both of the Housing Act measurements must be calculated to establish if a statutory overcrowding situation existed.
- 3.14.5 The Survey of English Housing uses a Bedroom standard as an indicator of occupation density, allocating a number of bedrooms to each household according to the age, sex and marital status composition coupled with the relationship of the members to one another.
- 3.14.6 If the Housing Act overcrowding measurement is taken, the estimated level of overcrowding is shown in tables 3.8 and 3.9:

Table 3.8 Statutory measurement of overcrowding by sub-area

| Area Name | Overcrowded | Not Overcrowded |
|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Edgbaston | 0.6% | 99.4% |
| Erdington | 2.1% | 97.9% |
| Hall Green | 5.0% | 95.0% |
| Hodge Hill | 13.2% | 86.8% |
| Ladywood | 14.4% | 85.6% |
| Northfield | 0.0% | 100.0% |
| Perry Barr | 6.1% | 93.9% |
| Selly Oak | 6.0% | 94.0% |
| Sutton Coldfield | 0.5% | 99.5% |
| Yardley | 4.0% | 96.0% |
| Birmingham | 4.4% | 95.6% |

Table 3.9 Statutory measurement of overcrowding (HMA areas)

| Area Name | Overcrowded | Not Overcrowded |
|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| East Birmingham | 16.2% | 83.8% |
| Eastern Periphery | 2.6% | 97.4% |
| North West Birmingham | 12.4% | 87.6% |
| Northern Periphery | 2.8% | 97.2% |
| Northern Suburbs | 0.6% | 99.4% |
| South West Birmingham | 1.5% | 98.5% |
| Suburban Ring North | 1.9% | 98.1% |
| Suburban Ring South | 3.5% | 96.5% |
| Birmingham | 4.4% | 95.6% |

*Excludes City Centre dwellings
Source: 2010 House Condition Survey*

3.14.7 Looking at the Survey of English Housing bedroom standard of occupation density, tables 3.10 and 3.11 show the figures:

Table 3.10 Bedroom standard measurement of overcrowding by sub-area

| Area Name | Overcrowded | Not overcrowded |
|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Edgbaston | 3.0% | 97.0% |
| Erdington | 4.0% | 96.0% |
| Hall Green | 9.0% | 91.0% |
| Hodge Hill | 22.8% | 77.2% |
| Ladywood | 20.5% | 79.5% |
| Northfield | 0.0% | 100.0% |
| Perry Barr | 8.5% | 91.5% |
| Selly Oak | 7.8% | 92.2% |
| Sutton Coldfield | 0.5% | 99.5% |
| Yardley | 5.1% | 94.9% |
| Birmingham | 6.9% | 93.1% |

Table 3.11 Bedroom standard measurement of overcrowding (HMA area)

| Area Name | Overcrowded | Not overcrowded |
|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| East Birmingham | 26.8% | 73.2% |
| Eastern Periphery | 4.0% | 96.0% |
| North West Birmingham | 18.3% | 81.7% |
| Northern Periphery | 4.1% | 95.9% |
| Northern Suburbs | 0.6% | 99.4% |
| South West Birmingham | 2.2% | 97.8% |
| Suburban Ring North | 3.0% | 97.0% |
| Suburban Ring South | 5.9% | 94.1% |
| Birmingham | 6.9% | 93.1% |

*Excludes City Centre dwellings
Source: 2010 House Condition Survey*

- 3.14.8 The bedroom standard (6.9%) had a higher overall rate than the statutory standard (4.4%) which is to be expected as the bedroom standard uses a more limited room indicator of occupation density. It must, however, be taken in the context described by the ODPM report mentioned above that a reliable estimate of numbers cannot be produced. Both these systems resulted in an estimated total of between 12,380 and 19,580 overcrowded dwellings within the City. However, all the data relating to overcrowding should be treated with caution.
- 3.14.9 Within the general sub areas, both the Hodge Hill and Ladywood sub-areas had the highest rates within both the statutory and bedroom standard measurements. Within the HMA areas, the East Birmingham and North West Birmingham areas had the highest rates against both measures.
- 3.14.10 Sections 139 to 144 of the Housing Act 2004 relate to the service of an overcrowding notice. It applies to an HMO if it has no interim or final management order in force and it is not required to be licensed under Part 2 of the Act. No HMOs were found to be overcrowded.
- 3.14.11 Under the Housing Health and Safety Rating Scheme, one of the elements to be considered is that of Crowding and Space, which takes into account a number of matters that are deemed likely to affect the likelihood and harm outcomes. This also indicates that the average likelihood of an illness or injury occurring is 1 in 8,000, showing the low average potential for harm. No properties during the survey were scored under this heading.

4 The Decent Homes Standard

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 It is Government policy that everyone should have the opportunity of living in a "decent home". The Decent Homes Standard contains four broad criteria that a property should:

- A - be above the legal minimum standard for housing, and
- B - be in a reasonable state of repair, and
- C - have reasonably modern facilities (such as kitchens and bathrooms) and services, and
- D - provide a reasonable degree of thermal comfort (effective insulation and efficient heating).

4.1.2 If a dwelling fails any one of these criteria it is considered to be "non decent". A detailed definition of the criteria and their sub-categories are described in the ODPM guidance: "A Decent Home – The definition and guidance for implementation" June 2006.

4.1.3 The revised guidance did not substantially change the criteria for the decent homes standard laid out in 2002 with the exception of thermal comfort. This changed from a calculated, energy efficiency based approach to a simpler, but more practical system which takes into account the heating systems, fuel and insulation in a dwelling to determine if it provides adequate thermal comfort.

4.1.4 Obligations under the Decent Homes Standard were originally directed solely at the social housing sector. Under "The Decent Homes Target Implementation Plan" June 2003 – as modified April 2004, the ODPM outlined its commitments under Public Service Agreement (PSA) 7. These stated that PSA 7 will have been met if:

- There is a year on year increase in the proportion of vulnerable private sector households in decent homes;
- If the proportion of vulnerable private sector households in decent homes is above 65% by 2006/07.
- If the proportion of vulnerable private sector households in decent homes is above 70% by 2010/11.
- If the proportion of vulnerable private sector households in decent homes is above 75% by 2020/21.

4.1.5 Following the Comprehensive Spending Review in 2007, the Government scrapped the PSA7 target (effective from 1 April 2008).

However, the percentage of vulnerable households in decent homes in the private sector remained part of CLG's Departmental Strategic Objectives (DSO2, 2.8)

- 4.1.6 Due to this, the Birmingham house condition survey collected adequate and appropriate data to allow judgement of dwellings across all tenures against the Decent Homes Standard.

4.2 Change of emphasis and the Housing Act 2004

- 4.2.1 Whilst the changes under the revised definition and guidance for the decent homes standard apply, there was a change in Criterion A of the standard from April 2006. Prior to this change, Criterion A used the Housing Fitness Standard as the measure of whether a dwelling meets the minimum legal standard. From April 2006 the Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) under Part 1 of the Housing Act 2004 replaced the former statutory fitness standard.

- 4.2.2 The HHSRS system assesses "hazards" within dwellings and categorises them into Category 1 and Category 2 hazards. Local housing authorities have a duty to take action to deal with Category 1 hazards. The Housing Health and Safety Rating System also applies to the Decent Homes Standard – if there is a Category 1 hazard at the property it will fail Criterion A of the standard.

- 4.2.3 A detailed definition of the Housing Health and Safety Rating System are given in the following chapter.

4.3 The meaning of non decency

- 4.3.1 Concern has been raised by a number of local authorities over the term 'non decent', which tends to conjure up images of dilapidated houses and serious disrepair issues. It is the case, however, that a dwelling can fail the Decent Homes Standard on a single item, such as the heating system, whilst being in a very good state of repair. The owner of such a property may well not think that there is anything wrong with their home.

- 4.3.2 It is possible to regard the Decent Homes Standard as an ideal standard or a level to aspire to. In practice, it is a relatively low standard and failure to meet the standard should be regarded as a trigger for action. In some cases, however, it may not be practical to make a dwelling decent and it may also not be in the best interests of the occupiers to do so. The guidance on recording of outcomes recognises that there may be instances where it is appropriate to record cases where work to achieve only partial compliance with the standard has been achieved, or where non compliance results from the occupier refusing to have work carried out.

4.4 **Overall level of non decency**

4.4.1 Based on the House Condition Survey data 117,580 dwellings (37.4%) were classified non decent. In England as a whole the rate was 35.8% (owner occupied and privately rented stock) making the Birmingham rate higher than the national average. The all England figure was taken as the proportion of non decent private sector dwellings from the EHCS 2007. When the HHSRS for Criterion A was used for the first time in the EHCS 2006, a significant increase in Criterion A failure (homes not meeting the statutory component of the Decent Homes standard) was recorded. This rose from just over 4% under the former fitness standard to 22.4% under the HHSRS Category 1 hazard rate, increasing the overall non decency rate from 26.8% for privately occupied dwellings in 2005 to 35.3% in 2006.

4.4.2 The Decent Homes Standard contains 4 criteria. The table below gives a breakdown of the reasons for failure:

Table 4.1 Reasons for failure of dwellings as a decent home.

| Reason | Dwellings | Percent (of non decent) | Percent (of stock) | Percent (EHCS 2007) |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Category one hazard | 69,000 | 58.7% | 21.9% | 23.2% |
| In need of repair | 43,300 | 36.8% | 13.7% | 7.3% |
| Lacking modern facilities | 5,500 | 4.7% | 1.7% | 2.9% |
| Poor degree of thermal comfort | 46,400 | 39.5% | 14.7% | 15.9% |

Source: 2010 House Condition Survey & EHCS 2007

4.4.3 The percentages by non decent do not total 100%. This reflects the fact that the categories are not mutually exclusive; although any dwelling can fail on just one criterion, it may fail on two or more.

4.4.4 In Birmingham, the hierarchy of reasons for failure followed the national profile with a higher rate of failure for Category 1 hazards than for thermal comfort. All except the disrepair criterion were lower than the national comparators.

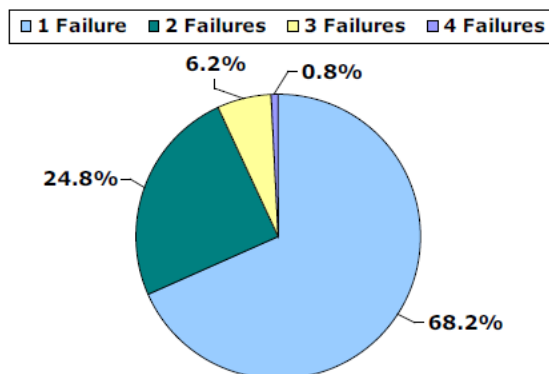
4.4.5 Prior to the reported data from the EHCS 2006 being published, which used the HHSRS for the first time, poor degree of thermal comfort was the primary reason for failure of the Decent Homes Standard. It should however, be borne in mind that excess cold was the main Category 1 hazard reason for failure (see chapter 5) and this overlaps heavily with poor thermal comfort. In all categories, the failure rate in Birmingham was substantially below the national equivalent.

4.5 **Numbers of failures per dwelling**

4.5.1 As mentioned above, dwellings can fail to be decent for more than one reason. The total number of failures per dwelling can give an indication

of the severity of problems in particular dwellings. Figure 4.1 looks at the number of failures per dwelling in non decent dwellings.

Figure 4.1 Degree of failure of the Decent Homes Standard



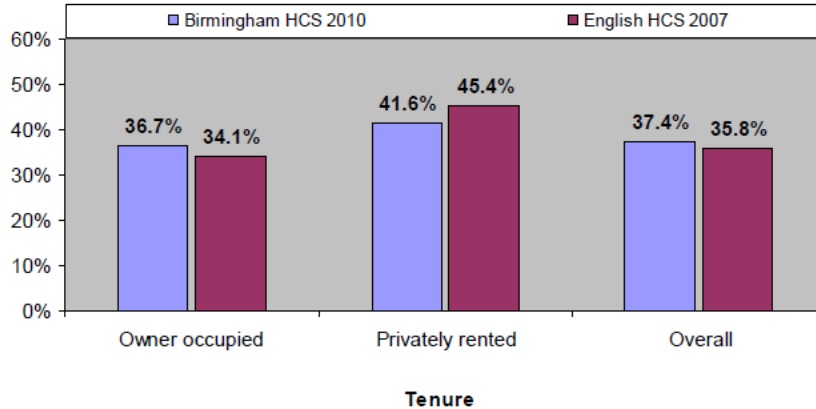
Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

- 4.5.2 The majority of failures were in respect of one criterion only, with the number of properties with two or more failures being 31.8%. Realistically in the majority of cases this will have been related to heating/insulation issues as the excess cold hazard and thermal comfort criterion are interlinked.

4.6 Non decency by general characteristics

- 4.6.1 Figure 4.2 shows the proportions of non decent private sector dwellings by tenure. The distribution by tenure follows the national picture; nationally the rate found in the private rented sector is significantly above that found in the owner occupied sector. In Birmingham, the rate in the private rented sector at 41.6% was higher than that found in the owner occupied sector at 36.7%.

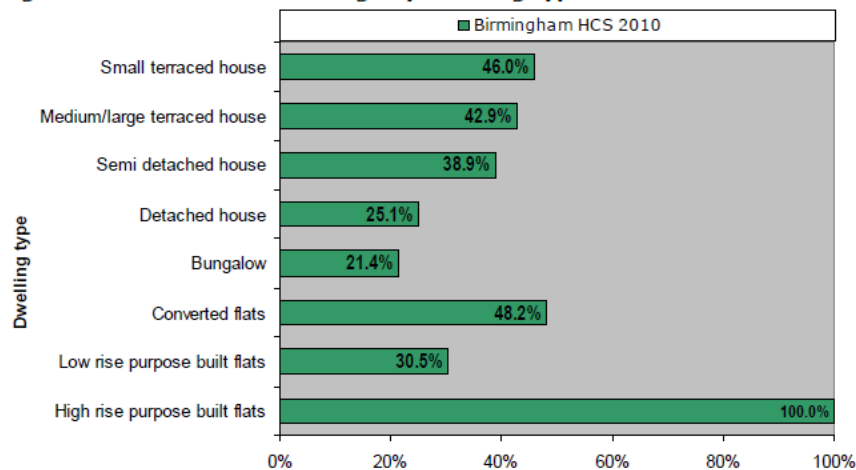
Figure 4.2 Tenure by non decent dwellings



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey & EHCS 2007

4.6.2 Figure 4.3 examines decent homes failures by dwelling type.

Figure 4.3 Non decent dwellings by dwelling type

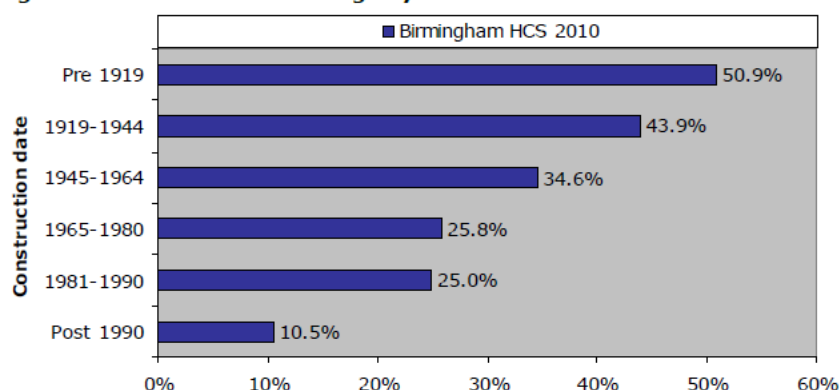


Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

4.6.3 The highest rate of non decency was found in high rise purpose built flats (6 or more storeys) at 100%. However, they only constitute 0.1% of the total private sector stock (250 dwellings). The figure cannot therefore, be considered statistically significant and may be subject to considerable survey bias due to being based on a very small number of surveys. The next highest rate was for converted flats (48.2%) which

are an even smaller proportion of the stock (1.4% or 4,260 dwellings). The next highest rate was found in small terraced houses (46.0%) and medium/large terraced houses 42.9%. The lowest rate was found in bungalows at 21.4%.

Figure 4.4 Non decent dwellings by date of construction



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

- 4.6.4 As is commonly the case, the rate of failure of the Decent Homes Standard is highest in pre-1919 properties (50.9%), with the usual pattern of an increasing rate with property age. As would be expected the lowest rate was found in properties built post 1990 at 10.5%.
- 4.6.5 The distribution by general sub-area and HMA area is shown in the next two figures. The highest rate was recorded in the Perry Barr sub-area at 49.7%, with the highest HMR area rate being found in North West Birmingham (47.8%). By general sub-area, Sutton Coldfield had the lowest rate (25.7%) and for the HMA areas it was Northern suburbs again at 25.7%.

Figure 4.5 Non decent dwellings by sub-area

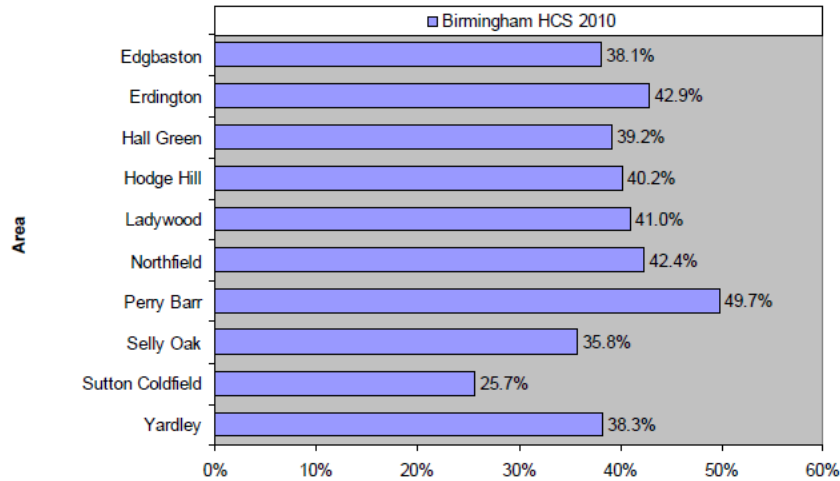
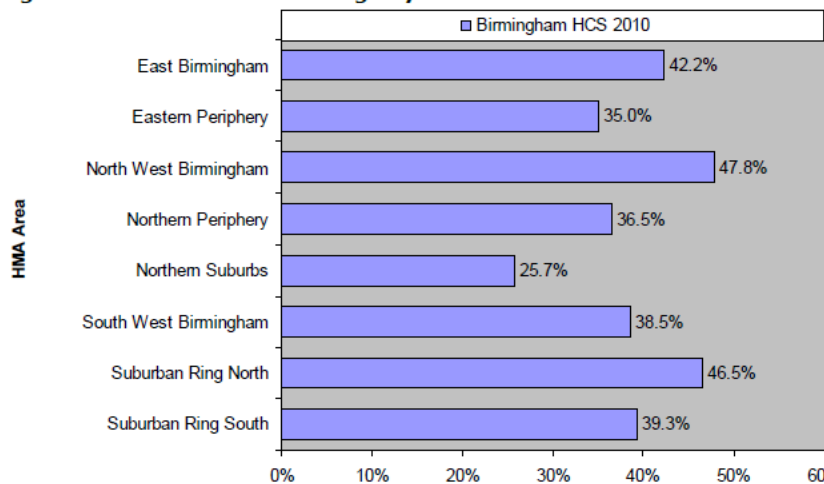


Figure 4.6 Non decent dwellings by HMA area



*Excludes City Centre dwellings
Source: 2010 House Condition Survey*

4.7 Cost to Remedy

- 4.7.1 Having determined the reasons for dwellings being classified as non decent, it is possible to indicate what level of repairs / improvements would be needed to make all dwellings decent.

- 4.7.2 The cost to remedy non decency was determined by examining the specific failures of each non decent dwelling and determining the work necessary to make the dwelling decent. This was done for each criterion of the standard and table 4.2 below shows the cost distribution for all non decent dwellings in the stock, with the costs being based on the assumption that only those items that cause dwellings to be non decent are dealt with.

Table 4.2 Repair cost by non-decency reason (HHSRS)

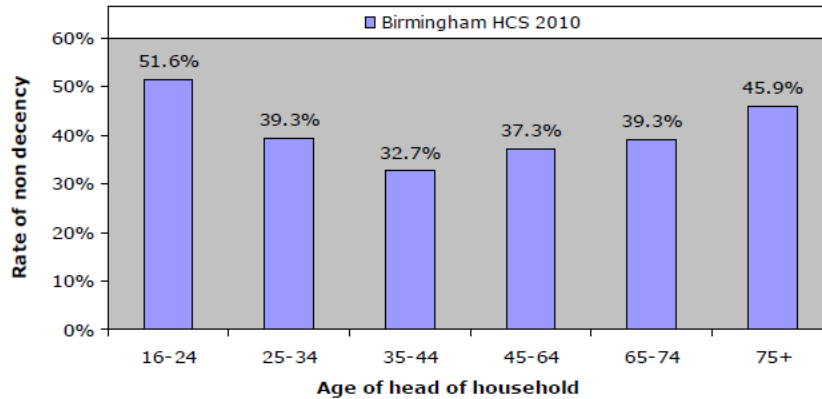
| Reason | Total Cost (£ million) | Cost per dwelling (£) |
|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Category 1 Hazard | £418.5 | £6,070 |
| Repair | £199.5 | £4,610 |
| Amenities | £104.0 | £18,960 |
| Thermal comfort | £76.4 | £1,120 |
| Total | £798.4 | £6,800 |

Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

4.8 Age of Head of Household and non decency

- 4.8.1 As part of the social survey a grid was filled in containing basic details for each of the residents in a dwelling, such as their age, working status, sex etc. It was left to residents to determine who was considered the head of the household, and therefore what the relationship between all other residents and the head was (e.g. spouse, child, parent, lodger etc).
- 4.8.2 Age of head of household is a useful indicator as it generally gives an impression of the age of the household and its profile; in addition dwelling conditions often vary according to age of head of household.
- 4.8.3 Figure 4.5 illustrates the relationship between the age of head of household and levels of non decency. Within age groups, the highest rate of non decency occurred where the age of head of household was between 16 to 24 years (51.6%) followed by the 75+ age band (45.9%) and the 25 to 34 and the 65 and 74 age bands both at 39.3%.

Figure 4.7 Non decency by age of head of household

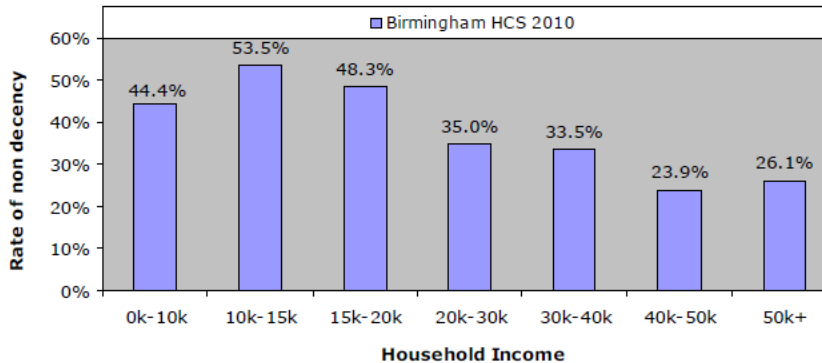


Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

4.9 Household income and non decency

- 4.9.1 The relationship between income and non decency can be analysed by combining household income figures with failures under the Decent Homes Standard. The largest proportion of dwellings found to be non decent were occupied by households with an annual income of between £10k and £15k at 53.5% followed by those with an income of £15k to 20k (48.3%) and those with an income of less than £10k (44.4%). The overall rate for those with an income of less than £15k was 48.5%.

Figure 4.8 Non decency by annual household income band



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

4.10 Private sector vulnerable occupier base-line

- 4.10.1 Up until the 1 April 2008, the government target for achieving decency standards in the private sector was that set by PSA7, which set a target of 65% of all dwellings occupied by vulnerable residents being made decent by 2006/07, with the baseline figure being measured against the results of the EHCS 2006-07. In practice, the most challenging target was the 70% to be met by 2010/11. As indicated previously, although the PSA7 target no longer exists, it is still a CLG Departmental Strategic Objective under DSO2, 2.8).
- 4.10.2 Vulnerable households are defined as those in receipt of the benefits listed below, certain of which are means tested:
- Income support
 - Housing benefit
 - Council tax benefit
 - Income based job seekers allowance
 - Attendance allowance
 - Disabled living allowance
 - Industrial injuries disablement benefit
 - War disablement pension
 - Pension credit
 - Working tax credit (with a disability element) [total income < £16,190]
 - Child tax credit [total income < £16,190]
- 4.10.3 In Birmingham, there were 97,400 private sector dwellings (owner occupied and privately rented) that were occupied by residents in receipt of one of the benefits listed above. Of these an estimated 41,690 were classified non decent, which represents 42.8% of dwellings occupied by a vulnerable resident. Conversely this means that 57.2% were decent. The EHCS 2007 found that 39.0% of vulnerable households were living in non decent homes.
- 4.10.4 On this basis Birmingham failed to meet the national target for 2006/07 of 65% of vulnerable households to be living in decent homes and also failed to meet 70% target for 2010/11.
- 4.10.5 The proportion of vulnerable households in decent homes in the owner occupied sector was 57.8% and in the private rented sector 54.9%, with a 9,220 dwelling shortfall in the owner occupied sector and a 3,260 dwelling shortfall in the much smaller privately rented sector.

4.10.6 The proportion of non decent dwellings by sub-area has already been considered earlier. The two tables below give the numbers of non-decent vulnerable household dwellings, with the rate of non decency, within each general sub-area as well as within the HMA areas, and also lists the level of shortfall for each of the areas in terms of meeting the 70% target for vulnerable occupiers in the private sector.

Table 4.3 Non decent dwellings with vulnerable households by sub-area

| Area | Vulnerable households in decent dwellings | Percent vulnerable households in decent dwellings | Vulnerable households in non decent dwellings | Percent vulnerable households in non decent dwellings | Shortfall for vulnerable occupiers |
|------------------|---|---|---|---|------------------------------------|
| Edgbaston | 4,180 | 54.1% | 3,550 | 45.9% | 1,230 |
| Erdington | 4,970 | 58.4% | 3,540 | 41.6% | 980 |
| Hall Green | 6,270 | 54.7% | 5,200 | 45.3% | 1,760 |
| Hodge Hill | 8,870 | 58.5% | 5,840 | 41.5% | 1,620 |
| Ladywood | 2,860 | 61.0% | 1,830 | 39.0% | 420 |
| Northfield | 4,020 | 51.9% | 3,720 | 48.1% | 1,400 |
| Perry Barr | 5,320 | 43.2% | 7,000 | 56.8% | 3,310 |
| Selly Oak | 6,660 | 59.0% | 4,630 | 41.0% | 1,240 |
| Sutton Coldfield | 7,770 | 73.3% | 2,830 | 26.7% | -350 |
| Yardley | 5,420 | 60.4% | 3,550 | 39.6% | 860 |
| Total | 56,340 | 57.2% | 41,690 | 42.8% | 12,480 |

Table 4.4 Non decent dwellings with vulnerable households by HMA area

| Area | Vulnerable households in decent dwellings | Percent vulnerable households in decent dwellings | Vulnerable households in non decent dwellings | Percent vulnerable households in non decent dwellings | Shortfall for vulnerable occupiers |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|------------------------------------|
| East Birmingham | 10,670 | 58.2% | 7,650 | 41.8% | 2,160 |
| Eastern Periphery | 6,530 | 62.1% | 3,990 | 37.9% | 830 |
| North West Birmingham | 6,020 | 49.6% | 6,110 | 50.4% | 2,470 |
| Northern Periphery | 1,000 | 60.8% | 640 | 39.2% | 150 |
| Northern Suburbs | 7,820 | 73.2% | 2,870 | 26.8% | -340 |
| South West Birmingham | 10,510 | 54.2% | 8,880 | 45.8% | 3,060 |
| Suburban Ring North | 5,690 | 50.9% | 5,490 | 49.1% | 2,140 |
| Suburban Ring South | 7,470 | 55.2% | 6,060 | 44.8% | 2,000 |
| Total | 55,710 | 57.2% | 41,690 | 42.8% | 12,480 |

Excludes City Centre dwellings

Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

- 4.10.7 Within the general sub-areas, Perry Barr has the largest shortfall numerically (3,310 dwellings) and proportionately (56.8%). Within the HMA areas, North West Birmingham has the highest proportionate shortfall (50.4%) but South West Birmingham has the greater numerical shortfall (3,060 dwellings). Unlike the figures for non decency only, the above figures are affected by the proportion of vulnerable occupiers in these areas and not just the rate of non decency.

5 Meeting the Decent Homes Standard – The Statutory Minimum Standard for Housing (Category 1 Hazards)

5.1 Requirement to remedy poor housing

- 5.1.1 Formerly, under Part XI of the Housing Act 1985, local authorities had a statutory duty to take: 'The most satisfactory course of action', with regard to unfit dwellings and the Act was supported by relevant statutory guidance. A range of enforcement measures were available including service of statutory notices to make properties fit. Closure or demolition was only appropriate in the most extreme cases.
- 5.1.2 With owner occupied dwellings in particular, many local authorities looked to offer financial assistance, especially where owners were on low incomes. In the private rented sector enforcement action was much more likely in respect of unfit homes.
- 5.1.3 From April 2006 Part XI of the Housing Act 1985 was replaced by Part 1 of the Housing Act 2004, which repealed the former housing fitness standard and through statutory instruments and statutory guidance replaced it with the Housing Health and Safety Rating System.
- 5.1.4 As described in Appendix D, the Act differentiates between Category 1 and Category 2 hazards. Local authorities have a duty to take 'the most appropriate course of action' in respect of any hazard scored under the HHSRS as Category 1. Authorities have discretionary power to take action with Category 2 hazards (which do not score past the threshold for Category 1). Further information on the HHSRS is given in Appendix D and below.

5.2 Definition of Hazards under the HHSRS and Category level

- 5.2.1 The Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) replaced the former fitness standard and is a prescribed method of assessing individual hazards, rather than a conventional standard to give a judgment of fit or unfit. The HHSRS is evidence based – national statistics on the health impacts of hazards encountered in the home are used as a basis for assessing individual hazards.
- 5.2.2 The HHSRS system deals with a much broader range of issues than the previous fitness standard. It covers a total of 29 hazards in four main groups:
- *Physiological Requirements* (e.g. damp & mould growth, excess cold, asbestos, carbon monoxide, radon, etc)

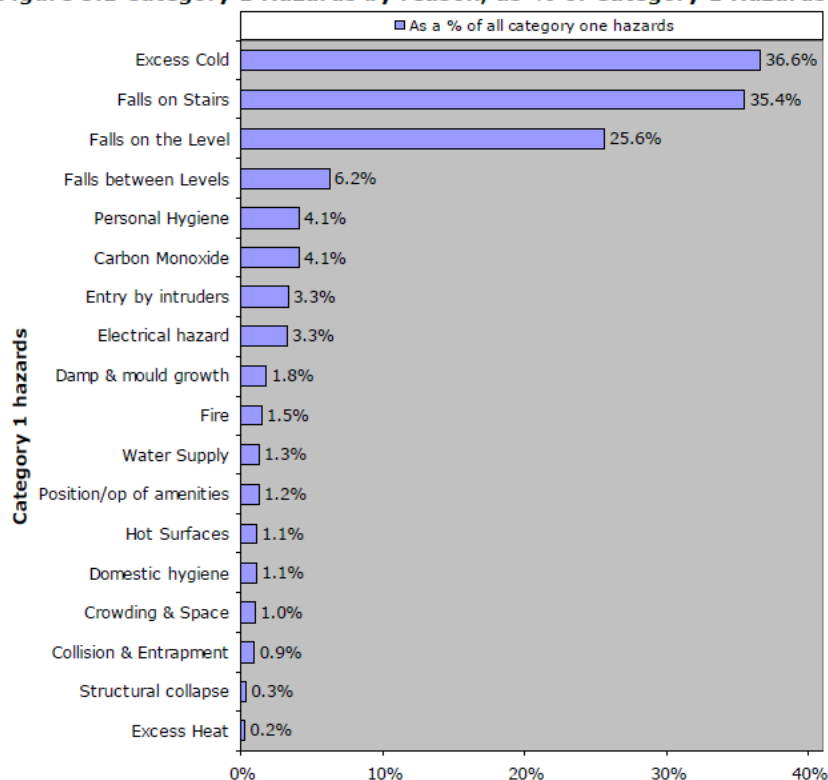
- *Psychological Requirements* (crowding and space, entry by intruders, lighting, noise)
 - *Protection Against Infection* (domestic hygiene, food safety, personal hygiene, water supply)
 - *Protection Against Accidents* (e.g. falls on the level, on stairs & steps & between levels, electrics, fire, collision...).
- 5.2.3 The HHSRS scoring system combines two elements: firstly, the probability that deficiency (i.e. a fault in a dwelling whether due to disrepair or a design fault) will lead to a harmful occurrence (e.g. an accident or illness) and the spread of likely outcomes (i.e. the nature of the injury or illness). If an accident is very likely to occur and the outcome is likely to be extreme or severe (e.g. death or a major or fatal injury) then the score will be very high.
- 5.2.4 All dwellings contain certain aspects that can be perceived as potentially hazardous, such as staircases and steps, heating appliances, electrical installation, glass, combustible materials, etc. It is when disrepair or inherent defective design makes an element of a dwelling significantly more likely to cause a harmful occurrence that it is scored under the HHSRS.
- 5.2.5 Surveyors were required to score all hazards under the HHSRS and the survey form allowed for this. Excess Cold was modelled from survey data, at the individual dwelling level, in order to provide a more accurate picture for this hazard type. The modelling of excess cold hazards by use of SAP (energy efficiency) information was outlined in CLG guidance in June 2006 and has been used by the BRE as part of the housing stock projections for excess cold hazards.
- 5.2.6 The modelling of excess cold hazards is based on the use of the individual SAP rating for each dwelling, which is scaled to give a hazard score. Where a dwelling has a SAP rating of less than 35, this produces a category 1 hazard score.
- 5.2.7 The exact scores generated under the HHSRS can be banded into one of ten bands from A to J, with bands A to C being further defined as Category 1 hazards and those in bands D to J as Category 2. The threshold score for a Category 1 Hazard is 1,000. As stated earlier, a Local Authority has a duty to deal with any Category 1 hazards found and a discretionary power to deal with Category 2 hazards. This survey focuses particularly on Category 1 Hazards, but describes all hazards, including Category 2, for comparative purposes.
- 5.3 Overall dwelling conditions**
- 5.3.1 The overall proportion of dwellings with a Category 1 Hazard was 21.9% compared with 23.5% (owner occupied and privately rented

dwellings) found in the EHCS 2007. This represented 68,960 dwellings across Birmingham with 62,180 being houses and 6,780 being flats.

5.4 Reasons for Category 1 Hazards

5.4.1 The following chart provides a breakdown of the proportions with a Category 1 hazard by type and ranked highest to lowest.

Figure 5.1 Category 1 Hazards by reason, as % of Category 1 Hazards



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

5.4.2 As was found nationally, the proportion of Category 1 Hazards attributable to excess cold had the highest rate followed by falling on stairs etc (35.4%) and falls on the level (25.6%). (Note: the chart excludes those hazards where there was a nil return.)

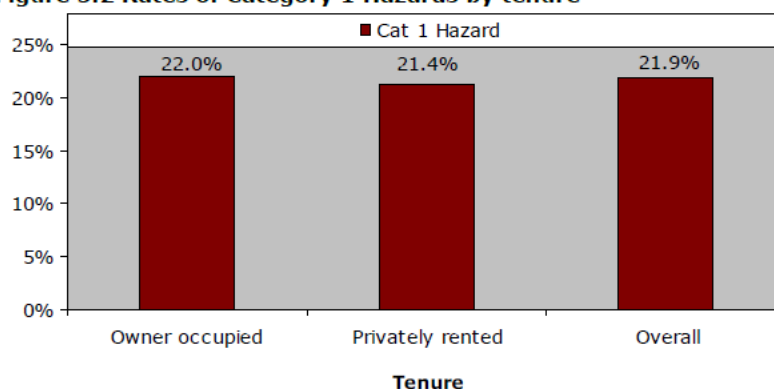
5.5 Severity of Category 1 Hazards

- 5.5.1 One indication of the severity of Category 1 hazard failure is the number of items that a dwelling fails the standard on. Overall, only 23.2% of dwellings had two or more Category 1 Hazards.

5.6 Category 1 Hazards by general characteristics

- 5.6.1 This section examines the relationship between those general stock characteristics set out in chapter two, with the level of Category 1 Hazards. The following charts and commentary examine the rates of Category 1 hazards by tenure, dwelling type and construction date.
- 5.6.2 The proportionate rate of failure between tenures was very similar, with the owner occupied stock having a slightly higher rate at 22.0% compared with the privately rented stock at 21.4%. This is unusual as the highest rate of Category 1 Hazard failure is generally found in the privately rented stock.

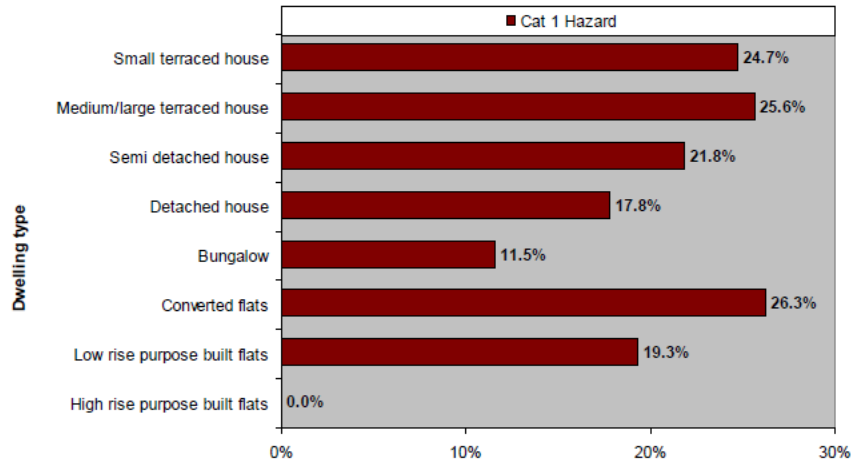
Figure 5.2 Rates of Category 1 Hazards by tenure



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

- 5.6.3 The chart below shows the rates of Category 1 Hazards by build type. The highest rate was again found in converted flats at 26.3%. However, as they only constitute a small proportion of the stock (1.4% or 4,260 dwellings) the data is less statistically robust. The next highest rate was found in medium/large terraced housing (25.6%) and small terraced housing (24.7%). No Category 1 Hazards were recorded in high rise purpose built flats (6 or more storeys), with the lowest recorded rate being found in bungalows at 11.5%.

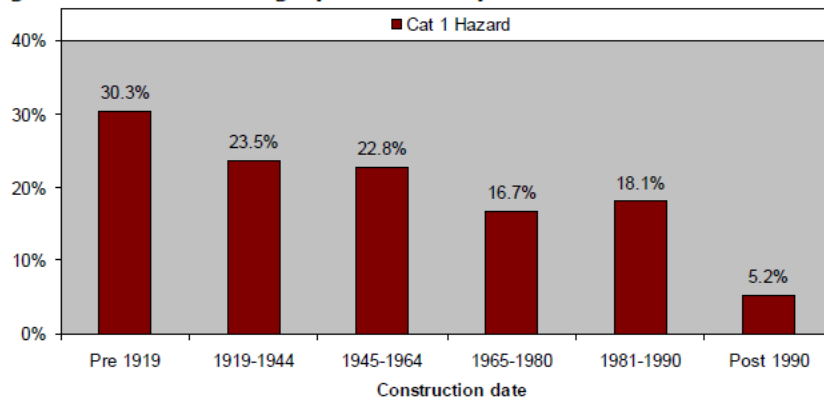
Figure 5.3 Rates of Category 1 Hazards by building type



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

- 5.6.4 Category 1 Hazards are generally much less closely linked with the deterioration of building elements than the former fitness standard, as the HHSRS system is concerned primarily with the effect of deficiencies, which may be due to design faults, as well as disrepair. There was, nevertheless, a general trend in Birmingham of Category 1 hazard rates being more prevalent in older dwellings.

Figure 5.4 Rates of Category 1 Hazards by construction date



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

5.6.5 The final division to be considered are Category 1 Hazard failures by sub-area and HMA area. The highest sub-area rate, was found in the Northfield sub-area (30.4%), followed by the Perry Barr sub-area (29.3%). The lowest rate was found in the Erdington sub-area (15.8%). Within the HMA areas the highest rate was found in the South West Birmingham area followed by the East Birmingham (26.5%) and the North West Birmingham (26.4%) areas.

Figure 5.5 Rates of Category 1 Hazards by sub-area

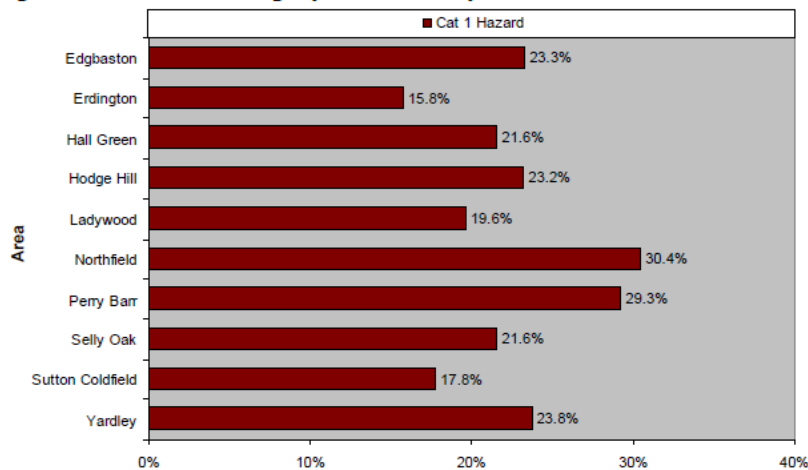
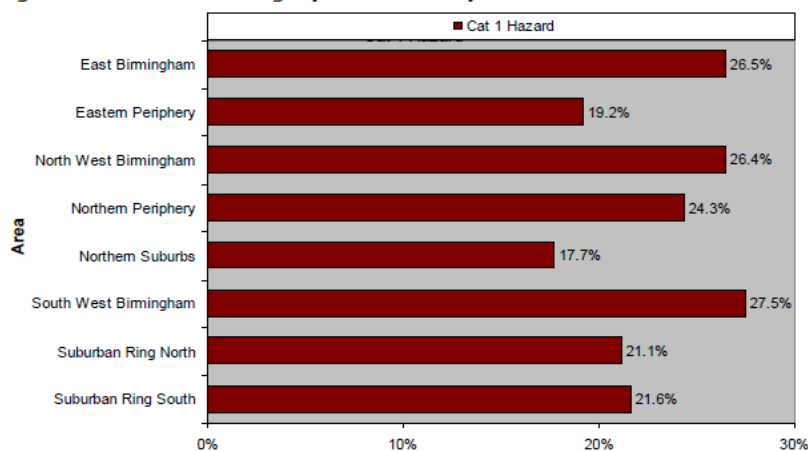


Figure 5.6 Rates of Category 1 Hazards by HMA area



*Excludes City Centre dwellings
Source: 2010 House Condition Survey*

5.7 Category 1 hazards by social characteristics

- 5.7.1 This section looks at the impact that Category 1 hazards have on a number of social variables, including age, benefit receipt and disability.
- 5.7.2 Table 5.1 shows that only those aged under 25 had a rate that was lower than the City average.

Table 5.1 Category 1 Hazards by social characteristics

| Group | Category 1 hazard |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Income under £10k | 29.7% |
| On Benefit | 27.1% |
| Under 25 | 18.6% |
| Over 65 | 28.8% |
| Resident with disability | 31.6% |
| Birmingham average | 21.9% |

Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

5.8 Cost of works to dwellings with a Category 1 Hazards

- 5.8.1 This section seeks to present the cost not only of basic failure items, but also the comprehensive cost of repairs in Category 1 Hazard dwellings. Comprehensive repair is the level of repair and improvement needed such that no new work is required to the dwelling in the next 10 years. This level of work most closely resembles the former mandatory renovation grant regime. Table 5.2 below shows basic remedial costs only.
- 5.8.2 The total cost just to rectify Category 1 Hazards was an estimated £418.5 million at an average cost per dwelling overall of £6,070. The average cost per dwelling was similar between tenures but with the owner occupied stock have a marginally higher average cost at £6,090. The total level of comprehensive repair in dwellings with a Category 1 Hazard in Birmingham was an estimated £1,445.5 million, an average of £21,000 per dwelling, with the owner occupied stock having the highest average cost at £21,200.

Table 5.2 Repair costs in Category 1 Hazard dwellings by tenure

| Tenure | Remedial | Urgent ² | 5 year ² | Comprehensive ² |
|--|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Owner occupied (£m)¹ | 362.3 | 473.1 | 688.9 | 1260.1 |
| <i>Average (£s)</i> | <i>6,090</i> | <i>7,900</i> | <i>11,600</i> | <i>21,200</i> |
| Privately Rented (£m)¹ | 56.2 | 68.5 | 102.0 | 185.4 |
| <i>Average (£s)</i> | <i>5,960</i> | <i>7,300</i> | <i>10,800</i> | <i>19,700</i> |
| All tenures (£m)¹ | 418.5 | 541.6 | 790.9 | 1445.5 |
| <i>Average (£s)</i> | <i>6,070</i> | <i>7,900</i> | <i>11,500</i> | <i>21,000</i> |

1. Figures given in millions of pounds sterling

2. Figures are cumulative and therefore include the previous column

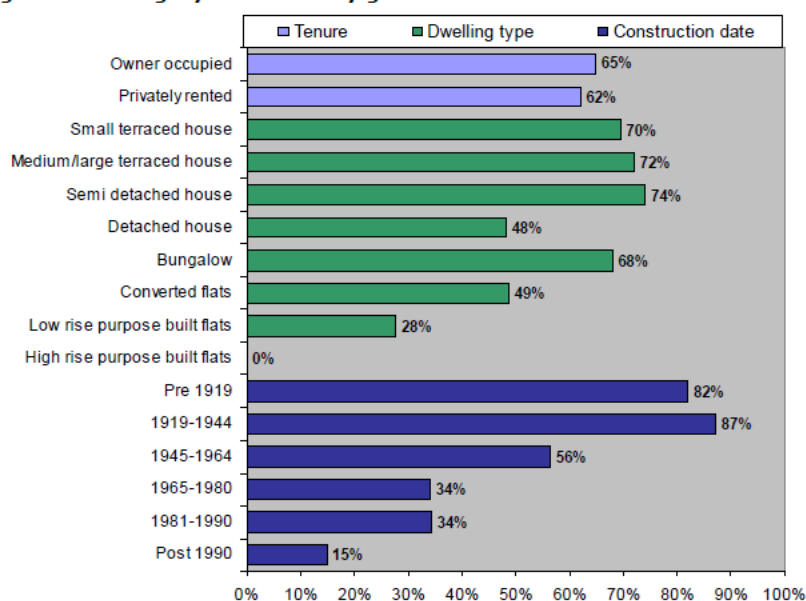
Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

5.9 Category 2 Hazards in bands D and E

5.9.1 There were an estimated 203,000 (64.5%) dwellings in Birmingham that have at least one Category 2 Hazard (Bands D and E). Of those 158,500 (78.1%) had no corresponding Category 1 hazard.

5.9.2 The following graph illustrates the distribution of Category 2 Hazards (Bands D and E) by tenure, building type and age.

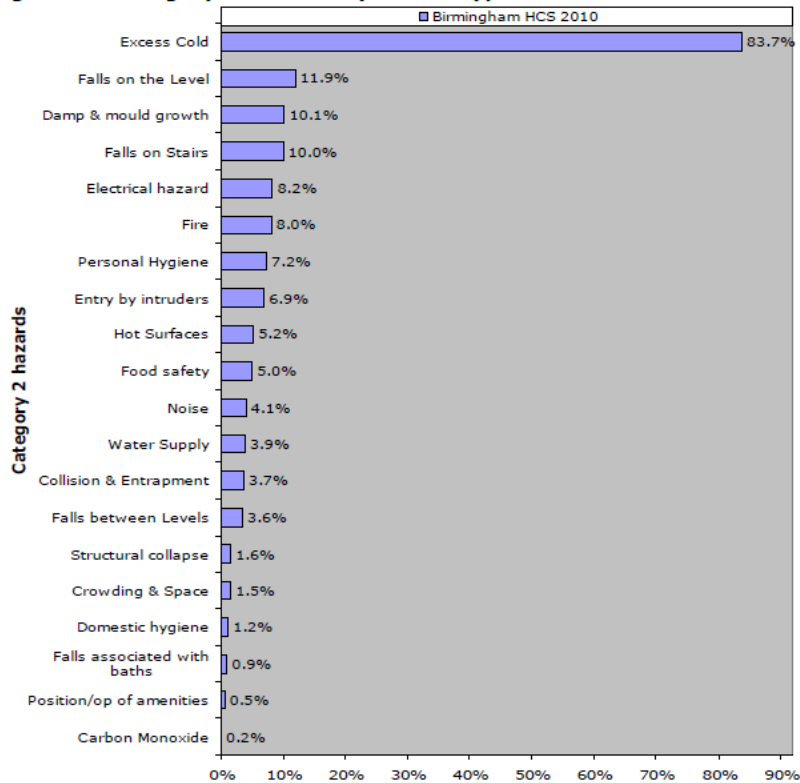
Figure 5.7 Category 2 hazards by general characteristics



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

- 5.9.3 The rate in the owner occupied sector at 69% was higher than that in the privately rented sector at 62%.
- 5.9.4 By build type, semi-detached houses had the highest rate (74%) followed by medium/large terraced houses (72%) and small terraced houses (70%). No Category 2 Hazards were recorded in high rise purpose built flats (6 or more storeys), with the lowest recorded rate being found in low rise purpose built flats (less than 6 storeys) at 28%.
- 5.9.5 The pattern of decreasing incidence with age is generally followed, although properties built between 1919 and 1944 had a higher rate than that for the pre 1919 age band.
- 5.9.6 Figure 5.8 illustrates the distribution of Category 2 Hazards (scoring above average) by hazard type and ranked highest to lowest.

Figure 5.8 Category 2 hazards by hazard type



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

5.9.7 The most common hazard, by some margin, was excess cold followed by falls on the stairs etc, damp & mould growth and falling on level surfaces, with and electrical hazards and fire featuring prominently.

5.9.8 The following charts looks at the extent of Category 2 Hazards (Bands D and E) by sub-area and HMA area. The sub-area with the highest proportionate rate was Hodge Hill (79.8%) followed by Perry Barr (73.8%) and Hall Green (73.6%). Within the HMA areas the East Birmingham area had the highest rate (78.7%) followed by the North West Birmingham area (74.3%). The lowest rates were found in the Northfield sub-area at 53.4% and within the Northern Suburbs HMA area (56.1%).

Figure 5.9 Category 2 hazards by sub-area

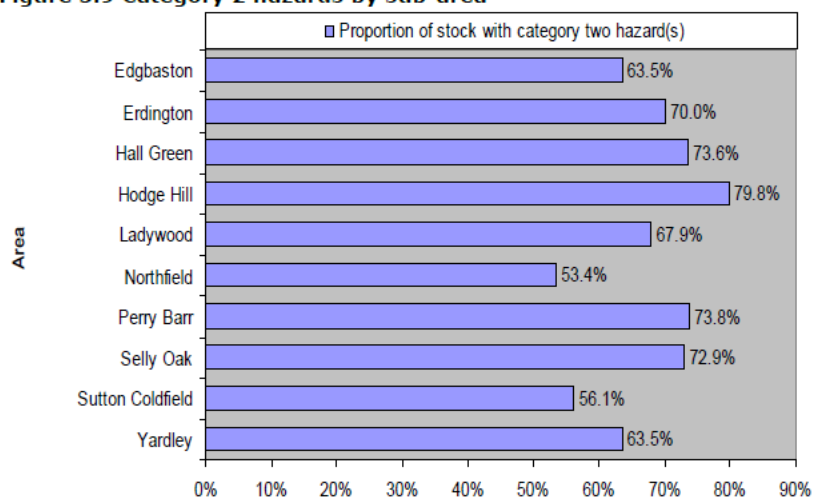
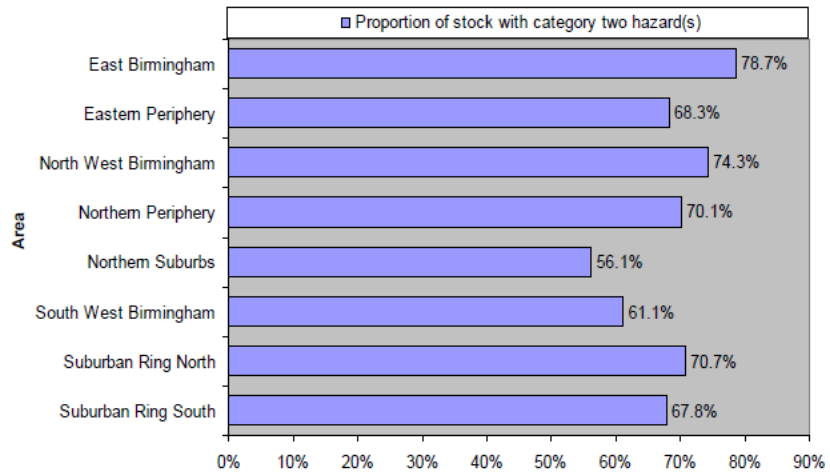


Figure 5.10 Category 2 hazards by HMA area



*Excludes City Centre dwellings
Source: 2010 House Condition Survey*

6 Meeting the Decent Homes Standard – Reasonable State of Repair

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Criterion B of the Decent Homes Standard looks at the issue of the state of general repair of a dwelling, with a dwelling failing if it meets one or more of the following:

- One or more key building components are old (which are specifically defined in the criteria) and, because of their condition need replacing or major repair or:
- Two or more other building components are old and, because of their condition need replacing or major repair.

6.1.2 A building that has component failure before the components expected lifespan does not fail the decent homes standard. A dwelling will be considered to be in disrepair if it fails on one or more major element or two or more minor elements. Major and minor element failures are listed below:

Table 6.1 Major building elements (disrepair failure)

| Element | Age to be considered old |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Major Walls (Repair/Replace >10%) | 80 |
| Roofs (Replace 50% or more) | 50 for houses 30 for flats |
| Chimney (1 or more needing partial rebuild) | 50 |
| Windows (Replace 2 or more windows) | 40 for houses 30 for flats |
| Doors (Replace 1 or more doors) | 40 for houses 30 for flats |
| Gas Boiler (Major Repair) | 15 |
| Gas Fire (Major Repair) | 10 |
| Electrics (Major Repair) | 30 |

Table 6.2 Minor building elements (disrepair failure if 2 or more fail)

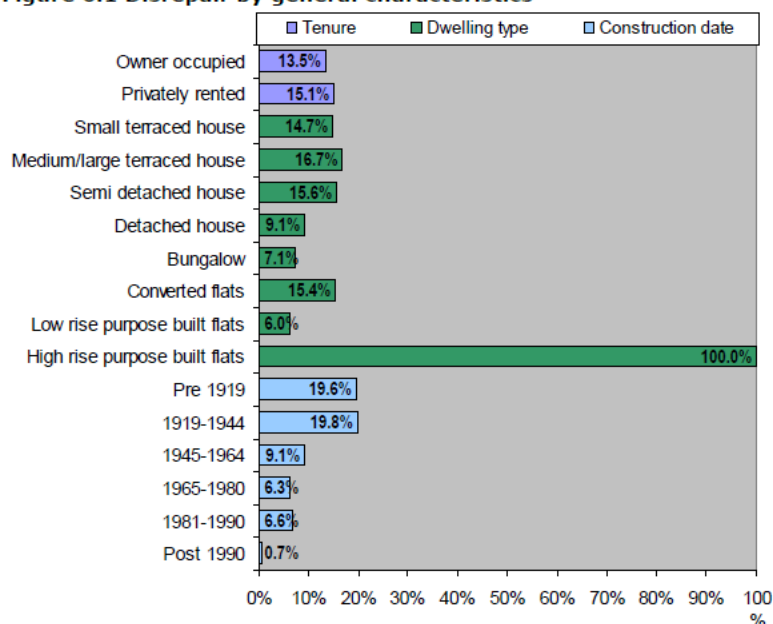
| Element | Age to be considered old |
|---|--------------------------|
| Kitchen (Major repair or replace 3+ items) | 30 |
| Bathroom (Replace 2+ items) | 40 |
| Central heating distribution (Major Repair) | 40 |
| Other heating (Major Repair) | 30 |

6.2 Disrepair and general characteristics

6.2.1 In Birmingham 43,300 dwellings failed this criterion. At 13.7%, the rate of failure is well above the national rate of 7.3%.

6.2.2 The overall repair cost within Birmingham is £199.5 million, an average of £4,610 per dwelling. (This is the cost of simply rectifying failures of the repair criterion of the Decent Homes Standard – it is not the cost of comprehensive repairs which is considered later in this section.) The following section gives a breakdown of repair failure by a number of key variables.

Figure 6.1 Disrepair by general characteristics



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

6.2.3 The rate in the owner occupied sector at 13.5% was lower than that for the private rented sector (15.1%).

6.2.4 By dwelling type, high rise purpose built flats (6 or more storeys) had a 100% failure rate. However, they only constitute 0.1% of the total private sector stock (250 dwellings). The figure cannot, therefore, be considered statistically significant and may be subject to considerable survey bias due to being based on a very small number of surveys. The

next highest rate was found in medium/large terraced houses (16.7%) followed by semi-detached houses (15.6%).

- 6.2.5 The proportionate rate of repair failure by construction date usually increases with property age, which was generally the case in Birmingham, although 1919 to 1944 age band had a marginally higher rate than that found in the pre-1919 age band.

6.3 Disrepair by sub-area

- 6.3.1 The following charts provides a breakdown of disrepair by sub-area HMA areas.

Figure 6.2 Disrepair by sub-area

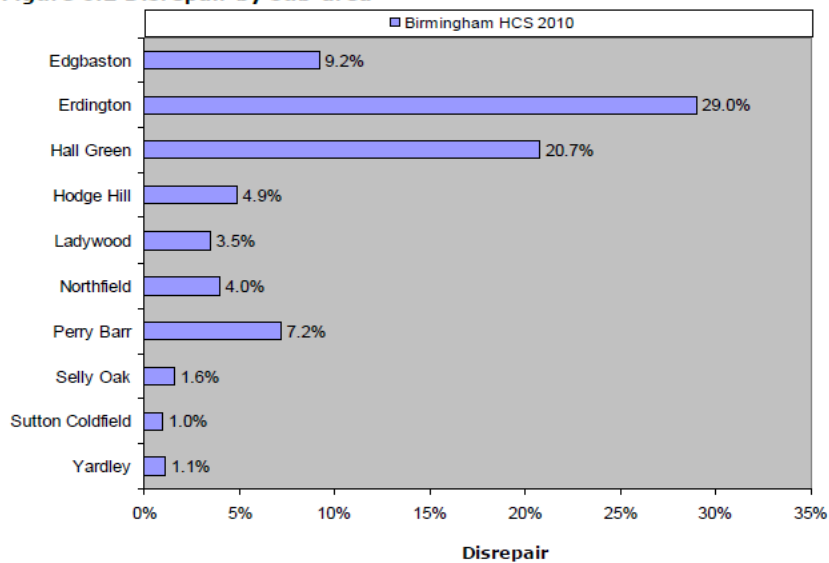
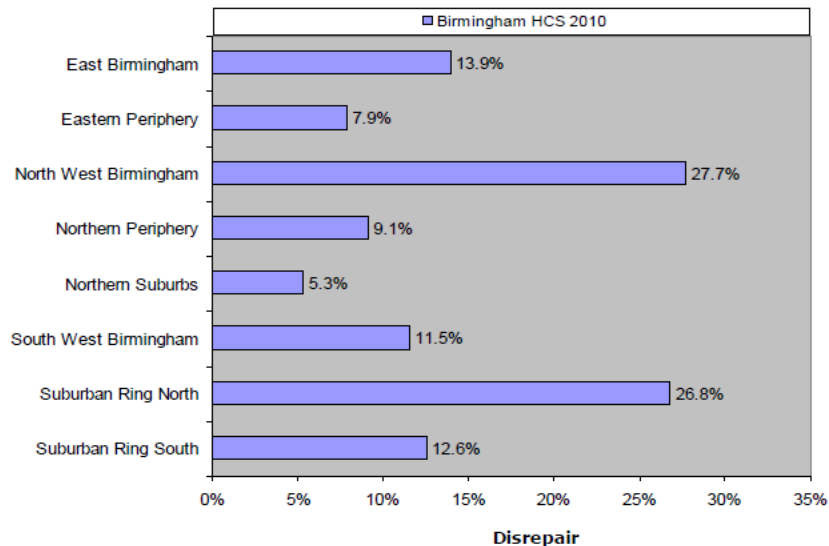


Figure 6.3 Disrepair by HMA area



*Excludes City Centre dwellings
Source: 2010 House Condition Survey*

- 6.3.2 The highest repair failure rate was recorded in the Erdington sub-area at 29.0% followed by the Hall Green sub-area at 20.7%. By HMA areas the highest rate was found in North West Birmingham (27.7%) followed by Suburban Ring North (26.8%). The lowest rates were found in the Sutton Coldfield sub-area and in the North Suburbs HMA area (5.3%).

6.4 Disrepair by social characteristics

- 6.4.1 The impact that disrepair has on a range of social variables, including age, benefit receipt and disability, is shown in the following table.
- 6.4.2 Only one of the variables had a rate below the City rate; this was for households aged under 25 at 10.8%. The rates for all other groups were above the City average.

Table 6.3 Disrepair by social characteristics

| Group | In disrepair |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Income under £10k | 18.4% |
| On Benefit | 18.7% |
| Under 25 | 10.8% |
| Over 65 | 14.0% |
| Resident with disability | 20.0% |
| Birmingham average | 13.7% |

Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

7 Meeting the Decent Homes Standard – Modern Facilities

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 So far this report has considered Criterion A of the Decent Homes Standard: Category 1 Hazards and Criterion B: dwellings failing due to disrepair issues. The third criterion of the Decent Homes Standard is that a dwelling should have adequate modern facilities, and this chapter deals with that issue.

7.1.2 Few dwellings within the private sector failed on this criterion at national level (2.9%). In Birmingham, the rate was lower than the national average with 5,500 (1.7%) dwellings failing for this reason. The low level of failure nationally, and in Birmingham, reflects the fact that a dwelling only fails if it lacks *three* or more of the following:

- A kitchen which is 20 years old or less
- A kitchen with adequate space and layout
- A bathroom that is 30 years old or less
- An appropriately located bathroom and WC
- Adequate noise insulation
- Adequate size and layout of common parts of flats

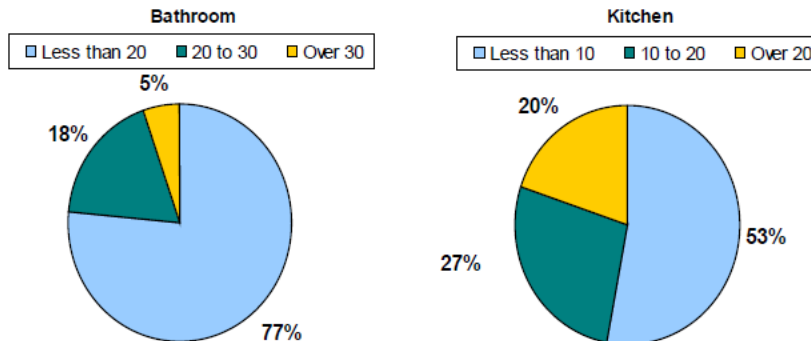
7.1.3 For example, if a dwelling had a kitchen and bathroom older than the specified date, it would not fail unless the kitchen had a poor layout or the bathroom was not properly located.

7.1.4 As a result of the relatively small number of dwellings failing the Decent Homes Standard on this criterion, it was not possible to further subdivide those failures to examine their tenure distribution or other characteristics. However, this chapter will examine the general provision of facilities and in particular consider the potential for a greater level of failure in the future.

7.2 Key amenities bathrooms and kitchens

7.2.1 Under the Decent Homes Standard the age of bathrooms and kitchens is of importance to the modern facilities criterion. Figure 7.1 examines the age of these two facilities in dwellings within Birmingham.

Figure 7.1 Bathroom and Kitchen age



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

7.2.2 It is possible to see from the two charts that potential for failure under the facilities criterion of the Decent Homes Standard is fairly low with bathrooms as the great majority (77%) were less than 20 years old but slightly greater with kitchens as 47% were either older than the age specified in the criterion or would become so in the next 10 years. For these dwellings to fail, however, it would be necessary that one of the other elements of this criterion be breached (such as inadequate noise insulation). It is unlikely therefore that failure to replace older kitchens and bathrooms would cause any significant increase in non decency.

8 Meeting the Decent Homes Standard – Thermal Comfort

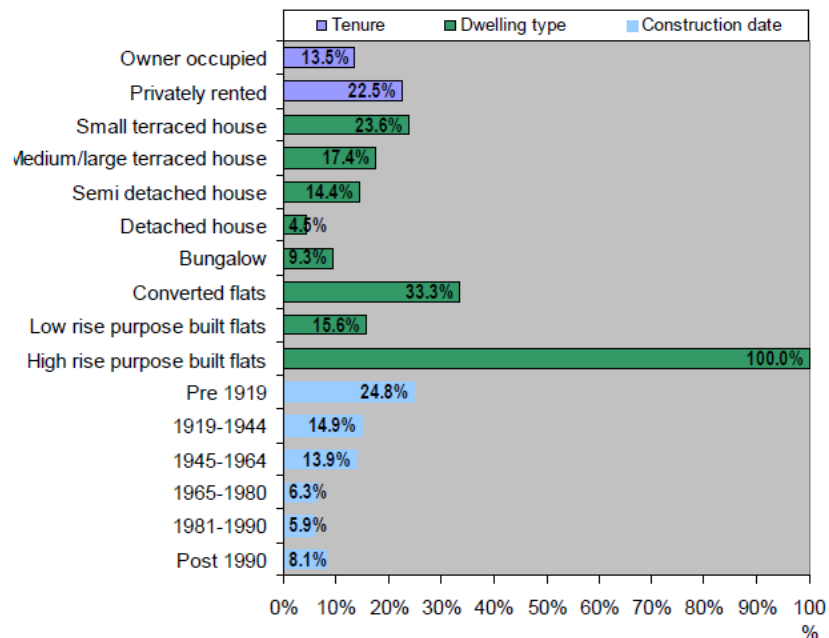
8.1 Thermal comfort failures

- 8.1.1 Failure of the thermal comfort criterion, and consequently the work required to remedy that failure, is based on the combination of heating system type and insulation present within a dwelling. In Birmingham 46,400 dwellings (14.7%) failed the thermal comfort criterion, which was below the national average of 15.9%.
- 8.1.2 The following are the three requirements under the thermal comfort criterion of the Decent Homes Standard:
- For dwellings with gas/oil programmable heating, cavity wall insulation (if there are walls that can be insulated effectively) or at least 50mm loft insulation (if there is a loft space) is an effective package of insulation.
 - For dwellings heated by electric storage heaters/ LPG/ programmable solid fuel central heating a higher specification of insulation is required: at least 200mm of loft insulation (if there is a loft) and cavity wall insulation (if there are walls that can be insulated effectively).
 - All other heating systems fail (i.e. all room heater systems are considered to fail the thermal comfort standard).

8.2 Thermal comfort failures by general characteristics

- 8.2.1 Figure 8.1 below shows the distribution of thermal comfort failure by age, building type and tenure.
- 8.2.2 The rate of failure in the privately rented sector at 22.5% was substantially above the rate of 13.5% in the owner occupied sector.
- 8.2.3 By dwelling type, high rise purpose built flats (6 or more storeys) had a 100% failure rate. However, they only constitute 0.1% of the total private sector stock (250 dwellings). The figure cannot, therefore, be considered statistically significant and may be subject to considerable survey bias due to being based on a very small number of surveys. The next highest rate was found in converted flats at 33.3% followed by small terraced houses at 23.6%. The lowest rate was found in detached houses (4.5%).
- 8.2.4 Thermal comfort failure rates usually increase with dwelling age, and this trend was generally followed within Birmingham, although the post-1990 age band had a slightly inflated rate.

Figure 8.1 Thermal comfort failure by general characteristics

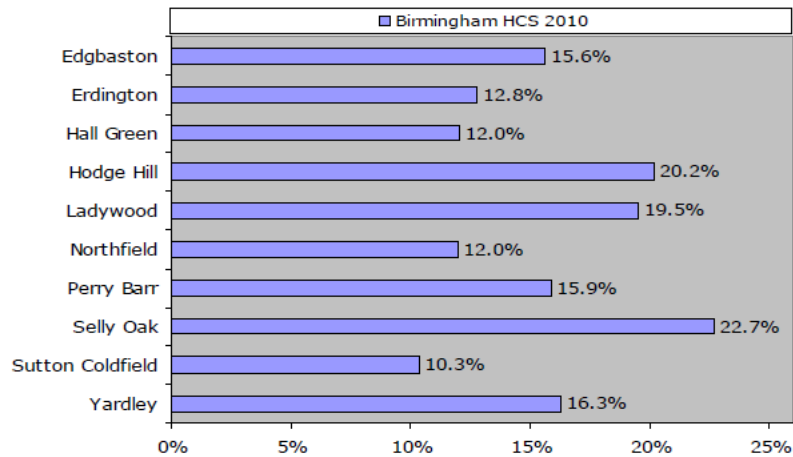


Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

8.3 Thermal comfort failures by sub-area

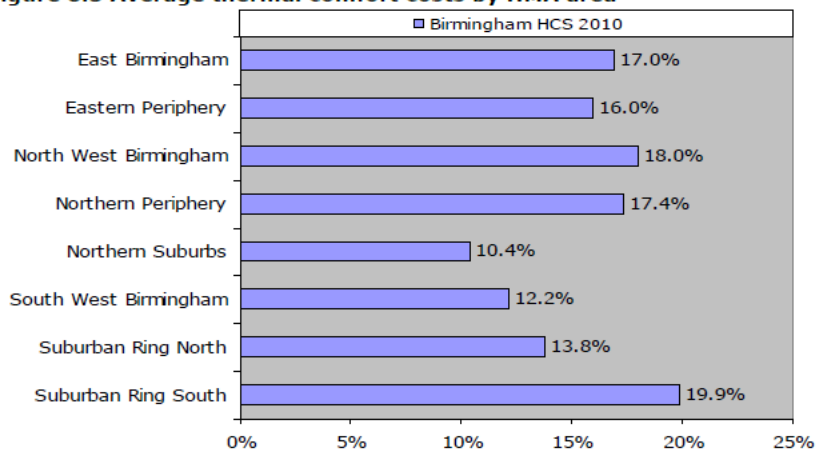
8.3.1 The following chart provides a breakdown of the thermal comfort failures by sub-area.

Figure 8.2 Average thermal comfort costs by sub-area



Thermal Comfort Failure

Figure 8.3 Average thermal comfort costs by HMA area



Thermal Comfort Failure

*Excludes City Centre dwellings
Source: 2010 House Condition Survey*

- 8.3.2 By sub-area the highest rate of failure was found in Selly Oak (22.7%) followed by the Hodge Hill sub-area at 20.2% and the Ladywood sub-area (19.5%). The lowest rate was found in the Sutton Coldfield sub-area (10.3%). Within the HMA areas the highest rate was found in Suburban Ring South (19.9%) followed by North West Birmingham (18.0%). The lowest rate was found in Northern Suburbs (10.4%).

9 Energy Performance

9.1 Energy performance and SAP ratings

- 9.1.1 The Standard Assessment Procedure or SAP is a government rating for energy efficiency. It is used in this report in conjunction with annual CO2 emissions figures, calculated on fuel consumption, and the measure of that fuel consumption in kilo Watt hours (kWh), to examine energy efficiency.
- 9.1.2 The SAP rating in this report was the energy rating for a dwelling and was based on the calculated annual energy cost for space and water heating. The calculation assumes a standard occupancy pattern, derived from the measured floor area so that the size of the dwelling did not strongly affect the result. It is expressed on a 0-100 scale. The higher the number the better the energy rating for that dwelling.
- 9.1.3 The software used to calculate SAP ratings for this report used SAP2005.

9.2 Distribution of SAP ratings

- 9.2.1 The average SAP rating in Birmingham for private sector dwellings was 52, compared to an average SAP rating of 48 nationally (for private sector dwellings only), based on the findings of the EHCS 2007, which also used SAP2005.
- 9.2.2 Table 9.1 shows the energy performance distribution by tenure incorporating the same banding system used by the EHCS 2007. The majority for each tenure group were contained within the 39 to 68 bandings, being 79.2% for owner occupied dwellings and 74.7% for the privately rented stock. The overall stock rate was 78.6% within those bands, which was above the national rate (73.2%).

Table 9.1 Energy performance SAP banded

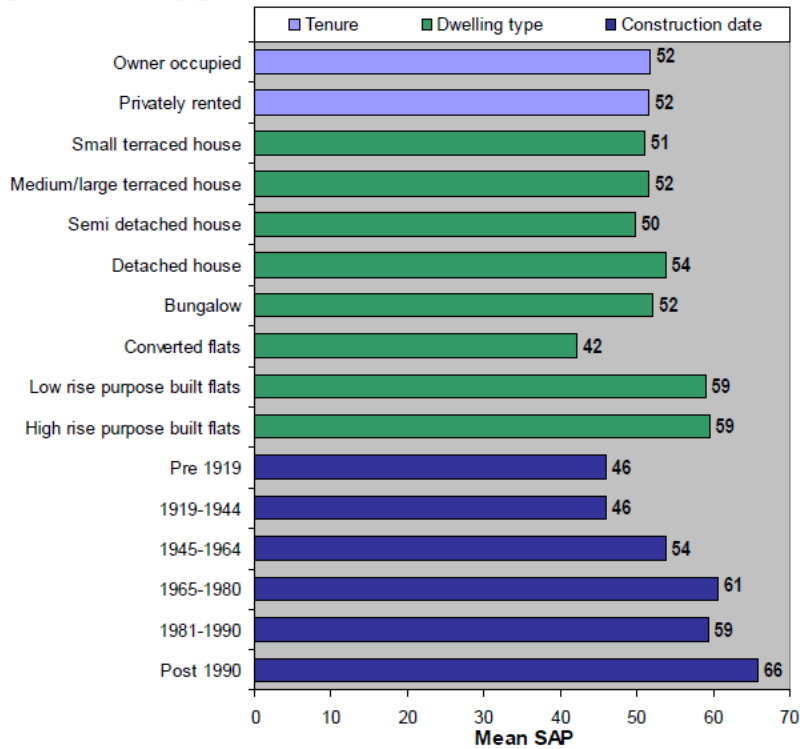
| EPC SAP Range Banded | Owner occupied | Privately rented | Whole Stock | EHCS 2007 |
|----------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Band A (92-100) | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Band B (81-91) | 0.1% | 0.3% | 0.1% | 0.1% |
| Band C (69-80) | 8.9% | 13.3% | 9.5% | 5.0% |
| Band D (55-68) | 30.2% | 23.1% | 29.2% | 30.4% |
| Band E (39-54) | 49.0% | 51.6% | 49.4% | 42.8% |
| Band F (21-38) | 10.4% | 8.6% | 10.2% | 17.3% |
| Band G (1-20) | 1.4% | 3.1% | 1.6% | 4.4% |
| Total | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% |

Source: 2010 House Condition Survey & EHCS 2007

9.3 SAP by general characteristics

- 9.3.1 The physical characteristics of dwellings have a major effect on the efficiency of a dwelling. The number of exposed external walls and the construction materials and methods all affect the overall heat loss and therefore the energy efficiency. Different types and ages of dwellings will have different energy characteristics.
- 9.3.2 Figure 9.1 gives a breakdown of average SAP ratings by tenure, building type and construction date.
- 9.3.3 The average SAP rating for the owner occupied and private rented sectors was the same at 52.
- 9.3.4 When examining SAP ratings by built form, converted flats had the lowest SAP rating at 42, but they only constitute 0.1% of the total private sector stock (250 dwellings) and cannot be considered statistically significant. The next lowest rate was found in semi-detached houses (50). The highest rates were found in high rise purpose built flats (6 or more storeys) and low rise purpose built flats (less than 6 storeys), both at 59.
- 9.3.5 Increases in SAP are usually associated with a reduction in dwelling age; the most modern stock having the highest SAP. This pattern was followed in Birmingham; the lowest mean SAP was for pre-1945 properties at 46 and the highest in post 1990 properties at 66.

Figure 9.1 SAP by general characteristics



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

9.3.6 The following chart shows the distribution of mean SAP ratings by sub-area.

Figure 9.2 Mean SAP by sub-area

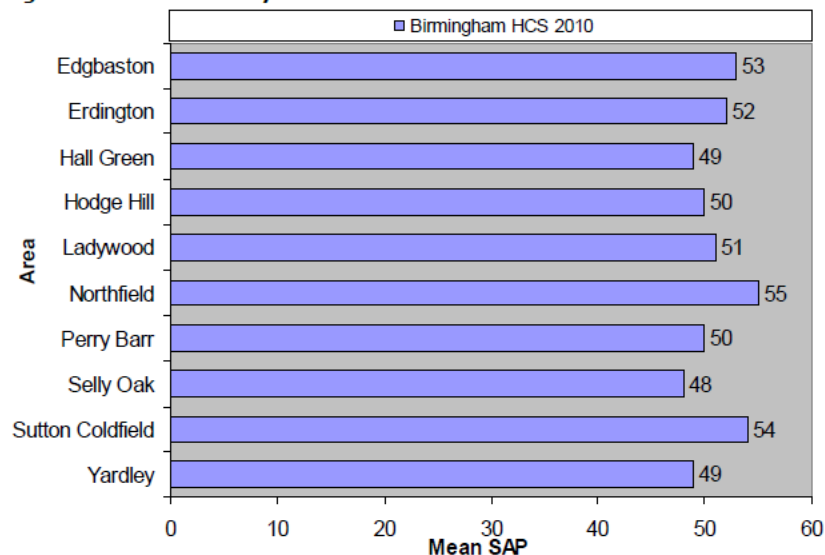
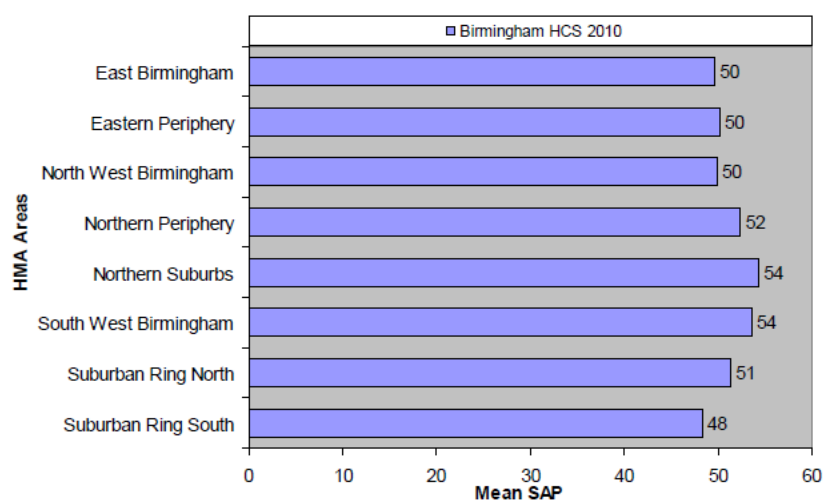


Figure 9.3 Mean SAP by HMA area



*Excludes City Centre dwellings
Source: 2010 House Condition Survey*

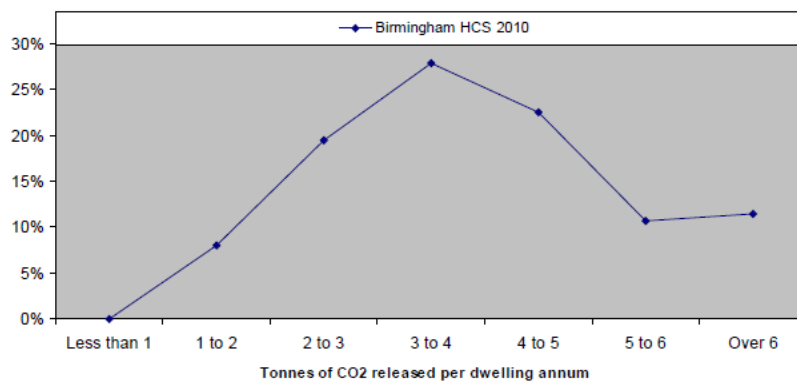
- 9.3.7 The lowest mean SAP rating was for the Selly Oak sub-area (48) followed by the Yardley and Hall Green sub-areas, both at 49. The highest mean SAP was found in the Northfield sub-area (55). Within the HMA areas, Suburban Ring South had the lowest mean SAP (48) with the highest being found jointly in the Northern Suburbs and South West Birmingham areas (54).

9.4 Carbon Dioxide emissions

- 9.4.1 As part of the 2007 Comprehensive Spending Review the Government announced a single set of indicators which would underpin the performance framework as set out in the Local Government White Paper "Strong and Prosperous Communities". To provide a more powerful and consistent incentive to local authorities, to develop and effectively implement carbon reduction and fuel poverty strategies, included within the set of indicators were a per capita reduction in Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) emissions in the Local Authority area and the tackling of fuel poverty.
- 9.4.2 PSA Delivery Agreement 27 (Lead the global effort to avoid dangerous climate change) stated that "The overall framework for the Government's domestic action is set out in the Climate Change Bill for which Parliamentary approval will be sought". This was subsequently passed into legislation on 26 November 2008, through the Climate Change Act 2008, which included legally binding targets to achieve greenhouse gas emission reductions through action in the UK and abroad of at least 80% by 2050, and reductions in CO₂ emissions of at least 26% by 2020, against a 1990 baseline.
- 9.4.3 The government launched a consultation document entitled "Heat and energy saving strategy consultation" in February 2010.
- 9.4.4 The overall aim of the consultation was to reduce annual emissions by up to 44 million tonnes of CO₂ in 2020, the equivalent of a 30% reduction in emissions from households compared to 2006, making a significant contribution to meeting the government's carbon budgets.
- 9.4.5 One key aspect of the government's approach was to consider the energy needs of the 'whole house', putting together a more comprehensive programme of work for the whole house rather than the installation of individual measures one at a time. It was considered that modern heating offered the potential to cut energy bills and reduce CO₂ emissions, and the government wanted to help the development of heating networks within communities where it made sense to do so.
- 9.4.6 The Government's strategy for saving energy and decarbonising heating both now and into the future, has four main objectives:

- to help more people, especially in the current difficult economic climate, as well as over the longer term, to achieve a reduction in their energy bills by using less energy;
 - to reduce the UK's emissions and increase the use of renewable energy in line with the demands of the government's carbon budgets, their renewables target and the ultimate objective of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2050;
 - to help maintain secure and diverse energy supplies; and
 - to take advantage of the economic opportunities presented by the shift to a low carbon economy in the UK and in the rest of the world. This to help during the current economic downturn and over the longer term.
- 9.4.7 By 2015, it is the government's aim to have insulated all the lofts and cavity walls where it is practicable to do so. Although it is considered that this will not be enough to achieve the ambitions for the 2050 target of cutting emissions by 80%. Once these options have been exhausted, more substantial changes are being considered, such as small-scale energy generation and solid wall insulation, with the aim of helping up to seven million homes by 2020.
- 9.4.8 It is proposed to retain the current Carbon Emissions Reduction Target (CERT) until 2012, when it is thought that a more coordinated, community-based approach, working door-to-door and street-to-street to cover the needs of the whole house. This more coordinated approach is piloted under a new Community Energy Savings Programme (CESP), launched in September 2010.
- 9.4.9 Birmingham has 240 Lower Super Output Areas contained within the list of areas of low income that the Government proposes qualify for the Community Energy Saving Programme.
- 9.4.10 The CO₂ data provided as part of this survey indicated that emissions within the private sector stock of Birmingham were 1,287,000 tonnes per annum an average of 4.1 tonnes per annum per property or 1.6 tonnes per capita. The EHCS 2007 reported total CO₂ emissions of 130 million tonnes per annum or 7.1 tonnes per dwelling (owner occupied and privately rented)
- 9.4.11 Figure 9.2 shows the range of dwelling CO₂ emissions released per annum. The majority of dwellings (69.9%) had emissions of between 2 and 5 tonnes per annum, with 22.1% having annual emissions above this. 11.5% have emissions above 6 tonnes per annum.

Figure 9.4 Annual dwelling CO₂ emissions



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

9.4.12 Emissions per main fuel type are given below; Oil had the highest average at 6.8 tonnes followed by Coal/Wood at 5.9 tonnes.

Table 9.2 Main fuel CO₂ emissions

| Fuel main | CO ₂ (tonnes) | Average CO ₂ per property |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Mains Gas | 1,184,367 | 4.1 |
| LPG/Bottled Gas | 0 | 0.0 |
| Oil | 4,939 | 6.8 |
| Coal/Wood | 259 | 5.9 |
| Anthracite | 0 | 0.0 |
| Smokeless Fuel | 0 | 0.0 |
| On Peak Electricity | 10,267 | 4.7 |
| Off Peak Electricity | 62,801 | 5.1 |

Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

9.4.13 The following table examines the total CO₂ emissions by each of the survey sub-areas as well as the average CO₂ emissions per dwelling within each area.

Table 9.3 Areas CO₂ emissions by sub-area

| Area | CO ₂ (tonnes) | Avg CO ₂ Per property |
|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Edgbaston | 135,979 | 4.3 |
| Erdington | 107,366 | 3.7 |
| Hall Green | 151,821 | 4.7 |
| Hodge Hill | 121,605 | 4.3 |
| Ladywood | 37,791 | 3.8 |
| Northfield | 106,886 | 3.6 |
| Perry Barr | 139,393 | 4.0 |
| Selly Oak | 152,718 | 4.6 |
| Sutton Coldfield | 169,469 | 4.3 |
| Yardley | 139,607 | 4.1 |

Table 9.4 Areas CO₂ emissions by HMA area

| Area | CO ₂ (tonnes) | Avg CO ₂ Per property |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| East Birmingham | 131,481 | 4.2 |
| Eastern Periphery | 129,022 | 3.9 |
| North West Birmingham | 101,677 | 4.4 |
| Northern Periphery | 18,054 | 4.0 |
| Northern Suburbs | 170,022 | 4.3 |
| South West Birmingham | 222,480 | 3.9 |
| Suburban Ring North | 165,675 | 3.7 |
| Suburban Ring South | 324,221 | 4.8 |

Excludes City Centre dwellings

Source: 2009 House Condition Survey

- 9.4.14 The Hall Green sub-area had the highest average level of carbon dioxide output per dwelling at 4.7 tonnes, very closely followed by the Selly Oak sub-areas at 4.6 tonnes. By HMA areas, the Suburban Ring South area had the highest rate at 4.8 tonnes.

9.5 **SAP and National Indicator 187**

- 9.5.1 Following the 2007 comprehensive spending review guidance was issued on a change in measuring local authority performance through a revised set of indicators. There are 188 indicators covering every aspect of a Councils' responsibilities, but of primary interest here is National Indicator 187. NI187 requires local authorities to measure the proportion of households on an income related benefit living in dwellings with SAP ratings below 35 and 65 and above; the intention being to decrease the former and increase the latter. The indicator refers to 'fuel poverty' but the measure is actually a surrogate for fuel poverty (see 10.9). It is anticipated that Councils will measure progress using an annual postal survey.

- 9.5.2 Table 9.4 gives a breakdown of dwellings with SAP ratings below 35 and 65 and over, as well as combining this with information on income related benefit receipt. *Note that since this is income related benefits the total is slightly lower than that for all benefit receipt as described in chapter three.* This information can be used as a baseline for NI187 against which future progress can be measured.

Table 9.5 SAP bands and NI187

| Birmingham HCS 2010 | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|--------------|
| | Dwellings total | Households with an income benefit recipient | Rate |
| SAP less than 35 | 23,810 | 7500 | 31.5% |
| | 7.6% | 7.9% | |
| SAP 35 to 64 | 239,740 | 77,100 | 32.2% |
| | 76.2% | 81.2% | |
| SAP 65 and over | 51,210 | 10300 | 20.1% |
| | 16.3% | 10.9% | |
| | 314,760 | 94,900 | 30.1% |

Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

- 9.5.3 The figures given in red are those required under NI187. They illustrate that 7.9% of households in receipt of an income related benefit lived in a dwelling with a SAP rating below 35 and that 10.9% lived in a dwelling with a SAP of 65 and over.

9.6 Energy efficiency improvement

- 9.6.1 The great majority of dwellings (98.4%) had mains gas. The survey found that 92.9% of dwellings had a central heating system compared with 90.0% found in the EHCS 2007.
- 9.6.2 The table shows the heating type found by dwelling type. The lowest rate of central heating provision was found in low rise purpose built flats where just over a half had central heating (38% having electric storage radiators). This was followed by converted flats, where just over 70% had central heating. Detached and semi-detached houses having the highest proportions of central heating systems.

Table 9.6 Heating by dwelling type

| Heating Type | Small terraced house | Medium/large terraced house | Detached house | Semi detd house | Bung | Conv flats | Low rise purpose built flats | High rise purpose built flats |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------|------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Gas Central Heating | 92.3% | 94.4% | 99.1% | 96.2% | 86.8% | 71.6% | 50.1% | 0.0% |
| Oil Central Heating | 0.8% | 0.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 1.5% | 0.0% |
| Electric Central Heating | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Solid Fuel Central Heating | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Communal Heating | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.8% | 1.3% | 100.0% |
| Storage Heaters | 3.0% | 1.3% | 0.5% | 1.4% | 13.2% | 20.3% | 38.0% | 0.0% |
| Room Heaters | 4.0% | 4.0% | 0.5% | 2.4% | 0.0% | 7.3% | 9.1% | 0.0% |

Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

9.6.3 The table shows the extent of insulation by dwelling type:

Table 9.7 Insulation by dwelling type

| Dwelling Type | No Loft Insulation | Less than 50mm | 50mm to 100mm | 100mm to 150mm | 150mm to 200mm | 200mm or more | No Loft |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| Small terraced house | 12.4% | 4.0% | 7.8% | 17.3% | 20.9% | 36.7% | 0.9% |
| Medium/large terraced house | 6.0% | 1.4% | 12.3% | 22.5% | 18.0% | 39.6% | 0.3% |
| Semi detached house | 3.5% | 2.9% | 10.7% | 18.4% | 18.5% | 45.7% | 0.3% |
| Detached house | 0.5% | 1.8% | 5.4% | 19.8% | 20.5% | 52.1% | 0.0% |
| Bungalow | 0.0% | 2.7% | 2.9% | 18.9% | 31.1% | 44.4% | 0.0% |
| Converted flats | 41.3% | 0.0% | 6.3% | 10.8% | 0.0% | 41.6% | 0.0% |
| Low rise purpose built flats | 6.9% | 0.0% | 4.5% | 10.0% | 7.4% | 25.6% | 45.6% |
| High rise purpose built flats | 100.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Birmingham | 5.0% | 2.3% | 9.4% | 18.9% | 18.4% | 43.0% | 3.0% |
| EHCS 2007 | 3.7% | 2.9% | 21.4% | 33.9% | 13.1% | 17.9% | 7.1% |

Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

- 9.6.4 The figures show that insulation provision was found to be lowest in high rise and converted flats and that the extent of loft insulation was highest in detached houses and bungalows.
- 9.6.5 The provision of different heating systems and insulation within the dwelling stock does allow scope for some dwellings to have additional insulation, improved heating, draught proofing etc. Such improvements can lead to a reduction in energy consumption with consequent reduction in the emission of gases such as carbon dioxide implicated in climate change.
- 9.6.6 However, it should be noted that improving energy efficiency does not necessarily equate to a reduction in energy consumption. In the majority of cases there will be a reduction, but, for example, where a household is in fuel poverty and improvements are made, energy consumption may well go up. In such dwellings the occupiers may well have been heating the dwelling to an inadequate level using expensive fuel. Use of cheaper fuels can create affordable warmth, but also lead to increased energy consumption.

9.7 The cost and extent of improvement

- 9.7.1 The following figures are based on modelling changes in energy efficiency, brought about by installing combinations of items listed below. These are based on measures that have been provided by many local authorities and are loosely based on the Warm Front scheme.
- Loft insulation to 270mm
 - Cylinder insulation to 70mm Jacket (unless foam already)
 - Double Glazing to all windows
 - Cavity wall insulation
 - Installation of a modern high efficiency gas boiler where none is present
 - Full central heating where none is present
- 9.7.2 The computer model entered whatever combination of these measures is appropriate for a particular dwelling taking into account the provision of heating and insulation shown by the survey.

9.8 Future improvement

- 9.8.1 If all combinations of improvements listed above were carried out to all dwellings, the total cost would be just over £378.8 million, an average of £1,400 per dwelling, where improvements were required.
- 9.8.2 The total cost of improvements given above is distributed among 271,230 dwellings, 89.7% of the stock. The majority of these dwellings will have complied with Building Regulations current at the time they

were built and realistically most of them will currently provide an adequate level of thermal efficiency. In most cases, however, there is still scope for improvement even if only minor.

- 9.8.3 The following analysis looks at how many dwellings could have each type of measure applied.

Table 9.8 All energy efficiency measures that could be carried out

| Measure | Dwellings | Percent of stock |
|---------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Loft insulation | 154,620 | 51.1% |
| Wall insulation | 80,030 | 26.5% |
| Double glazing | 34,470 | 11.4% |
| Cylinder insulation | 205,220 | 67.9% |
| New boiler | 43,030 | 14.2% |
| New central heating | 7,830 | 2.6% |
| Any measures | 271,230 | 89.7% |

Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

- 9.8.4 The wide range of measures indicates that, in most cases, two or more improvements could be carried out. Generally loft insulation would be an improvement on existing insulation, rather than an installation where none exists. With cylinder insulation, most improvements would be the replacement of old cylinders with jackets, for new integral foam insulated cylinders. Installation of new central heating is only indicated where the dwelling currently relied solely on room heaters as the primary heating source.

9.9 Tackling fuel poverty

- 9.9.1 A key issue in reducing energy consumption is tackling fuel poverty. The occupiers of a dwelling are considered to be in fuel poverty if more than 10% of their net household income would need to be spent on heating and hot water to give an adequate provision of warmth and hot water. Not only do dwellings where fuel poverty exists represent dwellings with poor energy efficiency, they are, by definition, occupied by residents with low incomes least likely to be able to afford improvements. In "Fuel Poverty in England: The Government's Plan for Action" published in 2004, the government set a target for the total eradication of fuel poverty by November 2016.
- 9.9.2 There are an estimated 47,700 (16.9%) dwellings in fuel poverty in Birmingham compared to approximately 13.2% based on the findings of the EHCS 2007, as reported in the Annual Report on Fuel Poverty Statistics 2010, published by the Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC).
- 9.9.3 A higher proportion than the national average, the 47,700 dwellings represent a substantial number of households that are in fuel poverty and will present issues in terms of both energy efficiency and occupier

health. The highest rate of fuel poverty was found in the private rented sector at 18.4% compared with 14.6% in the owner occupied sector.

- 9.9.4 Intervention programmes such as Warm Front have been set up to tackle fuel poverty among vulnerable households in the private rented and owner occupied sectors, and provide grant packages to undertake energy efficiency measures for those eligible.
- 9.9.5 By the very nature of fuel poverty, it is almost always associated with those residents on the lowest incomes. 36,800 households (77% of the households in fuel poverty) were households with incomes below £10,000 per annum, with the remaining 10,900 (23%) having incomes above £10,000 per annum. This means that the rate of fuel poverty in the households with an income below £10,000 was 61%.
- 9.9.6 Fuel poverty is usually associated with dwellings where one or more residents are in receipt of a means tested benefit as such benefits are indicative of low income. In Birmingham fuel poverty was found in 25,000 households (52% of households in fuel poverty) where a benefit was received, compared with 22,700 households (48% of households in fuel poverty) where occupiers did not receive benefit. This means that 26% of households in receipt of benefit were in fuel poverty.
- 9.9.7 For owner-occupiers, assistance in the form of advice can be given, as well as grants and other partnership schemes with energy efficiency companies and other organisations. The total cost of energy efficiency improvements to dwellings in fuel poverty in the owner-occupied sector, was just under £65.0 million. This expenditure requirement is distributed between the 39,600 owner-occupied dwellings in fuel poverty where works were possible at an average cost per dwelling of £1,640.

9.10 Area focus on fuel poverty

- 9.10.1 The charts below show the proportions of fuel poverty by sub-area and HMA areas. The highest proportion of fuel poverty is found in the Hodge Hill sub-area at 30.0% followed by the Ladywood sub-area (27.5%), Yardley sub-area (25.3%) and the Hall Green sub-area (19.5%), all of which had rates above the City rate (16.9%). Since fuel poverty is strongly associated with income, it is not surprising that all of these sub-areas had the highest rates of heads of household with a income below £15,000. By HMA areas, the highest rate was found in the East Birmingham HMA area (34.3%) and lowest in the Northern Suburbs area (10.2%)

Figure 9.5 Fuel poverty by sub-area

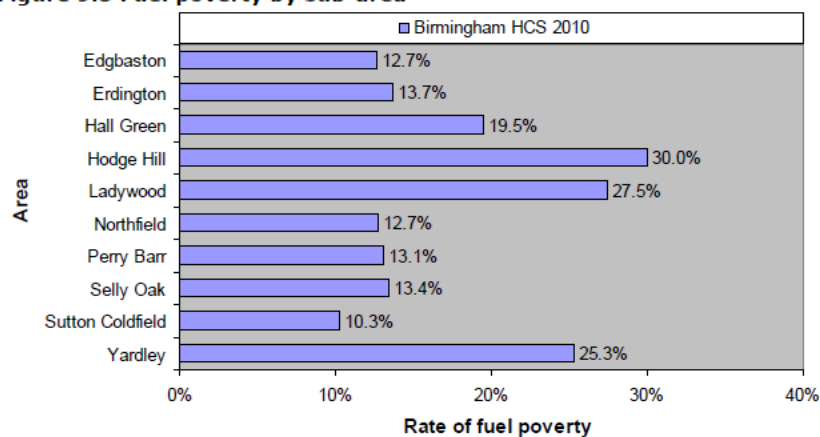
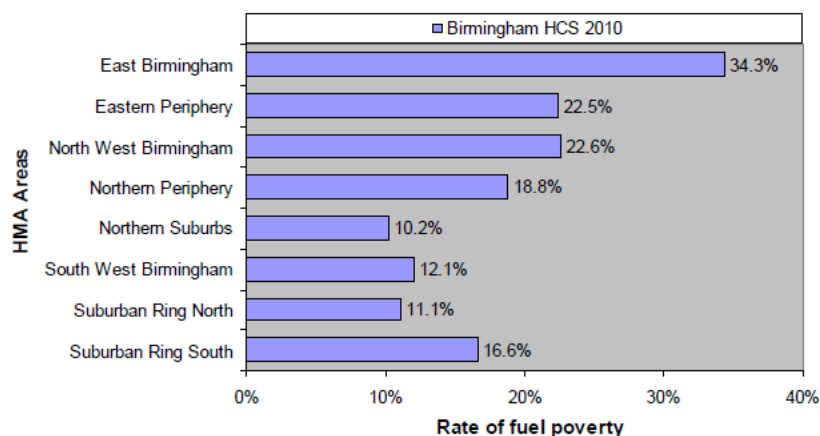


Figure 9.6 Fuel poverty by HMA area



*Excludes City Centre dwellings
Source: 2010 House Condition Survey*

9.11 Beyond fuel poverty

- 9.11.1 Tackling dwellings where fuel poverty exists helps those least able to afford either to heat their homes properly or to afford the improvement works necessary.

- 9.11.2 Beyond fuel poverty, however, the Authority has a duty under the Home Energy Conservation Act (1995) to help reduce energy consumption in dwellings within Birmingham.

9.12 Energy efficiency works to all other dwellings

- 9.12.1 The cost of carrying out all works to all dwellings where the residents were not in fuel poverty but where potentially improvements could be made is just under £374.3 million. This represents an average expenditure of approximately £1,600 per dwelling in 234,270 properties.
- 9.12.2 Due to the high proportion of dwellings where potential improvements could be undertaken, the numbers are widespread and targeting, is therefore, not specifically concentrated in any particular area or property type. Perhaps the best targets are those most in need of improvement, in particular those dwellings that are the least energy efficient at present.
- 9.12.3 There were 12,230 dwellings where the household was not in fuel poverty but where the mean SAP is less than 35. To carry out all improvement works required for these dwellings would cost just over £41.4 million, with almost all of this cost being required for the owner-occupied stock. The mean cost per dwelling in the owner-occupied stock is £3,400. The reason the average cost of improvements is higher is that many of these dwellings would require the installation of full central heating, insulation and other measures to bring their SAP above 35.
- 9.12.4 Part of the survey considered whether a range of energy measures had been installed within dwellings, including low energy light bulbs, photo voltaic cells, solar water heating and other renewable energy sources. The table below provides a breakdown of the proportion of rooms that had low energy light bulbs fitted, with the results showing a broad spread of current provision.

Table 9.9 Low energy light bulb provision

| Low Energy Light Bulbs | Proportion of rooms |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1% to 24% | 11.3% |
| 25% to 49% | 13.1% |
| 50% to 74% | 22.9% |
| 75% to 100% | 40.9% |
| None | 11.8% |

Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

For notes on statistical variance & small sample sizes see appendix C

- 9.12.5 As far as other provision is concerned, the table shows the level of photo voltaic cells, solar water heating and other renewable energy sources. It is clear that very little provision was found.

Table 9.10 Other energy measures

| Photo Voltaic Cells | Solar Water Heating | Other Renewables |
|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 0.0% | 0.3% | 0.0% |

Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

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Appendix B- Methodology

- B.1 The survey used a stratified random sample of 3,800 dwellings from an address file supplied by Birmingham City Council. The sample was a stratified random sample to give representative findings across the authority, with the objective of gaining as many surveys as possible.
- B.2 All addresses on the original address list were assigned an ID number and a random number generating computer algorithm was used to select the number of addresses specified within each sub area.
- B.3 The survey incorporates the entire private sector stock, excluding registered social landlords (Housing Associations).
- B.4 Each dwelling selected for survey was visited a minimum of three times where access failed and basic dwelling information was gathered including a simple assessment of condition if no survey was ultimately possible. To ensure the sample was not subject to a non-response bias, the condition of the dwellings where access was not achieved was systematically compared with those where the surveyors were successful. Where access was achieved, a full internal inspection was carried out including a detailed energy efficiency survey. In addition to this, where occupied, an interview survey was undertaken.
- B.5 The basic unit of survey was the 'single self-contained dwelling'. This could comprise a single self-contained house or a self contained flat. Where more than one flat was present the external part of the building, encompassing the flat and any access-ways serving the flat were also inspected.
- B.6 The house condition survey form is based on the survey schedule published by the ODPM in the 2000 guidelines (Local House Condition Surveys 2000 HMSO ISBN 0 11 752830 7).
- B.7 The data was weighted using the CLASSIC Reports software. Two approaches to weighting the data have been used.
- B.8 The first method is used for data such as building age, which has been gathered for all dwellings visited. In this case the weight applied to the individual dwellings is very simple to calculate, as it is the reciprocal of the sample fraction. Thus if 1 in 10 dwellings were selected the sample fraction is 1/10 and the weight applied to each is 10/1.
- B.9 Where information on individual data items is not always present, i.e. when access fails, then a second approach to weighting the data is taken. This approach is described in detail in the following appendix, but a short description is offered here.

- B.10 The simplest approach to weighting the data to take account of access failures is to increase the weight given to the dwellings where access is achieved by a proportion corresponding to the access failures. Thus if the sample fraction were 1/10 and 10 dwellings were in a sample the weight applied to any dwelling would be 10/1 which would give a stock total of 100. However, if access were only achieved in 5 dwellings the weight applied is the original 10/1 multiplied by the compensating factor, 10/5. Therefore $10/1 \times 10/5 = 20$. As there are only 5 dwellings with information the weight, when applied to five dwellings, still yields the same stock total of 100. The five dwellings with no data are ignored.
- B.11 With an access rate above 50% there may be concern that the results will not be truly representative and that weighting the data in this manner might produce unreliable results. There is no evidence to suggest that the access rate has introduced any bias. When externally gathered information (which is present for all dwellings) is examined the stock that was inspected internally is present in similar proportions to those where access was not achieved suggesting no serious bias will have been introduced.
- B.12 Only those dwellings where a full survey of internal and external elements, energy efficiency, housing health and safety and social questions were used in the production of data for this report. A total of 1,798 such surveys were produced.
- B.13 The use of a sample survey to draw conclusions about the stock within the area as a whole introduces some uncertainty. Each figure produced is subject to sampling error, which means the true result will lie between two values, e.g. 5% and 6%. For ease of use, the data are presented as single figures rather than as ranges. A full explanation of these confidence limits is included in the following appendix.

Appendix C - Survey Sampling

Sample Design

- C.1 The sample was drawn from the Birmingham address file derived from Council Tax records. The total number of private sector dwellings on the list was 314,760 (excluding Housing Association dwellings). These totals constituted all addresses within the Local Authority boundaries. The Council Tax register contains a reference for each individual address, whether or not it is occupied. In addition, there will be a number of dwellings with multiple addresses, such as certain houses in multiple occupation (HMOs), and non-residential address within the register.

Stock total

- C.2 The stock total is based initially on the address list; this constitutes the sample frame from which a proportion (the sample) is selected for survey. Any non-dwellings found by the surveyors are marked as such in the sample; these will then be weighted to represent all the non-dwellings that are likely to be in the sample frame. The remaining dwellings surveyed are purely dwellings eligible for survey. These remaining dwellings are then re-weighted according to the original sample fractions and produce a stock total.
- C.3 In producing the stock total the amount by which the total is adjusted to compensate for non-dwellings is estimated, based on how many surveyors found. With a sample as large as the final achieved data-set of 998 dwellings however, the sampling error is likely to be very small and the true stock total is likely, therefore, to be very close to the 314,760 private sector dwellings reported. Sampling error is discussed later in this section. Table C.1 shows the response rates to the survey.

Weighting the data

- C.4 The original sample was drawn from Birmingham Address file. The sample fractions used to create the sample from this list can be converted into weights. If applied to the basic sample these weights would produce a total equal to the original address list. However, before the weights are applied the system takes into account all non-residential and demolished dwellings. This revised sample total is then weighted to produce a total for the whole stock, which will be slightly lower than the original total from which the sample was drawn.

Dealing with non-response

- C.5 Where access fails at a dwelling selected for survey the easiest strategy for a surveyor to adopt is to seek access at a neighbouring property. Unfortunately this approach results in large numbers of dwellings originally selected subsequently being excluded from the survey. These are the dwellings whose occupiers tend to be out all day, i.e. mainly the employed population. The converse of this is that larger numbers of dwellings are selected where the occupiers are at home most of the day, i.e. older persons, the unemployed and families with young children. This tends to bias the results of such surveys as these groups are often on the lowest incomes and where they are owner-occupiers they are not so able to invest in maintaining the fabric of their property.
- C.6 The methods used in this survey were designed to minimise the effect of access failures. The essential features of this method are; the reduction of access failures to a minimum by repeated calls to dwellings and the use of first impression surveys to adjust the final weights to take account of variations in access rate.
- C.7 Surveyors were instructed to call on at least three occasions and in many cases they called more often than this. At least one of these calls was to be outside of normal working hours, thus increasing the chance of finding someone at home.
- C.8 Where access failed this normally resulted in a brief external assessment of the premises. Among the information gathered was the surveyor's first impression of condition. This is an appraisal of the likely condition of the dwelling based on the first impression the surveyor receives of the dwelling on arrival. It is not subsequently changed after this, whatever conditions are actually discovered.
- C.9 Where access fails no data is collected on the internal condition of the premises. During data analysis weights are assigned to each dwelling according to the size of sample fraction used to select the individual dwelling.
- C.10 The final weights given to each dwelling are adjusted slightly to take into account any bias in the type of dwellings accessed. Adjustments to the weights (and only the weights) are made on the basis of the tenure, age and first impression scores from the front-sheet only surveys.

Sampling error

C.11 Results of sample surveys are, for convenience, usually reported as numbers or percentages when in fact the figure reported is at the middle of a range in which the true figure for the population will lie. This is due to the fact that a sample will be subject to error since one dwelling is representing more than one dwelling in the results. The larger the sample, the smaller the error range of the survey and if the sample were the same size as the population the error range would be zero. Note: population is a statistical term referring to the whole; in this case the population is the total number of private sector dwellings.

C.12 The error range of the survey can be expressed in terms of the amount above or below a given figure that the true result is expected to lie. For example, in what range does the true figure for the proportion of dwellings with a category one hazard lie. This error range is also affected by how confident we want to be about the results. It is usual to report these as the 95% confidence limits, i.e. the range either side of the reported figure within which one can be 95% confident that the true figure for the population will lie. In other words, if we re-ran the whole survey 100 times, we would expect that 95 times out of 100 the result would fall within a given range either side of the reported figure. This range is referred to as the standard deviation.

C.13 For this survey the estimate of dwellings with a category 1 hazard is 15.4%. Calculating the standard deviation for this figure, and using the 95% confidence limits, we find that the true figure lies in a range of + or - 1.91%. In other words one can say that 95% of all samples chosen in this way would give a result in the range between 19.99% and 23.81%.

Table C.3 95% per cent confidence limits for a range of possible results and sample sizes

| Expected result as per cent | Sample size | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| | 100 | 200 | 300 | 400 | 500 | 600 | 700 | 800 | 900 | 1,000 |
| 10 | 5.9 | 4.2 | 3.4 | 2.9 | 2.6 | 2.4 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 2 | 1.9 |
| 20 | 7.8 | 5.5 | 4.5 | 3.9 | 3.5 | 3.2 | 3 | 2.8 | 2.6 | 2.5 |
| 30 | 9 | 6.4 | 5.2 | 4.5 | 4 | 3.7 | 3.4 | 3.2 | 3 | 2.8 |
| 40 | 9.6 | 6.8 | 5.5 | 4.8 | 4.3 | 3.9 | 3.6 | 3.4 | 3.2 | 3 |
| 50 | 9.8 | 6.9 | 5.7 | 4.9 | 4.4 | 4 | 3.7 | 3.5 | 3.3 | 3.1 |
| 60 | 9.6 | 6.8 | 5.5 | 4.8 | 4.3 | 3.9 | 3.6 | 3.4 | 3.2 | 3 |
| 70 | 9 | 6.4 | 5.2 | 4.5 | 4 | 3.7 | 3.4 | 3.2 | 3 | 2.8 |
| 80 | 7.8 | 5.5 | 4.5 | 3.9 | 3.5 | 3.2 | 3 | 2.8 | 2.6 | 2.5 |
| 90 | 5.9 | 4.2 | 3.4 | 2.9 | 2.6 | 2.4 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 2 | 1.9 |

Very small samples and zero results

- C.14 When sub-dividing the results of a sample survey by multiple variables, it is possible to produce a result where no survey carried out matches these criteria. In such a case the result given will be zero, however, this can give a false impression that no such dwellings exist. In reality, it may well be possible that a very small number of dwellings, with the given characteristics, are present, but that in numbers that are too low to have been randomly picked by the sample.
- C.15 In the case of the 2010 Birmingham HCS, the average weight is approximately 175 (314,760 private sector dwellings divided by 1,798 surveys). As a consequence, if there are fewer than 100 dwellings of a certain type within the City, the result from the survey will tend to be a very crude measure. This is because, based on the average weight, only a result of 175, 350 or 525 could be given, which if, in reality, there are 50 dwellings with a certain characteristic, is fairly inaccurate.
- C.16 Because of the points outlined above, the reader is encouraged to view extremely small or zero results with caution. It should be considered that these represent a small but indeterminate total, rather than none at all.

Appendix D – Legislative Requirements

- D.1 Section 605 of the Housing Act 1985 (as amended) placed a duty on Local Authorities to consider the condition of the stock within their area, in terms of their statutory responsibilities to deal with unfit housing, and to provide assistance with housing renewal. Section 3 of the Housing Act 2004 replaced this with a similar duty to keep housing conditions under review.
- D.2 The Regulatory Reform (Housing Assistance) (England and Wales) Order 2002 came into effect on the 19 July 2003 and led to major change in the way Local Authorities can give financial help for people to repair or improve private sector homes. Before the Order, the Government set clear rules which controlled the way financial help could be given and specified the types of grant which could be offered. The Order set aside most of these rules (apart from the requirement to give mandatory Disabled Facility Grants). It now allows Local Authorities to adopt a flexible approach, using discretion to set up their own framework for giving financial assistance to reflect local circumstances, needs and resources.
- D.3 The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM), published guidance under Circular 05/2003. In order to use the new freedom, a Local Authority must prepare and publish a Private Sector Renewal Policy. The policy must show that the new framework for financial assistance is consistent with national, regional and local policies. In particular, it has to show that the local priorities the strategy is seeking to address have been identified from evidence of local housing conditions including stock condition.
- D.4 The Housing Act 2004 received Royal Assent in November 2004. The Act makes a number of important changes to the statutory framework for private sector housing, which came into effect in April 2006:
- The previous fitness standard and the enforcement system have been replaced by the new Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS).
 - The compulsory licensing of higher risk houses in multiple occupation (HMO) (three or more storeys, five or more tenants and two or more households).
 - New discretionary powers including the option for selective licensing of private landlords, empty dwelling management orders and tenancy deposit protection.

D.5 Operating Guidance was published on the Housing Health and Safety Rating System in February 2006. This guidance describes the new system and the methods for measurement of hazards, as well as the division of category 1 and 2 hazards. Guidance has been issued by the ODPM on the licensing provisions for HMOs, which describes the high risk HMOs that require mandatory licensing and those that fall under additional, voluntary licensing.

D.6 As the Rating System has now replaced the fitness standard, this report will deal with findings based on statutory hazards, not unfitness.

Mandatory Duties

- Unfit houses (Housing Act 1985) - to take the most satisfactory course of action – works to make property fit, closure/demolition or clearance declaration.

With effect from April 2006 replaced by:

- Category 1 Hazards, Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) (Housing Act 2004) – to take the most satisfactory course of action – improvement notices, prohibition orders, hazard awareness notices, emergency remedial action, emergency prohibition orders, demolition orders or slum clearance declaration.

-
- Houses in Multiple Occupation (Housing Act 1985) - to inspect certain HMOs, to keep a register of notices served, to require registration where a registration scheme is in force.

With effect from April 2006 replaced by:

- HMO Licensing by the Authority (Housing Act 2004) of all HMOs of three or more storeys, with five or more residents and two or more households. Certain exceptions apply and are defined under sections 254 to 259 of the Housing Act 2004.

-
- Overcrowding - (Housing Act 1985) - to inspect and report on overcrowding

Now In Addition

- Overcrowding – (Housing Act 2004) – to inspect and report on overcrowding as defined under sections 139 to 144 of the Housing Act 2004 along with statutory duty to deal with any category 1 overcrowding hazards found under the HHSRS.

-
- The provision of adaptations and facilities to meet the needs of people with disabilities (Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996) - to approve applications for Disabled Facilities Grants for facilities and/or access

- Energy Conservation (Home Energy Conservation Act 1995) - to have in place a strategy for the promotion and adoption of energy efficiency measures and to work towards specified Government targets to reduce fossil fuel use.

Appendix E - Definition of a Non Decent Home

Measure of a decent home

E.1 A dwelling is defined as non decent if it fails any one of the following 4 criteria:

Table E.1 Categories for dwelling decency

| | |
|---|--|
| A | It meets the current statutory minimum standard for housing – at present that it should not have a Category 1 hazard under the HHSRS |
| B | It is in a reasonable state of repair – has to have no old and defective major elements* |
| C | It has reasonably modern facilities and services – Adequate bathroom, kitchen, common areas of flats and is not subject to undue noise |
| D | Provides a reasonable degree of thermal comfort |

* Described in more detail below

E.2 Each of these criteria has a sub-set of criteria, which are used to define such things as 'providing a reasonable degree of thermal comfort'. The exact details of these requirements are covered in the aforementioned ODPM guidance (see 4.1.2).

Applying the standard

E.3 The standard is specifically designed in order to be compatible with the kind of information collected as standard during a House Condition Survey (HCS). All of the variables required to calculate the standard are contained within a complete data set.

E.4 The four criteria used to determine the decent homes standard have specific parameters. The variables from the survey used for the criteria are described below:

Criterion A:

E.5 Criterion A is simply determined as whether or not a dwelling fails the current minimum standard for housing. This is now the Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) – specifically Category 1 hazards. All dwellings surveyed were marked on the basis of the HHSRS and if any one or more Category 1 hazards was identified the dwelling was deemed to fail under criterion A of the Decent Homes Standard.

Criterion B:

E.6 Criterion B falls into 2 parts: firstly, if any one of a number of key major building elements is both in need of replacement and old, then the dwelling is automatically non decent. Secondly, if any two of a number of key minor building elements are in need of replacement and old, then the dwelling is automatically non decent. The elements in question are as follows:

Table E.2 Major Elements (1 or more)

| Element | Age to be considered old |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Major Walls (Repair/Replace >10%) | 80 |
| Roofs (Replace 50% or more) | 50 for houses 30 for flats |
| Chimney (1 or more needing partial rebuild) | 50 |
| Windows (Replace 2 or more windows) | 40 for houses 30 for flats |
| Doors (Replace 1 or more doors) | 40 for houses 30 for flats |
| Gas Boiler (Major Repair) | 15 |
| Gas Fire (Major Repair) | 10 |
| Electrics (Major Repair) | 30 |

Table E.3 Minor Elements (2 or more)

| Element | Age to be considered old |
|---|--------------------------|
| Kitchen (Major repair or replace 3+ items) | 30 |
| Bathroom (Replace 2+ items) | 40 |
| Central heating distribution (Major Repair) | 40 |
| Other heating (Major Repair) | 30 |

Criterion C:

E.7 Criterion C requires the dwelling to have reasonably modern facilities. These are classified as the following:

Table E.4 Age categories for amenities

| Amenity | Defined as |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Reasonably modern kitchen | Less than 20 yrs |
| Kitchen with adequate space and layout | If too small or missing facilities |
| Reasonably modern bathroom | Less than 30 yrs |
| An appropriately located bathroom and W.C. | If unsuitably located etc. |
| Adequate noise insulation | Where external noise a problem |
| Adequate size and layout of common parts | Flats |

E.8 You may notice that the age definition for kitchens and bathrooms differs from criterion B. This is because it was determined that a decent kitchen, for example, should generally be less than 20 years old but may have the odd item older than this. The same idea applies for bathrooms.

Criterion D:

E.9 The dwelling should provide an adequate degree of thermal comfort. It is currently taken that a dwelling, which is in fuel poverty, is considered to be non decent. A dwelling is in fuel poverty if the occupiers spend more than 10% of their net income (after Tax, N.I and housing cost e.g. mortgage or rent) on heating and hot water.

E.10 A number of Local Authorities criticized this approach, as it requires a fully calculated SAP for each dwelling that is being examined. Whilst this is fine for a general statistical approach, such as this study, it does cause problems at the individual dwelling level for determining course of action.

E.11 The alternative, laid out in the new guidance, is to examine a dwelling's heating systems and insulation types. The following is an extract from the new guidance:

E.12 The revised definition requires a dwelling to have both:

Efficient heating; and

Effective insulation

Efficient heating is defined as any gas or oil programmable central heating or electric storage heaters or programmable LPG/solid fuel central heating or similarly efficient heating systems, which are developed in the future. Heating sources, which provide less efficient options, fail the decent homes standard.

Because of the differences in efficiency between gas/oil heating systems and other heating systems listed, the level of insulation that is appropriate also differs:

For dwellings with gas/oil programmable heating, cavity wall insulation (if there are cavity walls that can be insulated effectively) or at least 50mm loft insulation (if there is loft space) is an effective package of insulation;

For dwellings heated by electric storage radiators/LPG/programmable solid fuel central heating a higher specification of insulation is required: at least 200mm of loft insulation (if there is a loft) and cavity wall insulation (if there are cavities that can be insulated effectively).

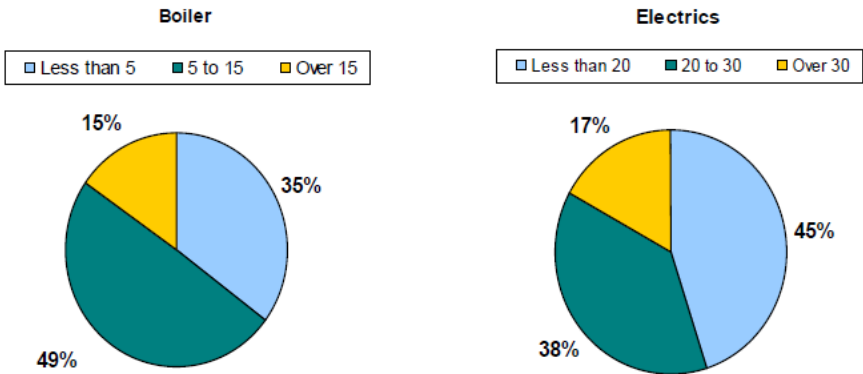
E.13 For the purposes of this study the above definition will be used in calculating the proportion of dwellings that are considered non decent.

Appendix F - Additional amenities

F.1 The following charts examine the position for electrical systems and boilers. Electrical systems over 30 years of age are considered as reaching a point where regular inspection and testing is advisable to ensure that they are not likely to present a hazard. Many boilers over the age of 15 will still be working satisfactorily but they will be reaching the end of their economic life and their energy efficiency is likely to be declining. Boilers installed now have much higher levels of efficiency in order to meet current Building Regulations.

F.2 64% of boilers and 55% of electrical systems are either older than the age specified in the criterion or will become so in the next 10 years.

Figure F.1 Electrics and boiler age



Source: 2010 House Condition Survey

F.3 The age bands used in these charts and those used in Chapter 7 differ, dependent upon the design life of the amenity in question. The second band in each chart represents where the amenity will become older than its design life during the next ten years.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND
NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR TIMOTHY HUXTABLE**

G2 Housing Conditions Review 2

Question:

By what date will the next Housing Conditions Review be completed and published?

Answer:

A soft market testing exercise was conducted earlier in 2021 with regards to a private sector condition survey. Very limited feedback was received from this, therefore, we are now exploring how we can use existing datasets to understand general conditions in the private sector.

For the Council's own stock, we are planning on commissioning a condition survey to be completed within 18 months.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND
NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR BABER BAZ**

G3 Temporary Accommodation

Question:

Can the Cabinet Member advise how many Birmingham residents are currently waiting in temporary accommodation before being able to secure permanent socially rented housing via BCC or other providers as well as giving an indication of (a) the average length of wait (b) the longest wait in the past year and (c) confirm what the Council is doing to minimise such waits?

Answer:

We currently have 3616 households in temporary accommodation and have a clear duty to rehouse 2770, who are waiting for permanent accommodation. The average stay in temporary accommodation has increased to 2.6 years, the longest wait has been 12 years. Longer stays in temporary accommodation are often attributed to specific requirements from the household in the type, size, and adaptations to meet their needs. Every effort is being made to reduce times in temporary accommodation for these households through various mechanisms.

The Council is under significant pressure to meet the demands for social housing, with over 17,000 households on our housing register, which will ultimately lead to longer stays in temporary accommodation than we would wish. We are therefore adopting a far more prevention focussed approach by offering increased access to the private rented sector as a viable option to social housing, where appropriate.

To support this approach, we have been operating our Help2Rent scheme which provides a rent deposit and insurance scheme, providing additional security to the landlord in exchange for good quality, affordable accommodation for the household. We are now working in partnership with approx. 130 private landlords. Going forwards the Housing Options team will also be developing a bespoke accommodation finding team to build on this to expand the number of properties.

We will also be supporting more households to remain in their current accommodation by utilising our prevention fund where appropriate.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND
NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR ROGER HARMER**

G4 Homelessness

Question:

The national scheme brought in at the start of the pandemic aimed at getting all rough sleepers off the streets has seen significant disparity across England as recently suggested by campaigners. In some areas, over 80 per cent of those helped off the streets through the ‘Everyone In scheme’ are in longer-term accommodation, but in other places this figure is less than 15 per cent.

Could the Cabinet Member give full details of how the City is dealing with homelessness now that restrictions are easing which also includes an indication of the numbers of those currently in short and long term accommodation?

Answer:

The response to ‘Everyone In’ across Birmingham has been held as an exemplar example of good practice nationally. We continue to work with rough sleepers to ensure they have access to settled accommodation across the City.

The official single night count of rough sleepers bedded down in Birmingham which took place in autumn 2019 reported 52 people sleeping rough. With the government direction for ‘everyone in’ at the first lockdown, Birmingham City Council, working with partners made additional provision available. This included the operation of the city centre Holiday Inn as emergency accommodation for rough sleepers and single homeless (April – June), and the strategic placement of BCC Housing Option Centre staff within the voluntary sector, initially at an emergency accommodation site – Washington Court, and subsequently a homeless daycentre – Sifa-Fireside.

At the peak of ‘everyone-in’ (April 2020) there were 109 individuals accommodated under that provision; at the same time informal monitoring of rough sleeping evidenced a low number of people continuing to sleep rough and assurance that all had received offers of accommodation.

All those accommodated under ‘everyone-in, and are eligible for such support, were offered move-on accommodation options. This included at least 113 provided with

supported or longer-term accommodation, including 30 into BCC or Housing Association properties. Of those eligible, there are no individuals accommodated under 'everyone-in' who remain in emergency accommodation as part of that programme, while there may be some for whom that emergency accommodation has remained the best solution to their current needs.

On the 26th March 2020, Luke Hall, the then, Minister for Local Government and Homelessness, wrote to local authorities in England to ask them to 'bring in rough sleepers and other vulnerable homeless people, including those with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF)', to appropriate accommodation by the end of the week. The Minister said that, as part of this response, local authorities should "utilise alternative powers and funding to assist those with no recourse to public funds who require shelter and other forms of support due to the COVID-19 pandemic".

Under 'everyone-in', Birmingham City Council has accommodated individuals generally prohibited from accessing certain welfare benefits in order to protect them and the public from Covid-19. At its peak this was 78 individuals. Many have secured outcomes, there now remain 36 single homeless individuals being provided accommodation and subsistence in emergency accommodation. They are provided support to progress their situation however move-on/long-term accommodation can not be offered due to their status.

Operationally a high level of service provision has been maintained throughout the pandemic period with much continuing as business as usual. Birmingham has been successful in securing an increase in MHCLG Rough Sleeper Initiative (RSI) funding for 2020-21, a figure of £397,000 for Q1 and £1,238,782 for Q2-4, compared to £788,000 for the previous year. This will enable the continuation of interventions developed during the pandemic, including night-shift outreach provision, a tenancy rescue service, a dedicated social worker for rough sleepers and additional emergency accommodation.

The easing of restrictions presents a challenge in terms of increased demand upon services. Birmingham has performed well in this area during Covid-19 and is in a position to proceed effectively based upon both long-term commitment and recent experience.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION,
COMMUNITY SAFETY AND EQUALITIES FROM COUNCILLOR TIMOTHY
HUXTABLE**

H Anti-Social Behaviour

Question:

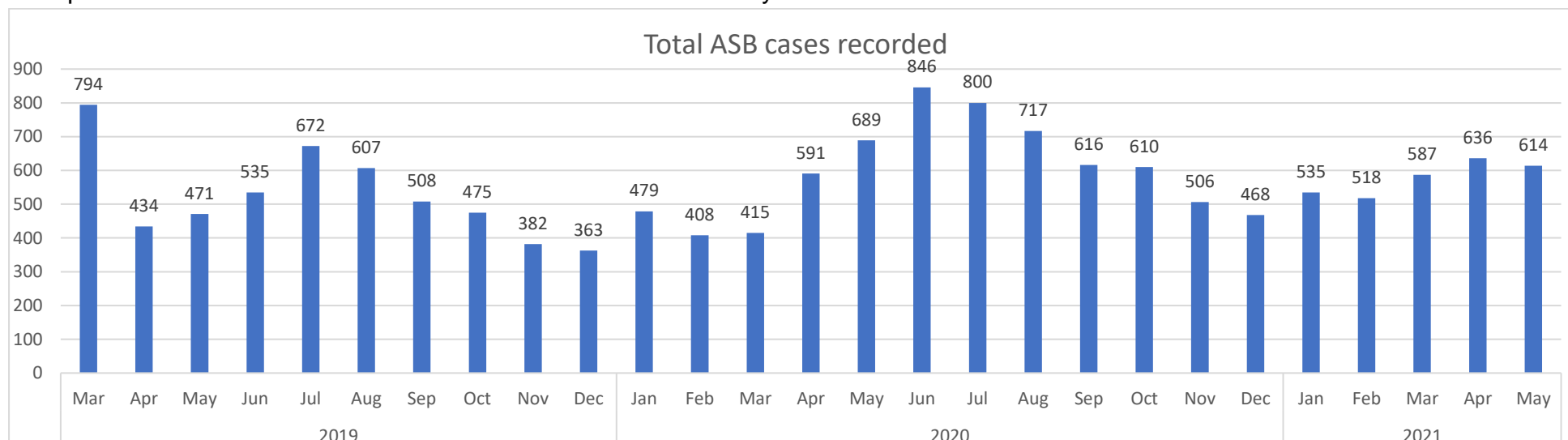
Broken down by Ward, for each of the last 3 years, how many reports of anti-social behaviour have been received relating to behaviour on

- a) Public land**
- b) Owner occupier properties**
- c) Social rent properties**
- d) Private rented sector properties**
- e) Private, non residential land**
- f) Public transport**

Answer:

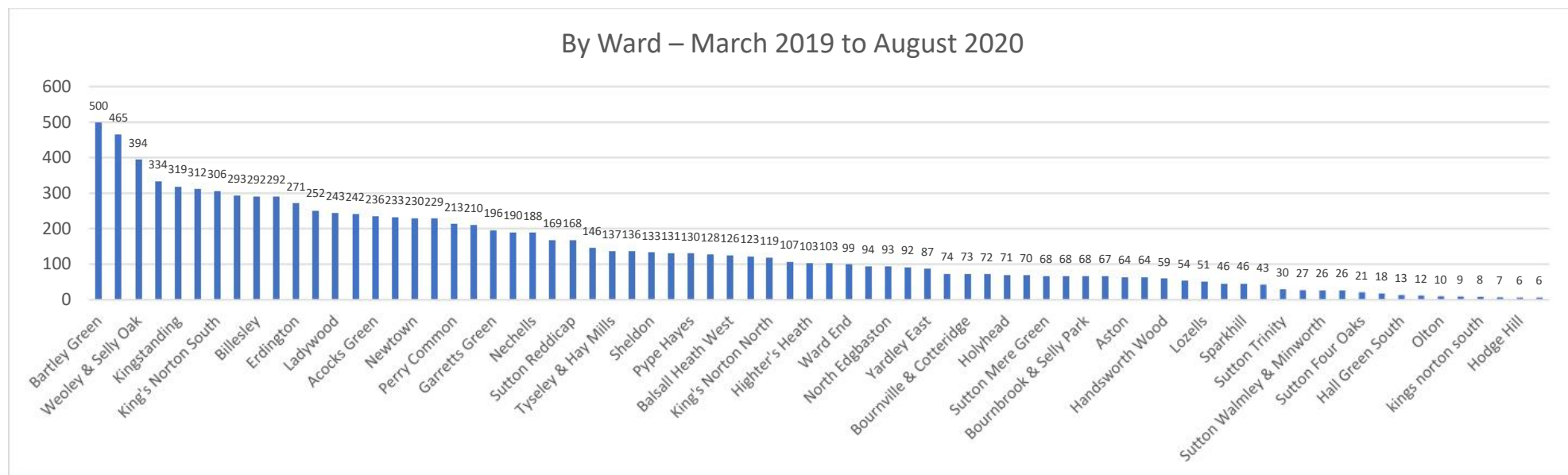
Council tenants Antisocial behaviour complaints are recorded through our CXM case management system which went live in March 2019. Data was migrated onto this system throughout March and April 2019.

Graph 1 below shows the total amount of ASB cases recorded by month.



Originally, wards were automatically generated by the system depending on where on a map the complainant identified the ASB. However, users were able to manually adjust incorrectly assigned wards using free text. This led to a lot of data error and a new way of recording wards was introduced in September 2020. Therefore, the next two graphs are showing ASB cases recorded against wards for different timeframes.

Graph 2 below shows the amount of ASB cases for Council tenants recorded against ward between March 2019 and August 2020.



Graph 3 shows the amount of ASB cases recorded against ward between September 2020 and May 2021



Our tenancy records are unable to breakdown to the detail of the question but we are able to offer the tenure of the perpetrator which is attached.

Table 1 – using wards from March 2019 to August 2020

See attached spreadsheet

Table 2 – using wards from September 2020 to May 2021

See attached spreadsheet



Copy of Full Council
ASB question Tenure |

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID BARRIE

I1 Missed Collections 1

Question:

For each month since April 2020, how many reported missed collections were not collected until the next schedule collection date (split between waste, recycling and garden)

Answer:

Please find below the data for all missed collections received.

For the purpose of the categorisation, those counted as *Collected before next scheduled collection date* are worksheets closed in the MAPSS database with the outcome codes:

W1 (Bin collected within SLA)

W2 (Bin collected outside SLA)

Those counted as *Not collected until the next schedule collection date* are worksheets that are still open in the MAPSS database or closed with the outcome codes:

W3 (Not resolved before next collection)

W7 (Other [used for non-standard events which are not BAU such as industrial action])

Those counted as *Not justified* are the number of worksheets that have been closed on the MAPSS database with the outcome codes:

W4 (Not resolved no vehicle access)

W5 (In cab device not used to record contaminated or not presented bin [this would have prevented the missed collection being reported])

W6 (Duplicate worksheet)

Note that there are still a large number of worksheets open in the current month of June 2021 and hence show in the not collected column. Some of these may have been collected by crews but simply waiting for the worksheets to be closed by the business support teams.

To put it in context, there are approximately 360,000 refuse collections scheduled each week, 360,000 recycling collections every fortnight and currently 69,000 garden waste collections every fortnight. That equates to 2,298,000 collections every four weeks **and in excess of 32 million collections over this period.**

| | | Total | Collected before next scheduled collection date | Not collected until the next schedule collection date | Not justified |
|---------|-------------------------------|-------------|---|---|---------------|
| | Total all months and services | 68427 | 25195 | 42554 | 678 |
| Month | | | | | |
| 04/2020 | Total for month | 3548 | 879 | 2668 | 1 |

5313

| | | Total | Collected before next scheduled collection date | Not collected until the next schedule collection date | Not justified |
|---------|------------------------|-------------|--|--|---------------|
| | Garden | 711 | 46 | 665 | 0 |
| | Recycling | 1231 | 239 | 992 | 0 |
| | Refuse | 1606 | 594 | 1011 | 1 |
| 05/2020 | Total for month | 3223 | 499 | 2719 | 5 |
| | Garden | 515 | 36 | 477 | 2 |
| | Recycling | 1268 | 237 | 1029 | 2 |
| | Refuse | 1440 | 226 | 1213 | 1 |
| 06/2020 | Total for month | 4068 | 1364 | 2703 | 1 |
| | Garden | 461 | 7 | 454 | 0 |
| | Recycling | 1673 | 603 | 1070 | 0 |
| | Refuse | 1934 | 754 | 1179 | 1 |
| 07/2020 | Total for month | 4545 | 1104 | 3440 | 1 |
| | Garden | 571 | 92 | 478 | 1 |
| | Recycling | 1750 | 377 | 1373 | 0 |
| | Refuse | 2224 | 635 | 1589 | 0 |
| 08/2020 | Total for month | 4221 | 795 | 3425 | 1 |
| | Garden | 620 | 98 | 521 | 1 |
| | Recycling | 1556 | 322 | 1234 | 0 |
| | Refuse | 2045 | 375 | 1670 | 0 |
| 09/2020 | Total for month | 4557 | 1282 | 3272 | 3 |
| | Garden | 764 | 177 | 585 | 2 |
| | Recycling | 1492 | 534 | 958 | 0 |
| | Refuse | 2301 | 571 | 1729 | 1 |
| 10/2020 | Total for month | 4301 | 1478 | 2823 | 0 |
| | Garden | 693 | 158 | 535 | 0 |
| | Recycling | 1470 | 580 | 890 | 0 |
| | Refuse | 2138 | 740 | 1398 | 0 |
| 11/2020 | Total for month | 4163 | 2050 | 2110 | 3 |
| | Garden | 843 | 383 | 460 | 0 |
| | Recycling | 1339 | 677 | 662 | 0 |
| | Refuse | 1981 | 990 | 988 | 3 |
| 12/2020 | Total for month | 3968 | 2052 | 1911 | 5 |
| | Garden | 115 | 70 | 44 | 1 |
| | Recycling | 1654 | 795 | 858 | 1 |
| | Refuse | 2199 | 1187 | 1009 | 3 |
| 01/2021 | Total for month | 8259 | 1557 | 6702 | 0 |
| | Recycling | 3331 | 577 | 2754 | 0 |
| | Refuse | 4928 | 980 | 3948 | 0 |
| 02/2021 | Total for month | 5650 | 2652 | 2997 | 1 |
| | Recycling | 2008 | 931 | 1077 | 0 |
| | Refuse | 3642 | 1721 | 1920 | 1 |
| 03/2021 | Total for month | 5021 | 3305 | 1645 | 71 |
| | Garden | 972 | 688 | 218 | 66 |
| | Recycling | 1573 | 1034 | 537 | 2 |
| | Refuse | 2476 | 1583 | 890 | 3 |
| 04/2021 | Total for month | 4984 | 3140 | 1325 | 519 |
| | Garden | 834 | 610 | 178 | 46 |
| | Recycling | 1384 | 829 | 446 | 109 |
| | Refuse | 2766 | 1701 | 701 | 364 |

| | | Total | Collected before next scheduled collection date | Not collected until the next schedule collection date | Not justified |
|--------------|------------------------|-------------|--|--|---------------|
| 05/2021 | Total for month | 3946 | 2244 | 1684 | 18 |
| | Garden | 573 | 351 | 205 | 17 |
| | Recycling | 1271 | 683 | 588 | 0 |
| | Refuse | 2102 | 1210 | 891 | 1 |
| 06/2021 | Total for month | 3973 | 794 | 3130 | 49 |
| (to 16/6/21) | Garden | 544 | 223 | 272 | 49 |
| | Recycling | 939 | 270 | 669 | 0 |
| | Refuse | 2490 | 301 | 2189 | 0 |

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR CHARLOTTE HODIVALA

I2 Missed Collections 2

Question:

For each month since April 2020, how many households have reported missed collections in 2 or more consecutive weeks (spilt between waste, recycling and garden?)

Answer:

The following data shows the number of households reporting two consecutive collections (rather than weeks), as the recycling and garden service are operated on a fortnightly collection.

The data excludes households such as flats with shared large 1100L containers.

To assign data to a particular month and deal with instances where the consecutive collection takes place across two months, data has been assigned to the month of the Monday in the week where the first collection was scheduled. For example if a recycling collection was scheduled to be collected on Thursday 29th April 2021 and the following fortnight on Thursday 13th May, irrespective of when these were reported to Birmingham City Council as both being missed, this has been recorded in the data for April.

To put it in context, there are approximately 360,000 refuse collections scheduled each week, 360,000 recycling collections every fortnight and currently 69,000 garden waste collections every fortnight. That equates to 2,298,000 collections every four weeks **and in excess of 32 million collections over this period.**

| | | Residual | Recycling | Garden |
|------|----------|----------|-----------|--------|
| 2020 | Apr | 174 | 171 | 65 |
| | May | 171 | 161 | 38 |
| | Jun | 206 | 225 | 27 |
| | Jul | 236 | 224 | 71 |
| | Aug | 240 | 189 | 85 |
| | Sep | 217 | 154 | 85 |
| | Oct | 229 | 176 | 84 |
| | Nov | 235 | 120 | 82 |
| | Dec | 150 | 188 | N/A |
| | 2021 Jan | 445 | 303 | N/A |
| | Feb | 297 | 164 | N/A |
| | Mar | 208 | 141 | 89 |
| 2021 | Apr | 307 | 204 | 76 |
| | May | 327 | 132 | 69 |
| | Jun | 34 | 0 | 18 |

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR SIMON MORRALL

I3 Budget 1

Question:

Listed by year since 2012, what has been the budget for street cleaning?

Answer:

| | Street Cleaning £'m |
|---------|---------------------------|
| 2012/13 | 15.11 |
| 2013/14 | 13.12 |
| 2014/15 | 11.71 |
| 2015/16 | 8.13 |
| 2016/17 | 6.80 |
| 2017/18 | 8.87 |
| 2018/19 | 8.41 |
| 2019/20 | 8.25 |
| 2020/21 | 9.96 |
| 2021/22 | 9.98 |

There has been a recent increase in the Street Cleansing budget of £7.2m to provide extra cleaning, fly tipping removal and enforcement to react to the increase in fly-tipping in Birmingham. There has been a rising incidence of fly-tipping across the country.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR KEN WOOD**

I4 Budget 2

Question:

Listed by year since 2012, what has been the budget for parks?

Answer:

| | Parks £m |
|---------|-------------|
| 2012/13 | 15.58 |
| 2013/14 | 15.54 |
| 2014/15 | 14.57 |
| 2015/16 | 17.54 |
| 2016/17 | 14.42 |
| 2017/18 | 12.41 |
| 2018/19 | 11.60 |
| 2019/20 | 11.45 |
| 2020/21 | 13.93 |
| 2021/22 | 14.02 |

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR MEIRION JENKINS

I5 Staffing

Question:

By year since 2012, how many staff work on the refuse collection rounds broken down by agency and permanent?

Answer:

The numbers of permanent staff working on refuse collection rounds is broken down in the table below. This is a mix of Drivers, Waste Reduction and Collection Officers and Loaders working on garden, recycling, trade, bulky and residual waste collections.

During May 2021 the number of agency workers on these rounds was the equivalent of 227 full time employees. It should be noted that this number is inflated currently due to Covid-19 to ensure safe working practices, cover employee absence (self-isolating etc.) and there are a number of permanent posts vacant on the rounds. These posts are currently being recruited to.

The total number of staff (Full Time Equivalents) employed in Street Scene at the 31st March of each year is:

| Year | Number of FTE |
|-------------|----------------------|
| 2012 | 289 |
| 2013 | 281 |
| 2014 | 305 |
| 2015 | 306 |
| 2016 | 366 |
| 2017 | 371.5 |
| 2018 | 395 |
| 2019 | 503 |
| 2020 | 520 |
| 2021 | 514 |

Unfortunately, data for agency staff numbers is not available for previous years.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR DEBBIE CLANCY**

I6 Staffing Numbers

Question:

For the next four years covered by the mid-term financial plan, how many refuse workers are budgeted to be working for the Council each year, broken down by agency v. permanent?

Answer:

Street Scene Refuse Collection identifies 530 full time employees with a 23% cover which will be generally identified from agency workers and comes in line with the Memorandum of Understanding.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP**

I7 Capital Works - Parks

Question:

Listed by Park and broken down by year, how much capital works have been carried out in peach park since 2012, including the funding source?

Answer:

Please find attached data requested for each park since 2012.



I7%20Response%20
-%20Parks%20Capit

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR PETER FOWLER**

I8 Average Emissions 1

Question:

What are the average emissions standard and age of Council fleet vehicles being used in the clean air zone?

Answer:

Due to the large volume of data that requires analysis it is not possible to provide the answer within the deadline. Once the analysis has been completed the answer will be forwarded.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR BRUCE LINES**

I9 Average Emissions 2

Question:

What are the average emissions standard and age of Council vehicles being used outside clean air zone only?

Answer:

Due to the large volume of data that requires analysis it is not possible to provide the answer within the deadline. Once the analysis has been completed the answer will be forwarded.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR MAUREEN CORNISH

I10 MHCLG Grant

Question:

Please provide an itemised breakdown of how the £194k grant from MHCLG that included the purchase of the 75 barrows for distribution to community groups.

Answer:

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Number needed</u> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Street Cleansing Barrow | 75 |
| Loppers | 150 |
| Rakes (garden) | 150 |
| Springbok Rake | 150 |
| Graffiti Kits (inc. gloves) | 1750 |
| Hoops for Litter Picking | 400 |
| Trowels | 200 |
| Spades | 200 |
| Brooms (wide) | 100 |
| Brooms | 100 |
| Hoes | 150 |
| Half Moon | 150 |
| First Aid Kits | 150 |

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Number needed</u> |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Small Saws | 150 |
| ClapperBoards | 200 |
| High Viz | 400 |
| Litter Pickers | 400 |

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR ALEX YIP**

I11 Barrows Distributed

Question:

How many of the 75 barrows purchases have now been distributed and what is the average number of times each one of the total purchase has been used?

Answer:

65 Barrows have now been distributed and issued to communities. We don't hold data on how often they are used as they are issued and not loaned.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR MATT BENNETT**

I12 Pesticides

Question:

What is the volume of Glyphosate-based pesticides and weed killers purchased by the Council and its contractors since 2018?

Answer:

Total chemical used between 2018 and March 2021 = 13,588 litres used by Birmingham Parks and Nurseries and its contractors.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR JOHN LINES**

I13 Pesticide 2

Question:

What is the volume of Glyphosate-based pesticides and weed killers have been applied by third party contractors since 2018?

Answer:

Total chemical used between 2018 and March 2021 = 13,588 litres used by Birmingham Parks and Nurseries and third-party contractors. Information on volume just for third party contractors is not held.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR RON STORER**

I14 Pesticide 3

Question:

Please provide a copy of the Council's policy of where and when Glyphosate-based pesticides and weed killers can be applied on a Council owned land, including a copy of the appropriate COSHH or other risk assessment and environmental impact assessment.

Answer:

Appendix 1 Appendix 2



I14%20-%20COSHH I14 - 1520_001.pdf
%20Assessment%20

(Attached below)

Appendix 1 to I14








Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Assessment






The following documentation has been put together to assist COSHH Assessors carry out assessments on substances hazardous to health. The documentation is in three parts

- **Part One** – the documentation has been formatted following the MSDS and will help you collate the relevant information to help with your COSHH assessment.
 - Product and company identification
 - Composition/Information on ingredients
 - Hazard identification
 - First aid
 - Fire fighting measures
 - Accidental release measures
 - Handling and storage
 - Exposure control and Personal Protection
 - Physical and chemical properties
 - Stability and reactivity
 - Toxicological information
 - Ecological information
 - Disposal considerations
 - Transport information
 - Regulatory information
 - Other information
- **Part Two** – after completing Part one you will be able to assess the product and its use. Following the 5 steps to risk assessment process you will have
 1. Identified the risks
 2. Identified who is at risk
 3. Assessed whether the substance is high, medium or low risk
 4. You can then identify the existing control measures and decide if additional controls are required
 5. Finally on the same documentation you will be able to review the product at least annually
- **Part Three** – is the COSHH Summary Sheet which will provide information to the user of the substance
 - Substance Name:
 - Activity:
 - General description of use:
 - Where will it be used?
 - Control Measures
 - **Personal Protective Equipment:**
 - **Storage arrangements:**
 - **First Aid Measures:**
 - Disposal arrangements.

Local Services - PART 1

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Assessment

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Site (Facility) Kings Heath Park | Address Vicarage Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham B14 7TQ | Manager Mike Hinton |
| COSHH Assessor Mike Hinton | | Date of Assessment 1.10.18 |
| 1. Product and Company Identification | | |
| Brand name | Roundup Pro Biactive | |
| How will the substance be applied? | Knapsack | |
| Manufacturer Monsanto Europe SA | Address Haven 627, Scheldelaan 460, B-2040 Antwerp, Belgium | Telephone Number +32(0)3 568 51 11 |
| Supplier Monsanto Europe SA | Address Haven 627, Scheldelaan 460, B-2040 Antwerp, Belgium | Telephone Number +32(0)3 568 51 11 |
| Emergency Information | | Emergency Telephone Numbers Belgium +32(0)3 568 51 23 |
| 2. Composition/ Information on Ingredients | | |
| Description of substance (White powder, clear liquid, etc) | Yellowish/Brown Liquid | |
| What are the hazardous ingredients? | | |
| Substance | Physical State | Hazard classification (See next section) |
| Glyphosate | Liquid | Not Classified |
| Is there any additional information | | |
| 3. Hazards Identification | | |
| Classification Not Classified as dangerous | | |
| Irritant (Xi)  | Harmful  | Toxic (To)  |
| | Very Toxic (To+) | Oxidising (O)  |
| | | Extremely Flammable (F+)  |

| | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| Highly Flammable (F)  | Corrosive (C)  | Dangerous to Environment (N)  | Carcinogen (Xn)  | Radioactive  |
| Classification | | | | |
| What are the hazards to staff and environment? (Risk phrases) | | | | |
| Risk phrase number | Risk phrase | | | |
| R 51/53 | Toxic to aquatic organisms, may cause long term adverse effects in aquatic environment. | | | |
| R | | | | |
| 4. First Aid Measures | | | | |
| General information | | | | |
| Inhalation | Remove to fresh air. | | | |
| Skin contact | Take off contaminated clothing, wristwatch, jewellery. Wash affected skin with plenty of water. Wash clothes and clean shoes before re-use. | | | |
| Eye contact | Immediately flush with plenty of water. If easy to do, remove contact lenses. | | | |
| Ingestion | Immediately offer water to drink. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Do NOT induce vomiting unless directed by medical personnel. If symptoms occur, get medical attention. | | | |
| 5. Fire fighting Measures | | | | |
| What is the most suitable fire extinguishing media? | Recommended: Water, foam, dry chemical, carbon dioxide (CO2). | | | |
| What fire fighting protective equipment is required? | Self contained breathing apparatus. Equipment should be thoroughly decontaminated after use. | | | |
| 6. Accidental Release Measures | | | | |
| What controls are required to protect people? | Use personal protection recommended. | | | |
| What controls are required to protect the environment? | Small quantities: Low environmental hazard. Large quantities: Minimise spread. Keep out of drains, sewers, ditches and water ways. Notify authorities. | | | |

| | |
|--|---|
| What are the methods for disposing of the substance? | Place leaking containers in oversize leak proof drums for transport. SMALL QUANTITIES: Flush spill area with water. LARGE QUANTITIES: Absorb in earth, sand or absorbent material. Dig up heavily contaminated soil. Collect in containers for disposal. Flush residues with small quantities of water. Minimise use of water to prevent environmental contamination. |
| 7. Handling and Storage | |
| Handling | |
| What controls are required to ensure safe handling? | When using do not eat, drink or smoke. Wash hands thoroughly after handling or contact. Wash contaminated clothing before re-use. Thoroughly clean equipment after use. Do not contaminate drains, sewers and water ways when disposing of equipment rinse water. Emptied containers retain vapour and product residue. FOLLOW LABELLED WARNINGS EVEN AFTER CONTAINER IS EMPTIED. |
| What instructions are provided by the Safety Data Sheet | As above. |
| Are controls required to protect against explosion or fire? | None stated. |
| Storage | |
| What are the requirements for safe storage of substance? | Minimum storage temperature: -15 C Maximum storage temperature: 50 C Compatible materials for storage: stainless steel, fibreglass, plastic, glass lining Incompatible materials for storage: galvanised steel, unlined mild steel. Keep out of reach of children. Keep away from food, drink and animal feed. Keep only in the original container. Partial crystallization may occur on prolonged storage below the minimum storage temperature. If frozen, place in warm room and shake frequently to put back into solution. Minimum shelf life: 5 years. |
| Are there any special requirements for safe storage? (Cool, dry room, etc) | As above. |
| Any additional information? | Good industrial practice in housekeeping and personal hygiene should be followed. |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--------|-------------|---|---|------|----------------|--|--|
| 8. Exposure Control and Personal Protection | | | | | | | | | |
| Are there any exposure controls to be taken into account? | | | | No special requirements when used as recommended. | | | | | |
| Workplace Exposure Limits (WEL) | | | | | | | | | |
| Effects | | | | 8 Hr | 15 m | 8 Hr | 15 m | | |
| Glyphosate } No specific occupational exposure limited Surfactant } has been established. Water } | | | | | | | | | |
| All other WEL substances | | | | | | | | | |
| Effects | | | | 8 Hr | 15 m | 8 Hr | 15 m | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| Who is at risk? | Employees | | Contractors | | Public | | | | |
| | Male 2 | Female | None | | None | | | | |
| Number of people at risk? | | | | | | | | | |
| The frequency of exposure? | Employees | | Contractors | | Public | | | | |
| | X per day | | X per week | | X per month | | X per year | | |
| | Twice per year | | | | | | Twice per year | | |
| Personal Protective Equipment | | | | | | | | | |
| Is hand protection is required? | Yes | X | No | | If yes specify PPE required Chemical resistant gloves | | | | |
| Is eye protection is required? | Yes | X | No | | If yes specify PPE required Goggles | | | | |
| Is face protection is required? | Yes | | No | X | If yes specify PPE required | | | | |
| Is skin protection is required? | Yes X | | No | | If yes specify PPE required Coverall | | | | |
| Is respiratory protection required? (Breathing) | Yes | | No | X | If yes specify PPE required No special requirement when used as recommended. | | | | |
| What general and hygienic measures should be taken? | When recommended, consult manufacture of personal protective equipment for the appropriate type of equipment for a given application. | | | | | | | | |
| 9. Physical and Chemical Properties | | | | | | | | | |
| What is the substance form? (liquid, powder, etc) | Liquid | | | | | | | | |
| What colour is it? | Yellowish – Brown | | | | | | | | |
| What is the Odour (general description of the smell) | Amines | | | | | | | | |

| Change in condition | Value/Range | Unit | Method |
|---|--|---|--------|
| Melting point | Not applicable | | |
| Boiling point | 105.3 C | | |
| Flash point | Does not flash | | |
| Spontaneous combustion | | | |
| Danger of explosion | No explosive properties | | |
| Density | 1.166 @ 20 C / 4 C | | |
| Solubility/miscibility with water | Completely miscible | | |
| PH value | 4.8 @ 10 g/l | | |
| Viscosity | 39.2mm2/s @ 21 C | | |
| Dynamic | 65 mPa.s @ 21 C | | |
| 10. Stability and Reactivity | | | |
| Is there likely to be any dangerous reactions? | Stability Oxidizing Properties Materials to avoid/Reactivity | Stable under normal conditions of handling and storage. None Reacts with galvanised steel or unlined mild steel to produce hydrogen, a highly flammable gas that could explode. | |
| 11. Toxicological Information | | | |
| Eyes contact | See Safety Data sheet | | |
| Skin contact | | | |
| Inhalation | | | |
| Ingestion | | | |
| Any other information | | | |
| 12. Ecological Information | | | |
| Is there any ecological information? | See Safety Data Sheet | | |
| 13. Disposal Considerations | | | |
| What is the disposal arrangement for the substance? | Recycle if appropriate facilities/equipment available. Burn in special, controlled high temperature incinerator. Dispose of as hazardous industrial waste. Keep out of drains, sewers, ditches and water ways. Follow all local/regional/national/international regulations. | | |

| | | | | |
|--|--|----------|--|--|
| What is the disposal arrangement for the packaging? | Triple or pressure rinse empty containers. Pour rinse water into spray tank. Store for collection by approved waste disposal service. Dispose of as non hazardous industrial waste. Do NOT re-use containers. Follow all local/regional/national/international regulations. | | | |
| 14. Transport Information | | | | |
| Is the substance to be transported from one site to another? | Yes | | If yes what are the legal requirements and the control measures to be implemented? | |
| | No | X | | |
| | | | | |
| 15. Regulatory Information | | | | |
| Is this substance classified according to EC guidelines | Yes | X | No | If no take advice from your Safety Officer |
| Hazard Symbols: | | | | |
| Risk phrases: | R51/53 - Toxic to aquatic organisms, may cause long-term adverse effects in the aquatic environment. R53 - May cause long term adverse effects in the aquatic environment. | | | |
| Safety phrases: | | | | |
| 16. Other Information | | | | |
| | | | | |

Local Services - PART 2

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Assessment

Based on the information taken from the MSDS and the Locals Services COSHH Assessment it should be possible to identify the risks and level of risk to users and others. Outline the safety working method and the controls required ensuring the safe control of this substance of procedure.

1. Identify the Hazards – MSDS and the Local Services COSHH Assessment documentation
2. What is the level of risk?

| HIGH | MEDIUM | LOW |
|------|--------|-----|
| | | X |

3. Persons at risk

| Employees | Contractors | Member of the Public | Children |
|-----------|-------------|----------------------|----------|
| X | | | |

4. Existing/Temporary Controls
What precautions are in place? Refer to or attach copies of safety instruction, etc.

| | Controls including PPE | Comments |
|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a | Identify area of work | Area must be cordoned off during work |
| b | Hand protection | Wear Nitrile gloves 300mm |
| c | Body protection | Coverall |
| d | Eye protection | Goggles |
| e | Absorbent material | For spillages |
| f | First Aid box including eye wash | For potential accidents |
| g | | |
| h | | |

5. Do these precautions reduce the risk to LOW level?

| Yes | No |
|-----|----|
| X | |

6. What additional controls are required to be taken to reduce the risk to LOW?

| | Control | Comments | Implementation Date |
|----|---------|----------|---------------------|
| i | | | |
| ii | | | |
| ii | | | |
| iv | | | |
| v | | | |

Signed Risk Assessor Mike Hinton

Date 1st October 2018

Note: Where final or other circumstances mean that permanent control measures cannot be taken to reduce the risk to an acceptable level, the senior manager will, where necessary, inform the Divisional Safety Co-ordinator and enter the arrangements in the Division's Hazard Reporting Log.

Signed Line Manager Date

Review Record

| Date | Reviewed by | Necessary changes | Signature |
|------|-------------|-------------------|-----------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

COSHH Summary Sheet - PART 3

Substance Name: Roundup Pro-Biactive **Hazard symbol**
Not hazardous

Activity: Herbicide

General description of use: Herbicide

Where will it be used? Various areas in Kings Heath Park

Control Measures**Personal Protect Equipment:**

- **Hand protection** Chemical resistant gloves – Nitrile 300mm
- **Eye protection** Goggles
- **Face protection**
- **Skin protection**
- **Body protection** Coverall
- **Respiratory protection**
- **General hygienic arrangements.** Wash hands

Storage arrangements:

Minimum storage temperature: -15 C

Maximum storage temperature: 50 C

Compatible materials for storage: stainless steel, fibreglass, plastic, glass lining

Incompatible materials for storage: galvanised steel, unlined mild steel.

Keep out of reach of children.

Keep away from food, drink and animal feed.

Keep only in the original container.

Partial crystallization may occur on prolonged storage below the minimum storage temperature.

If frozen, place in warm room and shake frequently to put back into solution.

Minimum shelf life: 5 years.

First Aid Measures:

- **General information**
- **Inhalation** Remove to fresh air
- **Skin contact** Take off contaminated clothing, wristwatch, jewellery.
Wash affected skin with plenty of water.
Wash clothes and clean shoes before re-use.
- **Eye contact** Immediately flush with plenty of water.
If easy to do, remove contact lenses.
- **Ingestion** Immediately offer water to drink.
Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person.
Do NOT induce vomiting unless directed by medical personnel.
If symptoms occur, get medical attention.

Disposal arrangements

Place leaking containers in oversize leak proof drums for transport.

SMALL QUANTITIES: Flush spill area with water.

LARGE QUANTITIES: Absorb in earth, sand or absorbent material.

Dig up heavily contaminated soil.

Collect in containers for disposal.

Flush residues with small quantities of water.

Minimise use of water to prevent environmental contamination.

F. CHEMICAL PESTICIDES

1. KEY REQUIREMENTS

All methods, chemicals, operators and storage used for pesticide application must comply with all current legislation, in particular the:

- Food and Environmental Protection Act (Part II) 1985
- Control of Pesticide Regulations 1986
- Environmental Protection Act 1990
- Plant Protection Products Regulations 2003
- Health and Safety at Work Etc. Act 1974
- Health and Safety at Works Regs 1999
- Water Resources Act 1991
- Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 1989
- Control of Pollution Act 1974
- EU Groundwater Directive (80/68EEC in the United Kingdom)
- Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992
- Fire Precautions Act 1971
- CHIP Regulations 2006
- COSHH Regulations 2002

and any other legislation that may be enacted or revised during the course of this contract.

The Service Provider shall provide the Supervisory Officer with a list of the materials he proposes to use, together with a copy of the contractors assessment required under COSHH and the precautions proposed to be taken to ensure the safety of members of the public or persons other than the Service Provider's employees who may be affected by the use of such products.

The Service Provider engaged on pesticide application works shall produce on demand a current Certificate of competence issued by the relevant authority.

All persons using pesticides must take all reasonable precautions to protect the health of all human beings, creatures and plants, and to safeguard the environment

People applying pesticides must be fully trained and hold current certificates of competence and use the correct equipment.

All pesticides used must appear on the current MAFF approved list of chemicals and be approved for use by the Supervisory Officer. An approved list of chemicals can be obtained from the Supervisory Officer.

All pesticide application must comply with current legislation, regulations and the specified Code of Practice or its successor(s) (see above).

Specified treatments must not result in the areas treated looking untidy or ragged and, in cemeteries in particular, care must be taken to avoid chemicals damaging gravestones and markings. Treatments must be planned so as not to

conflict with burials.

Pesticide applications at school sites shall only be carried out when children are not in school. In addition, they shall not be applied before the start of the school day.

The use of selective herbicides to specified grass areas must result in the control of all broad leaved weeds and moss for a period of one year from application without damaging the grass.

Prompt action shall be taken by the Service Provider to identify any outbreak of pest or disease and to agree a programme to address it with the Supervisory Officer.

Growth regulators must be applied, where specified, to grass at the appropriate times between cutting regimes in accordance with good horticultural practice.

Control of Japanese Knotweed and other invasive species

In areas identified in the contract or subsequently by the Supervisory Officer, invasive species should be treated as follows:-

- All growth should be treated with an approved translocated herbicide.

This treatment should be repeated throughout the year and subsequent years until total eradication achieved. Any new areas of invasive species which appear, should be notified to the Supervising Officer and reported via the on line reporting form (accessed via Birmingham Parks and link on website).

It will be necessary to ensure a dedicated trained gang is assigned to the treatment of Japanese Knotweed and other invasive species

The use of wetters/surfactants where detailed in the Bill of Quantities shall be in accordance with the Manufacturers Instructions. Other locations may be directed by the Supervisory Officer and will be paid at the rate contained in the Bill of Quantities.

2. KEY STANDARDS

All horticultural areas specified for Total Pesticide (herbicide) Applications must be maintained within the weed tolerance standard for the whole year as detailed in the Key Performance Measures by the application of spot chemical treatments as specified and the carrying out of Winter and Summer Maintenance (see Horticultural Works specification).

All area and linear features detailed in the Bill of Quantities must also be kept within the weed tolerance standard for the whole year as detailed in the Key Performance Measures.

All treatments around obstacles and other features must cover the full areas defined in the Specification.

3. KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The application of chemicals shall be strictly confined to the area specified to be treated. There shall be no incidental damage to surrounding areas.

The treated area or plant shall respond to the treatment in the manner specified by the manufacturer, i.e. control shall be effective and even over the area concerned – given the tolerance level outlined above.

Where the use of chemical pesticides is permitted, features shall have the following maximum tolerances of weed cover:

| <i>Standard</i> | <i>Elements</i> | <i>Characteristics</i> |
|--|--|--|
| Core- Horticultural features- typically the main standard for most locations | complementary spot treatments to hort. works, typically one winter & one summer maintenance visit | Maximum tolerance of 10% weed cover or weeds a maximum of 50 mm in height) |
| Core-non hort.features typically area features will include hard standings and linear features, e.g. trip rails | Appropriate treatment of features detailed | Maximum tolerance of 10% weed cover or weeds a maximum of 50 mm in height) |
| Enhanced (e.g. warden controlled housing schemes) | complementary spot treatments to hort. works, typically one winter & monthly summer maintenance visits | Maximum tolerance of 5% weed cover or weeds a maximum of 25 mm in height) |
| Ornamental (e.g. high profile sites) | complementary spot treatments to hort. works, typically one winter & weekly summer maintenance visits | Weed free at all times |

4. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS/CONSTRAINTS

This section sets out background detail as to the special requirements of the Council. These are particular elements of individual activities that the Service Provider will be expected to have regard to in the delivery of the specification overall. The specification numbers/references are detailed through the Bill of Quantities or Schedule of Rate items, which form the basis for the work schedules and variation orders for the profiling and payments system.

F1

General Conditions

The Service Provider shall ensure that all his operations and staff conform strictly to Part III of the Food and Environment Protection Act 1985. The aim of which is that "Any person who uses a pesticide shall take all reasonable precautions so as to protect the health of all human beings, creatures and plants, and to safeguard the environment".

All pesticide application shall comply with the Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986 and any associated subsequent legislation or regulations and the code of practice as laid down by the National Association of Agricultural Service Providers and the National Turfgrass Council referred to in this specification as "The Code of Practice". The code of practice is available from either of the above organisations.

This specification is without prejudice to;

- a) Any code or guidance published by the Health and Safety Executive in the furtherance of the Health and Safety at Work Etc Act 1974.
- b) Any regulation or code of practice for pesticide application issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.
- c) Any other regulation or code of practice appertaining to pesticide application.

A pesticide is a chemical substance and certain micro-organisms (bacteria, fungi, viruses and mycoplasmas) prepared or used to destroy pests. Pests include creatures, plants and other organisms; therefore a pesticide covers such materials commonly known as herbicides, fungicides, repellents, algicides, insecticides, wormkillers, nematocides, molluscicides, growth regulators, etc.

The Service Provider shall supply all pesticides used and ensure that sufficient stocks are kept in store.

No pesticides shall be used unless;

- a) It has been approved for the specific application under the Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986 and appears in the current PSD approved list of chemicals.
- b) It appears on the list of pesticides approved by the client in section F10 of this specification.

No tank mixes or adjuvants shall be applied unless;

- a) They are approved under the Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986 in accordance with the conditions of approval given in relation to the pesticide.
- b) They are agreed by the Supervisory Officer.

Should there be unsatisfactory control of the pest, in the view of the Supervisory Officer, within a reasonable time in relation to the pesticide used, the Service Provider shall, at his own expense, re-apply a suitable pesticide as agreed with the Supervisory Officer.

The Service Provider shall be responsible for accepting, settling and/or making good any claim which, in the view of the Supervisory Officer, is as a result of negligent pesticide application by the Service Provider.

A persons carrying out pesticide application shall hold a current certificate of competence from the National Proficiency Test Council for the method of application being used or be under the direct and personal supervision of a person who holds such a certificate. Copies of the certificate shall be supplied to the Department between 1 March and 31 March each year. New certificate holders must supply a copy of their certificate as soon as it is received.

The Service Provider shall ensure that all storage of chemicals whether at any main store, sub-store or whilst in transit or in use is in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

The Supervisory Officer shall have the power to stop the application of pesticides at any time should unsafe practices be found being used.

The Service Provider shall provide the operators with suitable personal protective clothing and equipment as laid down by the manufacturer's recommendations and/or the Health and Safety Executive for each pesticide used. It shall be the Service Provider's responsibility to ensure that operators wear the protective clothes provided.

The Service Provider shall take into account the weather conditions on site when applying pesticide. The Supervisory Officer shall be empowered to stop application should conditions be unsuitable, for example:-

- a) Ground covered with snow.
- b) During frost when oil or water based pesticides are being used.
- c) During rain or likelihood of rain within two hours unless the pesticide is unaffected by rain according to the manufacturer's recommendations.
- d) When wind or ground wind is causing or likely to cause spray drift.
- e) Climatic conditions when using temperature dependent materials.

The Service Provider shall take into account any ground conditions likely to affect the pesticide application. The Supervisory Officer shall have the power to stop work should ground conditions be unsuitable.

The Service Provider shall keep a record of all pesticide application on a form approved by the Supervisory Officer but supplied by the Service Provider. A copy of such records shall be supplied to the Supervisory Officer on Monday each week showing the pesticide application for the previous week.

A detailed programme of pesticide application for a period of 7 days shall be given to the Supervisory Officer 14 days before the start of the programme. Any changes must be telephoned to the Supervisory Officer immediately before starting and confirmed in writing within 24 hours of the telephone calls.

All reasonable care should be taken when applying pesticide in public places. The Service Provider shall during any chemical pesticide application whatsoever place warning notices in the near vicinity of the works. The

notices shall be so placed that all users of the facility are made aware that chemical application is taking place. Notices shall not be removed until any likelihood of danger/contamination is passed.

No application of pesticide shall be permitted closer than 5m to any person or animal.

Each operator shall carry a supply of product information cards supplied by the Service Provider to pass onto members of the public who require more information. This card shall show the name of the product being used, the active ingredient, the safety level of the product in simple terms, a telephone number where extra information can be obtained and the name of the firm applying the pesticide. The card must be agreed by the Supervisory Officer.

The Service Provider shall obtain agreement from the appropriate water authority 28 days before any application in or near water. Such agreement shall be available for the inspection of the Supervisory Officer. Should the need arise, this period may be reduced with the agreement of the Supervisory Officer.

The Service Provider shall supply details of all pesticides intended to be used to the Department. Such details shall be passed onto the appropriate water authority.

Details must be supplied by 28 February each year.

Water shall only be obtained from the appropriate water authority via hydrants. The Service Provider shall be responsible for all associated payments for water.

The Service Provider shall be responsible for the safe movement of pesticides in accordance with the Code of Practice.

Any spillage of pesticide shall be removed immediately from site using the absorbent material recommended by the manufacturer or emergency services. The removal of spilt material shall be at the Service Provider's expense.

Empty pesticide containers and surplus pesticide shall be disposed of by the Service Provider off site in accordance with the Code of Practice at the Service Provider's expense.

The Service Provider shall be responsible for the safe storage of all pesticides. The Service Provider shall store all pesticides in accordance with the Code of Practice.

While carrying out pesticide application any pesticide on site but not in use must be kept in a locked box in accordance with the Code of Practice.

Details of the pesticide being carried/applied must be kept visible in the vehicle cab. Any concentrate must be kept locked away from the public. Mixing should take place where the public is a minimum of 5m away.

The Service Provider shall provide and maintain at all sites at which pesticide application is being undertaken, all necessary first aid facilities for his employees.

When applying pesticide at a school or a playing field attached to a school the Service Provider shall inform the headteacher or caretaker 7 days before

starting work giving all details of the pesticide to be used. The Service Provider must also inform the headteacher or caretaker at each school of their presence on site immediately before starting pesticide application.

The Service Provider shall apply all pesticides at the manufacturer's recommended rate. The Supervisory Officer shall have the power to check that the application rate is correct. The Service Provider shall apply the pesticide evenly over the whole area identified in the schedule, ensuring that no part of the area gets missed.

F2 Equipment to be Used in Pesticide Application

The equipment to be used shall be kept clean and free of all pesticide residues. It must be in good working order, serviced and faulty parts replaced as required.

The equipment used on each area of work shall be as detailed in the section of the specification appertaining to that area unless directed by the Supervisory Officer.

The type of equipment must be suitable for the effective application of the pesticide in use to ensure the most efficient up-take of the pesticide.

The Service Provider must inspect all equipment regularly to minimise the possibility of malfunction, eg leaking hoses. The Service Provider shall be responsible for settling any claim or making good any damage caused by faulty equipment.

Knapsack Sprayers

The knapsack sprayer must have the following:

- i) A strainer or filter to remove large particles.
- ii) Inline filters to prevent blockage.
- iii) A trigger-controlled valve on delivery lance to facilitate instantaneous on/off control of the flow of the chemical mixture.
- iv) A pressure control system to ensure even flow and the correct pressure at the nozzle as recommended by the pesticide manufacturer or equipment manufacturer to control spray drift.
- v) A range of nozzles to include fan nozzles and cone nozzles, size no 12 (1.2mm) hole, with a spray width range from 0.5 m to 2 m when held at 610mm above ground.
- vi) A spray shield which must be available at all times and used when applicable or when directed by the Supervisory Officer.

The Supervisory Officer shall have the power to select the most suitable nozzle. A range of nozzles must always be kept readily available to replace any damaged nozzles.

Hand Held Lance

A hand held lance is a lance which has the chemical mix supplied from a

vehicle mounted tank via a pump and suitable hose.

The hand held lance must have the following:

- i) A strainer at the filler on the tank to remove large particles.
- ii) Inline filters to prevent nozzle blockage.
- iii) A trigger-controlled valve on the delivery lance to facilitate instantaneous on/off control of the flow of chemical.
- iv) A pressure control system to ensure even flow and correct pressure at the nozzle as recommended by either chemical or equipment manufacturer to control drift.
- v) A single, 2 and 5 nozzle lance available for use.
- vi) A range of nozzles including cone nozzles, anvil nozzles and fan nozzles.

The supply hose is to be suitable for pesticide application and of a suitable design for the pressure flow.

The pump shall be capable of producing and sustaining the pressure flow required for the pesticide being applied in accordance with any manufacturer's recommendations.

The tank is to be designed for pesticide application and firmly secured to its means of conveyance.

Boom Spray Application

Boom sprayers are generally vehicle-mounted, being fed from a large tank via a pump and suitable hoses.

The equipment used in boom spray application must have the following:

- i) A strainer at the filler on the tank to remove large particles.
- ii) Inline filters to prevent nozzle blockage.
- iii) A control valve(s) to ensure instantaneous on/off control of the flow of chemical from the nozzles.
- iv) A pressure control system to ensure correct pressure at the nozzles as recommended by either pesticide manufacturer or equipment manufacturer to control drift.

The size of the boom must be compatible to the size of area to which the pesticide is being applied.

There must be a facility for the fitting of a range of nozzles. These include cone nozzles, fan nozzles and anvil nozzles, to ensure the correct rate of pesticide application as recommended by the pesticide manufacturer.

The Supervisory Officer shall have the power to select the most suitable nozzle.

Prior to pesticide application the Service Provider shall be required to check all nozzles to ensure an even spray pattern and equal output from all nozzles. Each check must be carried out with clean water on a suitable safe location.

The pump shall be capable of producing and sustaining the pressure flow required for the pesticide being applied.

The tank is to be designed for pesticide application and firmly secured to its means of conveyance.

Controlled Droplet Applicators

The equipment must have a control valve to ensure instantaneous on/off control of the flow of chemical.

The droplet size must not at any time fall below 125 microns.

The width of pesticide application must be capable of being varied between 75mm and 1m.

The system shall have no leaks.

There must be no permanent markings of the sprayed area, surrounding walls, pavements, etc.

Granule Applicator

Only hand held applicators can be used.

The applicator must have a means of dosage regulation (i.e. able to change the size of the hole).

The applicator must have a deflector/spreader plate at the end of a delivery tube.

The applicator must be made of a waterproof material.

The applicator must be approved by the pesticide manufacturer for the use of their product.

F3 Total Pesticide (Herbicide) Application

All conditions set out in section F1 and F2 of this specification must be adhered to.

Equipment

Suitable knapsack sprayer, controlled droplet applicator, hand held applicator or hand held lance operated from a tank shall be used in accordance with section F2 of this specification. The equipment must be suitable for the application of the chemical being used and in accordance with any manufacturer's recommendation.

The Supervisory Officer shall reserve the right to stop spraying if, in his opinion, unsuitable or faulty equipment is being used.

Areas to be Treated

All areas included in the following sub-sections and indicated in the Bill of Materials shall be kept free of vegetation (as also detailed in the Horticultural section - C) for a period of one year by means of:

- (i) The necessary applications of glyphosate between periods 3 - 11; to meet the requirements, and for which payments will be made in periods 5, 7 and 10, or
- (ii) one application of dichlobenil, during periods 1, 2 or 3, for which payment will be made during period 3.

The Service Provider shall apply additional treatments at his own expense should the Supervising Officer decide that effective control has not been achieved due to the Service Provider's negligence on previous applications.

The Service Provider will be responsible for the removal and disposal of any unsightly growth remaining as a result of poor applications.

Note - On Education Department premises application of pesticides shall be confined to school holiday periods.

F3.1 Trip Rails

A 450mm strip shall be treated with glyphosate measured from the pavement or hard landscape area, passing under the trip rail. In certain areas, ie where there is an integral mowing strip, it may be necessary to increase or decrease the width of the strip sprayed. Such deviation in width sprayed shall be at the discretion of the Supervisory Officer.

F3.2 Wall Lines

A 300mm strip shall be treated with glyphosate measured from the base of the wall onto the vegetative area. In certain areas, ie where there is an integral mowing strip, it may be necessary to increase or decrease the width of the strip sprayed. Such deviation in width sprayed shall be at the discretion of the Supervisory Officer.

- F3.3 Fences
- A 300mm strip shall be treated with glyphosate measured from the base of the fence. The application shall be directed away from the fence to prevent drift through the fence. Where the Bill of Quantities indicates that both sides of a fence are to be sprayed a 450 mm strip on each side of the fence shall be treated. In certain areas it may be necessary to increase or decrease the width of the strip sprayed. Such deviation in width sprayed shall be at the discretion of the Supervisory Officer.
- F3.4 Base of Trees or obstructions in grass areas
- A 300mm strip surrounding each tree or obstruction shall be treated with Casaron G. Examples of obstructions include such items as street furniture, lamps, signs, inspection chamber covers, trees, etc. In certain areas it may be necessary to increase or decrease the width of the strip treated. Such deviation in width sprayed shall be at the discretion of the Supervisory Officer. (this item to be included within the mowing rates, spec. A1)
- If the treatment is not successful the Service Provider shall be responsible for subsequent glyphosate treatment or to ensure the grass is cut completely upto the tree or obstruction without damage to the same. If damage occurs to the tree or obstruction causing replacement or repair the cost shall be charged to the Service Provider.
- F3.5 Temporary Enclosed Areas Around Flats
- The entire grass area within the enclosed area shall be treated with glyphosate but not shrubbed areas.
- Safety hats must be worn when working inside fenced areas
- Temporary enclosed areas around flats are continually being created. Any such areas not shown in the Bill of Quantities shall be treated upon instruction from the Supervisory Officer. As soon as the temporary fencing round such flats is removed no further applications of herbicide are to be made.
- F3.6 Paths, Garage Sites, Drying Areas, Playground, Etc
- These areas shall be treated with glyphosate, however, total areas should not be treated. Only treatment of the joints and/or cracks and any defects in the surface where there are signs of vegetation should take place. The edges of paths must only be treated up to where the path and lawn join. A path includes all adjoining hard landscape areas, eg garage sites, drying areas, playgrounds.
- F3.7 Porous Surfaces
- The whole of the area as identified in the Bill of Quantities should be treated with glyphosate. Care being taken to ensure no damage is caused to the surrounding areas. Porous surfaces include such areas as running tracks, long jump, high jump run ups, football pitches, etc.
- F3.8 Cemeteries
- On lawn sections in cemeteries dichlobenil shall be applied to a strip 75mm

wide around each headstone.

On semi-lawn and traditional sections the following shall be treated with total herbicide:

- i) The tops of all graves shown in the Bill of Quantities shall be treated with glyphosate. Under no circumstances must maintained or planted graves be treated.
- ii) A strip 150 mm wide around all sides of each grave shall be treated with dichlobenil. Every precaution must be taken to prevent herbicide affecting the top of maintained or planted graves.
- iii) Where graves exist side by side with a strip of less than 600 mm between them the strip shall be treated with dichlobenil in total. If the strip is more than 600 mm (ii) above shall apply.

When applying total weedkiller on or around graves and headstones every care must be taken to keep to the widths indicated above. The operation must be undertaken to ensure that the killed off area around graves and headstones have as far as possible uniform neat and tidy straight edges. It is imperative that the herbicide treatment of cemeteries is closely controlled and does not leave the cemetery looking untidy or ragged.

Under no circumstances should the pathway between the ends of graves be treated except for the 150 mm strip as per (ii) above.

Any markings of graves and/or memorials by the chemical must be wiped off immediately following application.

F3.9 Lawn Edges

Lawn edges adjacent to paths, hard areas etc shall be treated with glyphosate. The width treated shall correspond with the amount the grass has overlapped and include any trip rail, spec F3.1.

F4 **Selective Vegetative Control**

All conditions set out in section F1 and F2 of this specification must be adhered to.

Equipment

Equipment to be used must be in accordance with section F2 of this specification and must be suitable for the application of the chemical being used and in accordance with any manufacturer's recommendations.

The Supervisory Officer shall reserve the right to stop spraying operations if, in his opinion, unsuitable or faulty equipment is being used.

F4.1 Grass Areas

The aim of applying selective herbicide to grass is to control all broad leaved weeds and moss from the grass sward for a period of 1 year from the first application without damaging the grass.

The Service Provider shall be responsible for inspecting the grass sward and selecting from the approved list a herbicide or a mixture of herbicides which

shall achieve the above aim having due regard to the range of weeds to be controlled.

The herbicide must be applied evenly across the entire area as detailed by the Bill of Quantities and in accordance with the chemical manufacturer's recommended application rate. Payment for selective weed killing on ornamental grass areas shall be contained within the grass cutting rates related to specification A3. Specific payments may be made on other grass areas in accordance with the Schedule of Rates and as directed by the Supervisory Officer

F4.2 Rose/Shrub Beds

Beds, detailed in the Bills of Quantity, shall be kept weed and grass free by the application of spot chemical treatment and the carrying out of Winter and Summer maintenance. This shall be as detailed in Section C (Key Standards) by means of the necessary applications of glyphosate between periods 3 - 11; to meet the requirements, and for which payments shall be included in the horticultural rates of maintenance

The Service Provider shall inform the Supervisory Officer in writing and shall receive consent for the chemicals to be used and the timing of application. The Service Provider shall include in his price for applying a suitable translocated herbicide or a mixture of herbicides from the approved list during the growing season to control any weed that appears.

Should the shrub bed contain rose/shrubs likely to be damaged by Glyphosate Service Provider shall, with the agreement of the Supervisory Officer, apply a suitable alternative herbicide.

F4.3 Hedge Bases

As specified in the Horticultural section C – C7.4

Ornamental hedgerows as specified within the Bill of Quantities shall have the base treated with herbicide during periods 3 - 11. The bases of hedges, where specified in the Bill, shall at all times have a maximum tolerance of 10% weed cover, and/or a maximum weed height of 50 mm. The width of the herbicide at application shall be from the hedge trunk to a point 200 mm outside the cut line of the hedge.

F5 **Fungicide – Insecticide**

All conditions set out in section F1 and F2 of this specification must be adhered to.

Equipment to be used must be in accordance with section F2 of this specification and must be suitable for the application of the chemical being used and in accordance with any manufacturer's recommendations.

The Supervisory Officer shall reserve the right to stop spraying operations if, in his opinion, unsuitable or faulty equipment is being used.

The aim of applying fungicide or pesticide is to control the fungi or pest for a reasonable period of time taking into account the fungi or pest being dealt

with, weather conditions, etc.

The Service Provider shall be responsible for inspecting the area to be treated and selecting from the approved list an appropriate fungicide or insecticide which shall achieve the above aim having due regard to the fungi or pest to be controlled.

The Service Provider shall inform the Supervisory Officer immediately any outbreak of pest or disease is found.

The pesticide or fungicide must be applied evenly across the entire area as detailed by the Supervisory Officer and in accordance with the manufacturer's recommended application rate. Payment for the application of pesticide or fungicide shall be in accordance with the Schedule of Rates contained within the Bill of Quantities.

F6 Growth Regulators

Policy not to use

F6.2 Not used

F7 Aquatic Pesticides

All conditions set out in sections F1 and F2 of this specification must be adhered to. Spraying should only be carried out in or near water by staff who have the appropriate NPTC qualification.

The Service Provider must take full account of the official guidelines for use of herbicides on weeds in watercourses and lakes and also the Prevention of Pollution Act 1951 and 1961, or superceded, and must take every care to prevent accidental environmental damage.

Specialised equipment may be used but only if it is approved by the herbicide manufacturer for the application of the herbicide to be used and only with the approval of the Supervisory Officer.

The pool or watercourses are to be treated in accordance with the frequencies set out in the Bill of Quantities.

In certain areas, as shown in the Bill of Quantities, only selective weeds or specific areas of weed shall require treating.

Only an approved herbicide can be used at the manufacturers recommended rates.

Large areas of water with actively growing weeds must not be treated in one operation.

A maximum of 50% of the surface area shall be treated in one operation with the remaining 50% being treated 14 days later.

F8 Worm Control

All conditions set out in section F1 and F2 of this specification must be adhered to.

Suitable boom sprayer, hand lance operated from a tank or knapsack sprayer can be used in accordance with the section F2 of this specification. The equipment must be suitable for the application of the chemical being used and in accordance with any manufacturer's recommendations.

The Supervisory Officer shall reserve the right to stop spraying operations if, in his opinion, unsuitable or faulty equipment is being used.

The aim of worm control is to keep the area free of worm casts for a period of 12 months from the first application using a pesticide taken from the approved list included in this specification.

The pesticide must be applied with the maximum amount of water recommended by the manufacturer.

The pesticide must be applied evenly across the entire area identified in the Bill of Quantities and in accordance with the manufacturer's recommended application rate.

F9 Tree Stump Holes and Root Killing

All conditions set out in section F1 and F2 of this specification must be adhered to.

Only a knapsack sprayer as defined in section F2 of this specification should be used. The Supervisory Officer shall reserve the right to stop the spraying operations if, in his opinion, unsuitable or faulty equipment is being used.

F9.1 The entire hole left by the removal of a tree stump should, at the instruction of the Supervisory Officer, be sprayed taking care to ensure that any exposed roots are treated by brushing.

An approved stump killer shall be used for the treatment of tree holes and shall be applied in accordance with the manufacturer's recommended application rate.

F9.2 Should any regrowth occur from any tree hole or tree root following tree removal the Service Provider shall spray such regrowth with an approved stump killer at the instruction of the Supervisory Officer.

All spray work on tree stump holes shall be paid in accordance with the Schedule of Rates included in the Bill of Quantities.

F10 Approved List of Pesticides

Only pesticides included in this list can be used. No deviation from this list shall be allowed unless the Service Provider submits a request for the use of a substitute pesticide in writing to the Supervisory Officer at least 30 days before the application of the substitute pesticide.

Any request for the use of a substitute pesticide shall include a copy of the manufacturer's literature about the substitute pesticide giving full details of active ingredients, application rate, toxicity and any other relevant

information together with an explanation as to why it is necessary to use the substitute pesticide instead of one on the approved list.

TOTAL HERBICIDES

| <u>Product Name</u> | <u>Active Ingredient</u> | <u>Use</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Asulox | Asulam | Docks and Bracken |
| Roundup PRO Biactive | Glyphosate | " " |
| Stirrup CDA | Asulam | " " |
| Garlon 4 | Triclopyr | Total Herbicide Woody Growth |
| Caseron G | Dichlorbenil | Residual nitrile Herbicide |

AQUATIC HERBICIDES

| <u>Product Name</u> | <u>Active Ingredient</u> | <u>Use</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Clarasan IFG | Terbutryn | Free floating algae and submerged weeds |
| Midstream | Diquat | Aquatic weeds |
| Reglone | Diquat Dibromide | " " |
| Roundup Pro Biactive | Glyphosate | Reeds, rushes - post emergent |

TURF HERBICIDES

| <u>Product Name</u> | <u>Active Ingredient</u> | <u>Use</u> |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Bastion | Fluroxypyr Mecoprop P | + Broad leaf weeds - control, Clover |
| Greenor | Clopyralid Fluroxypyr + MCPA | + Broad leaf weeds - control, Daisies |

TURF FUNGICIDES

| <u>Product Name</u> | <u>Active Ingredient</u> | <u>Use</u> |
|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Rimidin | Fenamitrol | Fusarium, Dollar Spot, |

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL TILSLEY**

I15 Recycling

Question:

According to analysis by the LGA a total of 525,000 tonnes of household recycling collections have been rejected at the point of sorting because of non-recyclable materials placed in recycling bins. Could the Cabinet Member give details of how much city recycling has been rejected since 2015 along with the reasons for this?

Answer:

The table below shows the amount of separately co-mingled (glass bottles and jars, metal cans, and plastics) recycling material collected that was rejected each financial year from 2015-16. These materials were rejected during the sorting process at the Four Ashes Materials Recycling Facility (MRF). Materials are rejected for a number of reasons including incorrect materials being placed in the material stream as well as correct materials contaminated by other waste streams such as food, green waste etc.

| Financial Year (April to March) | Amount of Co-mingled Material Separately Collected from Households (tonnes) | Amount of Material Rejected at the MRF (tonnes) | Reject Rate (%) |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------|
| 2015-16 | 23,358.11 | 2,534.35 # | 10.85% # |
| 2016-17 | 28,134.80 | 3,052.63 # | 10.85% # |
| 2017-18 | 21,466.15 | 1,680.37 | 7.83% |
| 2018-19 | 24,342.51 | 2,244.70 | 9.22% |
| 2019-20 | 28,190.45 | 2,646.05 | 9.39% |
| 2020-21 | 34,788.52 | 7,403.48 | 21.28% |

Note: the amount of rejects for the years 2015-16 and 2016-17 are estimates based on the estimated industry standard rejection rate of 10.85% that applied in those years. From 2017-18 onward we have actual percentages for the various rejected materials. The largest rejected material group in every year was “Fibre” which is paper/card/cardboard, these materials are not suitable for processing at the Four Ashes MRF and unwanted as a raw material by the paper industry after being collected and processed with co-mingled material streams.

With regards to the higher reject rate reported in 2020/21, this is in the main due to the fact that the materials provided for collection were more contaminated. We know that COVID-19 has affected how people live and work and how they have managed their waste, we can see by the table that we have collected substantially more material which is a reflection of more people being at home during the period. If the contamination levels were to stay static, we would expect to be recording higher contamination tonnages. Although additionally, we have recorded a rise in the contamination levels during lockdown. We are unsure if this is a short-term change or if people's behaviours have changed and this will need to be addressed as the picture develops further.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR DOMINIC STANFORD**

I16 Bulky Waste

Question:

In each year since the introduction of bulky waste charged, what was the average waiting time for a bulky waste collection from booking to collection and what was the longest single wait in that year?

Answer:

Charging for bulky waste was introduced in April 2014.

When a citizen books a bulky waste collection, the system offers the next available 5 dates. While in most cases the citizen will choose the earliest one available, this is not always the case, and sometimes choose one further in the future. We do not hold records to show whether the first available collection was chosen.

In the event that a bulky waste collection is missed or if a re-visit is required for another reason, the collection date is overwritten with the new date. Therefore, the column below showing the maximum number of days is unlikely to be showing the original date of collection.

Between May 2020 and March 2021, as a result of the pandemic, the booking system was operated in a slightly different manner. We provided a new batch of collection slots each week (which were for the following week), rather than showing the next 5 available collection dates on the system. Once these had all been used up, the website would show that no collection slots were available until the next week was loaded. There was an unprecedented demand for the service, so this ensured we did not get booked up months ahead and find ourselves in a situation where massive numbers of staff were sick or self-isolating.

| Year of booking | Mean number of days between booking and collection date | Maximum number of days between booking and collection date |
|-----------------|---|--|
| 2014 | 10.5 | 97 |
| 2015 | 9.9 | 127 |
| 2016 | 11.2 | 133 |
| 2017 | 16.6 | 128 |
| 2018 | 13.3 | 82 |
| 2019 | 16.0 | 126 |
| 2020 | 9.8 | 133 |
| 2021 | 10.3 | 88 |

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR MATT BENNETT

J1 Costs to Bristol Road Bus Lane

Question:

Please provide an itemised breakdown of the full costs involved in the Bristol Road bus lane scheme including: cost of installation; any costs of maintenance or changes to the scheme whilst it was in operation; any costs incurred planning or implementing any measure towards making it permanent; the cost of removal; all communication and consultation costs.

Answer:

The total cost of the design, installation, maintenance and removal of the Bristol Road bus lane £271,000.00. Please see breakdown below:

Design costs for installation:

Design costs: £2,400.00 for the bus lane element only
Road safety audit: £2,200.00

Consultation costs:

TRO costs: £2,000.00 for the making the order and advertisement
Letter drop: £150.00

Cost of installation:

Signage procurement and installation costs: £50,000.00
Traffic management costs: £30,500.00 (including lane closures, junction closures, traffic signs and temporary signage)
Road markings: £32,000.00

Cost of changes post construction:

Revised lining works at junctions: £7,700.00 including traffic management

Maintenance Costs:

Weekly checks for any defects on a weekly basis from 20th November 2020 to 17th May 2021
£1,000.00
Replacement of a damaged bus lane sign £500

Development costs for permanent scheme:

Survey of existing carriageway widths: £1,350.00

Design for bus lane removal:

Design for the removal of the bus lanes: £2,000.00

Removal costs:

Hydroblaster to removal all lining £30,200.00
Installation of high friction surfacing £78,600.00 including hot and cold lay and various colours used to match existing

Installation of road markings to suit new layout £27,800.00
Removal of signs, posts and concrete blocks £2,600.00

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR GARETH MOORE

J2 Pollution Monitoring

Question:

Separated by location, list all pollution monitoring data the Council has per day (or other timeframes) for the last 5 years?

Answer:

A spreadsheet has been produced which details this data. This spreadsheet may be accessed through the following link:



20210622 AQ
Monitoring Summary

Air pollution monitoring data is held at www.birminghamairquality.co.uk including real time data from the Council's stations and annual concentrations from the various diffusion tube sites. The web site also shows closed stations. Further, the website contains the annual reports to Defra which contain the published data.

All questions about air quality monitoring including the stations or data collection can be made at pollution.team@birmingham.gov.uk

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR CHARLOTTE HODIVALA

J3 Full Comprehensive Equality Impact Assessment

Question:

Please provide a copy of the full comprehensive equality impact assessment carried out prior to the introduction of low traffic neighbourhoods, and any further equalities assessment carried out since the introduction of those in place, please ensure that this includes any assessment made of people with recognised disabilities under the Equalities Act that are not blue badge holders (if such an assessment was undertaken?)

Answer:

An equalities analysis was undertaken for Tranche 1 of the Emergency Active Travel Fund, which included the first Low Traffic Neighbourhood schemes as approved by Cabinet on 23 June 2020. Papers are available here (see Appendix D):

https://birmingham.cmis.uk.com/birmingham/Decisions/tabid/67/ctl/ViewCMIS_DecisionDetails/mid/391/Id/526bf4bd-f4f3-4b41-9825-43e8e137b8ea/Default.aspx

An equalities analysis was also undertaken for Tranche 2 of the Active Travel Fund which included further funding for Low Traffic Neighbourhood schemes as approved by Cabinet on 8 September 2020. Papers are available here (see Appendix F):

https://birmingham.cmis.uk.com/birmingham/Decisions/tabid/67/ctl/ViewCMIS_DecisionDetails/mid/391/Id/7f654d94-5164-4a17-838c-67f6ba517e0b/Default.aspx

As part of the review of Tranche 1 Active Travel Schemes, a series of Equality Impact Assessment Reports were commissioned – the summary report is available online here:

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/downloads/file/19184/equality_impact_access_report

Scheme specific Equality Impact Assessment Reports for Low Traffic Neighbourhood schemes are due to be published online in due course. These can be provided directly to members upon request.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR DARIUS SANDHU

J4 Testing ANPR Cameras

Question:

What real world testing has been carried out for the ANPR cameras being used for the introduction of the clean air zone charge on vehicles entering Birmingham (After the cameras were put in place)?

Answer:

Guidance provided by the Joint Air Quality Unit (JAQU) recommended carrying out a 'ground-truthing' exercise of the ANPR cameras. The JAQU guidance in turn follows the guidance set out in the 'National ANPR Standards for Policing and Law Enforcement'.

JAQU recommends a sample size of approximately 250 vehicles are captured, of which the system must capture 98% of the vehicle registration marks (VRMs), and of captured vehicles it must read 95% of the VRMs correctly, provided that they are visible to the human eye and in a legal format i.e. the number plate has not been modified to deliberately change its appearance either via an illegal font, spacing or use of screws to otherwise alter its appearance.

The ground-truthing data was provided to JAQU as part of the CAZ readiness process to confirm that the Birmingham CAZ cameras were operating within the defined tolerances.

In addition, image checks were carried out in co-operation with the Council's Parking Service team to verify camera alignment and to ensure that any images captured would be suitable for enforcement action, if required.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR MEIRION JENKINS**

J5 Brassington Avenue Cycle Lane

Question:

What was the final cost of the implementation and removal of Brassington Avenue cycle lane?

Answer:

The final costs for implementation of the Brassington Avenue scheme were £82,000.00 and costs for removal and reinstatement £34,050.00

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR KEN WOOD

J6 Accuracy Rate

Question:

What accuracy rate was achieved when testing the ANPR cameras being used for the clean air zone charge? Broken down by different times of the day and different weather conditions

Answer:

The ANPR cameras were tested as part of a 'ground truthing' exercise to ensure they were performing in line with the National ANPR Standards for Policing and Law Enforcement and guidance from the Joint Air Quality Unit (JAQU).

This guidance recommends a sample size of approximately 250 vehicles are captured, of which the system must capture 98% of the vehicle registration marks (VRMs), and of captured vehicles it must read 95% of the VRMs correctly, provided that they are visible to the human eye and in a legal format i.e. the number plate has not been modified to deliberately change its appearance either via an illegal font, spacing or use of screws to otherwise alter its appearance.

The ANPR cameras were confirmed to be performing within the tolerances defined above. Data about performance during different parts of the day and weather conditions is not available as it was not part of the test protocol.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP

J7 Birmingham Transport Plan

Question:

What date will the consultation and final report from the Birmingham Transport Plan be published?

Answer:

The consultation report for the Birmingham Transport Plan will be published on or before Friday 25 June 2021.

The final Birmingham Transport Plan is currently scheduled for adoption at Cabinet in September 2021.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR PETER FOWLER**

J8 Barriers

Question:

On how many occasions since April 2019, have bollards or other physical barriers had to be replaced after being removed by emergency services to allow their vehicles to access? Please include the street address and date of each occurrence

Answer:

The records the City Council hold do not allow us to undertake the analysis required to determine the number of occasions that this circumstance might have occurred.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID BARRIE

J9 CAZ Warnings

Question:

Listed by day since 1 April 2021, how many CAZ warnings or fine letters have been issued each day and how many people have paid (including category of payment, i.e. charge or fine and for car, lorry etc))

Answer:

As part of preparations for the launch of the Clean Air Zone, 191,855 'early notice' letters were issued to the registered keepers of vehicles that were recorded on the Clean Air Zone ANPR cameras and could have been subject to the daily fee.

The data for this exercise was captured from 1 to 31 March 2021 and 12 to 24 April 2021.

As these were 'early notice' letters no penalty charge was due and, therefore, none has been paid.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR EWAN MACKEY**

J10 CAZ Charges

Question:

How many people have been charged entering the zone twice within a 24 hr period either side of midnight?

Answer:

It is extremely difficult to answer this question with any degree of accuracy as this is not part of the standard reporting function within the payment system.

It is an area of interest for the CAZ team and is something it will seek to investigate as part of the monitoring and evaluation programme of work.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR ADAM HIGGS

J11 CAZ Information

Question:

What is the full list of postcode districts (including the total number in each) that letters have been sent to regarding the Clean Air Zone, split between the number of warning letters sent during the trial period and 'soft launch' and fine letters since charging commenced?

Answer:

The exercise was covered by a data sharing agreement between the Council, Joint Air Quality Unit (JAQU) and the DVLA. Under the terms of this agreement the Council provided the JAQU with all vehicle registration marks (VRMs) captured during two periods of time. The JAQU then checked these details against its vehicle compliance checker database to identify vehicles that could be subject to the daily fee once the zone was operational. This list of non-compliant VRMs was then shared with the DVLA for posting to the registered keepers of these vehicles.

As a result, the Council does not have access to the address details of the recipients of these early notice letters.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR ADRIAN DELANEY

J12 Vouchers - CAZ

Question:

How much longer than the standard 6 days do visitors to the Birmingham Children's Hospital have to enter the voucher to cancel the charge for entering the Clean Air Zone, and will fines incurred for not meeting this timescale also be cancelled if they can demonstrate they were visiting?

Answer:

The hospital/medical centre exemption provides people who drive to one of the following venues in a non-compliant vehicle with a one-use voucher which can be redeemed against the Clean Air Zone daily fee.

The venues covered by this exemption are: Birmingham Children's Hospital, Badger Medical Centre, Attwood Green Medical Practice and the Millennium Point mass vaccination centre (for the duration this venue is used for this purpose).

People are able to use these vouchers on the day of travel and six days after the day of travel. If they do not redeem the voucher against their journey within this payment 'window' then they may be subject to enforcement action. The Council has published a policy on the Brum Breathes website which sets out a foundation upon which fairness and discretion can be applied.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR SIMON MORRALL**

J13 Birmingham Transport Plan

Question:

Please provide a copy of all responses for the consultation on the Birmingham Transport Plan (anonymised for individuals, but not organisations)

Answer:

The consultation report for the Birmingham Transport Plan will be published on or before Friday 25 June 2021.

Supplementary information, should it be required, can be provided under separate cover to members.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID PEARS

J14 Emergency Transport Plan

Question:

For each project in the Emergency Transport Plan, what is the expiry date of the temporary traffic regulation orders for the scheme, which of these do the Council intend to seek to extend and what consultation has already been carried out on any extension?

Answer:

The current position is outlined below but may be subject to change. Some minor measures did not require traffic regulation orders (TROs) and these will be reviewed as social distancing restrictions are ended. No specific consultations have been undertaken as yet where it is proposed to extend or make permanent the measures.

This list does not include changes made for spill-out areas for hospitality venues.

| Scheme | Location | Type of TRO | Expiry | Status |
|--|---|--------------------|---------------|--|
| A38 Pop-up Cycleway | Selly Oak Local Centre and to Northfield | Experimental | 28/02/22 | Intention to extend temporary measures and then make permanent as part of Bristol Road Downgrading scheme in 2023. |
| A45 Pop-up Cycleway | A45 Coventry Road | Experimental | 21/02/22 | All measures currently being reviewed as part of separate A45 Coventry Road Cycle Route scheme, to determine which will be made permanent and which removed. |
| Jewellery Quarter to City Hospital Pop-up Cycleway | Jewellery Quarter to City Hospital | Experimental | 24/03/22 | Options for making the measures permanent currently in development |
| Bradford Street Pop-up Cycleway | Bradford Street Cycle Route | Experimental | 03/06/22 | Options for making the measures permanent currently in development |
| A47 Pop-up Cycleway | City Centre to Fort Dunlop (A47 Corridor) | Experimental | 10/06/20 | Options for making the measures permanent currently in development |
| Low Traffic Neighbourhood | Kings Heath | Experimental | 22/04/22 | Options for amending or making the measures permanent currently in development |

| Scheme | Location | Type of TRO | Expiry | Status |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------|---|
| Low Traffic Neighbourhood | Moseley | Experimental | 22/04/22 | Options for amending or making the measures permanent currently in development |
| Low Traffic Neighbourhood | Bournville | Experimental | 22/04/22 | Options for amending or making the measures permanent currently in development |
| Low Traffic Neighbourhood | Castle Vale | Experimental | 22/04/22 | Options for amending or making the measures permanent currently in development |
| Low Traffic Neighbourhood | Lozells | Experimental | 22/04/22 | Options for amending or making the measures permanent currently in development |
| City Centre Traffic Segments | City Centre | Experimental | 17/03/22 | Measures at St Chads Circus removed. Options for making the other measures permanent currently in development |
| Stirchley Local Centre | Pershore Road | Experimental | 10/03/22 | Some measures already removed. Aspiration to make the remaining measures permanent under ATF Tranche 2 – options currently in development |
| Local centres | Moseley | Temporary | 23/12/21 | Options for making Moseley measures permanent under ATF Tranche 2 currently in development |
| Local centres | Northfield | Temporary | 23/12/21 | Northfield partly removed |
| Local centres | Harborne | Temporary | 23/12/21 | Options for making Harborne measures permanent under ATF Tranche 2 currently in development |
| Local centres | Soho Road | Temporary | 23/12/21 | Soho Road measures removed |
| Local centres | Bordesley Green | Temporary | 03/01/22 | Bordesley Green removed |
| Local centres | Small Heath | Temporary | 03/01/22 | To be removed once social distancing restrictions are ended. |
| Local centres | Stratford Road | Temporary | 03/01/22 | To be removed once social distancing restrictions are ended. |
| Local centres | Alum Rock | Temporary | 03/01/22 | To be removed once social distancing restrictions are ended. |

| Scheme | Location | Type of TRO | Expiry | Status |
|---------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------|--|
| Local centres | Ladypool Road | Temporary | 31/08/21 | Ladypool Road removed |
| Local centres | Acocks Green | Temporary | 31/08/21 | Acocks Green to be removed once social distancing restrictions are ended |
| Local centres | Erdington | Temporary | 25/11/21 | Councillors and BIDs to be consulted to see whether there is a desire to make measures permanent |
| Local centres | Kings Heath | Temporary | 25/11/21 | Options for making some of the Kings Heath measures permanent currently in development |
| Local centres | Sutton Coldfield | Temporary | 04/01/22 | Councillors and BIDs to be consulted to see whether there is a desire to make measures permanent |

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR BRUCE LINES

J15 Air Pollution Data

Question:

Given your letter to Khalid Mahmood MP, please release all air pollution data held with a map showing where in the City was it taken since 2010?

Answer:

A spreadsheet has been produced which details this data. This spreadsheet may be accessed through the following link:



20210622 AQ
Monitoring Summary

Maps have been produced which show the location of all monitoring sites since 2010.

Map 1



20210622 AQMS
Sites 2010 to 2020.pdf

Map 2



20210622 CC DT

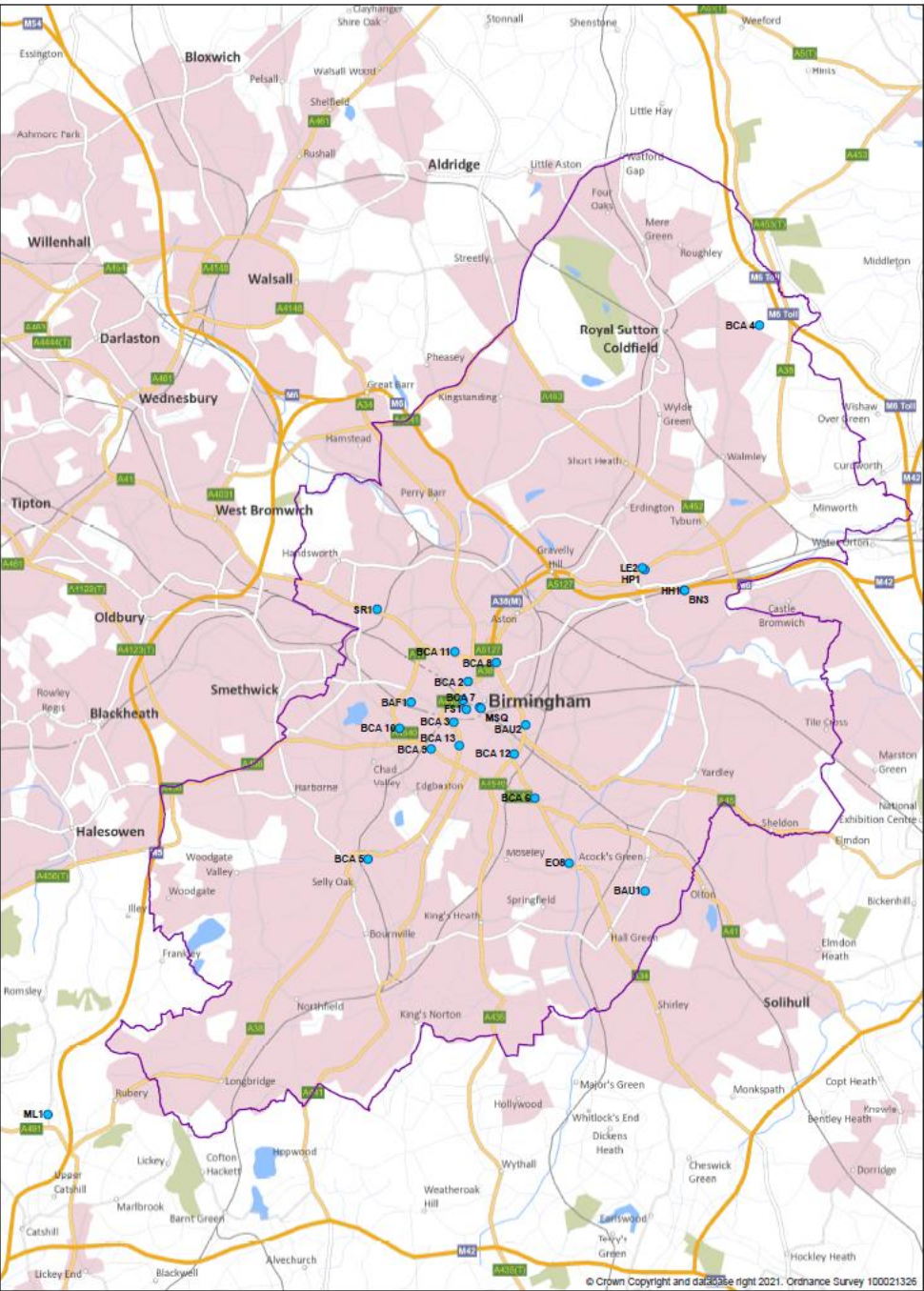
Map 3



20210622 CW DT

Sites 2010 to 2020.pdf

Location of Automatic Air Quality Monitoring Sites

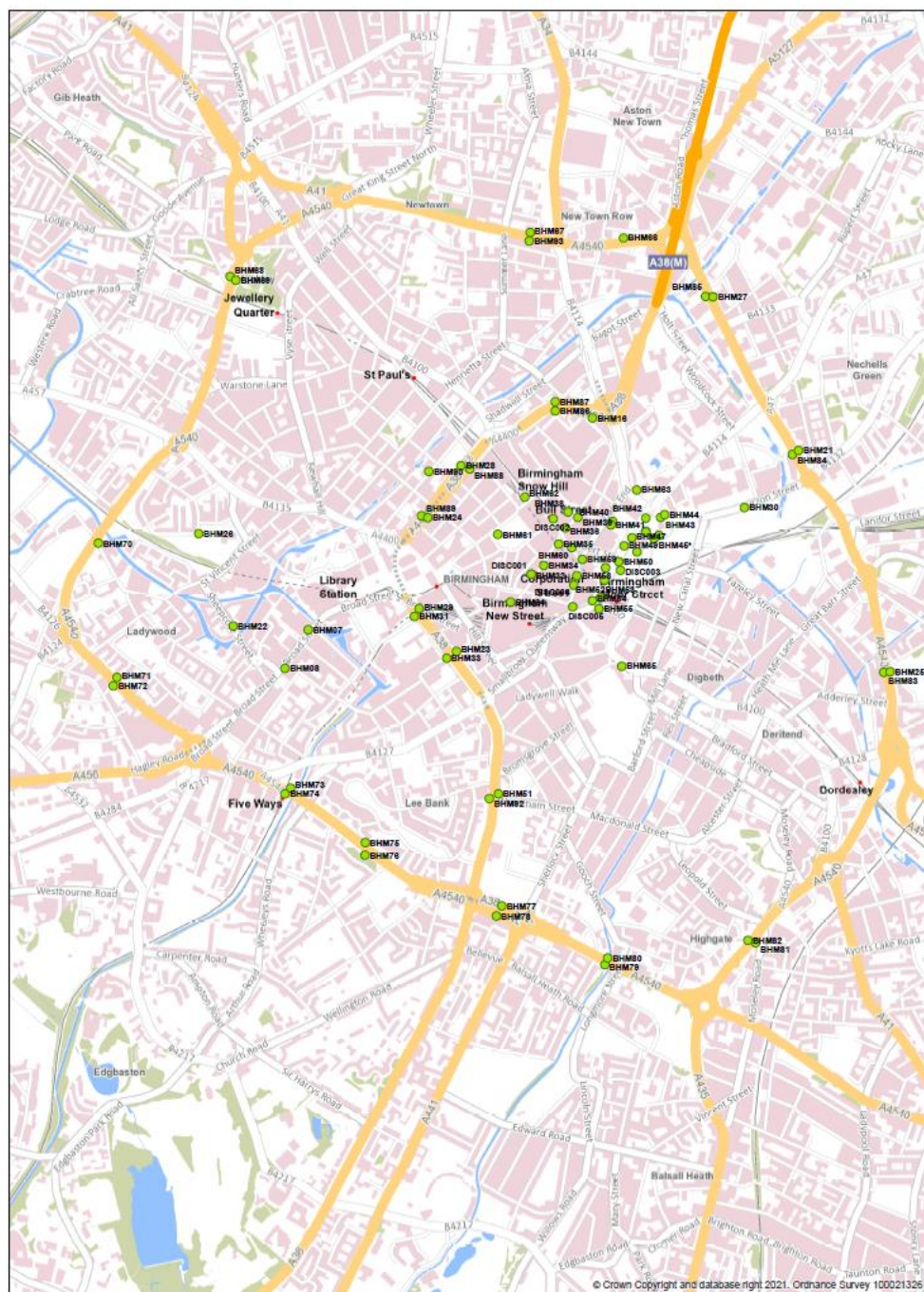


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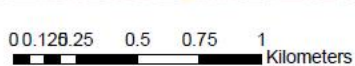


Map 2

Location of City Centre Diffusion Tubes Sites

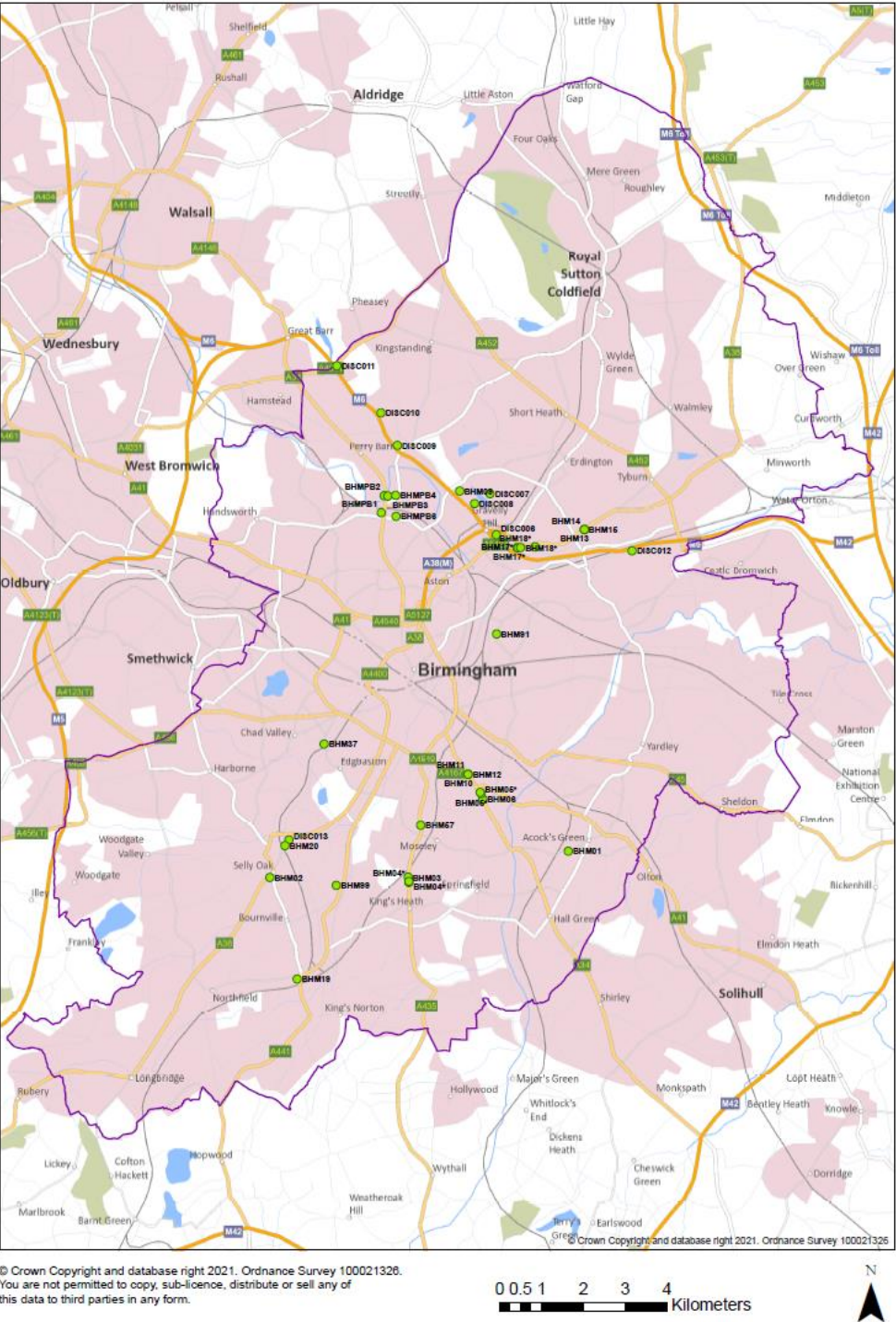


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Map 3

Location of City Wide Diffusion Tubes Sites



Air pollution monitoring data is held at www.birminghamairquality.co.uk including real time data from the Council's stations and annual concentrations from the various diffusion tube sites. The web site also shows closed stations. Further, the website contains the annual reports to Defra which contain the published data.

All questions about air quality monitoring including the stations or data collection can be made at pollution.team@birmingham.gov.uk

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE ALDEN

J16 Air Quality Stations

Question:

Please provide a list of all new, removed and planned locations of air quality monitoring stations since 2012. Please include details of location, what it monitors and if permanent or temporary (specifying timeframe it was or will be place) and if it is currently operational, removed or due to start.

Answer:

A spreadsheet has been produced which details this data. This spreadsheet may be accessed through the following link:



20210622 AQ
Monitoring Summary

The only new stations currently proposed are highlighted on the AQ Units tab of the spreadsheet.

All stations are classed as permanent.

Air pollution monitoring data is held at www.birminghamairquality.co.uk including real time data from the Council's stations and annual concentrations from the various diffusion tube sites. The web site also shows closed stations. Further, the website contains the annual reports to Defra which contain the published data.

All questions about air quality monitoring including the stations or data collection can be made at pollution.team@birmingham.gov.uk

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR ROBERT ALDEN**

J17 CAZ Scrappage Scheme

Question:

What was ‘very complicated’ about the procurement process for the CAZ scrappage scheme that led to it ‘taking longer than anticipated’ as stated by yourself on the Facebook live interview with BBC WM bearing in mind you have had since 2018 to arrange this procurement and the charging scheme was originally due to come into place in January 2020?

Answer:

The CAZ scrappage scheme required the development of a bespoke contract for a project with little precedent. The Council has not undertaken such an initiative in the past and has taken a cautious approach to its development and delivery.

An extended response period was afforded to interested parties at the tender stage in recognition of the unusual nature of the scheme and also the pressures that may have been faced by businesses due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

The CAZ scrappage scheme was originally scheduled to be implemented by January 2021, to coincide with what would have been the one-year anniversary of the CAZ upon which date the 1-year exemption period for CAZ workers would end.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR EDDIE FREEMAN**

J18 Procurement Notice

Question:

On what date was the first procurement notice for the CAZ scrappage scheme published?

Answer:

The opportunity was first advertised on 17th April 2020 in the Official Journal of the European Union.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR TIMOTHY HUXTABLE**

J19 Timescales

Question:

On the original timescales in the CAZ implementation plan, on what date was the CAZ scrappage scheme due to be implemented by?

Answer:

The CAZ scrappage scheme was scheduled to be implemented by January 2021, to coincide with what would have been the one-year anniversary of the CAZ upon which date the 1-year exemption period for CAZ workers would end.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR GARY SAMBROOK

J20 Special Exemptions

Question:

How many charities, charitable organisations, community or volunteering groups etc (or people acting on their behalf), have approached the Council regarding seeking special exemption or extra support for the clean air zone?

Answer:

The Clean Air Zone team has approved 71 applications for a community transport exemption. These are in place for the duration of the Clean Air Zone.

During the month of May 2021, we estimate that approximately 12 individuals or organisations have contacted the Clean Air Zone team seeking support above and beyond the existing exemptions and the £35m of financial support that is available.

It is difficult to provide a definitive response to the question as an organisation could be charitable with a volunteer workforce or a community group with charitable status and so on. It is also worth noting that these types of organisations may have benefited from exemptions granted to Clean Air Zone workers and residents as these people could also be volunteers for these organisations.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR RON STORER

J21 Travel

Question:

How did you travel to and from the airport in both Birmingham and Belfast to make your Twitter video for the already purchased hydrogen buses (If by car/taxi please state make, model and year)?

Answer:

Birmingham

Travel to and from the airport in Birmingham was made by taxi. On the return trip, this was shared with officers.

The specific vehicle details requested (make/model/year) are not held by the Council.

Belfast

Travel to and from the airport in Belfast was arranged by our hosts, Wright Bus.

The specific vehicle details requested (make/model/year) are not held by the Council.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR SUZANNE WEBB

J22 Carbon Footprint

Question:

What was the total carbon footprint of your visit to Belfast to make the video for the already purchased hydrogen buses?

Answer:

The smartphone video referenced was taken at the WrightBus factory as part of the pre-delivery inspection of the Council's hydrogen buses ahead of final payments and the subsequent transfer of ownership. This activity formed part of a wider programme including securing a more strategic relationship with the manufacturer to enable longer term benefits of supply chain jobs for Birmingham, an apprenticeship scheme and opportunities for research and development. In terms of the latter, WrightBus are one of the market leaders in hydrogen fuel technology and discussions were undertaken to explore how this may be beneficial to the city in respect of other vehicle types and importantly refuelling infrastructure requirements and cost considerations.

A return flight from Birmingham to Belfast generates approximately **113kg CO2 using** a carbon estimation calculator. Based on an average utilisation rate of 88 people, this equates to around 1.28kg of CO2 emissions per person for a return trip at a total contribution of 5.14kg/CO2 based on four people travelling on same flight.

The airline industry (including Aer Lingus and Easy Jet as the airlines used), participate in the highest standard carbon offsetting projects, that meet Gold Standard and Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) accreditation through implementing carbon off-setting for every flight.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR ZAKER CHOUDHRY

J23 Clean Air Zone

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member confirm the total cost of the public relations exercise (including full breakdown of activities and their relative cost) leading up to and including 1 June 2021 to publicise the start of Birmingham's Clean Air Zone?

Answer:

The event on 1 June 2021 to help promote the launch of the Clean Air Zone cost £35,000. The costs covered film and production (£20,000), the management and delivery of the event itself (£13,000) and paid for promotion through social media (£2,000). All other public relations or media relations activity is supported by the Council's Corporate Communications team.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR MORRIAM JAN

J24 Congestion in Perry Barr

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member give an indication of the average delay, during peak time, drivers are encountering in Perry Barr?

Answer:

The average delay is highly variable depending upon factors including the traffic management layout and traffic volumes on any given day. The maximum delays have averaged between 10 and 20 minutes on the A34 southbound during the morning peak and between 15 and 30 minutes on the A34 northbound and Wellington Road eastbound during the evening peak. There have been few delays on Aston Lane and Aldridge Road during the most recent traffic management arrangements.

The Council and Transport for West Midlands continue to issue multiple travel demand messages over a variety of channels to advertise a range of travel behaviour alternatives and choices to reduce delays.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR NEIL EUSTACE

J25 Clean Air Zone

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member provide full details of the reasons why the Clean Air Zone has been postponed from 1 to 14 June?

Answer:

The Clean Air Zone became operational on 1 June 2021. On the same day the Council announced that it would pause enforcement and the collection of the daily fee for non-compliant vehicles until 14 June 2021.

There were a number of factors behind this decision. The first was to ensure that the scheme adhered to one of its guiding design principles, which was to be 'fair and reasonable', while at the same time keeping clear sight of the primary objective for the scheme which is to achieve compliance with the legal limit for nitrogen dioxide in the shortest possible time.

Another consideration were lessons learned from the introduction of London's ULEZ, a Clean Air Zone in Bath and Bus Lane Enforcement in Birmingham. In all instances, and despite high levels of promotion about the schemes before their introduction, many drivers were unaware that the scheme existed. Similarly, many drivers were unaware (in the instances of the ULEZ and CAZ) that the onus to pay the daily fee, if travelling through the zone in a non-compliant vehicle, was on the driver. Indeed, the first many drivers would know these schemes were in force would be when they received a penalty charge notice.

In line with the 'fair and reasonable' principle it was therefore logical to adopt a launch strategy that highlighted the scheme was operational and, at the same time, capitalise on media interest in the scheme to try and reinforce the key messages about the scheme to drivers. At the same time by pausing enforcement and payment of the daily fee drivers were provided with a little more time to familiarise themselves with how the scheme worked. And this 'fair and reasonable' principle will also be applied at the point the first penalty charge notices are issued. For one month drivers issued with a Penalty Charge Notice will be offered the opportunity to pay the relevant fee for their non-compliant vehicle in lieu of the penalty fee.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR ROGER HARMER

J26 Birchfield Island

Question:

It has now been more than a year since work started on the A34 and Birchfield Island. Could the Cabinet Member indicate how much longer it will be until the hole in the middle of the Island is ‘topped off’?

Answer:

The extensive Perry Barr highway scheme remains on programme and budget as planned, with the construction of the bridge within Birchfield Island one of the most complex elements of the project. As such, its delivery has been split into phases to reduce the impact of the works. The foundations and supports have already been successfully installed and the next phase will be to install the beams across the island in mid-July. The new junction that the bridge will support will be completed winter 2021.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR JON HUNT

J27 Clean Air Zone – Auto Pay

Question:

Why does the Clean Air Zone not have an autopay facility like the London Congestion Zone where the automated payment system records the number of charging days a vehicle travels within the charging zone each month and automatically takes payment from a debit card, credit card or via direct debit each month?

Answer:

Clean Air Zones are a temporary measure specifically to bring NO2 levels into compliance. And the payment system, provided as one of the Clean Air Zone Central Services, has been designed to allow vehicle owners to pay if necessary, but ideally, the preference is for the most polluting vehicles to upgrade or avoid driving in the most polluted areas.

An autopay system is more complex and costly and would take longer to implement. As the government and the Council are under a legal obligation to deliver compliance in the shortest possible time it is appropriate that action is taken now to reduce emissions, which will lead to improvements in public health.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIR OF LICENSING AND PUBLIC PROTECTION
COMMITTEE FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL TILSLEY**

K1 Rise in fake COVID vaccination cards

Question:

Further to the disturbing reports we have seen recently regarding fake Covid 19 vaccination cards that are being plied on the internet, could the Chair of Licensing and Public Protection explain what is being done for city residents to protect them this from this scam and also advise the actions that are being taken by Enforcement to crack down such practices?

Answer:

The Trading Standards service is aware of alleged blank replacement Covid 19 vaccination cards and have identified sellers on auction platforms. Liaison is ongoing with regional and national trading standards to establish if there is any action being taken in conjunction with Public Health England.

During the pandemic, the service has taken action in respect of home Covid tests, unsafe PPE, fake PPE and fake websites, unsafe sanitiser and fake PPE certificates.

The service was made aware of alleged outlets in Birmingham providing fake documents and an investigation was conducted but the intelligence was not substantiated.

The service has not communicated the issue of replacement vaccination cards to the wider public to avoid promoting these sites and is currently monitoring the position.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIR OF LICENSING AND PUBLIC PROTECTION
COMMITTEE FROM COUNCILLOR MIKE WARD**

K2 'Loan Sharks

Question:

Further to recent reports in the national press that loan sharks are using social media to exhort money from their victims, could the Chair of Licensing and Public Protection Committee advise what precautions are being taken in the city to protect vulnerable residents caught in this distressing situation?

Answer:

Birmingham City Council hosts the England Illegal Money Lending Team that is funded to tackle illegal money lending in England, including Birmingham. The team operate a number of reporting platforms, including a hotline, and will investigate information regarding this criminal activity and where appropriate take prosecutions against those active in this arena. Only two weeks ago the team were active in the Birmingham area in this regard.

Further, the team are proactively promoting and warning of the issues associated with illegal money lending, using proceeds of crime to raise awareness of the perils of this pernicious criminality. The team has launched an educational, interactive, film called "shark" for use in schools and with the Chamber of Commerce has launched a credit union pay deduction scheme for savings and loans.

The team works very closely with key partners such as the Financial Conduct Authority and reports to them and the Treasury regarding their work to develop policy to tackle illegal money lending and its associated impact on individuals and communities. The team is also an active member of the Birmingham FIP and has funded a number of initiatives through this group.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIR OF LICENSING AND PUBLIC PROTECTION
COMMITTEE FROM COUNCILLOR ZAKER CHOUDHRY**

K3 Fines

Question:

It has been recently reported West Midlands Police have issued fines of more than £700,000 to people having found to have broken Covid rules. Could the Cabinet Member confirm how many fines have been issued by local Enforcement Officers as well as their value since the first lockdown in March 2020?

Answer:

Environmental Health within Birmingham have served 37 fixed penalty notices on 30 businesses since March 2020. The total value of these is £45,000.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIR OF LICENSING AND PUBLIC PROTECTION
COMMITTEE FROM COUNCILLOR ROGER HARMER**

K4 Fly Tipping

Question:

How many successful prosecutions against fly-tipping have there been in Birmingham since 2014 and in which ward did each offence successfully prosecuted take place in?

Answer:

The Government collates prosecution outcomes for local authorities and the Environment Agency for 'fly-tipping' related offences under its Waste Data Flow return and there were 351 prosecutions, for relevant offences, for Birmingham from April 2014 to April 2021. There is no specific offence of fly-tipping and recordable prosecutions encompass a range of offences, principally under section 33 and section 34 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, including matters relating to the deposit of controlled waste, but also certain offence types which relate to failures over the control, transfer and escape of waste in connection with waste disposal by both businesses and householders. The term fly-tipping is often taken to mean 'rubbish dumping' and collation of published prosecution outcomes from 2014 indicates that 205 of the recordable prosecutions had a sole or substantive 'rubbish dumping' related element to the court imposed sanction and the ward locations linked to the respective prosecution is shown in the table [adjusted for current ward boundaries]:

| Ward | |
|--------------------|----|
| Acocks Green | 5 |
| Allens Cross | 0 |
| Alum Rock | 11 |
| Aston | 4 |
| Balsall Heath West | 1 |
| Bartley Green | 1 |
| Billesley | 2 |
| Birchfield | 2 |

| Ward | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Bordesley & Highgate | 8 |
| Bordesley Green | 5 |
| Bournbrook & Selly Park | 8 |
| Bournville & Cotteridge | 1 |
| Brandwood & Kings Heath | 1 |
| Bromford & Hodge Hill | 2 |
| Castle Vale | 0 |
| Druids Heath & Monyhull | 2 |
| Edgbaston | 2 |
| Erdington | 6 |
| Frankley Great Park | 2 |
| Garretts Green | 1 |
| Glebe Farm & Tile Cross | 0 |
| Gravelly Hill | 0 |
| Hall Green North | 3 |
| Hall Green South | 5 |
| Handsworth | 5 |
| Handsworth Wood | 4 |
| Harborne | 0 |
| Heartlands | 1 |
| Highters Heath | 0 |
| Holyhead | 1 |
| Kings Norton North | 1 |
| Kings Norton South | 1 |
| Kingstanding | 3 |

| Ward | |
|---------------------------------|----|
| Ladywood | 5 |
| Longbridge & West Heath | 0 |
| Lozells | 3 |
| Moseley | 2 |
| Nechells | 16 |
| Newtown | 1 |
| North Edgbaston | 3 |
| Northfield | 3 |
| Oscott | 0 |
| Perry Barr | 2 |
| Perry Common | 0 |
| Pype Hayes | 2 |
| Quinton | 1 |
| Rubery & Rednal | 0 |
| Shard End | 2 |
| Sheldon | 3 |
| Small Heath | 4 |
| Soho & Jewellery Quarter | 28 |
| South Yardley | 7 |
| Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East | 7 |
| Sparkhill | 11 |
| Stirchley | 1 |
| Stockland Green | 0 |
| Sutton Four Oaks | 1 |
| Sutton Mere Green | 0 |

| Ward | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Sutton Reddicap | 0 |
| Sutton Roughley | 2 |
| Sutton Trinity | 0 |
| Sutton Vesey | 0 |
| Sutton Walmley & Minworth | 1 |
| Sutton Wylde Green | 0 |
| Tyseley & Hay Mills | 4 |
| Ward End | 7 |
| Weoley & Selly Oak | 0 |
| Yardley East | 0 |
| Yardley West & Stechford | 1 |

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIR OF LICENSING AND PUBLIC PROTECTION
COMMITTEE FROM COUNCILLOR JON HUNT**

K5 Fixed Penalty Notices (Businesses)

Question:

How many fixed penalty notice fines for businesses not having a waste removal contract have been issued in Birmingham, by ward and month, since May 2018?

Answer:

811 fixed penalty notices have been issued and the breakdown by ward and month is as follows:

May 2018 to December 2018

| WARD | MONTH | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------|------|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| *Aston | | | | | | | 1 | |
| *Bordesley Green | 2 | | | | | | | |
| *Ladywood | | | | | | 1 | | |
| *Nechells | 1 | | | | | | | |
| *Springfield | | | | | 3 | | | 1 |
| *Washwood Heath | | | 1 | | | | | |
| Alum Rock | | 1 | | | 1 | | | |
| Aston | | | | 1 | | 3 | | |
| Balsall Heath West | | 4 | | 1 | | | 2 | |
| Billesley | 2 | 2 | | | | | | |
| Birchfield | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Bordesley & Highgate | 5 | | | | | 1 | | |
| Bordesley Green | 1 | 3 | | 16 | 1 | 9 | | |
| Bournbrook & Selly Park | 4 | 1 | 16 | 1 | | | | |

5401

| WARD | MONTH | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------|---|----|---|----|---|---|---|
| Bournville & Cotteridge | | | 11 | 2 | | | | |
| Brandwood & Kings Heath | 8 | 6 | 6 | | | | | |
| Bromford & Hodge Hill | | 2 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | | |
| Druids Heath & Monyhull | | | | | | 1 | | |
| Erdington | | | | 2 | 5 | 1 | 1 | |
| Frankley Great Park | | | | | 1 | | | |
| Garretts Green | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Glebe Farm & Tile Cross | | | | | 1 | | | |
| Gravelly Hill | | | | 1 | | | | |
| Hall Green South | 2 | 2 | | | | | | |
| Handsworth | | 3 | 1 | | | | | |
| Heartlands | 1 | | | | | 7 | | |
| Highters Heath | 1 | | | | | | | |
| Holyhead | | 5 | 3 | | 17 | | | |
| Kingstanding | | 2 | | | | | | |
| Ladywood | | | | | | | 2 | |
| Longbridge & West Heath | | | | | | 1 | | |
| Moseley | | | | | 1 | | | |
| Newtown | | | | | | 1 | | |
| Northfield | | | 1 | | | | | 5 |
| Oscott | | 5 | | | | | 1 | |
| Perry Barr | 1 | | | | | 3 | | |
| Rubery & Rednal | | | | | | 1 | | |
| Sheldon | | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | |
| Small Heath | | 1 | 7 | 5 | | 4 | | |
| Soho & Jewellery Quarter | | 1 | | | | 5 | | |
| South Yardley | 2 | 1 | | | | 2 | | |
| Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East | 2 | 2 | | 3 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Sparkhill | | 1 | | 3 | 37 | 3 | | |

5402

| WARD | MONTH | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|
| Stockland Green | | | | | | | 3 | |
| Sutton Vesey | | | | | | 14 | 4 | |
| Sutton Walmley & Minworth | | | | | | | | 2 |
| Sutton Wylde Green | | | | | | 7 | 6 | 1 |
| Tyseley & Hay Mills | | 1 | | | | 1 | | |
| Ward End | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | | |
| Weoley & Selly Oak | | | | 1 | | | | |
| Unspecified/ unallocated** | 4 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 |

January to December 2019

| | MONTH | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------|-----|-------|-------|-----|------|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| WARD | Jan | Feb | March | April | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| *Aston | | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | | | |
| *Bordesley Green | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| *Hall Green | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | |
| *South Yardley | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | |
| *Springfield | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| *Washwood Heath | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | |
| Acocks Green | | | | | | | 2 | | | 1 | 2 | |
| Allens Cross | | | | | | | | 2 | | | | |
| Alum Rock | 6 | 2 | 5 | 1 | | | 2 | | 1 | 3 | | 1 |
| Aston | | 3 | | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Balsall Heath West | 4 | | | | | | | | | | 2 | |
| Billesley | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | |
| Birchfield | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | |
| Bordesley & Highgate | 1 | | | | | | | | 8 | | | |

5403

| | MONTH | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------|-----|-------|-------|-----|------|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| WARD | Jan | Feb | March | April | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| Bordesley Green | | | | 1 | | | 1 | | | | | |
| Bournville & Cotteridge | | | | | | 2 | | | | | | |
| Brandwood & Kings Heath | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | |
| Bromford & Hodge Hill | 2 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | | |
| Druids Heath & Monyhull | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | |
| Edgbaston | | | | | | | 3 | | | | | |
| Erdington | 5 | 1 | | | 1 | 12 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Glebe Farm & Tile Cross | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | 2 |
| Gravelly Hill | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Hall Green North | 2 | 1 | | | | 6 | 5 | | | | | |
| Hall Green South | | | | | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 | | | |
| Handsworth | | 2 | 2 | | | | | | 3 | | | |
| Heartlands | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Kingstanding | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | |
| Ladywood | | | | | | | | | | 2 | | |
| Lozells | | | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| Moseley | 4 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Newtown | | | | | | | | 1 | 2 | | | |
| North Edgbaston | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Northfield | | | 4 | | | | | 5 | | 1 | 1 | |
| Pype Hayes | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Quinton | | | | | | | | | 4 | | | |

| | MONTH | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------|-----|-------|-------|-----|------|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| WARD | Jan | Feb | March | April | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| Sheldon | | | | | | | | | | | 4 | |
| Small Heath | | | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Soho & Jewellery Quarter | | 1 | | | | 2 | | | | | | |
| South Yardley | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | |
| Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East | 15 | 3 | 2 | | | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 5 | | 1 |
| Sparkhill | 1 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 5 | | | | | | | |
| Stirchley | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | |
| Stockland Green | | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | 4 | | |
| Sutton Reddicap | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Sutton Roughley | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | |
| Sutton Vesey | | | | | | | | | | | 3 | |
| Sutton Walmley & Minworth | | | | | | | | | | | 3 | |
| Sutton Wylde Green | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tyseley & Hay Mills | | | 1 | | | 1 | | | | | | |
| Ward End | 4 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 4 | | 3 | |
| Weoley & Selly Oak | | | | | | | 9 | | | | | 1 |
| Yardley East | | | | | | 3 | 1 | | 1 | 3 | 1 | |
| Yardley West & Stechford | | 1 | | | | 3 | | | | | | |
| Unspecified/ unallocated** | 8 | 1 | | | | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 2 | |

January to December 2020

| WARD | MONTH | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|-----|-------|-------|-----|------|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | March | April | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| *Springfield | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| Acocks Green | | | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | |
| Allens Cross | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| Alum Rock | | | | 1 | | | 1 | | | | | |
| Aston | | 4 | 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| Balsall Heath West | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| Bartley Green | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| Birchfield | | | 4 | | | | | | | | | |
| Bordesley & Highgate | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bromford & Hodge Hill | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | |
| Erdington | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Glebe Farm & Tile Cross | | | 2 | | | | | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Hall Green North | | | 2 | 3 | | 1 | | | | | | |
| Handsworth | 2 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | |
| Holyhead | 3 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Kingstanding | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Ladywood | 2 | | | 3 | | | | | | | | |
| Lozells | | 5 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Oscott | | | | 6 | | | | | | | | |
| Perry Barr | | | | 9 | | | | | | | | |
| Quinton | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sheldon | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Soho & Jewellery Quarter | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | |

| WARD | MONTH | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------|-----|-------|-------|-----|------|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | March | April | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| South Yardley | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East | | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| Sparkhill | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Stirchley | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Stockland Green | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sutton Trinity | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tyseley & Hay Mills | | | | 2 | | | | | | | | |
| Ward End | | 5 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Weoley & Selly Oak | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | |
| Unspecified/unallocated** | 6 | 1 | 1 | 4 | | | | | | | | |

January to April 2021. [May & June data is not yet collated]

| WARD | MONTH | | | |
|--------------|---------|----------|-------|-------|
| | January | February | March | April |
| Newtown | | | | 1 |
| Perry Common | | 1 | | |

*Denotes potential FPNs geographic premises locations which may not be contiguous with the current Local Government Boundary Review ward boundaries.

** Denotes FPNs where the electronic records held do not link to a specific premises/ward location. This may include those issued to legal entities outside of Birmingham or that are linked to original documents destroyed as part of data records retention/destruction policies or that are linked to legal proceedings matters and where original documents are potentially submitted in evidence/proceedings are pending and cannot readily be cross-referenced to a specific ward.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIR OF LICENSING AND PUBLIC PROTECTION
COMMITTEE FROM COUNCILLOR MORRIAM JAN**

K6 Fixed Penalty Notices (Littering)

Question:

How many fixed penalty notice fines for littering have been issued in Birmingham, by Ward, since May 2018?

Answer:

Please find the number of FPN's by ward issued since May 2018. Omitted wards had no FPNs issued.

| Ward | Number of FPNs issued |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Acocks Green | 2 |
| Alum Rock | 3 |
| Aston | 15 |
| Balsall Heath West | 1 |
| Bordesley and Highgate | 26 |
| Bordesley Green | 1 |
| Bournbook and Selly Park | 1 |
| Bournville and Cotteridge | 1 |
| Brandwood and Kings Heath | 9 |
| Bromford and Hodge Hill | 1 |
| Edgbaston | 10 |
| Erdington | 17 |
| Glebe Farm and Tile Cross | 2 |
| Hall Green North | 1 |
| Harborne | 4 |
| Kingstanding | 1 |
| Ladywood | 14,245 |
| Moseley | 1 |
| Nechells | 18 |
| Newtown | 6 |
| Northfield | 7 |
| Small Heath | 3 |
| Soho and Jewellery Quarter | 13 |
| Sutton Trinity | 1 |
| Ward End | 10 |
| Yardley West and Stechford | 5 |
| Total | 14404 |

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIR OF PLANNING COMMITTEE FROM
COUNCILLOR ROBERT ALDEN**

L1 Planning Application Acknowledgement Letters

Question:

Planning Application acknowledgement letters currently state

“Council Offices: Offices are not open and most of our staff are now working from home. As a result, we are experiencing difficulties in receiving and dealing with planning and related applications. This will result in changes in service delivery and normal procedures and we want to make you aware that there may be delays in responding to you as we adapt to our changing working practice”.

Given Council Offices have now been closed for more than 12 months, how much longer do you believe is needed to ‘adapt’ to these changes?

Answer:

Due to the Pandemic, the Corporate policy remains to work from home where possible and only to go into the office if necessary.

Senior officers worked tirelessly to implement processes to ensure that the planning service operated and continues to operate as smoothly as possible during these unprecedented times.

Due to the fact that the service would inevitably be affected by the pandemic, it was beneficial that members of the public were advised from the onset that there may, on occasion be delays.

However, I am pleased to advise that significant service improvements have been put in place which has resulted in planning performance never being so high. During the pandemic performance has continued to improve and has been for several months in the high 90%s.

It is clear that this note was added to the acknowledgement letter at the beginning of the pandemic and unfortunately not been amended as time has passed.

I have spoken to the Director of Inclusive Growth to request that this note is updated.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIR OF PLANNING COMMITTEE FROM
COUNCILLOR DAVID PEARS**

L2 New Builds

Question:

How does Building Control work with Severn Trent to identify fix and enforce fixes to misconnections of waste sewage pipes, including dye testing for new builds and extensions? Please include any changes planned to this process as a result of the Environment Agency identifying this as the 'weak link' in addressing the pollution problem with water waste.

Answer:

Building Control is a statutory service but unique in that it is open to private sector competition. Therefore, people carrying out building work have a choice to use the Council's service or a private sector 'Approved Inspector'. In Birmingham, around 55% of the projects are checked by the Council and 45% by Approved Inspectors.

This answer relates only to work checked by the Council's building control team. The team apply national building standards and the standards do not satisfy all the expectations of the Environment Agency, particularly the risk of widespread flooding and the effect on leaking foul sewage.

Our building control service sets out an inspection plan for every building project and drainage is an important part of that inspection plan. The team inspects all drainage before it is covered up and the surveying staff are aware of the risks of misconnection and ensure that does not happen. Completion Certificates are not issued until we are satisfied with the drainage.

The service consults with Severn Trent Water (STW) on a statutory basis when development is taking place close to a Public Sewer. STW may veto the development or set conditions.

STW also have responsibility for maintaining and repairing all drainage shared by two or more properties and the service reminds people carrying out work of their responsibility to make sure they have STW approval. STW charge the property owner for that service and make their own separate arrangements to ensure they are satisfied with the work. Therefore, the work on shared drains is checked by both building control and Severn Trent.

A misconnection of foul water to a storm water drain would be in contravention of building regulations and therefore potentially a criminal offence. If the situation is brought to the attention of building control within two years of the building work being carried, we would raise this with the property owners and enforcement action may be considered if necessary.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIR OF THE RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FROM COUNCILLOR MATT BENNETT**

M CAZ Procurement Call In

Question:

We received an email on 26th May saying that you had originally decided to hold the CAZ procurement call in on Friday 28th May due to it “needs to take place before 1st June as that’s when the CAZ starts

You subsequently agreed to change it once we made a complaint about it being a time neither people bringing the call in could attend

What did officers explain to you was the reason they wanted it to be done by the 1st June

Please include all correspondence you received from officers or Cabinet Members explaining why it needed to be held before 1st June?

Answer:

Cabinet Members requested an early call-in meeting so as to see if the issues in relation to the call-in of the CAZ contracts could be resolved before it came in to force on the 1st June (as we did not have clarity on that at that time). I was also attempting to accommodate the availability of Cabinet Members. There is no correspondence to share as the conversation was over the phone and at Full Council on the 25th May.

Executive Business Report

Birmingham City Council

City Council

13th July 2021



Subject: Update on Birmingham City Council's continuing response to COVID-19 and proposed approach to recovery

Report of: Cabinet

Report author(s): Deborah Cadman (Gold Commander & Interim Chief Executive)

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If relevant, state which appendix is exempt, and provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential:

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Council's response to the Covid-19 pandemic, following previous reports brought to City Council in September 2021 and February 2021.
- 1.2. An report was previously prepared for City Council in June 2021, which is attached as an appendix. The focus of this report is on the Council's proposed approach to recovery planning, including emerging governance for delivery of economic and community recovery strategies.
- 1.3. The Covid-19 situation continues to rapidly develop; where updated figures or service updates are available following the production of the June 2021 report, these are provided.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That the report be noted.

3. Introduction

- 3.1.** Birmingham is now over a year into the Covid-19 pandemic. While we might once have expected the virus to have faded from the public consciousness by now, the situation continues to be fast moving and dynamic. The Council, alongside other partners across the city, must be equally agile in its response.
- 3.2.** According to the original roadmap out of lockdown, set by national government in February 2021, all legal limits on social contact and business operations were due to be removed on 21st June. The emergence of new variants of the virus, and concerns about a potential third wave of the pandemic in the UK, have delayed this final step out of lockdown. Instead, we are now planning for the lifting of restrictions no earlier than 19th July.
- 3.3.** Many businesses, especially those in hospitality and leisure sectors, continue to experience significant restrictions on operations. Over the course of the pandemic the Council has distributed over £225m in grants to businesses to ensure their survival, through both national and locally designed schemes. Ensuring a successful economic recovery from the pandemic – one in which all businesses and communities are supported to succeed – will require us to go much further, setting a bold vision for the future of the city.
- 3.4.** Since the preparation of the original update report in June 2021, Birmingham has become an area of enhanced support due to increasing case rates across the city. We must all continue to play our part in fighting the virus: by continuing to test twice a week using lateral flow tests; by taking up the opportunity to get vaccinated; and by following social distancing and hygiene guidance.
- 3.5.** Despite these recent developments, there are positive signs of recovery in the city. The vaccination programme continues to go from strength to strength, both in Birmingham and across the United Kingdom. Over 60% of adults in the United Kingdom have now received both doses of the vaccine. Activity towards both the community and economic recovery continues at pace, working hand in hand with partners from across the private, voluntary and public sectors.
- 3.6.** At the time of writing this report, the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games are just over a year away. Birmingham remains a city of opportunity, looking ahead to a transformational decade. We must ensure that we rise to the challenge that lies before us – to make the most of these opportunities, building a city that works for everyone.
- 3.7.** A previous report was prepared for June 2021 City Council, focusing on the Council's proposed approach to recovery planning, including emerging governance for delivery of economic and community recovery strategies. It also provided an update on the Council's continuing response to the Covid-19 pandemic, identifying challenges and opportunities within individual service areas and considerations for the resumption of 'business and usual' services.

- 3.8.** This previous report is attached as an appendix. All information in this appendix was correct at the time of production.
- 3.9.** Where updated figures or service updates are available following the production of the June 2021 report, these are provided here.
- 3.10.** A further report will be brought to City Council in Autumn 2021, providing a full update on all activity related to the Covid-19 response and recovery planning.
- 3.11.** Updates in relation to specific areas of response can be found as follows:
- Education, Skills and Children's Wellbeing; pages 3 - 4
 - Communities (including Housing, Bereavement Services, and Community Safety); pages 4 - 7
 - Street Scene & Parks (including Waste Management); pages 7 – 8
 - Transport; pages 8 - 9
 - Covid-19 Support Grants (including Business Support Grants); pages 9 - 10
 - Council Finances and Resources; pages 10 - 11

4. Education, Skills and Children's Wellbeing

4.1. Schools

- 4.1.1.** To support families with food costs incurred during the Easter and half-term holidays, we have used government funding to continue to provide supermarket vouchers to families eligible for free school meals.
- 4.1.2.** This support will be maintained over the summer with supermarket vouchers being provided to eligible families.

4.2. Careers and Skills

- 4.2.1.** The Employment Taskforce, led by the Acting Assistant Director for Skills and Employability, will be a central part of the proposed wider Birmingham City Council Economic Recovery Strategy. The Taskforce will include two subgroups:
- Young People's Subgroup
 - Pathways for young people to employment, education and/or training
 - Engagement with City Board
 - Adults Subgroup
- 4.2.2.** The terms of reference for the Taskforce will be approved as part of the wider recovery plan process. Work has already begun planning the key actions with

external partners in delivering improved 'jobs/skills convergence' in the short-term, such as collaboration with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) to improve the number of Kickstart places secured with employers.

- 4.2.3. The Taskforce is incorporating an integrated BCC approach to skills/jobs recovery that cuts across directorates to maximise expertise, resources and stakeholder engagement in delivering a seamless skills and employment service for citizens and employers.
- 4.2.4. The immediate focus of the Taskforce will be to lead on capitalising the opportunities for short-term recovery, although this will also include actions that need to be taken to overcome underlying long-term barriers. This includes the 'transition' from pre-16 education to post-16 jobs/skills opportunities as part of the growing focus on prevention and early intervention.

5. Communities (including Housing, Bereavement, and Community Safety)

5.1. Housing

Evictions

- 5.1.1. As of 1st June 2021, notice periods for seeking possession notices have been reduced from six months to four months. This will reduce further to two months from 1st August. Notice periods are expected to revert to pre-pandemic timeframes from 1st October.
- 5.1.2. Court interim arrangements are extended until 31st July 2021. In response, the service has had to continue to suspend enforcement action until the end of the national government roadmap out of lockdown, and review priority areas where enforcement action should and could commence. Government guidelines state that evictions can proceed if the tenant has over 6 months of arrears and the case is at the warrant stage.
- 5.1.3. For these exempt cases, the service has implemented another stage to the normal eviction process. This means that following the Eviction Prevention Panel, a further review takes place (including the Assistant Director, Revenues, Benefits and Rents) before the cases are signed off. There are currently 24 evictions identified that all fall under the exempt guidelines; a total of £160k in rent arrears.
- 5.1.4. In May 2021 we carried out three evictions without issue, totalling £31.5k of arrears. A further five evictions were either suspended, cleared or withdrawn.
- 5.1.5. Court restrictions came to an end on 1st June 2021 and their interim arrangements are set to be reviewed in July 2021.
- 5.1.6. The Council continues to strongly urge all its own tenants who have concerns, or have found themselves struggling financially to pay their bills, to

contact the council directly. As a landlord to over 60,000 households, we have found that rent arrears have increased significantly since lockdown first began.

- 5.1.7. In response, since March 2021 the Council has attempted to contact approximately 25,000 tenants in rent arrears, with repeated attempts in the region of 45,000 phone calls and letters.
- 5.1.8. We have successfully engaged with 14,252 tenants to try and understand what further help can be given to prevent them from falling any further into debt. This represents a 70% success rate. Of these tenants, 4,767 state that they have been affected by Covid-19.
- 5.1.9. 5,321 tenants have not responded to contact attempts and have been written to with a further offer of support.

5.2. Register Office and Bereavement Services

Marriage and Civil Partnerships

- 5.2.1. Weddings or civil partnership ceremonies, wedding receptions or civil partnership celebrations may take place in Covid-secure venues. They may also take place in venues other than Covid-secure venues, such as in the garden of a private home. The number of people who can attend is in most cases determined by how many people a venue can safely accommodate with social distancing measures in place, including guests of all ages and anyone working at the event.
- 5.2.2. Regardless of the type of venue, some restrictions for these events will remain in place to enable them to take place safely. This includes table service requirements, face coverings, social distancing, and restrictions on dancing and singing.
- 5.2.3. Inside private homes, and in indoor structures in gardens of private homes, weddings or civil partnership ceremonies, wedding receptions or civil partnership celebrations can only be held in line with broader social contact rules of up to six people or two households.
- 5.2.4. A marquee or other structure in a private garden of a private home must have at least 50% of its walled area open at any time for it not to be classed as indoors.
- 5.2.5. The organiser must complete a Covid-19 risk assessment for events taking place in all venues. For events in gardens of private homes or on private land this is only necessary if you plan on having more than 30 people, when you must use it to determine how many attendees will be able to attend and to identify other practical steps to ensure the event takes place safely. You must follow this risk assessment as well as any relevant guidance to make the event as safe as possible.

Outdoor Civil Marriages and Civil Partnerships

- 5.2.6. With effect from 1st July 2021, there is a new piece of marriage legislation in place covering outdoor marriages and civil partnerships. Full details of the guidance relating to this law can be found on the Ministry of Justice website.
- 5.2.7. These changes are being introduced via amendments to the Marriages and Civil Partnerships (Approved Premises) Regulations 2005 to allow legal outdoor civil weddings and civil partnership registrations to take place within the grounds of Approved Premises.
- 5.2.8. The regulations apply only to Approved Premises - the changes cannot enable outdoor weddings to take place on religious premises. However, those religious premises which are Approved Premises for civil partnership registrations will be allowed to hold civil partnership registrations outdoors, should they wish to do so.
- 5.2.9. The legal requirements for approved premises are set out in regulations. For ceremonies in other types of building, there are complex legal requirements dating back more than a century which are fixed by primary legislation.
- 5.2.10. In order to hold legal outdoor weddings and civil partnership registrations, a venue must be Approved Premises or must become Approved Premises under the Marriages and Civil Partnerships (Approved Premises) Regulations 2005, as amended.
- 5.2.11. Currently, premises which seek approval must comprise a permanent built structure (or permanently moored vessel) with at least one room which is to be approved for civil weddings and civil partnership registration. Under the amended regulations, such premises, if approved, can also use any outdoor areas in the same venue to hold civil weddings and civil partnership registrations.
- 5.2.12. Existing Approved Premises will be permitted to use any outdoor areas in the venue for civil wedding and civil partnership registrations without having to re-apply for approval, subject to certain conditions.
- 5.2.13. Ceremonies are now able to take place fully outdoors or under a partially covered structure if this has at least a 50% open area (the same definition used for the smoking ban and Covid 19 regulations in England and Wales). The location for the ceremony must be assessed to be seemly and dignified. Other requirements for public access and signage must be met.
- 5.2.14. These are time-limited amendments to the regulations coming into force 1 July 2021 until April 2022. A consultation will be undertaken in the Autumn 2021 to consider the practical impacts of this policy in detail and to enable a later amending Statutory Instrument which is not time limited.

- 5.2.15. With the exception of Jewish and Quaker weddings, which for historical reasons can already take place outdoors, legal religious weddings will continue to take place in certified places of worship which are also registered for marriage, or churches and chapels of the Church of England or Church in Wales. The Government will legislate to allow religious marriages to take place outdoors when parliamentary time allows.

Significant Life Events

- 5.2.16. Significant life events such as christenings or Bar/Bat Mitzvahs can be attended by a maximum of 30 people. Anyone working is not counted in these limits.

5.3. Community Centres

- 5.3.1. From early 2021, the service has supported Covid-19 lateral flow testing sites at Mere Green, Sheldon and Oddingley Community Centres. These operations were withdrawn in order that the Centres could re-open fully from 17th May 2021, although the site at Summerfield will remain in situ until the end of July 2021.
- 5.3.2. The service is also providing a base at Burbury Park for the teams distributing home testing kits in areas of the city.
- 5.3.3. The extension of restrictions until 19th July 2021 and the maintenance of social distancing requirements is having an on-going impact on income generation which is expected to create a financial pressure on the service this year.

5.4. Places of Worship

- 5.4.1. Places of worship are open for services. When a service is taking place indoors, attendees must not mingle in groups larger than six, except where everyone present is from no more than two households (including support bubbles). Social distancing must be maintained between groups at all times.
- 5.4.2. Where services are taking place outdoors, attendees must not mingle in groups larger than 30. Everyone should follow the national guidance on the safe use of places of worship.

5.5. Neighbourhood Advice and Information (NAIS)

- 5.5.1. We are now aiming to fully reopen on 19th July 2021, depending on further government announcements.
- 5.5.2. In the meantime, staff have returned to the office in smaller groups and we continue with our closed-door appointment-only service.

6. Street Scene and Parks (including Waste Management)

- 6.1. Following the granting of planning permission planning for the redevelopment of the Perry Barr depot, the Perry Barr Household Recycling Centre (HRC) will

be temporarily closed from 31st July 2021 whilst major improvement works are undertaken. The four other recycling centres across the city will remain open and have extra booking slots available to ease any potential disruption.

6.2. The 60-year-old Perry Barr site, which is run by Veolia, is being closed while redevelopment and improvement work is carried out, including:

- The removal of steps to containers on the site, which will make it easier to use for members of the public
- Dedicated visitor entrances, removing the need for residents to merge with site traffic
- Increased capacity and a wider range of recycling services

6.3. It is scheduled to reopen in spring 2023.

6.4. Residents who would normally use the Perry Barr site are being encouraged to use the Castle Bromwich HRC in the first instance as generally there is more availability at that site; however, they can of course use any of Birmingham's other recycling centres. The number of slots have been significantly increased by 35%, meaning that there is usually availability within two hours.

7. Transport

7.1. Public Transport

7.1.1. The Covid-19 Transport Cell undertook extensive planning for the 17th May milestone, which saw an increase in social contact and the relaxation of restrictions around indoor gatherings.

7.1.2. We anticipated an increase in the use of public transport for longer periods as night-time economy became more active. The reintroduction of large events such as concerts and sporting events were predicted to possibly have a significant impact on the network. Preparations to respond to this were put in place, including an Operational Order covering key events that will be drawing larger crowds than previously seen over the last year.

7.1.3. With the Prime Minister announcing England is 'very likely' to be able to return to 'pretty much life before Covid' on 19th July, measures will continue to be monitored and implemented. This will be in adherence to government guidelines and messaging, and utilising the Transport Cell will ensure a consistent, coordinated and strategic multi-agency approach towards this next step.

7.2. Future Public Transport Infrastructure

7.2.1. Bull Street Metro Works commenced on Monday 7th June 2021, which had a significant impact on bus services. The essential work has displaced approximately 80 buses per hour. Transport For West Midlands (TfWM)

continue to work closely with operators and Midland Metro Alliance on bus mitigation measures, as well as passenger communications and information sharing. Passenger assist staff were on Street to support for a subsequent two weeks.

7.3. Clean Air Zone (CAZ)

- 7.3.1. The Clean Air Zone (CAZ) became operational on 1st June 2021.
- 7.3.2. Ongoing marketing, communications and engagement continues to raise awareness of the CAZ and the support available to affected and eligible groups via exemptions and mitigations funds.
- 7.3.3. April, May and early June 2021 saw a marked increase in the uptake of exemptions which are designed to provide additional time to prepare for the CAZ and/or encourage the upgrade or replacement of vehicles that do not meet the emission standards of the Clean Air Zone.
- 7.3.4. As of 30th June 2021, the project has approved a total of 6,713 exemptions.
- 7.3.5. To date, the Taxi Mitigation Fund has issued grants with a total value of circa £1.9m (as at end of June 2021). The distribution of grants is in line with the number of licensed hackney carriage and private hire drivers i.e. approximately 30% hackney carriage and 70% private hire.
- 7.3.6. Now that the CAZ is operational, the CAZ team are collating data about the volume of vehicles entering the zone and the volume of compliant versus non-compliant vehicles. This data will be published on a monthly basis from the end of June 2021. The CAZ team, as part of the monitoring and evaluation programme, also plan to publish a traffic and air quality baseline report in early July 2021. The baseline data will be used to monitor progress towards the goal of achieving compliance with the legal limit for nitrogen dioxide.

8. Covid-19 Support Grants (including Business Support Grants)

8.1. Restart Grants

- 8.1.1. Birmingham City Council has now paid out over £43 million to around 6,200 businesses as part of the Restart Grants scheme.
- 8.1.2. Applications for this scheme closed on 30th June, with the deadline for final payments on 31st July. Work will continue over July on remaining unassessed high risk applications. This will involve the team making contact with businesses to get more information before making a final decision.

8.2. Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG)

- 8.2.1. A further top-up payment of £896.54 was made on 16th June 2021 to all 3,350 businesses previously in receipt of a grant through the ARG scheme.

- 8.2.2. This means that all funding received through the initial ARG allocation has been spent, allowing the Council to draw down an additional £7m in ARG top-up funding. We expect to receive this funding in late July 2021.

8.3. Social Isolation Payments

- 8.3.1. From 1st July 2021, eligibility criteria for the Discretionary Isolation Payments scheme have been amended to remove the savings criteria and raise the income threshold to £26,000.
- 8.3.2. These changes have been communicated on the BCC website and will make the process of claiming easier for citizens.

9. Council Finances and Resources

9.1. Covid-19 Financial Update

- 9.1.1. On 23rd June 2021, Government announced a further £160m nationally to help struggling families with food supplies and utilities. This means that the Covid Local Support Grant has been extended until the end of September to enable councils to help families in need. Local authority allocations have not yet been confirmed. Historically, Birmingham has received around 3.05% of the national allocation, and therefore if the same methodology is used, the Council can expect to receive a further £4.9m of grant income.
- 9.1.2. In preparation for the extension, the Council is planning to continue the arrangement with Northgate, in addition to changing the eligibility criteria for local discretionary award element to make it more generous. This follows Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) advice to simplify the criteria for the discretionary element of the scheme. The Birmingham scheme will now apply to anyone earning less than £26,000 per annum and to remove the savings threshold. The benefit of this proposal will be to encourage more people to self-isolate when required. This will be the subject of an upcoming Cabinet report.
- 9.1.3. For 2021/22 there is forecast to be an overspend of £6.8m when risks are considered. If risks are excluded, then there is a minor overspend of £1.8m. It should be noted that forecasts will continue to be refined over the coming weeks and months as more information becomes available on the impact of easing restrictions.
- 9.1.4. Services have identified £2.4m of ongoing Covid impact for 2022/23 and beyond. This is a reduction of £0.2m. Any such costs will be dealt with as part of the upcoming budget process.

9.2. CIPFA Review

- 9.2.1. From April to May 2021, CIPFA undertook a review of the Council's Financial Management capability against their five-star model and scored the Council's Financial Management capability as three stars stating:

“It is clear that over the last two years at Birmingham City the core finance function has moved on from the more traditional stewardship aspects of financial management that had evolved through keeping the services ‘safe’ by trying to ensure that the organisation works within its approved financial targets to a much more mature and dynamic supporting and enabling service. Our evidence strongly points to a significant improvement having been achieved over the last two years on Financial Management capability to a position where high levels of effectiveness are now evident. Birmingham City Council should be considered to be an exemplar in the transformation of financial management capability given the extent of improvement achieved over the last two years.”

- 9.2.2. Three stars is a significant improvement on the previous one star score received from CIPFA in July 2019, which indicated the Council was only at the basic ‘securing stewardship’ level.

Executive Business Report

Birmingham City Council

City Council

22nd June 2021



Subject: Update on Birmingham City Council's continuing response to COVID-19 and proposed approach to recovery

Report of: Cabinet

Report author(s): Graeme Betts (Gold Commander & Interim Chief Executive)

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If relevant, state which appendix is exempt, and provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential:

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Council's response to the Covid-19 pandemic, following previous reports brought to City Council in September 2020 and February 2021.
- 1.2. The focus of this report is on the Council's proposed approach to recovery planning, including emerging governance for delivery of economic and community recovery strategies.
- 1.3. In addition, this report provides an update on the Council's continuing response to the Covid-19 pandemic, identifying challenges and opportunities within individual service areas and considerations for the resumption of 'business and usual' services.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That the report be noted.

3. Introduction

- 3.1. As we head into the summer of 2021, it is sobering to realise that we have been living with the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic for over a year. In March

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2020, when we entered the first period of national lockdown restrictions, no one could have anticipated the extent or the length of the crisis that we were facing. In many fundamental ways, Covid-19 has changed our world, and our city, forever. From international travel to local high streets, and from primary schools to live music venues, there is no areas of our lives left untouched by the pandemic. The social and economic impact of the virus will be with us for many decades to come, leaving an indelible mark on the global landscape.

- 3.2. Of course, the most profound impact of the pandemic is marked by the number of people lost. At the time of writing this report, Birmingham has lost 2,995 people to the virus. We extend our most sincere sympathies to all those across the city who have lost friends, family members and loved ones to Covid-19.
- 3.3. While the pandemic has been with us for a year, it has exposed and exacerbated long-running structural inequalities across Birmingham, revealing issues that have been hidden in plain sight for decades. The moral imperative to tackle these inequalities, and rebuild the resilience of all our communities, must play a major role in the wider recovery to ensure that we build a city that works for all our citizens.
- 3.4. Despite the challenges posed by Covid-19, we must look towards the future with hope. Birmingham City Council owes a duty to all citizens; not just to return to 'the way things were' before the pandemic, but to use this opportunity to reset, rethink, and reimagine a future in which everyone has an equal chance for success. Working with partners, we want to collectively raise ambitions across the city, building on our existing strengths and making the most of transformational opportunities such as the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games and HS2.
- 3.5. This will incorporate the key priorities outlined in the Council Delivery Plan: shifting focus from crisis to prevention, delivering sustainable growth, and embedding new ways of working across the Council.
- 3.6. We will take the lessons learned from the pandemic into the recovery. Working closely with partners and communities, including the voluntary sector, the Council will set out a bold and ambitious vision for the future of our city, putting Birmingham at the forefront of innovative policy and social transformation.
- 3.7. Details in relation to specific areas of response can be found as follows:
 - Recovery Planning and Governance; pages 3 – 10
 - Health & Wellbeing; pages 10 - 28
 - Education, Skills and Children's Wellbeing; pages 28 - 54
 - Communities (including Housing, Bereavement Services, and Community Safety); pages 54 - 74

- Street Scene & Parks (including Waste Management); pages 75 - 78
- Transport; pages 78 - 85
- Covid-19 Support Grants (including Business Support Grants); 85 - 90
- Council Finances and Resources (including Corporate Procurement and HR); 90 -101

4. Our approach to recovery

4.1.1. Prior to the pandemic, Birmingham was seeing growth at almost twice the rate of London, and four times the national average. While Covid-19 has had a profound impact on the city, both economically and socially, we are exceptionally well placed to become a global leader in recovery. With a number of transformational opportunities on the horizon, including the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games and the arrival of HS2, and the investment of millions of pounds of investment into the region, we are ready to take bold and decisive action to maximise opportunities for recovery across the city.

4.1.2. A forthcoming paper to Cabinet in July 2021 will set out the Council's strategic framework for recovery, bringing together the key themes, opportunities and decisions. This will include our approach to performance monitoring, and how we intend to evaluate the success of our recovery programme.

4.1.3. In addition to flagship economic and community recovery programmes, work is taking place across the Council to identify priority areas that have been significantly impacted by the pandemic. These include services in early years, mental health, domestic abuse, and housing. Individual recovery plans and activities are being developed in these areas, including the allocation of additional resource to insight and data functions to ensure that we have the intelligence we need to support communities.

4.2. Maximising opportunities for recovery across the city

4.2.1. This has been a challenging year for Birmingham businesses, one which has necessitated a shift in our focus in order to respond to both immediate and changing future needs. We have continued delivering the Business Growth fund during this quarter as well as other grants to businesses. Over the course of the year we have successfully delivered a £10.8m Discretionary Grant Scheme supporting 1,700 businesses, alongside a £29.3m Additional Restrictions Grant Scheme (ARG) supporting 11,600 businesses. We are also working up proposals for a £7m Recovery Fund to help businesses to move from survival to recovery to be introduced in July 2021 and run to the end of

March 2022. This will be funded by an indicative £7m ARG top-up from national government.

- 4.2.2. We have supported businesses in their preparation for the planned easing of restrictions by taking steps to provide greater space for outdoor hospitality activity from April 12th 2021. We have closed roads to traffic in the city centre and allowed Victoria Square to be used for informal outdoor seating. We have also increased the footway widening and parklets installed in 2020 to support the latest reopening. These temporary changes will maximise economic activity and support local business while Covid-19 restrictions remain in place but will have an impact on delivery of the City Centre Public Realm works, with some projects delayed as a result.
- 4.2.3. But we must also focus on the future, and how we build back our economy.
- 4.2.4. Our Urban Centres have been increasingly important throughout the Pandemic and are a key part of the city's recovery. The Levelling Up Fund and other recently launched government investment funding will further allow projects within our centres to be progressed and we hope to maximise opportunities arising from these. Our development and regeneration projects, which will act to stimulate growth across the city, have also progressed over this quarter. These include Birmingham Smithfield where the demolition contract has been awarded and enabling and infrastructure works begun, Paradise where work has continued on Phase 2 of the development, and the City Centre Enterprise Zone, where funding approval for public realm improvements has been obtained. In addition, critical progress has been made on our East Birmingham Inclusive Growth project with the Delivery Board now established and the strategy adopted. The project Delivery Plan is now in development.
- 4.2.5. To further support the city's recovery, we need to maximise the economic value of the upcoming Commonwealth Games. A major milestone was achieved this quarter with our partners, the West Midlands Growth Company, successfully submitting to Government the Full Business Case for the £23.6m Commonwealth Games Business and Tourism Programme (formerly the Trade Tourism and Investment programme). This programme will promote Birmingham, the West Midlands and the wider UK as a world-class destination for trade, investment, education and tourism, drive long-term economic benefit and boost the UK and region's global reputation.
- 4.2.6. The development of a regeneration framework for Perry Barr – which will make best use of the opportunities presented by the Games and existing investment as a catalyst for future inclusive growth – also continues apace, with a particular focus on a spatial masterplan and delivery plan. Thematic Advisory Groups have been established and local engagement meetings are underway. Emerging themes include delivering new housing and infrastructure to support growth, creating a healthy place, maximising access to green spaces, knitting

new development into existing communities, and creating a strong and future-proof Urban Centre.

- 4.2.7. The existing programme of regeneration in Perry Barr has seen during this quarter the topping out of all the residential plots under construction on the former Birmingham City University site, and the removal of the flyover. Demolition to facilitate further highways works has been completed, and the early works for the station redevelopment are underway. Consultations on both Our Future City Plan and the Birmingham Design Guide, which will shape development in the City Centre and across Birmingham, have concluded during this quarter. Comments will now need to be assessed and revisions made.
- 4.2.8. Birmingham Municipal Housing Trust (BMHT) development across the city this quarter as resulted in 17 rental and 11 sales units being handed over, giving a year-end total of 108 rental and 43 sales units. Some delays continue as a result of Brexit leading to increased shortages and longer supply times on key elements including bricks, timber and steel. Prospects for additional development continue to be pursued, with BMHT having signed contracts on three projects for a total of 107 units during this quarter and are near to concluding an additional two contracts for another 421 units. BMHT are also looking very carefully at future house types with a view to changes in building regulations and the council's commitment to reducing carbon emissions.
- 4.2.9. We see Development Management Service performance going from strength to strength which assists the economic recovery plan. Over the past year we have dealt with over 10,000 applications, with nearly 8500 decisions being issued (significantly more than any other Core City). Performance continues to improve month on month, and is now better than it has been since at least 2013. New protocols have been adopted to improve the quality of the service and the speed of decision making has increased from about 75%-85% of applications dealt with in time at the beginning of the year to now around 90%. Planning Committee has approved a number of major applications which play an important role in terms of economic recovery and creating confidence.
- 4.2.10. The Cumulative Capital Receipts, generated through the disposal of council assets, totalled £38,634,244 by the end of Q4. This is significantly above our original target of £30m. Generating capital receipts from disposing of surplus assets provides a cost-efficient method of funding the Council's capital investment programme. The Asset Valuation programme was completed by the end of March and additional valuations required for the accounts are currently underway.

4.3. **Economic Recovery Strategy**

- 4.3.1. Following a successful consultation exercise, the Birmingham City Council Economic Recovery Strategy was approved by Cabinet in March 2021. The

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Strategy sets out the Council's role in supporting the city's economic recovery, and contains a range of development schemes which have the potential to add significant value to the local and regional economy, in addition to creating new jobs for residents.

4.3.2. The Strategy is based around four key priorities, aligning with both the Council Delivery Plan and the Community Recovery Programme:

- Creating a more inclusive economy
- Taking more radical action to achieve zero carbon emissions
- Strengthening our public services
- Building the strength and resilience of communities

4.3.3. Work is underway on proposals for a cross-partner Economic Recovery Implementation Group to oversee delivery of the strategy, working across the city to ensure an inclusive approach to recovery that leaves no one behind. This will include representatives from across the business community in addition to anchor organisations who play a key role in the local economy.

4.3.4. In addition to the Economic Recovery Implementation Group, an Employment Taskforce will be established to tackle the rapid rise in employment caused by the pandemic. This will join up activity across the city on skills development, economic development and unemployment, seeking to avoid duplication while maximising the benefits of a partnership approach. Youth unemployment will be an initial priority area for the Taskforce, taking a strategic approach to funding and investment to tackle the rise in NEETs and safeguard the future of young people across Birmingham.

4.3.5. An initial roundtable event took place on 26th May 2021 to help drive this area of work, bringing together over 60 representatives of stakeholder organisations from across the city and wider region.

4.4. **Community recovery**

4.4.1. During the course of the pandemic the Community Recovery 'cell', through the Community Recovery Working Group, has continued its work as a coordination and networking group, and has played a key role in facilitating the Birmingham Recovery Framework and a piece of work by Locality on Birmingham's Collaborative Neighbourhoods.

Birmingham Recovery Framework

4.4.2. From the earliest stages of the pandemic a co-ordinated voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) sector approach has been central to the civil response to the emergency. The Council has a long-term relationship with BVSC and, prior to the pandemic in 2019-20, established a strategic partnership arrangement. This arrangement aims to deliver a transformational

approach to engagement between the Council and VCFSE sector and seeks to bring together services and activities in an integrated way to meet the strategic challenges the city faces.

- 4.4.3. The Council deployed its partnership with BVSC early in the pandemic, with BVSC mobilising and coordinating the sector through the establishment of a cross-city VCFSE partnership (the C-19 Support Brum Partnership). This enabled the Covid-19 civil society response to be co-ordinated at a neighbourhood level (building on existing NNS structures and processes) as well as specialist thematic groups (including disabilities, domestic abuse, housing and homelessness, children and families, and mental health). There was daily contact with the Council through the command structures, and the sector response was mobilised within 48 hours using a distributed leadership approach.
- 4.4.4. The strength of this partnership approach and the results it has delivered for communities is now being recognised at a regional and national level as an exemplar in delivering a systematic and strategic approach to the Covid-19 crisis. This response to the pandemic has demonstrated the benefit of the much wider strategic and operational dialogues that can take place between the Council and VCFSE sector. The opportunity exists to maintain this momentum.
- 4.4.5. BVSC (in its strategic partner role) has been engaging with the Council and a range of cross sector partners both locally and nationally to start shaping the Covid-19 recovery vision. There is an aspiration in Birmingham to deliver something wider than just 'recovery' and an opportunity to consolidate the strong local authority/VCFSE sector working relationships that have been confirmed by the partnership approach to supporting communities throughout the crisis.
- 4.4.6. This has led to the development of a proposed Birmingham Recovery Framework by BVSC in partnership with the Council. The Framework sets out the strategic approach and delivery framework for community recovery. It reflects key existing plans and agendas (including Localisation, economic recovery, Everyone's Battle Everyone's Business, and WMCA's levelling up roadmap) and pieces together various emerging strands of thinking and activity to enable the Council to influence, inform, and embrace its role as a partner in communities. There is recognition that this is an evolving space which will continue to be influenced by the ongoing engagement with citizens, VCSFC sector, and elected members.
- 4.4.7. The Framework sets out a series of proposed actions and priorities that have been grouped together under six recovery themes:
 - 1. Develop a city recovery vision built on collaborative public services

2. Inclusive Economic Recovery, tackling existing and new inequalities so that no one is left behind
3. Community Capacity, Community Power, infrastructure and platforms of support to VCFSE organisations
4. Social Recovery, use of prevention, early intervention, whole life course approaches which changes our relationships with citizens
5. Localisation working in neighbourhoods
6. Service Integration across organisations to achieve an effective system for recovery

4.4.8. Several key shared principles are at the heart of the proposed approach, including being citizen-focussed; working through partners in communities; prioritising prevention and early intervention; and, tackling new and existing inequalities.

4.4.9. Delivery of the framework will be coordinated by the Community Recovery Board (covered in more detail below) which will work closely with the Community Recovery Working Group and other forums to advise on priorities, identify gaps, and ensure implementation of community recovery activity.

4.4.10. The Framework is due to be presented at Cabinet in July 2021.

Birmingham's Collaborative Neighbourhoods

4.4.11. Over spring/summer 2020, Locality were commissioned by the Neighbourhood Development and Support Unit (NDSU) within City Operations (previously Neighbourhoods Directorate) to undertake research into the response to the pandemic by the city's community organisations.

4.4.12. Interviews and roundtables were carried out with 11 community organisations, 10 Pioneer Places (made up of multiple community organisations and services), Council and sector stakeholders, elected Members, and Council officers. An existing report by Locality ('We were built for this') – which looks at the community response to coronavirus across the country – was used as a comparison and reference point.

4.4.13. The report produced by Locality ('Birmingham's Collaborative Neighbourhoods' (August 2020)) provides a snapshot of Birmingham's community-led response and what this means for resetting the civic and community relationship, particularly in the context of the Localisation agenda and post-Covid-19 recovery.

4.4.14. Locality produced a set of recommendations across the following four key themes:

1. Support a community powered economic recovery
2. Build collaborative public services

3. Turn community spirit into community power

4. Develop an approach to culture change across the Council

4.4.15. This will require the Council to work at a more local level and ensure solutions to the city's challenges are rooted in the experiences of our diverse communities. This aligns with our approach to Localisation as we strive to improve neighbourhood working and to build a culture of participation and public engagement.

4.4.16. Locality's recommendations form part of the Community Recovery workstream.

Community Recovery Governance Arrangements

4.4.17. New governance arrangements for community recovery are being finalised in readiness for the transition from emergency 'response' to 'recovery' in line with the Government's roadmap at the end of June 2021. While the roadmap may be pushed back, the differential impacts are being experienced by our citizens right now and the Council is ensuring it is on the front foot to respond to these challenges.

4.4.18. A proposal to establish a Community Recovery Board is due to be presented at Cabinet in July 2021 and members have already met in 'shadow' to scope governance and priorities and will continue to do so prior to the formal transition from response into recovery.

4.4.19. The Board will play a key role in ensuring the Council can achieve success against the six themes set out in the Birmingham Recovery Framework. The primary purpose of the Board will be to coordinate and provide collective direction for the strategic approach and actions required around community recovery. However, it will also consider wider recovery links prior to EMT, Cabinet, and partnership documentation, including the following workstreams:

- Economic recovery
- Youth and adult pathways to employment, education and/or training
- Early years
- Mental health
- Domestic abuse
- Housing

4.4.20. The Board will be chaired by the Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion, Community Safety and Equalities (Councillor Cotton), with representation from BVSC (the Council's strategic partner organisation) as vice-chair. Internal thematic leads will be identified. A key objective for members will be to work collaboratively in order to examine and connect recovery workstreams across

internal and external programmes as well as the Council's wider reform work. The Board will feed into EMT as the Council sponsoring body for recovery and the City Board as the partnership sponsoring body for recovery.

- 4.4.21. Across the wider recovery programme, we are stepping up supporting resource (including a dedicated Programme Manager for Recovery and a Programme Director for the Housing workstream). We are also capitalising on key opportunities from a resourcing perspective (including bidding for emergency funds for prevention and promotion of mental health and wellbeing activity post Covid-19). Conversations are also underway to establish what recovery means in terms of levelling up. Any financial implications arising will be considered as part of the Medium-Term Financial Plan.

5. Health and Wellbeing

5.1. Adult Social Care

- 5.1.1. Since the last Executive Business Report Update in February 2021, the nation has seen a gradual lifting of Covid-19 restrictions. The Adult Social Care Directorate has continued to work with our citizens and partners, both statutory and non-statutory, as we take tentative steps towards recovery. Below is an outline of how the Directorate is working with some of those most impacted by restrictions, including those supported through our Day Centres, Carers Services, our wider community organisations and our partners. It also flags the impact on performance and finances and how these are now progressing in line with targets. Lastly, the section provides an update on how the Directorate is engaging with local and national partners around the development of 'Integrated Care Systems', which are due to be implemented nationally by 2022.

Supporting our service users

- 5.1.2. Day Opportunities services support approximately 1800 citizens with a wide range of support needs, including: older people, people with learning disabilities, people with autism, people with a physical disability, and people with mental ill health.
- 5.1.3. Due to the impact of the pandemic, Day Centres in Birmingham closed in March 2020. During the closure period, insights gathered from assessments, feedback from families and providers, and national reporting showed an increase in:
- reduced social interaction and cognitive stimulation
 - poor physical and mental wellbeing of citizens and carers
 - breakdown of routines for citizens and carers

- self-harming, aggressive and destructive behaviours of citizens
- fatigue, stress, lack of sleep for carers

- 5.1.4. BCC and external provider teams have maintained regular contact with citizens and their carers throughout the lockdown period. Because of the national Covid-19 restrictions, there have been limited options to support carers, but day care providers have worked hard to implement creative programmes of outreach support. These include: telephone and online services; doorstep and garden visits; assistance with appointments; virtual dance sessions; and online karaoke and Zoom chats. Distance Learning Packs proved extremely popular, with many themed around calendar celebrations such as Easter, VE day and Diwali.
- 5.1.5. After publication of the national government's 'Roadmap out of Lockdown' guidance, a process for reassessing the needs and preferences of Day Centre users commenced. Consideration of how to support citizens to transition back into a service is built into all service re-opening plans. The easing of restrictions enabled a phased reopening of Birmingham Day Cares from 26th April 2021. Due to on-going restrictions, reopening plans involve managing risks and being flexible to adapt to changing requirements. To minimise the risk of infection, services are initially able to operate at approximately 35% of pre-Covid-19 capacity. Outreach support is still being provided for those citizens who are either unable to attend centre-based services due to restrictions, or have chosen to delay returning to their centre.
- 5.1.6. As of 10th May 2021, of the nine BCC internal day centres and four gardening projects: six are open, five will have reopened by 1st June, and two are unable to confirm a date at this stage due to building related issues. There are also 44 Day Opportunity providers external to BCC, operating across 60 sites, 9 of which are outside of Birmingham boundary. As of 10th May, 36 sites are open, 11 more will have reopened by 1st June and 13 are unable to confirm a date at this stage due to building related issues.
- 5.1.7. Monitoring of both centre-based and outreach activity will continue for the foreseeable future, providing insight into the impact of the pandemic on citizens and carers.

Supporting our carers

- 5.1.8. The Directorate has continued to work closely with Forward Carers (Birmingham Carers Hub) to tailor the offer of support in line with the lifting of restrictions. All carer providers and commissioners have been meeting on a fortnightly basis to address any issues arising from Covid. Through enhanced partnership working, providers have been able to combine resources to deliver an effective service to our carers, as well as increasing responsiveness to rapidly changing circumstances.

- 5.1.9. Forward Carers are now focusing on wellbeing, resilience and recovery for staff and supporting delivery partners. The organisation is also beginning to think about how to support carers to resume face-to-face contact. Services are looking at the possibility of holding small face-to-face sessions during Carers Week, and hoping that the summer will provide opportunities for more outside contact.
- 5.1.10. Over the last quarter partners came together with NHS vaccination leads to support the roll out of the vaccine to informal carers (as prioritised by the Joint Committee on Vaccine and Immunisation). Each partner took a highly collaborative approach; doing what they said they were going to do and communicating regularly. Partners worked together in a solution focused and action orientated way, acknowledging the national policy but not being constrained by it - making decisions to do what was right locally. There were no complicated procedures or processes, things were kept as simple as possible.
- 5.1.11. This process provided a valuable opportunity for the health, social care and carers organisations to work collaboratively and effectively. There is a commitment from members to continue working together as a BSOL-wide carers group to:
- Improve GP engagement – partners have established a small working group to consider the role of GPs in identifying and signposting carers to Forward Carers/Carers Trust.
 - Cleanse data on emails and phone numbers for carers.
 - Approach NHS Digital to propose that information about local carers services is sent out to all those who came forward for a vaccine.
 - Hold regular BSOL meetings so we can work together on common issues, e.g. GPs, Carers Week in June.

Supporting our community organisations

- 5.1.12. The network of community organisations that supported the city through the peak of the pandemic are continuing to deliver core elements of support such as financial advice, access to food and crisis payments, and information, advice and guidance (IAG) services. The capacity of these support structures was strengthened through targeted funding from the Emergency Assistance Grant and they continue to receive ongoing requests for support. A proposal to continue funding BVSC to retain the current infrastructure until the end of March 2022 is being considered, as this would enable both the development of community recovery and also ensure that mechanisms are in place to step up a community response in the event of a third wave.

- 5.1.13. The Council's Insight Programme are working with the Directorate to analyse data on levels of vulnerability across the city during the pandemic. The team have mapped demands at a locality level and to develop strategies to support vulnerable citizens in the longer-term. A learning session is planned for May/June 2021 to explore this further.
- 5.1.14. Organisations funded through the Adults Prevention and Communities Grants scheme have continued to refocus their activities to respond to the demands associated with the pandemic and the changes associated with recovery. The infrastructure of this scheme has been mirrored by the Birmingham Children's Partnership to provide urgent front-line resources for children and families in need.
- 5.1.15. As part of the city's wider recovery journey, organisations supporting adults and children across the city are engaging in longer-term discussions about the development of an All Age Grant Prospectus, in order to ensure a whole life-course approach to investment within the community and voluntary sector. This will ensure that the services available to vulnerable citizens are not unnecessarily fragmented by the age segmentation of funding streams.
- 5.1.16. Sector leads are now also working with BVSC in their coordinating role to establish the infrastructure which will form part of the recovery journey. As a result of this work a draft recovery framework has been presented to the Corporate Leadership Team. BVSC have developed an action plan and the Recovery Group is in the process of identifying lead senior officers against the actions.

Supporting our health and care system

- 5.1.17. Over the course of the pandemic, partners across the health and social care system have come together to implement measures aimed at protecting citizens and shielding the most vulnerable, based on national evidence and guidance.
- 5.1.18. Although Covid-19 demand has decreased in hospitals, there continues to be a high number of people attending A&E, and high levels of activity across hospital sites. Hospitals and out-of-hospital teams are experiencing unpredictable levels of demand, and continue to focus on supporting people to remain at home wherever possible. Support is being provided to maintain the health and wellbeing of people who use services and the social care workforce, including unpaid carers. This continues to present a potential risk to capacity, as staff are tired and fatigued by the past year and ongoing pressures in the system.
- 5.1.19. As we move into recovery planning, system partners are working together to build on and embed streamlined processes in line with the Hospital Discharge Service Operating Model and Policy.

Performance update

- 5.1.20. Social Care and Health have continued to provide extensive support to registered care providers during the last quarter and throughout the pandemic. Officers have published regular information and guidance, secured the continued funding for a dedicated Infection Control Service, and continue to support providers around Covid testing and vaccination of the Social Care workforce. The Directorate has distributed over £23m in national grants and £3m Council funding to support providers during the crisis.
- 5.1.21. The Customer Journey model has bolstered our strengths and community assets approach. Our Early Intervention Teams have been working on embedding the multidisciplinary approach, applying the home first principles, reducing length of stay and improving outcomes for citizens. This has contributed to our success in supporting over 70% of people to receive adult social care in their home. The number of people placed permanently in care homes rose against the Directorates overall direction of travel due to Covid-19. There was an impact on shared lives carer recruitment and slower progress on increasing Direct Payment uptake, though the Directorate remains in Top Quartile performance for this measure. As we move into the recovery phase, performance has started to improve and come back into line with the overall desired direction of travel.
- 5.1.22. Work is progressing to bring together social care, community nursing, therapy services, GP practices and mental health services into multi-disciplinary teams by April 2022. Similarly, the joint working between children's and adults' services continues, supporting young people in transition to achieve outcomes around employment, housing, health, relationships. The development of the preparation for adulthood services has already received more than 250 connection requests, demonstrating the benefits of more joined up ways of working.
- 5.1.23. Many staff continue to work from home due to the ongoing closure of Central Administrative Buildings. The Directorate are fully engaging in the 'New Ways of Working' programme to ensure that we maximise the organisational and personal benefits that this approach offers. Work continues to support staff and managers to adjust to the change and ensure that service outcomes continue to improve.

Financial position

- 5.1.24. The final outturn for ASC in 2020/21 was very close to the position we have been forecasting all year. All savings have been delivered and additional Covid-19 spend managed effectively, with the use of external grant funding maximised where possible.

- 5.1.25. For the current financial year, it is currently forecast that ASC will deliver in year “step up” savings included in the approved budget of just under £9m. The service has a fully funded budget for 2021/22 but risks remain regarding the residual impact of Covid-19, as well as any unmet need in the Community which could impact on the service as lockdown eases. These will continue to be closely monitored through the financial year.
- 5.1.26. Looking forward, 2021/22 is the final year of the current 4-year Adults Transformation Programme. Officers are now developing business cases which will form the basis of the next stage of Service Transformation, linked to the ongoing development of system-wide partnership-working with health.

Integrated Care Systems

- 5.1.27. National Government has published a White Paper proposing changes to the way the NHS operates at a local level from 2022. A key part of this change will be the development of Integrated Care Systems (ICSs). ICSs are new partnerships between health and social organisations within an area, working together to coordinate services and to plan in a way that improves population health and reduces inequalities between different groups. They are a key part of the NHS Long-Term Plan and are intended to bring about major changes in how health and care services are planned, paid for and delivered. They are likely to become statutory bodies that bring together providers, commissioners and other local partners, to collectively plan and integrate care to meet the needs of their population.
- 5.1.28. The Council is engaging both nationally and locally with regards to the planned introductions of ICSs, and has advocated strongly for adult social care organisations to have parity with NHS bodies. With regards to Birmingham, the Council is calling for the continuation of a clear line of accountability between the ICS, the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Health Overview and Scrutiny committee. It has proposed that ICSs need to create an ambitious vision for health and wellbeing which is co-produced with citizens, so that any ICS has at its heart the priorities of citizens and reflects the diversity of the city. To achieve this, the Council is proposing that ICSs must be centred around personalisation and support people to take responsibility for and control of their care and health.
- 5.1.29. The Directorate supports the concept of devolution of resources and capacity to Birmingham as a single place, with the recognition that some functions are better done at an ICS or regional level. For this to be successful it is recognised that there needs to be alignment of local authority and NHS commissioning budgets for community health and wellbeing, and a lead role for the Council in commissioning these at the Place level.

5.2. **Public Health**

Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) Strategy Development

- 5.2.1. Public Health are supporting the refresh of the Health and Wellbeing Board's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy – Creating a Healthier City.
- 5.2.2. This strategy, which sets out the key health and wellbeing priorities for the City for 2022-2030, has selected areas for action based upon the latest data from a range of sources, including: public consultation on the Public Health Green Paper; the commissioned Covid-19 impact ethnographic study; Covid-19 insight surveys, and findings from local 'seldom heard voices' engagement. The strategy ensures that Covid-19 recovery is a cross-cutting element throughout.
- 5.2.3. It sets out ten themes for action and SMART ambitions across the life course and wider determinants of health. These include a theme setting out areas for action across the health and care system to mitigate the legacy of Covid-19.

Food

- 5.2.4. A wide range of work is underway on the Food agenda, and the Council is currently recruiting to a dedicated food team within Public Health to accelerate this work.
- 5.2.5. The Creating a Healthy Food City Forum is in the process of developing a Food Strategy for the city. Alongside this, it is also creating an Emergency Food Plan as an interim measure during the ongoing Covid-19 response; this is a live document that ensures that areas of assistance to the response can be strategically shaped and implemented.
- 5.2.6. Birmingham's Food Poverty Core Group has been re-established to ensure a robust and coordinated response to the various issues around food. The April 2021 meeting of this group focused on crisis management.
- 5.2.7. Birmingham has been elected to one of two seats representing European cities in the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact Secretariat. Through our presence in this forum, we will be helping to lead pan-city thinking on cultural dimensions of the food system and the political narrative around food justice.
- 5.2.8. The Childhood Obesity Trailblazer Programme is continuing to develop following a pause on activity during Covid-19, and partners are being commissioned to accelerate the apprenticeship health and wellbeing curriculum and the Birmingham data basket.

Physical activity

- 5.2.9. The Creating a Physically Active City (CPAC) forum, alongside Public Health, have a range of activities underway to address the impact of Covid-19 on activity levels in the city.

- 5.2.10. One initiative, Tola Time, launched at the end of May 2021, with campaigns through June, July and August. This is specifically aimed to increase awareness of and participation in active mobility, with a focus on walking and cycling. The initiative is aimed at BAME communities and wards, and will tie in with the end of Ramadan and the easing of lockdown. The campaign is funded by Bloomberg Philanthropies of which Birmingham is part of the Healthy Cities Network.
- 5.2.11. CPAC has supported WMCA and our colleagues in the travel demand team to ensure timely commissioning of the 'exercise on prescription' model, to increase walking and cycling again in areas of greatest need. This is funded through Tranche 2 funding from the Emergency Active Travel Fund. CPAC is also in the process of developing a Creating a Physically Active City action plan for Birmingham, underpinned by the need to tackle inequalities in physical activity in the city and assist in work to close the gap.
- 5.2.12. Officers from within Public Health are supporting the Healthy Happy Holidays Steering Group that will ensure the provision of food and physical activity to children on free school meals in Birmingham during school holidays (specifically Easter, the summer holidays and Christmas).

Mental health and wellbeing

- 5.2.13. Public Health has undertaken a range of research activities to enhance our understanding of the impact of Covid-19 on mental health and wellbeing in the community. Activities include a YouGov survey, impact questionnaire, ethnographic study, and 'seldom heard voices' engagement work.
- 5.2.14. In direct response to the pandemic, Public Health launched BHealthy, a programme that offered a range of support, webinars, literature, training and social media content to support health and wellbeing throughout the pandemic.
- 5.2.15. In May 2022, Birmingham bid for just under £800,000 of non-recurrent funding for use on mental health and wellbeing interventions, to reduce the impact of Covid-19. Funding was only available to areas with high levels of deprivation.
- 5.2.16. Due to the short-term nature of the funding, which must be spent by 31st March 2022, officers focussed the bid on interventions likely to have a legacy beyond the delivery end date. These include training, peer support and the development of tailored resources for different communities. The range of proposed interventions covers the life course (children, adults, older people) and offers universal as well as some interventions targeted at specific communities with identified mental health needs.
- 5.2.17. **Profiling the wellbeing of communities**
- 5.2.18. In addition to Covid-19 specific community engagement, the Public Health Division Communities Team has developed a framework for profiling the health

and wellbeing of Birmingham's communities. This will start with a profile of the City's Sikh population, due to be published in summer 2021.. The detailed analysis and narrative will be used to inform need and service delivery in the post-Covid recovery phase.

Tackling inequalities

- 5.2.19. Addressing inequalities remains high on the Public Health agenda. Working alongside the Creating a City Without Inequality Forum, Public Health is currently undertaking a joint review of the health and wellbeing inequalities experienced by Black African and Black Caribbean populations in Lewisham and Birmingham. This review, BLACHIR, will take an in-depth look at both the evidence and lived experience of inequality across the life course, with the impact and effects of Covid-19 woven in throughout.
- 5.2.20. Again working alongside the Creating a City Without Inequality Forum, Public Health is supporting the Birmingham Poverty Truth Commission. This study, taking place over two years, will include a detailed study of poverty linked to housing, exploring the lived experience and legacy of Covid-19 on deprived populations across Birmingham.
- 5.2.21. **Locality Health Needs Assessments**
- 5.2.22. Five locality Health Needs Assessments have just been completed, supporting locality working between the Council, the NHS and other partners.
- 5.2.23. HNAs examined issues across the life course within each locality, including: infant mortality, child obesity, teenage pregnancy, loneliness, hospital admissions, and falls. Disease prevalence and deaths were also profiled within each locality, including Covid-19.
- 5.2.24. Recommendations and discussion points were agreed for each locality.

Infant Mortality Taskforce

- 5.2.25. Work continues on the establishment of an Infant Mortality Taskforce. Meetings are taking place with key stakeholders to ensure the correct level of representation across the local ICS partnership, as well as clinicians, commissioners, and representations from the local voluntary sector organisations that advocate on behalf of ethnic minority communities.
- 5.2.26. It has been agreed to appoint an Independent Chair to oversee the activity of the Taskforce; this post will shortly be advertised. The recruitment panel for this role will include representatives from across the ICS, local CCGs, local government, and the voluntary sector.
- 5.2.27. Two working groups are being established; the first of these will focus on clinical and genetic factors within infant mortality, while the second considers wider determinants and health inequalities. The activity of both groups will be underpinned by the latest research and clinical evidence.

5.2.28. **Contract recovery**

5.2.29. Officers are working with providers to support them with the implementation of their recovery plans.

5.2.30. Sexual Health Services have provided an in-depth recovery plan with timelines and this is regularly updated at the contract management meetings.

5.2.31. Work is underway with GP practices to ensure the resumption of the Health Checks programme, targeting efforts at those who are at highest risk due to other health factors, as well as those most likely to be impacted by Covid-19. This includes patients from across Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities.

5.2.32. Smoking cessation programmes are currently being delivered at full capacity through pharmacies; work is underway, however, to increase engagement and activity in GP practices. Other services and means of delivery are being considered. An app support option is now available, which has resulted in more people quitting smoking than pre-Covid.

5.2.33. **Triple Zero Drug and Alcohol Strategy**

5.2.34. The Triple Zero drug and alcohol strategy for Birmingham was drafted in early 2020 but the planned public consultation was delayed by the Covid-19 pandemic. The consultation was rescheduled for spring/summer 2021 and will run for 12 weeks from 10th May to the 1st August.

5.2.35. Due to the ongoing restrictions, there will be virtual engagement sessions to support the consultation, alongside face-to-face engagement activities where possible.

5.2.36. The consultation will be hosted on the Birmingham BeHeard platform, and promoted by email, social media, and targeted engagement.

5.2.37. Responses will be analysed during the consultation period and if there are communities, groups, or geographical areas not represented, officers will look at running specific targeted approaches or focus groups.

5.2.38. **Health protection (non-Covid)**

5.2.39. Health protection work has stepped up on a range of non-Covid issues, subject to capacity of key partners such as PHE (Public Health England) and the NHS system.

5.2.40. On tuberculosis control there has been a successful partnership response to specific protracted situations from which lessons will be learnt. Local recovery of the national screening and immunisation programmes is underway to ensure that uptake and individual protection returns to pre-Covid levels in the first instance.

- 5.2.41. The multi-agency Health Protection Forum has been refreshed and reoriented to ensure progress on a wide range of health protection issues as well as Covid response (Test & Trace), and to provide the necessary assurance to the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 5.2.42. On the wider Covid-19 recovery, officers have conducted an evidence review with Birmingham University to identify the likely economic impacts of Covid within the city. Work is taking place to distil the evidence base and costs for a range of interventions.
- 5.2.43. **Future Parks Accelerator Programme**
- 5.2.44. In July 2019, Cabinet agreed to receive £1.1m from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to run the Future Parks Accelerator (FPA) Programme, with the huge ambition to embed the value of green spaces across the Council. The programme has been running in earnest since December 2019, testing key proposals to help the wider Council better understand and recognise the value of our green spaces. Over the course of the Covid-19 pandemic, the programme has continued to highlight the benefits of green spaces within the city.
- 5.2.45. Improvements have already been seen in how residents engage with green spaces across three pilot sites. A successful Crowdfunding initiative led by the Birmingham & Black Country Wildlife Trust on behalf of FPA led to £2,000.00 being raised for the Slow Worms (a rare native legless lizard) present on Dawberry Fields, our children's pilot site. The money will pay for habitat enhancement and a nature trails to help bring this local wildlife to life.
- 5.2.46. A Health and Wellbeing pilot in Witton Lakes, in the north of the city, has gone from strength to strength, demonstrating that citizens can benefit from connecting to nature both virtually and physically. Our virtual skills showcase has been well received, highlighting the range of jobs young people can access for a career in the environmental sector. Work in Dawberry Fields has shown the positive impact that activating a park – through nature trails, family activities and volunteering opportunities – has on children and families in the area.
- 5.2.47. Work is underway on developing our 25-year City of Nature Vision to ensure that the benefits of the green space and the wider environment are protected throughout the city.
- 5.2.48. Strong links have also been made between the FPA and the Route to Zero (R20) taskforce, with the evolving vision for the FPA programme now becoming 'Birmingham: A City of Nature'. This will be one of the five city priorities under its climate emergency and represent the mainstay of the city's climate change adaptation ambitions.
- 5.2.49. The programme has successfully led on the construction of a new Environmental Justice map for Birmingham. This combined data relating to

climate change, including flood risk and urban heat islands, with data on excess years of life lost in the city and data on access to green spaces. The map colours each ward according to a traffic light system. The FPA ambition in the 25-year plan will be to turn at least five 'red' wards 'green' during the first five years.

- 5.2.50. The FPA programme was due to end in May 2021, but due to the impact of Covid-19 a successful application to secure an extension has been made. The programme will now finish in March 2022, and the Council has received an extra £204,000 to support the continuation of the work.

Older People Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)

- 5.2.51. An Older Peoples JSNA began in 2020 and is now near completion.

- 5.2.52. The JSNA covers a range of areas, including:

- Issues affecting life expectancy
- Issues affecting independence, such as hip fractures, housing and social isolation
- Wider determinants of independence, such as transport access, mobility, and being part of a community
- End of life care
- Visual impairment and hearing loss

Population Health Management

- 5.2.53. Work is in progress to scope the population health needs and system wide assets that pertain to Population Health Management (PHM) implementation for the Birmingham and Solihull ICS population. This includes an assessment of the available digital and data infrastructure, and capacity and capability (for statistical modelling and forecasting). These are being evaluated against the national guidance on the requirements for PHM and the learning from early adopters. In addition, interviews with leaders in partner organizations across BSOL ICS have been conducted to ascertain their PHM ambitions and their preferred models for delivery and governance.
- 5.2.54. The output of the scoping and the interviews will inform the development of BSOL ICSs PHM during a meeting with stakeholders which will be held in early May 2021.
- 5.2.55. The Knowledge team have continued to support the wider Public Health department and Birmingham City Council with detailed analysis on a number of public health topics pertaining to the work of the Council. These include: infant mortality, child neglect, self-harm, obesity, population analysis (including ethnicity analysis), and some work on Covid-19.

Fast Track City

- 5.2.56. There is currently a Community Engagement and Needs Assessment being carried out by Enigma Consultancy. At present we are in the early stages of the Needs Assessment and the varying partners, community organisations and services users are being mapped, alongside the development of appropriate engagement activity. This should be finalised over the next couple of weeks.
- 5.2.57. Once the data is gathered, alongside other regional and national data, the analysis of findings will be developed by the provider with a final report submitted by mid-August 2021. This report will inform local needs around Test and Pathway realignments for HIV, TB and Viral Hepatitis Services.
- 5.2.58. In the meantime, the steering group for the Fast-Track Cities+ initiative meet on a regular basis to scope what are felt to be the key needs. These will be matched against the needs assessment once finalised. All findings will lead to us seeking appropriate funding streams and then commissioning appropriate initiatives.

Health protection response to Covid-19

- 5.2.59. As Covid-19 incidence, morbidity, and mortality rates continue to decrease, the Public Health team is gradually moving away from the emergency cell structure established in March 2020 and towards mainstreaming the acute health protection response to the pandemic.
- 5.2.60. Cell meetings are being replaced by regular meetings reviewing the incidence of Covid-19, particularly Variants Of Concern (VOC), testing, hospitalisation and morbidity, situation rates, common areas of exposure, vaccination rates and inequalities.
- 5.2.61. The City's dedicated Test and Trace unit, first established in the summer of 2020, continues to provide specialist public health advice to care homes, schools, workplaces, public venues and other settings where there are outbreaks and clusters of cases. We work to ensure there is a sufficient response to manage current situations and prevent future ones.
- 5.2.62. As restrictions continue to be lifted, we are working with event organisers to ensure thorough risk assessments are completed and sufficient precautions are in place to reduce the risk of spreading COVID. A contact tracing team has been created to make initial telephone contact with cases that were identified by the national contact tracing system. Both teams operate seven days a week, with consultant cover. Additional support is provided by the Environmental Health team who will visit those who cannot be contacted by phone and also help to enforce coronavirus regulations where necessary.

- 5.2.63. In the past month the team have responded to an average of 71 cases and 32 situations each week. These require detailed follow up and support to help contain the spread of the pandemic in Birmingham. The burden of work locally is increasing as national and regional bodies devolve more work and responsibilities to the local teams.
- 5.2.64. Working alongside PHE, we are closely monitoring, following-up and managing cases which involved VOCs. In some cases, this requires deploying very targeted surge testing (covered in more detail in later sections of this report).
- 5.2.65. The lifting of restrictions, combined with new VOCs entering the UK, and third waves of the virus occurring internationally, means that having a highly vigilant and highly responsive workforce is crucial. The Test and Trace team are scenario and contingency planning for the following three scenarios.
- Enduring transmission, where the incidence rates remain higher than the national average for long periods of time.
 - Multiple ongoing outbreaks (many of which are VOCs).
 - A third wave of the virus, with a very large increase in incidence rates.
- 5.2.66. We are responding to these scenarios by ensuring there is sufficient contingency funding within the Public Health budget to actively recruit new staff and engage in new initiatives to control the spread. We also make sure that staff in the wider Public Health team are constantly being updated and trained in responding to Covid-19 cases, contacts and situations, to ensure they can be quickly mobilised and ready to provide support immediately to the Test and Trace team if needed

Covid-19 Isolation Pilot

- 5.2.67. As the number of residents who have been vaccinated against Covid-19 increases, and restrictions are gradually lifted, there is a need to ensure that cases or contacts that have been asked to self-isolate are supported to do so as much as possible.
- 5.2.68. For those who are compliant with self-isolation, particularly for those who live alone, there is also a need to ensure that the Council supports their welfare and mental health as much as possible.
- 5.2.69. Typically, Covid-19 cases or close contacts have to self-isolate for 10 full days; however, they might need to self-isolate for longer if the contacts get symptoms or the symptoms do not go away. The traditional approach which CTAS (the national contact centre team) take when they have been notified about a case or contact is that the cases and contacts receive at least three phone calls, three SMS messages and three emails during the period of isolation. Although some signposting of support is provided by the national

team, the main focus is to ensure that the case and contacts are informed of what isolation involves and how long they isolate.

- 5.2.70. The purpose of the proposed isolation pilot is to a) ensure and support the welfare and mental health of those isolating, and b) remove any barriers to isolating (thus reducing the risk of spreading the virus). It is proposed to run three pilots in parallel which would finish by the end of August 2021. The locations identified would be based on the wards with the highest incidence rates over the past 30 days with each pilot site consisting of two wards
- 5.2.71. The success of each pilot would be determined by a number of factors, including impact on the incident rates for each ward and rates of non-engagement.
- 5.2.72. **Testing**
- 5.2.73. Public Health continues to lead the development and implementation of a testing strategy for Birmingham. Initially, this focused on testing site development for symptomatic testing through the (Polymerase Chain Reaction) PCR testing programme, with the identification and delivery of two mobile testing units, two drive-through and ten walk-through facilities across the city. In December 2020 the Council began the roll-out of a testing strategy for asymptomatic testing using the new rapid result lateral flow testing kits (LFDs). This had been developed on a hub-and-spoke model, with a focus on case and contact finding, early isolation of infectious cases and their contacts.
- 5.2.74. Currently there are four to five times more lateral flow tests being undertaken in Birmingham compared to PCR testing. LFDs have the advantage of being much quicker and cheaper than PCR testing, with the ability to get a test result within 30 minutes without needing to send the sample to a lab. The downside is the sensitivity, in that there is a 23% false negative rate meaning that those who are given a negative result have a 23% chance that they could still have the virus and be infectious despite having no symptoms. The false positive rates are circa 0.03% however the current guidance is that any self-administered positive lateral flow tests should be confirmed with a confirmatory PCR test which is more accurate
- 5.2.75. The ease of access and use, combined with the increase in speed before seeing a result, has meant a proportionally greater increase in self-administered lateral flow testing. Nationally there has been a move away from the model of lateral flow testing by providers in fixed sites, to a model where residents collect tests from community sites and pharmacies to bring home for testing, in addition to ordering these tests online for home delivery. As a result of the move to home testing, all testing sites closed by 14th May 2021. All residents are now being advised to test regularly and upload their results online through the national government website.

- 5.2.76. The Council is also piloting home testing kit collection pop-ups in supermarkets and other high footfall areas at weekends to increase the reach of distribution. These have been very well received and extended at some sites into weekday pop-ups. Where possible, we are alerting elected Members the day before to help promotion of temporary sites.

Variants of Concern/Operation Eagle

- 5.2.77. Currently BCC is engaging in active surveillance of all VOCs. The one which is most prevalent is the UK Kent variant. In response to cases of the South African variant we have engaged in 4 Operation Eagle (OpE) responses. More recently, concerns centre on the Indian variant (B1.617) as many Birmingham residents travelled back from India recently before it became identified as a red travel zone and therefore did not require the travellers to quarantine in hotels for 10 days before returning home. There are three types of this variant, of which the B1.617.2 is the one causing the most concern. It is 1.6 times more transmissible. No information on its susceptibility to vaccination or impact on morbidity and mortality is available. The fourth priority VOC is the Brazilian variant which is being monitored carefully.
- 5.2.78. In February 2021, in response to a confirmed South African VOC in Birmingham a targeted surge response testing campaign (Operation Eagle 1) was launched which focussed on the Frankly Great Park and Northfield wards. This involved drop and collect home testing where providers would drop off a PCR test to all households in the areas and then return at a later time/date to pick up the test and bring to the lab. This was combined with a collect and drop service as well as a business and school drop and collect. Further cases of the variant were not identified.
- 5.2.79. In April and May three additional Operation Eagle surge responses were rolled out focussing on Soho and Jewellery Quarter (OpE 2), Alum Rock, Glebe Farm and Tile Cross (OpE 3) and Bordesley Green and Ladywood (OpE 4).
- 5.2.80. Overall, the engagement rate was 62% (OpE 1), 55% (OpE 2), 69% (OpE 3) and 65% (OpE 4). Anecdotally there has been a sense that more and more people are reluctant to agree to testing and the refusal rates were 27% (OpE 2), 49% (OpE 3) and 36% (OpE 4).

Local Outbreak Management Plan

- 5.2.81. In 2020, the Council produced a Local Outbreak Management Plan (LOMP), setting out all of its current activities in managing the pandemic locally as well as indicating plans for further management for the rest of the year/early 2021.
- 5.2.82. Over March and April 2021, officers worked with PHE on a refresh of the LOMP. The refresh is more detailed and includes sections on the legal and policy context, learning to date, surveillance and data, governance, testing, self-isolation, case/contact tracing, outbreak management, targeting high risk

populations, communications and engagement, vaccination, evaluation and monitoring, resourcing, enforcement and inequalities.

5.2.83. It also includes annexes on the response to recovery roadmap, how BCC will coordinate closely with PHE to manage cases and outbreaks, surge capacity, Test and Trace structure and staffing, enforcement powers and plans, supporting non-pharmaceutical interventions, scenario planning, contact tracing, finances and a delivery plan.

5.2.84. Updates on the delivery of the LOMP will be provided regularly at the Local Covid Engagement Outbreak Board

Planning for recovery

5.2.85. On the basis of Covid-19 incidence rates reducing, or at least remaining stable at acceptably low rates, the Council will continue to transition away from residual emergency cell structures and processes into 'business as usual' Council decision-making processes. Aligned with this, the frequency of meetings focussed on BCC's Covid-19 response will reduce while still ensuring that all staff are keep abreast of the current Covid-19 status.

5.2.86. As part of this move, the Test and Trace team will reduce the time spent focussing on Covid-19 only matters. This is contingent on the national team contact tracing team continuing to provide their current level of response to cases and clusters. Tight surveillance will be crucial during this time.

5.2.87. In order to ensure we have sufficient capacity in the event of a resurgence of the virus it is envisaged that the team will be partnered with colleagues in the main Public Health division to support non-Covid work alongside their Covid-19 responsibilities. This will ensure their spare capacity is utilised appropriately, whilst providing a flexible workforce that could relinquish their non-Covid work should the need arise.

Community Engagement Response

5.2.88. The Council has been leading on engagement across the city to support communities to adhere to the changing guidance and address any challenges faced during the pandemic. Public Health has engaged with a wide range of communities, working closely with the Corporate Communications team and other key stakeholders to ensure that citizens have access to accurate information about Covid-19 and to provide appropriate answers to queries and concerns raised.

5.2.89. Some of the activities undertaken so far include:

- Commissioning 18 community partner organisations to undertake targeted communications and deeper engagement with specific groups in the community, including people from ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, LGBT+ communities, and faith-based communities.

- Commissioning partnerships with 6 local community radio stations focusing on local ethnic groups, as well as communities for whom English is not a first language.
- Media work across over 25 different media outlets, conducting more than 100 interviews on topics including the latest government guidance, local implications, COVID-19 variants and the impact of COVID-19 on different communities.
- Community engagement meetings, including interfaith meetings, over 200 ward meetings, and dedicated fortnightly engagement sessions with Birmingham masjids and ministers/pastors from black churches.

5.2.90. Building on learning from Newham Council, Public Health has developed and launched the Covid Community Champions programme. Over 800 Champions have been recruited and supported through fortnightly live Q&A sessions with the DPH, Public Health Consultants and other guest speakers to discuss relevant topics including mental health. Champions receive weekly emails and text messages for cascade through their networks and over 23,000 emails and 5000 text messages have been shared with communities through this route.

5.2.91. The Youth COVID Champions group has been established and hold fortnightly meetings to share information on a range of topics raised by young people, including: vaccination, LFD testing and adherence to safety measures.

5.2.92. Officers have adapted the existing HealthyBrum public health campaign to provide a trusted source of information and advice on Covid-19 for the general public. Since July 2020, social media engagement figures for HealthyBrum accounts stand at over 5,200 hits for Twitter, over 2,200 hits for Facebook, and over 2,900 hits for Instagram. One campaign, focused on increasing people's awareness of the NHS Covid-19 App, reached over 51,000 people through Facebook advertising targeted at the highest prevalence areas of the city.

5.2.93. Social media channels have also been used to increase engagement with the BCC website for further information on Covid-19.

Wellbeing Service

5.2.94. The Council's directly managed Wellbeing Centres and Hubs were closed to the public from 23 March 2020 on the instruction of the Government at the beginning of the first national lockdown. Since that date they have only been able to operate on a restricted basis for limited periods as a further two national lockdowns followed, interspersed with various different regimes of local restrictions.

5.2.95. The Council's Wellbeing Centres are, by design, located in the areas of highest deprivation where communities have the greatest health needs. Given the correlation between physical activity, health, and the impact of Covid-19 on

individuals, it was imperative that the service was made available whenever we were permitted to open, although the rules have generally limited access to individual swim and gym sessions and activities for children.

- 5.2.96. In order to open at all, the service has had to make extensive changes to normal operating procedures to ensure sites are adhering to Government and industry guidance in relation to Covid-19, including setting up a pre-booking system, achieving enhanced ventilation standards, and implementing social distancing. All of these changes have severely limited the capacity of our facilities.
- 5.2.97. The consequent impact on income and expenditure has been captured in financial returns and formed the basis of claims for financial support from national funding schemes. However, the income support is only available until the end of June 2021 and unless social distancing requirements are relaxed it is expected that there will be an on-going financial pressure on the service.
- 5.2.98. During the lockdown periods, Be Active Plus Advisors have maintained contact with their clients, who were referred through their GP because they have chronic health conditions such as asthma, obesity and diabetes that might be helped by increased physical activity. These conditions meant that many clients were categorised as clinically vulnerable and had to shield at home. Feedback confirms that contact from Advisors was source of valuable support to these individuals, many of whom were otherwise socially isolated.
- 5.2.99. Other sites have variously hosted food and welfare services, and lateral flow testing “spokes” until 17th May 2021 when operating restrictions on leisure services further eased, although a PCR testing station remains at Saltley pending an alternative location being identified.
- 5.2.100. As of the 17th May 2021, all usual activities at Wellbeing Centres have resumed. Capacity remains limited by social distancing, and programmes are restricted due to the time needed to undertake enhanced cleaning between sessions. The service is seeking to support Covid-19 recovery generally, but also by working with Public Health to develop a specific offer for people suffering from long-Covid.

6. Education, Skills and Children’s Wellbeing

6.1. Birmingham Children’s Trust

- 6.1.1. Birmingham Children’s Trust (BCT) has continued to deliver all of its services to the city’s most vulnerable children and families, including maintaining high levels of face-to-face contact with vulnerable children and families. The vast majority of children have resumed school, an important protective factor, and the Trust continues its system leader role, supporting and galvanising the

wider children's partnership to ensure a strong multi-agency response is in place in the community.

Performance

- 6.1.2. Performance against the 15 contractual Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) has remained strong throughout the year. At year end, 11 of the 15 KPIs were at or better than target, three were within tolerance, and one was outside tolerance.
- 6.1.3. The KPI outside tolerance relates to use of agency staff. This has been within tolerance all year but moved outside in March 2021 as a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic which has seen a reduction in the mobility and supply of suitable permanent social workers. This is not a Birmingham issue but a national one.
- 6.1.4. The West Midlands Directors of Children's Services network has put in place a regional recruitment campaign to attract staff into the region from elsewhere, as one means of support. The Trust has invested in an HR specialist to provide expert advice and support to improve our marketing campaigns and recruitment processes. We are also in the midst of refining and enhancing our support offer to students, front-line practitioners and managers. Our aim is to become a centre of excellence and the best employer in the region.
- 6.1.5. We have seen a recent increase in the numbers of permanent social workers recruited or interested in joining the Trust. As restrictions start to ease, aligned to our social media and marketing campaigns and additions to the value proposition, we anticipate increases to the numbers of social workers we attract and retain. This means we should be able to start to stand down the additional agency resource that has been necessary during the pandemic
- 6.1.6. During the year the target for adoptions was at risk due to reduced activity in the family courts rather than something in the control of the Trust. However, the Trust has recovered that position and has met the target.
- 6.1.7. Placement stability for children in our care is better than it has ever been. Only 2% of our children in care experienced three or more placements in a year, compared with the national and statistical neighbour average of 11%. This is testament to the work of our social workers and the commitment of our foster carers.
- 6.1.8. The Ofsted Monitoring of the Trust Fostering Services took place between 15-16 December 2020 and evaluated the extent to which:
- children are well cared for,
 - children are safe,
 - leaders and managers are exercising strong leadership.

- 6.1.9. The Inspectors were assured on all 3 counts; five statutory requirements and two recommendations were made. All things considered, this report is an important milestone in acknowledging the significant progress the service has made.

Other developments

- 6.1.10. Good progress continues in relation to the Regional Adoption Agency (RAA), with Cabinet granting approval for the outline business case in December 2020. A procurement process is underway for a delivery partner and the RAA is set for launch in October 2021. The Department for Education (DfE) remain content with progress.
- 6.1.11. In relation to the longstanding block contracts for residential children's homes, the Priory contract formally ended on 9th January 2021. The Meadows contract is set to reach its natural cessation on 20th May 2021 and a staged transition out of the current contract was agreed at the beginning of February.
- 6.1.12. With new investment from the Council, the Trust is now recruiting to the remaining Early Help Workforce to further strengthen the Early Help and Prevention Offer as we enter into the recovery stage of the pandemic. The Trust continues to chair the Partnership Operational Group where work continues to build a stronger prevention offer. This investment, through the Birmingham Children's Partnership, is a crucial limb of a strategy to maintain a care population lower than statistical neighbours and core cities, keeping more children in their families through effective early help and family support. This is good for children and families and a good use of scarce resources.
- 6.1.13. Challenges include ensuring a strong focus on contractual dependencies such as corporate parenting, education and housing and an accommodation strategy that is flexible and responsive to local need.
- 6.1.14. The Trust has continued to operate with its workforce largely working from home but maintaining face-to-face work with those using our services. We experienced increased Covid-related sickness, with as many as 35 social workers off sick at its peak, as well as managing some difficult outbreaks in our short breaks care homes. Contact for children in care and families has been maintained wherever possible, as have child protection conferences, offering a 'hybrid' model of face-to-face and virtual meetings. As we move into the next phases of 'opening up', we will continue to work with the Council to ensure we can develop an office footprint that supports the right balance of agile working: from home, from different sites, and enabling collaboration to happen (team sessions, one-to-one meetings etc). We are currently mapping short term and longer-term accommodation needs. The principles of family friendly spaces within local communities underpin this planning. We are reopening venues to enable family time/contact for children in care and their parents and looking to expand the number of venues from which our social

workers and family support workers can operate safely. Our respite services for children with disabilities remain open, and we are conducting child protection conferences on a hybrid basis, with parents, conference chair and social worker physically co-located.

- 6.1.15. We are working within the Birmingham Children's Partnership (BCP) to develop effective multi-agency responses to the agreed Recovery Priorities, which are:
- Returning to school, language development and children 'out of sight';
 - Safeguarding and wellbeing;
 - Emotional and mental health;
 - Exploitation and youth violence.
- 6.1.16. Our contribution to partnership improvements in relation to children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) will also be significant during this period of recovery
- 6.1.17. The Trust continues to play a key role in many of the city's partnerships including the Safeguarding Children Partnership, the Community Safety Partnership and the Children's Partnership. We instigated the Partnership Operational Group that has galvanised the city's Covid-19 response and we have supported the partnership planning for the post-pandemic recovery period.
- 6.1.18. Serious youth violence is an important and pressing concern for the city. The Trust is working with the Community Safety Partnership, the Violence Reduction Unit and West Midlands Police, to develop an effective strategic and operational response.
- 6.1.19. The Trust has reviewed its services for disabled children, through the Children First project, in order to modernise and improve our offer and the effectiveness of our responses, as well as position us to support improvements in the area of SEND.
- 6.1.20. Friends of Birmingham Children's Trust was launched on 29th April 2021. This is a new organisation established to become a charity that adds value to our offer to young people through mentoring, work experience, new opportunities and support. We have great partners from across Birmingham's corporate and sport sectors (including Barclays, Fortem, Jacobs, Aston Villa Foundation) and their commitment to making a difference, with us, for our children and young people, is really impressive.

Finance

- 6.1.21. The Trust has been able to use Covid-related funding, drawn down through the Council, to cover critical expenditure related to the pandemic. The Trust

has sought to minimise its call on these scarce funds and has spent significantly less than the £7m initially forecast, with actual Covid-specific costs for 2020/21 of £2.1m which are eligible for the Government Covid grant. The Council has confirmed the Covid-related funding will be available into 2021/22 and the Trust will continue to manage and minimise these costs.

- 6.1.22. In relation to its core budget, the Trust's year-end position is a balanced outturn position for 2020/21. This is a significant achievement in that the Trust has driven down an anticipated £7m deficit earlier in the year by delivering savings from block contracts and other efficiencies. There are still pressures in placement costs which for 2020/21 were offset by one-off underspends in staffing due to recruitment difficulties. This demand pressure was recognised in the Council's 2021/22 budget, with an increase of £5.3m in the core contract.
- 6.1.23. The Trust has completed a review of its financial management by CIPFA (with a creditable rating of 3/5) and undertaken an independent review of its strategic financial position commissioned with the Council. A joint action plan is being prepared to ensure the Trust is operating as efficiently as it can, and that it has the resources it requires to deliver appropriate service levels.

6.2. **Schools**

- 6.2.1. In preparation for the full reopening of schools to pupils in March 2021, we updated our comprehensive risk assessment document. This risk assessment has been a crucial support for Birmingham schools throughout the pandemic and has ensured schools have been able to remain open to as many pupils as possible, even when case levels were high in the city.
- 6.2.2. Since the full reopening, officers have continued to closely monitor DfE attendance data on a daily basis. The data shows attendance in Birmingham has been at least in line with Core Cities and elsewhere in the region and the country, and in many cases performing better. This has also been the case for the attendance of vulnerable groups.
- 6.2.3. The Education Legal Intervention team have updated their guidance and policies for attendance enforcement, including guidance for schools on pupils who are abroad. Additional support has been made available to schools regarding Children Missing Education, including a well-attended webinar that set out processes and procedures. The team is working with schools ahead of the new academic year to address any issues or concerns with attendance and will be continuing to provide additional support as the recovery continues.
- 6.2.4. In areas where surge testing has taken place due to cases of Covid-19 variants of concern we are working with Public Health to provide comprehensive support to schools and settings in the affected postcodes.
- 6.2.5. A robust partner taskforce is continuing to work to provide joint responses to Covid-19 that prioritise vulnerable children and ensures that their needs are

met more effectively. This taskforce will be a key part of the recovery, and includes representatives from the Council, the city's schools' for a, Birmingham Children's Trust, the Birmingham Education Partnership (BEP), West Midlands Police (WMP), and other sectors including health.

- 6.2.6. In response to growing concerns about domestic abuse, school representatives attended a webinar led by the Head of Education Safeguarding about Operation Encompass. This programme will directly connect the police with schools and early years settings to secure better outcomes for children who are subject or witness to police-attended incidents of domestic abuse. Operation Encompass will be launched for the start of the 2021/22 academic year.
- 6.2.7. Officers have continued to provide significant support to all schools by facilitating regular webinars on key issues (including Public Health, safeguarding, attendance, risk assessments, buildings, the new Ofsted framework) and providing documents including flowcharts, checklists and FAQs to support them with remaining open.
- 6.2.8. As part of the government's Holiday Activities Fund, a programme of virtual activities was provided for families across Birmingham during the Easter holidays. Work is underway on a comprehensive programme for the summer holidays which will include face-to-face activities and the provision of food.
- 6.2.9. To support families with food costs incurred during the Easter and half-term holidays, we have used government funding to continue to provide supermarket vouchers to families eligible for free school meals. These have been distributed to families through schools.
- 6.2.10. To fully understand the impact of potential changes to the employment practices of parents in terms of sufficiency of early years places, the council will shortly be undertaking an Annual Childcare Sufficiency Assessment. This will provide clarity on the demand for early years places and out of school wraparound places in the short/medium/long term post pandemic.
- 6.3. **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)**
 - 6.3.1. A SEND local area revisit took place from 24th to 27th of May 2021, to review the progress we have made against our Written Statement of Action (WSOA) since its publication in January 2019.
 - 6.3.2. The purpose of the revisit was to determine whether the local area has made sufficient progress in addressing the 13 areas of significant weakness detailed in the Written Statement of Action (WSOA) and to demonstrate that the local area, during the COVID19 response, has:
 - understood the experience and needs of children and young people with SEND, and their families, during the pandemic

- involved children and young people with SEND and their families in co- producing decisions about how best to support them
- worked collaboratively to prioritise, adapt and provide the services and support that children and young people with SEND and their families need

Responding to the Written Statement of Action (WSOA)

- 6.3.3. In September 2018 , the local area (Birmingham) accepted the Written Statement Of Action (WSOA) and a SEND Improvement Board was established.
- 6.3.4. By the beginning of 2020, we had seen progress being made across a number of areas; however, the impact of Covid-19 on Birmingham was significant. While the pandemic has galvanised partnership working across the partnership, progress against the WSOA was interrupted during this period.
- 6.3.5. In responding to the WSOA, the Council has undertaken a number of strategic transformation and improvement activities:
- Development and publication of the BCC Send Strategy in 2019.
 - Sufficiency reviews across education, health, and social care.
 - Focused support on inter-agency working and the quality of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs).
 - Agreement of the Transitions Strategy, to ensure well-managed transitions from Children's to Adults' services.
 - Creation of the Joint Commissioning Framework, as a stepping stone for Section 75 Agreement work.
 - Establishment of a Youth Forum.
 - Enhanced engagement with parent carers through various means, including surveys, the Health SEND Parent Carer Forum, Be Empowered Workshops, Link Advisers, SENDIASS, and training.
 - Redesign and improvement of the Local Offer website.
 - Delegation of £7m from the High Needs Block to Direct Local Provision school-led project to improve the outcomes for SEND across partnerships of primary and secondary mainstream schools.
 - Introduction of Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) and Local Authority Link meetings to develop bi-directional dialogue, inform future SEMH Strategy and improve current graduated response.
 - Establishment of an integrated transitions team with over £1m investment, holding employment as a core priority.

SEND during the Covid-19 period

- 6.3.6. In response to Covid-19, we worked in partnership with community and voluntary organisations across Birmingham to establish an Early Help Offer across ten localities, providing vital subsistence and support to over 14,000 children and families.
- 6.3.7. We also established a £1m resilience fund to support families in hardship, alongside a £700,000 community grant scheme supporting 162 community organisations to respond to local need.

Challenges

- 6.3.8. Despite the improvement and transformation work that has taken place, we recognise that the experiences of our children and young people with SEND, and their families, are not always good enough.
- 6.3.9. We are in the process of making structural and process changes in our Special Education Needs Assessment and Review Service (SENAR) to address entrenched weak performance, including the establishment of a Locality Model. These improvements are not yet embedded, and will take time to have a positive impact on the experiences of all children, families and schools involved in the system.
- 6.3.10. We have established processes for the quality assurance and audit of EHCPs, but improvements are recent and their impact is yet to be fully realised.
- 6.3.11. The way that we are managing and using data is not sufficiently robust and needs to be strengthened. In particular, processes for sharing and using data across partners need further development.
- 6.3.12. We have invested in our therapies provision, but waiting times to access therapies (speech and language, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and neurodevelopmental services) are still too long.
- 6.3.13. Our Parent Carer Forum tells us that because they have experienced poor performance over many years, trust in embedding improvements is low. Our strategy is also not sufficiently well-understood across the city.
- 6.3.14. Senior leadership within this area has been subject to churn since the last inspection. This has meant that vital time has been lost, especially in the immediate period after the WSOA was agreed.

SEND improvements

- 6.3.15. In order to address the number of challenges that we have in this service area, we have invested significant additional resources over the past nine months. These include:
- Stepping up the frequency of partnership meetings to take place fortnightly, to drive the required change forward at pace.

- Recruitment of additional SEND specialist and project improvement capacity to support delivery of the next phase of system reform.
- Commitment to invest additional investment in key areas, and to taking bold steps to reform and improve services to ensure that children and families are well served.
- Initiation of a city-wide Strategy Next Steps conversation about the strategic direction we are taking, to ensure it is understood and co-produced.
- Agreement to use this Strategy Next Steps process to identify clear outcomes and success criteria that the SEND Improvement Board will jointly own and hold each other to account for progress and impact.

Outcome of SEND revisit

6.3.16. Usually, the local area will receive a draft feedback letter ten working days after the revisit has finished. The local area will then have 10 working days to check the letter for accuracy. The final letter is usually shared 28 working days after the revisit has finished.

6.3.17. The letter will include:

- The decision about whether the local area has made sufficient progress in relation to each of the serious weaknesses identified at the initial inspection;
- A clear and brief summary of the effectiveness of leaders' actions against each serious weakness identified in the WSOA;
- Where relevant, information about how the pandemic has impacted on children and young people with SEND in the area, their families and the local SEND system, and how local area leaders have adapted their plans;
- Reference to any other serious concerns, along with evidence, identified during the re-visit, and clarification that these will be communicated to the DfE and NHS England and will be used to determine the timing of the next inspection (under any future area SEND framework).

6.4. Home to School Transport Service

6.4.1. Our Home to School Transport service has been on a significant improvement journey over the past nine months.

6.4.2. There is a need to acknowledge and thank our Parent Carer Forum, and all the parents, carers, and families that have been in touch and participated in engagement sessions. We have made significant investment over the past

nine months to improve our Home to School Transport service. While we still have a way to go, we are confident that we are heading in the right direction.

6.4.3. Some key areas of activity include:

- Ensuring that all our safeguarding cases are monitored through weekly situation reports, for resolution in a timely manner.
- Monitoring the performance of routes on a daily basis through a triangulation of parent/carers, school and operator feedback. This has led to between 99 and 100% of routes being successfully delivered since 10th March 2021. Routes are also monitored for timeliness – routes operating more than ten minutes after the target arrival time are recorded as 'late'. Over 99% of routes were operated to time in April 2021.
- The establishment of a Compliance team in Autumn 2020, which has now been enhanced with Contract Managers to further improve safety and performance of routes.
- The enhancement of our training offer, with 247 of our Guides (just under half of the total) now Passenger Assistant Training Scheme (PATS) trained. The team is aiming to train all available guides in the foundation stage in advance of the new academic year in September 2021.
- Our Home to School Transport and Commissioning team have engaged with the market prior to tendering NEAT routes for September to be clear on our expectations of our operators.
- New routes tendered for September will be evaluated with the support of a representative of our special schools.
- A mobilisation team has been established to oversee the successful mobilisation of new routes for September, managing the critical path to successful delivery of these routes with in-depth indicators around operators' communication with schools and families, operational readiness in relation to vehicles and staff and safeguarding/ regulatory requirements.
- Home to School Transport are working with the Clean Air Zone (CAZ) team, schools and families to capture any impact on journey times during the rollout and over September when traffic volumes traditionally increase.
- The pilot of the 365 scheme is continuing with all operators mandated to sign up to use the system from September 2021. The launch is

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planned to be phased once full testing is completed and signed off successfully. This is likely to be around Autumn 2021 onwards.

- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for families have been compiled from feedback from families, the Parent Carer Forum, and SENDIASS colleagues. This has been launched on our Local Offer page and is a great example of the kind of co-production which we look forward to continuing.
- The establishment of a monthly Task and Finish Group chaired by the Leader of the Council, which brings together key stakeholders including parent and school representatives and SENDIASS to discuss progress in an open forum. Performance data is reviewed, and attendees hold officers to account for progress against key actions and are offered the chance to shape work as it is developed. A document encapsulating the Vision and Strategic Priorities for the service has also been discussed and agreed by this group.

Key Performance Indicators

- 6.4.4. Performance data has been improved and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are now measured, monitored and managed weekly by the Head of Service. KPIs are also reported weekly to the Assistant Director, Inclusion, SEND and Wellbeing through a SitRep Report. In addition, performance in delivering core KPIs is reported to the monthly Leaders Home to School Task and Finish Group where robust conversations about progress against KPIs are held.

Service Improvement Plan Priorities

- 6.4.5. A Service Improvement Plan was put in place to continue the service's improvement journey once the Immediate Fixes Plan had been delivered. Performance in delivering the plan is monitored at monthly Management Team meetings, in supervision and performance reviews that are regularly held with staff, and at Home to School Project Board meetings, where the improvement impacts upon project deliverables.

Communication

- 6.4.6. Communication has been raised continually as a major issue, with parents repeatedly raising the frustration they experienced on an ongoing basis when attempting to contact the service. This is obviously especially stressful for parents with vulnerable children, who need to be assured of their safety at all times.
- 6.4.7. The service has identified improving communication as a key priority and managers are working with all members of staff to embed an open and responsive culture. Responsiveness is monitored on a regular basis, with weekly meetings held where performance data is monitored for telephone calls

and any issues are discussed and resolved. In line with Birmingham City Council Service standards, the service aims to answer 90% of calls within a reasonable time. In April 2021, the average response across the month was 87%, with some weeks falling short of the desired service level. Data therefore shows that there is still more work to do and this is a key area of focus for the service. Potential ways to improve responsiveness are being explored currently.

- 6.4.8. The service has committed to rolling out an IT solution - 365 Response - which has the capability to provide real time information to parents (and schools) on the location of their child's transport. This would be a national first in rolling out a Home to School Transport system which links multiple service providers in a real time information scenario.
- 6.4.9. It is important to ensure that this launch is successful. The project is currently in an extended pilot phase and a review of the pilot is due to take place shortly so that officers can learn from this before rolling out more widely. The Council is very keen to have 365 Response operational to form an integral part of its longer-term improvements for Home to School Transport.
- 6.4.10. A key success driver for real time information is the full engagement of every operator so that all operator staff are fully compliant. The Council has therefore amended its terms and conditions to require all operators to be compliant with the system and have the appropriate ICT kit to facilitate this. These changes to terms and conditions are due to take effect from the start of the 2021/22 academic year.
- 6.4.11. It is likely that the pilot will be extended to recognise that changes to the terms and conditions of contract with contractors need to take effect to enable the most robust test of the system. It is essential that the system is thoroughly tested prior to rollout and project managers are reviewing timescales, with the likelihood that rollout will be phased over the autumn of 2021. Communication with parents about this will be prioritised from the start of term so they are clear what to expect.
- 6.4.12. In terms of more immediate fixes relating to call answering, the service has reviewed the structure of its operational team on an interim basis to allow the team to flex staff resources to respond to increased call and email volumes. Additional staffing resource has also been invested in this area on a temporary basis.
- 6.4.13. The service has transferred to the Cirrus system, allowing calls waiting to be monitored to allow staff resources to be flexed accordingly, and providing management information to support the performance in this area. For example, call volumes increase on Mondays and following a school holiday, so the service now ensures there is additional staff capacity on these days.

- 6.4.14. The service is also reviewing the root cause of increased call volumes to allow a more proactive approach. For example, when correspondence is sent to a group of parents, a well written letter should provide enough information to answer most queries without the need for a follow-on phone call or email. Parents will soon also be able to access a Frequently Asked Questions document available through the Local Offer which should also help reduce phone traffic.

Safety and suitability of vehicles

- 6.4.15. A compliance team was established in autumn 2020, which has a well-established programme of checks and audits on operators providing home to school transport on behalf of the City Council. In addition, the Council has commissioned an external contractor to provide additional mechanical checks on the Council's behalf. Three contract managers have also recently been recruited to work alongside colleagues in Commissioning to provide robust contract management.

Suitability of guides and drivers

- 6.4.16. The rollout of the Passenger Assistant Training Scheme (PATs) ensures guides are trained to a national standard in their field. This includes some training on managing health issues on transport. As at the start of May 2021, 247 Pupil Guides have successfully completed PATs training.
- 6.4.17. Other training, including emergency aid and epilepsy training, is also being explored to be rolled out across a similar timescale. Guides are now being provided in some cases by service providers, as well as by the Council. In these cases, the advantage is that the service is less likely to be interrupted by guide shortages. The same training is provided to guides whether they are employed by BCC or a transport provider.
- 6.4.18. The Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) places a clear expectation on the providers that all members of their staff working on transport (including drivers) are trained and monitored to a high standard. The expectation of the drivers is in line with what is being required by the service and the policy. Additional guide capacity has also been put in place to increase capacity for covering sickness absence.

Safeguarding

- 6.4.19. As well as the training improvements already referenced in this report, management information in relation to driver and DBS checks is included in weekly situation reports on the service's overall operation. There is a revised process in place involving a HR led DBS weekly panel to review any more complex cases, and this has required a deed of variation with the Council's Legal team providing the relevant support. This management information

provides reassurance on DBS checks being in place for all staff transporting pupils on home to school transport.

Transport reliability and the impact on families

- 6.4.20. Whilst 365 Response is not fully rolled out, routes are currently reviewed daily to identify any issues and get to the root of those issues to prevent repetition. Where a route is operating at ten minutes either side of its scheduled school drop off time, it is recorded as 'on time'. Feedback from transport operators is triangulated with schools and parent information to identify and challenge any discrepancies. As a result, improvements have meant since 8th March that between 97 and 100% of routes are operating, and 'on time' as classified under the definition above.
- 6.4.21. The re-opening of schools following the second lockdown was a key test for the Home to School Transport Service which needed to mobilise an additional ten routes for this to happen successfully. The service also tendered for up to 30 contingency vehicles that could be used if there were problems with any of the routes. 12 of these were utilised. Except for issues with NEAT routes on Monday 8th March, all routes ran effectively with these routes being covered with the contingency vehicles.

Parent Carer Forum, Parental Engagement and Co-Production

- 6.4.22. We have worked closely with the Parent Carer Forum to engage them in specific areas, and their input has been much appreciated by Home to School Transport. A co-produced 'Frequently Asked Questions' document is due to be published for parents and the Head of Service will continue to attend regular meetings with the Parent Carer Forum and other professionals. The Parent Carer Forum also attend the regular monthly Task and Finish Group chaired by the Leader of the Council where progress is examined.
- 6.4.23. A Parent Engagement Event chaired by the Leader of the Council is planned for next half-term, where parents will be given the opportunity to comment on service improvements and to hear about plans for next year and how these will impact on them.
- 6.4.24. The Education and Skills Transformation Director is working closely with the Parent Carer Forum to support them with recruitment to two key roles that will provide more capacity and enable the PCF to promote the Forum more widely and attract greater membership. Interviews are taking place next week for a Co-Production Officer and discussions are underway to support the recruitment of an Administrative Officer.

Integrated Passenger Transport Unit

- 6.4.25. The independent inquiry into the SEND Home to School Transport service recommended that the Council should consider implementing an Integrated

Transport Unit (ITU). An Integrated Transport Unit is a service where different transport functions are brought together from across an organisation, or brought together from multiple organisations, and integrated to improve outcomes, efficiency and effectiveness.

- 6.4.26. ITUs can bring significant benefits, most importantly improved outcomes and more efficient, accessible and easy to navigate services for the people they serve and their families.
- 6.4.27. A project has been initiated to develop an outline business case for an Integrated Transport Unit, which will provide the basis on which a decision can be taken whether this is the preferred way forward and how this could operate. This project brings together officers from across the council and is being overseen by the Director of Neighbourhoods.
- 6.4.28. Co-design is being built into this from the beginning and the Leader's Home to School Task and Finish Group has already taken part in a discussion about the scope of the project, the benefits that it should deliver and the risks that need to be managed. As a result of this co-design, the scope and timescales of the project are being reviewed and, subject to this detailed review, it is anticipated that the outline business case will be completed by September and will then be considered by the Executive.

Key Challenges

- 6.4.29. Our Home to School Transport service has been a challenging area of work, in which there has been a combination of immediate improvements and improvements which are being delivered over a longer period.
- 6.4.30. Staff capacity has been a challenge and additional capacity has therefore been agreed on a temporary basis to continue to roll out service improvements between now and Autumn 2021 to ensure standards remain consistent and continue to improve. Additional permanent capacity will be required to sustain those improvements, and this will be reflected in a permanent structure to be proposed beyond this period.
- 6.4.31. The impact of the Clean Air Zone (CAZ) will undoubtedly bring significant benefits to the health of the city's residents. However, there is a risk of traffic displacement both during the initial roll-out and at the start of September when traffic levels traditionally rise. As a result, operators will be looking at impact on route times through trialling a dry run at the start of the scheme, starting routes early and communicating daily with the Council on any issues. In addition, parents will be receiving communications advising of the actions the Council is taking to monitor the impact. Plans are in place to ensure that parents, providers and schools are all prepared for potential impact and the Service has put in place all possible mitigations. A review of the impact of the CAZ on Home to School Transport will be conducted at the end of June.

- 6.4.32. The Covid-19 pandemic has obviously brought a new level of challenge in providing a safe service for children. Increased spend has been incurred due to the need to make transport Covid-safe and provide extra capacity where required due to staff absence. Officers have prioritised the safety of children during this period and taken all possible measures to ensure that travel is as Covid-safe as possible. Routes have been increased from around 600 to around 900 to ensure bubbles and social distancing can be maintained, as well as employing contingency operators.
- 6.4.33. The Council has been in receipt of additional Covid-19 funding from the Department for Education (DfE), confirmed on a half term basis since September 2020. It is likely that this funding will end between June and September 2021 leading to a potentially significant reduction of routes. A project has been set up to manage this transition and to communicate any changes in good time to operators and families.
- 6.4.34. Around 40% of existing routes are provided by National Express Accessible Transport, and all are out to tender this year. This is a large-scale project and is being overseen by the Assistant Director of Commissioning with regular reporting arrangements in place to ensure the project is on track. Any changes of operator will need careful planning and communicating to pupils and families. A mobilisation team has been set up to carry out this work.
- 6.4.35. Guide capacity continues to be a challenge due to staff needing to self-isolate and agency staff have been put in place to support. A deed of variation has been enacted to increase supply via the transport providers and continued support from agencies is available as required.
- 6.4.36. Issues with the transition process this year have meant that a small number of pupils have still not had school places confirmed for September 2021. In some cases, places have been confirmed but confirmation letters were delayed. This has a knock-on impact on Home to School Transport as staff cannot begin to put in place plans for travel arrangements until placements are confirmed and parents have been notified and requested travel. The risk of this impacting on a successful start to the Autumn Term is being managed as closely as possible and Home to School Transport Service is working closely with SENAR to address any issues and find solutions.

Key priorities for the next six months

- 6.4.37. KPIs will continue to be monitored and delivered to identify the overall performance of the service.
- 6.4.38. Schools have been briefed on the plan for recommissioning of routes for September and will be invited to be involved in evaluation of bids from potential suppliers (with particular focus on quality). Schools will also play a key role in

managing any risk areas surrounding pupil groupings of these new routes and will be involved in route planning.

- 6.4.39. The 365 Response pilot will extend to allow terms and conditions changes to take effect, with a view to rolling out the system following robust testing, on a phased approach towards the end of 2021.
- 6.4.40. The contract management and compliance function will continue to work closely with operators to monitor quality and performance of routes.
- 6.4.41. The service will continue to work closely with the Parent Carer Forum through regular meetings to update and where possible work jointly on specific areas of work, as jointly agreed.

6.5. **Careers and Skills**

Birmingham Careers Services (BCS)

- 6.5.1. Careers Service staff have continued to deliver services on a virtual and agile basis throughout the pandemic, with face to face provision and in person support gradually being reintroduced as restrictions ease.
- 6.5.2. The service offers careers information, advice and guidance services to NEET (young people Not in Education, Employment or Training) aged 16-19, young people at risk of becoming NEET, and some young people who attend schools who secure a guidance service for their pupils on a traded basis with BCS. We are also in the process of working with and identifying other cohorts to target (due to small amount of funding) around those young people in year 11 who are home educated.
- 6.5.3. Identification of those at risk of NEET is taking place earlier this year due to the pandemic and extra external funding has been secured.
- 6.5.4. During lockdown, careers advice and guidance moved to virtual/online delivery, with careers advice and guidance provided to NEET young people and students via phone, email, WhatsApp, text, and social media. Microsoft Teams & Zoom are also proving essential and assisting an enhanced service delivery. The development of the website has also continued. A range of new online resources have been produced, all accessible via the website and social media platforms for parents, carers, young people and our partners. There will be a continuation of this service leading to a hybrid approach in relation to face to face delivery, on-line and virtual support plus the review of staff admin base location.
- 6.5.5. The service has maintained contact with all schools, encouraging the referral of all Year 11, 12 and 13 pupils for 2021 leavers who are at risk of becoming NEET.

- 6.5.6. A small increase in staffing resource (for a limited period) is planned to deal with the increasing demand on the service from both schools and NEET young people, due to the current recession and dramatic rise in youth unemployment.
- 6.5.7. The increase in demand of the service will need to be closely monitored as we emerge from the pandemic and reach the statutory school leaving date, to see the true impact on young people in relation to their career's aspirations and possibilities.

14-19 Full Participation and Skills Team

- 6.5.8. Currently, post-16 providers are mandated to remain open in line with Government restrictions.
- 6.5.9. The Full Participation team continues to support the Public Health Test and Trace Team, remaining on duty for part of the May half-term holidays to ensure successful contact tracing. Support is provided on a rota basis, providing guidance to colleges and following up any queries raised by parents, staff, and other stakeholders. This includes both general requests for information and guidance, and whistle-blowing enquiries. Since the start of 2021, we have also supported Public Health by keeping stakeholders' updates on lateral flow testing requirements for post-16 in education settings.
- 6.5.10. The 14-19 team worked with all eligible post-16 settings to make sure that ten days' worth of retrospective payments were provided for all young people eligible for free school meals, covering the Christmas, Easter and now May Half term holiday period.
- 6.5.11. Officers have shifted the delivery of 'business as usual services' to virtual and online platforms, including:
- An increased and flexible careers service
 - Employability and enterprise expertise through the Library of Birmingham and community library services
 - Targeted employability training and signposting through the Youth Service
 - Enhanced tracking of 16-18-year olds, to ensure that they continue in education or work (particularly those in Year 11/12)
 - Identification of 16-19-year-old apprentices and trainees who have withdrawn from learning or been made redundant, so that further support can be provided
 - Signposting and sharing resources such as mental health support services
 - Creating new virtual and online learning opportunities, including the planned delivery of Virtual Work-Based Learning Open Days

- Supporting Independent Training Providers to remain viable during the pandemic, and ensuring that they continue to enrol and support NEET young people

Employment and Skills Service

6.5.12. The series of national lockdowns has had a huge impact on local businesses and employers. April 2021 reports show us that:

- Unemployment in the city increased by 780 to 84,435 in from February to March 2021. Unemployment is now 35,875 higher than it was in February 2020 prior to the lockdown; an increase of 74% in claimant numbers.
- These figures mean that Birmingham's unemployment rate stands at 15.4%, above both the West Midlands (9.3%) and the UK (7.9%) rates.
- Unemployment increased in 44 of the city's 69 wards in March 2021.
- Youth (18-24) unemployment in the city rose by 305 in March 2021 to stand at 16,390. The youth claimant rate rose to 19.6%.

6.5.13. The Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme ('Furlough' scheme) has supported workers, and the range of loans and grants for employers, which the Council has been instrumental in delivering, have helped many businesses to survive. However, we now need to look to the ending of these schemes and making the most of the support that is going to follow. Officers have worked with partners to develop a joined up offer for redundancy and unemployment advice, and have bid for further EU funds (the last of which runs up to December 2023) to continue to support unemployed young people and adults into jobs and training, especially where these opportunities are linked to our own Council delivery, capital build programmes and supply chains. In May 2021, the Council submitted a bid for the new national Community Renewal Fund to support innovative responses to the economic and community challenges we face. This bid focusses on working with local organisation to support access to Public Sector jobs and contracts, with the pilot focus area being in East Birmingham.

6.5.14. The West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) has created a Covid-19 recovery Taskforce, chaired by Cllr Brookfield, Leader of City of Wolverhampton Council. This has also been supported by the Deputy Leader Cllr Jones, who is the WMCA Portfolio Lead for Inclusive Communities. Officers are supporting this strong collaborative work, working with partners including the DWP and JCP, neighbouring Local Authorities, the voluntary sector and local colleges and providers to develop a West Midlands Youth Offer delivered through JCP's Youth Hubs. This enables new Youth Work Coaches to be based at community locations, including our own Youth Centres, and with a flagship new Youth Hub at Library of Birmingham, which

along with one other hub in Merseyside, will be a national demonstrator of youth hub delivery. WMCA has co-ordinated an online resource as part of the Youth Employment UK website that sets out training, education and support services available regionally, and at a city level.

Proposed approach to city-level employment and economic recovery

- 6.5.15. On 26th May 2021, the Council convened the first city level partnership event towards delivery of the Birmingham Covid-19 Economic Recovery Strategy, with over 60 participants attending.
- 6.5.16. The strategy, approved in March 2021 by Cabinet, sets out the City Council's contribution to supporting the economy of Birmingham as it recovers from the Covid-19 crisis and adapts to changing conditions, including the challenges of leaving the European Union. It sits alongside the plans set out by the Combined Authority and the Local Enterprise Partnership. The immediate focus is in the short term (0-2-year timescale) although we will also be setting out longer term economic opportunities to deliver inclusive growth in contributing to wider goals such as improving health outcomes and supporting stronger communities.
- 6.5.17. It is important to build on our work with our partners and key stakeholders, such as the West Midlands Combined Authority, GBSLEP, Chamber of Commerce, the Core Cities network and Department for Work and Pensions, to complement/add value to their work. The purpose of the event is to set up a framework for working in a more integrated way in responding to the short-term unemployment crisis facing the people of Birmingham and also address the underlying long-term barriers facing them in pursuing or securing good jobs.
- 6.5.18. The objectives for the event are set out below:
- Launch the City Council COVID-19 Economic Recovery Strategy – working together to 'better bridge' the short/long term skills programmes and recruitment strategies between employers and those seeking job opportunities or navigating career routes.
 - Bring together a strategic picture of current and planned activity for skills development and good jobs – outlining short/long term economic challenges and opportunities.
 - Improve the connection between strategic dialogue and operational delivery at a local level for Birmingham - build on our ability to respond flexibly with required delivery and at pace/scale to local issues and learn from good practice in designing local interventions.
 - Bring together skills activity with economic development and business support – further align skills with job creation and employment

opportunities, enhancing visibility of progression routes in line with growth sectors and new sectors.

Planning, procurement and social responsibility

- 6.5.19. Officers continue to 'sweat our assets' and gain maximum outputs from capital projects set out in the Covid-19 Birmingham Economic Recovery Strategy and other regeneration activity. This includes Commonwealth Games related sites such as Alexander Stadium, Perry Barr Regeneration Scheme and major regeneration projects such as Peddimore, Smithfield, and Langley. These projects result in hundreds of jobs per year being targeted at local residents.
- 6.5.20. This provision is delivered through the Employment Access Team (EAT) which is also delivering the World of Work (WoW) job brokerage project funded by the European Social Fund (ESF).
- 6.5.21. WoW provides good equality of access to the jobs and skills opportunities, with BAME engagement at 63%, people with disabilities and/or long-term health condition at 16%. The project currently has an overall job conversion rate of 38% - this is higher than the usual target of around 33%. Job outputs are mainly in blue- and white-collar roles within the construction sector. Officers are currently bidding to extend this project to October 2023 to support ongoing recovery response.

Addressing youth unemployment

- 6.5.22. Through the EU- funded Youth Promise Plus (YPP) project there is currently capacity to support around 1,500 young people per annum with one to one support for as long as needed (often 9-12 months).
- 6.5.23. The project also funds specialist support for young people who are care leavers or referred due to complex situations. BCC receives direct referrals from West Midlands Police and the Youth Offending Service. The project has professional mental health support available that is linked to NHS mental health provision.
- 6.5.24. YPP provides good equality of access to jobs and skills opportunities, with young people from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities representing 56% of those supported, and young people with disabilities and/or long-term health conditions representing 19%. The project currently has an overall success rate of 34% which is on par with the usual level for similar projects.
- 6.5.25. Working with GBSLEP and Solihull Council, the team has created a Kickstart Gateway to support businesses to be able to employ young people aged 16–24 for 6-month paid placements under the Government's Kickstart scheme. This has started successfully, with young people joining a bespoke Birmingham Adult Education Service PREP training course to help them apply for digital Marketing and Business Administration jobs. In the first instance, the

Council is aiming to support at least 200 local jobs via our Kickstart Gateway, and we hope to extend and exceed this volume in support of employers and young people in the city.

- 6.5.26. The Council will be creating 50 Kickstart jobs within its own service and uplifting the pay for these jobs from minimum wage to Living Wage to support young people. The aim is for 30% of these jobs to be successfully gained by our Care Leavers and extra staffing resource has been funded to support this.

Developing our Apprenticeship Levy Transfer Strategy

- 6.5.27. In partnership with GBSLEP, a programme is being developed to launch a fund this summer worth an estimated £650k per annum to support Birmingham's SMEs to pay apprenticeship fees. It's proposed that the fund will be open to all business sectors to aid recovery, and we will work with employers to focus the promotion of opportunities to unemployed residents.

Providing a rapid response to redundancy

- 6.5.28. Together with DWP, GBSLEP, National Careers Service, Solihull MBC and WMCA, support is being provided to a local Redundancy Taskforce to bring forward a single point of access service to support our employers and help our residents into alternative jobs and sectors.

Providing support for entrepreneurship

- 6.5.29. Officers are working with National Careers Service (NCS), whom the government has funded to provide furlough support, and through BAES we provide skills development opportunities for those looking to become self-employed.
- 6.5.30. The Library of Birmingham provides a comprehensive free business start-up service including legal and Intellectual Property advice provided pro-bono by city businesses.
- 6.5.31. During 2021 it is proposed to hold a Self-Employment Summit, bringing together local support providers to ensure that residents can gain the support they need if self-employment is their goal.

6.6. Birmingham Youth Service

- 6.6.1. Birmingham Youth Service has continued to deliver youth work to young people in Birmingham throughout lockdown. This has taken on different formats and the emphasis has changed depending on the level of restrictions and the National Youth Agency guidance. The service is currently delivering youth provision both inside and outside to all young people and not just the vulnerable, albeit in small groups with social distancing.
- 6.6.2. The Council's priority is providing continued support to young people through the following agendas:

- Supporting NEET young people aged 16 – 25 years old to overcome barriers preventing them from accessing training, education and employment opportunities.
- Addressing youth violence and anti-social behaviour through our detached presence, partnership work with the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), CSP and EMPOWER U.
- Providing safe spaces for all young people to engage with professionally trained youth workers to address contextual safeguarding through place based approaches and increase their emotional and social intelligence.
- Improving the voice of young people through the Youth City Board to ensure they can engage in decision making processes. Examples of this include the Education in the Pandemic Survey, the Mental Health Survey, Youth Covid Champions, and working with Public Health to link young people into their theme groups.

6.6.3. The Youth Service is continuing to help with tackling the wider pandemic. Youth centres have been used as rapid testing centres with some continuing to be a collection point for tests.

6.7. **Birmingham Adult Education Services (BAES)**

6.7.1. Despite the challenges experienced throughout this academic year, learner engagement through Birmingham Adult Education Services (BAES) continues to be very strong:

- Attendance in Term 1 and 2 was at an all-time high of 91.7%.
- Retention is at 98% compared to 94.5% in the same period last year, representing a 3.5% increase.
- Participation from learners living in the 30% most deprived areas in the city has increased by 8.2%. This is currently at 81.5%, compared to 73.3% in 19-20.

6.7.2. Our strong attendance and retention rates are a direct result of the support provided by tutors and learner services staff, as well as other key inclusion strategies that include:

- The laptop loan scheme with more than 200 laptops lent to learners
- Daily 1:1 support on the phone available till 7 pm to solve online/IT issues
- Online homework workshops

6.7.3. During Term 1 (2020/21 Autumn Term), around 85% of provision was online and 15% was on-site (specifically for the most vulnerable and digitally

excluded learners). BAES also implemented IT workshops (Becoming a Digital Learner) to train learners who had joined a programme and had access to a device and Wi-Fi, but who did not have the knowledge or experience to access the full range of live lessons via online platforms, including interactive resources and support.

- 6.7.4. Following the end of the second lockdown period during which all provision moved to online delivery, 211 courses were moved back to onsite delivery. This represents about 20% of total course provision.
- 6.7.5. Due to the effectiveness of online delivery, a significant number of groups were formed with learners who live across many diverse areas of the city. This makes it impossible to transition the course back on-site as it is not possible for all learners to attend the same centre.
- 6.7.6. On the whole we have found that learners are still uneasy about going back to centres. A survey carried out by BAES showed that the vast majority of learners who are in online courses prefer to remain online. Learners from ethnic minority groups, particularly those from Pakistani and Bangladeshi communities, are reluctant to take up vaccination– and reluctant to be take part in classroom delivery. Lateral flow testing is taking place at centres, but many learners are reluctant or refusing to take the test.
- 6.7.7. BAES continues to support residents and learners by tackling barriers to digital inclusion in a number of ways. Actions include:
- Delivery of a variety of courses in IT, including basic level 'IT Skills for Work' and 'Essential Digital Skills' We have had over 1,000 enrolments on these courses since September 2020.
 - Delivery of workshops to all learners, on topics including 'Becoming a Digital Learner' and 'IT Fundamentals'.
 - Planned rollout of an ESOL learning app.
- 6.7.8. In Term 3 (2020/21 Summer Term), it is anticipated the percentage of onsite provision will increase slightly and by the end of May, it is expected that around 40% of the provision will be back to onsite delivery. However, the courses running onsite have very low numbers to allow for social distancing restrictions (around 6 learners per course). Appropriate safe spaces are available to support the most disadvantaged learners to study at the centres.
- 6.7.9. To date, we have completed circa 16,000 enrolments across all provision, of which 6,581 are Adult Skills (accredited courses), 8574 are in Community Learning courses and 1516 are in non-funded courses. Across the provision, enrolment of working age adults has increased.
- 6.7.10. Participation in Adult Skills courses is lower than last year. In Functional Skills, 77% of the funding has been achieved against the delivery plan. This area is

projected to achieve between 91% and 87% by the end of the year. In ESOL, 75% of our funding has been achieved against the delivery plan, however this figure will increase as Term 3 programmes finish enrolling and it is likely to reach 90%. Digital provision has reached 87% against the delivery plan and it is likely to over-achieve against what was set in the delivery plan.

6.7.11. The decrease in enrolments in comparison to previous years are believed to stem from the following factors:

- Learner fear of infection and uncertainty about their safety;
- Mental health/depression;
- Increased family commitments looking after children;
- The need to cover the most basic needs;
- The requirement for social distancing.

6.7.12. However, the positive impact of our provision is clearly shown in our Audits of Learning Progress, which show that:

- Learners are overwhelmingly positive and motivated about their learning.
- Learners are benefiting from calm and productive learning environments.
- Learners are benefiting from high expectations for classroom behaviour and most are able to use the functions of Zoom to engage well in lessons.
- Courses are well sequenced to build on what learners know, and can do and build in revision to ensure learners transfer knowledge to their long-term memory.
- Summative assessment is challenging and used to extend learning, as learners are provided with feedback about what they have done well and what they need to do to further improve.

6.7.13. In the Autumn Term, the Route to Work scheme was launched, which utilises a systematic approach to identifying the skills that unemployed learners require and leads to a package of tailored support. To date, there have been over 600 learners who have benefited from the programme.

6.7.14. From 21st June 2021, in line with Public Health, DfE and BCC guidelines, BAES aim to return to pre-Covid service provision level as far as is possible. Face to face delivery will continue to be increased to support the needs of the most disadvantaged communities in the city along with maintaining the current online offer.

6.7.15. The Learner Services Team continues to offer monthly online sessions to learners, focusing on Safeguarding, Prevent, internet safety and well-being. Learners now have live access to Safeguarding Tile via Moodle. This not only empowers learners to seek support and to self-help, but also provides direct routes to the Safeguarding Team and external agencies such as The Waiting Room, West Midlands Police, and Every Mind Matters (NHS). A new online safeguarding referral form is about to be launched. This will provide another route for learners to either contact the safeguarding team or an external agency for support.

6.7.16. There will be another virtual 'Choices Event' taking place this term for those learners considering their next steps. The focus for this will be progression routes and raising aspirations for Level 1, 2 and 3 learners beyond their current course. Employers and Volunteer Organisations will be providing information, advice and guidance to support learners with some form of work-related activity.

6.8. Libraries

6.8.1. Following the announcement of a third national lockdown, in line with BCC and industry (Libraries Connected) guidance, the Order and Collect Service was suspended. All library buildings were temporarily closed to allow the service offer to be revised considering new restrictions.

6.8.2. Following the easing of the third lockdown restrictions and in line with the government's roadmap to recovery, libraries have been working on a recovery plan. As part of this and along with BCC and industry (Libraries Connected) guidance, libraries in Birmingham returned to limited browsing, book borrowing and public PC usage from 12th April 2021.

6.8.3. From 17th May additional services were added such as story-times, family sessions, access to study space, archives and employment advice by appointment.

6.8.4. From 21st June it is planned that libraries will return to pre-Covid services as far as possible. This will be subject to local circumstances and government guidelines. The enhanced online services provided by the library service since lockdown will continue to be provided.

7. Communities (Including Housing, Bereavement, and Community Safety)

7.1. Housing

7.1.1. Birmingham City Council has continued to work with its partners during the pandemic to reduce the number of rough sleepers in the city.

7.1.2. The official annual count of people sleeping rough in Birmingham took place in November 2020 and the figure was announced, along with those for the rest

of England, in February 2021. On a single night 17 people were found bedded down in Birmingham, this was a 67% reduction on the previous year (52), and an even more significant reduction from the 91 found the year before that. The count took place at a time when Birmingham was in Tier 3 Covid-19 restrictions and during a year of intense activity.

- 7.1.3. In March 2021, Government announced the Rough Sleeper Accommodation Programme (RSAP) Bid, a combined capital and revenue programme aimed at move-on accommodation for rough sleepers accommodated under 'everyone-in' and current people who sleep rough. Birmingham has submitted a bid, via the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA), for £680,000 revenue to provide support through to March 2024 to 40 x 1-bedroom flats in Birmingham. Citizen Housing (RSL) will purchase off the open market 15 of these units to be made available as new social housing for former rough sleepers, and BCC will provide 25 units as additional value to the programme. If successful, this provision will address some of the loss anticipated with the end of the Housing First pilot in June 2021. Further detail will be provided at July's Cabinet.
- 7.1.4. Birmingham has secured £1,635,782 from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) for 2020-21 under the Rough Sleepers Initiative (RSI). This is the main government programme for funding work with people who sleep rough. In 2020-21 Birmingham received £788,000 so this represents a significant increase which should maintain existing interventions (including those commenced under Covid-19 conditions), as well as new interventions. The funds reflect a bid to MHCLG for £1,288,157 about which more details will be provided at June's Cabinet; as well as guaranteed funding rolled forwards from 2020-21, and additional grant for the transition into Q1 of 2021-22.
- 7.1.5. Birmingham's response to homelessness and rough sleeping throughout the pandemic continues to be recognised nationally. Cllr Sharon Thompson, Cabinet Member for Homes & Neighbourhoods is currently representing Birmingham and the WMCA region on the Kerslake Independent Commission on Rough Sleeping and Learning from Covid-19. Convened by St Mungo's, the Commission includes representatives of government, public bodies, the voluntary and charitable sectors. Birmingham and the region have shared learning on a range of factors including the impact of Housing First on young people, concerns for people with 'no recourse to public funds' and the impact the lockdowns had upon street-based activity.

Temporary accommodation

- 7.1.6. Our partnership with the Early Intervention Team, which includes representatives from Birmingham Children's Trust, health, education and

others, has seen every household in temporary accommodation receiving a letter offering bespoke support.

- 7.1.7. We have moved a significant number of our families into better quality Bed and Breakfasts such as the Park Regis Hotel, who provided over 10,000 lunches free of charge to families. This also included providing key working areas which provide wrap around support to families, delivered by statutory partners.
- 7.1.8. We have also reduced B&B overall costs by negotiating better value for money across the City.
- 7.1.9. Through the Homelessness Reduction New Burdens funding in May, Birmingham received £2.5 million from central Government to be utilised on front line prevention services, such as rent deposits, mediation, prevention fund and the sanctuary scheme to prevent homelessness. In April 2021 we prevented homelessness in 56.86% of cases accessing the service. We have seen steady and real success in driving forward the prevention agenda. Of the cases closed in prevention this month, a significant percentage have been closed with a positive outcome. This has been because the homelessness prevention fund has been used to either secure deposits or reduce arrears; redirecting single vulnerable people to suitable housing providers or negotiations with families to prevent exclusion.
- 7.1.10. The Eviction Panel is now back in operation and Housing Options is working with colleagues across the rents and benefits service to prevent evictions even at the last stage.

Evictions

- 7.1.11. The pandemic has led to ongoing Government action to prevent people being evicted from their homes since March 2020. The third national lockdown was effective from 6th January 2021 and resulted in all other key dates being reviewed and extended including:
- The stay of possession proceedings extended from 21st February 2021 to 31st May 2021, except in certain circumstances.
 - The Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme ('furlough scheme') extended until September 2021.
 - The Universal Credit uplift of £20 per week extended until October 2021.
 - Notice Seeking possession 6-month notice extended to 31st May 2021.
 - Court interim arrangements extended until 31st July 2021.
- 7.1.12. Therefore, the service has had to continue to suspend enforcement action and review priority areas where enforcement action should and could commence. Government guidelines state that evictions can proceed if the tenant has over

6 months of arrears and the case is at the warrant stage. For these exempt cases, the service has implemented another stage to the normal eviction process. This means that following the Eviction Prevention Panel, a further review takes place (including the Assistant Director, Revenues, Benefits and Rents) before the cases are signed off. There are currently 13 evictions identified that all fall under the exempt guidelines. Court restrictions come to an end on 1st June 2021 and their interim arrangements are set to be reviewed in July 2021.

- 7.1.13. The Council continues to strongly urge all its own tenants who have concerns, or have found themselves struggling financially to pay their bills, to contact the council directly. As a landlord to over 60,000 households, we have found that rent arrears have increased significantly since lockdown first began. In response, the council has attempted to contact 22,899 tenants and successfully engaged with 8,812 tenants to try and understand what further help can be given to prevent them from falling any further into debt. Of those who responded 3,235 tenants state they have been affected by Covid-19.
- 7.1.14. With the eviction ban lifting, a leaflet has been produced with key messaging aimed at tenants of all tenures across the city. This gives details of the advice and support that is available, as well as some helpful tips on how to manage finances. For council tenants this is being inserted and sent out with the Rent Service quarterly rent statements.
- 7.1.15. The Service continues to work with our tenants to provide the following services:
- Debt Advice and support (including Government Financial Support);
 - UC help and advice working closely with our Job Centres;
 - Homeless prevention fund payments;
 - Discretionary Housing Payments;
 - Support to those affected by C-19 ensuring benefits reflect their circumstances and any gaps identified and paid;
 - 'Think Family' support.
- 7.1.16. We continue to work with national organisations and other local authorities across the UK to ensure a consistent and reliable approach is taken as the eviction ban is removed.
- 7.1.17. We will continue to be mindful of any new Covid-19 related measures and subsequent bans should further lockdown or restrictions be introduced.

Private Rented Services (PRS)

- 7.1.18. The Help 2 Rent scheme, launched in October 2020, continues to provide support for homeless families renting a home in the private-rented sector.

Since the launch we have built a portfolio of over 140 landlords have joined the scheme and over 100 households have been accommodated. The scheme provides incentives to landlords who offer 12-month fixed tenancies to those on the council's homeless and housing registers and will enable landlords to select from a range of assurances such as landlord insurance, rental deposits or rental guarantees, that are often barriers to accepting those who are either on benefits, the council's housing register or low-income families as tenants.

- 7.1.19. The council is progressing work on supported exempt accommodation which has seen a sharp increase in Birmingham over the last 12 months, with over 21,000 in payment in April 2021 compared with 14,000 in November 2019. This accommodation is trapping some of the most vulnerable people in some of the poorest accommodation with inadequate support. They are often unable to take up employment and are without any pathway to move on.
- 7.1.20. Birmingham was successful in securing £1.04m in October 2020 to support a pilot which looked in more depth into the supported exempt housing sector in the city. Due to Covid-19 impacts on delivery MHCLG followed up with a second phase of funding and Cabinet approved a further bid in April 2021, taking pilot activity to September 2021. A strong governance structure and project delivery plan is in place to drive this project for the remainder of this financial year. This includes a Cabinet Member Sponsor Board identifying key areas for lobbying and legislative and regulatory change.
- 7.1.21. The inspection element of the pilot was impacted by Covid-19 lockdown measures and we have been focusing on urgent responsive inspections as part of Phase 1. Looking ahead to Phase 2, we will be moving to more proactive inspections as lockdown measures are lifted; this will, however, need to be kept under constant review in regard to any local outbreaks/measures etc.
- 7.1.22. The pilot seeks to explore how the provision of supported housing in Birmingham can be improved by:
- Creating a Charter of Rights to make tenants and their families aware of the service they should expect, to be launched and rolled out over the pilot duration. This was formally launched in March 2021.
 - Rolling out a Quality Standard for providers of exempt accommodation so that the service they provide meets a high standard. This was also formally launched in March 2021.
 - Employing ten additional inspectors and additional benefit, community safety and social workers to carry out more inspections on properties to ensure that those living in these properties are not being exploited and are receiving the support they need.

- Developing a training module for providers and referring agencies to achieve higher quality provision.
- Completing a strategic needs assessment and subsequent support housing strategy.

7.1.23. Several mini conferences have taken place across the city to provide an opportunity for MPs, councillors and residents to have their say. Discussion was focused around what action can be taken to improve the support provided to vulnerable residents, reduce anti-social behaviour and other negative impacts this accommodation is having on their neighbourhoods. In addition, the mini conferences discussed specific areas of the Private Rented Sector (PRS) including HMOs. This has now developed into a group of resident reps from across the city to meet and share experiences and issues.

7.1.24. In May 2021 Cabinet approved the commencement of consultation where conditions for selective licensing based on deprivation and crime have been met for 25 wards across the city following a further of review of data, to allow a more refined assessment and comparison of wards against the Birmingham average for Deprivation and Crime.

Housing Repairs and Maintenance

7.1.25. Since Government lifted Covid-19 restrictions following the first national lockdown, the service has resumed routine repairs in customers' homes, maintaining social distancing and safe working practices. Contract Works Officers are targeting cases of disrepair and litigation, void inspections, mutual exchanges, complaints and customer service visits.

7.1.26. The gas servicing backlog (due to restricted access) has been addressed and 100% of our dwellings held a valid Landlord Gas Safety record at the end of 2020/21.

7.1.27. The programme to install sprinkler systems to over 200 of the Council's high rise blocks has continued, and is due to be completed in September 2021.

7.1.28. Following the decision at Cabinet in March 2021 not to extend the South Area repairs and maintenance contract for the final two years (of the contract), a procurement process has been launched for a provider for this service from April 2022 to March 2024. It is planned to complete this process in November 2021 to enable award of the contract in mid-December. Mobilisation can then be completed early in the new year for a start on 1st April 2022.

Housing Management

7.1.29. As national and local restrictions are reviewed, we have updated risk assessments to reflect the situation and worked flexibly to ensure services are maintained and can function as normally as possible.

- 7.1.30. Visiting services continue to be undertaken virtually wherever possible. However, services will now start to take place face-to-face if required for health and safety reasons or safeguarding concerns. In-person visits will only take place following completed risk assessments.
- 7.1.31. Increases in domestic abuse have been experienced throughout the course of the pandemic and we have increased public messaging and appointed additional officers in response.
- 7.1.32. Night-time security patrols are being maintained at normal levels, with internal assessments when visiting designated blocks and areas undertaken on a reactive basis where required.
- 7.1.33. Estate Services teams have returned to business as usual. Additional resources will be required to ensure our standards within the blocks and estates are improved.
- 7.1.34. We continue to conduct weekly telephone contact with all sheltered scheme tenants, particularly focussing on the lonely and most vulnerable. Only critical face-to-face visits and health and safety checks are taking place, and common rooms remain closed.
- 7.1.35. Lettings are continuing and being conducted on a virtual basis which is proving to be very successful. There is a review taking place to consider returning to a face-to-face service; this will be done based on the needs and requirements of the customer, and it is envisaged that a mixture of face to face and virtual lettings will take place.
- 7.1.36. The Careline Service which provides support to vulnerable residents remains fully operational, including repairs and new installations.

Housing Development/Birmingham Municipal Housing Trust (BMHT)

- 7.1.37. We have a number of new developments due to start on site, notably Farnborough Road site in Castle Vale which is due to commence in Spring 2021. BMHT have worked on this scheme jointly with The Pioneer Housing Group, and will deliver 123 new homes.
- 7.1.38. Seven schemes are due to be completed over the coming months to deliver 55 new homes. These are: Primrose Kings Norton, Longley Avenue Sutton Coldfield, Alum Drive Bordesley Green, Kestrel Avenue Yardley, Lenton Croft South Yardley, The Fordrough, Northfield and Ward End Park Road, Alum Rock developments.
- 7.1.39. The first phase of development at Bromford is now on site, which will deliver 53 new homes for social rent. It is anticipated that planning applications will be made on further 10 sites on Bromford which could deliver a further 181 new homes.

- 7.1.40. Work has started on Monmouth Road, Bartley Green where 68 new homes for sale and rent will be built. Work continues at Gladstone street, Aston where 9 houses and 23 flats will be delivered. In addition, construction on the final phases at Birchfield, Perry Barr & Abbeyfields, Erdington have commenced delivering 39 new homes across the two sites.
- 7.1.41. Our contractors continue to operate at 80% efficiency against pre-Covid activity, resulting in some forecast slippage in the BMHT 2020/21 budget. While this is improving there are new problems with shortages of materials causing some delays. Our contractors continue to work on site, adhering to all Covid-19 safe working protocols and we continuously monitor for any emerging impacts on resources, suppliers and services, as a matter of course.
- 7.1.42. A further five schemes are currently being procured at Gressel Lane Hodge Hill, Clements Street Yardley, Lowden Drive Hodge Hill, Primrose Phase 2 and Pool Farm in Kings Norton, which will deliver a total of 391 new homes with 263 for rent and 128 for sale.
- 7.1.43. The Property Purchase Programme is an approved acquisitions process of obtaining properties from the open market in areas where there is existing/new council housing stock, to support the provision of much needed affordable homes. The Covid-19 pandemic and related operational factors have delayed the programme previously and as such relevant amendments have been made to the process, which will enable a spend of the £2m budget to be met this financial year.

7.2. **Register Office and Bereavement Services**

- 7.2.1. Following successful transition to Stage 3 of the national recovery roadmap, a fully operational service is now in place. Covid-19 secure measures have been reviewed and improved where necessary.
- 7.2.2. The working arrangements in the Register Office have been reviewed and new arrangements have been made in the light of changing Government guidance and additional knowledge about Variants Of Concern (VOC) This ensures greater safety for staff and the public in doing face-to-face registrations as required under the legislation. The changes are designed to minimise the risk of spread of Covid-19. The change in requirements for face coverings was changed with effect from August 2020, whereby people accessing the Register Office must wear a face covering unless they have an exemption under the legislation. Staff are also encouraged to wear face coverings, if moving about the office or in situations where social distancing is potentially unachievable.

Birth registrations

- 7.2.3. When the birth registration service recommenced in June 2020 following the first national lockdown, there was a backlog of approximately 6,200 births to be registered. As at 20th May 2021 there were 1,819 applications in the system.

Recovery arrangements are to be in place to provide a service to both reduce this backlog and deal with new births. Registrations are generally prioritised by chronological order, with urgent circumstances considered on a case by case basis, including the need for passports.

Citizenship Ceremonies

- 7.2.4. The Birmingham Registration Service is undertaking virtual ceremonies, avoiding any need for new citizens to attend a citizenship ceremony at the Register Office.

Marriage/Civil Partnerships

- 7.2.5. Marriage and civil partnership ceremonies were recommenced from 2nd December 2020, as indicated in national policy with the relaxation of the national lockdown measures.
- 7.2.6. Attendance at ceremonies has been controlled at all stages, in accordance with current national guidance. With effect from 17th May 2021, 30 guests are allowed to attend ceremonies.
- 7.2.7. Notices of Marriage and Civil Partnership were suspended in the lockdown from January to March 2021, but the service has now recommenced.
- 7.2.8. Registrar General Licence requests for marriage/civil partnerships are being risk assessed and considered on a case by case basis. Staff safety is paramount and ceremonies for customers diagnosed with Covid-19 will not take place.
- 7.2.9. Applications to reduce the waiting period for marriages or civil partnerships are now being processed. Any notices of marriage or civil partnership cancelled due to lockdown have been refunded or rebooked.
- 7.2.10. Approved premise licences cannot be suspended during this period. However, Birmingham City Council's Registrar Service is considering extensions to existing licences where appropriate and if it is allowable legally.

Deaths/Still-Births

- 7.2.11. The Coronavirus Act 2020 changed the death registration process, with electronic or telephone registration permissible. Demand was high and changes were made to the initial process, which increased operational efficiency. This, along with the additional resources allocated, has reduced waiting times for the registration of deaths. These are generally now down to less than half a day for completed applications, provided there are no complications.
- 7.2.12. The service introduced revised methods of working which helped to improve the administration of the death registration process. This improvement has been maintained through the second wave, and additional staff are allocated

to death registration work from birth registrations wherever possible. While there has been an increase in demands on the service throughout the pandemic, there are minimal backlogs to the process at present.

Bereavement Services (Burials and Cremations)

- 7.2.13. Bereavement services are working to revised service plans in accordance with national guidance. This necessitates changes to the way that funeral services are conducted. For this emergency period, and in line with requirements for social distancing, attendance at funerals is now limited in crematoria. The number of people at funeral services varies according to the size of the chapel, but is being actively managed in conjunction with funeral directors and families to ensure the risk of spread of Covid-19 is minimised.
- 7.2.14. Services will normally be a maximum of 30 minutes at this time and funeral directors have been asked to assist with the rules about social distancing and the numbers of attendees since lockdown. The number of services provided each week is varied in line with the demand, but there are no delays at present with burial slots widely available.
- 7.2.15. The requirement for persons attending funerals inside crematorium chapels to wear face coverings continues. There are certain circumstances when these can be removed. This came into effect in August 2020. Ministers wear face coverings going into and leaving the building while funeral director staff are encouraged to wear coverings.
- 7.2.16. People attending burials are encouraged to wear face coverings.
- 7.2.17. Cemeteries are now fully open to the public even while a funeral is being held.

7.3. Communities

Community Centres

- 7.3.1. Following the Government announcement of a national lockdown on 20 March 2020, all council managed community centres were closed to the public. A few remained open on a restricted basis to accommodate essential community services such as food banks, including the council funded Active Wellbeing Society (TAWS)/Fare Share food operation at Ladywood Health.
- 7.3.2. As the year progressed, the regulations clarifying what activities were permitted at any given time changed repeatedly with successive national lockdowns, interspersed with limited re-opening, the application of the “rule of six”, and the introduction of Tier 2 and 3 restrictions.
- 7.3.3. At each stage, the operation of approximately 160 groups was assessed and, where possible and permitted, groups were received back, limited by the following factors:

- Social distancing requirements, which significantly reduced the capacity of rooms and halls.
- Type of activity, with some groups not permitted due to the high risk presented by their activities e.g. group singing.
- Financial viability, with some groups no longer viable with reduced numbers.
- Risk levels of participants, with some groups choosing not to return because they catered for people at higher risk e.g. the elderly.
- Ventilation requirements, which meant we could not use a number of spaces or could only use them by leaving doors and windows open to ensure a sufficient flow of fresh air.

7.3.4. In order to re-open as periodically permitted, the service undertook extensive work to amend normal operating procedures and introduce new Covid-19 secure arrangements to allow centres to safely reopen to the public. This included supporting user groups and tenants to develop risk assessments for their specific activities in accordance with the relevant guidance.

7.3.5. As winter 2020 approached it became necessary to find alternative solutions to leaving doors and windows open. The service worked collaboratively with other front line services, Birmingham Property Services and ACIVICO to develop a Winter Ventilation Strategy, and in the first instance adopted CO2 monitors to check the flow of fresh air was sufficient to provide reassurance to customers and staff alike. This also assisted with the identification of any particular problem areas where more permanent solutions were required.

7.3.6. From early 2021, the service supported C19 Lateral Flow testing sites based at Mere Green, Sheldon and Oddingley Community Centres. These operations are now being withdrawn in order that the Centres can re-open fully from 17th May 2021, although the site at Summerfield remains in situ at present.

7.3.7. From 12th April 2021 nurseries and children's activities were allowed, and as of 17th May, all activities can resume subject to the ongoing maintenance of social distancing, track and test recording, ventilation, wearing of face coverings in common areas, and enhanced cleaning regimes on site.

7.3.8. If social distancing requirements are not eased there will be an on-going impact on income generation which is expected to create a financial pressure on the service.

Localisation/Neighbourhood Development

7.3.9. A Localisation Star Chamber has been established to drive forward the localisation agenda across the organisation and with partners across the city. It will provide a continuing process of challenge and monitoring to ensure

localisation is coordinated, championed, and embedded across council policies, services, work programmes, and ways of working.

- 7.3.10. A Localisation Delivery Plan setting out the actions to be progressed in the next 18 months has been developed. The Neighbourhood Development and Support Unit (NDSU) is being expanded to support the ongoing Localisation priorities and will be undertaking the next phase of Member Development, working with Cllr Karen McCarthy, Cabinet Advisor- Localisation to provide training and support for councillors from this month.
- 7.3.11. Since the beginning of the pandemic, NDSU have worked to develop virtual ward forums on the Teams Event Live platform across the city, in order to maintain local community governance and engagement. The virtual options for Members were subsequently expanded to include Teams Live, Teams and Zoom.
- 7.3.12. Since 2nd December 2020, all recorded virtual ward forum meetings have been uploaded to YouTube to the NDSU Channel and notifications have been sent to all councillors and all ward contacts. The link to the YouTube Channel has also been added to the City Council website to enable meetings to be viewed after the event.
- 7.3.13. Between June 2020 and the end of March 2021 there were 109 virtual ward meetings. 12 of these were joint meetings, gaining a total attendance of 2,462 (an average of 23 participants per meeting) in addition to 2,752 viewings on YouTube. In general, the numbers have been higher than previous face-to-face meetings. Going forward, the Council will be looking to see what options will be available for future ward meetings dependent on being Covid-19 restrictions and the risk assessments of community buildings.
- 7.3.14. As of 11th May 2021, there are 52 completed ward plans. In April 2021 NDSU produced an interim Priorities Template 2021-22 for those wards without a full ward plan (in line with CWG – Celebrating Communities grants requirement)
- 7.3.15. Since lockdown the Pioneer Places get togethers have continued virtually on a monthly basis providing opportunities to share good practice, enabling peer to peer sharing and learning. Further activity has included:
- Four training opportunities, held with the national organisation Economy, and Birmingham Community Matters.
 - Three 'Speak Truth to Power' sessions with the Acting Director of Inclusive Growth, the Interim Chief Executive, the Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods, and the Director of Neighbourhoods. A further session is being arranged around Street Scene and Parks.
 - 20 small grants issued to support the Covid-19 neighbourhood emergency support work by Pioneer Places.

- Continued support from Locality following the purchased 30 memberships (3 per Pioneer Place) in Jan 2020. In 2021-22, 4 Pioneer Place members accessed £52,000 from the Locality Covid-19 Emergency Trading Income Support Service.
- Pioneer Places acted as critical friend on new pieces of localisation work i.e. Parishing, ward data and the development of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) process.
- Production of a series of short films highlighting good practice.

- 7.3.16. Weekly External Grants Information continues to be produced and circulated to staff, councillors, MPs and community and voluntary organisations. NDSU partnered with West Midlands Funders Network and ran a Virtual Funding Fair, targeted at community groups within Central and East Birmingham, in February 2021. Individual team members have supported community organisations to access over £100,000 in external funding over the last year.
- 7.3.17. We have provided support to community groups city-wide during lockdown, as well as the co-ordination of Emergency Assistance grants and Covid-19 NNS small grants for the Selly Oak and Perry Barr Constituencies. We will also have membership on the corporate Community Recovery Board – shaping the interventions going forward in 2021.
- 7.3.18. The team continues to support two very successful Neighbourhood Network Schemes in Selly Oak and Perry Barr Constituencies – particularly supporting the Covid emergency support for neighbourhoods and community groups, capacity building support, networking sessions etc.
- 7.3.19. NDSU are co-ordinating the Commonwealth Games (CWG) Celebrating Communities grants fund, launched in April 2021 for all wards. There is also a commissioned Capacity Building and Support Programme being run by Locality and Birmingham Community Matters - plus additional funding for community anchors to support the ward participative decision-making processes for ward grants is in place.
- 7.3.20. In May 2021 Cabinet approved a City Council process to respond to and support those areas of the city considering establishing new parish/neighbourhood councils. Birmingham now has one of the largest parish councils in the country in the Town Council for Royal Sutton Coldfield, established in 2016. Its only other parish council is at Frankley in Birmingham, which was established in Worcestershire and continued when the area was absorbed into Birmingham.
- 7.3.21. Currently there are three areas of the city actively pursuing this agenda and the policy brings clarity to items such as the process around petitions, governance reviews, ballots and voter turnout etc.

- 7.3.22. The team has given small grant support to those community organisations currently looking at forming Neighbourhood Councils.
- 7.3.23. NDSU is also working with Locality on their national Community Assets Ownership and Advocacy Programme 2020-21 which included a series of information workshops for community organisations and key decision makers during September and October 2020. The Locality Report is expected this month which will assist in the re-setting of the City Council's Community Asset Transfer policy. The team have also taken over the co-ordination of the Assets of Community Value (ACV) process in the Council. ACV is one of the original community rights in the Localism Act 2011 and fits in with Birmingham's current drive around localism and communities having more of a say within their neighbourhoods.
- 7.3.24. The team is also currently working in partnership with Inclusive Growth Planning colleagues to submit a funding bid to Government, to support more neighbourhood planning in under-represented areas of the city.

7.4. **Community Safety and Equalities**

Community Safety

- 7.4.1. Birmingham City Council Community Safety and Prevent Teams have resumed as much business as usual activity as possible, whilst working remotely and continuing to support the Council's response to Covid-19.
- 7.4.2. A Community Safety Team transition plan is now in place, with priorities identified and team capacity adjusted accordingly. Further work is ongoing to build on the capacity within the team to offer a wider community safety response. Working with West Midlands Police (WMP), there is now a new partnership consequence management meeting in place, which is called when we have a serious incident with community safety implications. Joint working arrangements are also in place with Housing and Regulation and Enforcement colleagues with regards to domestic abuse and anti-social behaviour processes.
- 7.4.3. Work continues collaboratively with all partners to ensure safety in our communities. This ranges from pre-planning and monitoring arrangements in response to protests held in the city, to supporting WMP and other enforcement partners to manage more complex incidents of anti-social behaviour.
- 7.4.4. The Birmingham Community Safety Partnership (BCSP) adopted a Gold/Silver/Bronze operating model to ensure a clear focus on key priorities during the pandemic. The transition plan ensures this focus now includes the moves back towards business as usual activities as lockdown restrictions are gradually lifted. The BCSP Operations and Local Partnership Delivery Groups (LPDGs) will continue to work on a business as usual basis, whilst the BCSP

Core group meeting will continue for the next quarter, after which arrangements set up for the pandemic will be further reviewed.

BCSP Core Group

- 7.4.5. A Core Group of the Community Safety Partnership continues to meet fortnightly and oversee key priorities set during the pandemic. These include domestic abuse, domestic homicide reviews, hate crime, modern slavery, serious organised crime, tension monitoring and reducing anti-social behaviour. Work has begun on developing a Reducing Violence Strategy, which will look at serious youth violence, violence during a transitional age and adult violence with a focus on early intervention, supporting vulnerable individuals, as well place-based vulnerabilities and solutions and offender management. It has been agreed to keep the Core Group running as we move into business as usual and wider recovery from the pandemic.

Silver – Community Safety Partnership Operations Group

- 7.4.6. The Operations Group now meets fortnightly. The BCSP Operations group identifies and acts upon community safety concerns that impact on the city as a whole. Recent work has included the introduction of a fortnightly Street Community Tasking Group and an appeal panel for the Community Trigger process. The Operations Group also continues to review and support the work of the LPDGs.
- 7.4.7. In addition, the Community Safety Youth Focus Group continues to meet weekly with partners, sharing information with regards to supporting young people and working in partnership to reduce youth crime.

Bronze – Local Partnership Delivery Groups (LPDGs)

- 7.4.8. All six LPDGs are now working on a business as usual basis, whilst continuing to respond to Covid-related concerns. This has included supporting the production of local recovery plans for schools and businesses emerging from lockdown.

Prevent

- 7.4.9. Birmingham City Council's Prevent Team has continued to work closely with the West Midlands Counter Terrorism Unit to ensure that effective processes are in place for Prevent, and that Home Office supported programmes continue to run effectively with little disruption. The Prevent Team has transitioned well into the online space, ensuring support can now also be offered online as well as in-person.
- 7.4.10. The Prevent Executive Board continues to oversee an Independent Review of Prevent Delivery in Birmingham which is due to report its findings to the Birmingham Contest Board in June 2021.

Domestic Abuse

- 7.4.11. Birmingham City Council continues to work with Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid (BSWAID) to provide support for those at risk of domestic abuse. The Community Safety Team, alongside Housing colleagues, has secured extra funding through the emergency Covid-19 fund to support the additional capacity needed to deal with increases in domestic abuse enquiries.
- 7.4.12. Work progresses within the Community Safety Team to support the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) process. We have also introduced a Domestic Abuse and Criminal Justice working group, which is working with victims of domestic abuse to assess and understand their journey and experience through the criminal justice system. This work will identify why some victims do not continue with their complaints and why positive outcomes are low in comparison to the number of reports made. The team are also working with Birmingham Children's Trust, WM Police and local schools to support joint working around support to families impacted by domestic abuse.
- 7.4.13. The Domestic Abuse Hub has remained open during the pandemic, providing support and advice over the telephone via its helpline. The helpline is run by BSWAID, who have also introduced a webchat facility. Our commissioned services also continue to provide support to victims of domestic abuse in refuge, dispersed accommodation or through our lead worker service.
- 7.4.14. On 29th April 2021 the Domestic Abuse Bill received Royal Assent, putting into place protection for victims of domestic abuse, explicitly recognising children as victims, establishing in law the office of Domestic Abuse Commissioner and placing a duty on local authorities in England to provide support to victims of domestic abuse and their children in refuges and other safe accommodation.
- 7.4.15. The Bill places requirements on Birmingham City Council as a Tier One authority, to appoint a local partnership board (which we have already established well in advance of the Act coming into effect), prepare and publish strategies based on robust needs assessments and give effect to these strategies. In April 2021 the Council received £3.2m for 2021/22 to discharge this new duty.

Exempt Accommodation

- 7.4.16. Birmingham's Exempt Accommodation pilot, which includes a specific community safety focus, continues to make positive progress. The community safety work started in January 2021 and a small team is now in place. To date the team has taken part in 226 joint visits with internal and external partners within the pilot – Housing, Adult Social Care, Planning, WM Police and West Midlands Fire Service.

7.4.17. The team has undertaken a number of investigations, which have resulted in the identification of individuals vulnerable to exploitation by organised crime groups. Referrals have subsequently been made into the appropriate support agencies, as well as engagement with landlords, to help support individuals move into more suitable accommodation.

7.4.18. We are now working with the West Midlands Probation Service to further tighten the processes linked to referrals into accommodation of individuals from outside of Birmingham. Following a joint operation with WMP there is now a closure order in place against Saif Lodge, an exempt accommodation in Edgbaston. We are now looking to increase capacity in the team, with three ASB officers working to tackle potential links between serious organised crime and associated activities within parts of the sector, together with general anti-social behaviour.

Places of Worship

7.4.19. Birmingham City Council and faith communities have continued to work together throughout the pandemic, ensuring that religious events are held in compliance with the Government's roadmap out of lockdown and both families and communities are protected.

7.4.20. The national guidance for the safe use of places of worship was updated in spring, with the following key changes:

- Most other significant life events can resume, limited to no more than 30 people. This will include events such as bar/bat mitzvahs and private baptisms, and naming ceremonies. Limits at weddings, wedding receptions, wakes and other commemorative events will be increased to 30 people.
- Funerals will have no legal cap on the number of people who can attend. The number of attendees will be determined by how many people the venue can safely accommodate with social distancing measures in place.
- Outdoors, most legal restrictions on meeting others will be lifted - although gatherings of over 30 people will remain illegal unless otherwise exempt.

7.4.21. At Step 4, which will take place no earlier than 21st June, the government aims to remove all limits on life cycle events and other gatherings.

7.4.22. The City Council will continue to engage with faith communities to ensure any further changes in guidance is communicated. We are grateful to the support and understanding that has been shown by faith groups across the city during this difficult and challenging time and look forward to working together face to face as restrictions are lifted.

7.5. **Equalities**

- 7.5.1. Over 4,000 Birmingham residents, council staff, grassroots community organisations, faith-based organisations, practitioners and public sector policy makers have shared their views on the Council's proposals to address and tackle inequalities that affect communities across the city.
- 7.5.2. The resulting report, Everyone's Battle, Everyone's Business: Together We Will Tackle Inequalities was approved at Cabinet on 18th May. The report focuses on three areas:
- To lead by example, not just as an employer: Our Workforce Race Equity Review shows we need to do much more to really represent the communities we serve. We're working to ensure shortlists and interview panels include female and Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic representation. We're working with our workforce, trade unions and independent experts to become a beacon for equal opportunities.
 - Making Birmingham a Living Wage City: Tackling the scandal of poverty pay is essential, which is why we're working with city partners to make Birmingham a Living Wage City and build an inclusive economy. We're also putting 'experts by experience' at the heart of our decision making, through our new Poverty Truth Commission;
 - Celebrating and sharing stories of Birmingham's diversity: We all have a different story, heritage, or journey that brought us to this city. These need to be explored and celebrated as part of the wider 'Birmingham Story'. We're working with schools on including this in the curriculum, so children learn about the city's diverse heritage.
- 7.5.3. In response to key pledges identified through public consultation relating to improving citizen's economic chances, activity is now taking place to make Birmingham a Living Wage City, establish a new Poverty Truth Commission and support staff progression within the council.
- 7.5.4. Following the launch of the RACE Equality Code 2020, Birmingham City Council has announced that it will become an early adopter of the framework, which draws together over 200 recommendations outlined in reports, charters and pledges which aim to tackle diversity and inclusion challenges.
- 7.5.5. We are now one of a handful of local authorities to publish our Race Pay Gap Review, and we are now looking at how age, disability and gender may impact the economic wellbeing of our staff.
- 7.5.6. In responding to the lack of diversity within our senior leadership and management teams we worked with Operation Black Vote on a new leadership programme to help nurture a future generation of leaders that will truly represent the city they serve. The initial cohort of leaders was oversubscribed,

and we are therefore developing a second phase to bring this opportunity to as many staff as possible.

- 7.5.7. We are working with colleagues in the London Borough of Lewisham on an in-depth review of health inequalities affecting African and Caribbean communities. This will ensure we fully understand what we need to do to support those who have been among the hardest hit by Covid-19.
- 7.5.8. To support increased activity across this agenda, the Equalities and Cohesion team is expanding. Five people are currently in post including the Head of Service, Service Lead (Equalities), two Equalities and Cohesion Apprentices, and a Project Officer. It is anticipated that the remaining positions in the team will be recruited during Q2 of 2021/22, with recruitment completed by Q3.

Armed Forces Covenant

- 7.5.9. During the pandemic, the council's Armed Forces Partnership has continued to take forward actions to support Birmingham's Armed Forces community, including veterans and their families.
- 7.5.10. Birmingham is the first City Council to establish a cross-partner group to provide wrap around support to individuals and families connected to the Armed Forces, through a coordinated approach to welfare. The Birmingham Armed Forces Operations Group reports directly into the Armed Forces Covenant partnership group. The Operations Group is attended by welfare organisations and charities such as the Royal British Legion, Walking with the Wounded and SSAFA, alongside statutory services such as the NHS Veterans' Mental Health Transition, Intervention and Liaison Service (TILS), Police and other organisations including housing associations, Department for Work and Pensions, employment support organisations and substance abuse charities.
- 7.5.11. For the Fallen CIC, a social enterprise whose goal is to raise awareness and give a voice to the families left behind by military suicides, has joined the partnership to help highlight the issue of Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and the support available for wider family members.
- 7.5.12. In April 2021, the council secured the Armed Forces Covenant Employer Recognition Scheme Silver Award. The Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) encourages employers to support defence and inspire others to do the same. The scheme encompasses bronze, silver and gold awards for employer organisations that pledge, demonstrate or advocate support to defence and the armed forces community, and align their values with the Armed Forces Covenant.

Living Wage

- 7.5.13. We continue to work in partnership with the Living Wage Foundation and partner organisations to make Birmingham a real living wage city. In

November, the council participated in the Living Wage Week 2020 to encourage more employers to tackle in-work poverty by paying the real living wage.

- 7.5.14. Due to social distancing restrictions, there was an increased focus on social media and digital events in the run up to Living Wage Week. The Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion, Community Safety and Equalities delivered a webinar emphasising the importance of public sector organisations as major employers, showing leadership and a commitment to ensure front-line service workers such as carers, nurses and retail workers are not facing in-work poverty.
- 7.5.15. As a signatory of the Business Charter for Social Responsibility, and as a major procurer of commissioning services, we want to ensure that contracted workers within the supply chain also are not experiencing in-work poverty. As a result of these events during Living Wage Week 2020, the Living Wage Foundation received a record level of enquiries from large Birmingham organisations seeking to become accredited Real Living Wage employers.
- 7.5.16. The Birmingham Living Wage Action Plan is currently being developed with our partners and will be launched later this year.

Commonwealth Games

- 7.5.17. Birmingham's ambition is for an inclusive Commonwealth Games where everyone can participate and benefit from the success of the Games, regardless of where they live or grow up. The Equalities and Cohesion Team are leading on the development of the CWG legacy theme for stronger communities. This recognises that the Games are not just about focussing on sport; but also present a unique opportunity to be a catalyst for bringing communities together, building civic pride, fostering community cohesion and utilising untapped community potential in arts, heritage, culture and cohesion.
- 7.5.18. Work is ongoing in partnership with BVSC to develop a framework for commissioned activities that align legacy activities linked with the Games and the Council's vision for an inclusive city, where everyone has an opportunity to contribute and benefit from its success by tackling inequalities that exist.

Migration

- 7.5.19. Birmingham City Council continues to work with the Home Office and providers, as well as with local stakeholders, to manage the additional local challenges in the asylum system. Birmingham continues to see contingency accommodation in use for destitute asylum seekers, although this has reduced from two units to one since the start of 2021. Covid-19 vaccinations have been offered at or near large asylum accommodation sites.

- 7.5.20. Birmingham City Council has been awarded £1.4m in European funding from the Asylum Migration and Integration Fund for an 18 month project to improve the welcome, advice and guidance pathways for newly arrived communities in Birmingham. This project is the second phase to two previous successful projects supporting new communities to settle and to prevent crisis and destitution when exiting Home Office provision. Birmingham City Council has partnered with the Refugee and Migration Centre, Central England Law Centre, and Asirt to deliver the project.
- 7.5.21. This partnership continues to act as a referral route from the Everyone-In and Next Steps Accommodation Pathway work for rough sleepers with No Recourse to Public Funds. Referrals have been made into the project that enable information and advice to be provided to individuals, with a view to improving the options available to individuals on exiting this support. This includes access to legal representation and the resolution of immigration, welfare, housing, employment and other issues.
- 7.5.22. The Refugees and Migration Team has worked closely with the central Brexit Contingency programme to secure funding to support vulnerable and at-risk individuals to access the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS). This project is delivered in partnership with external organisations providing regulated immigration advice, as well as with Birmingham Children's Trust. The aims of the project are a) to expand the availability of EUSS advice for complex cases in Birmingham; b) to make available training around EUSS to frontline staff; c) to train Community Champions in EUSS; d) to allow the Council to become an ID Scanning Location.
- 7.5.23. The Government's resettlement programmes for refugees have now restarted and we have welcomed the first resettled refugee families to Birmingham since November 2019. All national guidance on Covid-19 and testing for international arrivals is being adhered to.
- 7.5.24. Those resettled families already resident in Birmingham continue to be supported via the Council's commissioned providers, which include arrival and orientation services, employment support services, active citizenship projects, tenancy and welfare support services, and mental health awareness projects. In addition, a well-accessed grants scheme continues to run alongside the commissioned services, for which the council has encouraged bidders to work with resettled families to identify and address gaps in services. Projects include parenting and family support services, driving theory courses, English as an Additional Language in schools support, a bicycle donation and maintenance scheme, and capacity building support. In November, the Refugees and Migration Team hosted the first digital version of its Community Days for resettled refugee families, which was a well-attended and successful event.

- 7.5.25. Refugee Week takes place during the week 14-18 June. A number of in-person and digital events and initiatives will be taking place to celebrate the theme “We Cannot Walk Alone”.

Neighbourhood Advice and Information (NAIS)

- 7.5.26. NAIS advisors have all been working from home providing advice by telephone during 2020/21. Over the course of the year, they supported 14,061 citizens and handled 34,574 enquiries.
- 7.5.27. Over 2020/21, advisors have advised citizens to claim an additional £9.9 million, up 9% from the previous year. This was done through proactive outreach, making outgoing supportive calls to citizens receiving food parcels from TAWS as well as contacting council tenants in serious arrears to establish if such citizens are in receipt of all the benefits to which they are entitled. Advisors have not been constrained by time limited appointment slots and therefore have been able to dedicate more time to fully explore and meet the needs of a more limited number of citizens.
- 7.5.28. A timetable is now in place to allow a return to delivering face to face advice services, in a Covid-safe way, at the two NAIS advice centres at Erdington and Northfield. From 17th May 2021, closed door/pre-booked appointments were made available. Assuming that national and local conditions remain favourable, we look forward to once again offering a walk-in service to the citizens of Birmingham.

Third Sector Advice Service

- 7.5.29. Historically, the City Council has also supported third sector organisations to deliver advice services across the city. Contractual arrangements with accredited advice providers Citizens Advice Birmingham, Birmingham Settlement and Spitfire Advice Services have continued throughout 2020/21, with advice services delivered over the telephone rather than face to face. These third sector partners raised £3.6 million of additional benefit income for the clients they supported, achieving the target set for this year.
- 7.5.30. With Emergency Welfare Assistance Grant funding received from central government it was possible to increase the funding provided to the third sector to deliver advice services for the period December 2020 to March 2021. Collectively, the three partners responded to an additional 11,948 welfare benefit and debt enquiries during that challenging period.
- 7.5.31. All third sector providers are still delivering advice services primarily over the telephone but are starting to review the potential for face-to-face advice services to resume. A return to delivery via advice surgeries in community settings such as Job Centres and Libraries is a longer-term ambition.

8. Street Scene and Parks

8.1. Waste management

Activity undertaken relating to Covid-19

- 8.1.1. There has been a continued and concerted effort from all staff to maintain a regular service throughout the pandemic. All services have been maintained, including weekly residual collections, fortnightly recycling, garden and bulky waste. Staff from Street Cleansing have been working to ensure the streets are kept clean and provided additional cleaning and jet washing in preparation for the reopening of the High Streets in April 2021.
- 8.1.2. The composition of waste has changed over the course of the pandemic. As more and more people work from home the level of residual waste collected from each household has increased. We have seen an increase in kerbside recycling, with more residents separating their waste at source. Unfortunately, this has not made a significant impact on the city's overall recycling figure.
- 8.1.3. Collection performance continues to be stable, with the number of outstanding roads falling below 20 a week out of a total of 12,250. Work continues to improve on this. 74 new fleet vehicles have been delivered, are in use and will as a consequence improve reliability considerably.
- 8.1.4. Within Street Cleansing a large recruitment drive has commenced to fill over 150 posts. This should be completed by the end of June.
- 8.1.5. This level of service has only been possible with the continued dedicated commitment from our crews and close cooperation with Trades Union colleagues.
- 8.1.6. The booking system at the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) has continued to be a great success in reducing queues, freeing up the highway and allowing the sites to maintain COVID safe operations.
- 8.1.7. Initially, and clearly demonstrating the demand, sites were reaching full capacity on a daily basis. In following weeks the number of available slots were increased and on-site capacity gradually increased.
- 8.1.8. The service has now introduced a 'live time' cancellation and booking system. This means that available slots can now be booked on the same day of a visit, subject to there being capacity and the chosen site. Slots have been increased at each stage of the route out of lockdown. At the time of writing there is availability at all HWRCs.

Business as usual activity

- 8.1.9. Nationally there has been an increase in fly-tipping, and many of the city's streets and parks have not escaped this criminal activity. Additional crews have been created to clear this illegal waste and additional Waste Enforcement

Officers have been recruited. A partnership with Keep Britain Tidy has started and a concerted effort over the next 12 months will take place to try and resolve this persistent problem.

- 8.1.10. A fleet of Mobile Household Recycling Centres (MHRCs) are set to roll out on the streets of Birmingham later this year as part of the city council's effort to achieve cleaner streets, making it as easy as possible to dispose of waste and unwanted items in a responsible way.
- 8.1.11. The four MHRCs will comprise a regular refuse collection vehicle, a van for taking away items that can be reused by charities, and a wagon with multiple compartments. This will enable people to drop off waste for recycling by material type, very similar to what is available at a conventional HRC.
- 8.1.12. The MHRCs will initially be deployed in areas that rank high in the fly-tipping league table, poorly on environmental cleanliness surveys, and low for take-up of the council's paid-for bulky waste services.
- 8.1.13. Each of the Council's 69 wards will receive at least one visit from an MHRC over the pilot year. An assessment will then be carried out to decide if the scheme should continue, be modified or other options pursued.
- 8.1.14. Other projects and initiatives set to be rolled out in the year ahead include: new mobile CCTV camera technology to detect fly-tipping; the launch of a "wall of shame" Crimewatch-style YouTube series to help the council trace waste crime culprits; the deployment of more crews to clear dumped rubbish and graffiti; and a renewed offer of support to community groups doing their bit to make Birmingham's streets cleaner and greener.
- 8.1.15. The procurement of the Waste Disposal contract continues and has now reached the more detailed bidder interaction stage. Visits have been made to our sites and a detailed submission will be received later this year.
- 8.1.16. Planning for major development at the Perry Barr site and our Energy From Waste plant has taken place. Over the next few weeks, work will start at both sites to enable the provision of more efficient and effective facilities.
- 8.1.17. Work has started on a new operations base, merging two depots into one. This will provide a new garage facility and enable a more effective and efficient use of operational teams; it is anticipated that this will be up and running by early 2023.

8.2. Parks and Grounds Maintenance

Covid-related activity

- 8.2.1. With the announcement of new lockdown restrictions commencing in January 2021, and as in previous lockdowns, volunteering was once more suspended for the entire period of spring 2021.

- 8.2.2. Community groups and volunteers were written to, thanking them for ceasing group volunteering activities and adhering to lockdown guidance. Friends and community groups generally adhered to the guidance and ceased all but individual litter picking (as part of daily walks). All events, and grass root sports also ceased.
- 8.2.3. Despite the wetter colder weather in January, February and early March there was a high level of use of the city's parks, the vast majority of this being compliant with Covid guidance.
- 8.2.4. Mid-April saw the first relaxation of lockdown rules, and with this once again volunteering and grass roots sports were able to recommence. Friends and volunteering groups were again written to thanking them for their patience and understanding and to welcome them back to their volunteer activities. A two-week extension to the grassroots football season was agreed to allow leagues to play their remaining fixtures.
- 8.2.5. Football has now ceased, and the cricket season is well under way.
- 8.2.6. New and additional signage has been erected across the City's parks and playgrounds reminding people to stay safe, socially distance, increase hand hygiene, and act responsibly with regard to their litter. Signs also reiterated that BBQs were not allowed.
- 8.2.7. The Parks Service appointed 8 mobile Covid Marshalls as part of the city's overall recruitment of 32 Marshalls funded by government grants. These additional staff patrolled our busiest parks, liaising with park visitors and promoting safe and compliant use of parks. These Covid Marshalls are still in post and will remain so until next year.
- 8.2.8. Parks, along with other divisions of the City Council, are regularly reviewing the government's Covid-19 guidance relating to events and outdoor performances that take place in our parks and civic spaces to ensure a consistent application of the new guidelines. Based on the current lockdown roadmap, the Parks Service is anticipating a busy year with a renewed interest in booking events in our parks.

Business as usual activity

- 8.2.9. The Parks Service again submitted 15 Green Flag Awards applications this year, and expects to be peer reviewed in August/September 2021. The national (and now international) award recognises parks that are well managed and have good community input and support in their day to day management.
- 8.2.10. Unfortunately Lickey Hills has had an outbreak of Phytophthora, which affects larch and rhododendron. A notice was issued by the Forestry Commission instructing the Council to remove all affected trees. Work has started and will be completed in late summer when a replanting scheme will take place.

- 8.2.11. The annual grazing at Sutton Park has commenced and is taking advantage of new technology this year. In order to control where the cattle go and graze, the local farmer has fitted each with a collar. This collar uses GPS to track the herd and by drawing a line or virtual fence on the map via the tracking App the cattle are encouraged not to go into that part of the Park. This technology is used in areas of large-scale grazing in several countries and has only just started to be introduced in the UK. The scheme will be closely monitored over the summer.
- 8.2.12. Most of the new grounds maintenance vehicles and associated equipment has been delivered and is in operation. The specification for replacement vehicles for the Ranger Service is being developed and an electric option is being considered.

9. Transport

9.1. Impact of Covid-19 on traffic levels

- 9.1.1. After the second national lockdown was lifted on 2nd December 2020, traffic returned to levels similar to pre-lockdown (around 90% of normal levels), with slightly higher increases in the city centre than elsewhere.
- 9.1.2. The third national lockdown starting in January 2021 saw traffic initially reduce to around 65% of normal levels, before gradually increasing to around 80% of normal flows by Easter. Since then flows have been broadly consistent on weekdays, at around 90% of pre-Covid levels. There has also been a significant increase in weekend traffic since Easter, from around 60% of pre-Covid levels to 84%.
- 9.1.3. While traffic levels are heading towards pre-Covid levels, journey patterns and timings have changed. Conventional AM and PM peaks are longer and less pronounced, and we are seeing peaks at other times of the day as well. Journeys are less concentrated in tidal flows into and between major centres and instead are more focussed on local areas and in a more dispersed pattern. This presents challenges for managing the network in that established practices and tools are less effective.
- 9.1.4. The Clean Air Zone commences on 1st June and this may have an additional impact on traffic levels in and around Birmingham City Centre.

9.2. Emergency Birmingham Transport Plan & Active Travel Fund

- 9.2.1. Throughout the summer of 2020, an ambitious programme of active travel schemes were delivered across Birmingham, funded through Tranche 1 of the Department for Transport (DfT) Emergency Active Travel Fund (EATF).
- 9.2.2. A review of Tranche 1 schemes was undertaken concluding in February 2021. This review assessed the impact and effectiveness of schemes and made

recommendations as to whether they should be made permanent, modified or removed in the future.

- 9.2.3. The review concluded that overall, the schemes delivered under the EATF and Reopening High Streets Safely Fund provided a positive response to the Covid-19 emergency within the parameters of the funding. They also provide a step towards the vision outlined in the draft Birmingham Transport Plan.
- 9.2.4. Given the urgency of the situation and the timescales of the funding, a great deal has been delivered; albeit taking a different approach to business as usual in terms of delivery and engagement, which has at times proved controversial. Many of the issues arose as a result of the emergency nature of the situation faced and the challenging timescales for delivery and would not have arisen in the usual course of business. However, the review identified many useful lessons that will be brought forward into the second round of funding and more widely in the delivery of future transport schemes.
- 9.2.5. The past year has afforded the opportunity to trial some innovative solutions and this has resulted in radical changes in some places. It is recognised that it may take some time for members of the public to adapt their travel behaviours and choices and make use of these schemes to their full advantage, thus unlocking the potential benefits. Care needs to be taken to fully engage with the communities affected and involve them in the delivery of further changes needed to achieve the vision of a sustainable, green, inclusive, go-anywhere transport network.
- 9.2.6. Birmingham City Council was successful in its bid for £4.477 million of Active Travel Fund Tranche 2 funding. This will enable us to commence the next phase of transport schemes planned for the city, including:
- Delivery of enhancements to schemes delivered as part of Tranche 1;
 - Places for People projects;
 - Further rollout of the City Centre Traffic Segments;
 - Additional Cycling and Walking Interventions; including further pop-up cycle lanes across the city.
- 9.2.7. The outcome of the Tranche 1 review is assisting in determining the final schemes delivered through Tranche 2 funding. All Tranche 2 schemes will be delivered with full public and stakeholder consultation throughout.
- 9.2.8. Focus has begun to also shift back to business as usual priorities, including bringing the final draft of the Birmingham Transport Plan forward for adoption, developing the associated delivery plan and subsequent delivery of schemes and initiatives.

9.3. **Public Transport**

9.3.1. Transport for West Midlands (TfWM) has continued to support the region in its recovery as well as continuing to provide a safe, clean, reliable integrated public transport system for the people of the West Midlands.

9.3.2. Throughout the pandemic and to date, the Covid-19 Transport Recovery Cell has brought together partners to work together to plan for the government's Covid-19 Roadmap milestones, ensuring a collaborative and consistent approach is implemented across the region. The cell includes representatives from TfWM, operators, local authorities, and other critical agencies such as Highways England and West Midlands Police.

9.3.3. The partnership approach has enabled partners to monitor the impact of key recovery and reopening milestones on public transport networks, including:

- 8th March 2021 – return to educational establishments
 - National Express West Midlands bus services were operating at around 95% with patronage of approximately 47% of pre-Covid levels.
 - Metro ran a 10-minute service which was enhanced during the morning and afternoon peaks – patronage levels were around 55% pre-Covid levels.
 - Rail patronage levels were still under 20% of pre-Covid levels.
- 12th April 2021 – reopening of non-essential retail and hospitality (outdoor only)
 - Metro services returned to full service with reported patronage of 70% pre-Covid levels.
 - Rail services increased to 25% patronage.
 - Bus services were reported 60% pre-Covid patronage with National Express operating over 100% of pre-Covid bus services from 19 April once retail had opened and schools.
 - In response to demand from users wanting to travel again, Ring and Ride services recommenced normal operation.
- 17th May – reopening of indoor hospitality and leisure and household mixing allowed indoors
 - At the time of preparing this report, limited data was available to assess the impacts of the 17th May reopening milestone.
 - An increase in the use of public transport for longer periods is anticipated, as the night-time economy becomes more active. The reintroduction of large events such as concerts and sporting

events could have a significant impact on the network and measures to manage this are in place, including an Operational Order which will cover key events that will be drawing larger crowds than previously seen over the last year.

- Also, from 17th May, new guidance for social distancing on buses applies which has increased the seated capacity on buses (2m rule still applies in bus stations and at stops) – this means that more passengers can be carried and less services will be flagged as over-capacity as a result.

- 9.3.4. The messaging in terms of public transport is focussed on ‘plan ahead’ rather than the previous ‘avoid public transport if you can’ and will continue to evolve.
- 9.3.5. To support testing and vaccination sites, TfWM have created a system that has mapped each site across the region. This toolkit overlays transport infrastructure such as bus stops, service routes, rail and Metro stops, Strategic Road Network, Key Route Network and other key information. Seasonal issues such as flooding hotspots have also been incorporated into the database. This is to ensure any modal or transport issues that may impact these critical sites is appropriately managed, this includes stakeholder engagement by the Regional Transport Coordination Centre who actively engage with partners to make them aware of the impact to initiate any appropriate mitigations. This toolkit has been made available to local authorities, blue light services and other key stakeholders.
- 9.3.6. Enhanced cleaning regimes remain in place across all modes of transport as well as all transport hubs and infrastructure.
- 9.3.7. Following the announcement of mandatory use of face masks on vehicles, TfWM has worked with operators and partners to ensure a high level of compliance across the network and made additional resource available to support passengers in busy locations. Enforcement has been managed through a task force in partnership with the Safer Travel Police team and front line TfWM staff who have been patrolling key interchanges to engage and educate those without a face covering and thousands of face coverings have been distributed.
- 9.3.8. Rail timetable changes from 16 May saw an increase in service frequency for some services and number of additional carriages added to other Birmingham related services to increase capacity.
- 9.3.9. Building back better is everyone’s priority, and transport plays a key role in connecting communities to jobs, education, healthcare and leisure services. Public transport, active travel or car travel are essential to a strong economic and social recovery for the city and the wider West Midlands.

9.3.10. Opportunities to get more people using public transport lie in both commuters and leisure travel. As we expect commuter demand to be suppressed for some time and may well remain significantly lower than pre-covid, opportunities to encourage a switch in behaviour and attitude for leisure travel and short journeys will need a particular focus.

9.3.11. Various campaigns are being planned, in line with national guidance and messaging, to start to restore confidence in public transport and reassure people that it is safe to use. All of the programmes and initiatives to encourage more use of public transport that were being brought forward pre-Covid, including improvements and better integration of ticketing options including best value fare capping on Swift Go will be continued.

9.4. **Future public transport infrastructure**

9.4.1. The delivery of key transport infrastructure schemes has continued whilst working in a safe manner and in accordance with government guidelines. Continuing to deliver infrastructure improvements to support public transport is absolutely critical to supporting the recovery and encouraging greater use of public transport as part of a green recovery.

9.4.2. Despite the most recent lockdown, work continued on the Westside Metro extension towards Hagley Road. Tram stops have been installed on Broad Street and the final piece of track has been installed. Urban realm work has progressed very well, allowing a number of outdoor spaces for some of the businesses along Broad Street to be accommodated, when allowed, under the partial lifting of restrictions.

9.4.3. Work is also progressing on the Metro Eastside Extension. Utility diversions are underway as is the detailed design for the Bull Street Delta Junction and the Digbeth end of the route. These sections are currently programmed to be completed in advance of the Commonwealth Games. Work will start shortly on the main construction for the Delta junction with a line closure for Metro over the summer months. The Council and TfWM are continuing to engage with HS2 regarding ongoing HS2 construction planning and interface with the tram build and other projects.

9.4.4. Construction work on the A45 Sprint route commenced in January 2021 and is progressing well with completion expected in March 2022.

9.4.5. In April 2021, work began on the A34 Sprint route, alongside the wider A34 highway improvements scheme in Perry Barr. Throughout the period of these works, there will be disruptions which we will mitigate through traffic management.

9.4.6. Progress on University rail station continues with the main construction having started in March with the rail station being fit for purpose for the Commonwealth Games.

- 9.4.7. At Perry Barr rail station, main construction is now underway, with the existing station temporarily closed to passengers for a year to allow construction to take place. Planning Permission and the Full Business Case have both been approved. The adjacent Bus Interchange project is also progressing its design and deliverables to submit for its full planning application.
- 9.4.8. The Council and TfWM, together with neighbouring authorities, are working together on a number of proposed road schemes which aim to improve travelling by bus. These include; Margaret Street/Newhall Street/Bristol Street/Snow Hill and Dudley Road, Cape Hill Junction, and Alcester Road South.
- 9.4.9. The West Midlands Cycle Hire scheme will launch in Birmingham on 24th May 2021, with initially 450 bikes and 45 docking stations across the city. Over the following weeks this will be increased to 720 bikes and 80 e-bikes will be launched later in the year.
- 9.5. **Parking**
- 9.5.1. All BCC car parks are open except for Victoria Road multi-storey car park in Sutton Coldfield. Usage at nearby surface level car park remains low indicating there is insufficient demand for parking in the area to warrant reopening the multi-storey. Daily counts are taken at several nearby car parks to Victoria Road and demand remains low despite the reopening of retail. The situation continues to be monitored.
- 9.5.2. Millennium Point Car Park continues to be used to support the NHS COVID-19 Vaccination Programme at the Millennium Point COVID-19 Vaccination Hub.
- 9.5.3. Car parking spaces are available free of charge at Millennium Point Car Park for NHS staff working at the Millennium Point COVID-19 Vaccination Hub. Staff will be working 12 hours per day.
- 9.5.4. 1-hour free car parking is also available at Millennium Point Car Park for people attending the Millennium Point COVID-19 Vaccination Hub to receive a vaccine.
- 9.5.5. Parking charges in Council car parks and on streets (where applicable) have recommenced. Concessions for NHS staff, health and social care workers and NHS volunteer responders will cease on 21 June 2021.
- 9.5.6. The consequences of the pandemic and the subsequent restrictions applied to the operation of businesses, offices and the retail sector on the income generated by parking services have been very significant for the 2020/21 financial year. Officers are developing best estimates for income for 2021/22 in an attempt to understand the potential for on-going budget pressures. Beyond the recovery from the pandemic, officers are also working to model

the impact on future parking income with respect to changes in travel behaviour as citizens are encouraged to find alternative travel methods to private car use as part of the aim to reduce vehicle-borne emissions.

9.6. **Road safety**

9.6.1. Road traffic collisions and casualties in Birmingham have been analysed for the period April to December 2020, covering the period of the first and second national lockdowns. This data has been compared with data from the same period during the previous three years.

9.6.2. Compared to the same period in the average of the previous three years:

- All road traffic collisions during April to December 2020 were down by 38%, and all KSIs collisions were down by 26%
- Road traffic collisions involving pedestrians during April to December 2020 were down by 44%, and pedestrian KSIs were down by 35%.
- Road traffic collisions involving cyclists during April to December 2020 were down by 39%, and cyclist KSIs were down by 19%.
- Powered-two-wheeler road traffic collisions during April to December 2020 were down by 27%, and P2W KSIs were down by 23%.
- Road traffic collisions involving children (aged 0-15 years) during April to December 2020 were down by 52%, and child KSIs were down by 37%.

9.7. **e-Scooter trial**

9.7.1. The e-Scooter trial was launched in September 2020, initially covering the city core (area bound by the A4540 inner ring road). This is a privately-operated service, delivered in partnership with the Council and TfWM. In early December 2020, the trial zone was expanded to cover a much larger area of city outside the core city centre. The current trial zone covers the city core and areas to the north and southwest of the city around the flagship blue cycling routes along the A38 and A34, reaching key destinations such as Birmingham City Hospital, the University of Birmingham and Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

9.7.2. As of mid-May 2021, the operator, Voi, have permission to operate a fleet of up to 1,200 e-scooters in the trial area. The trial has seen increased take-up, especially as lockdown restrictions started to get lifted. The trial has a strong focus on safety and there are continuous efforts to improve the operational aspects of the trial, especially occasions of inappropriate riding and parking.

9.8. **E-cargo bike trial**

9.8.1. Following a competitive application process, the Council was awarded an e-cargo bike grant by the Energy Saving Trust in May 2020. The council has purchased 20 e-cargo bikes, 16 of which have been allocated to local partners

and 4 will become part of the council's fleet. The purpose of the trial is to demonstrate different uses of e-cargo bikes through case studies and data that the partners will produce. Although lockdown caused a slight delay in the distribution of e-cargo bikes to partners, the majority are now in use.

9.9. Clean Air Zone (CAZ)

- 9.9.1. Birmingham Clean Air Zone is on track to be launched on 1st June 2021. Since the last update, business continuity from third parties ensured progress on project delivery remained on track throughout the third lockdown period.
- 9.9.2. Ongoing marketing, comms and engagement continues to raise awareness of the CAZ and the support available to affected and eligible groups via exemptions and mitigations funds.
- 9.9.3. April and early May 2021 have seen a marked increase in the uptake of exemptions which are designed to provide additional time to prepare for the CAZ and/or encourage the upgrade or replacement of vehicles that do not meet the emission standards of the Clean Air Zone. As at end of April 2021, the project has approved a total of 2,616 Exemptions applications.
- 9.9.4. To date, the Taxi Mitigation Fund has issued grants with a total value of c. £1.5m (as at end of April 2021). The distribution of grants is in line with the number of licensed hackney carriage and private hire drivers i.e. approximately 25% hackney carriage and 75% private hire.

10. Covid-19 Support Grants (Including Business Support Grants)

- 10.1. Over the last quarter, Birmingham City Council has continued to support businesses across Birmingham, both to ensure their survival through the pandemic and help them thrive in the recovery.
- 10.2. The Council has distributed over £217m in small business and retail, leisure and hospitality grants in 2020, and business rate reliefs of £185m in 2020-21. The Council has supported thousands of Birmingham businesses throughout the pandemic through the various grant schemes, with over 178,000 separate payments made.
- 10.3. **Local Restrictions Support Grants Schemes**
 - 10.3.1. As of 31st March 2021, applications for all Local Restrictions Support Grant (LRSG) schemes have now closed. The deadline for processing all outstanding payments was 30th April.
 - 10.3.2. Over the lifetime of the schemes, we paid out approximately £108.2 million in 47,213 grants to businesses across Birmingham. A more detailed breakdown of payments is provided in the below table, which also demonstrates the complexity of the various schemes.

| Scheme | Total applications paid | Total paid |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|
| LRSG(S) Nightclubs and Adult Entertainment Venues | 51 | £91,946.20 |
| LRSG(Open)14 October to 4 November | 3480 | £4,284,754.32 |
| LRSG(Closed) 5 Nov to 1 Dec | 7924 | £13,131,436.49 |
| LRSG(C)Disc (ARG) | 688 | £1,520,853.72 |
| Wet Pubs | 222 | £222,000.00 |
| LRSG (Open) V2 2 Dec to 30 Dec | 281 | £362,490.00 |
| LRSG (Closed) V2 2 Dec to 30 Dec | 2762 | £5,031,502.74 |
| Tier 4 31 Dec to 4 Jan | 7778 | £2,295,767.87 |
| LRSG (Closed) 5 Jan to 15 Feb | 7802 | £19,262,195.00 |
| One-off payments | 7849 | £38,433,047.01 |
| LRSG Closed 16.02.21 to 31.03.21 | 7727 | £20,046,323.19 |
| LRSG Disc (2 Dec to 31 Mar 2021) | 649 | £3,544,176.02 |
| TOTAL | 47213 | £108,226,492.56 |

10.4. Restart Grants

10.4.1. Starting from 1st April 2021, the new Restart Grants scheme provides one-off grants to businesses that are predominantly reliant on delivering in-person services to the general public. This scheme has two strands:

- Grants of up to £6,000 to non-essential retail businesses premises, to help them reopen safely.
- Grants of up to £18,000 to hospitality, accommodations, leisure, personal care and gym businesses premises. These businesses will open later under the national roadmap, and are likely to be more impacted by restrictions when they do reopen.

10.4.2. The Restart Grant scheme is open for businesses with premises appearing on the local rating list only, with a rateable value. Payments must be paid to rates payers, with the amount of grants based on the rateable values of businesses. Details of payment thresholds and amounts can be found on the BCC website.

10.4.3. Applications for the Restart Grants scheme can be made up to 30th June 2021, with all payments to be completed by 31st July 2021. Where we already hold details of businesses from previous grant schemes, we have been able to

make payments automatically to businesses (following due diligence processes and pre-payment assurance checks).

10.4.4. As of 4th June 2021, we have paid out around £38.2million to 5350 businesses through the Restart Grants scheme.

10.5. **Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) discretionary scheme**

10.5.1. In addition to funding received and distributed through the Local Restrictions Support Grant and Restart Grants schemes, both of which have nationally set eligibility criteria, Birmingham City Council has received an allocation of approximately £33million through the Additional Restrictions Grant discretionary scheme (ARG). Through the ARG scheme, local authorities are able to establish their own business support grant schemes or business support programmes according to local priorities and need, with all eligibility criteria set locally.

10.5.2. Birmingham has received a total allocation of £32,979,132 to be distributed through this scheme, to support businesses who do not qualify for support through the various mandatory LRGS schemes but have been significantly impacted by lockdown or other Covid-19 restrictions.

10.6. As of 28th May 2021, the Council has paid out a total of £29,253,441 to 11,647 businesses across Birmingham using ARG funding. Further details are provided in the below table.

| Scheme | Total applications paid | Total paid |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------|
| ARG1 | 2,744 | £4,529,837 |
| ARG2 | 3,478 | £11,113,801 |
| Total ARG approved | 6,222 | £15,643,638 |
| Hospitality Survival Fund | 330 | £3,300,000 |
| Taxi Sector Support Grants | 3,833 | £3,833,000 |
| DBG/SBG payments post 30/09/2020 reconciliation | N/A | £1,581,000 |
| LRSG(Closed)Disc (ARG), as at 22/04/2021 | 659 | £1,483,037 |
| LRSG(Closed)Disc (ARG) payments up to 31.03.2021, as at 22/04/2021 | 603 | £3,412,766 |
| ARG total (including LRSG Disc) | 11,647 | £29,253,441 |
| ARG total allocation | | £32,979,132 |
| Estimated underspend | | £3,725,691 |

- 10.7. The ARG scheme currently has an underspend of approximately £3.7million, which will be distributed in the form of a top-up grant to those businesses that have already been supported through the ARG2 scheme.
- 10.8. Birmingham expects to receive an additional £7million in ARG funding in summer 2021, which will be used to fund two additional support schemes:
- A new BCC Recovery Fund, offering grants between £5k to £50k to businesses seeking to implement a recovery plan or otherwise refresh their business model. The stated priority of this scheme is to improve business confidence, stimulate activity, encourage investment, enable recovery and safeguard existing jobs in the Birmingham economy.
 - A discretionary element to complement the Restart Grant scheme.
- 10.9. **Social Isolation Payments**
- 10.9.1. The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) introduced the Self Isolation Payment (SIP) scheme in September 2020. Since 28th September 2020, eligible individuals are entitled to a Test and Trace Support Payment (main scheme) or a Discretionary Support Payment (secondary scheme) of £500 to support people on low incomes who are unable to work from home, if they are told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace and, will lose income as a result.
- 10.9.2. Payments are designed to help ensure people who have tested positive for COVID-19 and their close contacts self-isolate for the required period to stop the onward spread of the virus. Councils had to have arrangements in place to administer payments by 12th October 2020. The scheme was initially due to end on 31st January 2021, but has been extended to the end of June 2021.
- 10.9.3. **Scheme extensions and modifications**
- 10.9.4. On 17th March 2021, DHSC announced a number of changes to the design and administration of the Self Isolation Payment scheme. These included:
- Parents and guardians extension – from 8th March 2021, parents or guardians who are not legally required to self-isolate can apply for a Test and Trace Support Payment or discretionary payment if they need to take time off work to care for a child or young person who is. Eligibility criteria for this extension of the scheme are given on the BCC website.
 - Backdating – after feedback from local authorities including Birmingham City Council, the time limit for accepting backdated applications was extended to 42 days after the first day of self-isolation. This was previously 28 days. Local authorities may consider

older applications under exceptional circumstances, for example where severe Covid-19 symptoms have delayed an application.

- Outcomes of cases – a new duty on local authorities to record outcomes of all applications.

10.9.5. In response to the announced changes, and working with our IT provider Northgate, we made all required changes to our application and reporting systems. We also updated the website to reflect changes to the design of the scheme. Updated procedural documentation and guidance was issued to staff, alongside the rollout of further training and changes to our reporting and monitoring system.

Funding position

Along with changes to the design of the scheme, the 17th March announcement included a funding update which covered payments and the administration of the scheme until the end of April 2021. A further funding announcement to cover May to the end of June is still yet to be provided.

Payments to date

10.9.6. As of 2nd June 2021, the Council has processed 14,735 total claims and paid out approximately £2.5 million in claims to eligible applicants. This includes 3,369 standard payments (Social Isolation Payments) with a total value of £1,684,500, and 1,718 discretionary payments (Discretionary Social Isolation Payments) with a total value of £859,000. Further details are given in the below table.

| Application status | Number |
|---|--|
| Completed | 14,526 (117 in the past two weeks) |
| Paid – Social Isolation Payment | 3,369 (71 in the past two weeks) |
| Paid – Discretionary Social Isolation Payment | 1,718 (46 in the past two weeks) |
| Refused due not to meeting mandatory criteria e.g. no positive test, not isolating, no financial loss | 9,439 |
| Pending – awaiting further information from citizens | 176 |
| Pending – recently received | 33 |
| TOTAL | 14,735 (89 received in the past two weeks) |

10.9.7. After unexpectedly high numbers of applications at the beginning of the scheme, claims are now dropping in line with the drop in Covid-19 cases and are at their lowest level since October 2020. There is currently no backlog in cases, and citizens are receiving payments quickly where all the information is provided.

10.10. **Council Tax Hardship Scheme**

10.10.1. In 2020, national government distributed additional financial support to local authorities through a new Council Tax Hardship Fund, with Birmingham City Council receiving an allocation of £17.4m. The intention for this funding was for councils to provide all working-age recipients of Council Tax Support (CTS) in 2020/21 with a further reduction in their annual council tax bill of £150.

10.10.2. This support scheme commenced in April 2020, with all in-year/new CTS applicants receiving the discount. Residents do not have to apply for this reduction, with discounts being provided automatically. By the end of December 2020, around 64,700 households had been supported through the scheme.

10.10.3. In its Spending Review, national government announced a top-up of the scheme, in recognition of the increased costs to councils of providing council tax support and supporting vulnerable households through the pandemic. Birmingham City Council's allocation of this additional funding for 2021/22 is £14.5million, in addition to any underspend brought forward from 2020/21.

10.10.4. In March 2020, Cabinet decided to use this additional funding to further increase the level of support for households receiving CTS. All Birmingham households in receipt of CTS will receive a £275 discount on their 2021/22 council tax bill. This means that all Council Tax Support recipients will be protected from this year's Council Tax rise, with around 31,000 of these households now not needing to pay any council tax for the 2021/22 financial year.

10.10.5. Citizens that are on a low income are encouraged to apply for Council Tax Support online at www.birmingham.gov.uk/benefitsnewclaim. Where residents are unable to complete the online form, they can call the contact centre and book a telephone appointment to complete an application over the phone.

11. **Council Finances and Resources (including Corporate Procurement and HR)**

11.1. **Finance**

11.1.1. Please note that this represents the financial position as at 4th June 2021, based on the decisions which are known to Finance teams.

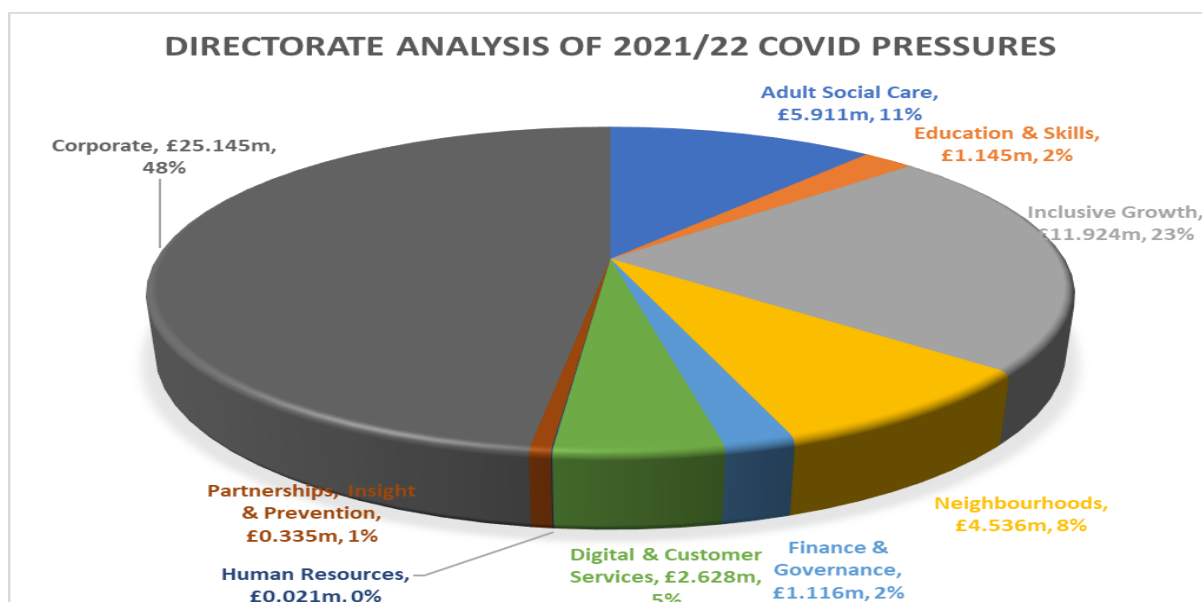
- 11.1.2. As in 2020/21, Government has provided some direct funding and other supportive financial measures to lessen the impact on local government. This includes providing Birmingham with £43.8m of un-ringfenced grant funding which was fully applied in setting the 2021/22 budget, approved by Council in February 2021. Additionally, Government has confirmed that the income compensation scheme for lost fees, charges and sales would be extended by a further 3 months to June 2021, using the 2020/21 income budgets as the baseline for the compensation. Targeted funding which tends to be ringfenced has been provided to support specific activities.
- 11.1.3. Since the un-ringfenced grant was utilised in setting the budget, the Council's main funding for Covid-19 pressures in 2021/22 is from any balances in reserves and the anticipated compensation from Government for lost sales, fees and charges. The funding available can therefore be summarised as follows:

| Table 1: Funding for 2021/22 | |
|---|---------------------|
| Financial Year | Value £m |
| Appropriation to COVID Support Grant reserve as at March 2021 | 17.471 |
| Total COVID Support Grant reserve | 17.471 |
| SFC Income compensation expected (Apr-Jun 21) | 4.745 |
| Ringfenced funding (incl balances b/f) | 189.343 |
| Total Funding for 2021/22 | 211.559 |

- 11.1.4. Government has announced an education package of £1.4bn aimed at providing additional tutoring to help recover lost Covid-19 teaching. Schools will receive £1bn to support up to 6 million 15-hour tutoring courses for disadvantaged school children, in addition to the expansion of the 16-19 tuition fund to help with Maths and English teaching. The remaining £400m will be used to develop new programmes for early years teachers, as well as expanding current training courses. The education sector had anticipated a more significant investment than that announced.
- 11.1.5. There have been no additional ringfenced grant announcements.
- 11.1.6. Table 2 below provides the latest overview of pressures and risk that the Council is facing up to 2021/22 and provides a comparison between this forecast and the un-ringfenced resources. It should be noted that the 2021/22 position will be refined as the impact of the easing of restrictions become clearer. The total forecast of additional spend/loss of income to the Council on Covid-19 related general fund activities for 2021/22 is £52.8m including risks.

| Table 2: Forecast Pressures on Expenditure and Income | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Financial Year | Expenditure | Income | Total |
| | Forecast £m | Forecast £m | Forecast £m |
| 2021/22 | 10.420 | 42.341 | 52.761 |
| Gross GF Pressures | 10.420 | 42.341 | 52.761 |
| Pressures funded during the 2021 budget process (Application of Tranche 5 funding) | N/A | N/A | (26.190) |
| COVID Support Grant reserve | N/A | N/A | (17.471) |
| SFC Income compensation expected | N/A | N/A | (4.745) |
| Net GF Pressures/(Surplus) | 10.420 | 42.341 | 4.354 |

- 11.1.7. The above table indicates for 2021/22 there is forecast to be a small underspend of £0.6m on direct costs, which increases to a forecast overspend of £4.4m when risks are taken into account. It should be noted that forecasts will be refined over the coming weeks and months as more information becomes available on the impact of easing restrictions.
- 11.1.8. Services have also identified £2.3m of ongoing Covid-19 impact for 2022/23 and beyond. Any such costs will be dealt with as part of the upcoming budget process.



- 11.1.9. Covid impact across directorates is shown in the figure below. Excluding corporate pressures which were fully funded during the 2021/22 budget

process, most of the impact is anticipated to be in the Inclusive Growth Directorate (£12.5m). It is anticipated that there will be reduced demand for parking services across the entire financial year, therefore reduced income for the Council. It should be noted that Government has only committed to reimbursing local authorities for income losses up to the end of June 2021, so around £9.1m of the forecast loss remains a pressure for the Council. In addition, there is a material forecast of impact for Adults Social Care (£5.9m) arising from income losses at day centre operations, additional staffing costs, supplier relief, and cost of PPE not covered through Central Government provision.

- 11.1.10. Cost pressures have **reduced by £3.4m** since the report of 28th May 2021, as depicted in Table 3 below.

| Table 3: Change in General Fund Forecast Pressures Since 28 May | | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Date of Estimate | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | Total |
| | Forecast £m | Forecast £m | Forecast £m |
| 28 May 2021 | 56.115 | 2.361 | 58.476 |
| 04 June 2021 | 52.761 | 2.361 | 55.122 |
| Change | (3.354) | 0.000 | (3.354) |

- 11.1.11. The changes above arise from improvement in the forecasts for car parking income losses of around £1.1m and reduction in the anticipated costs of IT equipment of £2.0m.

Emerging Financial Risks

- 11.1.12. The most likely impact is £18.675m for 2021/22, noting that most of this risk relates to council tax and business rates income loss which was reflected in the 2021/22 budget set by the Council.
- 11.1.13. It must be noted that the emerging and evolving financial risks will continue to be monitored and updated as there is greater visibility by Finance officers of financial decisions being made.

MHCLG Return

- 11.1.14. A return on the latest estimates of costs and losses of income due to Covid-19 was submitted to MHCLG on 28th May 2021, which was based on updated figures as at 21 May 2021. This return included forecasts up to September 2021 (quarters 1 and 2) only, in line with the MHCLG request, along with any anticipated variations in the Business Rates and Council tax income collections for the period and expenditure in relation to ringfenced grants. The

Council estimated total costs of £38.5m for the period to June 2021 and a further £21.1m for the period to September 2021. The impact of Covid-19 per the MHCLG return is summarised in Table 4 below.

| Table 4: MHCLG May Return Summary | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | Quarter 1 2021/22 £m | Quarter 2 2021/22 £m |
| Additional costs | 6.170 | 1.293 |
| Income losses | 7.872 | 10.713 |
| Collection Fund losses after Business Rates Relief | 12.650 | 3.017 |
| Ringfenced grant expenditure (e.g. Contain Management Fund funding) | 11.745 | 5.940 |
| Total General Fund Impact | 38.436 | 20.963 |
| HRA Impact | 0.035 | 0.115 |
| Total 2020/21 impact submitted to MHCLG | 38.471 | 21.078 |

Material Ringfenced Grants

Business support grants

- 11.1.15. The Council has received a £55.3m allocation for the Restart Grant designed to support businesses from 1st April 2021 with reopening. Pre-payment checks have so far been carried out by the Council and results were received on 19th April 2021. Payments of £38.1m have been processed so far leaving £20.5m to distribute. This represents support to around 5000 business within Birmingham.
- 11.1.16. During 2020, Government also provided several grants to support businesses who face restrictions during the national lockdown and during periods when restrictions were in place due to high alert levels for the area. At the end of the financial year, grants to the value of £61.7m were remaining. From this balance, £11.8m has been distributed in 2021/22. Any undistributed Local Restriction Closed and Closed Addendum will need to be returned to Government following a reconciliation process.

Local Council Tax Support (Hardship Grants)

- 11.1.17. Cabinet has taken the decision to reduce council tax bills of working age people already in receipt of Council Tax support by up to £275 funded from a Government grant of £14.5m and the unspent grant of £2.4m brought forward from the previous year. This is expected to benefit around 61,000 households within Birmingham. This means that all Council Tax Support recipients will be protected from this year's Council Tax rise, with around 31,000 of these households now not needing to pay any council tax for the 2021/22 financial

year. To date, 76,281 discounts have been applied (54,261 claims), totalling £11.0m.

Test and Trace Support Payments

- 11.1.18. From 28th September 2020, individuals on low income, who have been asked to self-isolate and who have consequently experienced economic hardship as a result may be eligible to a payment of £500. The aim of the scheme, which is expected to run until June 2021, is to help ensure that people on low incomes self-isolate when they test positive or are identified as a contact, and to encourage more people to get tested. This will help to reduce the spread of Covid-19. The number of claims to the Council have continued to fall in line with the drop in Covid-19 cases. Where all required information is provided and up to date, residents have been able to be paid quickly. Payments since April 2021 have totalled £0.6m.

Contain Outbreak Management Funds

- 11.1.19. From 12th October 2020, Local Authorities have been eligible for funding from the Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) which is ring-fenced for public health purposes to tackle Covid-19, including activities to:

- reduce the spread of coronavirus in their area;
- support local economies and public health.

- 11.1.20. The Council had unspent balances from 2020/21 totalling £15.7m. Combined with the 2021/22 allocation of £11.3m, the planned expenditure from this funding equals £19.2m in year and a further £7.8m for 2022/23.

Infection Control Grant

- 11.1.21. Government has provided a further £5.730m to reduce the rate of Covid-19 transmission within and between care settings through effective infection prevention and control practices and increase uptake of staff vaccination and to conduct additional rapid testing of staff and visitors in care homes, high-risk supported living and extra care settings, to enable close contact visiting where possible. Combined with the amount brought forward from 2020/21, this means that there is £6.1m of resources to support infection control and rapid testing in care facilities. Planned distribution of the grant is as follows:

- Infection Control allocation – Care homes/residential treatment services- £1.7m
- Infection Control allocation – Community care- £0.7m
- Infection Control allocation – Discretionary- £1.0m
- Rapid Testing allocation – Care homes - £1.3m
- Rapid Testing allocation – Community care- £1.0m.

11.1.22. About 88% of the above has already been distributed to care providers.

11.2. **Corporate Procurement Services**

11.2.1. There is continued collaboration with regional Heads of Procurement to co-ordinate the requirement for PPE. The Council's procurement team has led on the sourcing of approximately 8.4 million masks, 1.7 million gloves, 1 million aprons/coveralls, 36,000 goggles/visors, 8.4 million ml of sanitiser and 29,000 clinical waste sacks for the region's local authorities.

11.2.2. The team is also working with external bodies such as Warwickshire Manufacturers Alliance, Midlands Engine, WMCA and LEPs to help develop local manufacturing and supply capability to contribute to the national requirement for PPE. The outcome from these discussions is being fed into Government as part of our ongoing liaison with the LGA's national PPE Procurement group helping to shape the longer-term procurement strategy for PPE.

11.2.3. Corporate Procurement Services has supported the implementation of lateral flow testing in Birmingham, including the establishment of the hub at the Utilita Arena, letting contracts for a mobile testing service and pharmacy testing services. Moving forward, the team are working on standardising the approach to engagement / contracting with employer and community spokes.

11.2.4. In response to the pandemic Corporate Procurement established contracts for:

- A mobile asymptomatic testing service comprising three fully equipped & staffed vehicles.
- Asymptomatic testing in over 100 Birmingham pharmacies.
- A testing facility for Royal Mail workers in Birmingham.
- Provision of booth kits to create the testing centre at the Utilita Arena and for testing located on BCC sites.
- Operation Eagle PCR drop and collect surge testing service which was operational on site in less than 3 working days from initial instruction. (We are currently tendering a replacement to this contract that can be called off over a longer period.)

Recovery

11.2.5. The Corporate Procurement Service is represented on the Council's Community Recovery Board to ensure the new and evolving service requirements are sourced effectively and compliantly.

11.2.6. The procurement strategy for the longer-term contractual arrangements for PPE is currently being scoped in collaboration with other West Midlands local authorities.

11.2.7. Despite the economic downturn, the Council's main contractors continued to secure the social value outcomes that is part of our procurement and contracting arrangements. Other than a fall in the number of work placements and a slight reduction in social enterprise spend, all other measures have seen an increase despite the impact of Covid-19. The Council continues to develop its approach to social value with renewed focus despite the challenging economic environment.

11.3. **Human Resources**

11.3.1. Human Resources (HR) continues to undertake a large volume of work to support the Covid-19 response. This includes a consideration of how the organisation recovers from the pandemic, addressing some of the challenges within directorates and the reopening of services as restrictions begin to lift. There has also been a need to continue to deliver business as usual, whilst considering future changes to the Directorate as a part of the Target Operating Model programme.

11.3.2. The details of how each element of HR are responding to these challenges is given below. However, challenges for the directorates which HR are supporting fall into two main categories:

- The impact of the pandemic on sickness absence and mental ill health, and the contrasting way that directorates have had to switch off or continue to provide services, conforming to an array of evolving government guidelines and newly emerging statutory instruments.
- The need to embrace the changes that have been made for the benefit of the workforce and organisation, whilst considering what shape service provision will take when restrictions are further lifted and we embed new norms. These future changes also consider the health and wellbeing of the workforce and what measures need to be put in place to support the ambitions the city has.

Managers Bulletins, All Staff Bulletins and Intranet Content

11.3.3. HR continues to work with trade unions to develop Manager Bulletins and all staff emails providing advice, guidance and support which signpost existing and newly amended HR systems to enable key services to continue to be delivered. These are both specific to Covid-19 and also business as usual, and include intranet content self-service as the organisation navigates its way through changing times, considers how we return to a new normal and the physical return to service delivery and new ways of working.

Occupational Health

11.3.4. Occupational health is now experiencing double the volume of manager referrals compared to average comparable periods prior to the pandemic. The

team continue to support managers with new and ongoing health issues identified within their teams, some of which are attributable to long Covid-19 and the impact the restrictions have had on mental health. In addition, and with regards to services reopening, the team have started to conduct pre-employment assessments, mental ill health assessments, the review of medical redeployment cases, health screening, ill health retirement cases, and the further review and update of intranet guidance.

- 11.3.5. A programme of health surveillance is under development with some important site visits planned. The team also continue with the development of individual risk assessments to support those extremely clinically vulnerable and clinically vulnerable as the organisation continues to provide critical services and considers how we return to offices where necessary.
- 11.3.6. Psychological Therapies (Cognitive Behavioural Therapy and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy) for both individuals and team level interventions continue to be delivered in high risk areas and where sickness absence due to stress, anxiety or depression is elevated.
- 11.3.7. The recent developed Service Level Stress Audit has been undertaken in a number of key areas, again where data would indicate elevated levels of stress, anxiety or depression. Areas audited to date include Waste, SENAR, and the Domestic Abuse Team. Further areas are being identified and assessed. This intervention is designed to be proactive and to identify those widespread, occupational triggers of stress with arising recommendations focusing on wholesale root causes, rather than individual, palliative measures which may be recommended to address individual or personal stress triggers.

Sickness Absence / RIDDOR Reporting

- 11.3.8. The safety team continue to review reported accident and incident data, analysing reports with a view to identifying any clusters or trends which could prompt local manager interventions or the need to submit formal reports to the HSE under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrence (RIDDOR) Regulations. There has also been an additional need to verify the existence and adequacy of associated Risk Assessments in such circumstances and that monitoring of the adequacy of arrangements is taking place.
- 11.3.9. **Flu Vaccination Programme**
- 11.3.10. Influenza vaccinations for BCC employees (including those working in maintained schools) have once again been negotiated with an external provider, ready for the 2021 flu season vaccination roll-out later in the year. There will again be an online booking system so that employees have free access to the vaccine, with a view to maintaining the health of the workforce and resilience during the pandemic.

Compliance Audits

- 11.3.11. An auditing cycle has been established by the Safety Team in relation to BCC properties and assets, maintained schools and the activities that we perform in relation to the services that we provide. This has taken the form of a Be Heard Survey for managers (and considers activity related hazards and Covid-19 control measures), an annual return for those responsible for properties and assets (and covers those hazards related to facilities – Asbestos, Legionella, Fire etc.) and a series of verification audits conducted by Safety Advisers to support the submission of - and establish the accuracy of the data being returned.

Safety

- 11.3.12. A new training package and property logbook has been developed and is in the process of being delivered to those responsible for properties and assets across the estate. Corresponding intranet guidance for the responsible persons is also in the process of being created. New guidance for those using display screen equipment and other portable electrical equipment has also been created now that so many employees are working at home. The team have been supporting corporate Health & Safety committee meetings and directorate Health & Safety committee meetings. In addition, the Risk Marker System for field workers continues to be supported by the team.
- 11.3.13. Relevant sections of the Strategic Risk Register have been rewritten for consideration and monitoring at the newly created Assurance CLT Meetings. This will significantly improve senior leadership understanding of organisational risk, associated mitigations and allow contraindicators to be discussed and responded to in a proactive manner.

Taxi Medicals

- 11.3.14. Taxi Medicals resumed in April 2021 at the Occupational Health offices within Ashted Lock. Measures have been developed to ensure that medical examinations can take place safely, with a consideration of the social impact and potential risks of suspending the service on the business and citizens of Birmingham and those visiting the city. Risk Assessment has dictated a number of changes to the office layout and associated standard operating procedures. We have also recently taken on a new medical doctor and made some improvements to how the service is delivered to reduce the number of suspensions and 2nd appointments.

Employee Health and Wellbeing

- 11.3.15. Organisational Development's Culture Change Team (health and wellbeing) are continuously increasing the number of health and wellbeing communications, content and resources. Recently there was a focus on

reducing the stigma attached to mental health and domestic abuse through the power of storytelling and raising awareness through group sessions.

- 11.3.16. Intranet pages and yammer pages are constantly updated, and other channels of communication identified through the communication plan with information and promotion of all upcoming events. The health and wellbeing support guide is also updated on a monthly basis (the support guide includes all health and wellbeing support which is available to all BCC colleagues). A monthly newsletter has also been developed by the culture change team which also includes health and wellbeing updates.
- 11.3.17. There have been around 70 mental health awareness sessions including wellbeing focus groups delivered since the wider move to remote working.
- 11.3.18. Results from the second Council-Wide Health and Wellbeing Survey have been presented via a number of focus groups and directorate management team meetings. Most recently presentations were arranged for staff in housing, street scene and waste depots.
- 11.3.19. Finally, the team are considering how to reach offline staff, which has resulted in the delivery of a number of return to work awareness sessions at Handsworth Leisure Centre and a Mental Health First Aid presence in Redfern Depot, seeking to ensure that colleagues with limited internet / intranet accessibility are not overlooked.

New Ways of Working

- 11.3.20. The New Ways of Working Programme has been identified as the means to bring together, build upon, and accelerate existing work on developing agile working, a modern workplace, and the provision of locality-based working. The future is about neighbourhoods, better use of community-based assets and more services delivered in our communities.
- 11.3.21. The programme will seek to:
- Reduce workforce inequality in the workplace - for example by ensuring that those with caring responsibilities can work flexibly so that they can build their careers while balancing the needs of those at home.
 - Increase neighbourhood working - moving services into the community, stimulating economic redevelopment with the Council becoming an anchor institution in more deprived parts of the city.
 - Reduce our carbon footprint - delivering on our Route To Zero carbon commitments by reducing the need for staff to commute and reducing energy consumption within our property estate.

- Maximise property assets - creating opportunities to better utilise our property estate to the benefit of the city, thereby enabling the Council to realise savings and income.

11.3.22. New Ways of Working will empower employees to be agile, ultimately achieving higher productivity rates whilst delivering an improved experience for our customers.

11.3.23. It will contribute to the savings required and enable further rationalisation of our property estate by securing an approach to hub and locality/community-based working that is consistent across the Council and supported by new technology and workforce protocols.

HR Services

11.3.24. New processes have been set up to support the agile workforce and ensure compliance with HR policy and changing government guidance. During this period, we have been working with the 1B programme on the new HR/Payroll system that will be implemented in April 2022 and drive significant changes to the way HR works with the organisation. The HR consultancy service have worked to significantly reduce the number of formal HR cases (dealing with absence, discipline and individual employee relations matters) through a case review process agreed with Trade Unions. The Industrial Relations Unit have been consulting with trade unions on modernising policy to better support the workforce, looking ahead to a more agile way of working in future.

Business as usual

11.3.25. Business as usual has seen the development of the Council Plan, which includes a more agile workforce adopting new ways of working, the Apprenticeship Strategy, improved Employee Relations, a review of pay and grading the development of further mandatory training sessions and senior leadership development programmes.

11.3.26. The Workforce Strategy has been refreshed to support delivery of Council Delivery Plan which includes culture change, workforce planning, performance, engagement, equality, diversity and inclusion.

11.3.27. In addition, the HR/OD Business Plan & Target Operating Model includes two critical programmes which have both progressed significantly during the pandemic; the 1B programme and New Ways of Working.

Birmingham City Council

City Council

13 July 2021



Subject: Motions for Debate from Individual Members

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If relevant, state which appendix is exempt, and provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential :

To consider the following Motions of which notice has been given in accordance with Council Procedure Rules (section B4 G of the Constitution).

A. Councillors Ian Ward and Paulette Hamilton have given notice of the following Notice of Motion:-

COVID-19 PUBLIC INQUIRY TO BEGIN IN 2021

"This council notes that the United Kingdom has recorded:

- The seventh highest Covid death toll in the world (128,140 as of 30th June 2021), with around 42,000 deaths registered by care homes.
- One of the highest Covid mortality rates per 100,000 population.
- The second highest Covid death toll of the G7 nations
- The second highest Covid mortality rate per 100,000 population of the G7 nations.
- Almost 3,000 deaths have been recorded in Birmingham with COVID-19 on the death certificate.

In light of these sobering statistics, this council believes the Government decision to delay launching a public inquiry until spring 2022 represents a betrayal of the victims and their families – delaying the opportunity to learn vital lessons and prolonging grief and uncertainty.

A spring 2022 start means that calls from bereaved families for a swift inquiry into the handling of the pandemic have been ignored and it is likely that little progress will be made until autumn 2022, with conclusions delayed until 2023 at the earliest.

This delay simply cannot be justified.

Council therefore resolves to:

- Support the call from bereaved families for a fully-independent public inquiry into the Covid-19 pandemic to begin in 2021.
- Write to the Prime Minister urging him to set out an expedited timetable for a wide-ranging and independent inquiry that will give bereaved families the answers they need.
 - The inquiry must involve bereaved families from the start, they must have a say in the selection of a chair and in determining the terms of reference.
 - And it must ensure that the UK is better prepared for future pandemics.”

B. Councillors Robert Alden and Ewan Mackey have given notice of the following Notice of Motion:-

Motion calling on Birmingham City Council to establish a cross party taskforce to seek ways to protect and grow key industries, including car manufacturing and their supply chains in the wake of the impact of the COVID Pandemic.

“This Council is concerned about the long term impact of COVID on vital local industries such as car manufacturing and the resultant loss of jobs that could result from any collapse in the supply chain, especially given the huge number of people in this city who work in this industry or connected to it.

This Council therefore resolves to establish a cross party task force including each of the group leaders and key external stakeholders to seek ways to protect and grow vital industries such as the car industry and secure a long term future for those industries that includes taking advantage of new opportunities within global Britain and for green growth to open up new markets in order to protect and grow jobs and wages going forward as well as meet challenges around climate change.”