

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

TUESDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER 2022 AT 13:45 HOURS
IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL HOUSE, VICTORIA SQUARE,
BIRMINGHAM, B1 1BB

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 the Council's meeting You Tube site (www.youtube.com/channel/UCT2kT7ZRPFCXq6_5dnVnYlw) 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.

5 - 74

3 MINUTES

To confirm and authorise the signing of the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 12 July 2022.

4 LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(1345-1410)

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.

8 **INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL - MEMBERSHIP**

(5 minutes allocated) (1535-1540)

This reports seeks Full Council approval of one Citizen Representative and one Appointed Representative to the Independent Remuneration Panel following the completion of the recruitment exercise.



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

"That the recommendation to appoint the following persons to the Independent Remuneration Panel is approved".

- 77 - 102**
- 9 **LEAD MEMBER REPORT: WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**
- (20 minutes allocated) (1540-1600)**
- This report provides Full Council with an update in relation to the West Midlands Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- Councillor Jamie Tennant to move the following Motion:**
- "That Council notes the report."
- 103 - 158**
- 10 **YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2022-2023**
- (35 minutes allocated) (1600-1635)**
- It is recommended that City Council approves the Birmingham Children's Trust's 2022 - 2023 Youth Justice Plan.
- Councillor Karen McCarthy, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Families to move the following Motion:**
- "That City Council approves the Birmingham Children's Trust's 2022 - 2023 Youth Justice Plan."
- (break 1635 - 1705)
- 159 - 168**
- 11 **DECISIONS NOT ON THE FORWARD PLAN AND THOSE AUTHORISED FOR IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION**
- (10 minutes allocated) (1705-1715)**
- To consider a report from the Interim City Solicitor.
- The Leader, Councillor Ian Ward to move the following Motion:**
- "That Council notes the report"
- 169 - 218**
- 12 **BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL CORPORATE PLAN 2022-2026 (EXECUTIVE BUSINESS REPORT)**
- (30 minutes allocated) (1715-1745)**
- This report seeks Full Council approval of the Corporate Plan 2022-2026.
- The Leader of the Council, Councillor Ian Ward to move the following Motion:**

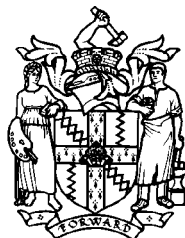
"That Full Council approves the Corporate Plan 2022-2026."

219 - 220

13 **MOTIONS FOR DEBATE FROM INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS**

(90 minutes allocated) (1745-1915)

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, TUESDAY,
12 JULY 2022**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL HELD
ON TUESDAY, 12 JULY 2022 AT 1400 HOURS IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER, COUNCIL HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM**

PRESENT:- Lord Mayor (Councillor Maureen Cornish) in the Chair.

Councillors

Akhlaq Ahmed	Ray Goodwin	Rick Payne
Alex Aitken	Rob Grant	David Pears
Deirdre Alden	Colin Green	Miranda Perks
Robert Alden	Fred Grindrod	Rob Pocock
Gurdial Singh Atwal	Roger Harmer	Julien Pritchard
Mohammed	Deborah Harries	Hendrina
Azim	Adam Higgs	Quinnen
Raqeeb Aziz	Des Hughes	Lauren Rainbow
David Barker	Jon Hunt	Darius Sandhu
David Barrie	Mumtaz Hussain	Shafique Shah
Baber Baz	Shabrana Hussain	Rinkal Shergill
Matt Bennett	Timothy Huxtable	Sybil Spence
Jilly	Mohammed Idrees	Ron Storer
Bermingham	Zafar Iqbal	Saima Suleman
Marcus	Katherine Iroh	Jamie Tennant
Bemasconi	Morriam Jan	Sharon
Bushra Bi	Kerry Jenkins	Thompson
Sir Albert	Meirion Jenkins	Paul Tilsley
Bore	Brigid Jones	Lisa Trickett
Nicky	Mariam Khan	Penny Wagg
Brennan	Izzy Knowles	Ian Ward
Kerry Brewer	Chaman Lal	Ken Wood
Marje Bridle	Bruce Lines	Alex Yip
Martin Brooks	Mary Locke	Waseem Zaffar
Zaker Choudhry	Basharat	
Debbie Clancy	Mahmood	
Liz Clements	Majid Mahmood	
John Cotton	Rashad Mahmood	
Phil Davis	Lee Marsham	
Jack Deakin	Karen McCarthy	
Adrian Delaney	Saddak Miah	
Diane Donaldson	Shehla Moledina	
Barbara Dring	Gareth Moore	
Jayne Francis	Simon Morrall	
Sam Forsyth	Yvonne Mosquito	

NOTICE OF RECORDING

- 13 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 were confidential or exempt items.
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DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

- 14 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 the meeting.
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MINUTES

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and –

- 15 **RESOLVED:**

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 14 June 2022 be taken as read and confirmed and signed.

LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**1 Death of former Councillor Mohammed Fazal**

The Lord Mayor indicated her first announcement related to Councillor Mohammed Fazal, father of Councillor Akhlaq Ahmed who had passed away on 17 March 2022.

Mohammed Fazal had served as a Councillor for Sparkhill Ward from 1987 to 1995; for Springfield Ward from 2004 to 2018; and again for Sparkhill Ward from 2018 until his death; and the title of Honorary Alderman Posthumous was conferred on him at an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council on 24 May 2022.

During his time on the Council, Councillor Fazal served on numerous Committees, Sub-Committees and outside bodies.

Councillor Fazal leaves behind 6 daughters, 2 sons, 24 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren.

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and:-

- 16 **RESOLVED:-**

That the Council placed on record its sorrow at the death of Councillor Mohammed Fazal and its appreciation of his devoted service to the residents of Birmingham. The Council extended its deepest sympathy to members of Mohammed's family in their sad bereavement.

Members and officers stood for a minute's silence, following which a number of tributes were made by Members.

2 Death of former Councillor Mohammed Azam

The Lord Mayor indicated her second announcement related to former Councillor Mohammed Azam who had passed away on 15 June 2022.

Former Councillor Mohammed Azam had served as a Councillor for Handsworth Ward from 1991 to 1995.

During his time on the Council, Councillor Azam served on numerous Committees, Sub-Committees and outside bodies.

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and:-

17

RESOLVED:-

That the Council placed on record its sorrow at the death of former Councillor Mohammed Azam and its appreciation of his devoted service to the residents of Birmingham. The Council extended its deepest sympathy to members of Mohammed's family in their sad bereavement.

Members and officers stood for a minute's silence, following which a number of tributes were made by Members.

PETITIONS

Petitions Relating to City Council Functions Presented at the Meeting

The following petitions were presented:-

(See document No. 1, 'Additional Meeting Documents')

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

18

RESOLVED:-

That the petitions were received and referred to the relevant Chief Officer(s).

Petitions Update

A Petitions Update had been made available electronically:-

(See document No. 2, 'Additional Meeting Documents')

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and -

19

RESOLVED:-

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

QUESTION TIME

20

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

Councillor Baber Baz addressed the Council and it was-

21

RESOLVED:-

That the appointments be made to serve on the Committees and other bodies set out below:-

Education and Children's Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Morriam Jan (Lib Dem) to replace Councillor Penny Wagg (Lib Dem) as a Member of the Education and Children's Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of City Council in May 2026

INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

A report from the City Solicitor was submitted:-

(See document No. 3, agenda item 8)

Councillor Ian Ward, Leader of the Council moved the Motion which was seconded from the floor.

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-

RESOLVED:-

1.) That City Council agreed to appoint the following persons to the Independent Remuneration Panel as co-opted members:

Appointee	Term of Office
Honorary Alderman Carl Rice	15 Sept 2022 – 14 Sept 2026
Former Councillor Peter Fowler	15 Sept 2022 – 14 Sept 2026

2.) That City Council agreed to recruit the following, to the Independent Remuneration Panel:

To recruit	Term of Office
One Citizen Representative	14 Sept 2022 – 13 Sept 2026
One Appointed Representative	14 Sept 2022 – 13 Sept 2026

3.) It was noted that City Council would be asked to confirm the appointments on 13 September 2022, of one Citizen Representative and one Appointed Representative following the recruitment exercise.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE COUNCIL PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACT GOVERNANCE RULES

A report from the Strategic Director of Council Management was submitted:-

(See document No. 4, agenda item 9)

Councillor Yvonne Mosquito, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources moved the Motion which was seconded from the floor.

Councillor Meirion Jenkins moved an amendment to the Motion which was seconded by Councillor Simon Morrall:

Add to end of first paragraph:

“subject to the following changes:

- Officer procurement delegation to be brought down from £10m to £500k in line with other core cities.
- A new lower threshold of £10,000 for the procurement of management consultancy services will be introduced to enable the council to get consultancy spend back under control.
- Late approval of contracts (e.g. renewal\extension after expiry or

procurement that does not allow enough time for a full procurement exercise) to require Cabinet Member approval and a public report.

- Single contract negotiations to require Cabinet Member approval and a public report.

- All exit packages in excess of £100k to require approval of Full Council.

Further this Council notes its concern that the agreed action from Full Council on 13 June 2017 relating to a public officer register of interests has still not been implemented. Council therefore resolves that a register of 'professional' interests of all officers with delegated decision-making powers to be published annually online in accordance with the findings of John Greenwood and Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council v Information Commissioner (EA/2011/0131 and EA/2011/0137) (17-2-2012).

A debate ensued.

Councillors Lisa Trickett, Alex Yip, Paul Tilsley, Akhlaq Ahmed and Ian Ward spoke during the debate.

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

It was therefore-

23

RESOLVED:-

- 1.) That the changes presented in the updated Procurement and Contract Governance Rules (Appendix 1) be approved as part the new Contract Standing Orders for the Council and incorporated into the Council's Constitution.
- 2.) That delegated authority be granted to the Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer to agree any final minor changes and edits to the Contract Standing Orders and supporting procedural notes in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources.

(OTHER) CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION

A report from the City Solicitor was submitted:-

(See document No. 5, agenda item 10)

Councillor Ian Ward, Leader of the Council moved the Motion which was seconded from the floor.

Councillor Jon Hunt moved an amendment to the Motion which was seconded by Councillor Roger Harmer:

‘Add to motion:

Council further resolves that the following two areas be clarified in the next review of the constitution to reflect previous custom and practice:

- 1.) Time in Council meetings for questions: in Section B 4.4, that the rules around the time available for questions be amended to ensure that the full allocation of time, usually 70 minutes, is used for questions to ensure accountability of the executive and other office-holders. This may be done by amendment to clause (v).
- 2.) The process for making changes to the constitution, found under “Part A Changes to Constitution” and Part A, Annex 1, to ensure that significant changes to the constitution are reported to Full Council and that there is a clear process for gaining all party approval and notifying all councillors of changes when it is deemed that changes do not need approval of Full Council.’

A debate ensued.

Councillors Robert Alden and Jack Deakin spoke during the debate.

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

It was therefore-

24

RESOLVED:-

- 1.) That approval be given to the amendments to Parts A, B, C and E of the Constitution, set out via the Change Log at Appendix 1 and the tracked change versions attached at Appendix 2.
- 2.) That the City Solicitor be authorised to implement the changes.
- 3.) Noted that the proposed changes to Part D of the Constitution (Council Procurement and Contract Governance Rules) had been set out by the Assistant Director, Procurement via a standalone report (which was also on the agenda for Council to consider on 12 July)."
- 4.) That the following two areas be clarified in the next review of the constitution to reflect previous custom and practice:
 - a.) The rules around the time available for questions (Section B 4.4) be amended to ensure that the full allocation of time, usually 70 minutes, is used for questions to ensure accountability of the executive and other office-holders. This may be done by amendment to clause (v).
 - b.) Ensure that significant changes to the constitution are reported to Full Council and that there is a clear process for gaining all party approval and notifying all councillors of changes when it is deemed that changes do not need approval of Full Council.'

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and

25

RESOLVED:-

That the Council be adjourned until 1700 hours on this day.

The Council then adjourned at 1630 hours.

At 1700 hours the Council resumed at the point where the meeting had been adjourned.

Lord Mayor in the Chair

SCRUTINY BUSINESS REPORT

A report from the Interim Head of Scrutiny and Committee Services was submitted:-

(See document No. 6, agenda item 11)

Councillor Sir Albert Bore, Chair of the Coordinating Overview and Scrutiny Committee moved the Motion which was seconded from the floor.

Councillor Roger Harmer moved an amendment to the Motion which was seconded by Councillor Paul Tilsley:

The following to be added to the Recommendations:

'This Council asks the Executive to consider proposals to increase the capacity of the Scrutiny Team to enable it to carry out one Scrutiny Inquiry per Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Currently capacity is limited to 4 Inquiries (at any one time)'.

A debate ensued.

Councillors Deirdre Alden and Brigid Jones spoke during the debate.

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

It was therefore-

26

RESOLVED:-

- 1.) That the Scrutiny Business Report be noted.
- 2.) That the Executive was asked to consider proposals to increase the capacity of the Scrutiny Team to enable it to carry out one Scrutiny Inquiry per Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Currently capacity is limited to 4 Inquiries (at any one time)'.

APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Clerk's Note – Deborah Cadman left the meeting before this item started and didn't return until after it had concluded.

A report of the Council Business Management Committee (Chief Officers and Deputy Chief Officers Appointments Dismissals and Service Conditions Sub-Committee – JNC) was submitted:-

(See document No. 7, agenda item 12)

Councillor Ian Ward, Leader of the Council moved the Motion which was seconded by the floor.

A debate ensued.

Councillors Robert Alden Alden and John Hunt spoke during the debate.

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-

27

RESOLVED:-

- 1) That the need for urgency of this appointment and the information provided via the exempt appendices to the report be noted.
- 2) That Deborah Cadman be appointed as the Council's Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service on the terms and conditions as set out in the attached exempt appendices with a commencement date for permanent employment to be agreed.

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE FROM INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

The Council proceeded to consider the Motions of which notice had been given in accordance with Council Rules of Procedure (B4.4 G of the Constitution).

A. Councillors Liz Clements and Jayne Francis have given notice of the following Notice of Motion:-

(See document No. 8, agenda item 13)

Councillor Liz Clements moved the Motion which was seconded by Councillor Jayne Francis.

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure, Councillors Alex Yip and Gareth Moore gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No. 9, 'Amendments – City Council')

Councillor Alex Yip moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Gareth Moore.

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure, Councillors Izzy Knowles and Colin Green gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No. 10, 'Amendments – City Council')

Councillor Izzy Knowles moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Colin Green.

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure, Councillors Julien Pritchard and Rob Grant gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No. 11, 'Amendments – City Council')

Councillor Julien Pritchard moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Rob Grant.

A debate ensued where the following Councillors replied to the debate: Councillors Robert Alden, Mary Locke, Jon Hunt, Nicky Brennan, John Cotton, Lee Marsham and Jack Deakin.

The Lord Mayor invited Councillor Liz Clements to sum up.

The amendment to the Motion in the names of Councillors Alex Yip and Gareth Moore having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be lost.

Names were called and the Chamber doors were locked.

Here upon a poll being demanded the voting was as follows:-

For the Motion (18)

Deirdre Alden	Adrian Delaney	Rick Payne
Robert Alden	Adam Higgs	David Pears
David Barrie	Timothy Huxtable	Darius Sandhu
Matt Bennett	Bruce Lines	Ron Storer
Kerry Brewer	Gareth Moore	Ken Wood
Debbie Clancy	Simon Morrall	Alex Yip

Against the Motion (49)

Akhlaq Ahmed	Diane Donaldson	Rashad Mahmood
Alex Aitken	Barbara Dring	Lee Marsham
Gurdial Singh Atwal	Jayne Francis	Saddak Miah
Raqeeb Aziz	Ray Goodwin	Shehla Moledina
David Barker	Fred Grindrod	Yvonne Mosquito
Jilly Bermingham	Des Hughes	Miranda Perks
Marcus Bernasconi	Jon Hunt	Rob Pocock
Bushra Bi	Shabrina Hussain	Hendrina Quinnen
Sir Albert Bore	Mohammed Idrees	Lauren Rainbow
Nicky Brennan	Zafar Iqbal	Shafique Shah
Marje Bridle	Kerry Jenkins	Rinkal Shergill
Martin Brooks	Brigid Jones	Sybil Spence
Liz Clements	Chaman Lal	Saima Suleman
John Cotton	Mary Locke	Jamie Tennant
Philip Davis	Basharat Mahmood	Sharon Thompson
Jack Deakin	Majid Mahmood	Lisa Trickett
		Ian Ward

Abstentions (13)

Baber Baz	Roger Harmer	Izzy Knowles
Zaker Choudhry	Deborah Harries	Julien Pritchard
Rob Grant	Mumtaz Hussain	Paul Tilsley
Colin Green	Morriam Jan	Penny Wagg
	Jon Hunt	

Upon the completion of the voting process, the Lord Mayor declared that the amendment was lost.

The amendment to the Motion in the names of Councillors Izzy Knowles and Colin Green having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be carried.

The amendment to the Motion in the names of Councillors Julien Pritchard and Rob Grant having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be carried.

It was therefore-

RESOLVED:-

"The Council notes that:

- Shift work is widespread in many industries, particularly hospitality, and can often entail late-night working.

- Many workers, especially women, are increasingly worried about their safety travelling to and from work at night.
- The West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner's Women's safety survey, conducted in 2021, found that 67% of respondents had felt unsafe on a bus, and 43% had felt unsafe in a taxi. 80% of respondents had expressed feeling unsafe following incidents such as cat calling, wolf whistling, up skirting or inappropriate behaviour, 93% did not report this to the police.
- A YouGov poll in 2019 about experiences of sexual harassment on public transport found that 37% of women had experienced someone 'deliberately pressing against them' compared to 12% of men, and 22% of women had a 'sexual statement directed against them' in comparison to 7% of men.
- Only 2% of victims go on to report sexual harassment on public transport.

The Council believes that:

- While employers may feel their duty of care to staff ends when an employee finishes a shift, they also need to take into consideration journeys home, especially during unsocial hours.
- Unite the union's 'Get Me Home Safely' campaign, which calls on employers to take all reasonable steps to ensure workers get home safely from work at night, should be supported.
- The weakness of enforcement of the law against sexual assault on public transport, including up-skirting, is failing women and girls.
- Greater numbers of trained staff and stronger enforcement of the law against sexual assault and harassment on public transport are urgently needed.
- The Government's Safety of Women at Night Fund, which limits grants to only £300,000, is wholly inadequate to tackle the important issue of the safety of women and girls in public spaces, including public transport, at night and in the night-time economy.

The Council resolves to:

- Publicly call for improvement to late night and off-peak transport service provision.
- Publicly call for the lowering of fares and oppose any cuts to public transport funding, including the early ending of the Bus Recovery Grant, and call on the West Midlands Mayor to use his political platforms to achieve this.
- Publicly support Transport for West Midlands' evaluation of the options on the future delivery of bus services, including bus franchising.
- Lobby the government for stronger enforcement of the law against sexual assault and harassment on public transport.
- Call on the West Midlands Mayor and the government to support Unite the Union's 'Get Me Home Safely' campaign.

- Call on the PCC working with the Chief Constable to review policies and resources to ensure that public transport is as safe as possible.
- Actively work with the Police and Crime Commissioner to introduce more police patrols on the transport network, especially late at night which can be achieved through better utilisation of the Safer Travel team and encouraging Neighbourhood teams, especially PCSO's, to use public transport.
- Add a facility to report crime through the Safer Travel / See Safe system, to reduce the waiting times for reporting crimes via 101 and police Live Chat and ensure all victims of sexual harassment receive a call back, referral to victim support services and ongoing support throughout the investigation.
- Investigate the possibility – as other councils have done – of making free transport home for staff a criteria for new alcohol or late night licenses in Birmingham City Council Licensing Policy.
- Ask the Executive to assess Birmingham City Council's employment policies against Unite's Get Me Home Safety campaign, to see if there is anything further Birmingham City Council could do as an employer to improve employee safety when travelling to and from work, particularly late at night.
- Lobby the West Midlands Mayor and Transport for West Midlands to investigate the introduction of evening supervisors at major bus interchanges in Birmingham to improve passenger safety.
- Lobby the West Midlands Mayor and Transport for West Midlands and bus operators for mandatory training for transport workers on gender-based violence to include practical guidance on reporting sexual harassment and assault on public transport."

B. Councillors Bruce Lines and Darius Sandhu have given notice of the following Notice of Motion:-

(See document No. 8, agenda item 13\)

Councillor Bruce Lines moved the Motion which was seconded by Councillor Darius Sandhu.

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure, Councillors Liz Clements and John Cotton gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No. 12, 'Amendments – City Council')

Councillor Liz Clements moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor John Cotton.

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure, Councillors Roger Harmer and Deborah Harries gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No. 13, 'Amendments – City Council')

Councillor Roger Harmer moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Deborah Harries.

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure, Councillors Rob Grant and Julien Pritchard gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No. 14, 'Amendments – City Council')

Councillor Rob Grant moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Julien Pritchard.

A debate did not take place in relation to the Motion

The Lord Mayor invited Councillor Bruce Lines to sum up.

The amendment to the Motion in the names of Councillors Liz Clements and John Cotton having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be carried.

The amendment to the Motion in the names of Councillors Roger Harmer and Deborah Harries having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be carried.

The amendment to the Motion in the names of Councillors Rob Grant and Julien Pritchard having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be carried.

It was therefore-

RESOLVED:-

"That this Council notes the concern of residents with the drastic increase in the number of off-road motor bikes and other mechanically propelled vehicles such as quad bikes and illegally modified motor vehicles (including the removal of front number plates) within Birmingham. These vehicles, when inappropriately used, are a risk to public safety, create a noise nuisance for residents, deter cyclists and pedestrians and cause damage to parks and footways. This Council welcomes that the Cabinet Member for Social Justice, Community Safety, and Equalities has asked the Community Safety Partnership to investigate this issue as a priority.

Therefore, the Council calls on the Executive to:

- Consult on the introduction of a City-Wide Public Space Protection Order, as has been done in authorities such as Coventry City Council and Kensington and Chelsea London Borough Council to give the police more powers to tackle problems caused by off road motor vehicles.
- Investigate the feasibility of noise triggered ANPR cameras in nuisance areas to catch those motor vehicles causing excessive noise building on the pilot site for which the council has recently applied for central government funding.

- Consider whether more stringent defensive measures could be taken to prevent off-road vehicles from causing a nuisance and damage to known sites and neighbourhoods. Whilst also ensuring that new defensive measures do not impede access for wheelchair users, prams and pedal bikes where appropriate, including investigation of new defensive designs that allow access for legitimate users.
- Work together with the Police and Crime Commissioner and other agencies to dedicate more resources to tackling this issue and notes the hard work officers are doing to tackle this issue already.
- Accelerate the delivery of average speed cameras in further locations to help reduce speeding and other forms of anti-social driving.
- Work with the police and crime commissioner to assess how the police can better work with communities to tackle nuisance and illegal motorbike use.
- Work with the police and crime commissioner to investigate how to improve cross-border police working to help tackle the issue of off-road bikes in areas around the Birmingham border, such as Walker's Heath Park".

The meeting ended at 1905 hours.

APPENDIX

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

CITY COUNCIL – 12 JULY 2022

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

“Estates Rationalisation Programme”

Question:

By building, what percentage occupancy rate is the estates rationalisation programme based on?

Answer:

This is still work in progress as both staff and management are adapting to the situation post pandemic. New Ways of Working are assessing working patterns of teams and monitoring building usage, they are also surveying staff and management as to how they want to work in the future to deliver their outcomes. This work is helping to inform our property rationalisation programme and identify the need for new type of accommodation to meet the needs of hybrid workers.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR
EWAN MACKEY**

“Council Offices”

Question:

By building, what assessment has been made of the average occupancy rate of council offices in 2022?

Answer:

In order to assess what office and collaboration space we require post pandemic, we carried out a number of surveys. Staff were surveyed twice (August 2021 and May 2022) and the Directors/Assistant Directors (December 2021). Staff were asked how they would like to work in the future: how much in the office; what would they come to the office for; hybrid working; work patterns etc. The results were analysed and extrapolated by directorate to determine how much space (office and collaborations space) the staff were telling us they needed. This was then communicated to Directors/Assistant Directors to see if they were content or if they felt they needed more space to meet their business needs. The result tells us we need a much smaller footprint than we currently have. We had responses covering 8,442 staff and after testing some of the responses (by interviewing Directors/ Assistant Directors) our analysis is telling us there is a need for approximately 480 workstations in a city centre environment and there is a need for 37 collaboration spaces of varying sizes daily in a city centre environment.

In respect to the office provision within the CAB estate the position is as follows:

Woodcock Street – traditional provision 2,284 desks; current provision of 977 desk made available. Average daily attendance is around 300 members of staff.

Lancaster Circus – traditional provision of 1,795 desks. No BCC office-based functions in situ; specialist CCTV operations remain in the basement suite (approx. 20 staff). Average daily attendance is around 27 Birmingham Children's Trust. The building is declared surplus and a sale agreed.

Sutton New Road – traditional provision of 344 workstations. The upper floor office accommodation is presently vacant following the vacation of the Children's Trust; 100 workstations being stood up from mid July for Adults staff. The Neighbourhood Office remains operational on the ground floor.

New Aston House – traditional provision of 189 workstations. The upper floor office accommodation utilised by the Children's Trust who advised of an average attendance of 115 staff a day. The Housing Options Centre on the ground floor remains operational on the ground floor.

Council House – presently subject to refurbishment with limited reoccupation from late June with further staff recanting during the course of 2022.

Council House Extension – traditional provision of 348 workstations; current offer of 112 desk. Average daily attendance up to late June was around 70 staff and members.

Lifford House – traditional provision of 413 workstations. Average attendance of around 130 staff a day (primarily Children's Trust staff but some Adults presence).

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

“Council Office attendance”

Question:

On Friday 8 July, how many people signed into each of the Council's Central Administrative Buildings?

Answer:

The City Council no longer operates a desk booking system within its CAB premises, with staff being able to turn up on the day and utilise a workstation. It is therefore impossible to predict in advance how many staff will be in attendance on the stated date. Please see response to A2 for the current average attendance.

The New Ways of Working programme is working closely with management, staff and the Trade Unions to implement working practices, technology, and facilities to enable all staff to operate in a fully agile way. This will ensure that we are an organisation which is more responsive, efficient and effective, by ensuring our teams have the capability, confidence and tools to continue to work where, when and how they choose, with maximum flexibility and minimum constraints to optimise their performance in support of those we serve.

This will result in a realignment of the Council's office estate with the rationalisation of a number of existing locations and investment into several new sites.

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

“Perry Barr Residential Scheme”

Question:

What is the average anticipated sale price of the phase 1 Perry Barr development sales, split by number of bedrooms?

Answer:

Phase 1 of the Perry Barr Regeneration Scheme is planned as a mixed-tenure residential development providing a broad range of occupation and ownership options for a mixed community of new residents. Four of the 11 development plots within Phase 1 are under construction delivering a total of 968 1- and 2-bedroom apartments across a variety of tenures: later-living, homes for rent, open market sale, affordable discounted market sale, and the UK government First Homes initiative.

Pricing will be finalised and published closer to the completion of the construction activities to ensure the new homes are presented in the best possible way, and to ensure the new homes appeal to the broadest possible cross-section of the market. This will coincide with the completion of the new areas of public open space at the heart of the new development, and the positive impact of the new local transport infrastructure.

The new apartment buildings are peerless in this location, and the initial sales will set a new pricing benchmark for this type of development in Perry Barr. It is therefore important to underpin the future phases of development within Phase 1, and that these prices are balanced and optimised to ensure the new place and community thrives.

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

“Fountain Repairs”

Question:

Further for question A2 from June Council, have the final costs of repairing the fountain now been established?

Answer:

The project team have been managing this reactively including the investigations, impacts and costs of the associated repair works. The final costs associated with the specialist subcontractors are still to be provided.

Whilst the repair works are approaching completion the Contractors costs via their submitted formal application for works completed is not due until 20th July 2022. Once the application is

received the project team will then comprehensively review and validate the costs incurred against their accounted records before final acceptance and payment is made.

In consideration of the above, the estimated costs for the repair works is in the order of £18,000.

It is very disappointing that the council has incurred this additional cost and I hope that you will join with me in condemning such acts of vandalism.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR

PAUL TILSLEY

‘Vandalism to City Monuments’

Question:

Could the Leader of the Council elaborate on the measures he will take to ensure no further acts of vandalism are taken against city monuments and fountains, especially in the run up to the Commonwealth Games?

Answer:

The city council is custodian of a preeminent range of public art right across the city and through the Commonwealth Games and the Cultural Festival more people than ever will take pleasure in what our city has to offer. I know that the vast majority of Birmingham residents take great pride in our public art and incidents of vandalism are few and far between. Where they do occur, the city council will seek to prosecute any individuals identified.

Wherever possible, CCTV will be used to identify culprits and we will be working closely with partners including the city centre BIDS and the management of the Paradise development to protect artwork, monuments and fountains across the city.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR

MORRIAM JAN

‘Perry Barr Masterplan’

Question:

In response to written question A1 in June’s written questions relating to the Perry Barr Masterplan, the Leader said ‘ .. Community and Member engagement across the three Wards which will directly benefit for this Programme will be central to the governance structure moving forward’. Does “engagement” mean serious involvement in decision making and monitoring of progress as happens with other city regeneration projects?

Answer:

Engagement will mean bringing both the community and Ward members to the table to ensure that the vision and aspirations we set out in the 'Perry Barr 2040 master plan: A vision for legacy Plan' is achieved. To ensure this commitment is honoured, the Council has recently appointed a dedicated Regeneration Programme Director to develop a Delivery Plan for future phases of the Perry Barr Programme.

This will require good governance arrangements to be established to ensure that that all interested parties in our community, including local businesses and young people are given the opportunity to play a vital role in future development phases of Perry Barr.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR DEBORAH HARRIES

'Continued Poor State of Former Stechford Cascades Site'

Question:

Further to my question and your answer in February (please see below) about the poor state of this council-owned land – mainly the open, unhoarded area, bordering houses and the main shopping street – and despite repeated requests to officers in the meantime, could the site please be kept clear of rubbish and fly-tipping whilst you decide what to do with the vacant site?

City Council – 22 February 2022 6115 APPENDIX Questions and replies in accordance with Standing Order 10.2.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR DEBORAH HARRIES A1 Land at Stechford Cascades

Question:

Can the Leader please confirm:

Question (b) that he will ask officers to keep the site - next to the main Stechford shopping area and park - which was cleared in 2020 and is partly open and vulnerable to fly-tipping, graffiti and traveller occupation, in good order;

Answer (b) While unfortunately the site has been the subject of repeated antisocial behaviour our officers have previously taken action on a number of occasions to remove fly-tipping and graffiti. Following the departure of an illegal traveller encampment from the site in November 2021 external concrete bollards were sited at the entrance and repairs to the hoarding undertaken in an effort to prevent further unauthorised access. Officers will continue to take appropriate action in response to further issues that are identified.

Answer:

The site has been secured consisting of concrete containers and metal trip rail. There has been a number of illegal activities such as fly tipping and graffiti on the site during

this year. Officers will monitor the site and any fly tipping will be removed whilst we look for a long term solution.

PLEASE NOTE NO WRITTEN QUESTIONS SUBMITTED**FOR THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL****WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES FROM COUNCILLOR TIMOTHY HUXTABLE****“Update”****Question:**

Please provide an updated version of the table used to answer question J5 in the December 2021 council meeting. The table provided financial breakdown with the addition of the Appendices 1-3. Please bring all these up to date with data up to June 2022

Answer:

The information for 2022/23 is not yet available. Officers will work with colleagues in Finance to ensure the information requested can be provided via the new Oracle system as soon as possible.

The figure for 2021/22 financial year excluding home to school transport would be £5.280m.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES FROM COUNCILLOR ADAM HIGGS**“Home to School Transport spend”****Question:**

Please provide a similar table in the same format as the answer to the question from Cllr Huxtable (and as answer to J5 from December 2021) for all agency/interim / consultant spend relating to Home to School Transport from June 2018 to June 2022

Answer:

Unfortunately, prior year information is not available currently. Officers will work with colleagues in Finance to ensure the information requested can be provided via the new Oracle system as soon as possible.

Actual annual general fund expenditure on interim and agency staff 2018-19 to May 2022

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	Current Year Apr- May 22
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
H2ST	0.206	0.559	1.549	2.009	0.746
	0.206	0.559	1.549	2.009	0.746

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL TILSLEY

‘Summer Schools’

Question:

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

Answer:

BringitonBrum! is Birmingham’s Holiday Activity and Food Programme and will be delivered throughout the summer holidays.

Over 265 organisations (including schools) have registered to provide holiday activities and food at a variety of locations across the city.

Some schools will be providing summer school activities through this programme.

Further information on activity provision available through the Holiday Activity and Food Programme can be found <https://www.bringitonbrum.co.uk/>

Schools may also be holding summer schools outside of BringitonBrum! These will be publicised by the schools themselves.

There is also information about activities on the Birmingham Local Offer <https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/>

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES FROM COUNCILLOR IZZY KNOWLES

‘Unaccompanied Children’

Question:

Following the recent announcement by Michael Gove that the UK were going to allow unaccompanied children to enter the UK, could the Cabinet Member comment on the measures that will be put in place to enable Birmingham to accept such children?

Answer:

For the purposes of this response, I have assumed that the question is referring to unaccompanied children and young people coming to the UK from Ukraine. The Children's Trust has well-established processes in place for managing arrivals of unaccompanied young people from many different countries. They will work with young people arriving from Ukraine in the same way, ensuring that their age and their needs are understood, that they are placed appropriately according to their age and their needs, and providing appropriate care and support to enable them to thrive. Young people will have access to school and college places, interpreting services and appropriate social, educational and mental health support from the point of their arrival.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES FROM COUNCILLOR ROGER HARMER

'The Coughlan Report'

Question:

Will there be a report coming to Cabinet with the Council's full response to recommendations in The Coughlan Report?

Answer:

An action plan setting out how the council will meet the recommendations in the DfE SEND Commissioner's report will be taken to Cabinet.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES FROM COUNCILLOR JON HUNT

'School finances'

Question:

Could the cabinet member report how many local authority controlled schools completed the last financial year with a deficit, setting out the total of accumulated deficits?

Answer:

Last year 2020/21 there were 29 schools in deficit, total £7.294m.
For 2021/22 provisional figures show there are 26 schools in deficit, total £4.846m.

Please note these are provisional figures and work is still being undertaken with some individual schools to finalise the position.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR DIGITAL, CULTURE,
HERITAGE AND TOURISM FROM COUNCILLOR EWAN MACKEY**

“Daily News Briefing Email tracking”

Question:

It has come to our attention that access to articles listed in daily news briefing email is via a server on an Ad and Tracking server watchlist, what data is being captured by this and for what purpose?

Answer:

The daily news briefing is sent out via the Gov delivery platform. The only personal data in the system is the e-mail address of recipients of the Daily News Briefing. The platform tracks who opened the bulletin, along with who has clicked on which link within the bulletin. This data is used only by Corporate Communications to track open rates and click rates of the Daily News Briefing e-mail alerts. It has been confirmed by Gov Delivery that they do not access or use the data in any way.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM
COUNCILLOR RICHARD PARKIN**

“Parks income and spend”

Question:

For each of the last 3 years, what has been the total spent in (split between capital and revenue) and total income received from each of the parks\green spaces for which the council is responsible?

Answer:

Please see attached spreadsheet



Parks Capex 3 Years
2019-20 to 2021-22.x

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT
FROM COUNCILLOR RICK PAYNE**

“Missed Collections”

Question:

Further to question E20 from June Council, how many missed or incomplete routes were there within the waste collection service by ward, by depot and in total in each month since January 2022 when central monitoring commenced

Answer:

The table below shows the number of residual and recycling routes that were reported as being incomplete. This could range from a small number of properties on part of one road that was dropped to the full round.

The reason a round is incomplete is usually due to vehicle access, adverse weather, staffing or vehicle breakdown.

The data is reported by driver team leaders of each crew to the Business Support Team at each depot and is therefore dependant on each crew reporting this accurately.

It excludes garden waste and container routes (serving shared bins at flats and apartments).

	Lifford Lane	Redfern Road	Montague Street	Perry Barr
January (from 27 th)	0	0	3	6
February	9	72	17	132
March	14	104	36	179
April	3	46	22	89
May	16	47	16	72

June	0	26	11	96
July (to 5th)	0	7	3	15

It is not possible to present this data by ward as requested because routes do not follow ward boundaries and the same route often covers multiple wards.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR BABER BAZ

‘Bulk Collections’

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member provide full details of the number of bulk collections that have been requested, by Ward, and also the income these generated for the financial year 2021/22?

Answer:

For the financial year 2021/22 there were 25806 bookings. 3156 of these were made via the contact centre at £35 and 22650 were online at £33. The total income originally received before received (excluding any subsequent cancellations and refunds) was £857,910.

A booking allows for collection of electrical and/or non-electrical bulky items. These are collected separately by different crews and classed as two separate collections. The total number of collections made per ward is listed in the following table.

Ward	Number of bulky collections (electrical and non-electrical combined)
Acocks Green	839
Allens Cross	448
Alum Rock	487
Aston	467
Balsall Heath West	301
Bartley Green	860
Billesley	751
Birchfield	259
Bordesley & Highgate	231
Bordesley Green	274
Bournbrook & Selly Park	407
Bournville & Cotteridge	643
Brandwood & Kings Heath	675

Bromford & Hodge Hill	564
Castle Vale	244
Druids Heath & Monyhull	317
Edgbaston	348
Erdington	627
Frankley Great Park	370
Garretts Green	391
Glebe Farm & Tile Cross	901
Gravelly Hill	360
Hall Green North	621
Hall Green South	313
Handsworth	230
Handsworth Wood	423
Harborne	682
Heartlands	348
Highters Heath	404
Holyhead	236
Kings Norton North	396
Kings Norton South	440
Kingstanding	752
Ladywood	388
Longbridge & West Heath	800
Lozells	270
Moseley	613
Nechells	327
Newtown	186
North Edgbaston	541
Northfield	372
Oscott	733
Perry Barr	665
Perry Common	459
Pype Hayes	429
Quinton	704
Rubery & Rednal	415
Shard End	508
Sheldon	653
Small Heath	376
Soho & Jewellery Quarter	533
South Yardley	353
Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East	488
Sparkhill	420
Stirchley	412
Stockland Green	687
Sutton Four Oaks	289
Sutton Mere Green	380
Sutton Reddicap	350
Sutton Roughley	320
Sutton Trinity	262

Sutton Vesey	576
Sutton Walmley & Minworth	461
Sutton Wylde Green	284
Tyseley & Hay Mills	321
Ward End	313
Weoley & Selly Oak	922
Yardley East	336
Yardley West & Stechford	345

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM
COUNCILLOR PAUL TILSLEY**

‘Recycling Levels’

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member give a full breakdown of recycling levels in the City during 2022?

Answer:

These recycling rates are for the period January 2022 to May 2022, please note that some May's figures contain estimates for some of the smaller recycling elements.

The overall recycling rate has also been calculated in three different ways; one including all post incineration recycling, one including only the post incineration recycled metals but not the recycled ash, and a third that excludes all the post incineration recycling.

Overall Recycling Rate (January 2022 to May 2022)

Calculation	Recycling Rate (% of total amount disposed of)
Including post incineration ash and metals.	39.26%
Including post incineration metals.	23.22%
Excluding post incineration recycling.	20.85%

Post Incineration Recycling (January 2022 to May 2022)

The post incineration materials that were recycled calculated as a percentage of the waste incinerated (with energy recovery) and as a percentage of the total waste disposed of

Calculation	Recycling Rate
Post incineration recycling as a percentage of incinerated waste.	23.79%
Post incineration recycling as a percentage of the total waste disposed of.	18.41%

Specific Service Areas/Waste Streams

The recycling figures have been broken down by service area/waste stream and the recycling rates have been calculated both as a percentage of the total for that particular service area/waste stream, and as a percentage of the total amount of waste disposed of by Birmingham City Council's Waste Management department.

Kerbside Collection Services Recycling Rate (January 2022 to May 2022)

The kerbside collection recycling rate includes the kerbside green garden service. The residual waste is the that which was collected directly from households and does not include trade or commercial waste. Materials collected as recycling but later rejected have been counted as residual waste not recycling.

Calculation	Recycling Rate
Recycling as a percentage of the total kerbside collected.	16.68%
Recycling as a percentage of the total waste disposed of.	11.83%

Street Cleansing Services Recycling Rate (January 2022 to May 2022)

The road sweepings that are collected by the street cleansing service are sent for recycling, unsuitable materials are rejected, and these rejects are counted as residual waste not recycling.

Calculation	Recycling Rate
Recycling as a percentage of the total waste collected by street cleansing.	26.28%
Recycling as a percentage of the total waste disposed of.	1.70%

Household Recycling Centre (HRC) Recycling Rate (January 2022 to May 2022)

The HRC recycling rate includes the segregated materials deposited in the containers in the main area of the HRC sites and segregated materials deposited in the on-site recycling banks. Items deposited for reuse at the HRC sites are included in these figures as are the materials collected for recycling by the mobile HRCs. Materials collected for recycling which were rejected are counted as residual waste not recycling.

Calculation	Recycling Rate
Recycling as a percentage of the total HRC waste.	64.81%
Recycling as a percentage of the total waste disposed of.	7.32%

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR COLIN GREEN

‘Fly Tipped Fridge Freezers’

Question:

How many fly-tipped fridges/freezers have been collected by month, by ward by the specialist crew employed for this purpose during municipal year 2021/22?

Answer:

There are two crews that collect both paid for electrical bulky waste items and fly tipped electrical items. We do not record the exact amount of fly tipped items that we collect as there are no disposal costs to the city.

The following is a table showing the amount of worksheets we have received each month in relation to fly tipped fridges and freezers. We have excluded any worksheets that have been marked as a duplicate, to avoid double counting. Please be aware that quite frequently there are more than one dumped fridge or freezer at the site of fly tipping and therefore this is an underestimate of the actual number collected.

This data also excludes any fridges or freezers which are collected by other street cleansing crews when they are found during of their daily work but are unreported.

	T o t a l	04/ 20 21	05/ 20 21	06/ 20 21	07/ 20 21	08/ 20 21	09/ 20 21	10/ 20 21	11/ 20 21	12/ 20 21	01/ 20 22	02/ 20 22	03/ 20 22
--	-----------------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------

Total	2 , 2 2 6	49	12 3	19 7	16 1	14 1	20 6	20 3	27 2	25 2	18 7	18 1	25 4
Acocks Green	7 7	1	2	10	8	4	10	9	13	5	6	3	6
Allens Cross	2 2	0	0	0	2	11	2	2	0	1	0	2	2
Alum Rock	5 2	0	3	7	11	9	2	2	6	4	4	1	3
Aston	6 6	0	0	1	5	3	1	6	10	21	7	6	6
Balsall Heath West	5 1	0	7	2	1	1	8	8	8	5	5	3	3

Bartley Green	2 8	0	0	3	2	4	3	5	1	0	3	3	4
Billesley	5 5	2	7	7	3	4	5	7	4	7	1	5	3
Birchfield	4 0	5	1	4	2	0	1	6	6	9	2	2	2
Bordesley & Highgate	6 6	2	7	0	3	6	8	3	5	8	6	10	8
Bordesley Green	5 6	1	4	6	0	5	5	4	6	3	9	4	9
Bournbrook & Selly Park	4 9	0	1	2	6	2	6	3	4	9	4	6	6
Bournville & Cotteridge	7	1	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
Brandwood & Kings Heath	3 6	1	5	2	2	0	3	5	5	3	5	2	3
Bromford & Hodge Hill	3 6	4	1	0	2	3	3	4	2	2	4	4	7

Castle Vale	2 3	2	0	0	1	1	2	1	3	6	3	0	4
Druids Heath & Monyhull	7	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	0	1	1	0
Edgbaston	1 5	0	2	0	2	0	4	2	1	0	0	3	1
Erdington	2 5	0	0	3	2	1	5	1	3	1	1	4	4
Frankley Great Park	1 5	0	3	1	1	1	2	2	0	0	2	1	2

Garretts Green	1 5	0	0	0	1	0	3	2	2	3	0	2	2
Glebe Farm & Tile Cross	5 3	0	3	2	1	2	5	6	4	6	10	10	4
Gravelly Hill	1 3	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	3	2	0	1	3
Hall Green North	4 9	1	5	5	6	6	4	6	3	1	2	4	6
Hall Green South	1 6	0	1	2	0	0	2	2	3	3	1	1	1
Handsworth	3 4	1	5	3	0	2	2	2	8	5	2	2	2
Handsworth Wood	4 7	3	1	2	3	5	7	4	6	2	3	3	8
Harborne	4 6	0	2	3	1	8	7	2	4	4	4	1	10
Heartlands	4 5	1	4	3	2	2	7	3	8	6	3	4	2
Highters Heath	1 4	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	5	0	3	0
Holyhead	4 4	0	1	4	0	1	0	3	4	19	3	2	7

Kings Norton North	1 2	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	4	2	1	1	0
Kings Norton South	3 2	4	3	0	0	0	4	5	9	3	2	0	2
Kingstanding	2 1	1	0	0	0	1	2	2	4	2	1	6	2

Ladywood	3 4	2	3	4	2	1	2	7	5	3	1	2	2
Longbridge & West Heath	2 1	2	0	1	1	0	6	1	4	1	4	0	1
Lozells	2 8	1	4	6	0	2	0	0	5	4	3	3	0
Moseley	5 6	0	7	6	8	2	10	3	1	2	5	3	9
Nechells	3 5	4	1	5	2	1	3	3	2	4	4	2	4
Newtown	1 3	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	4	1	0	3
North Edgbaston	7 0	1	3	7	3	4	3	3	6	8	5	7	20
Northfield	5	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Oscott	1 5	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	3	2	1	2	1
Perry Barr	2 5	1	0	2	0	1	4	1	8	2	3	2	1
Perry Common	1 1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	5	3	0	0	0
Pype Hayes	1 3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	3	1	1	5
Quinton	5 2	0	2	7	3	7	2	0	2	3	0	10	16

Rubery & Rednal	1 1	1	3	0	0	0	3	2	1	1	0	0	0
Shard End	2 6	0	0	4	4	3	5	1	2	2	2	2	1

Sheldon	3 4	0	1	2	4	3	3	1	5	4	3	4	4
Small Heath	5 9	1	4	11	15	5	4	4	5	6	1	1	2
Soho & Jewellery Quarter	4 5	0	2	2	1	1	1	3	14	7	4	5	5
South Yardley	1 8	0	3	3	3	1	2	3	1	0	1	1	0
Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East	1 1 1	0	5	24	5	2	2	8	8	18	15	11	13
Sparkhill	8 7	1	8	8	11	6	11	9	4	1	9	7	12
Stirchley	1 9	2	0	2	3	1	3	1	2	0	2	0	3
Stockland Green	5 9	1	0	1	0	8	6	8	10	11	7	0	7
Sutton Four Oaks	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Sutton Mere Green	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Sutton Reddicap	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sutton Roughley	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Sutton Trinity	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sutton Vesey	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	1	0	1	0
Sutton Walmley & Minworth	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Sutton Wylde Green	4	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Tyseley & Hay Mills	5 5	0	1	9	10	3	4	5	6	5	4	5	3
Ward End	2 4	0	2	4	4	2	1	4	4	3	0	0	0
Weoley & Selly Oak	5 6	1	1	9	2	2	4	2	7	3	9	4	12
Yardley East	2 2	0	1	3	4	0	1	3	4	1	2	2	1
Yardley West & Stechford	3 3	0	0	1	6	1	2	5	5	3	5	1	4

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM
COUNCILLOR ZAKER CHOUDHRY**

‘Mobile Household Recycling Centre’

Question:

Could the cabinet member provide daily details of tonnage collected from MHRC, by depot, along with details of the wards visited each day?

Answer:

The attached gives the daily location breakdown per depot for June.



E6 locations.pdf

Due to the size and complexity of the information, recycling and residual Tonnages are collated monthly by depot.

Residual	Lifford	Montague Street	Perry Barr	Redfern Road
Jun-22	48.7	87.14	59.6	44.02

Recycling	Lifford	Montague Street	Perry Barr	Redfern Road
Jun-22	2.32	1.88	1.62	1.2

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR ROGER HARMER

‘Mobile Household Recycling Centre’

Question:

Given the £1m underspend in last year’s fly tipping allocation, will the cabinet member undertake to secure the printing of decent quality leaflets for councillors to issue to constituents with details of MHRCs?

Answer:

The MHRC has been a tremendous success and we are currently thinking of ways to improve the service following our manifesto to make this a permanent service. We are looking at a number of options to improve the offer one being for the service to produce and distribute the leaflets supported by the local councillor. We will trial this approach in the next few weeks to see if this changes the collection rate before rolling it out across the City.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR JON HUNT

‘Mobile Household Recycling Centre’

Question:

Will the cabinet member provide councillors with reasonable advance details of MHRC visits so that publicity can be organised according to local circumstances?

Answer:

Forward schedules for specific Wards are communicated to relevant Members approximately three weeks in advance of a planned visit.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM
COUNCILLOR MORRIAM JAN**

‘Perry Barr Depot’

Question:

Given residents in north west Birmingham have not had access to their local HRC for well over 12 months and are currently reliant on the HMRC to dispose of any unwanted items, can the Cabinet Member give detailed reasons as to what the hold-up is and how long it will be before this facility will be open once more?

Answer:

Birmingham City Council is working in partnership with Veolia to redevelop the Perry Barr Household Recycling Centre (HRC) and Waste Transfer Station. The current site was at the end of its economic life and in need of a complete rebuild. The new site will have improved facilities available to the public that will enhance the user experience, increase recycling, and continue the processing of waste and recycling with minimal disruption to the environment and area. The Perry Barr HRC will be closed for redevelopment until Spring 2023.

The closest recycling centre with availability is the Castle Bromwich Household Recycling Centre (HRC) located at Tameside Drive, Castle Bromwich, B35 7AG. However, residents do have the ability to book a slot to visit any of the Birmingham HRC's, the locations for these are detailed below:

- Sutton Coldfield - Norris Way, Sutton Coldfield, B75 7BB
- Tyseley - James Road, Tyseley, B11 2BA
- Kings Norton - Lifford Lane, Kings Norton, B30 3JJ

In addition to the Mobile Household Recycle Centre (MHRC), residents can also book bulky waste collection and although there is a cost to this waste will be collected directly from the property.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM
COUNCILLOR IZZY KNOWLES**

‘Missed Collections’

Question:

**Could the Cabinet Member provide a full break down of the number of missed waste, recycling and green collection rounds there have been during the last 24 months?
Could this information be displayed by category and depot?**

Answer:

We don't hold that specific type of data, however the data we do hold is for missed collections based on roads or properties. The closest data that would go some way to answering your question is repeated below from the answer given to E2.

The table below shows the number of residual and recycling routes that were reported as being incomplete. This could range from a small number of properties on part of one road that was dropped to the full round.

The reason a round is incomplete is usually due to vehicle access, adverse weather, staffing or vehicle breakdown.

The data is reported by driver team leaders of each crew to the Business Support Team at each depot and is therefore dependant on each crew reporting this accurately.

It excludes garden waste and container routes (serving shared bins at flats and apartments).

	Lifford Lane	Redfern Road	Montague Street	Perry Barr
January (from 27 th)	0	0	3	6
February	9	72	17	132
March	14	104	36	179
April	3	46	22	89
May	16	47	16	72
June	0	26	11	96
July (to 5 th)	0	7	3	15

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM
COUNCILLOR DEBORAH HARRIES**

‘All Parks Are Created Equal But Some Parks Are More Equal Than Others’

Question:

Could you please explain the current approach to funding our parks, recreation grounds and green spaces, and identify how much is spent on each, either in absolute or percentage terms.

It is clear that as savings/cuts have been made over the last decade, some (major) parks – about 10 per cent of the total – continue to be well maintained and well stocked with seasonal bedding plants, for example, whilst other ‘lesser’ green spaces struggle for basic amenities such as bins, benches, play equipment and sufficient grass/hedge cutting, or are even left to go to rack and ruin such as Old Yardley Park Rose Garden, which is in a Conservation Area.

Why has the decreasing budget pot not been more fairly distributed, as all green spaces are valuable to our residents, particularly those close to them, and which may not necessarily be one of the city’s half-a-dozen prestigious parks?

Answer:

The current spend on parks maintenance is based on the assets each park currently has. There has been a reduction in the grounds maintenance budget going back to 2009 however I am pleased to inform you this budget has not been reduced over the last 3 years and in fact there has been an increase in the grass cutting allocation.

There is a difference in maintaining existing revenue assets, such as flower beds and capital spending on infrastructure items such as bin, benches and play areas. I am currently working with officers to identify opportunities to bid for development money to improve the infrastructure of more of our parks and I am particularly keen to invest in those parks in areas of greatest need.

I have been really pleased to hear about the money generated by our local friends groups supported by Birmingham Open Spaces Forum. They have turned a £10,000 seed corn fund into over £100,000 of investment into local parks, we have continued this during this financial year and I am keen to support this going forward.

The city does need a wide range of parks that meet a local and citywide need. I am keen to work with Friends of Parks groups and local councillors to ensure their local park has the assets and infrastructure that meets both their needs and aspirations.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR RICHARD PARKIN

“Council Tax”

Question:

For each of the last 3 years please provide a breakdown by ward of number of properties by council tax band, amount of council tax owed, amount of council tax collected in year, and cumulative figure of council tax outstanding

Answer:

Please find below information in terms of the overall arrears position at the end of each applicable year requested.

- What the current arrears position is now
- The total number of dwellings per band

More time is needed to prepare the reports at an individual ward level. This is due to the volume of data and the 207 reports needed to present the data. These will not be ready until after the full council meeting and will be distributed to Cllr Parkin subsequently.

Year	CTAX charged	Amount owed at the year end	Outstanding now
2019/20	£420,871,323.64	£25,939,750.41	£20,003,469.72
2020/21	£431,702,143.49	£28,652,157.16	£27,136,227.11
2021/22	£454,046,917.75	£34,301,295.88	£34,204,245.65
Totals:	£1,306,620,384.88	£88,893,203.45	£81,343,942.48

Dwellings per Band:

- A 162,088
- B 131,074
- C 82,186
- D 42,593
- E 22,134
- F 8,993
- G 5,923

H 907

Total 455,898

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR BABER BAZ

‘Council Tax Rebates’

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member provide a breakdown of how many households have been credited with the £150 Council Tax rebate, explaining delays in processing?

Answer:

- There are two schemes to provide the support for the Council Tax Energy Rebate Scheme. Detailed guidance from the Government was published on **23rd February 2022** together with confirmation of funding.
- This was made up of £60.4 million for the main rebate scheme and £3.6 million for the discretionary scheme.
- Cabinet approval to pay the grant was required and this was received at the Cabinet meeting of **22nd March 2022**.
- Preparation to make the payments included securing an agreement with a third party supplier for the application process, including mandatory Government anti-fraud checks
- March and early April is the busiest time of year for the Revenues Service as around 500,000 annual bills are sent.
- Processing of payments was slightly delayed due to the implementation of the Oracle finance system replacement. This included a shut-down period for all payments from 1st until 11th April and then a catch-up period to allow for other urgent payments to be processed.
- The first payment file for energy rebates was processed on **13 May 2022** with the first batch to 20,000 people on direct debit

Payments have continued to be made regularly and as at **1 July 2022**, of the 391,363 households which are eligible for the rebate:

- 49.7% are Direct Debit Payers Bands A – D (includes E with a disabled band reduction). 193,658 payments (approx. 99.6 % of DD payments) have been processed with a value of £29,048,700. There are 849 (0.4%) accounts subject to outstanding queries, for example where we have not been able to verify their bank details or Council Tax direct debit payments have not been cleared in April and May. We have been contacting these households and requesting they submit an application on line so that verification can be completed in accordance with government guidelines.
- 50.3% are Non-Direct Debit households. Of these :-
- 40,492 have requested a £150 payment via an application - To date 31,809 (approx. 78.5%) payments have been processed with a value of £4,771,350. There are 704

that are subject to queries with the bank account or liable party and the team continue to check and verify these at the same time as processing the remainder of new applications. The remainder 7,979(19.7%) are currently being processed.

- 6,168 households have requested a £150 reduction on their Council Tax Account – To date 2,007 (approx. 32.5%) credit adjustments have been processed with a value of £301,050. The team will continue to check and process the remainder of new and existing applications.

We have also introduced the discretionary scheme which went live on 22nd June. As at 1st July we had received 207 applications. The scheme includes automatic awards for certain groups, such as pensioners on low incomes, some students, and households on low incomes in council tax banded properties E-H. Full details of the scheme are on the BCC website.

In summary we have paid or are processing an application from 61.6% of eligible households and are still waiting for 38.4% or 150,196 households to apply. An extensive digital communication exercise took place which resulted in all households with a valid email address receiving an invitation to apply. We have also issued targeted SMS messages containing the application form web link to eligible households. Approximately 109,934 SMS Text messages have been sent. As the SMS campaign has been completed, we will review all remaining eligible households that are yet to apply and are not on Direct Debit; arrangements will be made to send a Post Office rebate voucher in the mail. After ID verification has taken place at their local post office branch, the voucher can be cashed without the need to complete an online application. The voucher will have an expiry date by which time it needs to be claimed. Details of the timescales for this will be published once finalised.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR IZZY KNOWLES

‘Oracle’

Question:

All of the LA controlled schools in Moseley ward have reported real frustration with the Oracle system of issuing payments. This has resulted in schools being unable to pay contractors or to commission new ones. Schools have reported staff having to spend hours of school time trying to understand the system and inadequate training. Could the Deputy Leader please explain the reason for the difficulties the schools are facing and what steps are being taken to urgently address these failures?

Answer:

We are aware that some of our school customers continue to be impacted by the new way of processing invoices within Oracle. This has been compounded by the need to stop processing payments for a time whilst we cut over to our new system.

We sincerely apologise for this and recognise the frustration this will have caused. Whilst a number of issues have been resolved, we know we have more to do to support them. Below are some key points to note, and some information on what we are doing to respond to these challenges.

- The root cause of the issues Schools have experienced differ and include things like out-of-date email addresses in our old solution which prevented access for some people as our new system did not recognise their newer(correct) email, queries on having the right access for different tasks and some technical issues with the tool that they now use to facilitate making payments to their suppliers.
- Each root cause has and continues to be investigated for resolution by a multidisciplinary team in the Council which includes staff from across Finance, HR, Procurement and IT&D.
- We have put significant effort into fixing the access issues (emails, process to log in), as well as the technical issues with the solution but have a number of items we are working on before we can confidently say we are providing what schools need – we provide weekly updates on these items to school using their bulletin.
- Following feedback from the initial set of training we developed a step-by-step reference guide to assist users in understanding and feeling confident to use the new system and processes for making payments. This was also supported with Drop-in sessions where schools were able to get hands on help. Since the publishing of this guide and the drop ins we have seen a dramatic reduction in queries on using this new process.
- To support other finance topics, we have also provided drop-in sessions on how to bank income, and how to complete internal billing processes

We will shortly be starting a pilot to allow school employees to access their payslips online which is a great step forwards. An example of recent bulletin that give guidance on different issues, was shared directly with schools w/c 4 July include the following:

- New HR Dashboards to improve information and performance within Oracle can and recent guidance document issued
- Payroll costs report – This report is now ready and has been tested, it will be released soon. Where it is applicable Cheque Book Schools will have their direct debit re-started for services.
- Income Banking – A drop-in session on income banking is arranged for 7th July.
- Reconciliation Files – the 1B team continue to work on providing reconciliation files. The integration is currently in the build phase being tested to ensure it is fit for its purpose.
- Payments (revalidation invoices) – On 21 June Schools Finance Users were provided with a spreadsheet of invoices processed via Oracle. This was shared following requests from schools wanting to check the status of invoices. Additional tips on searching this report have been sent on 5 July.
- All invoices that have not been validated are being investigated by the schools' payments team. They are working on these invoices in order of submission to the Simplified Loader.
- New Simplified Loader Version – All Simplified Loader users should have received instructions to download version 1.77 on the Simplified Loader.
- Internal Billing: We can confirm the correct approvers of internal invoices to schools have been identified and applied to each school. We will now restart processing internal invoices, which will begin to workflow through to you for approval. A Drop-In session to support school

with processing internal bills will be held the week commencing 11th July

· Payslips: June Payslips have been processed and will begin arriving at schools the week commencing 11th July

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL
CARE FROM COUNCILLOR ZAKER CHOUDHRY**

‘Support for Residents with Disabilities’

Question:

I have recently been approached by residents who have received no support for friends and family in the City who are suddenly in need of adaptations due to their disabilities, and are being left to cope and live with their conditions with no provision from the Council, which is a truly appalling situation for someone to find themselves in. Could the Cabinet Member outline how the Council will support residents who find themselves in this situation and advise if any further support or advice could be made available in these circumstances?

Answer:

The Council supports residents with disabilities to adapt their home through the provision of Disabled Facilities Grants following an assessment to determine the citizen's needs.

Disabled Facilities Grants help towards the costs of making changes to people's homes so that they can continue to live there. Examples of changes that can be funded through a grant include:

- widening doors and installing ramps
- improving access to rooms and facilities, for example, adding a stair lift or a downstairs bathroom
- adapting heating or lighting controls to make them easier to use

To be eligible, the applicant or someone living in the property must be disabled and must either own the property or be a tenant.

In order for the grant to be approved the Council need to be assured that the work is:

- necessary and appropriate to meet the disabled person's needs
- reasonable and can be done - depending on the age and condition of the property

In some cases, an adaptation to the property may not be the best course of action. As part of the assessment process it may be appropriate to explore other ways of achieving the best outcome including provision of equipment or a care package. This will be discussed with the applicant.

In addition to the statutory duty to provide Disabled Facilities Grants, the Council introduced a new Staying Independent at Home policy in April 2022 to extend the support with housing that is available to disabled and other vulnerable citizens:

- Approving the use of additional “top-up” grant when the cost of necessary works exceeds the statutory limit of £30,000. This additional assistance is now available.
- Introducing two new forms of discretionary assistance for lower value works – scheduled to be available from October 2022. This support will be more flexible and less complex to administer than the statutory Disabled Facilities Grant process:
 - o Discharge assistance - Securing prompt discharge from hospital of citizens who might, due to accommodation difficulties, otherwise remain in hospital longer than necessary
 - o Independent and safe assistance - Addressing accommodation difficulties which, if not resolved, might lead to an avoidable admission to hospital, or residential care or which impact upon the ability of a citizen to live safely and independently at home.

If required and appropriate the service will offer alternative accommodation whilst work is carried out.

For further advice and support the team can be contacted in writing at OTDFG, PO Box 16606, Birmingham B2 2FD or by telephone on 0121 303 5870.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS FROM COUNCILLOR KERRY BREWER

“BMHT PLANNING DETERMINATIONS”

Question:

In the last 5 years what has been the average number of weeks for BMHT to receive a decision on a planning application and what proportion of these were beyond 8 weeks (minor) or 13 weeks (major) either with or without agreement?

Answer:

Over the last five years, notwithstanding Planning Performance Agreement or Extension of Time agreements (see below), 73% of minor application have been issued over the 8 week statutory deadline (average 134.4 days/19.2 weeks) and 82% of major application have been issued over the 13 week statutory deadline (average 241.4 days/34.5 weeks).

These BMHT schemes often have complex issues associated with them and it is not unusual for schemes of that nature to go beyond the statutory time frame for determination with agreed Extension of Time agreements, which effectively establishes a new formal decision period that is recognised in our government returns. The majority of the BMHT schemes are decided within the agreed Extension of Time agreements.

A fuller response may be provided by Friday 15th July

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS FROM COUNCILLOR COLIN GREEN

‘Energy Performance Certificates’

Question:

Social Landlords have until 2025 to upgrade properties to meet Energy Performance Certificate rating of "band C" and 2028 for existing lets. Could the Cabinet Member give details of how the Council is helping Social Landlords to make these changes?

Answer: Answer:

All social landlords are working towards this government target. Birmingham City Council is actively seeking grant funding from the government's Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund to this end. To achieve the target by the deadline, further investment borrowing against the HRA will be necessary as grant funding is only part funding up to a maximum of 50%.

We have raised the potential opportunity to work across the Social Housing Sector with our key RP partners on the Birmingham Social Housing Partnership and we will also be exploring the opportunities around supporting joint bids to the upcoming Social Housing Decarbonisation fund. We will be meeting with partners in July to explore this further.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS FROM COUNCILLOR ZAKER CHOUDHRY

‘Support for Residents with Disabilities’

Question:

I have recently been approached by residents who have received no support for friends and family in the City who are suddenly in need of alternative accommodation due to their disabilities, and are being left to cope and live with their conditions with no provision from the Council, which is a truly appalling situation for someone to find themselves in. Could the Cabinet Member outline how the Council will support residents who find themselves in this situation and advise if any further support or advice could be made available in these circumstances?

Answer:

The City Housing Directorate supports housing applicants and current tenants with disabilities, wherever possible, to remain in their homes. Assessments are arranged with specialist Housing Occupational Therapists to determine if their homes can be adapted, either through the provision of an Aids and Adaptations facility to meet tenants needs or the Disabled Facilities Grant.

Aids and Adaptations are arranged for City Housing tenants' homes so that they can continue to live there. This provision replicates the Disabled Facilities Grant provided to someone with a disability who either owns their own homes or be a private sector tenant. This includes:

- widening doors and installing ramps
- improving access to rooms and facilities, for example, adding a stair lift or a downstairs bathroom
- adapting heating or lighting controls to make them easier to use
-

If required and appropriate the service will offer alternative accommodation whilst work is carried out.

As part of the assessment process it may be appropriate to explore other ways of achieving the best outcome including provision of equipment or a care package. This will be discussed with the applicant.

In some cases, an adaptation to their current home may not be the best course of action or feasible. For example, the needs of the disabled person cannot be met due to the age or structure of the property. The Occupational Therapists' will identify and recommend the adaptations required to support housing applicants moving to alternative accommodation.

A move to alternative accommodation is facilitated through an application to join the housing register. There are several pathways to support a move including a hospital discharge pathway, older persons support and to Extra Care Housing.

A move to alternative accommodation will be provided by expressing an interest in empty

properties advertised through the choice based letting scheme. Properties already adapted or feasible for adaptations are clearly identified to help inform housing applicants of their preference and to meet each persons' individual disabilities' and needs.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE,
COMMUNITY SAFETY AND EQUALITIES FROM COUNCILLOR DEBBIE
CLANCY**

“Overtime”

Question:

Further to question I20 from June Council, please list all Grade 1-3 roles in which an agreed business case for overtime is in place

Answer:

All Grades 1 to 3 are eligible under the terms of their employment contract to claim overtime. In order to be paid overtime a Workforce Review Board (WRB) Business Case needs to be completed to authorise the overtime – signed by the People Partner, Finance Business Partner and Director. Each directorate holds their own business cases. When the request for overtime is submitted to payroll it should include the WRB Business Case to enable the overtime to be paid.

Attached is a report with all the grade 1-3 job roles listed that have attracted an overtime payment this financial year.



Overtime i1 July
2022.xlsx

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE,
COMMUNITY SAFETY AND EQUALITIES FROM COUNCILLOR RON STORER**

“JNC diversity”

Question:

Please list all JNC positions (permanent and interim) that have been advertised since you committed to Everyone’s Battle, Everyone’s Business: Tackling Inequalities in Birmingham, identifying any where the resulting shortlist did not contain a diverse makeup of candidates being interviewed.

Answer:

The diversity data currently collected for JNC campaigns is the overall candidate profile, the recommended shortlist from the search agent and the profile of the candidate ultimately appointed. In the last 12 months we have made 21 JNC appointments, with equalities data as detailed below:

10 B01 appointments (Assistant Directors)

20% Black, Asian, Marginalised Ethnic

80% female

8 B02 (Director)

25% Black, Asian, Marginalised Ethnic

38% female

3 B03 (Strategic Director)

0% Black, Asian, Marginalised Ethnic

67% female

We are currently collating information re shortlists and will be able to share full datasets shortly.

In line with our commitment to Everyone’s Battle, Everyone’s Business we will ensure that this data collection is part of our standard reporting for the search agents we work with and any internal processes going forward.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE,
COMMUNITY SAFETY AND EQUALITIES FROM COUNCILLOR ZAKER
CHOUDHRY**

‘Registry Office’

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member explain why there has been such a delay for residents trying to contact the Registry Office? We have been made aware of local residents having to complete online forms multiple times and of calling the publicised numbers and not being able to get through which has caused additional stress at, what could already be, a sensitive and upsetting time.

Answer:

As I set out during the debate at the last meeting of the City Council, Birmingham Register Office is continuing to address the very significant backlogs caused by the pandemic, whilst also dealing with new business against a backdrop of stretched staffing resources. This has obvious implications for all Register Office services.

Enquiries to give notice of intention to marry or form a civil partnership have more than tripled, compared to pre-pandemic levels, whilst the number of required death and birth registrations and applications for certified copy certificates continues to be above usual levels. In order to respond to these increased demands available resources have to be shared across all areas of the service.

Staff and management are very much aware of the impact that difficulties in accessing the service has on service users. To address this situation, where possible staff resources are being diverted to enable enquiries and telephone calls to be responded to more promptly. Messaging on the Birmingham Register Office webpages and online forms has also been improved in order to reduce unnecessary multiple contacts. Managers are working with the City Council's Telephony team with the aim of introducing a new telephony system with improved functionality which will assist customers to accessing the correct aspect of the Service more quickly.

Furthermore, to help meet the needs of our customers, staff are working additional hours, a recruitment drive is proving fruitful and has resulted in a number of additional staff recently being employed within the Service. Additional support is also being provided from within our Regulation and Enforcement Division and Solihull Register Office, which has an arrangement in place to register births on behalf of Birmingham, will shortly be doubling its capacity.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE,
COMMUNITY SAFETY AND EQUALITIES FROM COUNCILLOR JON HUNT**

‘Srebrenica’

Question:

This month marks the 27th anniversary of the genocide at Srebrenica in which over 8,000 Muslim men and boys were systematically murdered on the basis of their identity in July 1995. Can the Leader set out what steps the Council will take to recognise 11th July as the Annual Day of Commemoration of the Srebrenica genocide and commit to supporting the work of communities and schools across Birmingham to tackle hatred and intolerance.

Answer:

Birmingham City Council is committed to supporting the work of communities and schools across the city to tackle hatred and intolerance by raising awareness and educating people about the genocide that took place in Srebrenica and each year, we have been proud to participate in local and national events to mark the Annual Day of Commemoration.

I would like to thank Councillors Hunt, Ward and Alden, as the leaders of the three political groups represented on the Council, for the powerful joint statement they issued on the Annual Day of Commemoration yesterday. I know that this collective pledge by our civic leaders to use the lessons from Srebrenica to combat all forms of prejudice and discrimination that targets anyone because of their religion, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, or any other characteristic, has been warmly welcomed by communities across the city and the wider country.

Yesterday, we also commemorated the thousands who lost their lives during the 11day massacre in Srebrenica, in what was the worst atrocity on European soil since the Second World War, by lighting the Library of Birmingham.

It is vital that the horrors of Srebrenica, which were the direct result of racism, hatred and discrimination are never forgotten. We are committed to continuing to work with the Remembering Srebrenica, together with other organisations in our city to ensure that we do all in our power to eradicate any form of hatred and prejudice that targets groups based on their religion, ethnicity, gender, sexuality or any other characteristic. This is the ethos that drives forward the work we are doing with schools, communities, faith groups and other partners to target the root causes of hate crime through our “Tackling Hate, Taking Action” strategy, and to tackle structural inequalities in our city through “Everyone’s Battle, Everyone’s Business”.

We know that we still have much to do to eradicate hatred, racism and discrimination from our society and it is incumbent on every single member of this Council to play their full part in ensuring that we achieve this vital objective.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR RICHARD PARKIN**

“Repairs and Maintenance”

Question:

For each of the last 3 years, how much has been spent in each ward on highways repairs and maintenance?

Answer:

The council has spent the following amounts on highway maintenance and management services in the last three financial years:

Year	Spending
2019-20	£50,343,543.92
2020-21	£53,437,129.17
2021-22	£94,152,746.95

Notes:

- The amounts shown do not include VAT.
- The spending shown is for services within the scope of the Highway Maintenance and Management PFI contract, which covers the majority of the highway assets for which the council is responsible (i.e. roads, pavements, lighting, signals, structures, etc.).
- It includes all services to carry out routine, reactive and programmed maintenance, as well as associated services such as to inspect and maintain inventory and carry out winter maintenance.
- This information is not separable by ward.
- Costs from July 2019 exclude (where possible) costs not directly associated with delivery of highway maintenance and management services, such as the cost of financing and the PFI structure. These costs cannot be separated from April to June 2019.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR TIMOTHY HUXTABLE**

“Highways Local Improvement Budget”

Question:

Please provide a list of all approved and rejected schemes by ward for the Highways Local Improvement Budget as of 28 March 2022, including the cost of each

Answer:

Attached is the list of schemes which are intended to be completed with respect to the Local Improvement Budget programme for 2022.

A number of proposals were submitted by elected members for consideration following the announcement of the programme. This resulted in the total value of all proposals (that were sufficiently developed in design to enable cost estimation) being in excess of the value of the programme. So, whilst none of those proposals have been rejected from those submitted by elected members, the proposals not contained on the attached list form a list of reserve schemes for further development as part of any future LIB programme.

Local Improvement Budget Schemes to be Delivered - 2022

Intervention	Location	Ward	Estimated Cost
Yardley subway gating	Coventry Road	South Yardley	£28,000
Billesley Lane Safety Measures	Moseley	Moseley	£39,000
Traffic Calming	Cranes Park Road	Sheldon	£120,000
Chilcote Primary School	Chilcote Close	Hall Green South	£65,000
Traffic Calming	Wyndhurst Rd	Glebe Farm & Tile Cross	£45,000
Traffic Calming	Camp Lane	Handsworth Wood	£44,000
Crossing/pedestrian refuge	Alvechurch Rd/Cedar Drive	Longbridge & West Heath	£50,000
Dropped kerbs	Various	Sutton Vesey	£25,000
Traffic Regulation Order	Nursery Road	Harborne	£50,000
Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTN)	Holyhead	Holyhead	£75,000
Stirchley Traffic Calming	Pineapple Road	Stirchley	£60,000
Highway Improvements	Various	Oscott	£30,000
A38 Layby Closure	Minworth	Sutton Walmley & M'worth	£38,000
Sub Total			£669,000
Vehicle Activated Speed Signs (VASS)			

Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Lozells Road	Lozells	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	West Boulevard	Edgbaston/B'Green/Quinton	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Hagley Rd West	Quinton	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Garretts Green Lane, Sheldon Heath Road & Lea Hall Road	Garretts Green	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	North Edgbaston	North Edgbaston	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	College Road by Moseley School	Sparkhill	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Stratford Road	Hall Green North	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Umberslade Road	Bournbrook & Selly Park	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Deakin Road	Tyseley & Hay Mills	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Cotterills Lane	Glebe Farm	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Brownfield Road	Shard End	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Middleton Hall Rd/Bunbury Rd junction or Raddlebarn Rd between Willow Rd and Elm Rd	Bournville & Cotteridge	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Jewellery Quarter	Soho & Jewellery Quarter	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Dolphin Lane and Fox Hollies Road	Acocks Green	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Green Lane	Sutton Wylde Green	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Spring Lane near Church Road and near number 129	Erdington	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Four Oaks Road and Park View Road	Sutton Four Oaks	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Bristol Road South	Rubery and Rednal	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Westbourne Rd & St James Rd	Edgbaston	-

Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Cliveden Avenue	Perry Barr	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Moat Lane	Yardley East	-
Summarised VASS Sub Total			£295,270
Current forecast LIB expenditure			£964,270

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR ADRIAN DELANEY**

“Highways Local Improvement Budget 2”

Question:

Please provide a list of all schemes for the Highways Local Improvement Budget that are progressing as of 1 July 2022, along with any previously approved schemes that are no longer progressing (with reasons) and the cost of each

Answer:

Attached is the list of schemes which are intended to be completed with respect to the Local Improvement Budget programme for 2022.

A number of proposals were submitted by elected members for consideration following the announcement of the programme. This resulted in the total value of all proposals (that were sufficiently developed in design to enable cost estimation) being in excess of the value of the programme. So, whilst none of those proposals have been rejected from those submitted by elected members, the proposals not contained on the attached list form a list of reserve schemes for further development as part of any future LIB programme.

Local Improvement Budget Schemes to be Delivered - 2022

Intervention	Location	Ward	Estimated Cost
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Dropped kerbs	Various	Sutton Vesey	£25,000
Traffic Regulation Order	Nursery Road	Harborne	£50,000
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A38 Layby Closure	Minworth	Sutton Walmley & M'worth	£38,000
Sub Total			£669,000
Vehicle Activated Speed Signs (VASS)			
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Lozells Road	Lozells	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	West Boulevard	Edgbaston/B'Green/Quinton	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Hagley Rd West	Quinton	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Garretts Green Lane, Sheldon Heath Road & Lea Hall Road	Garretts Green	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	North Edgbaston	North Edgbaston	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	College Road by Moseley School	Sparkhill	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Stratford Road	Hall Green North	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Umberslade Road	Bournbrook & Selly Park	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Deakin Road	Tyseley & Hay Mills	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Cotterills Lane	Glebe Farm	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Brownfield Road	Shard End	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Middleton Hall Rd/Bunbury Rd junction or Raddlebarn Rd between Willow Rd and Elm Rd	Bournville & Cotteridge	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Jewellery Quarter	Soho & Jewellery Quarter	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Dolphin Lane and Fox Hollies Road	Acocks Green	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Green Lane	Sutton Wylde Green	-

Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Spring Lane near Church Road and near number 129	Erdington	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Four Oaks Road and Park View Road	Sutton Four Oaks	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Bristol Road South	Rubery and Rednal	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Westbourne Rd & St James Rd	Edgbaston	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Cliveden Avenue	Perry Barr	-
Vehicle Activated Speed Sign(s)	Moat Lane	Yardley East	-
Summarised VASS Sub Total			£295,270
Current forecast LIB expenditure			£964,270

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR ROBERT ALDEN**

“Air Quality”

Question:

What percentage change in NO2 levels were recorded in Birmingham between 2019 and 2021, across all sites, broken down to include separate information for just sites within the Clean Air Zone and just sites outside of the Clean Air Zone?

Answer:

On 10 March 2022 the Council published a report that reviewed the impact of the Clean Air Zone after its first six months of operation on the levels of nitrogen dioxide at all monitoring locations across the city. This report can be found at www.brumbreathes.co.uk/CAZdata.

The report reviewed the ‘baseline’ data from 2019, as the last full year before the COVID pandemic, and compared it to the levels of nitrogen dioxide in 2020 and 2021. The report also compared the data from 2021 with the data from 2016 which was used to inform the original modelling for the Clean Air Zone.

When comparing the levels of nitrogen dioxide in the period June to December 2021 against 2019 the report noted an on average reduction of 13% in the levels of nitrogen dioxide across 37 monitoring locations in the zone. It also noted an on average reduction of 14% at the monitoring locations (21) on the ring road and an on average reduction of 13% at the monitoring locations (17) across the wider city.

It should be noted that at the time the six-month report was published the assessment was based on provisional data for 2021. The 2021 data will be confirmed with the publication of the Annual Status Report (ASR), which we expect to submit to Defra later this month. It is

unlikely this will produce a significant difference in the overall trend.

The data from these locations, split between the monitoring locations in the zone, ring road and wider city, are included in this response.

The data used in these reports is also available through the following website:
www.BirminghamAirQuality.co.uk, which is maintained by the Council's Environmental Protection Team.

AIR QUALITY MONITORING LOCATIONS: WITHIN THE CLEAN AIR ZONE

	Tube ID	2016	2019	2020	2021 (provisional)	2016 to 2021	2019 to 2020	2019 to 2021	2020 to 2021
Within the Clean Air Zone	BHM63	41.0	28.4	25.0	24.6	-40%	-12%	-13%	-1%
	BHM90	-	27.2	23.5	23.6	-	-14%	-13%	0%
	BHM26	-	22.9	16.9	17.3	-	-26%	-24%	+2%
	BHM62	49.0	33.4	26.4	26.2	-47%	-21%	-21%	-1%
	BHM61	44.0	29.7	25.8	22.7	-48%	-13%	-24%	-12%
	BHM92	-	40.2	31.4	34.1	-	-22%	-15%	+9%
	BHM51	-	35.4	27.6	30.1	-	-22%	-15%	+9%
	BHM35	-	28.3	24.2	25.2	-	-14%	-11%	+4%
	BHM16	61.5	40.8	34.7	31.5	-49%	-15%	-23%	-9%
	BHM39	54.0	36.8	31.1	32.4	-40%	-16%	-12%	+4%
	BHM34	38.0	26.3	23.2	22.2	-42%	-12%	-16%	-5%
	BHM36	54.0	31.9	28.6	27.9	-48%	-10%	-13%	-2%
	BHM30	-	34.4	26.7	35.3	-	-22%	+3%	+32%
	BHM59	-	37.2	30.0	32.8	-	-19%	-12%	+9%
	BHM65	-	37.0	29.7	30.7	-	-20%	-17%	+3%
	BHM24	-	37.8	33.0	35.3	-	-13%	-7%	+7%
	BHM28	-	44.7	38.4	37.9	-	-14%	-15%	-1%
	BHM88	-	58.1	50.6	48.4	-	-13%	-17%	-4%
	BHM89	-	39.4	32.7	32.0	-	-17%	-19%	-2%
	BHM58	-	36.6	28.8	33.2	-	-21%	-9%	+15%
	BHM45 (2)	-	35.5	39.4	39.3	-	+11%	+11%	0%
	BHM23	-	39.6	34.4	35.3	-	-13%	-11%	+3%
	BHM46 (2)	-	50.0	49.7	48.1	-	-1%	-4%	-3%
	BHM43	54.0	39.5	32.5	31.5	-42%	-18%	-20%	-3%
	BHM44	55.0	39.0	30.3	31.3	-43%	-22%	-20%	+3%
	BHM42	52.6	39.8	32.3	31.7	-40%	-19%	-20%	-2%
	BHM53	64.0	50.0	44.3	49.7	-22%	-11%	-1%	+12%

	BHM55	-	52.0	51.9	45.5	-	0%	-12%	-12%
	BHM56	55.0	33.3	27.1	27.9	-49%	-19%	-16%	+3%
	BHM08	55.7	34.8	22.2	23.7	-57%	-36%	-32%	+7%
	BHM41	66.3	50.4	41.8	49.1	-26%	-17%	-3%	+18%
	BHM40	62.8	47.4	43.8	48.3	-23%	-7%	+2%	+10%
	BHM86	-	33.7	28.7	32.0	-	-15%	-5%	+12%
	BHM33	-	36.1	26.9	28.1	-	-25%	-22%	+4%
	BHM87	-	59.6	46.5	46.9	-	-22%	-21%	+1%
	BHM64	-	33.6	38.0	33.6	-	+13%	0%	-12%
	BHM07	56.7	31.0	23.7	21.9	-61%	-24%	-29%	-7%
	BHMCL	-	-	-	53.2	-	-	-	-
	BHMWL	-	-	-	26.6	-	-	-	-
	BHMNS	-	-	-	29.7	-	-	-	-
	BHMSH	-	-	-	45.6	-	-	-	-
	BHMWL	-	-	-	26.6	-	-	-	-

Table 1 Continued Nitrogen Dioxide Diffusion Tube Results 2016, 2019, 2020 and 2021 (Provisional using a bias adjustment figure of 0.81) for the Clean Air Zone with the Percentage change compared to 2016 and 2019 baseline where possible.

AIR QUALITY MONITORING LOCATIONS: RING ROAD

	Tube ID	2016	2019	2020	2021 (provisional)	2016 to 2021	2019 to 2020	2019 to 2021	2020 to 2021
Within the Ring Road	BHM79	-	27.7	22.0	23.7	-	-20%	-14%	+8%
	BHM80	-	35.5	29.6	28.9	-	-17%	-19%	-2%
	BHM85	-	48.0	40.6	44.4	-	-15%	-8%	+9%
	BHM82	-	28.6	35.1	31.7	-	+23%	+11%	-10%
	BHM68	-	43.9	29.6	32.6	-	-33%	-26%	+10%
	BHM69	-	37.6	27.5	29.6	-	-27%	-21%	+7%
	BHM74	-	52.6	43.0	43.6	-	-18%	-17%	+1%
	BHM21	-	48.5	37.5	38.4	-	-23%	-21%	+2%
	BHM84	-	38.3	31.9	35.4	-	-17%	-8%	+11%
	BHM78	-	31.7	25.3	27.5	-	-20%	-13%	+9%
	BHM77	-	30.6	26.4	28.6	-	-14%	-7%	+8%
	BHM75	-	34.0	29.2	31.0	-	-14%	-9%	+6%
	BHM76	-	24.8	20.5	22.1	-	-17%	-11%	+8%
	BHM72	-	22.8	17.5	18.6	-	-23%	-19%	+6%

	BHM81	-	41.3	23.7	22.2	-	-43%	-46%	-6%
	BHM67	-	31.8	24.9	27.2	-	-22%	-14%	+9%
	BHM66	-	33.2	29.2	29.3	-	-12%	-12%	0%
	BHM71	-	25.4	21.2	21.5	-	-16%	-15%	+1%
	BHM27	-	34.7	30.7	30.9	-	-11%	-11%	+1%
	BHM83	-	61.0	50.6	50.1	-	-17%	-18%	-1%
	BHM25	-	38.0	36.0	36.5	-	-5%	-4%	+2%

Table 2 Nitrogen Dioxide Diffusion Tube Results 2016, 2019, 2020 and 2021 (Provisional using a bias adjustment figure of 0.81) for the ring road with the Percentage change compared to 2016 and 2019 baseline.

AIR QUALITY MONITORING LOCATIONS: WIDER CITY

	Tube ID	2016	2019	2020	2021 (provisional)	2016 to 2021	2019 to 2020	2019 to 2021	2020 to 2021
Wider City	BHM03	44.7	28.8	26.4	28.2	-37%	-8%	-2%	+7%
	BHM09	46.3	32.3	28.6	28.0	-40%	-11%	-13%	-2%
	BHM5(2)	-	34.0	29.3	30.2	-	-14%	-11%	+3%
	BHM20	44.6	30.4	22.2	22.9	-49%	-27%	-25%	+3%
	BHM4 (2)	-	32.8	27.8	26.9	-	-15%	-18%	-3%
	BHM57	-	28.1	20.5	21.4	-	-27%	-24%	+4%
	BHM37	-	26.3	20.4	22.9	-	-23%	-13%	+12%
	BHM19	-	38.2	32.9	33.1	-	-14%	-13%	+1%
	BHM99	-	40.0	32.1	34.8	-	-20%	-13%	+8%
	BHM11	41.7	31.2	26.1	26.5	-36%	-16%	-15%	+1%
	BHM12	42.9	31.5	26.0	26.6	-38%	-17%	-15%	+2%
	BHM17 (2)	-	34.0	30.4	29.4	-	-10%	-13%	-3%
	BHM18 (2)	-	35.3	31.3	31.3	-	-11%	-11%	0%
	BHM01	18.8	15.1	12.7	14.2	-25%	-16%	-6%	+12%
	BHM91	-	27.1	24.4	26.5	-	-10%	-3%	+8%
	BHM02	20.2	14.4	12.0	12.4	-38%	-17%	-14%	+4%
	BHM10	42.8	32.0	26.1	26.2	-39%	-19%	-18%	+1%

Table 3 Nitrogen Dioxide Diffusion Tube Results 2016, 2019, 2020 and 2021 (Provisional using a bias adjustment figure of 0.81) for the wider city with the Percentage change compared to 2016 and 2019 baseline.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR IZZY KNOWLES**

'Traffic Offences'

Question:

Now that minor traffic offences have been transferred to local Councils to impose, could the Cabinet Member provide details on how the new powers been promoted to residents and how will they be enforced?

Answer:

The question assumes that minor traffic offences have been transferred to Local Authorities. I can confirm that this is not the case.

Currently the Government is considering the timeframe and scope of devolved powers with respect to moving traffic offences and obstructive parking. It is likely that these powers will be devolved at some point in 2023.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR MORRIAM JAN**

'Cashless Parking'

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member give an indication of the number of cashless parking machines used by the Council and the measures that have been put in place to ensure fair access for all?

Answer:

We have 17 parking machines that offer cashless parking facilities.

The option of cashless parking for all customers is available through our "pay by phone" service which is available via phone, internet and app.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR COLIN GREEN**

'Sprint Bus Service'

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member confirm if the Sprint service will be operational in the City in little under 30 days for the Commonwealth Games and which bus operators will be allowed to use the sprint bus lanes?

Answer:

Phase 1 of the A34 and A45 Sprint projects have been completed in time for the Commonwealth Games. The new bus lanes, enhanced shelters and junction upgrades are now being used by all bus services on the corridors, accounting for approximately 20 million trips a year. Buses from Cllr Green's Sheldon ward, to and from Birmingham, are now receiving journey time and reliability benefits from the first phase of the project.

Zero emission cross city bus services are scheduled to be introduced when the Metro public realm work in Digbeth is complete. This will ensure bus services run reliably across the whole route from Walsall to Solihull. Further to this, the Department for Transport has recently awarded the West Midlands £30m for 124 more hydrogen buses. 24 of the new vehicles will be articulated tram-style buses set to run on the Sprint corridor after the completion of the Phase 2 works, expected to be at the end of 2024.

Public engagement on Phase 2 of the Sprint project is due later this year.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR ROGER HARMER**

‘Highways Investment Schedule’

Question:

Following the publication of the draft highways investment schedule last summer, how many changes were made to the schedule as a result of Councillor submissions? Please can you list them by ward.

Answer:

There was one change as a result of Councillor submissions summarised below:

- Proposal to resurface footway on Sarah Close in Sutton Mere Green ward (IWP2/FW/D09/5) was replaced by footway resurfacing of Mere Green Road (IWP2/FW/D09/8) in the same ward after discussion and agreement with the ward councillor.

Other projects originally proposed in the highways investment works programme were changed for a variety of other reasons. The full list of changes to the 2021-2022 programme, including the reasons for the change is summarised in the table below.

Table attached separately (J8)

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR JON HUNT**

‘School Safety’

Question:

Following her response to me at the last council meeting, can the Cabinet Member confirm whether the allocation of funding per ward for school safety is, so far as possible, going to be spent within wards in consultation with ward members and local highways engineers - or whether it is going to be rolled up into a single central sum for central determination of how it is spent?

Answer:

Preparation has begun to undertake a city-wide review of Car Free School Streets eligibility criteria, identifying schools where a scheme could be feasible, and what alternative measures may be suitable in non-feasible locations. This will inform strategic prioritisation of future schemes.

On a local level, officers will seek support from ward members to engage schools, to develop proposed schemes, and to build ‘buy-in’ from the local community.

Highway engineers are part of the delivery team for School Streets measures.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR ZAKER CHOUDHRY**

‘Traffic Offences’

Question:

Now that minor traffic offences have been transferred to local Councils to impose, could the Cabinet Member provide details on how many fines have been issued to motorists in the first month of the new regulations and how much revenue has been generated as a result?

Answer:

The question assumes that minor traffic offences have been transferred to Local Authorities. I can confirm that this is not the case.

Currently the Government is considering the timeframe and scope of devolved powers with respect to moving traffic offences and obstructive parking. It is likely that these powers will be devolved at some point in 2023.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR DEBORAH HARRIES**

‘Parking and Fixed Penalty Fines’

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member provide full details of how much money has been generated in parking charges in the city either from car parks or fixed penalty fines during municipal year 2020/21 and 2021/22?

Answer:

Income from car park charges (off street):

2020/21 – £2,485,756

2021/22 – £5,760,745

Income from on-street parking charges:

2020/21 - £3,109,675

2021/22 - £5,530,184

Income from Parking Penalty Charge Notices:

2020/21 – £3,509,413

2021/22 – £4,056,130

Birmingham City Council

City Council

13 SEPTEMBER 2022



Subject: Independent Remuneration Panel - Membership
Report of: Satinder Sahota, City Solicitor
Report author: Ingrid Whyte, Head of Members Support
Ingrid.whyte@birmingham.gov.uk
 0121 303 3239

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 Independent Remuneration Panel membership was discussed at the Council Business Management Committee meeting of 30 August 2022, to appoint member of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

2 Motion

- 2.1 That the recommendation to appoint the following persons to the Independent Remuneration Panel is approved

Appointee

Term of Office

Catherine McManus,
Citizens Representative

14 Sept 2022 – 13 Sept 2026

Rob Johnston, Appointed (TUC)
Representative

14 Sept 2022 – 13 Sept 2026

3 Background

- 3.1 Councillors receive allowances to support them in carrying out their work as elected

representatives. The amount of the allowance for the various Councillor roles is decided by the City Council. In taking this decision, the Council must consider a report from an Independent Remuneration Panel.

3.2 The Panel was established by the City Council at its meeting on 2nd July 2001.

Current membership consists of:

- Four Citizen Representatives, selected from a public advertisement;
- Two appointed panel members, from 2017, preference to be given to candidates representing trade unions or business;
- Two co-opted panel members, drawn from former Councillors of the City Council who are no longer Members of the Council;

3.3 In August 2016, CBM confirmed the above balance of membership, and that each Appointee should be appointed for four years.

3.4 Following the recent appointments/recruitment the position will be:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Term of Office Expires</u>
Citizen	31 Aug 2023
Citizen	31 Aug 2023
Citizen	31 Aug 2025
Citizen	13 Sept 2026 (pending approval)
Appointed	31 Aug 2024
Appointed	13 Sep 2026 (pending approval)
Co-opted	14 September 2026
Co-opted	14 September 2026

3.5 As set out in Part B4, 4.2 i (e) of the Constitution it is a function of Full Council to agree and/or amend the terms of reference for committees (other than Cabinet Committees) and to decide membership and to make appointments to them.

4 Options considered and Recommended Proposal

4.1 The resignations received during 2021/22 resulted in vacancies for a Citizen Representative and Appointed panel member. It is proposed that the appointees, set out in this report are appointed.

Birmingham City Council

City Council

13 September 2022



Subject: West Midlands Combined Authority - Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Report of: Chair of the WMCA's Overview & Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Cathy Bayton

Report author: Lyndsey Roberts, WMCA Scrutiny Officer

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 This report provides a summary of the work of the West Midland Combined Authority's Overview & Scrutiny Committee during 2021/22, as well as its planned work programme for 2022/23.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the report be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1 Overview & Scrutiny is a statutory requirement for the West Midlands Combined Authority to undertake. The committee has the responsibility to undertake this responsibility, which it does through reviewing the work of the elected Mayor of the West Midlands, the WMCA Board and its committees, making recommendations arising out of topic-specific scrutiny reviews and by operating a 'call-in' of policy decisions for further scrutiny where required.
- 3.2 The Overview & Scrutiny Committee produces an annual report that sets out its work over the last 12 months. The latest annual report was submitted to the WMCA's AGM on 10 June 2022 and is attached as an appendix to this report for information.

- 3.3 During this current year, the work of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee will continue a strong focus on whether the policies, investments and actions of the WMCA continued to benefit all communities within the West Midlands, with particular attention being given to the outcomes of the WMCA's strategic aims and objectives.
- 3.4 This year's work programme will also focus on the propositions contained within the proposed 'Trailblazer Devolution Deal' due to be submitted to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities later in the year and the local benefits that this deal could deliver to the West Midlands, the implications of the Levelling Up & Regeneration Bill for the WMCA, the delivery of local skills training, the integration of the Local Enterprise Partnerships and the progress being made in relation to the delivery of WMCA's net zero carbon strategies.
- 3.5 Scrutiny members will undertake this work programme in a range of ways including topic-specific working group sessions, public Q&As with the Mayor and Portfolio Lead Members, spotlight sessions and 'deep dive' scrutiny reviews.
- 3.6 So far this year, the committee has commenced work on two elements of its work programme as follows:

4. Trailblazer Devolution Deal and the Local Benefits

- 4.1 The Trailblazer Devolution Deal process is continuing with devolution proposals being developed across a wide range of themes. Proposals are being drafted in accordance with the principles and plans previously agreed by the WMCA Board. In particular, proposals are being tested by Overview & Scrutiny Committee to ensure that they have a clear focus on drawing down powers and funding from Government (including opportunities for 'double devolution' to the WMCA's constituent member authorities where appropriate), and ensuring that the roles and responsibilities of those constituent authorities were not being 'devolved' upwards.
- 4.2 Over the summer period, a series of scrutiny working groups have been held to review each of the devolution proposals in detail and to discuss the local benefits that could be delivered to each local authority and non-constituent authorities through the proposed Trailblazer Devolution Deal. A detailed report on the findings of the working groups will be available following its agreement by the committee and WMCA Board.

5. Skills

- 5.1 The Adult Education Budget for the West Midlands area was devolved to WMCA for delivery from August 2019. The WMCA agreed an approach to commissioning adult education and training that was able to align the mix of provision more closely to local and sectoral priorities, whilst avoiding the unnecessary destabilisation of locally based colleges and adult education providers.
- 5.2 The Overview & Scrutiny Committee considered that it was now an appropriate time to undertake a scrutiny review to assess the impact and outcomes that had been delivered through the Adult Education Budget since its devolution. The review will

commence in October and will report its findings to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee in January 2023 for consideration.

- 5.3 The review will seek to understand the impact of the devolution of the Adult Education Budget to the WMCA on the delivery of local skills training within the region, and to identify the challenges and ways in which the WMCA and its constituent authorities could most effectively use skills development to address short and longer term challenges in the region, particularly in relation to the big economic challenges. The findings of the review will be used to help shape future skills funding.

6. Mayoral Q&A Sessions

- 6.1 As part of its role in holding the Mayor of the West Midlands and WMCA Board to account, the committee will hold two Q&A sessions this year, which will focus on policy related matters that are the responsibility of the WMCA (20 October) and on matters relating to the proposed draft budget 2023/24 (15 December).

7. Learning & Development

- 7.1 As part of its learning and development programme to help scrutiny members to be more effective in their role, the committee will undertake a series of training workshops, including a focus on the WMCA's Investment Programme and on the detail of the draft budget 2023/24.
- 7.2 The WMCA has also been instrumental in setting up a new Combined Authorities Scrutiny Chairs' Forum, enabling the chairs from the country's ten combined authorities' scrutiny committees to meet to share best practice, discuss areas of common interest and to build relationships.

8. Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee

- 8.1 The Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee has a specific responsibility to oversee the role and performance of Transport for West Midlands. This year the sub-committee will focus on a review of the transport governance structures currently in existence and their suitability and effectiveness, the delivery of the Wednesbury - Brierley Hill Metro extension, the lessons learnt from the Commonwealth Games, walking and cycling, automated mobility, the bus service improvement plan and bus franchising.
- 8.2 A Q&A session will also be held with Councillor Ian Ward, the WMCA's Portfolio Lead for Transport on 13 October, and will be based on transport policy related matters. In February 2023, a Q&A will be held with Councillor Richard Worrall, the Chair of the WMCA's Transport Delivery Committee on transport delivery matters.

10. Birmingham City Council's Representation

- 10.1 The city council is represented on Overview & Scrutiny Committee by Councillor Lauren Rainbow, Councillor Jamie Tennant and Councillor Ken Wood. It is represented on Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee by Councillor Chaman Lal.

11. Legal Implications

- 11.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations set out in this report.

12. Financial Implications

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



**West Midlands
Combined Authority**

West Midlands Combined Authority Overview & Scrutiny 4th Annual Report 2021/22

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Foreword

Chair – Councillor Cathy Bayton

As the chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee for 2021/22 I want to thank all of its members for their commitment and participation this last year. Scrutiny is only as effective as its membership, and for the first time since the inception of the West Midlands Combined Authority every scrutiny meeting has met its quoracy threshold, emphasising the growing recognition amongst participating councils that effective scrutiny leads to better policy development and service delivery right across the WMCA. The manner in which robust, but fair scrutiny has been undertaken this past year has demonstrated the value scrutiny brings to a publicly funded organisation. It is in recognition of the cross-party work of this committee that the impacts it has made on the organisation are highlighted further within this report.

I want to say a particular thank you to the Vice-Chair Councillor Lisa Trickett, whose knowledge and expertise has been invaluable in guiding and supporting me as chair, particularly regarding the affordable housing scrutiny review.

Once again, the work of the committee has only been possible due to efforts of our scrutiny officer Lyndsey Roberts, who has worked tirelessly on behalf of members to support our work programme and to advocate on behalf of overview and scrutiny across the WMCA. As chair I am incredibly grateful to her, along with Dan Essex for his sterling advice in relation to wider governance and constitutional matters.

In setting the work plan for 2022/23, there are some items of business to be carried over that I hope will be fully addressed and seen through to conclusion, including the skills review and the governance review. Both items have been on-going pieces of work for scrutiny for some years and it is my sincere hope that the conclusion of both of these reviews will reflect great credit on the institution of the WMCA, given its vital role within the West Midlands.



Foreword

**Chair of Transport Scrutiny
Sub-Committee –
Councillor Liz Clements**

As outgoing chair of the TSSC, I'm extremely grateful to all my fellow councillors who've joined me in scrutinising this key area of the WMCA's activity, you have brought a consistently high standard of debate and enquiry to our meetings. Our scrutiny officer Lyndsey Roberts has provided the committee with excellent support, and we've relied on Dan Essex for governance advice: both these outstanding officers are a credit to the WMCA. Many thanks also to Ann Shaw and all her team at TfWM for their open and constructive engagement with TSSC throughout the year.

Our work programme has tackled the key challenges for TfWM and transport operators as the transport sector recovers from the pandemic. The future of bus services; climate change and the urgent need to decarbonise transport; the current state of Midland Metro – its operating challenges and expansion plans; rebuilding passengers' confidence post pandemic and the delivery of the Commonwealth Games transport projects: these are the issues which have dominated the agenda of TSSC over the past year, and we have challenged decision makers in WMCA and TfWM with the issues which matter to our residents.

At the time of writing, a review of the WMCA's transport governance arrangements is under way, including consideration of the roles of the TSSC and the Transport Delivery Committee. It is to be hoped that the review produces recommendations to clarify the lines of accountability for transport decision-making in the WMCA, reduce duplication of meetings and provide a more effective platform for elected members to hold transport decision makers to account.

Introduction

Overview and scrutiny is a statutory function of the West Midlands Combined Authority. The Overview & Scrutiny Committee discharges this responsibility through oversight of the work of the Mayor, Portfolio Lead Members and the wider WMCA decision making process in order to hold decision makers to account and improve the quality of decisions that the WMCA takes.

Overview & Scrutiny Committee members may make recommendations to the WMCA Board and other committees and call in decisions for further scrutiny and challenge those that have already been made. The committee acts as an advocate for residents of the West Midlands by investigating issues that are important to local people and by looking further into matters brought to its attention by the public. From improving the economy to tackling inequality, environmental matters and ensuring that the affordable housing needs for the region are addressed, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, comprising the region's local councillors, is the body that oversees how all this is done.

Scrutiny is a fundamental part of any efficient and equitable governance structure and decision-making process. Scrutiny is at the heart of good decision-making in which the WMCA has welcomed, encouraged and supported throughout the organisation.

While the committee's membership includes local councillors nominated by the WMCA's 18 member councils, it also has three representatives from the region's local enterprise partnerships. This brings a private sector perspective to discussions and ensures that the views of the region's commercial sector are heard at the highest levels of decision making.

The committee performs two functions 'overview' and 'scrutiny'. 'Overview' focuses on the development of policy and 'scrutiny' that looks at decisions that have been made or are about to be made.

Overview & Scrutiny Committee in 2021/22

This year the committee has focused on the extent and use of housing and land powers available to the WMCA, the Environment Act 2021 and the role of the WMCA, and a review of regional governance and the simplification of economic leadership to ensure inclusive economic growth was progressed and that local residents were provided with the opportunities to access growth areas.

The committee has continued to have broad oversight of the policies of the WMCA and has reviewed the effectiveness of its key decisions. It has an important role in reviewing and scrutinising the Mayor, Portfolio Lead Members, the WMCA and Transport for West Midlands in respect of plans, priorities, corporate governance arrangements and financial matters.

“

Overview & Scrutiny's Focus for the Year

To establish whether the West Midlands Combined Authority's policies were helping those that were most in need, and to ensure that the hardest to reach communities could feel the benefit of the WMCA

”



Holding the Mayor of the West Midlands and the Portfolio Lead Members to Account

The committee has undertaken a number of public Mayoral Q&A sessions, structured around two of the committee's core themes (accountability and investment) with questions focusing on the key challenges for the West Midlands region.

In October, the committee questioned Andy Street on the delivery and impact of the WMCA policies. Questions focussed on:

- Levelling Up White Paper
- West Midlands Plan for Growth
- Economic Development and Regeneration
- Skills
- Transport, including bus franchising
- Housing
- Environment Bill

In December, the committee held its second Q&A and questioned the Mayor on financial matters relating to the developing budget for 2022/23, with a particular focus on:

- The sustainability of the budget
- Transport revenue
- Housing
- Environment
- Adult Education Budget

The Mayor was also joined by the Portfolio Lead for Finance, Councillor Bob Sleight, who was questioned on matters relating to the Investment Programme.

“ These **public Q&A sessions** were an important part of providing **public accountability** and **transparency of decision-making** for the WMCA's only directly elected politician ”



Areas of Focus 2021/22

Helping to Deliver Affordable and Social Housing

Overview & Scrutiny Committee has identified the provision of affordable and social housing within the region as a key area of focus for 2021/22. It established a scrutiny panel that examined the role and remit of the WMCA to deliver affordable and social housing within the West Midlands through the use of devolved housing and land funds and considered how this supported and added value to the responsibilities of the constituent authorities in respect of affordable and social housing provision.

Evidence Gathering and Key Witness Interviews

In addition to written evidence submitted, the scrutiny panel conducted face-to-face interviews with a range of key witnesses to build a better appreciation of the strengths and challenges of the current arrangements and to highlight areas of potential improvements. The scrutiny panel interviewed:

Key Issues & Challenges Identified

- **Gareth Bradford**, Director of Housing and Regeneration, WMCA
- **Ian McLeod**, Director of Planning, Birmingham City Council
- **Jo Nugent**, Head of West Midlands-Markets, Partners and Places, Homes England
- **Tom Hawley**, Head of Affordable Housing Growth (Midlands), Homes England
- **Musurut Dar**, Senior Community Organiser, Shelter
- Members of Birmingham Fair Housing Campaign
- **Kevin Rodgers**, Chair of the West Midlands Housing Association Partnership
- **Steve Eaves**, Director of Regeneration, Platform Housing Association
- **David Soothill**, Development Director, Sanctuary Housing Association
- The drive to receive a receipt on the sale of land which undermined the capability to develop and bring forward affordable and social housing within the region.
- The shortage of land
- An increase in flip sales
- Issues with capacity, capability and the costs of land assembly

Engagement with the Portfolio Lead for Housing & Land

In March, Councillor Mike Bird, Portfolio Lead Member for Housing & Land undertook a scrutiny spotlight session with members and answered questions on the collaboration and co-investment in the region between housing associations and WMCA to secure more social and affordable housing to meet local needs, and on the work taking place on the new innovative joint approach with a group of housing associations in the region to deliver additional affordable housing and wider socio-economic outcomes on WMCA land.





Review Recommendations approved by the WMCA Board on 18 March 2022

After considering the written and oral evidence it received, the Scrutiny Panel proposed a number of recommendations to the WMCA Board that would help to address the housing need within the region and help to deliver more social housing within the West Midlands:

Recommendation 1

That the WMCA Board writes to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities, setting out the region's ambitions to deliver a step change in the delivery of social and affordable homes in the region and its intent to pursue this and the associated powers/funding needed to achieve that as part of the Levelling Up agenda and devolution deal negotiations.

Recommendation 2

That WMCA should retain a minimum affordable housing target but that the affordable housing requirements for schemes funded by WMCA (currently set as a minimum of 20% affordable), should seek to be aligned with the targets set by Local Planning Authorities in the relevant Local Plan including the alignment of type and tenure.

Recommendation 3

That the WMCA and local authorities continue to work together through the Housing & Land Board, WMCA Public Land Taskforce and directly with the Cabinet Office to address issues around best value in disposal of public land and to identify actions and interventions that will maximise the wider social, economic and environmental benefits secured through the development and disposals of public land in the region.

Recommendation 4

That the WMCA, housing associations, Homes England and local authorities continue to work together to address the contradictions and challenges of the current system for delivery of affordable and social housing – recognising that the challenge cannot be addressed in isolation and it is a multi-faceted systemic issue where all agencies need to work together with a clear strategy for change.

Recommendation 5

That the WMCA, local authorities and other regional stakeholders campaign for an end to the restriction sighted in the interviews of social housing grant being awarded to areas of high affordability pressure, noting that more investment in social housing across the region will address multiple needs and provide more secure, healthy and efficient homes for our communities.

Recommendation 6

That through the Trailblazer Devolution Deal, the WMCA, local authorities and other regional stakeholders' campaign for an end to or amendment of the viability clause in national planning policy which is impacting directly on land prices and affordable housing supply in the region.

Recommendation 7

That the WMCA appropriately brings together local capacity, capabilities and expertise across local authorities, the WMCA and other public bodies (e.g. Homes England) to support housing and regeneration, especially in matters around land assembly and interventions such as Compulsory Purchase Orders.

Recommendation 8

That through any future devolution deal, the WMCA, local authorities and other regional stakeholders' campaign for a review of the Local Housing Allowance system and the necessary local discretion in order to address issues affecting excluded residents and the subsequent impact on homelessness, temporary accommodation and the private rented sector.





Air Quality in the West Midlands: Options Paper

ENVIRONMENT ACT 2021

In June, the WMCA Board discussed the proposed changes in air quality legislation and how the WMCA could be best placed to compliment and add value to the work being undertaken by constituent authorities.

A scrutiny panel was established to review this in further detail. The panel worked with the Inclusive Growth & Public Service Reform directorate to review and understand the additional requirements arising from the outcome of the Environment Bill as it progressed through Parliament. Members engaged with the Head of Environment and the University of Birmingham to review an Air Quality Options Paper that provided a summary of interventions that could be adopted and which was presented to the WMCA Board in February for consideration.

Engagement with the Portfolio Lead for Environment, Energy & HS2

In January, Councillor Ian Courts, Portfolio Lead for Environment, Energy & HS2 undertook a scrutiny spotlight session with members on the Environment Act, prior to the consideration of the Air Quality Options Paper at the WMCA Board in February.



“

To avoid displacement activity, a **combined approach** to **address air quality** was needed and the **development of an area-wide strategy** to tackle the problem of air pollution in many areas

”



The Levelling Up White Paper: Trailblazer Devolution Deal

Members scrutinised the proposed plans for co-ordinating a response to the Government's invitation to negotiate a Trailblazer Devolution Deal.

Members highlighted the importance of community engagement and transparency to ensure that the voice of the citizen was heard and that the WMCA was involving the wider community in shaping its future role, along with the importance of understanding the differential spatial content within the region.

Members gave a commitment to remain engaged in any potential powers to be devolved to the WMCA arising out of a future devolution deal.

“ **Methods of growth** for the region need to reflect and **address inequalities**, ensuring a difference is made to communities and the local economy ”

Pre-Decision Scrutiny

Looking at decisions before they are made provides an important opportunity to influence those decisions, and to improve them. It gives scrutineers an opportunity to challenge assumptions that may have been made as the decision was developed, and also gives them the chance to consider how decision-makers have considered what risks might arise from the implementation of the decision, and how those risks might be mitigated.

Pre-decision scrutiny is the process that enables councillors to engage with the WMCA Board and Mayor before they take decisions.

1. It enables scrutiny councillors to gain information and develop an understanding on particular issues.
2. It contributes to scrutiny's role as a 'critical friend' to ask questions on upcoming Mayoral or board decisions.
3. It is a valuable opportunity for scrutiny to inform and influence decision making through debate and challenge.

WMCA's Aims & Objectives

Overview & Scrutiny Committee contributed to the development of the WMCA's Aims & Objectives through bilateral and multilateral engagement with the Head of Policy & Programme Development, prior to its submission for agreement at the WMCA Board in November.

Through the development of the document, scrutiny has helped to:

- Set out how the WMCA will deliver on the region's priorities
- Guide the use of powers and money secured from central government
- Enable the WMCA to measure progress against their priorities

“

To ensure that the work of the WMCA was reflective and understood the views of local communities, it was important for the WMCA to undertake effective citizen engagement

”

Economic Governance and Establishing the Economic Growth Board

Overview & Scrutiny Committee engaged in the establishment of a new Economic Growth Board to provide democratically accountable economic leadership with decision-making powers. The board will provide strategic oversight of the region's approach to driving green and inclusive economic growth.

Scrutiny members stressed the importance of progressing inclusive economic growth, ensuring local residents were provided with the opportunities to access growth areas, the need for effective public community engagement in policy development and the need to support businesses to transition due to wider economic factors.

Members observations and comments helped to inform the final report submitted to the WMCA Board for approval.



A Look Back: Scrutiny Reviews 2019/20 - Follow-Up Where are We Now?

WMCA Governance Scrutiny Review & Effectiveness of Transport Governance Scrutiny

During 2019/20, Overview & Scrutiny Committee undertook two reviews that looked at the current governance arrangements of the WMCA and the effectiveness of transport governance. The findings of both reviews have been taken into consideration as part of a wider governance review commissioned by the Mayor and Constituent Authority Leaders.

In November, Overview & Scrutiny Committee reviewed the activities of the WMCA's Governance Working Group and supported its recommendations including a review of the WMCA's Members' Allowances Scheme.

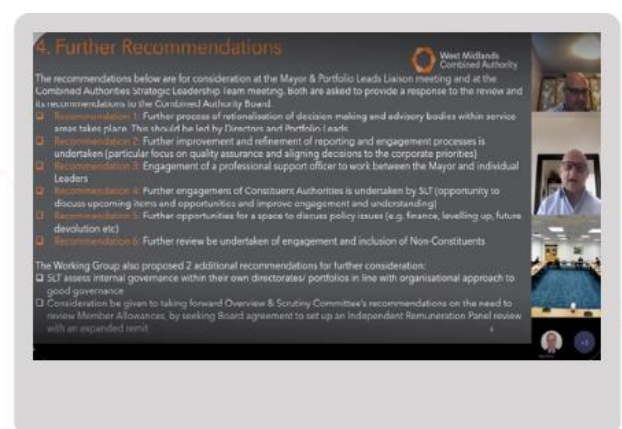
The WMCA Board has now established an Independent Remuneration Panel to undertake a review of allowances. The Overview & Scrutiny Committee will continue to be engaged in the process and the chair of the committee will give evidence to the panel.

Adult Education Budget

During 2019/20, Overview & Scrutiny Committee undertook a review of the devolution of the Adult Education Budget in which the WMCA became responsible for from 1 August 2019. The devolved Adult Education Budget provided funding for adult skills delivery for residents (aged 19 and over) of the West Midlands' seven constituent areas.

A deep dive was undertaken with the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills from each of the seven constituent local authorities, with questions focussing on the use of the Adult Education Budget in each local authority area. Overview & Scrutiny Committee continue to have oversight of the delivery of local skills training within the region.

Overview & Scrutiny Committee's recommendations have really helped us to drive a different approach with AEB





Economic Needs of the Black Country' Scrutiny Review

During 2020/21, Overview & Scrutiny undertook a review to understand whether the regional economic recovery proposals, which the WMCA were supporting and enabling, were meeting the needs that had been identified within the Black Country sub-region. The findings of the review were submitted and accepted by the WMCA Board.

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee received a letter in response to each of the recommendations from the Chief Executive, which has now led to a further review which will be undertaken in 2022/23 to understand the impact of the devolution of the Adult Education Budget to the WMCA on the delivery of local skills training within the region, and to identify the challenges and ways in which the WMCA and local authorities could better target skills needs in the region, particularly in relation to the big economic challenges.

The findings of the review will be used to help shape future skills funding, including the Shared Prosperity Fund.

Holding those Responsible for Transport to Account

Councillor Ian Ward, Portfolio Lead for Transport

In October, a Q&A session was held with Councillor Ian Ward, Portfolio Lead for Transport, on transport policy related matters. Members questioned him on:

- The delivery of the Commonwealth Games Transport Plan
- Hydrogen Vehicles
- Bus Franchising
- Midland Metro
- Transport Levy
- City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement Bid

The sub-committee's observations and recommendations were endorsed by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Portfolio Lead Member for Transport.

Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Overview & Scrutiny Committee appointed Councillor Liz Clements to Chair the sub-committee for 2021/22, who brought with her considerable experience in scrutinising transport services.

With the scale and scope of the transport-related projects currently being delivered, scrutiny members have ensured that they have held those responsible for transport to account, demonstrated through Q&A sessions with the Portfolio Lead for Transport, the Chair of the Transport Delivery Committee, and the Executive Director for Transport for West Midlands.

Councillor Kath Hartley, Chair of Transport Delivery Committee

In February, Councillor Kath Hartley attended a Q&A session to answer questions on transport delivery matters across the region. Questions focussed on:

- Transport Governance Review
- Financial and Performance Monitoring Information
- Strategic Delivery
- Delivery of the Commonwealth Games Transport Plan
- Cycling & Walking
- Midland Metro Suspension and Operations

The sub-committee's observations and recommendations were endorsed by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Portfolio Lead for Transport.

Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee Focus for the Year

“To ensure that the WMCA together with constituent authorities and stakeholders were restoring public confidence in using the transport system post the COVID-19 pandemic and to encourage people to use public transport as an alternative to the car

”

Areas of Focus 2021/22

This year the Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee has focussed on the following areas:

Roundtable Event: E-Scooter Trial

Scrutiny members were invited to attend a West Midlands E-Scooter Roundtable Event: The Impact on People with Sight Loss.

Members heard from sight loss organisations and local people living with sight loss and proposals as to how organisations can work together to ensure that visually impaired people felt confident and safe when walking around the region.

This valuable discussion helped members to form their lines of enquiry for its spotlight session with the Innovation Integration Lead, Transport for West Midlands on the E-Scooter.

Bus Delivery Options Paper

Scrutiny members received an early insight into the work undertaken regarding future bus delivery options, which led to a spotlight session with the Head of Network Transformation to answer questions on:

- the benefits, challenges and risks associated with the introduction of bus franchising
- accountability
- relationships
- the importance of the passenger experience.

West Midlands Local Transport Plan: Green Paper

Scrutiny members were engaged on the Local Transport Plan Green Paper and took a closer more detailed review on the level of ambition of the plan, resources and capacity. Key questions focussed on:

- Whether the projects would deliver the change required within the region?
- Whether the projects would meet the needs of the residents of the West Midlands?
- The importance of engagement with members of the public to ensure behavioural change.

The views and comments on the green paper were used to inform a session with the constituent authority leaders on the future transport strategy.

Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee will continue to scrutinise the delivery of the Local Transport Plan to ensure that it met the needs of the residents of the West Midlands.

“

It was important for Transport for West Midlands to **develop a transport network** that would allow **passengers** to have the same **freedom to move around the region** as was currently enjoyed by car owners

”

Midland Metro: Suspension and Operations

Earlier this year, cracks were discovered on the trams which resulted in a temporary interruption to services for inspection and repairs. Scrutiny members examined the reasons for the cracks, financial losses and progress for a return to service in which many residents of the West Midlands relied upon.

The sub-committee sought assurances that Transport for West Midlands understood and documented the root cause of the cracks on the second-generation tram fleet. Members sought clarity that, within the system and according to the regulator, the works had been completed and therefore provided the confidence that the action undertaken resulted in the operation of a safe and robust service.

Scrutiny members held a joint briefing session with member of the Transport Delivery Committee to discuss the suspension, timescales and next steps with the Executive Director for Transport for West Midlands.

A full detailed report was considered by the sub-committee at its meeting in March.

Commonwealth Games Transport Plan and Legacy

Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee continued to engage with the Commonwealth Games Technical Director on the implementation of the Commonwealth Games Transport Plan. During the year, members have focussed on community engagement and opportunities, legacy of the games, connectivity, traffic management measures, mitigation measures, passenger experience, risks and vehicle reliability (bus, tram, rail)

City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement

















Scrutiny members held a spotlight session with the Head of Strategy & Intelligence on the detail of the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement Bid, which was a five-year capital settlement to enable the region to achieve its ambitions in terms of transport investment, carbon reduction, economic growth and levelling up.

The WMCA submitted a full prospectus for £1.732bn of asks to the Department for Transport. The Government's Spending Review 2021 confirmed a WMCA allocation of £1.05bn for 2022-27.

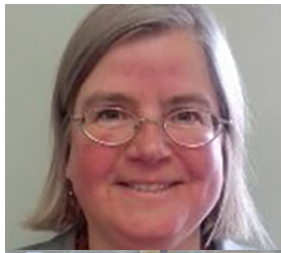
Questions put forward to the Head of Strategy & Intelligence focussed on:

- the development of the programme
- local contributions
- the prioritisation process as all schemes included within the WMCA's bid submission were not fully funded
- transparency of prioritisation process; and
- how the balance of investment in public transport, active travel and further investment in the road network was going to feature in the prioritisation process.

Committee Members 2021/22

	Councillor Cathy Bayton The Association of Black Country Authorities Committee Chair		Councillor Lisa Trickett Birmingham Committee Vice-Chair
	Councillor Naeem Akhtar Coventry		Councillor Maya Ali Coventry
	Councillor Kate Booth Birmingham		Paul Brown Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership
	Councillor Mike Chalk Redditch		Councillor Liz Clements Co-opted, Birmingham
	Councillor Tony Dicicco Solihull		Councillor Ian Kettle Dudley
	Councillor Peter Fowler Birmingham		Councillor Nigel Lumby Shropshire
	Councillor Charn Padda Sandwell		Councillor Dr Simon People Tamworth
	Councillor Paul Sweet Wolverhampton		Councillor Vera Waters Walsall

Sub-Committee Members 2021/22



Councillor Liz Clements

Birmingham
Chair



Councillor Barbara McGarrity

Wolverhampton
Vice-Chair



Councillor Gurdev Hayre

Coventry



Councillor Adam Hicken

Walsall



Councillor Ian Kettle

Dudley



Councillor Thabiso Mabena

Sandwell



Councillor Martin McCarthy

Solihull



West Midlands
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Birmingham City Council

City Council

13 September 2022



Subject: Youth Justice Plan 2022-2023

Report of: Councillor Karen McCarthy
Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Families

Report authors: Nigel Harvey-Whitten
Transformation and Commissioning Consultant for Children and Families

Email: Nigel.Harvey-Whitten@birmingham.gov.uk

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? ☐ Yes ☒ No

1 Motion

- 1.1 It is recommended that City Council approves the Birmingham Children's Trust's 2022 - 2023 Youth Justice Plan.

2 Background

Context for Youth Justice Plan

- 2.1 There is a statutory requirement in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Section 40, for every local authority, after consultation with partner agencies, to produce and implement a Youth Justice Plan.
- 2.2 The plan sets out how local youth justice services are both provided and funded. There is a requirement for the Plan to be submitted to the national Youth Justice Board (YJB) and published in accordance with the directions of the Secretary of State.
- 2.3 Birmingham faces several challenges, yet with these challenges also come opportunities for reflection. Within the 2022-23 Strategic Youth Justice Plan (Attached in Appendix 1), the challenges faced by our children, amplified by COVID-19, will be met through the vision, strategy and plans that are set out for the local Youth Justice Partnership. From research and local data analysis we know that

children entering the Youth Justice System experience abuse, neglect, poverty, school exclusion and poorer health at levels that are disproportionate to the general 10-17 population.

- 2.4 Fundamentally, children's offending must be recognised as symptomatic of their experiences. It is well established that behaviour is a form of communication. Through a relentless focus on tackling the root causes of childhood offending, using a strengths-based approach, Birmingham YOS will improve practice and performance against the national and local performance indicators.
- 2.5 In 2021-22 there were several successes, both in terms of service transformation and performance. A Prevention Team was established; work to better understand and improve practice was commenced with two commissioned independent reviews of practice and the appointment of a Practice and Performance Manager; a Restorative Practice and Victim Manager position was established and appointed to, with the intention of strengthening and standardising the support being delivered to victims of youth crime; a full review of the OOC systems and practice was completed; and a number of key structural and practice reforms underpinned by Child First principles were delivered. This represents a step change in the preparedness of the Birmingham YOS.
- 2.6 However, this plan illustrates that whilst a lot has been done there is still much to do. Too many children continue to enter the Youth Justice System in Birmingham, becoming a first-time entrant and of those, black, Asian, and mixed heritage children are over-represented. Similarly, when we examine local use of custody, including those children remanded, despite the unprecedented improvements that have been made in 2021-22, too many Birmingham children remain in the secure estate. To further address these challenges we plan to strengthen governance and Service accountability, in 2022-23 and introduce a revised set of local performance indicators that align to the service priorities that have been developed.
- 2.7 In recognition that we must tackle the root causes of offending, priorities have been established with clear and measurable programmes of work to strengthen support provided around education, training and employment; improve the health offer to children in the YJS; develop and strengthen youth crime prevention and diversion; tackle the over-representation of certain children in the system; respond to the rise in serious youth violence; developing constructive resettlement; establishing systems and practices around participation and engagement; strengthening the support delivered to victims and improving practice quality and consistency.
- 2.8 There is a commitment towards investment that supports the vision, strategy, and priorities, including increased investment to developing our workforce and a commitment to investment in modernising the case management system. We will ensure that the workforce, as our greatest asset, have the appropriate skills, knowledge and are equipped to deliver high quality and effective services that align with the vision for the service, the Trust, and the city.

- 2.9 We believe our plan is rightly ambitious. We will have a clear set of priorities, underpinned by a vision, strategy, and a (stretching) Service Improvement Plan. We remain committed to the transformation of Birmingham YOS and to ensure we have the very best youth justice services to our children, their parents and carers, victims, and communities.
- 2.10 In March and July 2020, the Service was inspected by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation. In October 2020, the findings of the inspection were published with the Service being judged overall as requires improvement.
- 2.11 The report made 12 recommendations that would need to be addressed to improve the quality of the Service and would consequently improve the lives of those children who it comes into contact with and better protect the public.
- 2.12 The Service's improvement plan is linked to the findings of the HMIP inspection published in 2020. Twelve recommendations were made within this report, spanning core case practice, strategic activity, and governance. As a Service, progress has been made with the expansion of the 'senior leadership team', the appointment of an independent Chair of the Partnership Board, strengthening of the Board membership and additional assurance Board meetings.

3 Local Context

The indices of deprivation indicate that Birmingham suffers from high levels of deprivation. With 43% of the population living in Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in the 10% most deprived areas in England, and 51% of children (under 16s) living in the 10% most deprived areas.

- Birmingham is ranked the 7th most deprived local authority in England.
- The city is also the most deprived authority in the West Midlands Metropolitan area.
- Birmingham is ranked the third most deprived English Core City after Liverpool and Manchester.
- While there are pockets of deprivation in all parts of the city, deprivation is most heavily clustered in the area surrounding the city centre.
 - Hodge Hill is the most deprived constituency in the city; Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East, Bordesley Green and Lozells are the top 3 most deprived wards. Sutton Coldfield is the least deprived part of the city with 7 of the 8 Sutton wards ranked as the city's least deprived wards.



3.1 Aside from the indices of deprivation, what do we know about our children and our city?

- There are 158,800 children aged 10-19 in Birmingham.
- Child poverty in Birmingham is worse than the England and Core Cities average.
- At the end of secondary school, Birmingham children's attainment is ahead of the other core cities and within 1% of England average. However, this is not the case for those with special needs.
- The unemployment rate for 16–24-year-olds is worse than the England and Core Cities average.
- Black and mixed heritage children are over-represented in the local youth justice system, as are children in care.
- Serious youth violence is rising.

3.2 The local context is critically important when we consider offending behaviour in children. Children face many, often interconnected and complex challenges. Fundamentally offending behaviour does not mean children forfeit their right to be seen and treated as children and many children entering the Youth Justice System should themselves be considered and recognised as victims, either as a result of the offending behaviour of others, but also as victims of their experiences.

3.3 The root causes of childhood offending require a joined up and coordinated approach across the partnership, there is no single solution to reducing childhood offending. As we consider the local context within Birmingham, and as we transform the local youth justice response, careful consideration is being given to how we build a service that is well placed, alongside partners, to tackle the root causes that underpin children's offending.

3.4 Knowing Our Children

Research tells us that children coming to the attention of Youth Justice Services have experienced disproportionate levels of harm, trauma, and disadvantage. In 2021, a report commissioned by the West Midlands Combined Authority and the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner, Punishing Abuse, studied 80 children across the West Midlands, including several children from Birmingham. Of these:

- Nine in ten were known or suspected to have been abused.
- Eight in ten were known or suspected to have a health issue.
- Eight in ten were subject to school exclusion or attendance at multiple secondary schools.
- Seven in ten were known or suspected to have lived with domestic violence whilst growing up.
- Seven in ten were known or suspected to be a victim of violence.
- Seven in ten lived in poverty.
- There was only one child with no recorded abuse or childhood adversity.

3.5 Birmingham Youth Offending Service (BYOS) is committed to working with partners locally and across the West Midlands to develop a system that responds to the specific and unique needs of children in the youth justice system.

3.6 Local assessment data in 2021-22 indicated clearly that the children the Service is working alongside have a range of complex needs, with 75% of all assessments indicating elevated concerns around children's safety and wellbeing and risk of harm to others, requiring an enhanced offer from the Service and partners.

3.7 Information provided by the children themselves in self assessments further supports the research. Between 01 April 2021 and 31 March 2022, 476 children completed a self-assessment. The information these provide help to shape and influence the child's plan and support for them, but also influence partnership and commissioning priorities. Responses to self-assessments indicated:

I drink too much	21	4.4%
I get angry and lose my temper	301	63.2%
I have lost someone special from my life	187	39.3%
I have thought about hurting myself	39	8.2%
I have thought about killing myself	27	5.7%
I live with people who get into trouble	45	9.5%
I miss/missed school	207	43.5%
I take too many drugs	27	5.7%
I want help with reading	66	13.9%
I want help with writing	77	16.2%
My friends get into trouble	208	43.7%

3.8 This strategic and the service improvement plans are responding to the findings above through:

- Work to strengthen the health offer across the service, including substance misuse, physical and emotional and mental health support, via the YOS Health Taskforce
- Continued investment in school age education support and additional investment to strengthen targeted management oversight of this within the service
- A full review of interventions in use across the service with a move towards trauma informed, relationship-based resources.

3.9 Working with Girls

Whilst across Youth Justice Services girls are underrepresented, within Birmingham there is a recognition that they often present with a specific and unique set of needs. BYOS continues to benefit from a Girls Empowerment Team, #GET. Formerly the Gender Specific programme, in March 2022 the team was re-named following the active engagement and collaboration with the girls the team were working with.

3.10 In 2022-23, the Service plans to continue investment in this team and will:

- Explore opportunities for investment, both internally funded and through externally secured additional grants, to expand the team.
- Review current criteria to ensure that resources are targeted to where need is greatest.
- Design and create a trauma informed and therapeutic space girls can be seen in; consulting and involving them where possible.
- Consider local and national best practice arrangements for working with girls and utilise this to review and refresh the current operating model.

4 **Key Issues**

4.1 There are 7 key areas for development that we will return to in assessing the next Youth Justice Plan and progress for 2023/2024, namely:

1. How the review and enhancement to the Service in the context of the prevention offer across the partnership.
2. To see development of approaches to multi agency risk management
3. To demonstrate improvement of the quality and consistency of practice

4. To estimate how the service has responded to the issue of 'disproportionality and particular actions for workforce development: e.g restorative practice and trauma informed training across the service.
5. Evidence that victims are considered in all cases
6. Developing a Birmingham YOS culture and vision that secures consistency across the city.

4.2 Reflecting on the process this year for review of this plan, we acknowledge that the Children's and Families Directorate Commissioner should have a closer link in with this work.

4.3 In planning the permanent staffing structure for commissioning we plan to build a specific link with the Youth Offending Service and agree to be a full member of the Youth Justice Partnership Board.

5 Legal Implications

5.1 There is a statutory requirement in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Section 40, for every local authority, after consultation with partners, to produce and implement a Youth Justice Plan.

5.2 The plan must set out how local youth justice services are to be provided and funded. There is a requirement for the Plan to be submitted to the national Youth Justice Board (YJB) and published in accordance with the directions of the Secretary of State.

5.3 Section 39 (1) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the cooperation of the named statutory partners (Local Authority, Police, Probation and Health) to form a Youth Offending Team, which includes staffing contributions from those statutory partners.

6 Financial Implications

6.1 The Youth Offending Service partnership's overall delegated funding for 2022/23 is £8,931,874

6.2 The table below sets out the delegated funding sources for 2022/23 as set out in the Youth Justice Plan.

Funding Source	Staffing Budget 2022/23	Payments in Kind 2022/23	Other Delegated Funds 2022/23	Total
**Birmingham Children's Trust	£3,762,545	£0	£567,397	£4,329,942
*Police	£322,000	£0	£0	£322,000
Police & Crime Commissioner	£84,589	£0	£190,411	£275,000
Probation	£153,417	£0	£15,000	£168,417
*Health	£252,327	£0	£0	£252,327
Youth Justice Board	£2,334,337	£0	£0	£2,334,337
*Other sources of funding	£1,211,851	£0	£38,000	£1,249,851
Total	£8,121,066	£0	£810,808	£8,931,874

* 2022/23 Funding level is still to be confirmed

** The Trust has provided all financial data and has the supporting information for its own resources and those of partners alongside grant funding information.

- 6.3 Should funding levels change this plan will be amended to reflect any resulting impact, working to the available funding.

7 Public Sector Equality Duty

- 7.1 The plan seeks to address the over presentation by offering early support and help to these young people

8 Appendices

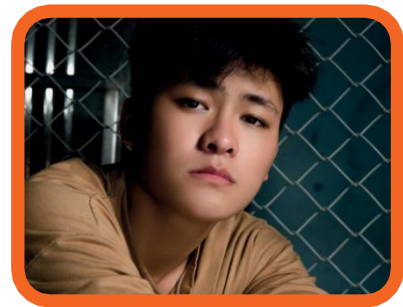
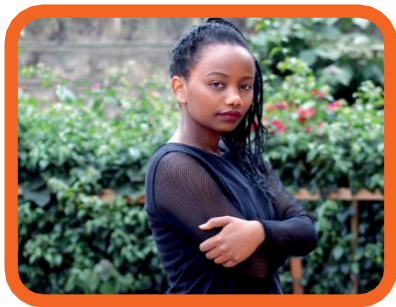
Appendix 1 – Youth Justice Plan 2022 -2023

Appendix 2 – EIA

9 Background Documents

Birmingham Community Safety Partnership Violence Profile Birmingham May 2022.

BIRMINGHAM **YOUTH** **OFFENDING** **SERVICE**



Strategic Youth Justice Plan **2022/2023**



Annex A - Youth Justice Plan

Service	Birmingham Youth Offending Service
Head of Service	Janine Saleh
Chair of YOS Partnership Board	John Drew

1. Introduction, Vision and Strategy

1.1 Foreword

I have great pleasure in presenting this Youth Justice Plan from the Birmingham Youth Justice Partnership. The plan represents an honest assessment of the challenges and opportunities facing Britain's second city and largest youth justice service. I use the word 'challenges' both because in the past other people, most notably our Regulators the Probation Inspectorate, have assessed us as falling short of the standards expected of a modern youth justice service, and also because there are longstanding issues of inequality and child poverty in Birmingham that find their expression in high levels of exploitation and crime affecting children – this is the terrain within which we have chosen to work. I use the word 'opportunities', because nothing stays still for long in Birmingham and I have found a strong determination throughout in Birmingham Youth Justice Service (YOS) and also amongst its partners, particularly the Children's Trust and the City Council, to take stock and really get to grips with returning the service to its proper position as a model of modern youth justice for the children, their families and the whole community in Birmingham, and also as a beacon to other services in the country.

It is neither possible nor necessary to summarise the plan here. What I do wish to capture, however, is the mood within the service and the ambition within the partnership. We all know we have much to do, but as the plan demonstrates we have a coherent plan to tackle, in clear sequence, these issues. In particular, the Board has been helped by the Service's leadership, to develop a coherent development plan from which it will improve its own understanding and contributions to the building of an outstanding service.

There is much work to be done. We are not in any way in denial about this. But, led by a dynamic new team of senior leaders in the Youth Justice Service led by our Head of YOS, Janine Saleh, we are building our service, based on the bedrock that everyone in the service knows or will know what they need to do personally to make our service 'outstanding'. Birmingham has been a byword for civic pride and excellence in the past; our ambition is to locate youth justice firmly within this tradition.

1.2 Executive Summary

Birmingham faces several challenges, yet with these challenges also come opportunities for reflection, collaboration, innovation and change. Within the 22-23 Strategic Youth Justice plan, the challenges faced by our children, amplified by COVID-19, are recognised and responded to through the vision, strategy and plans that are set out for the local Youth Justice Partnership.

It is evident from national research and local data analysis that children entering the Youth Justice System experience abuse, neglect, poverty, school exclusion and poorer health at levels that are disproportionate to the general 10-17 population. This understanding has had a substantial influence on this plan, the priorities and direction of travel for the Service.

Birmingham YOS continues to be in a period of substantial transformation and modernisation. This is being driven by research, the findings and recommendations of HMIP Youth and Thematic Inspections, what we know about our children, local data and needs assessments, the YJB Child First principles, an ambition to become trauma and psychologically informed, and an aspiration to centralise relationship-based practice in all we do.

Birmingham YOS aspires to be creative, different and modern in its approaches. We will demonstrate care for those who need our help and support. We will be tenacious in our efforts, we will believe and aspire high for those we encounter, and we will continue to hold the hope, where often this is difficult for our children, parents, carers and victims to do.

Fundamentally, childrens offending must be recognised as symptomatic of their experiences. It is well established that behaviour is a form of communication. Through a relentless focus on tackling the root causes of childhood offending, using a strengths-based approach, Birmingham YOS will seek to improve practice and performance against the national and local performance indicators.

Moving towards a model that truly does 'with' instead of 'to', will lead to authentic engagement and the involvement of those we work alongside at every possible opportunity. This will help us to shape services and systems that are accessible and that work well for those who use them.

In 21-22 there were several successes, both in terms of service transformation and performance. A Prevention Team was established; work to better understand and improve practice was commenced with two commissioned independent reviews of practice and the appointment of a Practice and Performance Manager; a Restorative Practice and Victim Manager position was established and appointed to, with the intention of strengthening and standardising the support being delivered to victims of youth crime; a full review of the OOCR systems and practice was completed; and a number of key structural and practice reforms underpinned by Child First principles were delivered.

However, this plan demonstrates clearly that there remains more to be done. Too many children enter the Youth Justice System in Birmingham, becoming a first-time entrant and of those, black, Asian and mixed heritage children are over-represented. Similarly, when we examine local use of custody, including those children remanded, despite the unprecedented improvements that have been made in 21-22, too many Birmingham children remain in the secure estate. Again, black, Asian and mixed heritage children are over-represented.

What does this mean for the Birmingham Youth Justice Partnership and our response?

In support of strengthening governance and Service accountability, in 22-23 a revised set of local performance indicators that align to the service priorities have been developed. In parallel, the plan sets

out our ambition and programme of activity to develop a Partnership Board that meets with the YJB expectations around leadership and governance.

In recognition that we must tackle the root causes of offending, priorities have been established with clear and measurable programmes of work to strengthen support provided around education, training and employment; improve the health offer to children in the YJS; develop and strengthen youth crime prevention and diversion; tackle the over-representation of certain children in the system; respond to the rise in serious youth violence; developing constructive resettlement; establishing systems and practices around participation and engagement; strengthening the support delivered to victims and improving practice quality and consistency.

There is a commitment towards investment that supports the vision, strategy, and priorities, including increased investment to developing our workforce and a commitment to investment in modernising the case management system. We will ensure that the workforce, as our greatest asset, have the appropriate skills, knowledge and are equipped to deliver high quality and effective services that align with the vision for the service, the Trust and the city.

This strategic plan is rightly ambitious. There is a clear set of priorities, underpinned by a vision and a strategy, and a robust Service Improvement Plan. We remain committed to continuing with the transformation of Birmingham YOS and to ensuring that we are delivering the very best youth justice services to our children, their parents and carers, victims and communities.

2. Local Context

The indices of deprivation indicate that Birmingham suffers from high levels of deprivation. With 43% of the population living in Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in the 10% most deprived areas in England, and 51% of children (under 16s) living in the 10% most deprived areas.

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Aside from the indices of deprivation, what do we know about our children and our city?

- There are 158,800 children aged 10-19 in Birmingham.
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- At the end of secondary school, Birmingham children's attainment is ahead of the other core cities and within 1% of England average. However, this is not the case for those with special needs.
- The unemployment rate for 16–24-year-olds is worse than the England and Core Cities average.
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- Serious youth violence is rising.

The local context is critically important when we consider offending behaviour in children. Children face many, often interconnected and complex challenges. Fundamentally offending behaviour does not mean children forfeit their right to be seen and treated as children and many children entering the Youth Justice System should themselves be considered and recognised as victims, either as a result of the offending behaviour of others, but also as victims of their experiences.

The root causes of childhood offending require a joined up and coordinated approach across the partnership, there is no single solution to reducing childhood offending. As we consider the local context within Birmingham, and as we transform the local youth justice response, careful consideration is being given to how we build a service that is well placed, alongside partners, to tackle the root causes that underpin children's offending.

3. Knowing Our Children

Research tells us that children coming to the attention of Youth Justice Services have experienced disproportionate levels of harm, trauma, and disadvantage. In 2021, a report commissioned by the West Midlands Combined Authority and the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner, Punishing Abuse, studied 80 children across the West Midlands, including several children from Birmingham. Of these:

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- There was only one child with no recorded abuse or childhood adversity.

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Local assessment data in 21-22 indicated clearly that the children the Service is working alongside have a range of complex needs, with 75% of all assessments indicating elevated concerns around children's safety and wellbeing and risk of harm to others, requiring an enhanced offer from the Service and partners.

Information provided by the children themselves in self assessments further supports the research. Between 01 April 2021 and 31 March 2022, 476 children completed a self-assessment. The information these provide help to shape and influence the child's plan and support for them, but also influence partnership and commissioning priorities. Responses to self-assessments indicated:

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- Continued investment in school age education support and additional investment to strengthen targeted management oversight of this within the service
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3.1 Working with Girls

Whilst across Youth Justice Services girls are underrepresented, within Birmingham there is a recognition that they often present with a specific and unique set of needs. BYOS continues to benefit from a Girls

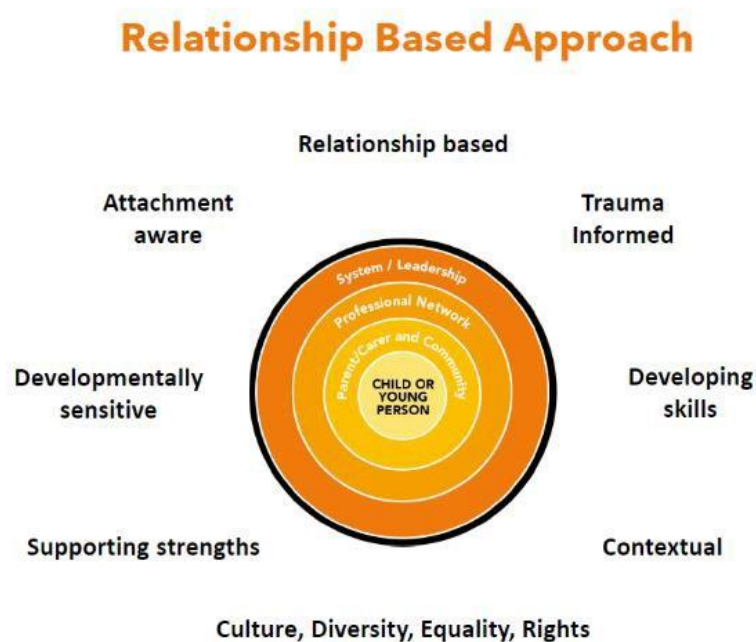
Empowerment Team, #GET. Formerly the Gender Specific programme, in March 2022 the team was re-named following the active engagement and collaboration with the girls the team were working with.

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- Explore opportunities for investment, both internally funded and through externally secured additional grants, to expand the team.
- Review current criteria to ensure that resources are targeted to where need is greatest.
- Design and create a trauma informed and therapeutic space girls can be seen in; consulting and involving them where possible.
- Consider local and national best practice arrangements for working with girls and utilise this to review and refresh the current operating model.

4. Child First

There is a genuine commitment to building a child first system in Birmingham, extending beyond children who have offended and who are known to the Youth Justice Service. Birmingham Childrens Trust Practice Model, to be launched in 22-23, is underpinned by a relational approach to our children and their parents and carers and whilst Birmingham YOS has already started this journey, the launch of this practice model will further strengthen the partnership's understanding and approach to our children who have offended and their parents and carers. This work is further strengthened and supported by the Child's Journey programme. This programme of activity is the overarching programme for driving and co-ordinating continued improvement across the Trust. The programme builds on the commitment already made to a trauma-informed and relationship-based model of practice, The Practice Model. It is a long-term programme to improve arrangements across the Trust so that all our people, systems and activities are aligned to deliver effective practice and improve outcomes for children and their parents and carers in Birmingham.



These key initiatives within the Trust are timely as Birmingham YOS continues the implementation of a substantial transformation programme. This systemic change, places children, their parents and carers, and victims at the heart of all we do. Central to the transformation programme and the local child first agenda, is the importance of re-framing, across the partnership, offending behaviour in children.

How do we truly see offending in children as symptomatic of their experiences, of their trauma and adversity and how does this act as the driver for change around our systems and practices within the YOS?

How do we use this to effect behaviour and system change within our own Service, but also to influence the same across the partnership?

Behaviour in children is a form of communication. As professionals, it is our responsibility to be curious, to get underneath the behaviour and to understand the root causes. In accordance with the YJB Child First principles we will:

Prioritise the best interests of children and recognising their needs, capacities, rights, and potential by:

- Understanding and doing all we can to break down structural barriers.
- Thinking carefully around our language and our approach to how we work with our children, so that it does not re-traumatise or re-victimise those we work alongside.

Promote children's individual strengths and capacities to develop their pro-social identity for sustainable desistance, leading to safer communities and fewer victims by:

- Adopting a strengths-based approach – asking what's strong, NOT what's wrong.
- Holding the hope when sometimes our children, their parents and carers and victims are struggling to do this.
- Championing those we work alongside and aspiring for them as if they were our own children.
- Maximising opportunities for our children both within and external to the Service through effective commissioning and partnership arrangements.

Encourage children's active participation, engagement, and wider social inclusion by:

- Actively creating opportunities for authentic participation and engagement.
- Ensuring that children, their parents and carers and victims have various opportunities to influence how we work together but also influence service development.

Promote a childhood removed from the justice system, using pre-emptive prevention, diversion, and minimal intervention by:

- Establishing a robust YOS Prevention offer and strengthening, with WMP, the use of OOCs. Proactively ensuring that at every possible opportunity children are prevented from entering or diverted from the youth justice system.

Throughout improvements and innovation delivered in 21-22 and as we continue to transform Birmingham YOS, these principles will be evident and reflected in our core values, priorities, and programmes of work.

In addition to the work of Birmingham Childrens Trust, and the future priorities for BYOS, there is much more happening across the city and region that align with the principles of child first and that will support and endorse the YOS direction of travel.

BCC (Birmingham City Council) is leading on the development of a partnership Children and Young Peoples Plan. Priorities will include:

- Early Help
- Early Years and the first 1001 days
- Learning, Skills, and Pathways to Employment
- Safe at Home (Domestic Abuse and management of chronic illness in the home)
- SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) & Inclusion
- Young People with complex needs
- Serious Youth Violence
- Birmingham – A great place to live
- Ways of working

A number of the priorities above will be supported by the activity laid out within this plan, in particular the Service focus on understanding and contributing to the reduction of serious youth violence in the city, as outlined in more detail later in this plan.

Across the West Midlands, a Youth Improvement Board has been established under the Local Criminal Justice Board. A set of key priorities have been agreed to improve the justice system as it relates to children and this board will promote collaboration, consistency, and best practice for children in youth justice. Collaborative priorities include:

- Developing a Protocol to support the consistent application of out of court disposals in the West Midlands.
 - Supporting the work locally to ensure children are prevented from entering the YJS and diverted at every opportunity will be the development of a Pan West Midlands OOCB Protocol. This will ensure a consistent and fair application of diversion across the region.
- Reducing the unnecessary criminalisation of children in care.
 - Children in care are over-represented in Birmingham YOS, as discussed later in this plan. However, this situation is not unique to Birmingham. The aim of this Board is to develop a joint protocol between West Midlands Local Authorities, Youth Justice Services and West Midlands Police to ensure that decisions to prosecute Looked After Children are given the special consideration they require, particularly for offences committed in childrens homes. This will involve the expected use of the 10 Point Checklist that informs decisions to prosecute by the Crown Prosecution Service.

BYOS is well connected to the work across the WMCA (West Midlands Combined Authority) to support regional collaboration and to secure strategic buy in to become trauma informed and responsive.

Locally a BYOS Trauma Taskforce has been established, supported by Barnardo's. There have been specific briefings for the YOS Leadership Team, and the taskforce is being led by an Assistant Head of Service with a view to improving the experiences of our children, their parents and carers, victims, and workforce. Starting at one YOS site, the aim is to develop a space where children feel safe and supported,

where children can have their needs met, where effective interventions can take place and where best practice is promoted.

5. Voice of the Child, Family, and Victims

Birmingham YOS is committed to ensuring that we hear the voices of our children, their parents and carers, and victims. Our ambition is to authentically work alongside and involve them at every opportunity. In Birmingham YOS, our ambition is for participation and engagement to become part of our culture, a thread running through all we do and that this extends to everyone we work alongside.

A YOS participation working group has been established, which includes board members, practitioners, and the board sponsor for this work. The longer-term aim is to involve children and their parents and carers. The forum will be instrumental in developing the YOS Participation and Engagement Strategy and will ensure that developmental work is connected to the wider participation and engagement work taking place across the Trust.

In 21-22, the service reviewed the mechanisms for capturing the views of children and a decision was made to cease the use of the system in place at the time. Conversations have commenced around a replacement application, that children will be supported to use by Practitioners. It is anticipated that this will provide a more engaging way of capturing relevant information for assessments, but also a way of us gathering information that will help us develop and shape our services.

Work in 22-23 and beyond will include:

- Establishing and embedding the Participation Working Group, this will report to the YOS Partnership Board.
- The development of a participation and engagement strategy detailing at every step the opportunities for engagement, collaboration, and co-production.
- Establishing appropriate systems for the collation and analysis of information we receive.
- Ensuring that we are considering and responding to findings.

There are already several excellent examples where children are involved in activity over and above their contributions to assessment and planning. In 21-22, a participation forum was established involving those children who had experienced police custody and those who had been in custodial establishments. Children working with the YOS supported the West Midlands Police (WMP) led Custody Trauma Steering Group, of which the YOS was a member. Children were given opportunities to provide their views and thoughts and were influential in developing the 'feel' of the custody suite, through providing feedback to Barnardo's. Children's feedback was used to develop distraction packs that are now in use within the Birmingham Custody Suite and was also used to inform training and development delivered to Police Officers.

6. Governance, Leadership, and Partnership Arrangements

Youth Offending Teams were established under the statutory provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Act sets out the requirement for local Youth Offending Teams and primary duties on key agencies and individuals involved in the delivery and governance of those services. Over time, the governance and leadership of youth justice services, through Youth Justice Management or Partnership Boards has evolved. In December 2021 revised guidance was published with the aim of enabling local

authorities, including education and social care; and statutory partners in health, police, and probation to fulfil their statutory duties effectively.

The Youth Offending Service sits within Birmingham Children's Trust (BCT). In May 2016 Birmingham City Council announced its intention to move towards a Children's Trust. In April 2018 it became operationally independent of the council as part of the ongoing process of improvement. The Trust is a wholly owned company of the council and works in close partnership to continue to improve outcomes for disadvantaged children in the city.

In recognition of the scale of Birmingham YOS and the challenges the city faces, as described throughout this plan, Birmingham has retained a Head of Service with sole responsibility for the delivery of local youth justice services. They report directly to the Assistant Director for Vulnerable Children and Young People. Birmingham has also retained a distinct Youth Offending Service Partnership Board. The Head of Service and Board Members (appendix 1) have strong cross cutting connections across various partnership arrangements, outlined later in this plan.

The Birmingham Youth Offending Service Partnership Board meets 8 times per year and is chaired by an independent chair, a decision taken in 21-22 and an arrangement that continues. The structure of Board meetings was revised in 2021-22 and now benefits from four main business and performance focussed boards, interspersed with Practice Boards, discussed later in the plan.

BYOS Partnership Board has responsibility for:

- Leadership and oversight of justice services for children.
- Contributing to local multi-agency strategies and work with local and national criminal justice organisations.
- Safeguarding children who receive youth justice services.

6.1 Partnership Arrangements

In addition to the existing partnership arrangements that support the direct work with children and their parents and carers, the Service is currently represented directly or indirectly at several strategic and operational meetings, including:

Birmingham's Fair Access Governance Board	West Midlands Local Criminal Justice Board
Birmingham Tackling School Exclusions Partnership	West Midlands Violence Reduction Partnership Strategic Board
Birmingham Children and Young People 0-25 Mental Health Transformation Programme Board	West Midlands Strategic Criminal Exploitation and Missing Board
SAFE Taskforce Steering Group	West Midlands Youth Improvement Board
Alternative Provision Specialist Taskforce Steering Group	West Midlands Head of Youth Offending Strategic Leads Group
Birmingham Prevent Strategic Board	West Midlands Trauma Informed Coalition
Birmingham Channel Panel	Youth Justice Board Midlands Developing Practice Forum
Birmingham Safeguarding Children's Partnership	

Birmingham Contextual Safeguarding Board	
Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub Partnership Forum	
Birmingham Preparation for Adulthood Board	
Birmingham Early Help Partnership	
Birmingham Think Family Operational Group	
Birmingham Strategic Gangs, Violence and Serious Organised Crime Board	
Birmingham Gangs and Serious Youth Violence Operational Group	
Birmingham Community Safety Partnership	
Birmingham Community Safety Partnership Operational Meeting	
YOS/The Probation Service Operational Transitions meeting	

7. Resources and services

The Youth Offending Service partnership's overall delegated funding for 2022/23 is expected to be £8,931,874.

Funding Source	Staffing Budget 2022/23	Payments in Kind 2022/23	Other Delegated Funds 2022/23	Total
Birmingham Children's Trust	£3,762,545	£0	£567,397	£4,329,942
*Police	£322,000	£0	£0	£322,000
Police & Crime Commissioner	£84,589	£0	£190,411	£275,000
Probation	£153,417	£0	£15,000	£168,417
*Health	£252,327	£0	£0	£252,327
Youth Justice Board	£2,334,337	£0	£0	£2,334,337
*Other sources of funding	£1,211,851	£0	£38,000	£1,249,851
Total	£8,121,066	£0	£810,808	£8,931,874

*2022/23 Funding level is still to be confirmed

As can be seen in the table above, there are a number of funding allocations yet to be confirmed for 22-23. Whilst this undoubtedly makes future planning more difficult, there is no indication at this stage that there are risks attached to any funding sources. However, should funding levels change this plan will be amended to reflect any resulting impact, working to the available funding.

- The remand budget is held external to the YOS.
- Probation, Health, and Police partners continue to second staff into the Service at a level identical to 21-22.
- The West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner grant is underpinned by a detailed spending plan and in 22-23, funding fully supports the local Police and Crime Plan, the priorities laid out within this strategic plan for the service and more broadly the priorities for Birmingham.
- The Service continues to receive a local financial contribution under the Supporting Families

programme. This allows the service to take a systemic approach to working with children. It enables children and their parents and carers to remain open on a voluntary basis, once statutory involvement has ended, where ongoing support is wanted by the child and/or family.

Combined, the budget fully funds the delivery of local youth justice services, including commissioned services. As the Service continues through its journey to outstanding and delivers the transformation programme, careful consideration is being given at every opportunity, to how we build a service that meets need and aligns to cross cutting priorities.

Examples of how investment and innovation has been influenced in 21-22 by the Service direction of travel and inspection recommendations include:

- The establishment of a YOS Prevention Team
 - Led by a newly established Prevention Team Manager an expanded team of Prevention Officers are currently mapping out how the offer can support and complement other services operating across the partnership, adding value where there are concerns regarding offending behaviour.
- A Restorative Practice and Victim Manager position was established in 21-22 with a clear focus on improving services to victims, strengthening the approach to the management of Referral Orders and community reparation for children.
- A Project and Performance Improvement Manager was created in 21-22 to drive forward the workforce development agenda and take a lead role in promoting consistency and best practice across the service.

As we continue into 22-23, we will progress further with several new initiatives including:

- Establish and recruit to a new Referral Order and Volunteer Coordinator position.
- Appoint a second Project and Performance Manager, further strengthening the work started.
- Establish and recruit to an Education Coordinator, a new position, enhancing the oversight of the YOS Virtual School register and responses where there are concerns regarding school attendance, engagement, or exclusion.
- Explore with colleagues within health, via the YOS Health Taskforce, what bespoke resources children in youth justice need and develop a set of proposals.
- Investment in training around grief and loss in children and links to offending.
- Investment in understanding the local context to gangs, exploitation, and violence and how we may best respond within the service.
- Developing our approach to engagement and participation in a meaningful way, with investment into an application that children find accessible and can use with support.

This plan clearly sets out our commitment to invest in our staff and to make thoughtful decisions around use of resources, all with the aim of developing a youth justice service that is making a genuine difference to our children, their parents and carers, victims of youth crime and resulting in safer and more resilient communities.

8. Progress on Previous Plan

In 2021-22, the Service set out an ambitious to begin to improve and modernise the delivery of youth justice services in Birmingham.

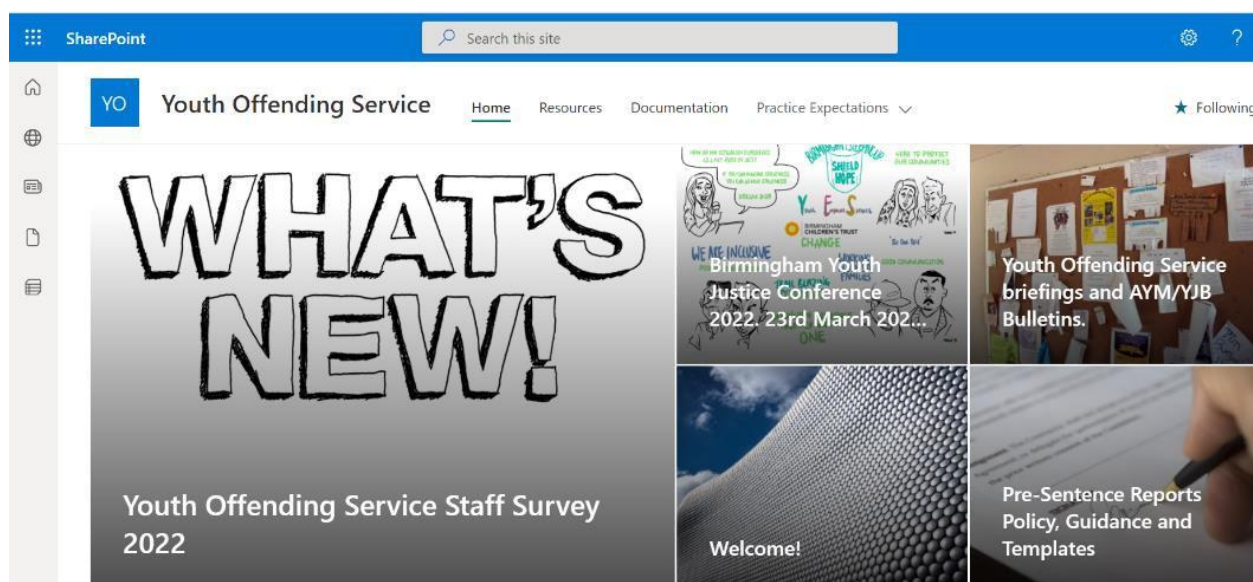
The following table provides an overview of the priorities and the progress achieved to date.

21-22 Priorities	Update
<p>Reviewing and enhancing the Service prevention offer across the partnership.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment of a dedicated Prevention Manager; expansion of the team of Prevention Officers, including a Serious Youth Violence Prevention Officer; development of pathways and promotion of the developing YOS offer across the partnership. 	<p>Prevention Manager recruited. 2 x additional Prevention Officers appointed. Serious Youth Violence Prevention Officer appointed and funded through the PCC (Police and Crime Commissioner) Grant in 21-22. Systems established with WMP to review all children arrested where no further action is taken.</p> <p>Further work required around pathways, assessment, promotion, and partnerships that will be prioritised in 22-23.</p> <p>The YOS provide a range of personal development interventions and ETE re-engagement support. This mentoring and enhanced curriculum provision is also offered to those at risk of offending. The provision includes a boxing anti knife crime programme, the Music Studio Project, vocational training, and entrepreneurial programmes.</p>
<p>Developing robust approaches to effective multi agency risk management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of Birmingham YOS Risk Management Policy; review of internal risk management processes; work to strengthen understanding and application of MAPPA (Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements). 	<p>A whole staff survey was completed in 21-22 to sense check understanding of the current risk management systems, a risk register has been developed and work was commenced to write a Risk Management Policy.</p> <p>Work into 22-23 will see the risk management policy developed, ratified in August 2023, and embedded across the service. This will include a series of workshops for front line practitioners and a strengthened approach to management oversight where risk is elevated. Audit programmes will test application.</p>
<p>Improving the quality and consistency of practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a robust audit programme and audit cycle for 2021/22; ensuring that findings are collated and fed back to teams and are informing practice development and workforce development. 	<p>2 independent reviews of practice have been conducted around out of court work within the service and post court practice. A number of internal audits have also been completed along with several internal learning reviews following serious incidents (described in more detail later in the plan).</p> <p>A Practice and Performance Improvement Manager was appointed in 21-22, with plans to increase investment in 22-23 for an additional, identical position to be established.</p> <p>This work is a key priority in 22-23 and this year will see the development of an audit cycle that includes both deep dive audits, and thematic audits. Work will also be undertaken to further strengthen links with the Trust Practice Hub, allowing for YOS training to be accessible to book online via the Trust Intranet, ensuring that YOS are making best use of Trust wide training and allowing for robust monitoring of attendance and impact of training courses delivered.</p>
<p>Responding to disproportionality where it exists across the service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-forming of the disproportionality working group; development and implementation of a multi-agency action plan, including the development of a robust data set. 	<p>Work has commenced in this area but requires a much stronger focus moving forward that aligns with the Trust vision. There is a dedicated strategic lead within the service. There has been a detailed presentation to the extended management team around the Ethnic Disparity Youth Justice Board toolkit, local data and how we can utilise this.</p> <p>All aspects of service development have a strand of disproportionality, including the work around reducing the use of custody.</p>

<p>Workforce Development; Including a programme of restorative practice and trauma informed training across the Service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training needs analysis, drawing upon developmental needs across the service; creation and implementation of a workforce development plan. 	<p>Restorative Practice Training commissioned and delivered across the service in 21-22, this included restorative leadership training with ongoing action learning sets to be delivered into 22-23.</p> <p>Further work is underway to develop an understanding of the training needs across the workforce, develop a robust workforce development plan that aligns with this, and the vision and future direction of the service.</p>
<p>Ensuring that services to victims are considered in all cases and are delivered well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment to a Restorative Practice and Victim Coordinator; Building consistency around the offer to victims; embedding victims voices, views and wishes appropriately across the system; RP (Restorative Practice) training across the service. 	<p>Restorative Practice and Victim Manager appointed. Restorative Practice Workers centralised under their line management to promote consistency and best practice. Restorative Practice Workers embedded into risk panels and out of court disposal panels to promote the views and wishes of victims. RP Training delivered across the service.</p> <p>Continued work is required to ensure that information sharing between West Midlands Police and Birmingham Childrens Trust (YOS) is robust so that all consenting identifiable victims can be offered a service.</p> <p>Work needed to improve victim attendance at referral order panels, increase direct reparation opportunities and understand and improve victim satisfaction.</p>
<p>Developing a Birmingham YOS culture and vision that secures consistency across the city.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rolling out an all-staff survey; sharing findings and using these to inform development; communication strategy, including service development days. 	<p>Various surveys have been shared in 21-22, with an all-staff survey to temperature check the service in June 2021. This will be repeated in June 2022 and the findings reported to Board. A more structured approach to meetings is in place and a whole service conference was delivered in March 2022.</p> <p>Specialist officers within the service have been centralised to promote consistency where appropriate, local case management practice expectations are being developed and launched and several local policies and guidance documents, including a bespoke induction and supervision templates have been developed.</p> <p>Despite the work delivered, building a culture and a system that is relationship based, sees offending as the symptom and is trauma aware remains a priority. Work has commenced around a YOS trauma working group and this will continue in 22-23.</p>

What else happened in 21-22?

- Reviewed our approach to Out of Court Disposals, underpinned by a local independent review of practice and assessment of best practice across the sector.
- Successfully delivered a substantial recruitment campaign.
- Closed the bail and remand team, expanding the Court team, aligning practices with child first principles.
- Completed a full review of the local delivery of the Appropriate Adult Service, with a decision to bring delivery internal to the YOS.
- Developed a YOS SharePoint Site accessible to all YOS colleagues, promoting consistency, a central point for key information.



9. Performance and Priorities

9.1 Key Performance Targets

9.1.1 Reducing the Number of First-Time Entrants

First Time Entrants (FTEs) to the criminal justice system are classified as those children (aged 10 - 17), resident in England and Wales, who received their first caution or conviction in a given period.

The figures are presented as a number and as a rate per 100,000 of the 10-17-year-old local population. The latest national data for first time entrants (October 2020 – September 2021) identifies that Birmingham's performance against this national priority continues to improve year on year. The total number of FTEs between 01 October 2020 and 30 September 2021 was 250 children, a reduction of 23.5% from 327 in the same period the previous year. Over the same period the first-time entrant rate fell from 266 children per 100,000 to 202 children per 100,000, an improvement of 24.0 %.

Despite progress and continued year on year reductions, BYOS is performing worse than the England and Wales average (154 per 100,000), though performance is similar to other Core Cities and its Youth Justice Service Family.

Analysis of locally held data for 2021/22 (a different period to the national dataset presented above) has identified:

- Most first-time entrants were aged 15-17, with 54% aged 16 or older.
- 8.8% of first-time entrants were female.
- Violence Against the Person was the most prevalent offence category accounting for 95 offences, 53.0% of all proven offences for first time entrants. Compared with the same period in 2020/21, the category shows a decrease of 32.1% in the number of offences.
- 46.4% of children becoming a first-time entrant had an identified special educational need.
- Black and Black British children are over-represented appearing at approximately twice the rate of their incidence in the general 10-17 population.

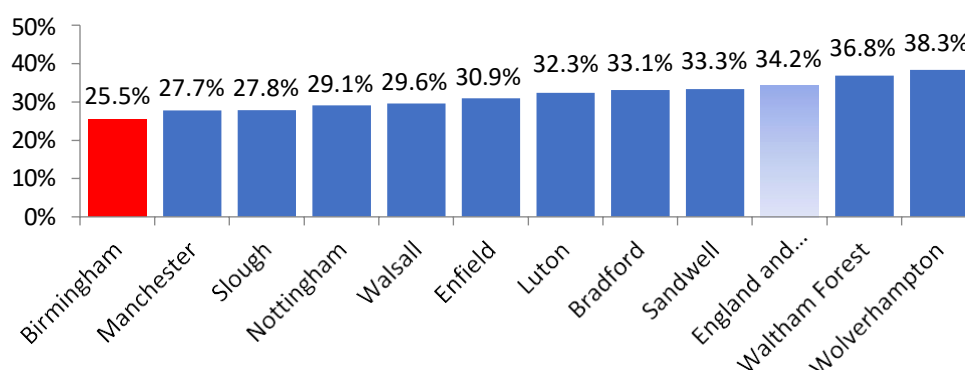
- Black, Asian, and mixed heritage children accounted for 63.0% of all First Time Entrants compared with 55.0% in the general 10 -17 population.
- Of the children becoming a first-time entrant, 34.8% received Youth Cautions, 58.0% first-tier outcomes, 5.5% community penalties, and 1.7% were sentenced to custody.

This plan later sets out clear plans to improve practice and performance in this area. Alongside continue scrutiny by the YOS Partnership Board, work in 22-23 will see the launch of the YOS Prevention offer, a strengthening of diversion and use of OOCs and a new system to scrutinise every child becoming a FTE.

9.1.2 Reducing Re-offending

The latest national figures (April 2019 – March 2020) show the Service is performing better than the England and Wales national average and is in the top quartile of all Youth Justice Services across the country. The Service also continues to perform well in comparison with others in its statistical family.

Re-offending Rate per 100,000: Apr 2019 to Mar 2020 cohort



Within this cohort were 642 children, the largest nationally, with a 25.5% re-offending rate, which was one of the lowest within its statistical family and lower than the England and Wales average.

An analysis of AssetPlus data for Birmingham children shows that those who re-offended were more likely to:

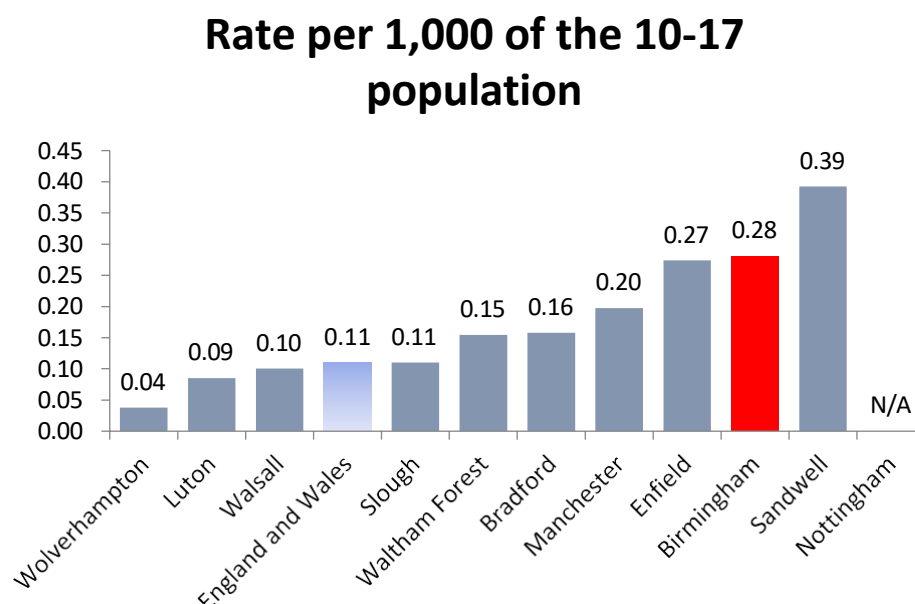
- Have Special Educational Needs.
- Be experiencing issues around school attendance/exclusion.
- Be living in families where there is evidence of intergenerational offending, parental substance misuse and/or mental health.
- Be children in care.
- Have a high number of previous offences and outcomes
- Be at risk of gang affiliation and exploitation

Whilst performance in this area compares favourably, there is more to do. At the heart of the work to improve re-offending in children is the move towards truly becoming child first, trauma informed and responsive and relationship based in our approaches. Investment in relationship-based interventions,

fundamental changes to key policy and procedure and the development of new case management planning and review systems will support improvements in this area of practice and performance.

9.1.3 Reducing the Use of the Secure Estate

This indicator compares the number of custodial sentences against the 10 –17-year-old population of a local area.



Birmingham has a higher rate of custodial sentences than the national average, although within the range of other Core Cities. Whilst it is positive that the number of children sentenced to custody in Birmingham has decreased, from 40 in 2020/21 to 19 in 2021/22, this remains an area of focus for the Trust and Service.

The latest national data for custodial sentences (January 2021 – December 2021) shows the Service is performing worse than the national average and worse than most other members of its statistical family. Analysis of local data for 2021/22 (a different period to the national dataset) has identified that:

- the majority (63%) of children sentenced to custody were aged 16-17.
- Boys of either Black or Black British ethnicity or mixed heritage backgrounds remain over-represented, appearing at approximately four times the rate in comparison with the general population.
- Black, Asian, and mixed heritage children accounted for 78.9% of all children receiving a custodial disposal compared with 55.0% in the general 10 -17 population.
- There were no females sentenced to custody.
- Violence Against the Person is most prevalent offence category accounting for 30 offences which is 48% of proven offences.

9.1.4 Remand Bed Nights

A remand to youth detention accommodation is currently to either: a secure children's home (SCH); a secure training centre (STC); or a young offender institution (YOI).

Between 01/04/2021 and 31/03/2022, a total of 45 Birmingham children were remanded to the secure estate, representing a 25% decrease from 60 in the previous year. Those 45 children spent a total of 4710 nights held on remand (average of 104 nights per child) in comparison to 60 children, spending 5429 nights in custody in the previous year (an average of 91 nights per child).

In 2021/22 children placed in SCHs spent on average a longer period on remand (103 days) compared with those in STCs (44 days) and those in YOIs (96 days).

Of the 45 children remanded during the period:

- 29 (64.4%) were Children in Care at the time of the remand.
- 6 were previously a Child in Care.
- 15 children (33.3%) gained Child in Care status as a result of their remand.

The plan sets out the work delivered to ensure that custody, including remand is reserved for those children charged or convicted of the most serious offences and who present the greatest of risks to society. Developments so far have seen positive reductions in the use of remand and custodial sentences, yet these remain key priorities for the partnership with ambitions to further reduce the number of children in the secure estate. The rise in serious youth violence presents real challenges to this area of performance, however, the plan also outlines intentions to work collectively to understand and reduce this. Plans include continued work to strengthen packages of bail support, ensuring that the local Intensive Supervision and Surveillance offer is robust and credible, improving management oversight and the quality of Pre-Sentence Reports and developing constructive resettlement for our children.

Examining the quality of practice where children are in custody and are transitioning back to the community forms part of the audit plan for 22-23. As part of this audit, assessing work prior to any remand, during custodial sentences and including resettlement practices will shape our developments in these areas.

9.1.5 Local Performance Indicators 2022-23

Work has commenced to review the local indicators for 22-23, to ensure that they align with the key priorities for the service, approved by the YOS Partnership Board in February 2022. The indicators provide a high-level indication of performance that will allow for robust governance and accountability around service activity. Supported by more detailed gathering and analysis, findings will drive service improvement and development.

Health

- % of children assessed with AssetPlus with an identified Health need referred to a specialist service where necessary
- % of children receiving a speech and language screening

Victims

- % of identifiable victims contacted

- % of victims engaged with by the Service who respond to follow up that are satisfied with the service received.

Education Training and Employment

- % of children ending their engagement with the Service, where they have maintained or improved their education or employment engagement
- % of school age children with no school place

Serious Youth Violence

- Track a cohort of children convicted of SYV (Serious Youth Violence) for 12 months, report at 3,6,9 and 12 months to identify: re-offending patterns, seriousness, changes in risk, safety and well-being and formulate responses.

Staff Performance and Supervision

- % of staff subject to formal performance management
- % of staff receiving supervision in line with the BCT Supervision Policy

9.2 Education

Priority - All children working with the YOS have access to education, training or employment that is appropriate and responsive to their needs

The engagement of children into positive education, training, and employment (ETE) is a clear protective factor that contributes significantly to the prevention and reduction of offending. As such, in 22-23 the Service will re-commission, with a revised specification, education support for school age children. Investment will increase in 22-23 with the establishment of a new Education Project Co-ordinator.

Within BYOS, our aspiration is that:

- Every child who is struggling to engage in education is offered the support of a specialist education practitioner to support and promote engagement and reduce risk of exclusion.
- Support delivered by any commissioned service will take a trauma informed and restorative approach and will respond to the disproportional effect of discrimination in society, taking positive action to remove the barriers that inhibit engagement in education.
- Specialist education practitioners take a holistic, strengths-based approach to raising aspirations, building self-esteem, developing confidence, and help our children discover their talents and reach their potential.
- Our children have support from practitioners who believe in them, and who will work tenaciously to advocate on their behalf and champion them.
- Schools and alternative education providers are supported through the information we can provide to help them to better understand our children's needs.
- Where necessary we explore and identify or commission additional "in service" resources to support successful re-engagement.

In 22-23 the establishment and monitoring of a Birmingham YOS Virtual School register supports this priority. This will provide a timely and accurate overview of our children's engagement with education.

This register will provide clarity around their School roll status, along with details of their exclusion history, SEN needs and attendance levels. This additional level of information will enhance our educational assessments. However, critically it will also enable improved tracking, monitoring, and management oversight, creating the ability to proactively target support to ensure children are accessing a suitable education offer.

Within Birmingham we have a disproportionately high number of children with Education, Health, and Care plans (EHCP) and special educational needs (SEN) open to the Service. In our recent response to the YJB (Youth Justice Board) ETE enquiry 49% of children open to the Service had SEN support needs with 19% having an EHCP. In addition, a significant number have undiagnosed SEN needs and have not previously had their educational learning needs assessed, often due to sporadic or non-attendance. The Service continues to support children by providing access to Speech and Language Therapists who can assess and provide diagnostic reports, work directly with children, and provide support for Case Managers in their work.

The YOS now reports monthly to our Partnership Board Education lead and Board Sponsor, those children open to our Service who have no school place, allowing for further analysis and action to be taken.

The YOS employ an ETE Strategic Lead who has a clear and dedicated focus to support this priority. The ETE Strategic lead works closely with Partnership board members and sponsors, including the Head of Admissions and Alternative Provision within the Local Authority, the Head of City of Birmingham School Pupil Referral Unit, and the Head of Service for the 14-19 Team.

Within BYOS there is a wide and varied range of support and interventions available to all children, including:

- Speech and Language Therapists - commissioned to assess, plan, deliver direct interventions and provide advice, support, and coaching to YOS staff.
- ETE Re-engagement Programme - provides part time vocational training and accredited outcomes, delivered one to one or in small nurture groups, to act as a catalyst for re-engagement to mainstream ETE.
- Functional Skills provision – provides one to one education in Numeracy and Literacy where this is a barrier to re-engagement with ETE.
- Entrepreneurial courses – a credible provision for those who are motivated to learn how to make money legally.
- Boxing mentoring anti knife crime programme – boxing sessions, used to engage children in positive activities whilst having conversations around the dangers of knives.
- Music Studio Project - delivers high quality music making activities in a fully equipped professional recording studio. Children work alongside Producers, Lyric Writers and Musicians developing skills in the creative music industry and given a platform for expression and performance.
- Skill Mill Employment Scheme – provides 6-month employment opportunities for children, with a highly skilled and supportive YOS Skill Mill supervisor to support them in their employment journey.

The Service also benefits from strong partnerships with key organisations and other initiatives that support our work to promote engagement in education, training, and employment for our children. These include:

- Change Grow Live (CGL) Youth Promise Plus Project - providing intensive mentors to support children to secure ETE.
- Catch 22 Creating Opportunities programme – with links to work experience opportunities and major employers, and able to offer managed move support for those in ETE but are looking to a new opportunity.
- Aston Villa VIP and Chances Programme –funded programmes offered by the Aston Villa Foundation providing a sport based mentoring programme and diversionary sports sessions, with the aim to improve ETE outcomes.
- Choices Mentoring Resettlement programme – funded by the Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP) to provide holistic support for those coming out of custody and those at risk of Custody.
- The Alternative Provision Specialist Taskforce – a multi-disciplinary team, which includes YOS seconded staff, based within the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) environment to support those at risk of disengagement and improve their educational outcomes.
- The SAFE taskforce – support for mainstream schools for children at risk of permanent exclusion and reduce Serious Youth Violence.

In addition to the support provided above, the YOS will also commission bespoke services for children based on individual need where required.

9.3 Health

Priority – *Ensure that the health needs of children involved with the service are fully assessed, understood, and responded to effectively*

In 21-22 a detailed report was presented to the Birmingham YOS Partnership Board within which the health needs of 211 children were analysed. The findings of this revealed:

- 174 (82.4%) had a recorded GP.
- 29 (14.3%) children had an assessed physical health need.
- 126 (59.7%) children had an assessed substance misuse need.
- 132 (63.3%) children had an assessed mental health need.
- 146 (74.1%) children had an assessed speech and language need.

It further revealed several areas for improvement including:

- Completion of speech and language screening tools where there is an assessed need.
- Understanding the extent of neurodiverse conditions our children experience.
- Onward referrals and practitioner use of specialist health support.
- The need for further assessment around sufficiency of health support in the Service.
- Support for children who have experienced loss.

In 22-23, the service, with partners, have given a commitment and set a clear priority and expectation that every child coming into the youth justice service is able to benefit from a holistic health assessment

and appropriate support based upon need. A YOS Health Taskforce has been established as a subgroup to the YOS Partnership Board and is attended by senior health officers across the city. This work further benefits from three board sponsors and YOS staff who have volunteered to support this work.

Activity linked to this priority in 22-23 will include:

- Improvements in practice with the aim that our work with children is underpinned by a robust understanding of their health needs, including robust mechanisms for identifying and responding to neurodivergent children.
- A review of existing YOS Health arrangements, assessment of services based on local need and data analysis and a subsequent review of commissioned services, service specifications and contracts.
- The continued scoping of best practice in this field nationally across youth justice services but also within published reports, including recommendations from HMIP youth inspections. Links have been established with YJB National Strategic Lead for health to advise and support BYOS on this workstream.
- Ongoing work with the West Midlands Violence Reduction Partnership to ensure that services commissioned by them are maximised.
- Progressing psychology resource within the YOS to support case consultations, formulations, and individual and group staff reflective sessions, further strengthening trauma informed and psychologically informed perspectives across thinking and practice.

With partners, the service is committed to ensuring that the health needs of children in youth justice are understood and responded to. The health taskforce will ensure that this remains a high priority.

9.4 Over-Represented Children

Priority - Tackle disproportionality where it exists across the service

Children from a range of backgrounds and experiences are over-represented in the Youth Justice System. Local data and research indicate an over-representation of:

- Children in Care or children who have experienced social care processes.
- Children who have experienced trauma, adversity including exploitation.
- Children who have experienced exclusion from school, including permanent exclusion.

However, ethnic disparity in the Youth Justice System continues to be the single greatest challenge across the partnership and is an area we are committed to tackling. The Service continues to place a high priority to identifying and addressing issues of disproportionality, including ethnic disparity at all points within the system.

In 21-22 analysis of local data indicated in comparison to white children, all other ethnic groups combined accounted for:

- 63.0% of all First Time Entrants compared with 55.0% in the general 10 -17 population.
- 59.2% of all children receiving out of court disposals compared with 55.0% in the general 10 -17 population.
- 84.2% of all children receiving a custodial sentence compared with 55.0% in the general 10 -17 population.

- 81.1% of all children receiving a disposal for knife enabled offences compared with 55.0% in the general 10 -17 population.
- 65.7% of all children with a proven re-offence compared with 55.0% in the local YOT area 10 -17 population.

In 21-22 the Service:

- Established the members of the disproportionality working group, including board sponsors and practitioner representation.
- Sought volunteers to be disproportionality champions across BYOS.
- Invited the Trust Equalities and Diversity Manager to share the Trust Equality and Diversity Plan with Managers.
- Revised the Pre-Sentence Report quality assurance tool, with a focus on ethnic disparity.
- Developed and launched a PSR feedback form for Magistrates that captures the child's ethnicity and concordance with recommendations.
- Revised the out of court disposal processes, to ensure that it is child first considering the needs and vulnerabilities of the child, alongside risk to others.

In 22-23 the Service will:

- Deliver training around equality, diversity, unconscious racism, exploring the potential for local sentencers to join this event.
- Establish mechanisms for the monitoring, review and analysis of every first-time entrant, challenging decisions in real time.
- Explicitly consider adultification bias that specifically affects black children resulting often in their exclusion from being considered vulnerable, weaving this into every process reviewed and developed.
- Work with the Safe Taskforce as an active member of the board that intends to monitor ethnic disparity in relation to school exclusions.
- Strengthen relationships with community organisations and the third sector, improving our ability to support children and parents and carers to build systemic resilience through better access to local opportunity.
- Ensure that we have effective systems in place that are culturally sensitive and encourage feedback and participation.
- Exploring and developing appropriate interventions and group work, that responds to the needs of our children.
- Work across the region to understand and tackle the unnecessary criminalisation of children in care.

In support of our work and commitment to this area of practice, BYOS is currently working with Traverse, participating in the YJB's research project, "Understanding ethnic disproportionality in reoffending rates in the youth justice system". BYOS is also working with the Centre for Justice Innovation to capture the views of children who have experienced diversion and out-of-court disposals, particularly relating to ethnicity. The Centre for Justice Innovation anticipates that this project will expand the evidence base on diversion and provide clear practice recommendations informed by children. Once the final reports from

both research studies are available, BYOS will incorporate the findings into an evidence base of what is needed in order to try to reduce over-representation.

9.5 Prevention

Priority – Develop the YOS Prevention Offer

BYOS has historically employed dedicated Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Officers. However, their remit was limited to solely ASB preventative work. To address the growing need for a much more innovative and modern preventative offer for Birmingham children and their parents/carers, in 21-22 BYOS committed resources to a dedicated Targeted Prevention Team.

Prevention is defined by the YJB as *‘support and intervention with children (and their parents/carers) who may be displaying behaviours which may indicate underlying needs or vulnerability. In practice this involves a tiered approach of early and targeted prevention. The aim being to address unmet needs, safeguard, promote positive outcomes and stop children entering the formal youth justice system.’*

Recognising the value of prevention, a Prevention Team Manager was established and appointed, ASB Officers were re-designated to Prevention Officers and the team was expanded by 2 Prevention Officers. The YOS Prevention Team will predominantly provide a Targeted Prevention offer, although may well collaborate with BCT Early Help Services around early prevention where children are identified as being on the cusp of criminality or ASB. This parallel approach will be piloted in 22-23 and will enable the Service to strengthen practice and performance around reducing children becoming first time entrants to the system.

In 22-23, the criteria, pathway, referral, and assessment process will be finalised and launched, and work is ongoing to ensure that the team adds value and complements existing provision across the partnership.

- Whilst still maintaining the referral pathway for ASB matters from neighbourhood Police and housing, the team will expand its remit to also include requests for support from schools, Children’s Services, community groups, youth services, and parents/carers or self-referrals from children.
- Notwithstanding ASB matters, all preventative work will be consent based and voluntary.
- The focus will be to provide early help to children at risk of entering the criminal justice system.
- The Department for Education has funded an Alternative Provision (AP) Taskforce from September 2021 to August 2023. This is based and managed in the City of Birmingham (COB) Pupil Referral Units. BYOS has seconded 3 Prevention Officers into the AP Taskforce and the Service will work closely with the Taskforce and will sit as a member of the Taskforce Steering Group.
- From June 2022, a new and innovative partnership will commence at Birmingham’s custody suite. Through working in partnership with WMP, agreement has been reached where BYOS will be based in the custody suite Monday-Friday 9am-5pm offering a daytime Appropriate Adult service alongside prevention advice and support. Where children are arrested and subsequently no further action is taken or they are bailed, they and their parents/carers will be able to be connected to a Prevention Officer at the custody suite. The Prevention Officer can advise about the support that is available to them through the YOS or other services available. This means that

children are identified from a very early stage in terms of likelihood of offending, and research shows that the earlier an intervention, the more likelihood of reduction/desistance.

9.6 Diversion and Out of Court Disposals

In 21-22, BYOS undertook a full review of the local Diversion and Out of Court (OOC) processes to ensure all Birmingham children arrested, where appropriate, received fair access to diversion from the formal youth justice system. Diversion is defined by the YJB as the process *‘where children with a linked offence receive an alternative outcome that does not result in a criminal record, avoids escalation into the formal youth justice system and associated stigmatisation. This may involve the YJS delivering support / intervention that may or may not be voluntary and/or signposting children (and parent/carers) into relevant services. All support should be proportionate, aimed at addressing unmet needs and supporting prosocial life choices.’*

Police forces have a range of options available when dealing with children who have offended that either avoid criminalising them or avoid them having to be dealt with via the formal court systems.

Local data analysis underpinning this review highlighted issues around the outcomes for children at local panels including, minimal use of No Further Action, including Outcome 21 and 22 and a gap in the use of Youth Cautions.

This review, started in 21-22 and concluded in 22-23, was conducted collaboratively with WMP colleagues. As part of this review, a refreshed policy, set of practice expectations, and specific assessment tool were developed with West Midlands Police, co-chairs of the Panel, and was consulted on across the Service. The revised and bespoke assessment tool begins with the child first, incorporates their voice, includes the risk and desistance matrix from AssetPlus and includes a co-produced plan. The result is a high-quality system, that is professional, child first, trauma informed, and victim focussed. The Panel leads to timely joint decision making and seeks to achieve the right outcome for the child, that aims to prevent re-offending.

Under the new system:

- Assessment, approaches, and language are underpinned by child first principles.
- The refreshed OOC assessment tool starts with the child and has a clear section so that their voice is heard at Panel.
- There is a focus on the impact of trauma, maturity, development, and communication needs and offending.
- The views and wishes of the child, parents/carers and victims are all considered.
- The views of victims, parents and carers are represented through specialist practitioners and are afforded high significance in the discussions and decisions. Opportunities for restorative justice are considered in all cases.
- Decisions are proportionate and appropriate and informed by multi-agency information sharing and discussions with key partners.
- Diversion is considered in every case.
- Diversity, equality, and disproportionality are considered.

Across the West Midlands, Community Resolution (CR) diversions can be given to children without consultation with the local Youth Justice Service. These CRs can sometimes include direct referrals by WMP to an OPCC (Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner) commissioned service DIVERT, delivered by Cranstoun where children are found in possession of drugs.

Conversations have started within the West Midlands Youth Improvement Board to consider Police only CR's further and to explore the potential for all decisions regarding children to be made via local out of court panels. Conversations will continue in 22-23 with the development of a West Midlands Out of Court Disposals (OOC) Protocol.

Where children currently receive a CR, issued directly by WMP without consultation, BYOS has a robust screening Panel. Each decision is reviewed jointly by a Seconded YOS Police Officer and a YOS Manager to determine whether further YOS involvement could be beneficial for the child.

The work above is strengthened further through the commitment of the service to divert at every possible opportunity, including when children reach court. At the Court front door, a daily Court meeting screens all children and identifies those who may be suitable for diversion back to OOC Panel. Any such children are discussed with the Crown Prosecution Service and WMP and in 21-22 the service has successfully diverted several children to the OOC Panel in this way.

BYOS is a core member of the quarterly Scrutiny Panel, chaired by a member of the judiciary, looking at a sample of children subject to OOC diversions. As part of the development of a pan West Midlands OOC protocol, this scrutiny panel will be considered to ensure that it is effectively meeting the needs of children.

9.7 Serious Violence and Exploitation

Priority - *Improve the multi-agency management of risk and safety and well-being*

In 2021-22 167 serious youth violence offences were recorded against 99 children. This resulted in 103 outcomes. In comparison with 2020/21, this represents a 41.5% increase in the number of serious youth violence offences from 118, a 17.9% increase in the number of children (from 84) and a 18.4% increase in the number of outcomes from 87.

- Robbery accounted for 75% of the offences, with violence against the person the remaining 25%.
- Black and mixed ethnicity children are over-represented, representing 26.3% and 25.3% respectively, versus 10.7 and 8.4% of the 10-17 population.
- 52.5% of the children receiving an outcome for serious youth violence were assessed as having some form of educational need.
- 15% were a child in care at the time the offence was committed.

Understanding and responding to serious youth violence, gangs and the exploitation of children is a priority for the Birmingham Partnership. In supporting this aim:

- Birmingham YOS is a core member of the Gangs, Serious Violence and Organised Crime Strategic Board.

- The service is contributing to the development of a Serious Violence Strategy, linked to the Serious Violence Duty and the requirement within this for Youth Justice Services to work with partners to prevent and reduce Serious Youth Violence.
- The Head of Service is the co-chair with WMP of the recently re-formed Gangs and Serious Youth Violence Operational Group.
- There has been a full review of interventions available across the service with a focus on relationship-based practice and trauma informed responses to children.
- Investment and resources are being directed at the root causes of offending in children, i.e. health and education.
- The service is a key partner of the EmpowerU Contextual Safeguarding Hub and contributes to daily discussions and planning around children identified as at risk of exploitation and/or gang affiliated.
- In 22-23, a review of dedicated YOS investment in the EmpowerU Hub will be explored.
- Specific training for YOS staff will be delivered in 22-23 to support improved knowledge, understanding and practice in tackling this area.
- The Service continues to have a dedicated Prevent Lead at Practitioner level, representing the Service at relevant forums and promoting best practice across case management.
- The prevention offer as it develops will consider responses to children arrested and released under investigation or where no further action is taken, ensuring every possible early intervention is explored.

9.8 Constructive Resettlement and Use of Custody

In 21-22, in response to the local analysis of use of custody, through a range of targeted activity, Birmingham has successfully reduced the number of children being sentenced to custody and remanded. This included:

- A full review of the Pre-Sentence report processes including the development of a new report template and robust practice expectations to practitioners and managers providing management oversight. This was shared as best practice in a YJB Bulletin.
- Attendance and discussion at Magistrates forums around use of custody and the credibility of community-based options.
- The development of a feedback form for sentencers to use to support continued development and improvement of local practice.
- Strengthening approaches to packages of bail support, including involvement of the Intensive Supervision and Surveillance (ISS) team, where appropriate.
- Establishing and embedding a system around the use of Pre-Sentence Panels in all situations where children are at risk of custody.
- The development of an oversight tool where a Custodial Sentence or Remand into Youth Detention Accommodation (YDA) or Local Authority Accommodation (LAA) is made.

As a service there remains commitment towards ensuring that children should only be remanded or sentenced to custody as a measure of last resort. Custody can have a long lasting and traumatic impact on children and can adversely affect their life chances. Where the YOS assessment indicates that the risks

presented by children can be managed in the community, BYOS will always endeavour to advocate and support applications for bail or provide the courts with credible alternatives to a custodial sentence. Whilst progress has undoubtedly been made in this area, there remains more to do and in 22-23, there are several key activities that will be progressed.

- Reviewing practices with children's social care and placements teams where children are at risk of remand/custody to ensure that a robust joint plan is available for sentencers to consider.
- Ensuring that services within the Vulnerable Young Peoples Directorate, including Family Group Conferencing, Lifelong Links and Preparation for Adulthood are considered for children at points of transition and that children and parents and carers are connected as appropriate.
- Ensuring that all children being released from the secure estate are offered the support of the Violence Reduction Partnership commissioned services, in addition to the support available within BYOS.
- Commencing the conversations locally, including the OPCC to explore opportunities around alternatives to remand, including offering support to the current recruitment campaign for additional remand foster carers and placements.
- Exploration of opportunities to second an officer into Werrington YOI.
- Establishing a process and clear pathway whereby children subject to repeat, and often lengthy remand can be discussed with colleagues within CPS and HMCTS (Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunal Services) with a view to considering alternative solutions.

9.9 Restorative Justice and Victims

Priority - *Ensure that services to victims, including child victims, are considered in all cases, and are delivered well*

In recognition of the importance of support to victims and the need to improve, in 21-22 a Restorative Practice and Victim Manager position was established and appointed in the Service, to coordinate and bring consistency to the existing team of Restorative Practice Workers. Alongside this appointment and aligning with our drive to have relationship-based practice at the heart of what we do, a whole service restorative practice and leadership training programme was successfully commissioned and delivered.

Further investment in 22-23 will see a Referral Order and Volunteer Coordinator position established and recruited to, further supporting the offer to victims of youth crime. This will not only increase opportunities for victims to participate in restorative practice through attendance at Panels where appropriate but will also seek to review and standardise processes and practice.

In 22-23 the service will develop a clear policy and set of practice expectations relating to our work with victims, ensuring that the service is fully compliant with The Code of Practice for Victims of Crime England and Wales (Victim's Code). Furthermore, it will seek to clarify YOS practice expectations including:

- Ensure that every identifiable victim who has consented to support from the YOS is contacted within an agreed timeframe.
- Scope and clarify all available opportunities for victims to engage in restorative justice allowing children to make amends for harm caused.

- Ensure that the views, wishes and feelings of victims are represented and considered in appropriate multi agency forums, including Out of Court Disposal Panels, Pre-Sentence Panels and Risk Panels, improving victim safety planning.
- Establish systems for the collation, analysis and reporting of victim feedback including satisfaction with services received from the YOS, ensuring impartiality, and including opportunities to feedback anonymously where required.
- Clarify the expectations of joint work between the YOS Case Manager and Restorative Practice Workers.

In 22-23, victim contact, and impact will form part of the local indicator set reported to the YOS partnership Board. Quantitative and qualitative data will be available across the service and reported, allowing for detailed analysis that will drive development.

9.10 Standards for Children in the Justice System, Practice Quality and Consistency

Priority - Develop a Birmingham YOS culture and vision that secures quality and consistency of practice across the city

Substantial work has been delivered to understand better local areas for improvement and in 21-22 the internal audit and review programme consisted of:

- Five internal audit programmes, including children on court orders, children in custody and children subject to out of court disposals.
- The commissioning of an external consultant to undertake assessment exercises on Out of Court work and case management for children on court orders.
- Four internal learning reviews.
- An internal review of children placed at Oakhill Secure Training Centre, commissioned by the Head of Service at the time when concerns were raised about safeguarding practices within the establishment.

The findings from this activity included:

Areas of Good Practice	Areas for Development
YOS staff demonstrating relational practice	Quality and timeliness of assessments
Evidence of improvements made in quality of assessment and out of court process between the first external assessment exercise and the 2 nd one.	Quality of assessment and risk and safety management planning
Good liaison with parents and cares including when their children were in custody	Improvement in gathering information from key agencies
The day-to-day work with the children to implement their sentence was strong	Quality of the child's plan
Good joint working with partners	Improvement in the provision of ISS interventions

	Improvement in contact frequency and contact recording
	Quality of management oversight
	Increase in professional challenge and escalation

Birmingham YOS is on a journey of significant transformation and improvement. Whilst there have been several developments and improvements implemented in 21-22, which are beginning to show impact, the findings above, indicates there is more to do. In response, the following action has been taken or is underway:

- Review of Policy, Procedure and Guidance Documents including the development a set of clear and succinct practice expectation documents and reminders of key Trust and Safeguarding Policies, including the Resolution Protocol.
- Significant workforce development improvements including:
 - A new robust YOS specific induction process to accompany the Birmingham Childrens Trust Induction process.
 - Internal YOS Practice Development Sessions from May 2022
- Improved Partnership Working
 - With West Midlands Police and Electronic Monitoring Service (EMS) to improve the communication, monitoring, and enforcement.
 - With Oakhill Secure Training Centre to ensure incident reports are shared.

In 22-23, a Quality Assurance (QA) Framework will be developed and launched. This will include:

- A review of the current case management audit tool.
- Development of a local set of Practice Expectations and Standards.
- Audit activity alongside the case manager and line manager where appropriate.
- Contact with the child and parent/carer and victim (where appropriate) to seek their views on the services they are receiving.
- Production of 7 minutes briefings for all audits and reviews, identifying good practice, areas for improvement and actions.
- A programme of full case management audits and thematic audits, increasing overall audit activity within the service.

Planned audit activity in 22-23 includes:

- Managers Benchmarking exercise – June 2022
- Supervision Audit – July 2022
- Management Oversight Audit – August 2022
- Full case management audits in October and December.

9.11 Challenges, Risks and Issues

This is undoubtedly an exciting time for Birmingham YOS, and this plan has set out the opportunities and transformation plan for 22-23 and beyond. The scale of change within the Service is unprecedented, and whilst this brings with it opportunities, it also presents some challenges.

As previously discussed, Birmingham YOS is the largest in England and Wales. Consistency and quality of practice was an area highlighted as needing improvement in the latest HMIP Inspection. Although several key initiatives laid out within this plan seek to support improvements in this area, the scale of the city and Service means achieving consistency is more of a challenge and requires the structured approach to reform that is in place.

Alongside continuing the ambitious plan for reform, 21-22 has also seen a large-scale recruitment campaign with a number of staff leaving the service requiring replacement and new positions being established. As we endeavour to develop a robust workforce development plan, there has been substantial internal investment to ensure all new starters have the absolute best start to their career in youth justice. This has included internal training and development to ensure YOS staff have the skills and knowledge to deliver the best possible service to our children, parents and carers and victims.

In 22-23, the Service will replace its' current Case Management System, a decision taken to support the transformation programme and Service modernisation. There are 195 active users of the existing system, and migration to a new system will both require substantial resource and preparation, and transition will not be without its risks. A project group is developing the service specification and working through procurement processes to ensure that the new system purchased has the capability to move a Service the size of Birmingham without substantial disruption to service delivery.

Serious Youth Violence within Birmingham is rising. This not only presents the YOS and its partners with some challenges, but also leaves many of our children, victims and communities at significant risk of being seriously harmed. This rise in serious youth violence cross cuts with concerns regarding exploitation and gang affiliation, which often has its root causes in exclusion, poverty, abuse, and neglect amongst other things. This plan has clearly set out that we cannot tackle offending in isolation and has articulated the service's intention to work differently, creatively and with relationships at the heart of what we do. However, managing and containing risk through external controls is also a critical element to this and to the safety of victims and communities. A revised Risk Reduction Policy and set of operating procedures will support effective risk management and promote victim safety.

In 22-23, through the programme of activity outlined in the Board development section of the plan, the YOS Partnership Board will be further strengthened, under the leadership and direction of the Independent Chair, John Drew.

10. Service Improvement Plan

BYOS remains on a substantial improvement journey, with ambitions to get to outstanding. Our drivers align with those set out within the strategic YJB 21-24 plan.

In support of this ambition, the service benefits from a robust improvement plan. This plan not only responds to the findings from the latest service inspection by HMIP, but also captures:

- All development work being delivered under the strategic oversight of individual members of the leadership team, as has been set out within this plan.
- The recommendations from internal learning reviews and audits.
- Recommendations from HMIP Youth and thematic inspections, to help shape and influence local priorities and work.

- Recommendations from safeguarding practice reviews and other relevant inspections.

This plan is subject to the strategic oversight of the Head of Service and progress is reported to the YOS Partnership Board, the YJB (through additional monitoring) and Trust Executive. Planning and delivery benefits from a project manager who meets regularly with action owners to ensure that the plan is being delivered as expected.

As services are reformed, reference to findings will be a key consideration as we benchmark local practice against these, work creatively, innovatively and strive for excellence.

10.1 Workforce Development

In 21-22, there has been substantial work to invest in and develop the YOS workforce. As a service we are committed to ensuring that all staff have the appropriate skills and knowledge and are effective and competent to deliver high quality services to children, parents and carers, and victims. In addition, we want our teams to have access to a range of relevant development opportunities including opportunities to support their personal growth and professional development.

To fulfil the vision of a high performing, highly trained workforce, in 22-23 there has been a substantial increase in the training and development budget. The YOS 22-23 workforce development plan takes full advantage of training opportunities delivered by:

- The wider Birmingham Childrens Trust Academy.
- The Birmingham Safeguarding Childrens Partnership.
- The West Midlands Violence Reduction Partnership.

In addition, we will maximise the expertise within YOS to deliver in-house training, but have also committed resource to commissioned training for staff, including:

- Grief and Loss and links to offending in children.
- Understanding and responding to exploitation and serious youth violence.

Work commenced in 21-22 will continue in 22-23 and has included to date:

- Development of a training matrix to capture the various training requirements both mandatory and optional for the full complement of YOS staff including specialist staff.
- Integration with the Trust's Learning Academy so that all YOS training can be managed via this platform allowing for attendance monitoring and reporting.
- The development of a robust and effective induction programme bespoke for different roles within the service.
- The commencement of work on a Workforce Development Strategy to capture and set out the workforce development vision and principles Birmingham YOS aspires to including:
 - A restorative trauma informed approach both in the delivery and participation of all training.
 - A training plan that is robust and achievable, based on the learning from internal and external reviews; inspection findings and recommendations; internal audit activity; the training and development needs of the staff group and the health and well-being of staff.

Training Highlights from 2021-2022

- Appropriate Adult Training - all practitioners have undertaken Appropriate Adult training in preparation for the commencement of the AA in-house service provision from June 2022.
- Restorative Practice Training - all staff have undertaken a 2-day Restorative Practice Training, including a separate leadership programme for managers.
- Assessment Benchmarking - managers have taken part in a benchmarking exercise with a focus on quality assurance of AssetPlus, facilitated by the YJB.
- AssetPlus - all new case managers and managers have undertaken full AssetPlus training. This was also offered out as a refresher for those requiring it.

Training Impact

- In January and March 2022, two independent casework reviews were conducted around practice as it related to pre-court and post-court disposals. Between the 1st and 2nd review, all case managers had undertaken the AssetPlus training and in the feedback from the 2nd review, it was highlighted by the independent reviewer that the quality of the casework demonstrated the positive impact of this training.

Training Highlights for 2022-2023

In 22-23, having considered the local data analysis, and in support of the priorities, the following training will be delivered:

- Gangs, serious youth violence and disproportionality for all practitioners and some managers.
- Grief, Loss, and attachment – for all practitioners and some managers.
- Child Protection (with a focus on common child protection concerns for adolescents).
- UNITAS courses available for staff: Youth Diversion; Child First Effective Practice; Professional Certificate in Effective Practice.
- Equality and Diversity Training for all staff.

10.2 Board Development

As previously discussed, Birmingham YOS Partnership Board commits to meeting 8 times per year with 4 main boards and 4 practice Boards. The main Board meetings fulfil the governance requirements for the service, while the Practice Boards enable the senior partners to work alongside the service's management team on the key issues that need to be addressed to make the service outstanding. As such they are a key component of the Board's development.

Each area of focus has an assigned YOS lead, together with at least one Board member as sponsor. Working together between meetings, their role is to drive forward the specific development agendas. Specifically, Board members:

- Provide a key point of contact at board level for discussion and consultation for lead officers within the YOS.
- Champion at board level developments linked to the area.
- Co-deliver updates at board meetings where possible.
- Take an active interest and shared ownership of practice and developments in the area.

The Board and YOS Leadership Team have a clear forward plan, therefore allowing for meetings to be maximised in terms of effectiveness and productivity.

In 22-23, the forward plan has been aligned with Service priorities and is planned as follows:

Practice Board Forward Plan

Date	Board Focus	YOS Lead	Board Sponsor
17 th November 2021	Reducing the use of custody	Kate Albright, Assistant Head of YOS	Mary Spencer, Magistrate, HMCTS
6 th April 2022	Reducing FTE through proactive prevention and diversion	Rachael Phillips, Assistant Head of YOS	Jennifer Pearson, Superintendent, WMP
20 th July 2022	The health needs of our children and local response	Tracey Thomas, Assistant Head of YOS	Emma Cooper, Head of Nursing Complex Care, Forward Thinking Birmingham Gordon Strachan, Commissioning Manager Adult Social Care (Prevention/Complex)
5 th October 2022	ETE Development	David Webb, Strategic Lead for ETE	Steve Howell, Head Teacher City of Birmingham School Alan Mitchell, Head of Service, Schools Admissions, Attendance, Exclusions and Pupil Tracking
25 th Jan 2023	Participation and Engagement in BYOS	Cath Cheshire, Assistant Head of YOS	Mamps Gill, Head of Innovation and Engagement (Midlands), YJB Steve Howell, Head Teacher City of Birmingham School

Main Board Forward Plan

Date	Practice Topic	YOS Lead	Board Sponsor
23 rd Feb 2022	Health and Children in the YJS	Tracey Thomas, Assistant Head of YOS	Emma Cooper, Head of Nursing Complex Care, Forward Thinking Birmingham
25 th May 2022	Quality Assurance and achieving consistency	Cath Cheshire, Assistant Head of YOS	Jenny Turnross, Director of Practice (BCT)
24 th August 2022	Managing Risk HSB (Harmful Sexual Behaviour) Update	Kate Albright, Assistant Head of YOS Nikki Sofia, Team Manager	Dionne McAndrew, Assistant Director (BCT)
23 rd November 2022	Disproportionality (including response to letter from YJB)	Rachael Phillips, Assistant Head of YOS	Dionne McAndrew, Assistant Director (BCT) Mamps Gill, Head of Innovation and Engagement (Midlands), YJB Gordon Strachan, Commissioning Manager Adult Social Care (Prevention/Complex)

22 nd February 2023	Restorative Practice and Victim Support	Tracey Thomas, Assistant Head of YOS	Dionne McAndrew, Assistant Director (BCT)
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In addition, the Board held a Development Day, 'Getting to Outstanding'. This was jointly facilitated by the Head of Birmingham YOS and the Independent Chair of the Board in April 2022. This day focussed on several key areas:

- What is Good Governance?
- The Responsibilities of our YOS Partnership Board.
- The Responsibilities of Board Members.
- HMIP and Local Expectations.

The intention is to continue to build upon the initial development sessions with:

- Effective monitoring of Board Member attendance.
- Twice yearly one to one development and performance sessions between Board Members and the Board Chair.
- A Market Place Event planned for September 2022, to showcase the various strands of work delivered by Birmingham YOS to Board Members and an opportunity to meet YOS staff.
- Exploring the potential to invite Board Members to training commissioned by the YOS.

The Independent Chair is tasked with updating Board member development. Where a collective desire to improve focus on a specific issue or issues arises the Chair and the Head of the YOS will add opportunities for development during the year.

10.3 Evidence-based Practice and Innovation

The primary aim of all developments and improvements happening within Birmingham YOS is to ensure that those we work alongside are supported to achieve the absolute best outcomes, this is at the very heart of what we do and what we stand for. This plan has identified a number of innovative developments and improvements delivered in 21-22 and planned for 22-23, that are underpinned by evidence, research, and other examples of best practice across the sector.

In 21-22 the Service:

- Held an all-staff conference. With 180 attendees, colleagues heard from Dr Alex Chard on the findings of his Punishing Abuse Report, The Chair of the YOS Partnership Board and the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner for the West Midlands. As part of this day, we 'Re-Imagined Birmingham YOS as Outstanding' and the findings of round table conversations will be further informing future developments.
- A Service SharePoint Site was launched, a central point for policies, newsletters, YJB and Association of YOT Managers (AYM) Bulletins and all other service wide information.
- Monthly whole Service newsletters were introduced, streamlining communication across the Service. Within these successes are celebrated, key information is shared, new starters are introduced, training is communicated.
- A whole service RP training programme was delivered to support the move towards relationship based, trauma informed practices.

In 22-23:

- A new, child first Pre-Sentence Report Template was developed, this has been shared with other Youth Justice Service and was reported in a YJB Bulletin.
- AA delivery will be brought in house and daytime provision co-located at the Police Custody Suite.
- A child first/victim focussed Risk Management Policy will be developed and launched.
- Additional investment in education, training and employment has been committed.
- A YOS Health Taskforce has been established and will drive improvements in health services for our children. The YJB are interested in and supporting this workstream.

10.4 Looking Forward

This plan has set out detailed programmes of work for the Service in 22-23. High level Service priorities for 22-23 are as follows:

- Develop the YOS Prevention offer.
- Improve the multi-agency management of risk and safety and well-being.
- Tackle disproportionality where it exists across the service.
- Ensure that services to victims, including child victims, are considered in all cases, and are delivered well.
- Develop a Birmingham YOS culture and vision that secures quality and consistency of practice across the city.
- Ensure that the health needs of children involved with the service are fully assessed, understood, and responded to effectively.
- All children working with the YOS have access to education, training or employment that is appropriate and responsive to their needs.
- Developing a systemic approach to participation and engagement with all the people we provide services to.
- Improving governance, building a proactive and engaged partnership board.

The priorities above, which have been laid out within this plan, will be supported by other activity in year including:

- The commissioning of a new Case Management System within the Service.
- Establishing, delivering, and assessing the impact of a robust workforce development plan.
- Ensuring we continue to scan local and national publications to ensure the Service makes best use of the evidence and research available across and relevant to the sector.

11. Sign off, Submission and Approval

Chair of YJS Board <i>Approved on behalf of the Birmingham YOS Partnership Board</i>	John Drew
Date	27 th June 2022

Appendix 1:

Board Member	Job title	Organisation
Alan Michell	Head of Service, Schools Admissions, Attendance, Exclusions and Pupil Tracking	Birmingham City Council
Andrew Blyth	Research and Information Manager	Birmingham Childrens Trust Youth Offending Service
Carol McCauley	Senior Strategic Commissioner Mental Health	NHS Birmingham and Solihull Clinical Commissioning Group
Catherine Cheshire	Assistant Head of Service	Birmingham Childrens Trust Youth Offending Service
Councillor John Cotton	Labour & Co-operative - Glebe Farm and Tile Cross Ward Cabinet Member - Social Justice, Community Safety and Equalities	Birmingham City Council
David Webb	Education, Training and Employment Strategy & Performance Manager	Birmingham Childrens Trust Youth Offending Service
Denise M Wilson	Head of Finance Birmingham Children's Trust	Birmingham Childrens Trust Finance
Dionne McAndrew	Assistant Director Vulnerable Young People	Birmingham Childrens Trust
Elaine Kirwan	Director of Nursing - Mental Health Services Clinical Lead - West Midlands Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service Provider Collaborative	NHS Birmingham and Solihull Clinical Commissioning Group
Emma Cooper	Head of Nursing Complex Care	NHS Birmingham and Solihull Clinical Commissioning Group
Glen Baynton	Probation Delivery Unit Head – Central, South Birmingham, West Midlands Region	Probation
Gordon Strachan	Commissioning & Brokerage Manager, Adult Social Care	Birmingham City Council
Hannah Redfern	Employment & Skills Lead Officer	Birmingham City Council
Janine Saleh	Head of Service	Birmingham Childrens Trust Youth Offending Service
Jennifer Pearson	Superintendent	West Midlands Police
Jenny Turnross	Director of Practice	Birmingham Childrens Trust
John Drew	Independent Chair	Independent Chair
Kate Albright	Assistant Head of Service	Birmingham Childrens Trust Youth Offending Service
Lincoln Moses	Community Member	Chairperson Holford Drive Community Sports Hub, Birmingham
Mamps Gill	Head of Innovation and Engagement (Midlands)	Youth Justice Board
Mary Spencer	Magistrate and Chair of Youth Court Panel	Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service
Pamela A Powis	Senior Service Manager - Safer Places Neighbourhoods	Partnership, Insight and Prevention
Rachael Phillips	Assistant Head of Service	Birmingham Childrens Trust Youth Offending Service
Steve Howell	Head Teacher	City of Birmingham School
Tom McNeil	Assistant Police & Crime Commissioner for the West Midlands	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Tracey Thomas	Assistant Head of Service	Birmingham Childrens Trust Youth Offending Service

Appendix 2 – Service Structure Chart

Common youth justice terms

ACE	Adverse childhood experience. Events in the child's life that can have negative, long-lasting impact on the child's health, and life choices
AIM 2 and 3	Assessment, intervention and moving on, an assessment tool and framework for children who have instigated harmful sexual behaviour
ASB	Anti-social behaviour
AssetPlus	Assessment tool to be used for children who have been involved in offending behaviour
CAMHS	Child and adolescent mental health services
CCE	Child Criminal exploitation, where a child is forced, through threats of violence, or manipulated to take part in criminal activity
Children	We define a child as anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday. This is in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and civil legislation in England and Wales. The fact that a child has reached 16 years of age, is living independently or is in further education, is a member of the armed forces, is in hospital or in custody in the secure estate, does not change their status or entitlements to services or protection.
Child First	A system wide approach to working with children in the youth justice system. There are four tenants to this approach, it should be: developmentally informed, strength based, promote participation, and encourage diversion
Child looked-after	Child Looked After, where a child is looked after by the local authority
CME	Child Missing Education
Constructive resettlement	The principle of encouraging and supporting a child's positive identity development from pro-offending to pro-social
Contextual safeguarding	An approach to safeguarding children which considers the wider community and peer influences on a child's safety
Community resolution	Community resolution, an informal disposal, administered by the police, for low level offending where there has been an admission of guilt
EHCP	Education and health care plan, a plan outlining the education, health and social care needs of a child with additional needs
ETE	Education, training, or employment
EHE	Electively home educated, children who are formally recorded as being educated at home and do not attend school
EOTAS	Education other than at school, children who receive their education away from a mainstream school setting
FTE	First Time Entrant. A child who receives a statutory criminal justice outcome for the first time (youth caution, youth conditional caution, or court disposal)
HMIP	Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation. An independent arms-length body who inspect Youth Justice services and probation services
HSB	Harmful sexual behaviour, developmentally inappropriate sexual behaviour by children, which is harmful to another child or adult, or themselves
JAC	Junior Attendance Centre
MAPPAs	Multi agency public protection arrangements
MFH	Missing from Home
NRM	National Referral Mechanism. The national framework for identifying and referring potential victims of modern slavery in order to gain help to support and protect them
OOCD	Out-of-court disposal. All recorded disposals where a crime is recorded, an outcome delivered but the matter is not sent to court
Outcome 22/21	An informal disposal, available where the child does not admit the offence, but they undertake intervention to build strengths to minimise the possibility of further offending
Over-represented children	Appearing in higher numbers than the local or national average
RHI	Return home Interviews. These are interviews completed after a child has been reported missing

SLCN	Speech, Language, and communication needs
STC	Secure training centre
SCH	Secure children's home
Young adult	We define a young adult as someone who is 18 or over. For example, when a young adult is transferring to the adult probation service.
YJS	Youth Justice Service. This is now the preferred title for services working with children in the youth justice system. This reflects the move to a child first approach
YOI	Young offender institution

Title of proposed EIA	Strategic Youth Justice Plan
Reference No	EQUA951
EA is in support of	Amended Service
Review Frequency	Annually
Date of first review	01/04/2021
Directorate	Education and Skills
Division	Commissioning
Service Area	Commissioning
Responsible Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Catherine Moore
Quality Control Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Nigel Harvey-Whitten
Accountable Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Helen X Price
Purpose of proposal	EIA of draft Youth Justice Plan 2022-23
Data sources	Other (please specify)
Please include any other sources of data	Strategic Youth Justice Plan 2021/2022

ASSESS THE IMPACT AGAINST THE PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS

Protected characteristic: Age

Age details:

Service Users / Stakeholders

There is a statutory requirement in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Section 40, for every local authority, after consultation with partner agencies, to produce and implement a Youth Justice Plan. The plan sets out how local youth justice services are to be provided and funded. There is a requirement for the Plan to be submitted to the national Youth Justice Board (YJB) and published in accordance with the directions of the Secretary of State.

Birmingham, the biggest city in the UK outside London, is a diverse, multicultural city. The latest census figures identify that over 26% (274,135) of the population is under 18 years and 58% of these are from minority ethnic backgrounds. There are approximately 117,000 10-17-year-olds.

Birmingham is one of the most deprived local authorities in England

according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation statistics from 2019. Although many children achieve good outcomes, others face a range of challenges, particularly in terms of their wellbeing and staying safe.

Analysis of local data for 2022/23 has identified that the majority of first-time entrants were aged 15-17, with 54% aged 16 or older. The most prevalent offences amongst first time entrants were Violence against the Person, Motoring offences and Robbery.

Protected characteristic: Disability

Disability details:

Service Users / Stakeholders

The Youth Offending Service is a targeted service. Analysis using the Asset Plus data system for Birmingham shows that those who offend in this cohort:

- Eight in ten were known or suspected to have a health issue.
- Eight in ten were subject to school exclusion or attendance at multiple secondary schools.
- And a very high number of the cohort (nearly 3/4) have a speech and language need.

Of those that re-offend they were more likely to:

- Have Special Educational Needs.
- Be experiencing issues around school attendance/exclusion.

These indicate a level of learning and health need which could be indicative of disability.

Protected characteristic: Sex

Gender details:

Service Users / Stakeholders

9.8% of first-time entrants to the Youth Justice System were female. Girls and young women are supported by a dedicated team which seeks to improve their life chances, reduce their re-offending and improve tracking of progress for girls and young women going forwards

<p>Protected characteristics: Gender Reassignment</p> <p>Gender reassignment details:</p>	<p>Service Users / Stakeholders</p> <p>We know that wider work with young people indicates that this is an important and sensitive issue. Although not specifically addressed within the plan, interventions take account of this protected characteristic. Data which details this more fully will be collected.</p>
<p>Protected characteristics: Marriage and Civil Partnership</p> <p>Marriage and civil partnership details:</p>	<p>Not Applicable</p>
<p>Protected characteristics: Pregnancy and Maternity</p> <p>Pregnancy and maternity details:</p>	<p>Service Users / Stakeholders</p> <p>Support will be provided to entrants to the Youth Offending Services for those who need support with pregnancy and maternity services as part of the health universal offer.</p> <p>On the more general health point, the Youth Offending Services will ensure that access to health services within Birmingham will be available. We note that:</p> <p>82.4 % have access to a GP</p> <p>14.3 % have a physical health need</p> <p>63.3% have a mental health need</p>
<p>Protected characteristics: Race</p> <p>Race details:</p>	<p>Service Users / Stakeholders</p> <p>Birmingham, the biggest city in the UK outside London, is a diverse, multicultural city. More than half its one million population identified as non-white British in the 2011 census and that figure is likely to be higher in 2020. The population of children and young people in Birmingham are more ethnically diverse than the older population of the city and diversity increases with every cohort of children born.</p> <p>Black and Black British children are over represented in the Youth Offending Services cohort, for</p>

instance at twice the rate in the 10-17 population. We know that the Youth Offending Services is overrepresented in particular:

- Black, Asian, and other minority ethnic children accounted for 63% of all First Time Entrants compared with 55% in the general 10 -17 population.
- 59.2% of **all** children receiving out of court disposals compared with 55%.
- 84.2% of all children receiving a custodial sentence compared with 55% in the general 10-17 population

Youth Offending Services are inclusive and seek to have a positive impact on this characteristic.

Protected characteristics: Religion or Beliefs

Religion or beliefs details:

Service Users / Stakeholders

The Youth Offending Services, although targeted in nature, apply universal principles for sound working practice irrespective of religion. The services are therefore inclusive and have a positive impact on this characteristic.

Protected characteristics: Sexual Orientation

Sexual orientation details:

Socio-economic impacts

Please indicate any actions arising from completing this screening exercise.

Please indicate whether a full impact assessment is recommended

NO

What data has been collected to facilitate the assessment of this policy/proposal?

Contract monitoring data from current arrangement (measurement and performance statistics) are monitored by the multi-agency Youth Justice Board.

Consultation analysis

Improvement work in train in relation to inspection by HMP in 2020.

Adverse impact on any people with protected characteristics.

Not identified

Could the policy/proposal be modified to reduce or eliminate any adverse impact? Not applicable

How will the effect(s) of this policy/proposal on equality be monitored?

The performance metrics will be

continue to be monitored throughout the duration of the plan (see reference to the local performance metrics being created on page 15 of the YJP).

What data is required in the future?

Further data on cohort size of those with gender reassignment needs.

Are there any adverse impacts on any particular group(s)

No

If yes, please explain your reasons for going ahead.

Initial equality impact assessment of your proposal

Consulted People or Groups

Informed People or Groups

Summary and evidence of findings from your EIA

The new Youth Justice Plan has no adverse or negative impacts on citizens with protected characteristics. It seeks to improve the targeted support for a vulnerable group of children and young people.

It seeks to actively address the over representations (specifically race) that are evident and to have a positive impact as early as possible for young people. Working as early as possible with young people will provide the greatest opportunity for lives to be turned around.

QUALITY CONTORL SECTION

Submit to the Quality Control Officer for reviewing?

Yes

Quality Control Officer comments

Decision by Quality Control Officer

Submit draft to Accountable Officer?

No

Decision by Accountable Officer

Date approved / rejected by the Accountable Officer

Reasons for approval or rejection

Please print and save a PDF copy for your records

Yes

Content Type: Item

Version: 5.0

Created at 13/07/2022 05:45 PM by  Catherine Moore

Last modified at 13/07/2022 05:51 PM by Workflow on behalf of  Catherine Moore

Close

Birmingham City Council

City Council

13 September 2022



Subject: Decisions Not on the Forward Plan and those Authorised for Immediate Implementation

Report of: Satinder Sahota, Interim City Solicitor

Report author: Christian Scade, Interim Head of Scrutiny and Committee Services, 07517 550013, christian.scade@birmingham.gov.uk

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 : N/A

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report, which is required under Part B6.2 of the Constitution, sets out key decisions that were not included on the Forward Plan and all decisions that were authorised for immediate implementation for the municipal year 2021/22.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 That Council notes the report.

3 Background

- 3.1 Key decisions must be included on the Forward Plan not less than 28 clear calendar days in advance of the proposed decision. If a matter, which is likely to be a key decision has not been included on the Forward Plan, but it is impracticable to defer the decision, then the decision may still be taken provided it meets the requirements set out in the Constitution (Part B6.2).
- 3.2 Where there is an intention for Cabinet to consider matters in private, i.e. information that is confidential or exempt, 28 days' notice must also be given. This is done through inclusion on the "Notification of intention for Cabinet to consider matters in private". Any report containing confidential or exempt information that is not included requires agreement from the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee that the report is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred.

- 3.3 In an emergency, as set out under Part B6.6 of the Constitution, an executive decision may be agreed by the Chief Executive, following consultation with the Group Leaders, as long as the requirements set out in Part E4.2 are met. As an emergency decision is defined as one which has to be taken immediately, all such key decisions have been included in Appendix 1.
- 3.4 There is also a requirement for the Leader of the Council to provide details on any reports authorised for immediate implementation: i.e. where the interests of the Council are jeopardised unless an executive decision is implemented immediately and when its implementation cannot wait until the expiry of the call-in period.
- 3.5 Appendix 1 provides details on all decisions not included on the Forward Plan and those that were authorised for immediate implementation during the municipal year 2021/22.
- 3.6 In summary, last year (2021/22) there were 11 key decisions not included on the Forward Plan, including five urgent decisions taken by the Chief Executive. Overall, this compares with nine in 2020/21, one in 2019/20 and 11 in 2018/19. So far this year¹ (2022/23) there has been one.
- 3.7 In terms of reports authorised for immediate implementation last year (2021/22) there were 8 decisions that were not subject to call in. This compares with none in 2020/21, six in 2019/20 and five in 2018/19. So far this year² (2022/23) there has been three.
- 3.8 For completeness Appendix 1 also provides details on three decision reports (from 2021/22) containing confidential or exempt information that were not notified 28 days in advance of the proposed decision.

4 Legal Implications

- 4.1 This report is required under The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.
- 4.2 The information set out at Appendix 1 provides details in relation to all key decision reports not on the Forward Plan and those reports authorised for immediate implementation for the 2021/23 municipal year (in full). However, as set out in Part B6.2 of the Constitution, as amended by City Council in July 2022, the Leader of the Council will, moving forwards, submit reports to Council on a quarterly basis.
- 4.3 In addition to reporting to City Council, the information set out in this report will be presented to the Corporate Leadership Team as part of the City Solicitor's Assurance and Performance Report.

¹ As of 15 August 2022

² As of 15 August 2022

5 Financial Implications

5.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

6 Appendices

6.1 Appendix 1 – Decisions Not on the Forward Plan and those Authorised for Immediate Implementation

APPENDIX 1

LATE REPORTS NOT ON THE FORWARD PLAN AND THOSE AUTHORISED FOR IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION 2021/22

Table 1 of 2 – Late Reports Not on the Forward Plan¹

<u>Decision Date</u>	<u>Report Title</u>	<u>Decision Taken By</u>	<u>Key/Non-Key Decision</u>	<u>Reason for Late/Urgent Report</u>
12 October 2021	Bordesley Park (Wheels Site) Development: Strategic Business Case Update	Cabinet	Key Decision	<p>Intention to hold part of the meeting in private not notified.</p> <p>In accordance with the City Council's Constitution (specifically Part B6.2 xi "Intention to hold part of the meeting in private not notified"), agreement was sought for Cabinet to consider a key decision report which was not included in the Notification of Intention to Consider Matters in private. This matter was not included due to clarifications required on the procurement route for the Japanese Knotweed because of this we couldn't include on the PPAR. This resulted in the delay of the report and the value of the contract couldn't be included in the public report.</p>
9 November 2021	Equal Pay	Cabinet	Key Decision	Report in relation to Equal Pay to seek authorisation from Cabinet to the settlement proposal agreed, it had not been included in the Forward Plan as negotiations had been continuing up until the week prior to the Cabinet meeting.
14 December 2021	Highway Maintenance and Management PFI Contract	Cabinet	Key Decision	<p>Intention to hold part of the meeting in private not notified.</p> <p>The report was missed off the notification of Exempt Information. It has been noted on the Forward Plan that this report contained Exempt Information.</p>
14 December 2021	Use of Household Support Fund	Cabinet	Key Decision	Report in relation to the acceptance of time critical government funding. To ensure that Cabinet approval was given to the plans to distribute Birmingham's Household Support Fund allocation. Final agreement on distribution of the Fund was confirmed on Friday 3rd December. Proceeding to December's Cabinet would ensure that distribution to vulnerable households can begin as soon as possible.
18 January 2022	Utilities Procurement Strategy and Award April	Cabinet	Key Decision	<p>Intention to hold part of the meeting in private not notified.</p> <p>In accordance with the City Council's Constitution (specifically Part B6.2 xi "Intention to hold part of the meeting in private not notified"), agreement was sought for Cabinet to considering the key decision report which was not included in the Notification of Intention to Consider Matters in private. The matter was not</p>

¹ Including intention to hold part of the Cabinet meeting in private but not notified

	2022 – March 2026			included as originally there was no exempt report, and this was amended at the last minute for more clarity of the decision proposed
18 January 2022	Distribution of COVID related grants and reliefs	Cabinet	Key Decision	The late announcement by Central Government of the business rates COVID Additional Relief . Fund (CARF) and the Omicron related business grants scheme, both of which require urgent distribution to businesses within Birmingham in light on the latest COVID surge.
1 st March 2022 Special Cabinet Meeting	Contract Award for the Provision of R&M, Gas Servicing and Capital Improvement Work Programmes for 2022-2024	Cabinet	Key Decision	Procurement legal challenge resulting in alternative contractual arrangements being required to be in place by 1st April 2022.
22 March 2022	CCG Support Funding 2021/22 via Section 256	Cabinet	Key Decision	Proposal from Birmingham and Solihull CCG for transfer of funding made in March 2022. Availability of one-off NHS funding relates to the financial year 2021/22 and so needs to be transferred by 31st March 2022.
26 April 2022	Contract Award – The Renewal of Various Insurance Policies	Cabinet	Key Decision	In December 2020 Cabinet approved a strategy report for the procurement of various insurance policies (table below lists these) for 5 years – with a break after 3 years. In line with the Strategy report a further competition exercise using the Crown Commercial Services Insurances Services 3 Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) was undertaken. It was anticipated that following the tender evaluation the Award report, as with most procurement processes, would be signed by delegated officers. However as the difference between the strategy report estimate and the tender responses is the lesser of more than £500,000 or 20%, the Award report needs to be approved by Cabinet. The December 2020 Cabinet report was for an estimated total of £16,539,420. Following evaluation of the tenders the estimated total is £18,160,742 (a 9.8% increase). There is a need for Insurance cover to start from 1 May 2022 as we are unlikely to be able to extend our existing policies for a short period of time. Therefore, it is necessary for Cabinet to approve the Award report on 26 April 2022.

30 June 2022	Supported Housing Improvement Programme – Grant Application	Cabinet	Key Decision	The minister has announced there will be a further round of funding (£20m over 3 years) nationally. However based on the scale of issues in Birmingham and the work we have done to date with Govt they have asked if we could submit a bid in advance of the prospectus being released so the minister can announce prior to summer recess – this would mean us submitting a bid this week. This will potentially provide us with early reassurance of funding for our Exempt work up to 2025.
17 August 2021	Emergency Decision Notice – Proposed Termination of Home to School Provider	Chief Executive	Key Decision	There is a requirement to terminate an agreement with a supplier who delivers statutory services on behalf of Council due to a breach of contract. This decision cannot wait until the next scheduled Cabinet on 7th September 2021.
22 November 2021	Emergency Decision Notice – Use of Household Support Fund for Children Eligible for Free School Meals	Chief Executive	Key Decision	There is a requirement for the funds to be allocated during the Christmas Holidays). This decision cannot wait until the next scheduled Cabinet on 14th December 2021.
26 November 2021	Emergency Decision Notice – Infection Control and Testing Fund – Round 3 (October 2021 – March 2022)	Chief Executive	Key Decision	This decision cannot wait until the next scheduled Cabinet on 14th December 2021.

6 December 2021	Emergency Decision Notice – Workforce Recruitment and Retention Fund (21 October 2021 – 31 March 2022)	Chief Executive	Key Decision	The Workforce Recruitment and Retention Fund is a new Section 31 ring-fenced grant designed to support adult social care providers with recruitment and retention of their workforce over the winter period. This decision cannot wait until the next scheduled Cabinet on 14th December 2021.
13 January 2022	Emergency Decision Notice – Workforce Recruitment and Retention Fund Round 2 (10 December 2021 – 31 March 2022)	Chief Executive	Key Decision	The Workforce Recruitment and Retention Fund is a new Section 31 ring-fenced grant designed to support adult social care providers with recruitment and retention of their workforce over the winter period. This decision cannot wait until the next scheduled Cabinet on 18th January 2022.

*Further information on each of these decisions can be found on CMIS via: [CMIS > Meetings](#)

Table 2 of 2 – Reports Authorised for Immediate Implementation

<u>Decision Date</u>	<u>Report Title</u>	<u>Decision Taken By</u>	<u>Key/Non-Key Decision</u>	<u>Authorised for Immediate Implementation</u>
29 June 2021	Outcome of CIPFA'S Assessment of the Council's Financial Management Capability	Cabinet	Non-Key Decision	Yes
29 June 2021	Birmingham City Council Performance and Progress against Delivery Plan During Q4 2020-21	Cabinet	Non-Key Decision	Yes
7 September 2021	Birmingham City Council Performance and Progress against Delivery Plan During Q1 2021-22	Cabinet	Non-Key Decision	Yes
9 November 2021	Equal Pay	Cabinet	Key Decision	Yes
14 December 2021	Birmingham City Council Performance and Progress against Delivery Plan During Q2 2021-22	Cabinet	Non-Key Decision	Yes
18 January 2022	Focused OFSTED Visit to Children's Social Care	Cabinet	Non-Key Decision	Yes
22 March 2022	Birmingham City Council Performance and Progress against Delivery Plan During Q3 2021-22	Cabinet	Non-Key Decision	Yes
26 April 2022	Ukrainian Resettlement Support Scheme	Cabinet	Key Decision	Yes
26 July 2022	Hackney Carriage Maximum Fare Tariff Review	Cabinet	Key Decision	Yes - Inflationary pressures are so significant that we are having to review the maximum hackney

				carriage fares immediately otherwise the trade in the city may become unviable
26 July 2022	Kings Heath and Ladywood Community Centres – Boiler Replacement	Cabinet	Key Decision	Yes - Boilers providing all the heating and hot water have failed at two community centres and need to be replaced as soon as possible to avoid monthly temporary boiler hire charges; to avoid inflation impacting on the cost of the work in the intervening period; and to allow the replacement boilers to be installed before winter.
30 June 2022	Supported Housing Improvement Programme – Grant Application	Cabinet	Key Decision	Yes

*Further information on each of these decisions can be found on CMIS via: [CMIS > Meetings](#)

Birmingham City Council

City Council

13th September 2022



Subject: Birmingham City Council Corporate Plan 2022-2026

Report of:

Director of Strategy, Equality & Partnerships
Director of Council Management

Report author:

Assistant Director of Programmes, Performance, and Improvement
paul.clarke@birmingham.gov.uk

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 This report seeks City Council approval of the organisation's Corporate Plan 2022-2026, the draft of which was recommended for approval by Cabinet on 26th July 2022. The Corporate Plan brings together elements from other documents to provide a framework for the council's business planning for 2022-2026, and the context for service priorities, programme development and transformation activity by directorates.

2 Motion

- 2.1 That Full Council approves the Corporate Plan 2022-2026.

3 Background

- 3.1 Currently there are several key documents that provide the framework and context for the Council's strategic planning and delivery - including:
- A Council Plan 2018-2022 sets out six strategic outcomes the Council is aiming for through its delivery, enabling and influencing roles, and 28 priority aims that will help achieve those outcomes.
 - A Delivery Plan 2020-2022 that provides an overarching narrative regarding the Council's strategic context and direction; and set out the next steps in the

council's improvement journey, including the key opportunities for working differently in the context of increasing demand for vital services; changes to citizens' needs; diminishing resources; the ongoing climate emergency; and an uncertain national political picture.

- Investing in Our Future - What Birmingham City Council needs to do next: 2021 to 2026 which set out key next steps in the council's improvement including a proposed direction of travel for the leadership, design and organisation of the council, and establishing three 'pillars' for transformation.

3.2 The Corporate Plan 2022-2026 (attached at Appendix 1) brings these elements together into one document to provide a cohesive framework for the organisation's business planning and context for programme development and transformation activity. The Plan provides a summary of:

- The strategic context the council is operating in - including six 'grand challenges' the city is facing
- The strategic ambitions and priorities of the council - so that delivery plans, strategies and operational activity can be guided by them
- The ambition to continue to drive improvement in services to deliver and operate as an organisation and partner in the most effective, productive, and impactful way

3.3 Council Plan 2018-2022 priorities have been updated to reflect the progress made against them, the context the council is now operating in, and to reflect the priorities of the political administration. Addressing the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, tackling inequalities, and the 'levelling up' of the city are at the heart of the Plan, underpinned by the vision to make Birmingham a city where all citizens share in the creation and benefits of sustainable economic growth and live longer, healthier, and happier lives.

3.4 Updated priorities are presented using the 'Be Bold, Be Birmingham' brand. This brand goes beyond communicating the city's narrative on the aspirations and benefits of hosting the Commonwealth Games and encapsulates the council's statement of intent to be bold and ambitious as it works with our citizens and partners to build a Bolder Brighter Birmingham that is:

- Prosperous: through a focus on inclusive economic growth, tackling unemployment, attracting inward investment, and maximising the benefits of the Commonwealth Games.
- Inclusive: through a focus on tackling poverty and inequality, empowering citizens, promoting diversity and civic pride, and supporting and enabling all children and young people to thrive.

- Safe: through a focus on making the city safer, safeguarding vulnerable citizens, increasing affordable housing, and tackling homelessness.
- Healthy: through a focus on tackling health inequalities, encouraging physical activity and healthy living, supporting mental health, and improving outcomes for adults with disabilities and older people.
- Green: through a focus on street cleanliness, improving air quality, continuing the route to net zero, and becoming a city of nature.

3.5 The Corporate Plan also conveys an ambition to be a ‘best-in-class’ organisation. It re-iterates a commitment to continue to drive improvement and modernisation across our organisation so that priorities are delivered, enabled, and supported in the most effective, efficient, and productive way by:

- Transforming how we operate and deliver as one organisation
- Embedding our organisational values and behaviours into everything we do
- Ensuring a balanced and sustainable medium-term financial plan
- Promoting, championing and advocating diversity in everything we do

3.6 It is proposed the Corporate Plan be reviewed annually and updated if required to reflect changes in strategic context and priorities. A Corporate Performance and Delivery Plan will be developed setting out key performance measures and delivery milestones that will provide the basis for monitoring and reporting progress and impact against the Corporate Plan. This will form part of the council’s corporate performance reporting arrangements which will be aligned to the corporate plan priorities.

3.7 The Corporate Plan priorities will be delivered through both new delivery, enabling and influencing activity not yet developed, and current ‘business as usual’ activity and commitments being progressed through existing delivery plans, strategies, and transformation activity, many of which have informed the refresh of the Council Plan priorities.

4 Options considered and Recommended Proposal

4.1 Do nothing: the new Corporate Plan consolidates and updates elements of several other documents to provide a cohesive document at the heart of the organisation’s strategic planning framework. It articulates the Council’s vision, objectives, and priorities, and the continued transformation and modernisation of the organisation to best deliver those objectives, setting the direction for service planning and individual objectives. Doing nothing will mean we have a disjointed set of documents providing the context for strategic planning.

4.2 Recommended proposal: The Cabinet considered the draft Corporate Plan on 26th July 2022 and agreed to recommend approval on the basis it provides a cohesive

and coherent framework for the council's business planning and continued transformation activity for 2022-2026.

5 Consultation and Engagement

- 5.1 The Plan has been informed and shaped through engagement with Corporate Leadership Team, Directorate Management Teams, and Cabinet Members. The summary of 'grand challenges' facing the city have been developed with key partners through our City Board and were included in the Medium-Term Financial Plan agreed by Cabinet and Full Council in February, along with the main themes of the draft Corporate Plan (Prosperous, Inclusive, Safe, Healthy and Green). These elements were also discussed with Overview and Scrutiny Committees during June as part of informal work programme sessions, along with directorate priorities and activity agreed through business planning undertaken using the framework of the draft Corporate Plan priorities. Citizen focus groups were held to sense check the themes and priorities in the draft Plan.

6 Compliance Issues

6.1 How are the recommended decisions consistent with the City Council's priorities, plans and strategies?

- 6.1.1 The Corporate Plan 2022-2026 provides a refreshed statement of outcomes and key priorities to be used to develop the Council's policies, plans and strategies.

6.2 Legal Implications

- 6.2.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report. The Corporate Plan is not a statutory document or delivery plan.

6.3 Financial Implications

- 6.3.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report although the Corporate Plan 2022-2026 will provide a framework and context for resource allocation and spending decisions made in the future. The Corporate Plan is aligned with the Medium-Term Financial Plan, and together provide the framework for the council's business planning for 2022-2026, informing budget and resource deployment decisions.

6.4 Procurement Implications (if required)

- 6.4.1 There are no direct procurement implications arising from this report.

6.5 Human Resources Implications (if required)

- 6.5.1 There are no direct Human Resources Implications arising from this report.

6.6 Public Sector Equality Duty

- 6.6.1 The Corporate Plan 2022-26 commits the Council to act to address the many challenges the city of Birmingham faces, such as higher than average levels of employment, homelessness, and child poverty. The analysis of these challenges

and opportunities plots how issues need to be addressed at several stages of citizens' lives and the priorities in the draft Plan reflect this.

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Corporate Plan 2022-2026

Appendix 2: Equality Impact Assessment



CORPORATE PLAN

2022-2026

TO SUPPORT, TO SERVE, TO LEVEL UP

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FOREWORD

by the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive



Cllr Ian Ward
Leader of the Council

We are delighted to introduce our Corporate Plan for 2022-2026, which sets out our strategic priorities and the outcomes we are aiming to deliver, enable and influence as a council. The Plan also states our ambition to transform the council, so we can serve the city and its citizens in the most effective way.

Birmingham and its citizens face significant opportunities and challenges and the council must be bold, ambitious, and confident: Bold in its aspiration, ambitious in setting its priorities, and confident in its ability to delivering them. This Plan provides a common basis for our strategic planning and a focus on tackling inequalities and creating opportunities for citizens to live longer, healthier, and happier lives.

This is a golden decade of opportunity for the people and communities of Birmingham. The years ahead, framed by the Commonwealth Games in

the summer of 2022 and the arrival of HS2 around a decade later have the potential to be a period of unparalleled success for Birmingham. We are a young and diverse city, connected into the global economy and cultures, bursting with creativity and invention and bold enough to grasp the opportunities ahead. We are uniquely placed to prosper in the modern, green economy now being created.

To do that we must respond to the grand challenges facing the city. The COVID crisis has highlighted the deep-seated inequalities that exist between places and communities across our city, and between Birmingham and the rest of the country. We need to be honest about the levels of unemployment, the health inequalities, the extent of the climate emergency, opportunities for young people, and the need to further build community resilience and tackle crime. We must be bold and ambitious about our role in addressing them.



Deborah Cadman OBE
Chief Executive



Our response needs to be rooted in our belief in the potential of all Birmingham people and our commitment to empower communities to build our future together. We need to strive for prosperity and opportunity for all in order to level up the city. What we deliver for Birmingham must be informed by the people of Birmingham, so we will increasingly draw on data and insight, along with citizen feedback and lived experience, so that we deliver what we know our citizens need.

We will need to connect with communities in a meaningful way, placing them at the heart of our decision making and empowering them to flourish and succeed. This will require strong partnerships and collaboration to deliver better outcomes, which means working as one organisation, being confident about our asks of partners, and clear about our own contribution.

Our citizens, businesses and partners deserve the best, and we should be relentless in our drive for excellence. We need to live and breathe

our organisational values. Our three principles of transformation should guide how we design and deliver our services, so that we embed early intervention into everything we do, ensure the growth coming to the city benefits our residents and we build an organisation with the capacity and capability to deliver best in class services for all our citizens. We need to be bold in our thinking and actively look to learn from others. We should be honest, not defensive, about things we need to improve.

The opportunities and challenges facing the city and council are the reasons why we need this Plan. A Plan that sets out what we want to accomplish through our service delivery, enabling and influencing roles, and how as an organisation we will operate and behave to help achieve a prosperous, inclusive, healthy, safe and green city.

Cllr Ian Ward
Leader of the Council

Deborah Cadman OBE
Chief Executive

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PLAN

This Plan sets Birmingham City Council's vision and priorities for 2022-2026 so that employees, councillors, delivery partners and other stakeholders understand:

- The strategic context the council is operating in - including the 'grand challenges' the city needs to respond to and opportunities we need to build on
- The strategic priorities of the council - so that resources, delivery plans, strategies and operational activity can be aligned to them
- How the council will continue to transform and drive improvement in services to deliver our priorities and operate as an organisation and partner in the most effective, productive, and impactful way

The Plan replaces the Council Plan 2018-22 and presents a refreshed set of priorities for 2022-2026 that reflect the context we are now operating in, addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, tackling inequality and supporting the 'levelling up' of the city.

INTRODUCTION

This plan brings together the main elements of our mission as a council to:

- **Support:** Our mission is to support, enable and encourage our citizens to fulfil their true potential by breaking down barriers and tackling inequalities; to support our citizens to have a voice and to be heard; to support our communities to improve the areas in which they live and shape the world around them.
- **Serve:** Our mission is to provide best-in-class public services, by striving for continuous improvement, being innovative and working in partnership to meet the needs of our citizens and our communities.
- **Level Up:** Our mission is to create a fairer, stronger city where all citizens share in the creation and benefits of more sustainable economic growth, where our citizens live longer, healthier and happier lives.

SUPPORTING STRATEGIES AND PLANS

This Plan and the priorities in it are supported by a range of strategies and programmes (both current and new) which set out how and what the Council will deliver, including:

- Delivery strategies and policies – strategies (some of which are statutory plans) that set out detailed actions and outputs which will help deliver priorities, for example Route to Zero Plan, Economic Recovery Strategy, Our Future City Plan, Birmingham Transport Plan, Homelessness Prevention Strategy, and many more.
- Place-based strategies - for priority areas such as the East Birmingham Inclusive Growth Strategy, the Perry Barr Masterplan and Birmingham Curzon HS2: Masterplan for growth.

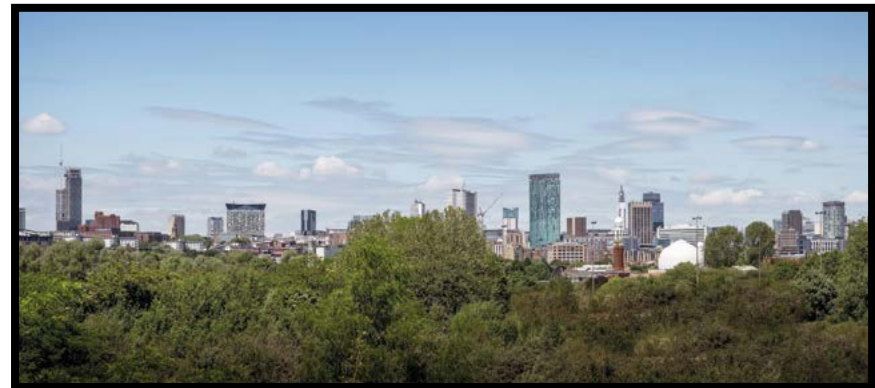
There are also plans and programmes which support and enable the council to deliver priorities in an effective, efficient, and productive way - including:

- The Budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan: sets out how the council's financial resources will be deployed. The Budget outlines the council's financial income and

expenditure for 2022/23 and the Medium-Term Financial Plan sets out how the council intends to deploy its financial resources to 2025/26.

- Plans to improve the council's effectiveness and modernise its ways of working, for example through its Workforce Strategy, ICT & Digital Strategy, Transformation Programme and Everyone's Battle, Everyone's Business (the action plan to address inequalities within our organisation and through our civic leadership).

A Delivery and Performance Plan will outline the key actions, activity and metrics that support the delivery of the Corporate Plan priorities.



The context for this plan

A CITY OF OPPORTUNITY AND POTENTIAL

Birmingham is a city with enormous opportunity and boundless potential. It is one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse cities outside London, which brings with it a wealth of creativity, talent, entrepreneurship, and energy. We are one of the youngest cities in Europe and nearly half of our citizen population are under 30 years of age and represent a bright future for the city and for the region.

The city's economic fundamentals are strong and diverse with bases in advanced manufacturing, financial services, and technology, set within the wider West Midlands economy. This is supported by the investments we are making in our city's infrastructure, and the completion of the Midlands Metro expansion and arrival of HS2 will provide greater connectivity to, from and within the city.

Through the Commonwealth Games in 2022, the city is hosting one of the largest multi-sports event in the world, with a million visitors and more than 1 billion people watching us from around the world. The stage is set for us to bring forward a golden decade for the city.

THE 'GRAND CHALLENGES' FACING THE CITY

To fully grasp and exploit these opportunities we must understand, acknowledge, and address some major challenges facing the city. From climate change to historic inequalities, from helping our young people thrive to enabling our citizens to live well into old age, our path to prosperity requires us to respond to these. More than 1 in 9 of our working age people have no qualifications. 4 in 10 children are living in relative low-income families, and too many children die before they reach their first birthday. Health inequalities remain stark and unemployment rates in the city are higher than the national average.

Through this Corporate Plan we are restating our commitment to tackling inequalities, ensuring it is at the heart of our mission and the thread that runs through everything the council does as it plays its role in responding to six 'grand challenges' facing the city:

1. EQUALITY AND INCLUSION

Many of the challenges facing the city and its citizens stem from historic and structural inequalities within our society and economy, and the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed and compounded the difficulties our most vulnerable citizens face in their daily lives. The rising cost of living has added further pressures. For too many of our citizens the opportunities in the city are out of reach. This holds people back from reaching their full potential, and often pushes people to seek help from us and our partners, increasing pressure on the cost and provision of public services.

2. UNEMPLOYMENT, SKILLS, AND THE LOCAL ECONOMY

The COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting closure of businesses and reduction in trade and revenue has had a damaging impact on the Birmingham economy, setting back the impressive economic growth we have seen in recent years. Jobs have been lost, unemployment rates are high, we have below national average levels of skills, and too many people have low rates of pay. This affects the quality of life, health, and pressure for affordable housing.

3. HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Health inequalities in Birmingham remain stark and have been made worse by the COVID-19 pandemic. Low life expectancy and chronic conditions such as diabetes afflict our poorest communities far worse than those living in more affluent circumstances. Birmingham also has a high rate of limiting, long-standing and chronic illness which starts earlier in life and means more people risk being excluded earlier from opportunity and living healthy lives. We must prevent ill health and maximise health and wellbeing for everyone in Birmingham through safe and secure homes and shaping a healthier environment for citizens that enables them to achieve their potential and aspirations at every age.

4. COMMUNITY RESILIENCE, COHESION AND LIVING STANDARDS

Birmingham has long been a vibrant and diverse place that is a proud home to a diverse mix of people of all ages, ethnicities, faiths, and lifestyles. But, there is a need to further strengthen resilience and cohesion within our communities given the inequalities that have been intensified by the pandemic, the inequalities given focus through the Black Lives Matter and #MeToo movements, and the serious issue of engrained violent crime. Our citizens have weathered the hardships of the pandemic and we must now work with them to help to build resilience and opportunities, celebrate and strengthen local communities so all people in the city can thrive in Birmingham's future.

5. CLIMATE EMERGENCY

The climate crisis has never been more urgent for our city, nation, and humanity. The United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) lays bare the state of Earth's climate and nature emergency and the need for us to take action to address it. We have embraced our responsibilities to the climate, with the council declaring a Climate Emergency, establishing a Route to Zero taskforce, drawing up a plan to be a City of Nature and launching a Clean Air Zone. Leadership and drive are required to achieve our climate goals, going beyond them where possible, and linking to work on transitioning our economy to become fairer and to grow sustainably.

6. OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Our young people are one of our greatest strengths and represent a bright future for Birmingham. But the pandemic has been particularly tough on them, and we need to help build a bright future for them. Too many of our children and young people do not get a good start in life, with nearly 40% of children living in relative poverty. They need to prosper, and for many their prospects have been damaged by the COVID-19 pandemic. Lots of our young people are unemployed and struggling to find work and disparities between attainment of pupils in the state and independent sectors has worsened.

Our response: What we want to deliver, enable and influence

We understand the opportunities and 'grand challenges' facing the city. We know it is our mission to respond to them. We will Be Bold in our ambitions. And we will Be Bold in how as a council we will continue to support, enable and empower the city and its citizens and businesses to reach their potential.

OUR VISION FOR THE CITY

Through the council's delivery, enabling and influencing roles, we will play our part in strengthening Birmingham's position as a thriving, young and diverse global city, as the beating heart of the UK both commercially and culturally; a place where everyone is included in the opportunities that the city can offer; a place where we can celebrate our heritage with a sense of pride and also look forward with a sense of optimism to a golden decade of shared opportunity in a Bolder, Better Birmingham.

Tackling inequalities is at the heart of our mission and at the centre of everything we do.

We will help make Birmingham **a city where all citizens share in the creation and benefits of sustainable economic growth and can live longer, healthier, and happier lives.**

LEVELLING UP BIRMINGHAM

Our Prosperity and Opportunity for All Strategy sets out a clear ambition to tackle the long-standing and deep-rooted structural inequalities. It sets out what is required to 'level up' the city so all citizens regardless of background, and especially those with the most disadvantage, have the opportunities and capability to access, shape and benefit from a good education, skills needed for career progression, fulfilling and well-paid jobs, affordable housing, effective public services, well-connected physical and digital infrastructure; and a high-quality living environment, rich in culture, amenities and green open spaces.

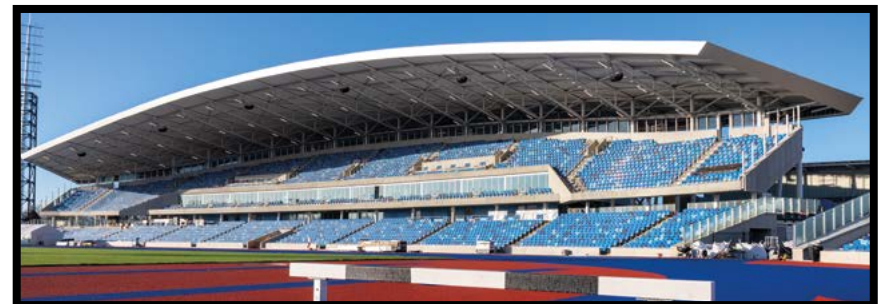
Birmingham is already levelling up, bringing forward major development programmes, harnessing unique opportunities such as HS2 and the Commonwealth Games, embedding community wealth building and inclusive growth to retain wealth locally, and taking a labour market approach to raise skills and pay and connect people to opportunities.

For a step-change and acceleration above and beyond what we can do currently, we are seeking Government and partner involvement in the support, development and implementation of five 'levelling up accelerators':

1. A long-term, single pot funding and further devolved powers, giving us the ability to address issues in our city at scale and pace
2. An integrated local place delivery through the East Birmingham Inclusive Growth Strategy, covering 250,000 people to tackle deep levels of deprivation
3. Embedding our early intervention and prevention model to assist the most disadvantaged citizens and move from dealing with crises to co-designed support and services to stop these arising
4. A green and digital infrastructure including a comprehensive green, reliable, frequent, and affordable transport network
5. A housing retrofit programme across the cities of Birmingham, Coventry, and Wolverhampton to tackle carbon emissions and create jobs in areas that need it most

COMMONWEALTH GAMES: DELIVERING A BOLD LEGACY FOR BIRMINGHAM

The council is playing a central role in ensuring all residents and communities can embrace the Games and realise its long-term benefits. Birmingham's legacy will be realised through both physical assets (including new facilities, enhanced infrastructure, and more sustainable public spaces) and community, social and economic opportunities (including increased access to apprenticeships and volunteering roles). The Birmingham City Council Legacy Plan (Delivering a Bold Legacy for Birmingham) provides a strategy and detailed plan to capture these benefits while supporting the council's response to the grand challenges set out in this Corporate Plan.



WORKING WITH PARTNERS AND CITIZENS

We can only achieve these ambitions through working in partnerships with citizens, communities, delivery, and strategic partners. Responding to the challenges impacts on all of us as citizens and stakeholders in our city and we all have a part to play in addressing them. Our partnerships are valuable and we are committed to build on the learning from the last two years responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and the journey towards the Commonwealth Games to deepen these relationships and demonstrate as a city we are much more than the sum of our parts.

We will continue to work with our diverse partnerships including the community and voluntary sector, faith and cultural sectors, academic and commercial sectors, NHS, police, regional partners (including the West Midlands Combined Authority) and many others.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND OUTCOMES

We will focus our transformation, delivery, enabling and influencing activity as one council to Be Bold and respond to the city's challenges and opportunities to achieve:

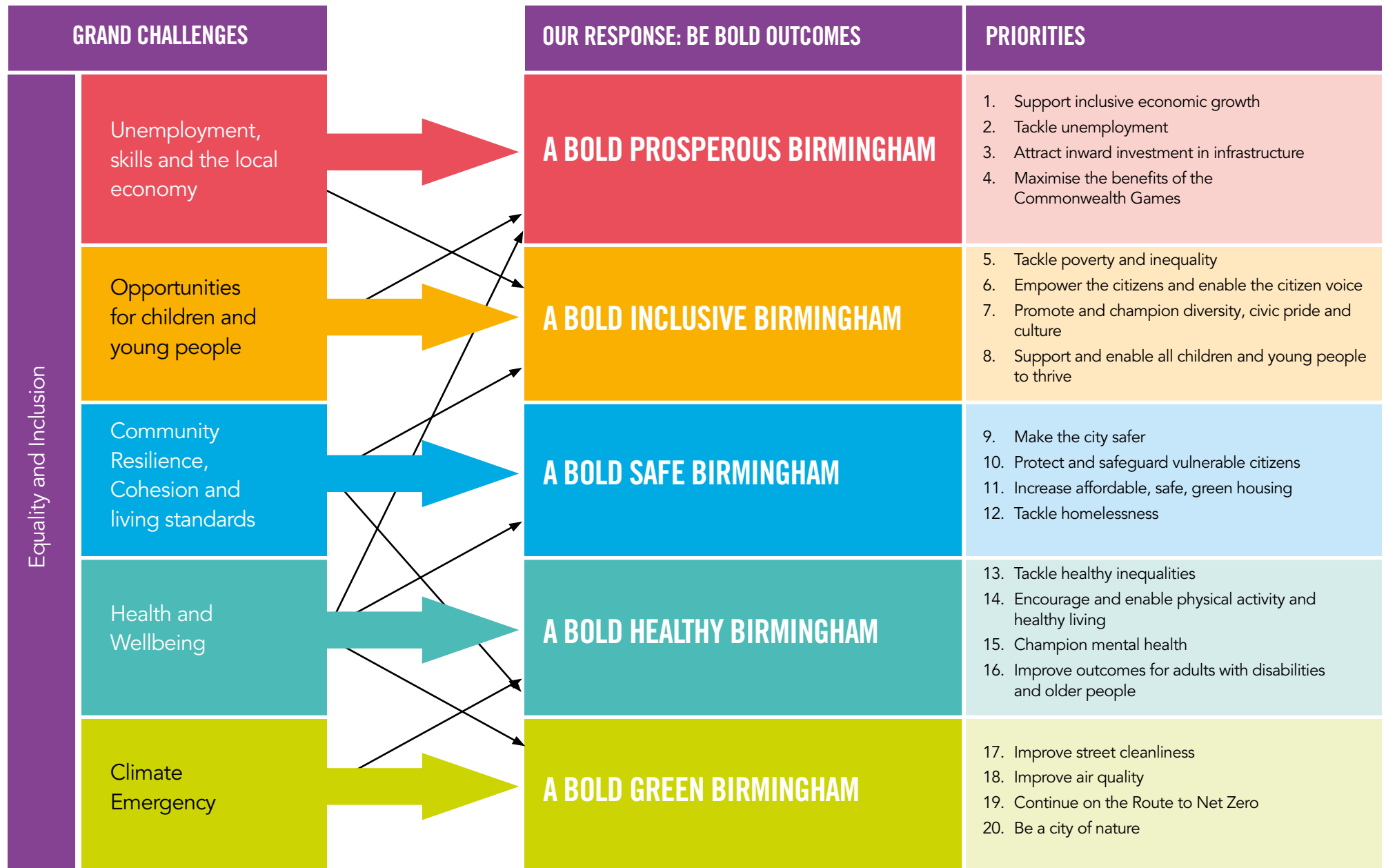
- **A Bold Prosperous Birmingham**
- **A Bold Inclusive Birmingham**
- **A Bold Safe Birmingham**
- **A Bold Healthy Birmingham**
- **A Bold Green Birmingham**

The following pages set out the council's priorities to achieve that. They reflect the context we are now operating in, addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, tackling inequality, and supporting the 'levelling up' of the city.

The ambitions in this Plan are interconnected. A more prosperous, inclusive, safer, healthier, and greener city are all critical to building a better Birmingham. Many of the priorities and the outcomes sought from them are dependent on one another.

For example, we know well-paid employment, affordable homes and transport, clean air and access to green spaces can all contribute to good physical and mental health.







PRIORITIES



A BOLD PROSPEROUS BIRMINGHAM

AMBITION:

Birmingham will be a city where everyone has an opportunity to prosper from its economic growth and development. Working with residents, schools, communities, and businesses, we will help them to succeed and thrive with bold opportunities through employment and skills programmes, education, transformative regeneration, and economic recovery packages. We will continue to build a bolder prosperous Birmingham in a golden decade of opportunity starting with the Commonwealth Games 2022 and supported through the arrival of HS2 and major development and regeneration including at Smithfield, Perry Barr and East Birmingham.

Outcomes for the city and citizens:

- Economic recovery and inclusive growth
- More citizens in employment
- Higher rates of pay
- Increase in skill levels and qualifications
- Major regeneration projects and infrastructure across the city
- Economic benefits and legacy from the Commonwealth Games

PRIORITIES

#1 Support inclusive economic growth:

We will work with businesses, colleges and universities, anchor institutions, community sector and unions to accelerate a stronger, fairer, inclusive and greener city economy building on our strengths and diversifying further, increasing investment, supporting business growth, build and retain wealth locally, and help bring back and create more and better paid jobs.

#2 Tackle unemployment:

We will seek to tackle and reduce barriers to employment, working with a range of partners to increase access to better paid jobs, expand the number and availability of apprenticeships, and increase qualifications and skill levels to enable all citizens, including young people and people with disabilities, to get the opportunities ahead especially those in the most disadvantaged circumstances.

#3 Attract inward investment and infrastructure:

We will continue to work with the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA), West Midlands Growth Company, businesses and other stakeholders to develop the infrastructure needed to power our city for the 21st century – so we are a city with a modern green, accessible, transport system, universal gigabit connectivity and 5G for citizens and businesses, green and clean energy. We will continue to harness our land and assets to support and attract businesses to our city.

#4 Maximise the benefits of the Commonwealth Games:

We will continue to exploit the employment opportunities and other benefits of hosting the Games for Birmingham's economy, businesses and citizens, including the implementation of the 'Delivering a Bold Legacy for Birmingham' Plan and bids for further major events in the city.



A BOLD INCLUSIVE BIRMINGHAM

AMBITION:

Birmingham will be a thriving, happy and connected place where everyone is included in the opportunities that the city can offer. Building on partnerships old and new whilst sustaining community involvement we will become a city that benefits from strengthened connections between communities, increased fairness, and reduced inequalities. We will be an age, disability and child friendly city that tackles poverty and exclusion. We will be a city where our citizens experience accessible public services and have a say in how Birmingham is run. We will work with and help citizens so that in their homes, schools, and communities they feel better connected, included, and empowered to be active in influencing the decisions that affect their lives.

Outcomes for the city and citizens:

- More residents who play an active role in civic society
- Reduced levels of inequality
- Fewer children living in poverty
- Cultural opportunities flowing from the Commonwealth Games
- Higher levels of educational attainment for children
- Higher levels of access to childcare and early years services
- Improved quality of life for children and young people

More young people in education, employment, or training

PRIORITIES

#5 Tackle poverty and inequalities:

We will work with partners and citizens to address food, fuel, and pay poverty, and tackle digital exclusion. We will ensure our own workforce better reflects the diversity of our city. We will work with partners across all sectors to break down the barriers to opportunity for all citizens in the city, including people with disabilities, limiting longstanding illness and those from the most excluded communities.

#6 Empower citizens and enable the citizen voice:

We will continue to work closely with communities and to strengthen the community voice and develop active and empowered citizenship so citizens can have local influence and involvement in how their area is run and enable great places to live, where people know and look out for each other, strengthening connectivity and cohesion.

#7 Promote and champion diversity, civic pride and culture:

We will build on the benefits of hosting the Commonwealth Games in a way that builds cohesion, inclusion, and civic pride and uses the Games as a turning point in uniting the city's population and tackling inequalities. We will take new approaches to factor culture into major developments and regeneration.

#8 Support and enable all children and young people to thrive:

We will support all children and young people to have the best start in life and achieve their full potential. We will work with early years services and schools to improve access and quality and improve educational attainment. We will continue our corporate parenting role and improve the wellbeing and quality of life for children and young people, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disability. We will work with parents and carers to improve access to opportunities and reduce the numbers of children in poverty.



A BOLD **SAFE** BIRMINGHAM

AMBITION:

Birmingham will be a city with vibrant and flourishing neighbourhoods that are safe and affordable, where vulnerable citizens are protected and supported, where diversity is celebrated, and citizens have pride in where they live. We want a city and communities with a strong sense of belonging and where everyone has access to a high-quality living environment, rich in culture and amenities, and good quality and affordable housing.

Outcomes for the city and citizens:

- Less crime and anti-social behaviour
- More people feeling safer
- More affordable housing
- Increased levels of walking and cycling
- Less homelessness

PRIORITIES

#9 Make the city safer:

We will work with citizens and partners, including West Midlands Police, to reduce crime, tackle anti-social behaviour and improve community and road safety so people feel safe in their daily lives, and feel it is easier and safer to walk and cycle in Birmingham.

#10 Protect and safeguard vulnerable citizens:

We will ensure vulnerable citizens are protected, supported, and safeguarded, and where necessary looked after. We will work with partners to help prevent domestic abuse and violence against women and girls, and address violent crime in the city, including hate crime and knife crime.

#11 Increase affordable, safe, green housing:

We will establish a housing programme that meets the needs of our citizens, building new homes and retrofitting existing homes, including increasing the supply of quality affordable safe, warm, and green housing. We will increase investment in the quality of Birmingham City Council's social housing and its communities, improving the quality of life for people who live there, ensuring they feel safe and secure.

#12 Tackle homelessness:

We will work with our partners to prevent and tackle rough sleeping and homelessness and have housing solutions to meet the needs of our vulnerable citizens.



A BOLD **HEALTHY** BIRMINGHAM

AMBITION:

Birmingham will be a city in which every citizen can live a healthy enjoyable life. Where every citizen, at every stage of their life, in all communities can make healthy choices that are affordable, sustainable, and desirable to support them to achieve their potential for a happy, healthy life. Working with our partners, especially in the NHS, we will work to support our citizens (including families and carers) to understand their own physical and mental health and wellbeing and know how to access and get support in a timely and culturally appropriate way when they need it. We will create a city which is compassionate and inclusive to citizens, including people with disabilities and limiting longstanding illness, when they need support and assistance and work together to help them remain active participants in our city throughout their lives. A Bold Birmingham will be at the forefront of tackling health inequalities issues, reducing poverty, creating employment opportunities, and ensuring our city's air is clean.

Outcomes for the city and citizens:

- Reduced health inequalities
- Increased physical activity levels
- Improved mental wellbeing
- Increased levels of active travel

PRIORITIES

#13 Tackle health inequalities:

We will focus our attention on closing the health inequalities in our city, recognising they affect communities of place, identity, and experience differently, and that we can only achieve this through partnership with stakeholders and citizens (including their families and carers).

#14 Encourage and enable physical activity and healthy living:

We will encourage citizens of all abilities and ages to engage in physical activity and active travel and develop a food strategy to support healthy lifestyles. We will provide new opportunities to improve physical health and overall wellbeing through the hosting of the Commonwealth Games, and its legacy including delivering high-quality housing, sporting facilities and transport infrastructure, and physical and cultural environments, including parks and green spaces.

#15 Champion mental health:

We will champion and advocate the importance of mental health alongside physical health, and work with partners to empower and support citizens, including young people, to be mentally healthy.

#16 Improve outcomes for adults with disabilities and older people:

We will continue to support citizens to lead independent lives and exercise choice and control. We will deliver the Government's new approach to care in a way that benefits our citizens and we will continue to invest in early intervention and prevention at every age to enable citizens to live healthy and fulfilling lives, including the transition from care for young people to that of adulthood.



A BOLD GREEN BIRMINGHAM

AMBITION:

Birmingham will be a city with a green heart and clean streets. It will enjoy an environment where air pollution has reduced, and the quality and quantity of public open spaces has increased. The city will be recognised for its response to the Climate Emergency. Sustainability and carbon neutrality will be at the heart of our environment, transport, and wider ambitions. We will continue to work with partners and citizens to advance our ambitions in active travel and better connectivity that creates a healthier environment for all.

Outcomes for the city and citizens:

- Cleaner streets
- Improved air quality
- Reduced carbon emissions
- Increased levels of walking and cycling
- Improved transport infrastructure

#17 Improve street cleanliness:

We will work with our residents and businesses to improve the cleanliness of our city including through waste collection and recycling services and taking strong action against those who fly-tip and litter.

#18 Improve air quality:

We will address air pollution, including increased monitoring and awareness, reducing congestion, and working for a future where every neighbourhood has safe levels of air quality to breathe.

#19 Continue on the Route to Net Zero:

Our initiatives will facilitate carbon emissions reduction and build climate resilience into policies and practice. The council will reduce its own carbon emissions as well as fostering existing external relations, enabling behaviour change through informative calls to action and facilitating new community and public-private sector partnerships to build investment and delivery capacity to make our city carbon neutral.

#20 Be a City of Nature:

We will maintain our existing and develop new green spaces across the whole of the city, adding infrastructure and improving access to diverse green and open spaces for all our citizens positively contributing to their physical and mental health. We will create sustainable green spaces to help tackle climate change and improve biodiversity, creating attractive neighbourhoods and providing places for families, friends, and communities to come together.



Our response: becoming a bold best-in-class council

We are bold in our ambition and commitment to be a best-in-class council. We will continue to drive improvement and modernisation across our organisation so that we can deliver our priorities in the most effective, efficient, and productive way. We know becoming a best-in-class council will be a significant task which we will achieve by:

- Continuing to transform how we operate and deliver as one organisation
- Embedding our organisational values and behaviours into everything we do
- Ensuring a balanced and sustainable medium-term financial plan
- Promoting, championing and advocating diversity in everything we do

Together with our ambitions and priorities, these are the framework for our contribution to the city's response to the grand challenges, building on the opportunities and strengths of both the city and council.

TRANSFORMING HOW WE OPERATE AND DELIVER

We will continue our transformation into a council that is built for the twenty-first century, using the modern technologies now available to us and having at its heart the values that lie behind our vision. We will organise our services around citizens and demand; leverage the city's many opportunities for the benefit of local people; connect with citizens in a meaningful way; and drive innovation within the organisation and across our partnerships.

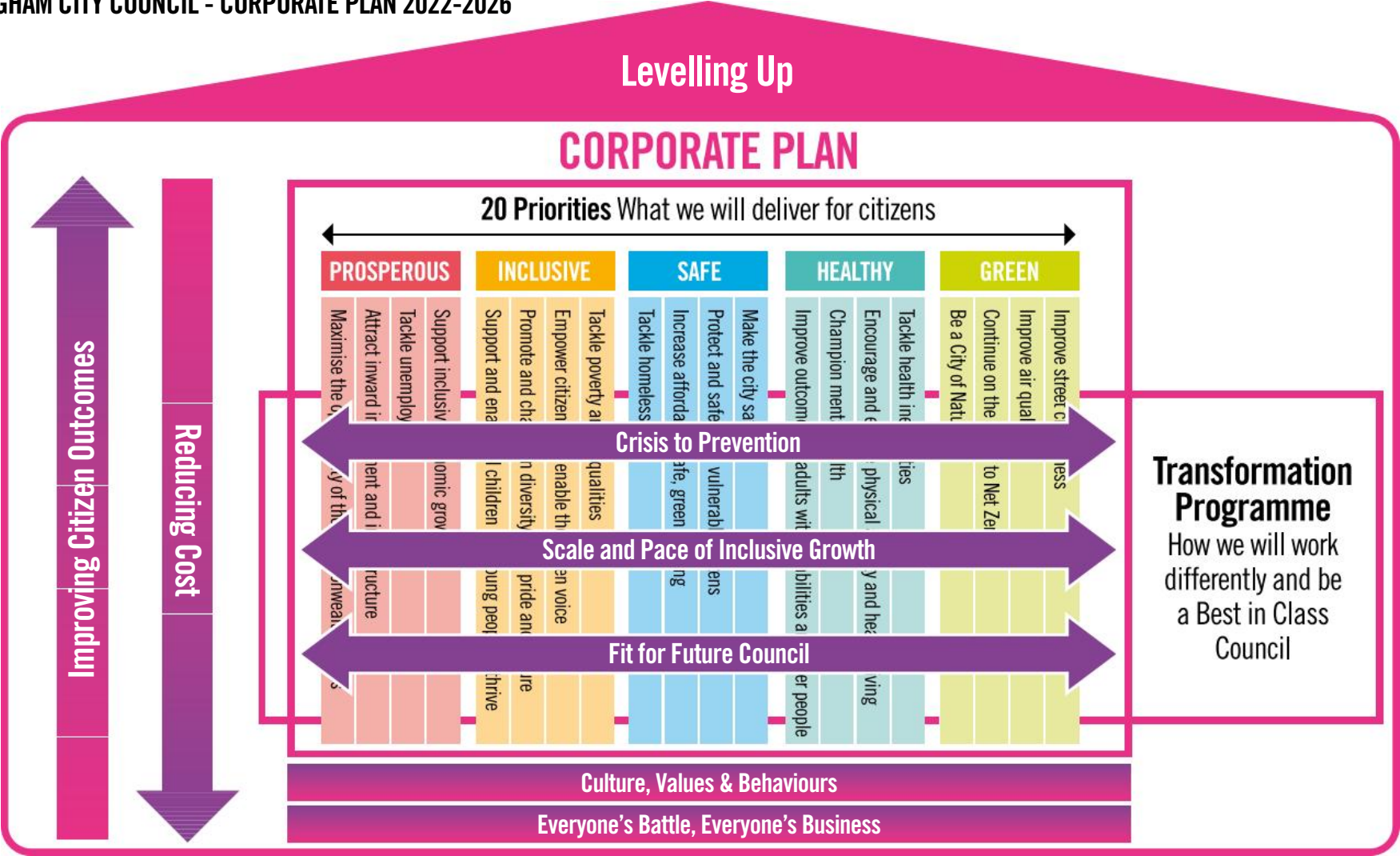
Our continued transformation as a council is based on three principles (People, Place, Council) that will improve citizen outcomes while reducing cost to the organisation.



PRINCIPLE	WHAT IT MEANS
<p>Shifting our focus from crisis to prevention (People):</p>	<p>We will help and support individuals and families at the early stages of an issue or crisis in their lives before it becomes an acute problem.</p> <p>We will work with people differently, drawing on the support that exists in the community, and ensuring different groups of professionals work together on a common mission to help people stay afloat and then thrive.</p> <p>We will make best use of customer insight and business intelligence to ensure we make informed decisions and prioritise our resources appropriately embedding the principles of prevention, prediction, and early intervention into everything we do.</p> <p>We will take a whole system approach to promoting the independence and resilience of service users and communities, collaborating with partners, which places citizens and communities at the heart of our decision making.</p> <p>We will organise services around demand and citizen need, so we make the best use of our limited resources.</p>
<p>Increasing the pace and scale of growth, for those that need it the most, while delivering our climate change objectives (Place):</p>	<p>We will use our city's assets and opportunities, such as HS2 and Commonwealth Games, to leverage growth and investment across the city to ensure all citizens share in the creation and benefits of sustainable economic growth.</p> <p>We will adopt a more active and deliberate stance, leveraging the council's balance sheet, and in so doing becoming the corner stone and enabler of a more circular, inclusive and sustainable economy.</p>

PRINCIPLE	WHAT IT MEANS
<p>Becoming a council fit for the future with clear strategies driving delivery and an organisation continuously improving (Council):</p>	<p>We will develop a compelling vision that all the organisation can own and drive forward. This will ensure that our services to citizens will be high performing and built around the citizens.</p> <p>We will deliver relentlessly reliable services enabled by a strong performance management culture. Building on strong foundations, which means getting the basics right, all services must demonstrate they have a grip on the key issues and challenges and are responding with pace. This will be underpinned by a robust and sustainable strategic planning, financial and assurance framework.</p> <p>We will be a customer focussed, agile and responsive council through the better use of technology and utilising new delivery models and simplified processes.</p> <p>We will continue to develop an inclusive and diverse workforce at all levels which is supported to develop new skills and capabilities and empowered to be creative, innovative and outcome focussed and to exploit opportunities.</p> <p>We will develop strong partnerships to deliver better outcomes, working in teams alongside people who work for other organisations and connecting with citizens and communities in a meaningful way.</p>





ENSURING A BALANCED AND SUSTAINABLE MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

Our Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) is a key part of the prudent management and planning of the council’s finances. It forecasts forward the financial position of the council and is reviewed and

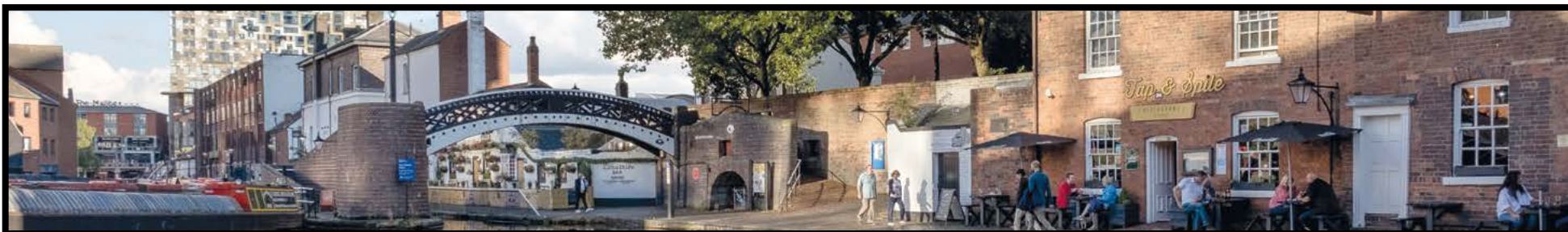
developed alongside this Plan and our transformation plans, ensuring our financial resources are planned and deployed in line with our overall priorities and on the basis we will continue to improve citizen outcomes while reducing costs.



EMBEDDING OUR ORGANISATIONAL VALUES AND BEHAVIOURS

Our values will drive our behaviours and provide a clear basis for how we operate by providing the basis for our organisation's culture and ways of working:

VALUES	BEHAVIOURS AND APPROACH
We will put our citizens first	<p>Insight and experience: We will put citizens first in everything we do. Residents' expectations are rising, and citizens rightly expect services that are reliable, and joined up around their needs. These expectations fundamentally challenge how our services are designed and how they are led. We must ensure our decision-making is informed by empathy, high-quality insight, and data, and, where relevant, people's lived experiences.</p> <p>Participation and engagement: We will move towards our vision by pulling together as a city and having genuine pride in who we are and belief in what we can achieve. The council will play its part in building trust and promoting democratic participation and community power in everything it does, enabling communities to create their own responses to the challenges we face together.</p>
We are true to our word	<p>Keeping our promises: When we make promises we will keep them. We will deliver consistently and fairly. We need to do what we say we will and make sure issues we have addressed stay fixed.</p> <p>Building trust: We will understand and exceed rising citizen expectations. We will have an open, humble, and reflective approach to service delivery. We will be honest when we get it wrong and learn from it.</p>



VALUES	BEHAVIOURS AND APPROACH
We act courageously	<p>Being bold: We will be bold in our thinking in how we deal with the difficult issues and new challenges. We will think differently and act differently. We will be innovative and learn from others. We will encourage new ideas, try, and learn. We will exploit our strengths as a council and maximise the enormous opportunity and boundless potential of the City.</p> <p>Working in partnership: We will be a confident collaborator and partner. We cannot meet the challenges on our own, and we cannot create the modern, integrated services people want and need unless we work together with the other public services in the city. We want to proactively strengthen our partnerships with key institutions and businesses to create a strong civic family to lead the city.</p>
We will achieve excellence	<p>Exceeding expectations: We will strive to get things right first time every time. We will deliver relentlessly reliable services. We should strive to continuously improve our overall approach to customer service and be respectful in everything we do. We will improve our digital skills at every level. We will make use of the data we hold, safely and securely to achieve excellence in what we do.</p> <p>Continuous improvement: We will pro-actively continue to improve services and be performance focussed to identify areas across the council that need to improve.</p>

Promoting, championing and advocating diversity

We will continue to implement our Everyone's Battle, Everyone's Business action plan to embed a focus on diversity and tackling inequalities in everything we do. We remain committed to:

- understand our diverse communities and embed that understanding in how we shape policy and practice across the council, knowing that this will inform better services that respond to the changing needs and priorities of our diverse residents.
 - demonstrate inclusive leadership, partnership, and a clear organisational commitment to be a leader in equality, diversity, and inclusion in the city. We need to create the right structures and processes to embed a culture of equity.
 - involving and enabling our diverse communities in our decision-making processes and in the wider city leadership structures.
 - delivering responsive services and customer care that is accessible and inclusive, and ensuring our policies meet the changing needs of our diverse communities across all our neighbourhoods.
- encouraging and building a skilled and diverse workforce to build a culture of equity and inclusion in everything we do. We need to lead by example as an employer, addressing inequalities affecting all the protected equalities characteristics and inequities including in Black, Asian and Minority Ethnicity representation across all levels of the organisation.



BE BOLD BE BIRMINGHAM





Equality Impact Assessment

**Reference No: Draft
Corporate Plan 2022 to
2026**



APPENDIX 2: EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Title of proposed EIA	Draft Corporate Plan 2022-2026
Reference No	EQUA948
EA is in support of	Previous plan titled Council Plan 2018-22 and Delivery Plan 2020-22
Review Frequency	Minimum of each new four-year plan. Will be conducted with any refreshed plans within the period.
Date of first review	23/06/2022
Directorate	Council Management / Strategy, Equalities and Partnerships
Division	Programmes, Performance and Improvement / Insight, Partnerships and Strategy
Service Area	
Responsible Officer(s)	Programmes, Performance and Improvement / Insight, Partnerships and Strategy Teams
Quality Control Officer(s)	Rebecca Hellard / Richard Brooks
Accountable Officer(s)	Rebecca Hellard / Richard Brooks
Purpose of proposal	The Corporate Plan replaces the Council Plan 2018-22 and Delivery Plan 2020-22 and presents a refreshed set of priorities for 2022-2026 that reflect the context we are now operating in, addressing the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, tackling inequality and supporting the 'levelling up' of the city.
Data sources	Relevant reports/strategies/programmes and relevant research.
Please include any other sources of data	The priorities within the draft Corporate Plan reflect strategic direction and intent set out in a range of delivery plans and strategies including Route to Zero Plan, City of Nature Plan, Economic Recovery Strategy, Future City Plan, Transport Plan, Homelessness Prevention Strategy, East Birmingham Inclusive Growth Strategy, , The Budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan, Workforce Strategy, ICT & Digital Strategy, Transformation Programme and Everyone's Battle, Everyone's Business (the action plan to address inequalities within our organisation and through our civic leadership).
Initial impact assessment	<p>The Corporate Plan is a high-level strategic document setting out the council's vision and priorities. It recognises tackling inequalities as a high priority for the Council and puts tackling inequalities at the heart of our mission and at the centre of everything we do.</p> <p>The Plan is a high-level document intended to provide the context and framework for the council's strategic planning, decision-making, budget deployment and further transformation activity.</p>

APPENDIX 2: EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

	<p>A range of current and new delivery plans, strategies and programmes will help delivery the Corporate Plan priorities and will have their own equality assessment</p> <p>There is a vision within the Plan to make Birmingham a city where all citizens share in the creation and benefits of sustainable economic growth and can live longer, healthier, and happier lives.</p> <p>This vision is reflected throughout the whole plan and can be clearly seen in the council's mission statement (to support, serve and level up) and in the role the council will play in responding to the six grand challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unemployment, skills, and the local economy • Opportunities for children and young people • Community resilience, cohesion and living standards • Health and wellbeing • Climate Emergency • Equality and inclusion <p>The Council will respond to these grand challenges by focusing on our transformation, delivery, enabling and influencing activity as one council to <i>Be Bold</i> and to achieve a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bold Prosperous Birmingham: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Support inclusive economic growth. ○ Tackle unemployment. ○ Attract inward investment and infrastructure. ○ Maximise the benefits of the Commonwealth Games. • Bold Inclusive Birmingham: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tackle poverty and inequalities. ○ Empower citizens and enable the citizen voice. ○ Promote and champion diversity, civic pride and culture. ○ Support and enable all children and young people to thrive. • Bold Safe Birmingham: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Make the city safer. ○ Protect and safeguard vulnerable citizens. ○ Increase affordable, safe, green housing. ○ Tackle homelessness. • Bold Healthy Birmingham: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tackle health inequalities. ○ Encourage and enable physical activity and healthy living. ○ Champion mental health. ○ Improve outcomes for adults with disabilities and older people.
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APPENDIX 2: EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bold Green Birmingham: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improve street cleanliness. ○ Improve air quality. ○ Continue on the Route to Net Zero. ○ Be a City of Nature. <p>They reflect the context we are now operating in, addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, tackling inequality, and supporting the 'levelling up' of the city.</p> <p>It also promotes, champions and advocates diversity through the implementation of our <i>Everyone's Battle, Everyone's Business</i> action plan to embed a focus on diversity and tackling inequalities in everything we do. We will lead by example as an employer, including addressing the current imbalance in gender and Black Asian minority representation across all levels of the organisation.</p> <p>Overall, the plan is inclusive and achieving our vision and priorities set out will bring positive benefits to every child, citizen and place.</p> <p>It is supported by a wide range of strategies, policies and programmes, each with their own equality assessment.</p>
Protected characteristic: Age	Not applicable
Age details:	N/A
Protected characteristic: Disability	Not applicable
Disability details:	N/A
Protected characteristic: Gender	Not applicable
Gender details:	N/A
Protected characteristics: Gender Reassignment	Not applicable
Gender reassignment details:	N/A
Protected characteristics: Marriage and Civil Partnership	Not applicable
Marriage and civil partnership details:	N/A
Protected characteristics: Pregnancy and Maternity	Not applicable
Pregnancy and maternity details:	N/A

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Protected characteristics: Race	Not applicable
Race details:	N/A
Protected characteristics: Religion or Beliefs	Not applicable
Religion or beliefs details:	N/A
Protected characteristics: Sexual Orientation	Not applicable
Sexual orientation details:	N/A
Socio-economic impacts:	There are priorities in the Plan that seek to have a socio-economic impact such as tackling unemployment, increasing affordable housing tackling poverty, and supporting young people to thrive
Please indicate any actions arising from completing this screening exercise	The draft Corporate Plan sets out the high-level direction and beneath this will be directorate plans and associated performance measures. Any strategies and programmes arising from high level strategic direction will also be subject to equality assessment to determine whether there are any adverse impacts on those with protected characteristic.
Please indicate whether a full impact assessment is recommended	No
What data has been collected to facilitate the assessment of this policy/ proposal?	The draft Corporate Plan has been informed by an analysis of current plans and strategies, Delivery Plan and transformation programme.
Consultation analysis	The context for the Corporate Plan has been engaged on through CLT, ECLT, informal cabinet and O&S, and the five main themes and priorities in the draft Corporate Plan were included in the Financial Plan.
Adverse impact on any people with protected characteristics	No
Could the policy/proposal be modified to reduce or eliminate any adverse impact?	The Corporate Plan will be reviewed annually to assess whether any changes to priorities are required.
How will the effect(s) of this policy/proposal on equality be monitored?	The activities and measures identified to measure success of the draft Corporate Plan vision and priorities will be reported to

APPENDIX 2: EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

	Cabinet on a quarterly basis and form part of the council's Performance Management Framework.
What data is required in the future?	None
Are there any adverse impacts on any particular group(s)	No
If yes, please explain your reasons for going ahead	N/A
Initial equality impact assessment of your proposal	An assessment is next conducted when a refreshed plan is produced.
Consulted People or Groups	
Informed People or Groups	
Summary and evidence of findings from your EIA	<p>The Council Plan 2018 – 2022 focused on wanting to achieve six outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birmingham is an entrepreneurial city to learn, work and invest in • Birmingham is an aspirational city to grow up in • Birmingham is a fulfilling city to age well in • Birmingham is a great city to live in • Birmingham residents gain the most from hosting the Commonwealth Games • Birmingham is a city that takes a leading role in tackling climate change <p>The draft Corporate Plan reinstates our commitment to tackling inequalities, ensuring it is at the heart of our mission and the thread that runs through everything the council does as it plays its role in responding to six 'grand challenges' facing the city.</p> <p>The previous outcomes have been reframed to address the 'grand challenges' facing the city and reflect the context we are now operating in (addressing the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, tackling inequality and supporting the 'levelling up' of the city), focusing our delivery on achieving:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Bold <i>Prosperous</i> Birmingham • A Bold <i>Inclusive</i> Birmingham • A Bold <i>Safe</i> Birmingham • A Bold <i>Healthy</i> Birmingham • A Bold <i>Green</i> Birmingham <p>The draft Corporate Plan also promotes, champions and advocates diversity and implementation of our <i>Everyone's Battle, Everyone's Business</i> action plan to embed a focus on embedding</p>

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	<p>diversity and tackling inequalities in everything we do. We need to lead by example as an employer, including addressing the current imbalance in gender and Black Asian minority representation across all levels of the organisation.</p> <p>Overall, it is an all-inclusive plan that will tackle inequality and promote the needs of all our citizens and our workforce, reflecting on diversity. Achieving our vision and priorities set out will bring positive benefits to every child, citizen and place.</p> <p>The draft Corporate Plan is expected to be positively felt by people and communities across Birmingham and does not specifically distinguish between those with or without the protected characteristic.</p> <p>This high-level plan is supported by a wide range of strategies, policies and programmes, each with their own equality assessment.</p>	
Submit to the Quality Control Officer for reviewing?		
Quality Control Officer comments		
Decision by Quality Control Officer	Rebecca Hellard and Richard Brooks	
Submit draft to Accountable Officer?		
Decision by Accountable Officer	Rebecca Hellard	Richard Brooks
Date approved / rejected by the Accountable Officer	8 th July 2022	12 th July 2022
Reasons for approval or rejection		

Birmingham City Council

City Council

13 September 2022



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 Ewan Mackey and Richard Parkin have given notice of the following Notice of Motion:-

“That this Council notes that the Community Chest was a vital fund for communities across the City and calls for it to be restored to at least £50k per single member ward and £100k per two-member ward.”

B. Councillors Roger Harmer and Mumtaz Hussain have given notice of the following Notice of Motion:-

“Council calls on the incoming government and the new Prime Minister to:

- Freeze the energy price cap, in line with calls from first from Ed Davey and then from Keir Starmer;
- Take other urgent measures to ensure people in Birmingham have adequate income to cover their basic living costs.
- Ensure that councils have adequate resources to support those facing personal crisis due to being unable to pay their bills and afford basic supplies.

Council resolves to work with other stakeholders in the city to coordinate the response to the emergency, ensuring that those in need have rapid access to reliable support.

Council welcomes the “Warm Banks” proposals and resolves that these should be developed with the voluntary and faith sectors to ensure a comprehensive network of locations across the City to provide support for those facing energy poverty. Council calls on the executive to ensure that the council’s community hubs, e.g. libraries and community centres, participate in the “Warm Banks” initiative.

Council further calls on the executive to step up initiatives to enhance insulation in homes and generate electricity from solar power.”