

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

**BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

**NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**THURSDAY, 17 MARCH 2016 AT 14:00 HOURS**  
**IN COMMITTEE ROOM 2, COUNCIL HOUSE, VICTORIA SQUARE,**  
**BIRMINGHAM, B1 1BB**

**A G E N D A**

**1 NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST**

The Chairman to advise the meeting to note that this meeting will be webcast for live and subsequent broadcast via the Council's Internet site ([www.birminghamnewsroom.com](http://www.birminghamnewsroom.com)) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs. The whole of the meeting will be filmed except where there are confidential or exempt items.

**2 APOLOGIES**

To receive any apologies.

**3 - 14**

**3 MINUTES**

To confirm the Minutes of the last Meeting held on Thursday, 18 February 2016.

**4 MATTERS ARISING**

To discuss matters arising.

**15 - 28**

**5 CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT AND HOMES UPDATE**

Councillor John Cotton, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Management and Homes to update.

**29 - 42**

**6 CABINET MEMBER FOR INCLUSION AND COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE**

Councillor Shafique Shah, Cabinet Member for Inclusion and Community Safety to update.

7     **WORK PROGRAMME**

To discuss the Work Programme.

8     **OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

To consider any items of business by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) that in the opinion of the Chairman are matters of urgency.

9     **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 21 April 2016 at 1400 hours in Committee Room 6.

10    **REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS RECEIVED (IF ANY)**

To consider any request for call in/councillor call for action/petitions (if received).

11    **AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS**

Chairman to move:-

'In an urgent situation between meetings, the Chair jointly with the relevant Chief Officer has authority to act on behalf of the Committee'.

## BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

<b>NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 18 FEBRUARY 2016</b>
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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY  
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY,  
18 FEBRUARY 2016 AT 1400 HOURS IN COMMITTEE ROOM 2, COUNCIL  
HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM**

**PRESENT:-**

Councillor Iqbal in the Chair;

Councillors Atwal, Cartwright, Harmer, Hartley, Jenkins, O'Reilly and Spence.

**ALSO PRESENT:-**

Mashuq Ally	- Assistant Director, Equalities, Community Safety and Cohesion
Marcus Beale	- Assistant Chief Constable
Gary Ladbrooke	- Integrated Services Head
Councillor J Jones	- Erdington District Chair
Councillor J Alden	- Edgbaston District Chair
Councillor A Underwood	- Sutton District Chair apols
Councillor S Anderson	- Yardley District Chair
Councillor P Griffiths	- Northfield District Chair
Councillor S Booton	- Northfield District Vice-Chair
Rose Kiely	- Group Overview and Scrutiny Manager
Amanda Simcox	- Scrutiny Research and Policy Officer
Marie Reynolds	- Committee Services

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**NOTICE OF RECORDING**

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It was noted that the meeting was being webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's Internet site ([www.birminghamnewsroom.com](http://www.birminghamnewsroom.com)) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs. The whole of the meeting would be filmed except where there were confidential or exempt items.

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**APOLOGIES**

- 76 Apologies were submitted on behalf of Councillors Lines, Mackey, Pears, Williams and Underwood for their inability to attend the meeting.
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**MINUTES**

- 77 The Minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2016, having been circulated to Members, were confirmed and signed as a correct record.
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**BIRMINGHAM COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**

At this juncture the Chairman highlighted to members that it was the Birmingham Community Safety Partnership that was being discussed today and not West Midlands Police.

Marcus Beale, Assistant Chief Constable provided a brief background of the partnership which had recently commissioned a review at looking at improvements. He highlighted that a great deal of internal naval gazing had taken place which included looking around business processes, performance management, how priorities were set and money tracked. He stated that the partnership had signed off a whole set of new business processes that clarified roles and responsibilities as a partnership and how each were held to accountability, adding that he believed the partnership was in good shape to step forward.

He referred to HMIC in terms of the report that had been published today, and particularly around neighbourhood policing and the contribution to the comprehensive spending review, which was more generous to policing than was expected, adding that even with the financial cuts neighbourhood policing would remain and would continue to be a core part of policing. He highlighted that over the last 5 years there had been a general reduction of staff and through the review, a refocusing on the force. He confirmed that there would be less police community support officers in 5 years' time however they were not accelerating reduction but closely focusing on what the tasks local neighbourhood officers were undertaking. He provided examples of the excellent work undertaken by the beat officers through sport and engaging with offenders and confirmed that at the moment they were looking at the tasks that they should be doing.

Following comments from the Chairman and members, Marcus Beale referred to the mechanisms that had been used over 5 years for continuous improvement in reshaping the local policing, and the fact that they would try to be in a position to relocate the policing resources, where the greatest need was and were mindfully aware of areas of expansion across the city. He stated that they had applied this also to domestic violence and other serious crimes as part of the refresh, and would definitely ensure that there was a framework rationale that supported why some areas were policed more than others.

Marcus Beale stated that they try to create simple structures that were appropriate and at the same time whether investigatory or response teams, provide leadership in an efficient way, and try and maintain that balance reiterating that neighbourhood policing was absolutely part of the plans, and stated that if they could align the neighbourhood policing to the political boundaries it would make life easier. With regard to quad and mini-motos, he agreed that it was a multi-agency response requirement and with a local information sharing loop in place this allowed the police to take the appropriate intervention, adding that he believed it was an area that the Police and Birmingham City Council could work together on.

Marcus Beale referred to Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) which was an external body which checked that the police were operating as it should, and highlighted that they were concerned about the police forces beginning to combine neighbourhood teams with response teams with local investigations rather than having dedicated local beat officers, which he confirmed there was no intention of merging the teams. He stated that today there were the same number of beat officers as in 2010, and overall, there was the need to provide a balance in dealing with specialist areas as well as neighbourhood policing within the resources provided.

With regard to the Chairman's comment relating to boy racers and associated frightening issues, Marcus Beale confirmed that there was joint activity across the force in tackling this area. He referred to the multi-agency response around this area of work, highlighting that it was very much on the radar, and in order that the issue did not become displaced elsewhere, there was some quite heavy co-ordination taking place in preventing this.

At this juncture Mr Mashuq Ally, Assistant Director, Equalities, Community Safety and Cohesion presented the following Birmingham Community Safety Partnership report and subsequently highlighted the salient points:-

(See document No. 1)

In response to comments and questions from the Chairman and members, Marcus Beale stated that the total recorded crime projection to date illustrated that there was a 5% increase compared to the previous year. He stated that within the overall violent crime category, there had been a substantial increase in domestic violence adding that it was massively unreported and not to be alarmed by the data, and likewise there had been an increase in sexual offences, which were often historical reports highlighting that it was a substantial issue for people to come forward to report this. He reported that there were several slightly more worries regarding serious gun crime whereby 3 people had lost their lives, he stated that there had been a substantial step up in prioritising around policing this issue and that a bespoke operation had been put into place as a result of this. He confirmed that some headway had been made with the recovery of firearms and added that within next year's priorities this would be one of the core priorities. He stated that burglaries had reduced however vehicle crime had increased and subsequently highlighted the obvious

measures people should take in helping to prevent this from happening.

In response to an enquiry from the Chairman, Mashuq Ally confirmed that they could not provide the information at this time relating to the outcomes of the initiatives that had been supported until after the end of March.

In a further response to an enquiry from the Chairman regarding the community safety partnership, Mashuq Ally stated that the report contained a great deal of information regarding the contribution made by the Local Delivery Groups (LDG's) within the various quadrants. He highlighted that it was the work they were carrying out against the themes that had made an overall difference to the quality of life for many people in the city. He stated that the work Marcus Beale had highlighted in terms of reviewing the route and branch of the work and structure of the community partnership, would make it much smarter in responding to issues and priorities within the city and obviously with the Future Council Programme, and the transformation going on with West Midlands Police and other partners, it was envisaged more work would be delivered on the ground than from the centre, and that a number of district chairs were already engaged with community plans and within those community plans, there would be their priorities to do with crime and disorder and how they choose to deliver that on the ground would be up to them, with the assistance of the partnership.

He stated that his overall impression with the changes being made structurally, and with the transformation going on that hopefully, there would be more engagement with communities in working with them, to find solutions to those priorities that may be set for the next coming years. He highlighted that the difficulty for the next financial year was the 25% reduction which would impact on resource implication.

Following further comments from members the following responses were recorded.

Mashuq Ally stated that they were working very closely with the children safeguarding board, and the adult safeguarding board, and highlighted that part of the new working relationships that they would be having strategically with the safeguarding boards, was to ensure that both children and adults were safe guarded in relation to this. He added that a major part of the work was the need to engage with the perpetrators, as well as the victims, and whilst a considerable amount of work pertaining to victims had been undertaken, there needed to be the investment of more resources around the perpetrators.

Marcus Beale referred to domestic abuse and highlighted that attitudes had transformed over the past 50 years and although it was still massively under-reported to the police, women were the bulk that were hurt with the smaller majority of men affected. He stated that the police needed to be in a good position in order to provide a good service which did not always mean more resources. He added that a lot of progress had been made and that they were in a better place than 10 years ago. He referred to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and Honour Based Violence which were relatively new however with the recognition of it taking place and coming up with good interventions this would

hopefully be dealt with more rapidly.

Marcus Beale highlighted that West Midlands Police had found more efficiencies in lots of arenas than what there were years ago. He referred to the control rooms that worked more efficiently and to the 2 new custody facilities that would be opening which would be operating much more efficiently in processing more people arrested, at a far less cost. He added that the focus was in finding new ways of doing things more efficiently and to approach with ambition to continue to improve.

Mashuq Ally welcomed all points made by elected members and specifically referred to the importance highlighted by Councillor Hartley the multi-agency approach in resolving a great number of issues. He stated that there was the need to recognise that Birmingham was a global city and had a huge footfall whereby people were coming in from all parts of the world, and with the new railway station and greater connectivity all were aware of the greater population coming into the city over the weeks and weekends.

He stated that when looking at the statistics for crime and disorder, there was not the room for complacency and that there was always the need to do better however, when compared with other cities, the city was doing a lot better in terms of crime reduction. He started that there was the need to remember that there were going to be occasions when in recent gun crime issues although believed had managed to control, had returned, and that was also a contributing factor that the global city was dynamic with high levels of mobility going on and with the open borders the ongoing on new issues arising. He concluded by stating that the statistics he had seen in trying to manage crime and disorder in a partnership way was being done very well due to a city of this size.

The Chairman thanked Marcus Beale and Mashuq Ally for their presentation and expressed his appreciation for the crime figures being the lowest compared to other cities.

Upon further consideration, it was:-

**RESOLVED:-**

That the information and comments be noted.

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**NEIGHBOURHOOD CHALLENGE INQUIRY**

Mashuq Ally, Assistant Director, Equalities, Community Safety and Cohesion presented the following report:-

(See document No. 2)

At this juncture the Chairman welcomed all of the district chairs, adding that some written submissions had been received and several were still to be received.

Karen McCarthy, Executive Member for Local Services Selly Oak, reported that the Neighbourhood Challenge was new to districts this year and that it was a way to focus on areas of concern in districts. She stated that each district had chosen different subjects and had tackled it in different ways.

She stated that Selly Oak had decided to look at Regeneration that was taking place within the district and how people from Brandwood and Billesley in particular were able to access those opportunities. She referred to the meetings they had held with representatives from DWP, Adult Education as well as the city's own regeneration team and the reports on transportation. From the information received, they were beginning to see which areas of the district had choices with transport and which were less fortunate, and also they were looking at information, relating to work placements and work experience and the need for young people to be aware of jobs and the skills that they would need to apply for the jobs.

She stated that they were at the stage where they had had an interim report at their last district committee meeting and anticipated having a final report in March, adding that she believed most districts were working to more or less the same timetable. She stated that those working on jobs and skills related projects, had a clear way of taking forward due to the meetings with Councillor Holbrook's team, looking at what could be done together across the city. She highlighted that alongside the other activities which included the housing panel, the work with young people, and health, there would be an ongoing jobs and skills panel. She further highlighted that they would look together where other districts had similar themes and whether there were common recommendations that they would be looking to pull together next week and also share good experiences. She highlighted that Hall Green had been carrying out good road safety whereby they had a quite a toolkit of resources which they had made freely available to people from other districts, adding that if Selly Oak chose their next neighbourhood challenge on road safety, they would be able to use the toolkit.

She concluded by stating that since working on the neighbourhood challenge district chairs have tended to provide updates at the monthly meetings in order that everybody knew what each other was doing, albeit each challenge was tailored to a particular district. She added that part of the value of the exercise was sharing and seeing what worked where and what could be picked up elsewhere.

The Chairman stated that it was good to know that the district chairs were sharing information.

Councillor Sue Anderson, Executive Member for Local Services Yardley, reported that the Neighbourhood Challenge fitted in with their Neighbourhood and Skills Employment Partnership. She stated that they had decided to look at what the schools were doing in terms of what was the offer for young people within Yardley, and whether it was good enough and how their life chances could be improved. She stated that they had decided to start with schools



which had involved research, visits to schools and interviewing staff. She highlighted that they had the evidence and particularly where junior schools fitted in with regard to terms of aspirations and awareness of careers which she added that they did do a great deal. She confirmed that one particular school had their own skills show whereby they invited parents. Reference was made to the enterprise weeks that they had whereupon they made and sold products for profit and aspire weeks, whereupon local employers were invited to speak about prospective employment as well practising skills in meeting others. She added that Birmingham Careers Service also had an excellent input.

She confirmed that she had looked at secondary schools, and confirmed that there was a number of job fayres organised by the schools whereby parents were invited except for one school, which she stated would be part of a recommendation that they be invited in future. Reference was made to the various efforts made by the schools relating to careers advice which included; interviews, money management, enterprise days, apprentice style days as well as tutorial time to explore different careers.

She referred to the careers conventions and how informative they were especially about health and the various jobs linked to health. Further reference was made to the visits made by young people to universities and the fact that one school was fortunate in having a full-time dedicated teacher.

Councillor Anderson made reference to the report from Councillor Holbrook's team that was submitted to Cabinet on Monday whereupon one of the comments that had been made that careers advice and education was not as good as it should be. It was noted that in the report, one of the recommendations was that every young person should have access to information relating to advice guidance on academic & vocational pathways to a job and career and that careers advice should be improved, and that we should plan with partners a Birmingham Careers and Job Advice Service which she certainly agreed with. She confirmed that the district report would be completed in March and that part of recommendations would fit in with Councillor Holbrook's report. She added that she would be presenting the evidence found, to Councillor Holbrook and the team stating that she had found good practice but not necessarily good outcomes which was the difficulty. She concluded by stating that she wanted to add the results of the further education and sixth form review, as it was important the way the city looked at the skill shortage and how the shortage could be met as it was acute in Birmingham. She further concluded that the information would be shared with all schools.

The Chairman commented that Councillor Sue Anderson had worked extremely hard and subsequently thanked all of the chairs for their efforts.

Councillor John Alden, Executive Member for Local Services Edgbaston referred to the challenges in Edgbaston and that at present they were looking at the associated parking issues in Edgbaston especially concerning the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. He further referred to the cycling revolution and the consideration of introducing cycle lanes down the dual carriageway which would restrict the traffic flow. He stated that although there had been officer

representation at the last meeting who had not been sufficiently briefed to deal with some of the problems that had arisen, and therefore it was anticipated that at the meeting in March there may be some conclusions to some of the issues that had been highlighted.

Councillor Josh Jones, Executive Member for Local Services Erdington, referred to the methodical process they had adopted to encourage all members across the district to get involved. He stated that there had been several meetings by members which had resulted in the district choosing to look at 'clean and green' in the district and the effects of the wheelie bin roll out. It was agreed that a questionnaire was sent out to community groups, businesses, neighbourhood forums and to the relevant city departments to break down in a concise way the quality and quantity data in order that it was made easy for all to understand.

Following the drawing up of a pro-forma which was shared with members for comments, and then shared with community groups and BCC departments and following two meetings about the neighbourhood challenge which were both evidence gathering, it was now all completed and a report would be submitted to all members on 8 March 2016. Following which they would look at what had been recommended from the evidence gathered which would be submitted to district committee on 28 March 2016. He stated that a tracking schedule similar to what Scrutiny did would be introduced, with recommendations being tracked over the next 12 months to ensure that they were followed, and then when the next Neighbourhood Challenge was agreed, it would be the same process replicated. He added that it was far better to agree one challenge for the year and execute well rather than do more and not perform so well.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Jones for his contribution and subsequently agreed that one Neighbourhood Challenge per year was sufficient.

Councillor Peter Griffiths, Executive Member for Local Services Northfield, referred to the process in Northfield district highlighting that it was a very split district. He confirmed that members of both parties were involved and that Councillor Booton undertook the lead role. He stated that all wards were consulted and it was agreed that housing, anti-social behaviour, 2 NEETS and 3 Community Safety from young people and children's perspective. He referred to the variety of reasons for those areas and the fact that they all ticked certain boxes. It was highlighted that the young people and children gave the opportunity to look into children's services which was a whole range of activities that multi-agency working hopefully flags up. He stated that a draft report had been circulated to partners and stakeholders who had taken part and anticipated feedback within the next fortnight with the expectation to finalise the report at the March meeting.

Councillor Steve Booton, Local Services Northfield, stated that the challenge was about partnership working, and referred to the major housing associations that had taken part, as well as BCC Housing and the Police. He referred to the discussions that had taken place relating to the simplistic issues with looking to improve performance in respect of anti-social behaviour across all tenures by sharing information and working together to use the resources available

effectively, and to define what actually constituted anti-social behaviour. Reference was made to the encouragement of expressing opinions of where the road blocks were in anti-social behaviour delivery, and the workshop that had taken place, which had been quite successful, with the attendance of 28 people from the housing associations in discussing associated issues which had resulted in a number of recommendations. It was noted that it was expected that the report would be completed by March.

Following comments relating to anti-social behaviour, Councillor Booton referred to housing associations and the cut off points relating to this, and the various remedies in addressing this area, adding that the public expectation for landlords to address anti-social behaviour was somewhat high, and that discussions would be ongoing in workshops relating to this, as well as the reporting of anti-social behaviour incidents.

Councillor McCarthy highlighted that the Queen Elizabeth Hospital was now providing some parking resources with the help of local residents providing information. She stated that there were informal routes at the moment to transfer that across to the Midland Met Campus, where there was the added complication of shared borders and therefore there was the need to look at something more formal to ensure experiences were shared. It was noted that Edgbaston and Selly Oak had worked together on similar issues.

Councillor Alden highlighted that when the original plans had come forward not enough attention had been given to local councillors comments in Edgbaston and Harborne. He subsequently highlighted the further expansions proposed and with the building of the private halls of residents for students, the parking issue would continue to be a real serious problem.

Following comments from members, Councillor Anderson reiterated the importance of members reading the report submitted to Cabinet and the fact that if the city did not overcome the skills shortage, this would increase unemployment of young people in Birmingham unless firm action was taken and everyone was working together to find a solution.

Following a request from the Chairman as to whether there should be any additions to the report that would be submitted to City Council, Councillor Jones reiterated that districts should undertake one Neighbourhood Challenge per year and the importance of the outcome which was subsequently agreed by the Chairman.

Gary Ladbrooke highlighted to members the need to recognise the limited staffing resources that were available in order to undertake the work supporting these challenges. He added that it had been a year of learning and that one challenge per district should be undertaken in order that it was executed extremely well and that the learning should be taken across the 10 districts.

Councillor O'Reilly stated that all of the ward councillors could relate to all of the challenges, adding that it was one of the rare opportunities for genuine cross party working. He further stated that a formal tracking mechanism would be

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**18 February 2016**

beneficial in order that the work carried out was not lost, especially where districts tend to change in terms of political leadership and therefore over the years, it would be good to see that all the hard work was tracked through to outcomes.

Councillor McCarthy stated that districts needed to move to formal work programmes in order to be aware at the beginning of the year what the districts were covering not only neighbourhood challenges, but also the housing panel and health and what was going to be achieved. She added that it was important that districts did not try to over reach themselves, and that the majority of the work did not fall to district chairs nor certainly the officers to undertake and that elected members all worked together.

The Chairman concluded by thanking Mashuq Ally and the district chairs for attending and presenting.

Upon further consideration, it was:-

79 **RESOLVED:-**

That the presentations and comments be noted.

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80 **WORK PROGRAMME**

The following paper was received:-

(See document No. 3)

The Chairman confirmed the attendance of 2 Cabinet members at the next meeting.

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**DATES OF MEETINGS**

81 It was noted that the Committee meets on the following Thursdays at 1400 hours in the Council House:-

**17 March - Committee Room 2    21 April - Committee Room 6**

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**REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS  
RECEIVED (IF ANY)**

82 The Chairman advised that there had been no requests for call in/councillor call for action/petitions received.

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**OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

83 No other urgent business was raised.

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**AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS**

84 **RESOLVED:-**

That in an urgent situation between meetings the Chair, jointly with the relevant Chief Officer, has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.

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The meeting ended at 15:30 hours.

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CHAIRMAN



**NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE 17 MARCH 2016**

**UPDATE REPORT OF CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT  
AND HOMES**

**REPORT BY: COUNCILLOR JOHN COTTON**

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

Following my report to Scrutiny in September 2015 setting out my portfolio priorities for 2015/16, this report seeks to provide an update on the progress made and emerging future issues.

**2. SUMMARY OF KEY PRIORITIES AND OTHER KEY PROGRAMMES**

The key priorities for my portfolio support with the Council's future vision for the city: working together for a fair, prosperous and democratic city.

This includes the opportunity for every citizen to have a high quality of health and same life expectancy irrespective of where they live in our city, along with access to an affordable and decent home.

The key steps I set out to Committee in the autumn were as follows:

- Deliver integrated Place-based management, ensuring that neighbourhood services are coordinated and delivered efficiently, reflecting local needs and priorities.
- Develop a comprehensive housing offer, to ensure that all citizens have the opportunity to enjoy affordable, safe and decent accommodation.
- Ensure that the growing private rented sector provides decent, affordable accommodation by making use of our licensing powers and ensuring a stronger partnership through our Social Lettings Agency, Let to Birmingham.
- Work with Districts to ensure they deliver a robust "Neighbourhood Challenge", holding both the council and other service providers to account for the quality and effectiveness of local public services.
- Work with Districts to ensure that our scarce resources are deployed in a manner that helps to improve the local street scene and environment.
- To continue to maintain investment in our existing properties and to build new properties that meet Birmingham's future housing needs.
- A review of housing services to older people, ensuring that we consult on the types of support services and the adequacy of the accommodation we provide.

- A review of tenancy conditions in line with proposed legislation in the current Housing Bill.
- Undertake consultation on the introduction of additional and discretionary licensing schemes within the growing private rented sector.
- Re-procurement of Council House Repairs and Maintenance and Investment Contracts to commence April 2016.

### 3. PROGRESS ON DELIVERING PRIORITIES

PRIORITY	PROGRESS
Deliver integrated Place-based management	<p>Place Managers are working with local communities, businesses and partners to come up with ideas and solutions to help improve local areas. We have broadened the role of the local housing service 'beyond bricks and mortar' into a wider neighbourhood management service, bringing together housing, environmental and other services to address broader issues, which impact on the quality of life and wellbeing of local residents.</p> <p>Place Managers are the single point of contact for their ward on neighbourhood issues. They bring together partners and the community to draw up Place Action Plans focused on those 'safe, clean and green' priorities identified by local residents. They will continue to work with local residents to ensure these plans are delivered.</p> <p>Place Managers are also responsible for ensuring that we are delivering the housing management function by for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letting properties quickly to those in need.</li> <li>• Helping tenants to keep to their tenancy conditions by offering support or advice if they fall into difficulties with rent payments.</li> <li>• Tackling unlawful subletting and taking firm action against those tenants who breach their tenancy conditions by causing anti-social behaviour or damage to their property.</li> <li>• Providing cleaning and maintenance services to communal areas of our high rise and low rise blocks to the specified standard.</li> <li>• Involving our tenants in monitoring our service delivery through estate walkabouts, surveys, HLB meetings and focus groups.</li> </ul> <p>Place Managers will also work with other housing providers and</p>



	<p>partners to tackle issues that may affect all tenures in a neighbourhood, such as working with the Police to tackle community safety concerns or working with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) to offer assistance to those affected by welfare reforms.</p>
Develop a comprehensive housing offer	<p>On 22 January I was joined by the Leader of the Council, the Chair of Birmingham Social Housing Partnership (BSHP) and around 20 housing providers to discuss how to strengthen existing partnerships in the city to ensure enough quality homes and support services are available for Birmingham's citizens.</p> <p>Providers committed to support each other to develop a new approach to homes and neighbourhoods and develop a comprehensive housing offer for Birmingham.</p> <p>The housing sector is faced with a number of forthcoming changes such as the extension of Right to Buy, the proposed ending of secure tenancies, the continuing impact of Welfare Reform and Pay to Stay and the need to build more affordable housing in the city, despite a reduction in government grant.</p> <p>'Housing Birmingham' a Multi- Agency Committee, was subsequently established at an inaugural meeting on 15 February with a core membership comprising key City Council senior officers, Registered Providers, Health Service and the Third Sector.</p> <p>We have collectively developed and agreed a Terms of Reference and key work streams, with leads from across these organisations, to take forward this important work. These work streams include -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Housing provision now and the future: identifying key risks to social housing provision in the city and how we can collectively respond.</li> <li>• Private Sector Housing: including the need to effectively engage with the private rented sector.</li> <li>• Specialist need and vulnerable: including homelessness and young people.</li> <li>• Localities and Neighbourhoods: building on the work to date around Neighbourhoods and 'Place'.</li> <li>• Increasing provision and capacity: including inward investment and assets.</li> <li>• Welfare reforms and housing: The successful and nationally</li> </ul>

	recognised Welfare Reform Multi Agency Committee will continue as a sub-group of Housing Birmingham.
Improve Private Rented Sector	<p>We continue to work with the Birmingham Landlord Forum which provides us with an excellent opportunity to engage with responsible landlords.</p> <p>Over 150 landlords attended the Birmingham Landlord Forum this month, a joint event between the National Landlords Association and Birmingham City Council's Private Rented Service to help bring landlords up to speed with a range of issues including new housing legislation, the Council's work to clamp down on rogue landlords and how to ethically finance buy-to-lets.</p> <p>We have received £110,000 from the Rogue Landlord Fund to support our continued work in improving the private rented sector in Birmingham.</p> <p>The money will be used to enhance and expand the work that we have already been doing to target rogue landlords and poor practice in the private rented sector – including work with the Police to target criminal activity, cracking down on unregistered Houses in Multiple Occupation and targeting environmental problems caused by the poor management of properties.</p> <p>In particular, we will be using the extra funding to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• get a proper data-sharing arrangement across the key agencies, so we can get a proper picture of where problems are and quickly target rogue landlords</li> <li>• develop some pre-checking procedures with our partners, so we can ensure that landlords are fit and proper persons</li> <li>• work with Police and Revenue &amp; Customs to target inspections on high risk properties</li> <li>• increase our target inspection programme for unlicensed Homes in Multiple Occupation.</li> </ul>
"Neighbourhood Challenge"	<p>The Neighbourhood Challenge was introduced as a new duty and power in the Council's constitution for 2015/16 building on the commitment made in the Improvement Plan to empower District Committees to undertake a robust challenge of public services on their area. Guidance on the exercise of the Neighbourhood Challenge was incorporated into the Cabinet report of July 2015 setting out the new remit for District Committees and Ward Committees / Forums. All District Chairs and Vice Chairs participated in a development programme</p>

	<p>between July and September 2015 which included workshop sessions on how to roll-out the neighbourhood challenge.</p> <p>Throughout the municipal calendar the Chair of Executive Members has held an open meeting approach at the monthly forum to explore and share progress on respective neighbourhood challenge work.</p> <p>As the end of the current municipal cycle approaches all Districts have engaged with the Neighbourhood Challenge and overall there have been a variety of approaches taken in each District with a range of subject areas explored. This is currently subject to review by this Committee.</p>
Improve local Street Scene and environment	<p>This work is integral to the role of Place Managers and reflected in their action plans, which have been developed with local Elected Members and the community. A fundamental review of cleaning and caretaking services is being undertaken to ensure that we have a targeted approach to those areas in most need. Place Managers and Street Scene Co-ordinators are working with Waste Management and Regulatory Services to ensure we have a holistic approach to cleaning services backed up with engagement, enforcement and education strategies.</p>
Investment in Council Housing and build new homes	<p>A £59 million programme of investment into council properties was approved by Cabinet in February.</p> <p>The programme for 2016/17 will deliver new kitchens and bathrooms, upgraded heating systems, insulation and window and roof replacements for around 5,800 homes.</p> <p>The Birmingham Council Housing Investment Programme for 2016/17 covers work to the cost of £59.108 million within a total Housing Investment Capital fund budget of £133.463 million, including clearance and house building costs.</p> <p>Not only will this substantially improve our tenants' homes, but by replacing inefficient heating systems, we can further reduce the city's carbon dioxide emissions and lower our tenants' heating bills.</p> <p>Alongside this, Cabinet approved a 1% reduction in rent in line with the government's new rent policy and will continue to press for recompense from the Treasury, given the impact this will have upon the previously agreed HRA Business Plan.</p> <p>1090 new homes have been approved through the Birmingham Municipal Housing Trust (BMHT) since March 2015. These approvals include major regeneration schemes at Jarvis Road</p>

	<p>and Abbey Fields in Erdington, Kings Norton, and Perry Common in Kingstanding. As at 5 January 2016 1,934 new homes have been built, 1,104 homes for rent and 830 homes for sale.</p> <p>One of the biggest challenges in housing is the need to increase the supply of new homes by direct provision but also by supporting the private sector to accelerate development. Due to the interdependency between land supply and Birmingham's housing needs, this is best tackled at a city region level. We are working with our partner councils in the Shadow West Midlands Combined Authority, in the context of the devolution deal already agreed, to explore opportunities to develop a city regional approach to unlocking brownfield sites for more new homes. As devolution develops further we need to ensure that we work closely with the government to ensure that investment in the West Midlands is steered by local needs and priorities.</p>
Review of housing services to older people	A fundamental review of our services to older people is necessary resulting from previous rounds of budget cuts. We need to ensure that we are providing value for money, efficient services and be sensitive to the needs of our older tenants. We are also undertaking a fit for purpose assessment of all of our sheltered housing stock.
A review of tenancy conditions	Lifetime tenancies are expected to come to an end under legislation proposed in the Housing and Planning Bill. Whilst this will create a significant administrative financial burden to the authority we are taking the opportunity to review all our tenancy conditions to ensure that they reflect the behaviours we expect from our tenants and, where appropriate, manage demand for services. This review will help deliver both Place Management and Street Scene Initiatives.
Consultation on the introduction of additional / discretionary licensing schemes within the growing private rented sector	<p>Responses to the consultation on extending licensing for the Private Rented Sector highlighted a number of areas where licensing powers may be needed. There is a particular issue relating to Houses in Multiple Occupation and it is my view that they should all be required to have a licence. We are looking at how we might be able to achieve this, but in the immediate term, we will be bringing forward an initial business case that will be focused upon tackling HMOs in the Bournbrook and Stockland Green areas and also managed hostel accommodation across the city.</p> <p>The consultation has also identified areas of concern in Soho, Sparkbrook, Lozells and Moseley &amp; Kings Heath. Officers are working to gather additional evidence and will be engaging with local members, community organisations and District Housing</p>

	Panels to take these proposals forward.
Re-Procurement of Council House Repairs and Maintenance and Investment Contracts	<p>From 1 April tenants across the city will benefit from an improved repairs and maintenance service following an intensive evaluation process that has also secured major savings estimated at around £13 million over the next four years.</p> <p>Currently, most tenants have two contractors to deal with – one for repairs and one for any issues with gas. The new four year contracts will operate on a geographical basis and will deal with all repairs, maintenance, gas servicing and home improvements.</p> <p>From 1 April the new arrangements will see-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• tenants living in the north of the city served by Keepmoat Regeneration Limited</li> <li>• tenants living in west central and east Birmingham served by Wates Construction Limited</li> <li>• tenants living in the south of the city served by Willmott Dixon Partnerships Limited</li> </ul> <p>I must pay tribute to those tenant representatives who volunteered to take an active role in the re-procurement of these contracts which required significant time and effort. Their involvement provided a balanced approach with business need, but also the requirements and aspirations of the tenants and leaseholders of Birmingham.</p>

#### 4. UPDATE ON HOUSING PERFORMANCE/SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS

There are two Council Business Plan measures within my portfolio. I am pleased to report that both are exceeding target:

- **‘Number of homes built that were ‘affordable’ homes.’** 325 new affordable homes have been completed in Birmingham in the first two quarters of 2015/16 against a target of 258 units. These homes have been delivered via a number of funding sources including Birmingham Municipal Housing Trust and include 44 high quality affordable homes for older people at an extra care scheme in Bournville.
- **‘Private sector empty properties brought back into use.’** The latest performance information available shows that in January 333 private sector empty properties were brought back into use against a target of 250 by this month. The overall target for the year (2015/16) of 300 has now been exceeded.

In relation to available Council property stock, the number of days a property is void is 13% less compared to the same period last year and at 28 days is below the 30

day target. We also have 52% less void properties compared to the same period last year.

There are two Birmingham Promise measures relating to Housing which are as follows:

- **We will respond to emergency repairs within 2 hours.** Quarter 3 performance at 96.7% was above the contractual target of 95%. C.9000 emergency repairs are reported each quarter. This means that c8703 were completed within the contractual target. The first two quarters also performed above target at 95.7% and 96.9% respectively. January has seen a slight dip in performance at 94%. Performance is addressed through regular meetings with the contractors.
- **Resolve routine repairs within 30 days.** Quarter 3 performance at 94% continued the steady improvement throughout the year (91.6% in quarter 1; 92.5% in quarter 2). Performance in January was at 93.9%. c.32,000 routine repairs are reported each quarter; this means that c 30,000 are completed within timescale.

## 5. UPDATE ON KEY BUDGET ISSUES/KEY FUTURE BUDGET ISSUES

I am responsible as the Cabinet Member for the provision of social and affordable rented housing to tenants through the Housing Revenue Account (this service includes expenditure of £290m in 2015/16 and is funded by an equivalent amount of income from rents and service charges). These resources are used to repair and maintain existing stock, provide valued estate services (e.g. caretaking, cleaning, door entry services and older people housing support services), tenancy management services and payment of income on outstanding debt.

I am also responsible for a capital budget of £98m in 2015/16 for investment in the existing stock and the building of new homes (this totals £347m over the next three years from 2016/17 to 2018/19).

In addition, I have responsibility for a revenue budget of £1.3m and capital budget of £13m for private sector housing services. This is utilised for managing the responsibilities of the private rented sector housing (including HMO Licensing, empty properties), safer local neighbourhood services, the troubled families programme and partnership working with registered providers of social housing.

I am projecting a balanced HRA outturn for 2015/16 (even after repaying debt of £9m), a minor underspend in the private sector housing budget and full expenditure on the capital programme (after taking into account schemes that were commenced in 2015/16 and completed in 2016/17).

The public finances will continue to be under pressure over the medium term from 2016/17 to 2019/20 (as set out in the Council's Public Budget Consultation in December 2015 and the Budget Report to City Council in March 2016). In particular, the Housing Revenue Account will be under financial pressure over the next five years as a result of:

- the impact of the welfare reforms and roll out of universal credit (tenants finances will continue to be under enormous pressure)

- the proposed Draft Housing and Planning Bill that will introduce 'Pay to Stay' market rents for working tenants by April 2017 (with the additional income clawed back by the Treasury), review of lifetime tenancies and the disposal of high value vacant council homes
- the impact of the new national rent policy of -1% over the next 4 years to 2019/20 (it is estimated that this policy will reduce revenue resources in the HRA by an estimated £42m by 2019/20 – this is the cumulative effect by the end of that particular year and is equivalent to almost 14% of total income).

The proposals to ensure the continued long term sustainability and affordability of the provision of social housing, whilst protecting investment in new build and maintenance, are set out in the Budget Report to City Council in March 2016.

## **6. POLICY DEVELOPMENTS**

I have, together with the Chairs of Birmingham Social Partnership and City Housing Liaison Board written on several occasions to the Housing Minister (August & November 2015 and January 2016) to express our joint concerns on the policies in the proposed Bill and have sought to establish a constructive engagement on the future development of housing policy. We are still awaiting some outstanding responses to these letters.

I have also responded to the 'Pay to Stay' consultation that closed on the 20 November and the HMO Licensing consultation on Extending Mandatory Licensing that closed on 18 December (the outcomes are awaited from the Department for CLG).

I have recently submitted evidence to the CLG Commons Select Committee Homeless Inquiry, who will be visiting Birmingham to learn about homeless services and will also be working with the LGA Housing Commission to influence future housing policy development.

### **Homelessness**

Homelessness as an issue is increasing, both in Birmingham and nationally. Birmingham like other major cities has seen a huge increase in the number of vulnerable individuals finding themselves having to sleep on the streets.

On the morning of 29 January I joined other Elected Members, representatives of partner organisations and the Council's street outreach team to see for myself the scale of the problem and the complexity of the issues faced by street sleepers in Birmingham city centre. We encountered and engaged with 25 individuals and although this was a little lower than the 36 street sleepers registered during the official annual count in November 2015. I consider this to be wholly unacceptable.

We have already undertaken a detailed root cause analysis of street homelessness with a range of partners and stakeholders and talked with street sleepers themselves to gain a better understanding of their issues and expectations.

As a result of this we have developed a number of shared proposals that we will be discussing with partners and stakeholders so that we can improve services and reduce inequality.

## **NEXT SIX MONTHS**

Over the next 6 months I will continue to work with colleagues and partners across the city, region and nationally, to make further progress on our priorities, responding to challenges and further develop the following areas of work:

### **National Housing Summit**

Building upon the comprehensive housing offer (Housing Birmingham), we are aiming to hold a national summit in the summer that develops and expands on the Housing Birmingham offer and sets out the wider impacts that housing inequality and social inequality is having and is likely to have on citizens, in particular the most vulnerable in society. This summit will seek to explore how we might establish a national call to action on some of the impacts that we as housing providers across the country are facing.

### **Tackling Homelessness and Rough Sleeping**

I can confirm that due to the priority that the Leader and I have given to homelessness, the budget for commissioning homelessness services has remained the same as last year at £1.068m and this will allow us to continue to work with partners to provide much needed support services for homeless people in the city.

DCLG have announced funding of £200,000 in order to reduce temporary accommodation in Birmingham and we are currently looking at a number ways to use this one off grant. Cabinet has also agreed to invest in the refurbishment of three of the Council's homeless hostels, one has just been completed and the other two should be finished during the next six months.

Since my last update, the Council has introduced an Accreditation Scheme to co-ordinate and make best use of voluntary outreach services and food distribution agencies. Further organisations are being contacted to join the scheme and a training event is being organised for all agencies. The aim is to bring voluntary groups and charities together with statutory services so that we can help people in a more effective way, coordinating with outreach and medical support and avoiding duplication of food runs too. 12 organisations have signed up to the scheme to date.

The HOST service, operated in conjunction with the Police to deliver targeted response to reports of street sleeping and begging predominantly within the city centre, is currently being reviewed with the support of Colmore Business Improvement District (BID) to ensure the service can become even more effective in appropriately responding to reports and to develop an integrated system for recording outputs and outcomes.



We have launched a pilot scheme with Westside BID for a joint outreach and response service between the Midland Heart Outreach Service and the BID wardens which will be reviewed in March. We are also:

- tendering for a Welfare Service, which will provide a central hub for vulnerable single homeless to access housing advice, wellbeing services, and health services and will be opened in April 2016.
- exploring with partners and businesses an alternative giving scheme which will enable the public to give financially in a way that ensures funds will go to services that directly support homeless people and avoid direct giving to individuals that can perpetuate their life on the street and delay access to needed services.
- undertaking discussions with the Police, BIDs and Outreach Services to strengthen the partnership approach to dealing with public place management and to ensure resources are appropriately deployed to respond to the complex issues.
- exploring with businesses the possibility of establishing a 'store room' to make the best use of donations such as clothing, food, blankets etc.

### **Housing and Health**

There is a clear interplay of cause and consequence between health and housing and in particular homelessness that is played out in the wider context of social and health inequalities. Recent reports such as Hard Edges show that there are key points in a person's life where early service intervention could prevent individuals slipping into severe disadvantage of homelessness and exclusion.

I will continue to work with the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care and key strategic leads from health to forge new relationships with the wider housing sector and explore how we can collectively and collaboratively work to bring about the required changes to systems and services.

### **Care Leavers Accommodation and Support Pathway**

I have been working with the Cabinet Member for Children's Services to implement a Care Leavers Accommodation and Support Pathway for Birmingham.

Support has been secured from DCLG to help us to formally adopt and embed the new pathway as part of the future operating model for Children's Services.

The aim of the pathway is to ensure that young people aged 16 – 18 have somewhere safe and suitable to live, to help them make a positive transition into adulthood. The success of the pathway is dependent upon ensuring that we collectively work together, share our knowledge, skills and resources to provide the right support and interventions for children and young people at the right points of their journey towards independence.

The framework will focus upon a number of areas including;

- Early preparation work with children and young people for the reality of their future housing options.
- Planning young people's accommodation and support option with them.
- Reduce housing crisis.
- Access housing and support as needed, including support to engage with health and wellbeing services and also employment, education and training.
- Access and successfully manage longer-term, move-on and support options.

Officers from a number of directorates are now working with third sector organisations and young people themselves to shape the pathway.

The approach taken also highlights the importance of commissioning good quality housing support and housing responses alongside informing and improving upon social work responses in pathway planning for young people as part of their care leaving journey. The pathway will feed into the Housing Birmingham response to young people.

### **Learning Disabilities Housing and Employment**

On the 19 January, a report was presented to Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the current position relating to support to adults with learning disabilities, with particular reference to housing and employment. The findings of the report highlighted the following:

- **Housing:** There is a range of good quality support and housing provision within Birmingham which offers people with learning disabilities the opportunity to live more independently within their communities. This includes the development of community based housing with support options as alternatives to more institutional settings, support to access social housing and housing and tenancy support interventions. Nevertheless a more coordinated approach including improved intelligence gathering in relation to tenancy based support options will ensure that we continue to enable people with learning disabilities live independently within our communities.
- **Employment:** Nationally, only 6.6% of adults with learning disabilities are reported to be in some form of paid employment. Whilst there are a number of initiatives being led across the City which support the most vulnerable and therefore considered to be the furthest away from the labour market into work, there is a real lack of a coordinated approach to improving access to people with learning disabilities. Case studies from voluntary sector service providers illustrate the characteristics of successful employment support including; a recognition that for many people with learning disabilities this can be a long journey which requires a holistic response including support to overcome isolation, feeling confident within work settings and practical skills. Another key area is support to employers to confidently support people with learning disabilities within the workplace.

A targeted response for people with learning disabilities has been secured as part of the successful Youth Employment Initiative Bid (aged 15 – 29) to the European Social Fund.

The funding will be utilised to commission intervention workers to support both the young person and the employer.

Initiatives and issues highlighted within the report will feed into the work we are undertaking through Housing Birmingham.

### **Youth Employment Initiative Match Funding**

The Supporting People (Housing support) young people's commissioned services have provided a funding match for the successful Youth Employment Initiative. The combined successful matches across a number of funding streams will provide additional employment, training and support opportunities for over 16,000 young people across Birmingham and Solihull, this includes support to young people at risk of homelessness, risk of offending, complex needs, care leavers' support needs relating to their mental health or learning disability.

### **Homeless Advice Centres Proposals**

Consultation with the public and interested parties has closed on proposals to provide one Housing Advice Service based in Newtown which would create a centre of excellence for homelessness and for homeless and housing advice for the city.

Currently the Homeless and Pre-Tenancy Service is based in four Housing Advice Centres across the city – Erdington, Newtown, Northfield and Sparkbrook in addition to the Youth Hub in Digbeth. The proposed changes to service delivery do not impact on the Youth Hub.

A report is due to be presented to Cabinet on the 22 March, alongside a report on the future operating model for Neighbourhood Advice and Information Service. If agreed the one Housing Advice Centre will go live in June 2016.

### **Housing Allocation Scheme**

The implementation of the Housing Allocation scheme will now take place on 22 September 2016.

The decision to implement the new Scheme in September of this year has been strongly influenced by the ongoing Neighbourhood Advice & Homeless & Pre-Tenancy Services proposed changes, which go to Cabinet for a decision on 22 March, following extensive consultation. This means that the resource-intensive re-registration process, which is crucial to the new Allocation Scheme, will take place once the new working arrangements are in place for these services.

As we approach the key milestones of this scheme, Members will receive updates.

Councillor John Cotton  
Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Management and Homes



**NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE 17 MARCH 2016**

**UPDATE REPORT OF CABINET MEMBER FOR INCLUSION AND COMMUNITY SAFETY**

**REPORT BY: COUNCILLOR SHAFIQUE SHAH**

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

Following my report to Scrutiny in November 2015 setting out my portfolio priorities for 2015/16, this report seeks to provide an update on the progress made and emerging issues.

**2. SUMMARY OF KEY PRIORITIES AND OTHER KEY PROGRAMMES**

The key priorities for my portfolio support the Council's vision for the city working together for a fair, prosperous and democratic city.

This includes the opportunity for everyone to live in thriving local communities, where people make the most of their talents and abilities, regardless of their background. Where communities value and respect one another and are able to make a contribution to public life and where people are safe, especially the most vulnerable – from crime, violence and abuse.

- Work with partners to develop a set of actions to be taken forward by the Council and its partners to address child poverty across the city, to ensure that every child has the opportunity to fulfil their potential.
- Adopt the Road Safety Strategy to make the city's roads safer.
- Support the development of a city-wide advice offer through the establishment of a coherent advice strategy and integration of advice services across the Council and with partners.
- Develop a city-wide comprehensive and sustainable approach to keeping victims and children safe from domestic violence.
- Provide an effective response to the refugee crisis, including a shared city-wide approach to housing fifty Syrian refugees through a nationally-organised and nationally-supported resettlement scheme.
- Developing a new affordable model for CCTV in the city.
- Completing the review of school crossing sites, to increase the safety of children travelling to and from schools

### 3. PROGRESS ON DELIVERING PRIORITIES

PRIORITY	PROGRESS
Work with partners to address child poverty across the city	<p>The Child Poverty Commission was established last May to examine the extent and impact of child poverty and inequality across Birmingham; identify the key challenges and issues; and report on causes and solutions.</p> <p>The Commission, chaired by Matthew Reed (CEO, Children's Society) is made up of senior leaders in all spheres of influence including policy makers, politicians, business representatives and practitioners who will provide expertise, knowledge and experience to help formulate proposals for a citywide approach.</p> <p>Given the diversity and complexity of child poverty the Commission is looking at 6 key themes on which to develop further understanding and propose actions. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local economy and unemployment</li> <li>• Health</li> <li>• Education and lifelong learning</li> <li>• Transport</li> <li>• In work poverty: child care, Living Wage</li> <li>• Housing</li> </ul> <p>Over several months a series of engagement sessions to gather evidence have taken place with over 280 people sharing their experiences, views and ideas through social media, focus groups and meetings including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus group with young people from Lozells, Aston and Longbridge district.</li> <li>• Focus group with parents from Balsall Heath Children's Centre and Summerfield Children's Centre.</li> <li>• Pupils from Future First Independent School (alternative education provider) based in Hockley.</li> <li>• Meetings with voluntary and community organisations working with children and families e.g. Supporting People Domestic Violence Forum, KIKIT, Aspire and Succeed, Gateway Family service.</li> <li>• Meetings with voluntary and faith based organisations supporting vulnerable children and families hosted by Safe Families for Children.</li> <li>• Funding event with voluntary and community organisations working with children and families from Ladywood hosted by Big Lottery.</li> <li>• Business leaders meeting hosted by Aston University</li> </ul>

	<p>Further research has been commissioned to build on the above including one to one interviews and further focus groups. Quantitative surveys and stakeholder events are planned over the coming months.</p> <p>Initial findings reveal an appetite for young people and parents to be part of the design and delivery of solutions that will help improve their life chances.</p> <p>A young people's group is being established to work alongside the Commission to provide a sounding board to sense check ideas and recommendations, discuss and contribute to shaping policy and practice to alleviate child poverty in Birmingham. The membership will be made up of around 10 young people from a range of gender, ethnic and socio economic backgrounds from across the city.</p> <p>The Commission will publish the final report in June 2016 which will then be discussed at Full Council and disseminated more widely.</p>
Adopt the Road Safety Strategy	<p>In Birmingham there has been a 35% reduction in road casualties over the past ten years. To ensure progress against this positive trend continues, and to support the wider of objectives of Birmingham Connected, a new Road Safety Strategy is being developed. The Strategy sets-out how the Council will tackle road safety, under the themes of: Safer Roads (making the physical environment safer); Safer People (promoting and educating people about how to use the roads safely); and Safer Vehicles (ensuring that the vehicles using the roads are as safe as possible e.g. through design etc.) It also forecasts a 40% reduction by 2020, in the number of people being killed or seriously injured in road accidents in the city.</p> <p>The draft strategy was developed in partnership with the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents. Consultation on the draft took place between July and November, and 224 responses were received from a range of organisations and individuals. Further work is now ongoing to take on board the feedback received with the intention to publish the final strategy this summer.</p> <p>A new Birmingham Road Safety Partnership, which I chair, has been established. Work with partners, including WM Police, WM Fire Service, Centro and private and third sector organisations, is underway to better align the Council's Road Safety Strategy Action Plan with the work of our partners.</p>
Support the	We have worked with our third sector advice partners who have

development of a city-wide advice offer	<p>led on the development of an advice strategy which has been adopted through our partnership groups. The re-commissioning of third sector advice on welfare benefits and debt has the advice strategy at its core. The £400k of advice services being procured will commence on 1 April 2016 and will offer a partnership approach to advice as well as the ability to access advice through the phone and web. The new model for Neighbourhood Advice and Information Service which has been under consultation also builds on the principles of the advice strategy and a decision on this will be brought to Cabinet in March.</p>
Domestic Violence Review	<p>The Violence Against Women and Children Steering Group will consider the final elements of the domestic abuse review by the end of March and rigorous debate has already taken place in respect of how to manage and contain abusers more effectively and the nature of services needed for children and young people exposed to domestic abuse. These views will be reflected in the development of a commissioning plan and thorough consultation will be conducted on any proposals it contains.</p> <p>Commissioning activity in this area will now be undertaken by the Commissioning Centre of Excellence. This will include extensive engagement with existing and former experts by experience (service users) and providers and other stakeholder partners to canvass opinion on what works well and what needs to change. Current domestic violence and abuse services will also be included in a service effectiveness review. A draft strategy refresh and forward commissioning plan will be produced by the end of June and commissioning activity will commence once these are finalised and approved by Members.</p> <p>An update on progress will be presented to this Committee in April.</p>
Provide an effective response to the refugee crisis	<p>An announcement was made on the 7 September that the UK would resettle 20,000 people from Syria through a joint scheme with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) called the Syrian Vulnerable Person Relocation Scheme. The Government have split the scheme into two phases. Phase 1 ran between September and December and sought to resettle 1,000 people. Birmingham participated in this phase and agreed to accommodate 50 individuals. Birmingham City Council along with Coventry City Council were the only authorities in the West Midlands participating in this early phase.</p> <p>We have been working with a consortium of organisations which is being led by Refugee Action to provide orientation, accommodation and support services for 12 months from arrival</p>



	<p>for 50 Syrian refugees.</p> <p>Nine individuals arrived before Christmas, 19 in January and a further 10 individuals arrived on 24 February. We anticipate that the final group of refugees will arrive later this month. All individuals have settled in and there have been no concerns raised.</p> <p>Refugee Action and the Council are working in partnership with the following organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DWP – to ensure benefits are applied for and accessed within a timely manner</li> <li>• CCGs – ensuring that all individuals are registered with a GP and receive an initial health screen</li> <li>• BCC School Admissions to ensure that school aged children are allocated a primary or secondary placement</li> <li>• Prevent leads within WMP and BCC to ensure relevant partners and key workers are aware of the Prevent Agenda and where referrals or concerns can be made.</li> <li>• A number of voluntary sector organisations to provide befriending, orientation and ongoing support.</li> </ul> <p>I met with individuals and refugee families earlier this month together with the Leader of the Council and provided a warm welcome to Birmingham. The meeting provided an opportunity to talk in an informal setting about their experiences in the city since their arrival.</p> <p>On 25 February the West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership held a briefing session looking at progress of the Syrian Resettlement Scheme to date and phase 2 which looks at a much more coordinated regional approach. I met with the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Home Office, local authority chief executives, commissioners, leaders and portfolio holders in the West Midlands region. Birmingham were thanked for their early participation in the scheme and the Government are now seeking for other West Midlands authorities to also play a part in this next phase.</p> <p>As a Board Member of the West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership I am keen to ensure that Birmingham plays its part in supporting the refugees and the dispersal of asylum seekers, however I also want to ensure that we have the right services and support in place in order to manage migration in a responsible way.</p> <p>We will continue to work with the Home Office and the West</p>
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	<p>Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership to ensure the continuing success of the scheme both locally and in the region.</p>
<p>Develop a new affordable model for CCTV in the city</p>	<p>Birmingham has a public realm CCTV establishment of almost 350 cameras. Of these 69 are monitored by the Police and we monitor the others through our Control Room. We are committed to reducing the number of cameras by 51, and that work is programmed to be complete by the end of the financial year.</p> <p>Planned savings of £379,000 are to be made from the CCTV budgets from the 1 April 2016 and this requires the reduction in Control Room staff of 11 posts. I am pleased that this has been completed without the need for compulsory redundancies.</p> <p>The reduction in staff numbers will mean that the average manning level in the Control Room will be less and this has made it necessary to invest in some new equipment to ensure that we are working as effectively as possible with the staffing available. The procurement of this new equipment is planned for the end of March 2016.</p> <p>This means that by 1 April we should be in a position where we will have a reduced CCTV establishment, a reduced staffing level and a more efficient and effective monitoring regime. This will be able to operate within the projected budgets available and will therefore be affordable.</p> <p>The range of possible future developments in CCTV is wide as the technology is rapidly changing. In addition, there are radical changes to the way that key stakeholders are organised taking place with the Police and Centro changing their organisational bases, and the role of the West Midlands Combined Authority as yet undefined in relation to CCTV.</p> <p>In such a situation it is advisable to retain flexibility in our approach and to be open to joint working with other stakeholders.</p> <p>We have been working with Police and Centro colleagues and other partners regarding potential partnership opportunities going forward in relation to the monitoring and hosting of CCTV cameras in the city.</p> <p>Since my attendance at Scrutiny in November I have visited the City Council's control room and Centro's CCTV Suite and have been impressed and reassured by the determination and hard work shown to keep this city safe.</p> <p>Future developments with new technology will all present challenges, and possibly solutions to existing problems. By</p>

	<p>keeping our service as small as it effectively can be, and working more closely with our partners we can be in the best possible position to exploit new technology as it becomes available.</p> <p>The future direction and governance of the service cannot be predicted but will be actively managed; working where possible in partnership with the Police and Centro.</p>
Completing the review of school crossing sites	<p>Following the recent budget process, we have confirmed that during the year the Council will continue to recruit to vacant posts at Priority 1 sites not equipped with pedestrian controlled lights.</p> <p>I will be working with my Cabinet colleagues to find a longer-term solution to road safety travel for young people in the city.</p> <p>The Young Active Travel initiative is designed to improve the health and well-being of our children and local communities, by encouraging parents and pupils to adopt more sustainable ways of travelling to school and reducing car journeys.</p> <p>There are a wealth of measures already in place and planned, to make it safer, easier and more pleasant for children to walk or cycle to school, improving not only their own health but that of the wider community - with reduced road danger, less air pollution from cars and less traffic congestion in local neighbourhoods. This proactive approach with young people will not only address current health and transport issues but it will also influence future transport choices and further our Birmingham Connected transport strategy - "the kids of today are the commuters of tomorrow".</p> <p>We are looking for schools to take the lead with support from parents, Ward Councillors, and partners such as the Police and Fire Service, to review their School Travel Plans through the ModeShift STARS online platform, and are particularly keen for children themselves to consider the issues and develop their own solutions appropriate to their neighbourhood. The Council will support this initiative by developing a "toolkit" to bring together in one easily accessible place all the available information, statistics, contacts and "good ideas" including, for example, child obesity and asthma rates, cycling and walking route maps, school travel plans, and road safety education resources. We will also promote the idea to school governors, Councillors, and partners; and host a School Council Summit to launch the work.</p>

#### 4. UPDATE ON KEY BUDGET ISSUES/KEY FUTURE BUDGET ISSUES

I am responsible as the Cabinet Member for a net revenue budget of £3.7m in 2015/16 (representing gross expenditure of £8.7m that is funded partly from grants/other income of £5m). These resources are utilised to provide a significant range of services including the Council's Equalities/Cohesion/Community Safety Team, our work on the Preventing Violent Extremism, public CCTV, Birmingham Police and Crime Partnership, Neighbourhood Advice Services and Third Sector Advice Services.

There is considerable pressure to deliver these savings within the existing resources and it is likely that there will be a marginal overspend in 2015/16 (estimated at 2% of all expenditure and income resources).

The public finances will continue to be under pressure over the medium term from 2016/17 to 2019/20 (as set out in the Council's Public Budget Consultation in December 2015 and the Budget Report to City Council in March 2016). It is estimated that current available resources will reduce by almost £1.4m by 2019/20 including the planned reductions in the Community Safety Fund allocated by the Police and Crime Commissioner. This challenge will only be deliverable through the continued joint partnership working with all our stakeholders.

## 5. NEXT SIX MONTHS

I feel that much work has been done to deliver on the priorities I outlined to Committee in November. Over the next 6 months I am committed to work with Members, staff and partners across the city to ensure that we continue to keep Birmingham safe and continue to support the most vulnerable people in the city through the following:

### PREVENT

In July 2015, through the Counter Terrorism and Security (CTS) ACT 2015 the Government introduced a new duty on specified authorities including the police, local authorities, prisons, schools and universities, to prevent people being drawn into terrorism. By introducing the duty the Government intends to increase the consistency of Prevent delivery across England, Wales and Scotland.

In Response to the Duty we have reviewed and strengthened governance arrangements to ensure the Local Authority complies with the duty and involves our partners in the implementation and oversight of the Prevent programme across the city.

- **Risk Assessment.** Birmingham remains a key priority nationally for Prevent and the Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLTP) produced by the WM CTU has been briefed to Members and partnership delivery structures.
- **Delivery Plan.** Birmingham's Prevent Delivery Plan is influenced by the CTLTP which identifies the risks and vulnerabilities of radicalisation in Birmingham. It is a partnership plan and is coordinated via the Prevent Delivery Hub and overseen by the CONTEST Board and CONTEST Executive Board.

Delivery against the delivery plan for 2015 has been completed and where actions are ongoing they will be incorporated into the plan for 2016/17.

We have initiated a review of safeguarding processes and referral pathways for Prevent and will in time for 2016/17 have strengthened referral pathways for vulnerable children and adults.

Following the CTLP briefings the Plan for 2016/17 is being drafted and consulted upon by partners. We aim to significantly reduce the number of actions by making the plan more targeted and effective to key priorities.

- **No Platform Policy.** As part of the Prevent Duty, local authorities are expected to ensure public-owned venues are not used as a platform to promote extremist views. Local authorities are also expected to ensure funding is not allocated to groups/individuals that hold/promote extremist views.

Through the 'No Platform' Policy, we have introduced a process to prevent the use of local authority venues from providing a platform for extremist speakers. There are also established 'due diligence' systems in place to ensure groups that work with the Birmingham Prevent Programme do not hold, or engage with, extremist views or groups.

In September the No Platform Policy was rolled out to Schools in a format that they are comfortable with and Birmingham City Council will provide any additional support around due diligence where necessary.

- **Staff Training.** In ensuring front-line staff are aware of the risk of radicalisation the Birmingham Prevent programme oversees training through a multi-agency and multi-disciplinary workforce development team for Prevent led by the Schools Resilience Officer.

During 2015 we have delivered WRAP training to over 14,000 front-line staff and are moving into a train the trainer model for 2016/17 with a target to have over 200 WRAP trainers registered to deliver training from and to a range of sectors.

- **Collaboration between Areas.** Over the last six months, neighbouring local authorities have also recruited Prevent leads and we work very closely with other local areas in the West Midlands to ensure a consistent approach to delivery plans is promoted across the region.

We have assisted in helping to establish a West Midlands Prevent Coordinators Network to ensure emerging practice is shared.

- **Supporting Children.** Prevent is recognised within local safeguarding arrangements for children and work is being done to strengthen referral pathways. Birmingham receives additional support via the Home Office to recruit a Schools Prevent Officer who works to strengthen safeguarding arrangements within school settings and ensuring that these arrangements are linked to local authority processes.
- **Out of School Settings.** Via the Local Authority Designated Officer for safeguarding (LADO) Team. Birmingham has developed and strengthened support to faith based

organisations, supplementary schools and madrassas via a new safeguarding toolkit for such settings.

Local delivery in Birmingham is designed to be proportionate and targeted towards areas of most vulnerability and need whilst also ensuring city-wide coverage. Our delivery is focussed on enabling front line services to access updated information and receive appropriate support and guidance to ensure Prevent vulnerabilities are identified and accepted as key priorities within a broader safeguarding agenda.

## **TACKLING ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

We have continued to work in partnership with the Police to tackle anti-social behaviour across the city and I know that many local councillors are actively engaged in supporting Public Space Protection Orders in their wards to tackle a range of issues that are affecting the day the day lives of residents. Actions since January this year include:

- Six injunctions obtained in January 2016. Two-year gang injunctions were obtained against three members of a family in Ladywood and another associate. Two other injunctions (one civil and one gang) were obtained against unnamed individuals at the same time. All of the individuals were involved in violence emanating from one household affecting the Ladywood area and are linked to one of the city's known gangs.
- Four Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) were granted in Jan 2016 for four areas in the East of the City: Sheldon, Shard End, Gospel Farm (Acocks Green) and Bankside (near Springfield). The PSPOs will assist in tackling antisocial behaviour within these specific areas.
- West & Central & North PSPOs: A further three PSPOs were granted in February 2016 in the following areas: Erdington High Street, Rookery Road area (Handsworth), Soho Rd & Waverhill Rd area (Handsworth). These orders are been used to tackle a wide range of ASB including begging, graffiti, and inappropriate driving of mini-motos. These PSPOs are used under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and are intended to crackdown on several types of nuisance behaviour in a public area.
- 18 interim gang injunctions were obtained in February 2016 against gang members banning them from a large part of the West & Central area. The individuals are known to be linked to the recent gun crime issues and it is hoped that these injunctions will help disrupt their activities. Local communities had expressed concerns over recent incidents leading to the anonymised publicity of the injunctions

## **YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE**

The Birmingham Youth Offending Service was inspected by HM Inspectorate of Probation on behalf of the Youth Justice Board (YJB) in January as part of a national programme of inspection of youth offending work with a specific focus on case management practice for statutory orders that have been open for six to three months.

The inspectors concluded that 'Overall, we found some work of good quality in the Youth Offending Service (YOS). Staff were well engaged with the children and young people under their supervision, and their parents, and were working effectively with other agencies involved with their cases. There was scope for improvement, particularly in the planning and review of the work to address the risk of harm to others and the safeguarding and vulnerability of the children and young people.'

The Inspector noted that Birmingham's performance in preventing reoffending had improved on the previous year, with the latest published rate of 30.7%, which is better than the national average of 37.9%

The Service is facing significant cuts to its 2016/17 pooled budget, which is currently estimated to be in the region of £1,000,000. The Youth Justice Grant has been cut year on year and was subject to an in-year reduction of 10.6% equating to a loss of £234,000. The grant settlement for next year is not known yet, however the YJB has recently advised YOTs to expect and plan for up to a 25% cut to the grant.

In view of the gravity of the cuts that the Youth offending Service is facing, the Youth Offending Service Management Board which I Chair, will be reviewing the operating model and oversee the mitigation planning in order to determine how it will continue to fulfil its statutory duties in the future.

## **STONEWALL INDEX**

The Council's efforts to become a better employer for lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans (LGBT) people have been recognised with another improved ranking in the latest Stonewall Top 100 Employers list in January.

The Council is 28th in the 2016 table - a leap of 31 places from last year's 59th and an improvement of 63 places from 2014. In our submission to Stonewall, the leading LGBT charity, a number of initiatives and projects supported by the local authority were outlined including:

- Work done to improve engagement with LGBT staff and citizens through events and communications developed by the Council's LGBT Employees & Allies Network.
- Striving to highlight positive LGBT role models, and encouraging 'Straight Allies' to take part in activities to gain a better understanding of the challenges faced within the community.
- Lunchtime events held in council buildings and circulation of the LGBT newsletters to all staff to raise awareness of key LGBT topics and events. These include Bi Visibility Day, LGBT History Month in February and taking part in the Birmingham Pride Parade.
- Working closely with voluntary sector partners like the Birmingham LGBT Centre to develop the services available there which include: TOPAZ (a service for Older LGBT people), the LGBT Domestic Violence Service and the new LGBT Sexual Health Service which launched in August 2015 in partnership with Umbrella.

- Supporting Out Central – a safe space for Younger LGBT people to meet and socialise every Thursday evening, funded through the city’s Youth Service.
- Working with Birmingham LGBT and Out Central on the Heritage Lottery Funded project “Coming Out Stories” – which included production of a film and a learning resource which will be promoted in schools this year to help younger people understand what it is like to ‘Come Out’ as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender.

Looking ahead to 2017, Stonewall have started to include criteria to measure how inclusive organisations are of the trans community, so the Council plans to include full details of its work to support everyone from the LGBT community.

## **BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE CHARTER**

In December the Council signed up to the British Sign Language (BSL) Charter, after working with the British Deaf Association and the Birmingham Deaf Forum. The charter aims to improve equality of access to services and acts as a framework for local authorities and other public sector organisations to improve access for deaf people who use sign language.

The Charter has five pledges within it:

1. Improve access for Deaf people to local services and information
2. Promote learning and high quality teaching of British Sign Language
3. Support Deaf children and families
4. Ensure staff working with Deaf people can communicate effectively in British Sign language
5. Consult with our local Deaf community on a regular basis

We will work in partnership to deliver these pledges.

## **WELFARE REFORM COMMITTEE**

The Welfare Reform Multi Agency Committee continues to bring together key partners to shape the city’s response to the government’s welfare reforms to ensure the most vulnerable are supported through the changes.

The Committee has successfully overseen the implementation of Universal Credit in the city and following a successful event with partners in November, a refreshed and more focused action plan has been developed to respond to the findings of a comprehensive assessment that highlighted all impacts of reforms at a household level across Birmingham.

This refreshed action plan has a strong focus on:

- Supporting vulnerable and young people
- Employment support opportunities: joint working underway between BCC and DWP to target some of the most affected Benefit Cap cases to help into work



- Communication and advice provision: linking to advice strategy – a standard framework of advice.

Welfare reforms that impact on housing will now be picked up under the 'Housing Birmingham' Multi Agency Committee. This committee will continue to work with partners including the DWP on roll out of future reforms including Benefit Cap and expansion of Universal Credit.

During the latter stages of 2015/16 I conducted detailed consultation on the Council's local welfare provision, both as part of the overall budget consultation and due to the potential impact of this proposed change with both directly affected claimants and partners from third sector agencies.

The consultation was very detailed and the responses have enabled Cabinet to consider the most appropriate approach for the city going forward.

Officers from many organisations across the city contributed to this feedback and a small group of partners will now continue this work and bring proposals to the Multi-Agency Committee to help inform the revised policy for 2016/17 onwards which will now see a much smaller reduction down to the level of current demand.

From 2017/18 onwards the Council has identified additional funding of £1.3 million and will also work with partners to seek extra funding to supplement this.

During 2015/16 the scheme has continued to support vulnerable citizens in Birmingham by providing assistance through crisis grants totalling £279,000 and community support grants of £1,982,138 and through these schemes have helped to elevate both the immediate effects of poverty and assist in sustaining more longer-term tenancies across the city.

## **FINANCIAL INCLUSION PARTNERSHIP**

I currently chair Birmingham's Financial Inclusion Partnership which is a partnership of key partners and stakeholders working to improve financial inclusion in the city through a coordinated approach to debt recovery, access to financial service, prevention of problem debts and the provision of money advice. The aim is improve life chances of those who are experiencing or are at risk of experiencing financial exclusion by:

- providing evidence to identify what services are available and examples of financial inclusion good practice
- identifying the shortfalls and work in partnership at a strategic level to promote financial inclusion
- embedding change through local strategies and partnerships

Some highlights of recent work include:

- **Affordable Credit.** FIP members, Money Line and Credit Unions, Illegal Money Lending team are working together and have secured a Community Shop in the Indoor Market to promote affordable credit for Birmingham. This will be going live in March 2016 and there will be an official launch.

- **Financial Education for Young People.** Free financial education aimed at young people from 5 to 19 to encourage money management and savings. Free education packs have been forwarded to schools.
- **Supporting families at Christmas.** FIP worked with Birmingham Markets to provide a Christmas fun day weekend for families at Christmas.

**House 2 Home.** Partners have been worked together to provide the House 2 Home project and events which provides education for tenants on managing and sustaining a tenancy including DIY skills, money advice, utility information etc.

We are now looking to expand the project so that more tenants across the city can benefit.

## **FAITH NETWORK**

We held our second Faith Network event last month, with over 50 Faith Networks attending. The event focussed on Keeping Children Safe in Birmingham, exploring the crucial role that faith communities play.

The Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board also highlighted the availability of specialist safeguarding support, on-line procedures and multi-agency training available, professionals working with children and families in the community. The Board will work with faith leaders to build on the learning from this event to develop a programme of future safeguarding events.

A series of launch events for the faith community are planned for the spring across the city.

Councillor Shafique Shah

Cabinet Member for Inclusion and Community Safety



## Neighbourhood and Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2015/2016

**Chair:** Cllr Zafar Iqbal

**Committee Members:** Cllrs Gurdial Singh Atwal, Andy Cartwright, Roger Harmer, Kath Hartley, Kerry Jenkins, John Lines, Ewan Mackey, Brett O'Reilly, David Pears, Sybil Spence and Elaine Williams.

**Officer Support** Scrutiny Team: Rose Kiely (303 1730) and Amanda Simcox (675 8444)  
Committee Manager: Marie Reynolds (464 4104)

### 1 Meeting Schedule

Date / Start at 2pm	What	Attendees/ Officer Contact
<b>25 June 2015</b> Committee Room 6	Informal meeting: Work Programme Discussion	Emma Williamson Mashuq Ally, AD Equalities, Community Safety & Cohesion Joyce Springer-Amadedon Chris Jordan
<b>30 July 2015</b> Committee Room 6	Introduction to portfolio: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Place Directorate – to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Private rented sector</li> <li>Lifespan of tower blocks</li> </ul> </li> <li>Community Safety &amp; Cohesion</li> </ul>	Rob James, Director, Housing Transformation  Joyce Springer-Amadedon, Equality & Community Engagement Manager
<b>17 September 2015</b> Committee Room 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tracking: Working with Housing Associations</li> <li>Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Management and Homes</li> </ul>	Jonathon Drifill, Chair of BSHP, Rob James & Anne-Marie Powell  Cllr John Cotton/Marcia Wynter
<b>15 October 2015</b> Committee Room 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Birmingham: where the world meets - Tracking Report recommendation 1 &amp; 8; and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rec 9: Cabinet Member for Skills, Learning and Culture to report back on the Birmingham Heritage Week (10 – 17 Sept)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Prevent Programme</li> <li>The operational roll out of wheeled bins (in particular Sutton Coldfield)</li> </ul>	Alison Harwood & Mashuq Ally  Cllr Penny Holbrook / Jon Lawton  Mashuq Ally Penny Smith, Programme Director & Matt Kelly, Assistant Director FWM (Ops)



Date / Start at 2pm	What	Attendees/ Officer Contact
<b>19 November 2015</b> Committee Room 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cabinet Member for Inclusion and Community Safety</li> <li>Tracking: Working with Communities to Prevent Relationship Violence</li> <li>Update on the Review of the Domestic Violence Strategy</li> </ul>	Cllr Shafique Shah / Marcia Wynter Cllr Mariam Khan & Mashuq Ally  Mashuq Ally & Sam Monnox
<b>17 December 2015</b> Committee Room 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Neighbourhood Challenge Inquiry</li> <li>Progress on Equalities and Social Inclusion. To include a presentation / information on the work being done in schools</li> </ul>	Gary Ladbrooke Mashuq Ally, AD Equalities, Community Safety & Cohesion
<b>21 January 2016</b> Committee Room 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child Poverty</li> <li>Equalities and Cohesion Toolkit</li> <li>Anti-Social Behaviour</li> <li>Tracking: Health of the Birmingham's Third Sector – recommendation 1</li> </ul>	Mashuq Ally  Claire Berry, Senior Service Manager - Safer Places Kevin Hubery, Head of Strategic Policy
<b>18 February 2016</b> Committee Room 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report on the Community Safety Partnership. To include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Neighbourhood policing &amp; Neighbourhood Tasking Groups (NTGs)</li> <li>Random violent crime</li> </ul> </li> <li>Neighbourhood Challenge Inquiry: Evidence Gathering. In attendance:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cllr John Alden, Edgbaston District Chair</li> <li>Cllr Josh Jones, Erdington District Chair</li> <li>Cllr Peter Griffiths, Northfield District Chair and Cllr Steve Booton, Deputy Chair</li> <li>Cllr Sue Anderson, Yardley District Chair</li> <li>Hall Green District to provide written evidence</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	ACC Marcus Beale and Mashuq Ally / Geoffrey Taylor  The Scrutiny Office invited the District Chairs and Vice Chairs to attend and/or provide written evidence
<b>17 March 2016</b> Committee Room 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Management and Homes. Discussion to include Volunteers and the third sector</li> <li>Cabinet Member for Inclusion and Community Safety. Discussion to include how they work with the third sector</li> </ul>	Cllr John Cotton / Marcia Wynter  Cllr Shafique Shah / Marcia Wynter
<b>21 April 2016</b> Committee Room 6  <b>Deadline for reports 12 Apr</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child Poverty update (TBC)</li> <li>Tracking: Working with Communities to Prevent Relationship Violence</li> <li>Update on the Review of the Domestic Violence Strategy</li> </ul>	Mashuq Ally (TBC) Mashuq Ally / Joyce Springer-Amadedon Mashuq Ally / Joyce Springer-Amadedon



## 2 Outstanding Tracking Reports

Inquiry	Member who led the Inquiry	Recommendations Outstanding	Date
Birmingham: Where the world meets	Cllr Waseem Zaffar	Recommendations 1, 8 and 9.	Completed 15 Oct 2015
Working with Communities to Prevent Relationship Violence	Cllr Mariam Khan	Recommendations 1 (encourage community led preventative approach) 2 (Review DV Strategy) and 3 (encourage schools and educational establishments to take a 'whole school approach' to children and young people developing positive relationships and providing guidance).	21 Apr 2016
Working with Housing Associations	Cllr Majid Mahmood	Recommendations 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9.	Completed 17 Sep 2015
Health of Birmingham's Third Sector	Cllr Majid Mahmood	Recommendation 1: A thorough and detailed mapping exercise of all third sector provision is undertaken.  The completed mapping to be handed over to Districts. An update on the state of the voluntary and community sector report by BVSC and a third sector summit to be pursued. Members will also discuss working with the third sector with the Cabinet Members in March.	21 Jan 2016

## 3 Inquiry Schedule

### Inquiry – Neighbourhood Challenge<sup>1</sup>

Date	Item
17 December 2015 / January 2016	Committee Agree Terms of Reference & Start Evidence Gathering
9 February 2016	Corporate Resources O&S Committee's Evidence Gathering Session re: the new District and Ward Structures
18 February 2016	Neighbourhood and Community Services O&S Committee's Evidence Gathering Session
March 2016	Committee agree the report and send to the Executive

<sup>1</sup> Neighbourhood Challenge – to investigate, review and gather data on the performance of all local public services, working in a collaborative but challenging way with all services providers and seeking out and promoting new ways of improving services.



## 4 Other Meetings

### Call in Meetings

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*None scheduled*

### Petitions

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*None scheduled*

### Councillor Call for Action requests

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*None scheduled*

### Neighbourhood Challenge

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*None scheduled*

It is suggested that the Committee approve Thursday at 1400 as a suitable day and time each week for any additional meetings required to consider 'requests for call in' which may be lodged in respect of Executive decisions etc.

## 5 Forward Plan for Cabinet Decisions

The following decisions, extracted from the Cabinet Office Forward Plan of Decisions, are likely to be relevant to the Neighbourhood and Community Services O&S Committee's remit.

ID Number	Title	Cabinet Member	Proposed Date of Decision
000729/2015	The Way Forward for Advice and Information Services	Inclusion and Community Safety	22 Mar 16
000542/2015	Policy for the Use of Private Rented Sector to Meet Housing Needs	Health & Social Care	19 Apr 16