

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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

A G E N D A

1 NOTICE OF RECORDING

Lord Mayor to advise that this meeting will be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

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

3 MINUTES

To confirm and authorise the signing of the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 13 July 2021.

4 LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(1400-1410)

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

5 PETITIONS

(10 minutes allocated) (1410-1420)

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

As agreed by Council Business Management Committee a schedule of

5 - 102

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

6 QUESTION TIME

(70 minutes allocated) (1420-1530)

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

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

103 - 104

7 APPOINTMENTS BY THE COUNCIL

(5 minutes allocated) (1530-1535)

To make appointments to, or removals from, committees, outside bodies or other offices which fall to be determined by the Council as set out in the schedule.

105 - 110

8 SCRUTINY BUSINESS REPORT

(35 minutes allocated) (1535-1610)

To consider a report from Scrutiny Chairs.

Councillor Carl Rice to move the following Recommendation:

“That the report be noted.”

111 - 130

9 WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY TRANSPORT DELIVERY COMMITTEE

(20 minutes allocated) (1610-1630)

To consider a report of the Lead Member Transport Delivery Committee.

Councillor Kath Hartley to move the following Recommendation:

“That the report be noted.”

(break 1630 - 1700)

131 - 170

10 **YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2021-2022**

(45 minutes allocated) (1700-1745)

To consider a report of the Cabinet Member for Vulnerable Children and Families.

Councillor Sharon Thompson to move the following Motion:

"That Council approves the Birmingham Children's Trust's draft 2021 - 2022 Youth Justice Plan."

171 - 174

11 **MOTIONS FOR DEBATE FROM INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS**

(90 minutes allocated) (1745-1915)

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



**MEETING OF BIRMINGHAM
CITY COUNCIL, TUESDAY,
13 JULY 2021**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL HELD
ON TUESDAY, 13 JULY 2021 AT 1400 HOURS IN THE REP STUDIO
THEATRE, CENTENARY SQUARE, BROAD STREET, BIRMINGHAM**

PRESENT:- Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Mohammed Azim) in the Chair .

Councillors

Mohammed Aikhlaq	Penny Holbrook	Saddak Miah
Deirdre Alden	Jon Hunt	Gareth Moore
Robert Alden	Mahmood Hussain	Simon Morrall
Gurdial Singh Atwal	Shabrana Hussain	Yvonne Mosquito
Baber Baz	Timothy Huxtable	Brett O'Reilly
Matt Bennett	Mohammed Idrees	John O'Shea
Sir Albert Bore	Zafar Iqbal	Robert Pocock
Marje Bridle	Katherine Iroh	Hendrina Quinnen
Mick Brown	Ziaul Islam	Gary Sambrook
Tristan Chatfield	Morriam Jan	Darius Sandhu
Zaker Choudhry	Kerry Jenkins	Kath Scott
Debbie Clancy	Meirion Jenkins	Shafique Shah
Liz Clements	Julie Johnson	Ron Storer
Maureen Cornish	Brigid Jones	Martin Straker Welds
John Cotton	Nagina Kauser	Saima Suleman
Adrian Delaney	Chaman Lal	Sharon Thompson
Diane Donaldson	Mike Leddy	Paul Tilsley
Peter Fowler	Bruce Lines	Lisa Trickett
Jayne Francis	John Lines	Ian Ward
Eddie Freeman	Mary Locke	Mike Ward
Paulette Hamilton	Ewan Mackey	Ken Wood
Roger Harmer	Zhor Malik	Alex Yip
Adam Higgs	Karen McCarthy	

NOTICE OF RECORDING

- 19508 The Deputy Lord Mayor advised that the meeting would be webcast for live and subsequent broadcasting via the Council's internet site and that members of the Press/Public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.

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

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

- 19509 The Deputy Lord Mayor reminded members that they must declare all relevant pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests arising from any business to be discussed at this meeting.

No Interests were declared.

MINUTES

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and –

- 19510 **RESOLVED:-**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2021 having been circulated to each Member of the Council, be taken as read and confirmed and signed.

LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Queen's Birthday Honours

- 19511 The Deputy Lord Mayor indicated that he was delighted to congratulate those mentioned in the Queen's Birthday Honours list for services to Birmingham or who live in Birmingham as follows:-

MBE:

Sally Alexander
Professor Thomas Clutton-Brock
Dr Maurice Conlon
Linda McGrath

BEM

Atif Ali
Robert Capella
Yousif Mohammed Eltom
Orighoye Onuwaje

The Deputy Lord Mayor asked those in the meeting to join him in congratulating them all on those marvelous achievements.

PETITIONS

Petitions Relating to City Council Functions Presented at the Meeting

The following petitions were presented:-

(See document No. 1)

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

19512 **RESOLVED:-**

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

Petitions Update

The following Petitions Update had been made available electronically:-

(See document No. 2)

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

19513 **RESOLVED:-**

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

QUESTION TIME

19514 The Council proceeded to consider Oral Questions in accordance with Council Rules of Procedure (B4.4 F of the Constitution).

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

APPOINTMENTS BY THE COUNCIL

Councillor Martin Straker Welds proposed nominations and it was-

19515 **RESOLVED:-**

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

Economy and Skills Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Peter Griffiths (Lab) to replace Councillor Nicky Brennan (Lab) for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of City Council in May 2022.

Strategic Economic Delivery Board

Councillor Lisa Trickett (Lab) to replace Councillor Ian Ward (Lab) for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of City Council in May 2022.

Licensing Sub-Committee A

Councillor Martin Straker Welds (Lab) to replace Councillor Nagina Kauser (Lab) for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of City Council in May 2022.

West Midlands Police and Crime Panel

Councillor Saima Suleman (Lab) to replace Councillor John Lines (Con) for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of City Council in May 2022 following discussions between the Met Leaders.

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

The following report from the Cabinet was submitted:-

(See document No. 3)

The Leader, Councillor Ian Ward, moved the recommendation which was seconded.

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure, Councillors Meirion Jenkins and Debbie Clancy gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No. 4)

Councillor Meirion Jenkins moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Debbie Clancy.

A debate ensued.

The Leader, Councillor Ian Ward, replied to the debate.

The amendment to the Motion in the names of Councillors Meirion Jenkins and Debbie Clancy having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be lost.

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

5415

For the amendment (21)

Deirdre Alden	Eddie Freeman	Gareth Moore
Robert Alden	Adam Higgs	Simon Morrall
Matt Bennett	Timothy Huxtable	Gary Sambrook
Debbie Clancy	Meirion Jenkins	Darius Sandhu
Maureen Cornish	Bruce Lines	Ron Storer
Adrian Delaney	John Lines	Ken Wood
Peter Fowler	Ewan Mackey	Alex Yip

Against the amendment (45)

Mohammed Aikhlq	Mahmood Hussain	Karen McCarthy
Gurdial Singh Atwal	Shabrana Hussain	Saddak Miah
Baber Baz	Mohammed Idrees	Brett O'Reilly
Sir Albert Bore	Zafar Iqbal	John O'Shea
Marje Bridle	Katherine Iroh	Robert Pocock
Mick Brown	Ziaul Islam	Hendrina Quinnen
Tristan Chatfield	Morriam Jan	Kath Scott
Zaker Choudhry	Kerry Jenkins	Shafique Shah
Liz Clements	Julie Johnson	Martin Straker Welds
John Cotton	Brigid Jones	Saima Suleman
Diane Donaldson	Nagina Kauser	Sharon Thompson
Jayne Francis	Chaman Lal	Paul Tilsley
Paulette Hamilton	Mike Leddy	Lisa Trickett
Roger Harmer	Mary Locke	Ian Ward
Jon Hunt	Zhor Malik	Mike Ward

Abstentions (0)

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

It was therefore-

19516 **RESOLVED:-**

That the report be noted.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by the Deputy Lord Mayor, seconded and

19517 **RESOLVED:-**

That the Council be adjourned until 1650 hours on this day.

The Council then adjourned at 1620 hours.

At 1653 hours the Council resumed at the point where the meeting had been adjourned.

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE FROM INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

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

A. Councillor Ian Ward and Paulette Hamilton have given notice of the following motion 'Covid-19 public inquiry to begin in 2021'.

(See document No. 5)

The Leader, Councillor Ian Ward, moved the Motion which was seconded by Councillor Paulette Hamilton.

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure, Councillors Paul Tilsley and Zaker Choudhry gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No. 6)

Councillor Paul Tilsley moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Zaker Choudhry.

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure, Councillors Matt Bennett and John Lines gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No. 7)

Councillor Matt Bennett moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor John Lines.

A debate ensued.

The Leader, Councillor Ian Ward replied to the debate.

The first amendment to the Motion in the names of Councillors Paul Tilsley and Zaker Choudhry having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be carried.

The second amendment to the Motion in the names of Councillors Matt Bennett and John Lines having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be lost.

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

For the amendment (19)

Deirdre Alden	Eddie Freeman	Gareth Moore
Robert Alden	Adam Higgs	Simon Morrall
Matt Bennett	Timothy Huxtable	Darius Sandhu
Debbie Clancy	Bruce Lines	Ron Storer
Maureen Cornish	John Lines	Ken Wood
Adrian Delaney	Ewan Mackey	Alex Yip
Peter Fowler		

Against the amendment (45)

Mohammed Aikhlaq	Jon Hunt	Karen McCarthy
Gurdial Singh Atwal	Mahmood Hussain	Saddak Miah
Baber Baz	Shabrana Hussain	Yvonne Mosquito
Sir Albert Bore	Mohammed Idrees	Brett O'Reilly
Marje Bridle	Zafar Iqbal	John O'Shea
Mick Brown	Ziaul Islam	Robert Pocock
Tristan Chatfield	Morriam Jan	Hendrina Quinnen
Zaker Choudhry	Kerry Jenkins	Kath Scott
Liz Clements	Julie Johnson	Martin Straker Welds
John Cotton	Brigid Jones	Saima Suleman
Diane Donaldson	Nagina Kauser	Sharon Thompson
Jayne Francis	Chaman Lal	Paul Tilsley
Paulette Hamilton	Mike Leddy	Lisa Trickett
Roger Harmer	Mary Locke	Ian Ward
Penny Holbrook	Zhor Malik	Mike Ward

Abstentions (0)

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

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

For the Motion (45)

Mohammed Aikhlaq	Jon Hunt	Karen McCarthy
Gurdial Singh Atwal	Mahmood Hussain	Saddak Miah
Baber Baz	Shabrana Hussain	Yvonne Mosquito
Sir Albert Bore	Mohammed Idrees	Brett O'Reilly
Marje Bridle	Zafar Iqbal	John O'Shea
Mick Brown	Ziaul Islam	Robert Pocock
Tristan Chatfield	Morriam Jan	Hendrina Quinnen
Zaker Choudhry	Kerry Jenkins	Kath Scott
Liz Clements	Julie Johnson	Martin Straker Welds
John Cotton	Brigid Jones	Saima Suleman
Diane Donaldson	Nagina Kauser	Sharon Thompson
Jayne Francis	Chaman Lal	Paul Tilsley

Paulette Hamilton
Roger Harmer
Penny Holbrook

Mike Leddy
Mary Locke
Zhor Malik

Lisa Trickett
Ian Ward
Mike Ward

Against the Motion (1)

John Lines

Abstentions (18)

Deirdre Alden
Robert Alden
Matt Bennett
Debbie Clancy
Maureen Cornish
Adrian Delaney

Peter Fowler
Eddie Freeman
Adam Higgs
Timothy Huxtable
Bruce Lines
Ewan Mackey

Gareth Moore
Simon Morrall
Darius Sandhu
Ron Storer
Ken Wood
Alex Yip

It was therefore-

19518

RESOLVED:-

This council notes that the United Kingdom has recorded:

- The seventh highest Covid death toll in the world (128,140 as of 30th June 2021), with around 42,000 deaths registered by care homes.
- One of the highest Covid mortality rates per 100,000 population.
- The second highest Covid death toll of the G7 nations
- The second highest Covid mortality rate per 100,000 population of the G7 nations.
- Almost 3,000 deaths have been recorded in Birmingham with COVID-19 on the death certificate.

In light of these sobering statistics, this council believes the Government decision to delay launching a public inquiry until spring 2022 represents a betrayal of the victims and their families – delaying the opportunity to learn vital lessons and prolonging grief and uncertainty.

A spring 2022 start means that calls from bereaved families for a swift inquiry into the handling of the pandemic have been ignored and it is likely that little progress will be made until autumn 2022, with conclusions delayed until 2023 at the earliest.

This delay simply cannot be justified.

Council therefore resolves to:

- Support the call from bereaved families for a fully-independent public inquiry into the Covid-19 pandemic to begin in 2021.
 - Write to the Prime Minister urging him to set out an expedited timetable for a wide-ranging and independent inquiry that will give bereaved families the answers they need.
 - The inquiry must involve bereaved families from the start, they must have a say in the selection of a chair and in determining the terms of reference.
 - And it must ensure that the UK is better prepared for future pandemics.
 - That the enquiry also focuses on the delay until 23rd April in adding India to the travel Red list to the UK and the cancellation of the Prime Minister's visit to India, fully two weeks after Pakistan and Bangladesh were placed on the Red list.
-

B. Councillor Robert Alden and Ewan Mackey have given notice of the following motion 'Calling on Birmingham City Council to establish a cross party taskforce to seek ways to protect and grow key industries, including car manufacturing and their supply chains in the wake of the impact of the COVID Pandemic'.

(See document No. 8)

Councillor Robert Alden moved the Motion which was seconded by Councillor Ewan Mackey.

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

(See document No. 9)

Councillor Jon Hunt moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Roger Harmer.

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

(See document No. 10)

Councillor John Cotton moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Shabrana Hussain.

At the this point in the Meeting the Deputy Lord Mayor advised that the meeting had run out of time and he requested that the Councillors moving and seconding the third amendment do so formally.

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

(See document No. 11)

Councillor Gareth Moore formally moved the amendment which was formally seconded by Councillor Peter Fowler both without comment.

Councillor Robert Alden in summing up made a speech.

The first amendment to the Motion in the names of Councillors Jon Hunt and Roger Harmer having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be lost.

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

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

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

For the amendment (24)

Deirdre Alden	Peter Fowler	John Lines
Robert Alden	Eddie Freeman	Ewan Mackey
Baber Baz	Roger Harmer	Gareth Moore
Matt Bennett	Adam Higgs	Simon Morrall
Zaker Choudhry	Jon Hunt	Darius Sandhu
Debbie Clancy	Timothy Huxtable	Ron Storer
Maureen Cornish	Morriam Jan	Ken Wood
Adrian Delaney	Bruce Lines	Alex Yip

Against the amendment (37)

Mohammed Aikhlaq	Mohammed Idrees	Karen McCarthy
Gurdial Singh Atwal	Zafar Iqbal	Saddak Miah
Sir Albert Bore	Katherine Iroh	Brett O'Reilly
Marje Bridle	Ziaul Islam	John O'Shea
Mick Brown	Kerry Jenkins	Robert Pocock
Tristan Chatfield	Julie Johnson	Hendrina Quinnen
Liz Clements	Brigid Jones	Kath Scott
John Cotton	Nagina Kauser	Shafique Shah
Diane Donaldson	Chaman Lal	Martin Straker Welds

Jayne Francis
Penny Holbrook
Mahmood Hussain
Shabrana Hussain

Mike Leddy
Mary Locke
Zhor Malik

Saima Suleman
Sharon Thompson
Ian Ward

Abstentions (1)

Mike Ward

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

It was therefore-

19519

RESOLVED:-

This Council is concerned about the long term impact of both COVID and the Brexit transition on vital local industries such as car manufacturing and the resultant loss of jobs that could result from any collapse in the supply chain, especially given the huge number of people in this city who work in this industry or connected to it.

In response to these significant challenges, a comprehensive Covid-19 Economic Recovery Strategy has been produced in collaboration with businesses and other stakeholders. In addition, the Council's ambitious R20 Action Plan identifies significant opportunities for green growth, particularly in the emerging green automotive sector.

This Council therefore resolves to build on the ongoing work with key external stakeholders to seek ways to protect and grow vital industries such as the car industry and secure a long term future for those industries that includes taking advantage of new opportunities within global Britain and for green growth to open up new markets in order to protect and grow jobs and wages going forward as well as meet challenges around climate change.

The meeting ended at 1833 hours.

APPENDIX

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

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

A1 Bailiff Action

Question:

Please list all bailiff actions against the Council, Council staff, Council owned companies or Councillors including dates and details since May 2018, including whether bailiff action was challenged or settled and the outcome of this.

Answer:

Legal team don't often receive instructions on bailiff matters, the bailiffs will show up at the Council House reception, the legal team will receive a call to be notified of this, the lawyer will attend the Council House to establish what the issue is.

It is usual for the matter to be referred to the relevant Directorate service area, to resolve the issue of leak / debt so there isn't any formal audit trail for the team to record against, they are simply trying to help in the moment.

There is not an essential record of bailiffs visits and Legal Services are not aware of every visit. Where a Bailiff visit is more involved and ongoing Legal assistance is required a file is opened within the Legal Team, in the Legal Data base since 1st May 2018, we have 344 matters in the time provided we are unable to review each individual matter and please note not all these matters are electronic , some are held in archive in closed buildings.

Legal are happy to meet with Councillor Higgs to answer any specific queries.

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

A2 Victoria Square Public Realm – Transforming Cities Fund

Question:

Please provide a copy of details provided to the West Midlands Combined Authority for funding via the Transforming Cities Fund in order to pay for the Victoria Square public realm improvement works, including any data or information provided to demonstrate how it would meet the objectives of the fund and the assessment framework in order for the bid to be evaluated against other projects.

Answer:

On the 1 June 2018 the Council submitted a Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) bid in accordance with the provided template to allow the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) and the Department for Transport to evaluate the submission. Further to an assessment process, the application for £5 million was approved by the Combined Authority Board on 9 November 2018 for a project called 'Public Realm Works at New Street and Victoria Square'

For reference, the main objectives of the fund in respect of this project and reported on an annual basis by WMCA are to:

- Encourage and support the expansion of a healthy, thriving and competitive retail centre to ensure its future integrity and attractiveness is maintained.
- Transform the city centre environment by creating safe, convenient and attractive spaces for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Support the reduction of traffic congestion in the city centre and to improve air quality by providing smart and connected public spaces that encourage the use of public transport.
- Improve public safety with the introduction of Hostile Permanent Vehicle Mitigation (HVM) barriers for the current obtrusive temporary National Barriers Assets deployed.
- Create a connected and walkable centre which will link Birmingham's sustainable transport network with the retail core.
- Expand and improve Victoria Square for better pedestrian access and usage as an event space.

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

A3 Traffic Offences

Question:

Since 2012 how many fines have been issued to council owned, leased or rented vehicles for traffic offences, broken down by type of offence (eg speeding, parking infringement, entering bus lane) and by fleet type (waste collection vehicle, pool car etc)

Answer:

We no longer hold records prior to 1st April 2019.

From 1st April 2019 up to 6th July 2021, 191 Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) have been issued to vehicles registered to Birmingham City Council:-

Environmental Services (Fleet & Waste/Transport Management) – Total 176 PCNs

- 93 PCNs for travelling through a bus lane
- 82 PCNs for entering the Clean Air Zone without paying the charge and
- 1 PCN for a parking contravention.

Place Directorate – Total 12 PCNs

- 4 PCNs for travelling through a bus lane
- 8 PCNs for entering the Clean Air Zone without paying the charge

Parks & Nurseries – 1 PCN for travelling through a bus lane

Transport Operations – 1 PCN for travelling through a bus lane

Thimble Mill Lane Depot – 1 PCN for travelling through a bus lane

The process is automated and PCNs are issued for any non-compliance. This includes operational and emergency vehicles.

For each PCN received within Street Scene a review is undertaken. There are a number of activities we need to undertake in bus lanes, collect refuse sacks, empty litter bins, sweep the bus lane. All of these operations could incur a PCN. If PCNs are received carrying out those operations we do contest the notice. So whilst these automated notices may have been issued since 2019, not all will need to have been paid. However, if we find the driver has been at fault, for example continuing to drive along the bus lane between bins, the fine is passed to the individual driver to pay.

For the clean air zone charges, there has been some start up issues for the Service. The system can only take payment from a PCard. There was an initial delay in organising additional PCards and them being issued to local managers. These PCNs will reduce now our internal system is up and running.

The Director of City Operations is now taking up this matter with the Assistant Director for Highways and Infrastructure.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR
JON HUNT**

A4 International Triathlon Centre

Question:

It is good news the city is becoming an International Triathlon Centre. The Leader will be aware that triathlon is increasingly mass participation as people take forward their interest in running, cycling and swimming. Could the Leader set out what is being done in the city to encourage mass participation, in particular the open water swimming part of Triathlon?

Answer:

The City Council's Sports and Events Teams are actively engaging with National Governing Bodies of Sport to work with them at grassroots level and indeed all levels of the sporting pathway to encourage an increase in participation in sport and physical activity. This work includes ongoing discussions with British Triathlon, British Cycling and Swim England to work on sporting programmes that include regular mass participation events. Hosting the CWG, and in particular the triathlon event within Sutton Park gives an opportunity to further develop the relationship with British Triathlon and as part of the games legacy we remain actively engaged with them around bringing future major events to the city. If successful, our proposal to host the World Triathlon series in 2024/25/26 includes supporting mass participation events.

Open water swimming is one of the fastest growing water sports in the country. Birmingham City Council, whilst understanding the growing interest in open water swimming, understands that around 85% of accidental drownings occur at open water sites. Many of these drownings occur due to a lack of knowledge and understanding of open water safety. That is why the Council published its Open Water Safety policy in 2018, whereby open water swimming in parks pools is only permitted as part of a booked group with adequate lifeguard provision. In this way, we can support the increase in interest in the sport whilst maintaining public safety at all times.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR
PAUL TILSLEY**

A5 Phone Masts

Question:

The Council previously had a policy of allowing two wards the proceeds of rental from phone masts on public highways. Could the Leader state whether that policy remains in place?

Answer:

We are currently unable to identify such a policy. If Cllr Tilsley could provide more details, I will ask officers to investigate.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR
ROGER HARMER**

A6 Notice of Sale

Question:

Will the Leader be supporting the Co Operative who want to take over Montgomery Street Business Centre?

Answer:

The Montgomery Street Co-Operative were given an opportunity in February 2020 to make a market value bid to purchase the Business Centre where many of them are currently tenants. This was an opportunity afforded to them in support of their aspirations, and on the basis the Council would not seek to externally market the property for sale at that time. As a result of the pandemic, they were given an extended period within which to appoint an agent and to formalise their bid, and this was received in March 2021. Having considered the offer on its merits, the Property Services team responded to the Co-Operative's agent several weeks ago to confirm the bid falls some way below the Council's expectations of market value.

The asset was listed as an Asset of Community Value at the start of the year. In line with this process Council officers have now formally notified the Co – Operative of the formal intention to sell under this process. If the Co – Operative confirm they wish to bid under the ACV process there is a 6 month moratorium under which the Council cannot take any action to sell. This will allow the Co – operative further time to develop their offer for the estate.

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

B1 CAZ delay informal Cabinet Meeting

Question:

According to a recent FOI response you were told about the ‘soft launch’ approach to the CAZ with no charging or enforcement until 14 June at an informal cabinet meeting on 26 May. This was after the call-in on the payment system procurement had been received and after it was pointed out that the meeting could not be rushed through without the requisite notice period. At that meeting was the call in or the delay in procurement cited as a reason for not charging from 1 June?

Answer:

It was not cited as a reason for delaying the launch of payments.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR PAUL TILSLEY**

B2 Redirection of Resources

Question:

In the Delivery Plan, the Deputy Leader ruled some resources had been diverted for Pandemic activity. Could the Deputy Leader set out the impact of this on the Councils existing priorities?

Answer:

The impact of Covid-19 on Birmingham's communities and the Council's response to the pandemic has been documented through a number of papers and verbal updates to Cabinet and City Council since March 2020.

Executive Business Reports (EBRs) setting out the details of the Council's response to Covid-19, alongside the impact on services and business planning, have been brought to City Council on a quarterly basis since June 2020. The most recent of these is coming to the July 2021 City Council and can be accessed online [here](#) (CMIS link).

Financial impact of Covid-19

The Financial Outturn 2020/21 report to June 2021 Cabinet set out that Covid had cost the Council £131.8m which included a £48.9m cost of staff redeployed onto Covid related activity. Government support through un-ringfenced grant and the income loss scheme met those costs and allowed us to carry forward into this year £17.4m of Covid funding.

Performance monitoring

In June 2021 Cabinet, we set out in detail our performance and progress against the outcomes and objectives in our Delivery Plan during Q4 2020-21 and the continuing impact of Covid-19.

The 2021/21 Q4 Performance Report can be accessed online [here](#) (CMIS link).

Headline examples of impact include:

- We refocused our business rates service so that in the last two quarters the Council paid out 44,391 Local Restrictions grants to businesses across Birmingham totalling just over £99.6m. This is in addition to the £217 million paid to businesses in the first period of lockdown grants.
- Our customer contact centre set up the Covid-19 response line in April 2020 and we have taken over 50,000 calls assisting citizens with urgent support needs, self isolation payments, grants and various other Covid-19 related enquiries. 94% of calls were answered compared to 88% last year.

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- The pandemic has led to an increase in the numbers of enquiries and referrals received from Birmingham schools and other local authorities regarding children missing education (CME). To address this our Education and Skills Directorate have been working closely with colleagues in school attendance as well as Birmingham Children's Trust and partner agencies. Staff were repurposed from other teams to support the CME work and this focus will continue.
- We have redirected our adult social worker capacity to support our response to the Covid-19 outbreak, which reduced the number of staff available to complete reviews. Our performance on proportion of clients reviewed, assessed or reassessed within 12 months has not met the end of year target, however, we improved upon last year's end-of-year result of 72.3% by achieving 74.8%.
- Alternative delivery models, compliant with Covid-19 requirements, have been strong across all front-line services during the year. However, whilst services have in the main continued, the pandemic did stop all non-essential works, and this impacted on our Grounds Maintenance. Work between end of March and May 2021 was restricted to safety works and checks. The use of parks for people's daily exercise changed the maintenance work to essential and Birmingham was the first authority to use grass cutting to promote the 2m distance rule.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDRENS
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP**

C1 CAZ delay informal Cabinet Meeting

Question:

According to a recent FOI response you were told about the ‘soft launch’ approach to the CAZ with no charging or enforcement until 14 June at an informal cabinet meeting on 26 May. This was after the call-in on the payment system procurement had been received and after it was pointed out that the meeting could not be rushed through without the requisite notice period. At that meeting was the call in or the delay in procurement cited as a reason for not charging from 1 June?

Answer:

It was not cited as a reason for delaying the launch of payments.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDRENS
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR ADAM HIGGS**

C2 EHCP Outstanding question

Question:

In your answer to Question C5 from June Council, some of the information was apparently still being collated and you promised members a full response by 25 June, which does not appear to have been provided. In any case written questions need a public response so please provide the answer here. For clarity, the outstanding information was

Please provide, broken down by area of need, year group, number of children & young people with EHCPs who currently have annual reviews recommending change of placement that have not yet been actioned

Answer:

- There are currently 10,698 EHCPs maintained by Birmingham
- The data breakdown for those EHCPs where annual reviews have recommended a change of placement is contained in the table below:

Yr Grp	ASD	HI	PD	SEMH	C & L	Total
-1	0	0	0	0	1	1
0	6	0	1	0	5	12
1	15	0	0	0	1	16
2	15	0	0	3	4	22
3	20	0	1	1	8	30
4	3	0	0	0	4	7
5	4	0	0	0	7	11
6	1	0	0	0	2	3
7	0	1	0	2	3	6
8	2	0	0	0	6	8
9	2	0	0	0	2	4
10	3	0	0	2	6	11
11	0	0	0	0	2	2
12	1	0	0	0	2	3
13	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total	72	1	2	8	54	137

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDRENS
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR DEBBIE CLANCY**

C3 Send Interims and Consultants

Question:

Provide a detailed breakdown of the current interim and consultants covering the Inclusion & SEND Dept, detailing their specific roles and responsibilities, the vacancies they are covering and the cost incurred in each case.

Answer:

The information requested is included in the table provided below with this response.

Role	Area	Start Date	Contract end date (if assignment active)	Cumulative costs from Sept 2018 to Mar 2022	Role/Responsibilities
Interim Annual Review Officer / Plan Writers	SENAR Recovery - Annual Review	03/03/2020	27/08/2021	£62,675	BAU - SENAR
Interim Annual Review Officer / Plan Writers	SENAR Recovery - Annual Review	03/03/2020	27/08/2021	£66,520	BAU - SENAR
Interim Annual Review Officer / Plan Writers	Senar Recovery - Annual Review	04/10/2020	27/08/2021	£92,670	BAU - SENAR
Interim Annual Review Officer / Plan Writers	Senar Recovery - Annual Review	03/03/2020	27/08/2021	£49,685	BAU - SENAR
Interim Annual Review Officer / Plan Writers	Senar Recovery - Annual Review	12/03/2020	27/08/2021	£49,505	BAU - SENAR
Interim Link Officers	Link Service	28/02/2021	27/08/2021	£4,370	Transformation - Parent Link & School Link service Developed as a early help model to support the linked professionals way of working

City Council – 13 July 2021

Role	Area	Start Date	Contract end date (if assignment active)	Cumulative costs from Sept 2018 to Mar 2022	Role/Responsibilities
Interim Link Officers	Link Service	07/09/2020	27/08/2021	£19,255	Transformation - Parent Link & School Link service Developed as a early help model to support the linked professionals way of working
Interim Link Officers	Link Service	24/07/2020	27/08/2021	£20,240	Transformation - Parent Link & School Link service Developed as a early help model to support the linked professionals way of working
Interim Link Officers	Link Service	28/02/2021	27/08/2021	£7,360	Transformation - Parent Link & School Link service Developed as a early help model to support the linked professionals way of working
Interim Link Officers	Link Service	02/12/2020	27/08/2021	£7,988	Transformation - Parent Link & School Link service Developed as a early help model to support the linked professionals way of working
Interim Link Officers	Link Service	05/03/2021	27/08/2021	£6,498	Transformation - Parent Link & School Link service Developed as a early help model to support the linked professionals way of working

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Role	Area	Start Date	Contract end date (if assignment active)	Cumulative costs from Sept 2018 to Mar 2022	Role/Responsibilities
Interim Link Officers	Link Service	09/03/2020	27/08/2021	£29,495	Transformation - Parent Link & School Link service Developed as a early help model to support the linked professionals way of working
Interim PO / SEND Case worker	Senar - Case Work	25/01/2021	27/08/2021	£17,690	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case worker	Senar - Case Work	28/02/2021	27/08/2021	£25,200	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case worker	Senar - Case Work	11/01/2021	27/08/2021	£21,300	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case worker	Senar - Case Work	01/03/2021	27/08/2021	£48,800	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case worker	Senar - Case Work	11/01/2021	27/08/2021	£31,400	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case worker	Senar - Case Work	11/01/2021	27/08/2021	£24,900	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case worker	Senar - Case Work	11/01/2021	27/08/2021	£24,900	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case worker	Senar - Case Work	25/01/2021	27/08/2021	£12,690	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case worker	Senar - Case Work	11/01/2021	27/08/2021	£31,500	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case worker	Senar - Case Work	02/01/2021	27/08/2021	£48,300	BAU - SENAR

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Role	Area	Start Date	Contract end date (if assignment active)	Cumulative costs from Sept 2018 to Mar 2022	Role/Responsibilities
Interim PO / SEND Case worker	Senar - Case Work	11/02/2021	27/08/2021	£28,500	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case worker	Senar - Case Work	11/01/2021	27/08/2021	£29,250	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case worker	Senar - Case Work	01/03/2021	27/08/2021	£22,650	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case worker	Senar - Case Work	11/01/2021	27/08/2021	£30,150	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case worker	Senar - Case Work	11/01/2021	27/08/2021	£37,800	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	30/09/2020	27/08/2021	£50,480	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	04/10/2020	27/08/2021	£65,850	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	02/10/2020	27/08/2021	£63,970	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	04/10/2020	27/08/2021	£62,200	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	17/08/2020	27/08/2021	£26,025	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	30/10/2020	27/08/2021	£58,920	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	01/04/2020	27/08/2021	£79,825	BAU - SENAR

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City Council – 13 July 2021

Role	Area	Start Date	Contract end date (if assignment active)	Cumulative costs from Sept 2018 to Mar 2022	Role/Responsibilities
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	20/04/2021	27/08/2021	£15,600	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	02/10/2020	27/08/2021	£59,325	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	29/04/2020	27/08/2021	£13,873	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	02/01/2021	27/08/2021	£34,200	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	01/03/2021	27/08/2021	£86,148	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	04/10/2020	27/08/2021	£65,850	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	06/04/2021	27/08/2021	£12,000	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	06/04/2021	27/08/2021	£14,400	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	06/04/2021	27/08/2021	£12,000	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	19/04/2021	27/08/2021	£7,050	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	19/04/2021	27/08/2021	£8,100	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	19/04/2021	27/08/2021	£17,420	BAU - SENAR

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City Council – 13 July 2021

Role	Area	Start Date	Contract end date (if assignment active)	Cumulative costs from Sept 2018 to Mar 2022	Role/Responsibilities
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	19/04/2021	27/08/2021	£9,000	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	10/05/2021	27/08/2021	£8,700	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	10/05/2021	27/08/2021	£8,700	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	19/05/2021	27/08/2021	£8,100	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	10/05/2021	27/08/2021	£6,900	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	10/05/2021	27/08/2021	£8,700	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	19/04/2021	27/08/2021	£7,050	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	26/04/2021	27/08/2021	£9,600	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	10/05/2021	27/08/2021	£8,700	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	26/04/2021	27/08/2021	£11,400	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	26/04/2021	27/08/2021	£6,900	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	01/06/2021	27/08/2021	£15,600	BAU - SENAR

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City Council – 13 July 2021

Role	Area	Start Date	Contract end date (if assignment active)	Cumulative costs from Sept 2018 to Mar 2022	Role/Responsibilities
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	01/06/2021	27/08/2021	£1,500	BAU - SENAR
Interim PO / SEND Case workers	Senar - Case Work	01/06/2021	27/08/2021	£1,500	BAU - SENAR
Interim Project Manager	Transformation & Project Support	13/07/2020	30/06/2021	£71,090	Developing Early Help team
Interim Project Support Officer	Transformation & Project Support	01/04/2020	30/09/2021	£15,224	Developing Early Help team
Interim SEMH Transformation Lead	SEND Strategic Transformation	08/03/2021	08/09/2021	£33,925	Transformation - SEMH/Commissioning
Interim SEMH Transformation Lead	SEND Strategic Transformation	01/03/2021	01/09/2021	£41,145	Transformation - SEMH/Commissioning
Interim Tribunal Officer	Senar - Case Work	20/10/2020	27/08/2021	£66,300	BAU - SENAR
Operational Lead	Senar - Case Work	10/02/2021	27/08/2021	£35,975	BAU - SENAR
Operational Lead	Senar - Case Work	06/05/2021	TBC	£17,360	BAU - SENAR
Operational Lead	Senar - Case Work	11/01/2021	27/08/2021	£43,860	BAU - SENAR
Provision Manager	Senar - Case Work	01/03/2021	27/08/2021	£46,080	BAU - SENAR

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City Council – 13 July 2021

Role	Area	Start Date	Contract end date (if assignment active)	Cumulative costs from Sept 2018 to Mar 2022	Role/Responsibilities
Provision Manager	Senar - Case Work	01/03/2021	27/08/2021	£52,760	BAU - SENAR
Provision Manager	Senar - Case Work	01/03/2021	27/08/2021	£44,890	BAU - SENAR
Strategic lead for ASC	SEND Strategic Transformation	29/10/2020	28/10/2021	£86,730	Recruited as the strategic lead to support the transformation of the CAT service Currently supporting in the SENAR HOS role Also lead advisor on the SEND COP and the SENAR restructure

Home to School Transport

Interim Compliance Performance Officer	Home To School Transport	23/09/2020	31/10/2021	£77,925	HTST BAU activity - until redesign of the service is complete
Interim Ops Manager (Transport)	Home To School Transport	24/08/2020	31/10/2021	£90,764	HTST BAU activity - until redesign of the service is complete
Interim SEND Transport Officer	Home To School Transport	09/11/2020	31/10/2021	£64,815	HTST BAU activity - until redesign of the service is complete
Interim Compliance Officer	Home To School Transport	26/10/2020	31/10/2021	£62,162	HTST BAU activity - until redesign of the service is complete
Interim Senior Compliance Officer	Home To School Transport	17/09/2020	31/10/2021	£59,206	HTST BAU activity - until redesign of the service is complete
Interim Compliance	Home To School	01/12/2020	31/10/2021	£40,386	HTST BAU activity - until redesign of the

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City Council – 13 July 2021

Officer	Transport				service is complete
Interim Compliance Officer	Home To School Transport	06/10/2020	31/10/2021	£50,405	HTST BAU activity - until redesign of the service is complete
Interim Project Manager - 365	Home To School Transport	06/04/2021	31/10/2021	£45,864	HTST BAU activity - until redesign of the service is complete
Interim Contracts & Compliance Manager	Home To School Transport	19/04/2021	31/10/2021	£19,623	HTST BAU activity - until redesign of the service is complete

Directorate Wide SEND Transformation

SEND Improvement programme Manager	Transformation & Project Support	27/04/2021	31/10/2021	£13,000	Programme Manager with responsibility to prepare the local area for the SEND revisit and implement the recommendations from the outcome report
SEND Project Manager	Transformation & Project Support	21/06/2021	21/06/2022	£7,500	Project manager in the SEND improvement programme - looking after getting the basics right - including the nexus upgrade
Transformation Director E&S	Transformation & Project Support	01/03/2021	01/08/2021	£49,000	Transformation Director, leading on improvement programmes across Education and Skills Directorate.
SEND Programme Manager	Transformation & Project Support	04/05/2021	04/11/2021	£13,000	Programme Manager looking at resolving safeguarding issues in Home to School Transport.

C3 - Appendix 2

						
Project name:	Birmingham City Centre Retail Core Public Realm Transformation - Phase One Temple Street/Lower Temple Street					
Promoter Authority/Authorities:	BCC					
Project Sponsor:	Phil Edwards					
Transforming Cities Fund - strategic alignment - describe how the project would contribute to:						
Improving productivity through changes in connectivity	A transformed City Centre environment in New Street / Temple Street / High Street will support the inclusive growth of the city by creating safe, convenient and attractive spaces for pedestrians and cyclists, and will provide a high quality of living. It will make it easier to access the City Centre, with improved legibility and wayfinding helping to make the connections between public transport modes. These links will play a vital role during events such as the Commonwealth Games.					
Reducing traffic congestion	A series of attractive, safe and connected public spaces will encourage the use of active travel modes and public transport, reducing the use of private cars. The reduction of access and loading periods across the area will enhance pedestrian access and permeability. This will have a positive impact on levels of traffic congestion in the City Centre.					
Improving air quality	A liveable and connected city centre will respond to the challenge of climate change through sustainable growth, pioneering the low carbon future by encouraging walking, cycling and public transport use. This project will support the potential implementation of a Clean Air Zone in the City Centre to meet air quality targets as mandated by Central Government.					
Reducing journey times	The visual uplift of the New Street / Temple Street / High Street areas and a revised TRO will create connected and efficient spaces that enhance wayfinding and legibility, maximising pedestrian access and permeability. This will ensure 'last mile journeys' to work, retail, leisure and events, including Commonwealth Games, will be quick and convenient.					
Mode shift to sustainable transport	This project will seek to create a connected and walkable centre which will link Birmingham's sustainable transport network with the retail core. It will form the next stage in linking the 3 City Centre stations (New Street, Snowhill and Moor Street), Centenary and Paradise Developments, HS2 and the Metro extension, encouraging mode shift to sustainable transport.					
Harnessing the potential of new technology	New technologies will complement the City Centre living, cultural activity and enhanced environments for residents, visitors, commuters and businesses. The efficiency and experience of journeys will be significantly improved through enhanced wayfinding, pedestrian permeability and legibility of these public spaces.					
Local factors - describe the status of the project in relation to:						
Key WMCA priorities - emerging spatial investment and delivery plan	The project supports the emerging WMCA spatial investment and delivery plan priorities of increased delivery of housing and new employment opportunities across the region. This project both improves connectivity through and to the City centre and also improves the public realm and feeling of place which will encourage people to live and work in the city centre. The new Street / Temple Street / High Street area will act as a gateway to Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games and improved wayfinding experience is essential to facilitate connections between transport modes for the high number of visitors to the city. It is also vital that the city's core is modern, inviting and enjoyable, and that it leaves a lasting legacy for Birmingham.					
Key WMCA priorities - Commonwealth Games / Coventry City of Culture	This project supports the same objectives as 'making the connections' and 'one station' projects, funded by GBSLEP, which have been put on hold to be reassessed prior to this comprehensive scheme being brought forward. GBSLEP has indicated to go back to them with the comprehensive scheme. The project is supported by Retail BID, TfWM, Birmingham City Council, City Centre Enterprise Zone, and will also benefit public transport operators.					
Stakeholder support (e.g. LEPs, employers, transport providers)	This project is included in Section 12.1 of the 2026 Delivery Plan: 'Improved conditions for walking will be created through the delivery of district and city centre public realm improvements...'. The project is supported by Retail BID, TfWM, Birmingham City Council, City Centre Enterprise Zone, and will also benefit public transport operators.					
Inclusion in 2026 delivery plan	This project is included in Section 12.1 of the 2026 Delivery Plan: 'Improved conditions for walking will be created through the delivery of district and city centre public realm improvements...'. The project is supported by Retail BID, TfWM, Birmingham City Council, City Centre Enterprise Zone, and will also benefit public transport operators.					
Proposed breakdown of cost - summary						
Funding stream	Details/key cost items	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Total
TCF	Design	£500,000	£1,000,000			
TCF	Construction		£1,000,000	£2,500,000		
Total Transforming Cities Fund:		£500,000	£2,000,000	£2,500,000	£0	£5,000,000
Total match funding		£0	£0	£0	£0	
Total cost of project		£500,000	£2,000,000	£2,500,000	£0	£5,000,000

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDRENS
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR CHARLOTTE HODIVALA**

C4 WSOA

Question:

Please provide a table dealing the following in relation to the Ofsted Written statement of Action:

- **Area from WSOA**
- **The area it relates to from the Inspection in 2018,**
- **Has the SEND Improvement Board consistently been satisfied with the actions/progress (yes or no)**
- **Detail of any concerns the SEND Improvement Board expressed concern in relation to actions and progress (including dates)**
- **Action taken as a result of these concerns**

Answer:

Area of weakness identified in 2018 inspection report and WSOA.	Has the SEND Improvement Board consistently been satisfied with the actions /progress (yes or no)	Detail of any concerns the SEND Improvement Board expressed concern in relation to actions and progress (including dates)	Detail of any concerns the SEND Improvement Board expressed concern in relation to actions and progress (including dates)
The lack of an overarching approach or joined-up strategy for improving provision and outcomes for children and young people who have SEN and/or disabilities across Birmingham The effectiveness of inter-agency working The coordination of assessments of children and young people's needs between agencies Integrated commissioning Co-production Parental engagement and satisfaction of parents The accessibility and currency of the local offer The quality of EHC plans Waiting times and access to therapies and	No	As the board has been meeting since autumn 2018 on a regular basis (monthly and then fortnightly), it will take considerable officer time to go through all the minutes and itemise with dates every concern raised throughout the process and what action has been taken to address those concerns. The Board has been monitoring the delivery of the WSOA and has posed regular questions to the workstream leads related to both progress and performance. At the most recent two Boards in April 2021 it was raised that there has been a lack of impact tracking over the course of	

Area of weakness identified in 2018 inspection report and WSOA.	Has the SEND Improvement Board consistently been satisfied with the actions /progress (yes or no)	Detail of any concerns the SEND Improvement Board expressed concern in relation to actions and progress (including dates)	Detail of any concerns the SEND Improvement Board expressed concern in relation to actions and progress (including dates)
professionals in Child Development Centres (CDCs) Academic progress when compared to all pupils nationally Absence and exclusions Employment opportunities		the WSOA for the activity that has taken place. As a result, officers were asked to develop a Self-Evaluation Framework (SEF) that is based on progress in delivering the actions identified in the WSOA and the impact this has had on children and families. The Self-Evaluation concluded that not enough progress had been made, particularly in respect of the impact on better outcomes and experience of children with SEND and their families.	

The WSOA and the areas it relates to from the Inspection Letter can be found in the WSOA published document: [SEND Written Statement of Action, December 2018 | Birmingham City Council](#)

The WSOA covers the same areas as the Inspection letter with the exception that Parental Engagement and Parental Satisfaction are treated in the WSOA as one area whereas in the letter they are treated as two distinct areas.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDRENS
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR ALEX YIP**

C5 Send Improvement

Question:

Has the Cabinet Member retained confidence in the direction of travel since the production of the Written Statement Of Action or, if not, what actions has she required to be taken to remedy areas that were not making sufficient progress?.

Answer:

I have not been satisfied with the pace of change since the production of the Written Statement Of Action. We have unfortunately had a period of significant churn within the leadership of the service, during the past few years. Over the past 15 months we have also been dealing with the COVID19 pandemic which has led us all to working with unprecedented challenges.

There have been significant improvements introduced in the service area and a great deal of emphasis has been place on improving our home to school transport service. I am confident that some of the changes we have in place, particularly in respect of inclusion and mainstream schools, is in line with the direction of national policy and I am optimistic that in time will lead to a better service for many children their families and carers.

The improvement of SEND service is a priority for us all and our partners. Taking all our stakeholders specifically our parents and schools with us will be key and I am wholly and totally committed to ensuring co-production is the key feature of our improvement journey.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDRENS
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR DOMINIC STANFORD**

C6 Send Improvement

Question:

Please provide a list of the members of the SEND Improvement Board

Answer:

The SEND Improvement Board will be reviewed in line with the outcome of the Local Area SEND Revisit.

The current standing membership of the board, as it stands in the Terms of Reference, is as follows:

- Assistant Chief Executive, Birmingham and Solihull Clinical Commissioning Group
- Director, Education & Skills, Birmingham City Council
- Chair, Parent Carer Forum
- Assistant Director SEND and Inclusion, Birmingham City Council
- Associate Director of Nursing and Quality, Birmingham and Solihull Clinical Commissioning Group
- Director of Joint Commissioning, Birmingham and Solihull Clinical Commissioning Group
- Assistant Director, Adult Social Care, Birmingham City Council
- Interim Director, Commissioning and Corporate Parenting, Birmingham Children's Trust
- Interim Deputy Divisional Director, Children and Families Division
- Director of Nursing and Quality, Birmingham and Solihull Clinical Commissioning Group
- Chief Nurse, Birmingham and Solihull Clinical Commissioning Group
- Transformation Director, Birmingham Children's Partnership
- Children and Young People Improvement Lead, Birmingham Children's Partnership
- Project Manager, Birmingham City Council

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, SKILLS
AND CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR DOMINIC STANFORD**

D1 World's End School meals

Question:

For each week between November 2020 and May 2021, how many hot school meals were provided at Worlds End Primary and Infants Schools?

Answer:

During the period of national lockdown from January – March 2021, all children eligible for free school meals were provided with supermarket vouchers through the government's scheme with Edenred.

In addition, supermarket vouchers were provided to families eligible for free school meals by BCC using government funding to cover the February half-term, Easter holidays and May half-term periods.

Worlds End Junior:

Food hampers were supplied from November 2020 and hot meals from March 2021, when the school was opened to all pupils.

Hot meal numbers:

- 30/03/21 - 240
- 04/04/21 - 360
- Easter Break for two weeks
- 25/04/21 - 360
- 02/05/21 - 625
- 09/05/21 - 375 two days closure
- 16/05/21 - 600
- 23/05/21 - 644
- 30/05/21 - 720

Worlds End Infant:

Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFSM) Children- all take a meal

Hot meal numbers:

5450

- 02/11/20 - 1033
- 09/11/20 - 1033
- 16/11/20 - 1033
- 23/11/20 - 1033
- 30/11/20 - 1033
- 07/12/20 - 1033
- 14/12/20 - 1033
- Two weeks Christmas holidays
- January 4th to March 5th (partial opening for Key worker and vulnerable) packed lunches for all children.
- March 8th to May 28th (full opening) packed lunches for all children.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, SKILLS
AND CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR PETER FOWLER**

D2 World's End School Meals 2

Question:

During the January and February lockdown of schools and until they fully reopened, how many key worker children attended Worlds End Primary and Infant schools?

Answer:

On average between 11th January – 5th March, 72 children of critical workers were in attendance at World's End Junior School and World's End Infant and Nursery School.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, SKILLS
AND CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP**

D3 CAZ delay informal Cabinet Meeting

Question:

According to a recent FOI response you were told about the ‘soft launch’ approach to the CAZ with no charging or enforcement until 14 June at an informal cabinet meeting on 26 May. This was after the call-in on the payment system procurement had been received and after it was pointed out that the meeting could not be rushed through without the requisite notice period. At that meeting was the call in or the delay in procurement cited as a reason for not charging from 1 June?

Answer:

It was not cited as a reason for delaying the launch of payments.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, SKILLS AND CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR JON HUNT

D4 Children missing from school

Question:

Children in the most deprived areas of the country are almost twice as likely as those in wealthier areas to be forced to self-isolate and although there have been reports the Government will look to end the current bubble system in schools amid concern that too many pupils are missing out on school. Could the Cabinet Member comment on how many children are currently off school in the City? Could this information be split by ward?

Answer:

Information about the number of children absent from school for COVID reasons (positive tests or self-isolation) is collated by the Department for Education and is not available by ward.

The number of pupils absent due to COVID in Birmingham has been increasing, particularly since pupils returned from half-term last month as we have seen cases of the Delta variant grow in the city.

As at Monday 5th July, there were 19,423 pupils absent from schools (including independent schools) and Post 16 settings in Birmingham. This represents around 10% of the total cohort.

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

D5 Duke of Edinburgh Award

Question:

The Department of Education has announced a £3.4 million investment to support pupils in England to take part in volunteering and extra-curricular learning through the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme. The scheme will be expanded to enable up to 291 more schools not currently delivering the awards to do so in areas where deprivation is highest.

Could the Cabinet Member indicate what measures are being taken to ensure City Schools are encouraged to take advantage of this initiative?

Answer:

Last month the government announced a funding boost of £3.4m for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award over the next three academic years. The Department for Education has said it will be working to expand opportunities to up to 291 more schools across the country not currently delivering the Award.

As yet, the DfE has not indicated which areas/schools it will be working with, but we would be keen for Birmingham schools to access some of this funding so young people in the city can take advantage of the Award.

I have written to the DfE to ask when more information will be available and officials have committed to providing a response. I will ensure councillors are updated when this is received.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP**

E1 CAZ delay informal Cabinet Meeting

Question:

According to a recent FOI response you were told about the ‘soft launch’ approach to the CAZ with no charging or enforcement until 14 June at an informal cabinet meeting on 26 May. This was after the call-in on the payment system procurement had been received and after it was pointed out that the meeting could not be rushed through without the requisite notice period. At that meeting was the call in or the delay in procurement cited as a reason for not charging from 1 June?

Answer:

It was not cited as a reason for delaying the launch of payments.

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

E2 PWC

Question:

Please list all contracts including value and descriptions awarded to PWC since May 2018

Answer:

Contract Description	Start Date	End Date	Value £
Financial Advisor Commercial Advice	08.05.2018	30.04.2019	£132,818
Operational Strategic Tax Advice	07.06.2018	31.05.2022	£740,940
Voluntary Liquidation of IB Birmingham	01.03.2019	29.02.2020	£30,000
Tourism Visitor Levy Assessment	02.05.2019	01.06.2019	£25,000
Procurement Maturity & Saving Opportunity Assessment	01.08.2019	31.12.2019	£105,000
Assurance Review Paradise Circus	18.12.2019	17.12.2022	£144,765
Infrastructure Review Scoping Exercise	25.02.2020	31.03.2020	£25,000
Total Impact Review Audit	03.03.2020	12.05.2020	£47,300
Validation of the cost envelope CWG 2022	05.03.2020	08.08.2020	£113,850
Financial Model Perry Barr Regeneration Scheme	18.01.2021	01.03.2021	£90,000

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR CHARLOTTE HODIVALA**

E3 PWC Levelling Up

Question:

Please provide details of the procurement of PWC to carry out levelling up work, including procurement route used, number of bidders, total cost, hours procured.

Answer:

We are in the pre-procurement discussions phase and therefore cannot comment further at this point.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR DARIUS SANDHU

E4 JNC Interims

Question:

Please provide a list of all JNC posts currently filled by interims, together with the equivalent annual salary paid to these interims (if necessary in salary bands of £5k in compliance with the Government's Local Government Transparency Code)

Answer:

For clarity, the term interim in this context has been taken to mean those paid to undertake a role within the JNC structure (Directors) who aren't employees on the Council payroll.

Annual salaries (for those classed as interims) have been based on a 220 day working year (allowing for statutory bank holidays, 6 weeks leave and 2 days other absence. It is also to be noted that these day rates include margins taken from providers which in some case can be up to 20%.

The equivalent Council salary is based at top of grade and includes on-costs (pension contribution at 35.4% and National Insurance contribution at 13.8%).

Directorate	Job Title	Day rate / salary equivalent	Salary equivalent	Council equivalent
Commonwealth Games	CWG Programme Director (B03)	£1,200	£264,000	£254,173
City Operations	AD Regulations and Enforcement (B02)	£909	£199,980	£190,037
Education & Skills	Director of Education & Skills (B03)	£1,120	£246,400	£254,173
Education & Skills	AD of Commissioning (B01)	£863	£189,860	£142,082
Education & Skills	Transformation Director: Children's Services (B02)	£977	£214,940	£190,037
Council Management	Director of Council Management (B03)	£1,267	£278,740	£254,173
Council	AD of Legal (B01)	£795	£174,900	£142,082

City Council – 13 July 2021

Directorate	Job Title	Day rate / salary equivalent	Salary equivalent	Council equivalent
Management				
Partnerships, Equalities & Participations	Assistant DPH Population (B01)	£750	£165,000	£142,082
Partnerships, Equalities & Participations	Consultant in Public Health (Governance and Surveillance) (B01)	£750	£165,500	£142,082
Partnerships, Equalities & Participations	Consultant in Public Health (Communication & Engagement) (B01)	£767	£168,740	£142,082
Partnerships, Equalities & Participations	Consultant in Public Health (Health Protection Response) (B01)	£750	£165,000	£142,082

The 3 posts of consultant in Public Health are externally funded from the **Contain Outbreak Management Fund**. An additional post which has recently become vacant for Assistant Director Public Health (Test and Trace) is also funded from the same fund, this will be backfilled in due course.

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

E5 Online payment system – outstanding query

Question:

The answer provided for question for E5, asking for copies of the signed and dated contracts with Stripe and GoCardless for the online CAZ payment system, was not answered. Whilst a partial response was emailed to elected members this was not the complete contract and furthermore councillors were told they could not share it. This does not comply with the requirement of written questions, where an answer should be placed in the public domain. Please provide a full answer to that question here with all information that can be made public and an explanation for that which cannot.

Answer:

For Clarity – the original question was E12 at Council on 22nd June 2021.

Whilst copies of contracts have been provided with some initial redactions these have not yet been reviewed by the relevant suppliers. Not least the information contained in the contracts, if released in the public domain, without redaction could be prejudicial to their commercial interests.

One of these contracts is 39 pages in length and, therefore, is taking some time to review to the satisfaction of both parties.

Given the limited amount of time to respond to the initial written question and the potential risk of legal action against the Council if consent had not been reached with each party above it was felt that in the interests of transparency it was appropriate to share a partially redacted form of the contracts on the basis that they would not be disclosed in the public domain.

The Council's Legal Services team are working to provide these contracts as soon as possible.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND
SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP**

F1 CAZ delay informal Cabinet Meeting

Question:

According to a recent FOI response you were told about the ‘soft launch’ approach to the CAZ with no charging or enforcement until 14 June at an informal cabinet meeting on 26 May. This was after the call-in on the payment system procurement had been received and after it was pointed out that the meeting could not be rushed through without the requisite notice period. At that meeting was the call in or the delay in procurement cited as a reason for not charging from 1 June?

Answer:

It was not cited as a reason for delaying the launch of payments.

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

F2 Adult Social Care

Question:

Adult social care services are facing a “deluge” of requests for support from vulnerable and older people as society starts to open up after the pandemic, according to a survey by the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services. Councils are also facing a spike in demand for social care support for people with mental illness, victims of domestic violence and abuse, and rough sleepers, according to another finding of the survey.

Could the Cabinet Member give full details of any upsurge in requests providing a breakdown of (a) the numbers of residents helped, (b) those whose request has been refused and (c) the resources available to respond to these requests?

Answer:

Figures for domestic violence and abuse and rough sleepers are not currently available and will need to be collated by officers across a number of departments and agencies.

Between March 2020 and June 2021 there has been an increase of 38% in the number of referrals for citizens experiencing mental health difficulties.

Requests are not refused and there is an appropriate level of resources and services across Adult Social Care and partners to meet the needs of citizens. Advice and support has been provided throughout the Covid19 pandemic to vulnerable citizens by the Social Work Teams, Neighbourhood Network service and our partners have enhanced and adapted the services to assist and support citizens. The 3 conversations model builds on the individual's own network of support, the community assets and the wider support across the City. The increase in contacts has been supported as part of the wider system resilience work that has been instrumental to the Health and Social Care response throughout the pandemic.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR JON HUNT

F3 COVID Vaccinations

Question:

Given the underspend of Covid Related Grant money, how is the Cabinet Member going to target resources to reverse the abysmally low vaccination rates in some neighbourhoods and communities, particularly in light of the surge in Delta variant cases?

Answer:

The Vaccination programme is led by and funded by the NHS. The challenges in vaccination uptake are complex and layered and include two main themes: barriers to access, both physical and language, and understanding and confidence issues, including challenging fake news.

The NHS has been working hard with the Council to identify new sites for the mobile van vaccination units which has included releasing Council car parks and other facilities. This has focused on areas with lowest uptake.

The Council has been providing additional support to this programme through many elements of the COMF funded activity, especially in relation to community engagement and communication. This has included the mobilisation of the Covid Champions, commissioned engagement partners, facilitating engagement with faith leaders, utilising commissioned community media and advertising space.

Where the Council is supporting this work this is being funded through the COMF funding in line with the Government criteria around this grant and the spend is reported through the Local Outbreak Engagement Board on a monthly basis.

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

F4 Drug and Alcohol Addictions

Question:

It has been reported that fewer people with alcohol and drug problems are being treated since responsibility for their care changed from the [NHS](#) to local councils. In an article in the Health Service Journal it is claimed patients' care has become poorer, specialist detoxification beds are now harder to access, and the cost of treatment has increased. There have been calls for these services to return to the NHS.

Could the Cabinet Member provide a comprehensive overview of the support available to local residents that have drug and alcohol addictions in the City to include (a) number of beds available, (b) overall cost of the service and (c) number of patients currently being treated?

Answer:

The provision of drug and alcohol treatment services is defined as one of the grant conditions of the Public Health Grant. The current drug and alcohol treatment and recovery provision in Birmingham is delivered by the third sector organisation 'Change Grow Live' (CGL). They were awarded a five year contract for the period 1st March 2015 – 28th February 2020 and BCC exercised the option to extend the contract for a further two years from March 2020 to February 2022. The contract was extended via BCC Cabinet in February 2021 by a further 13 months to 31st March 2023 to mitigate against delays in the re-commissioning and procurement process as a direct result of COVID-19.

A 'recovery' approach has been taken regarding the treatment for Birmingham citizens experiencing the harms associated with drug and alcohol misuse. This currently involves the treatment and care of approximately 5,500 service users.

There are four locality hubs across the city (North – Great Barr, South - Bournville, East – Stechford, and Central & West - Newtown). These are designed to provide accessible and welcoming spaces for service users to tackle substance misuse and prevention agenda within local communities. Each hub has a multi-disciplinary team with a wide range of expertise that includes Doctors, Nurses, Recovery Co-ordinators and Outreach Workers. These locality hubs are open 9am – 5pm, Monday to Friday.

To support the recovery focused delivery model, service users are provided with the necessary advice and support which is delivered via a 5-tier delivery model which responds to differing levels of case complexity, the tiers are:

Tier 1: Advice & Information; including signposting to other services which include advocacy and mutual aid.

Tier 2: Non-dependent drug and alcohol use – Group / 1:1 work for up to 12 weeks

Tier 3: Dependent alcohol use, opiate use, heavy crack cocaine/synthetic cannabinoids etc. – Group/1:1 work, longer term, structured support

Tier 4: In-patient specialist unit (Park House in Hockley) which delivers detoxification and stabilisation

Tier 5: Aftercare provision – Group/1:1 work/recovery Programmes

From the 23rd March 2020 to present the CGL Birmingham Adult Substance Use service has been open and accessible to all Birmingham citizens and the service continued to operate throughout all stages COVID-19 pandemic. The CGL website <https://www.changegrowlive.org/drug-and-alcohol-service-birmingham> is continually updated and details how and where services can be accessed as well as offering Coronavirus information for service users.

Cumulatively from 23rd March 2020 to 18th June 2021 there have been 3,663 new treatment starts; 2,080 opiate and 1,583 alcohol.

(a) Number of beds available – Inpatient Residential Detoxification

The recovery-focused delivery model, where appropriate, offers inpatient residential detoxification for alcohol and substance dependencies as part of Tier 4.

An 18 bed inpatient detox unit operates from Park House, 5 Park Rd South, Hockley, Birmingham B18 5QL. CGL as the service provider holds multi-disciplinary panel meetings to discuss the suitability of detox for potential clients, and agree the preparation work required prior to detox. The length of an inpatient stay within Park House is two weeks.

Park House closed due to COVID in mid-March 2020 and re-opened on 17.08.2020 with an initial intake of six service users (usually 18); the reduced capacity was to enable patients to adhere to social distancing guidance. Capacity is currently improved to 14 beds and will be increased to the full capacity of 18 beds at the earliest opportunity based on government guidance.

When Park House re-opened on 17.08.2020 there was a wait of approximately five months due to the vastly reduced capacity. As of May 2021, waiting times have reduced to about six weeks and are expected to reduce further when operating at the full 18 bed capacity.

Residential rehabilitation is not part of the service offer.

(b) Overall cost of the service

The current yearly contract value of drug and alcohol treatment and recovery provision is £14,190,609.00. For comparative purposes the annual spend from 2013/14 to 2022/23 is detailed below.

Year	Spend £
2013/14	27,303,000

Year	Spend £
2014/15	25,234,000
2015/16	19,022,930
2016/17	18,055,513
2017/18	15,450,810
2018/19	15,164,704
2019/20	14,937,483
2020/21	14,190,608
2021/22	14,190,608
2022/23	14,190,608

Expenditure on drug and alcohol treatment services in the City has reduced from £27M in 2013/14 to approx. £14M in 2021.

This trend is consistent with national data which shows a gradual decline in the number of people accessing substance use services since 2013/14 to the present (Public Health England National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS)).

A comparison between contract value for adult substance use services in Birmingham and people receiving treatment in 2013/14 and in 2019/20 (the most recent available full years' data from NDTMS) is shown below.

Contract year	2013/14	2019/20
Contract value	£27,303,000	£14,937,483
No. service users	9,575	6,882
Average cost per service user	£2,851	£2,170
Average service users/£10,000 costs	3.5	4.6

(c)
of

**number
patients
currently**

being treated?

Verified data as of Q4 (31st March 2021) there were 5,628 service users accessing the CGL adult substance use service in Birmingham. Data from Q1 (30th June) 2021/22 is expected in August 2021.

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

F5 Mental Health

Question:

Further to recent data that has suggested one in five adults have experienced depressive symptoms during the pandemic, could the Cabinet Member provide an update on the strategy that has been put forward to tackle this issue in the City?

Answer:

The NHS is the lead organisation for the provision of clinical support for mental health illnesses and the Council works closely in partnership with them to respond to the impacts of Covid on both physical and mental health.

This work has included during the pandemic supporting the NHS led expansion of Kooth, an online digital support platform for children and young people and expansion of bereavement support in the City in the first wave of the Pandemic.

Working with partners we built on this in multiple ways to support mental wellbeing including: developing video interventions based on the five ways to wellbeing through the Healthy Brum YouTube channel, including signposting resources to the Waiting Room resource into food parcels and in the food banks of the city, launching the Be Healthy Toolkit in Summer 2020, which was translated into multiple languages, to support self-care wellbeing interventions and running training webinars to support community organisations to use Be Healthy and access further support around mental wellbeing.

Recently Birmingham was successful in an application to PHE Prevention and Promotion Fund for Better Mental Health 2021-22 for £ 792,973.00. The bid was developed through collaboration with the Creating a Mentally Healthy City Forum and the Council was commended on its rapid partnership work.

Birmingham has selected a range of interventions for this funding to address mental health and wellbeing needs across the lifecourse. The range includes universal programmes that are available across the city as well as interventions that are targeted to specific ethnicity, faith groups and populations by identity or behaviour so that we can address key areas of inequality as evidenced by local and national research, community engagement and stakeholder consultation.

We have prioritised interventions that will have a lasting legacy beyond the fixed-term funding, that are evidence based, that build upon established work programmes, that focus on skills development and resource development and where there is a clear evidence of need. Eleven projects were approved including:

Bereavement Support

Local evidence has found that take up existing universal bereavement support has been lowest within our most deprived areas and in our Central and Eastern European Community, Black Community and LGBT Community. This intervention will increase the reach and equity of access of this service by introducing outreach work in schools in the most deprived areas of Birmingham, training 20 bereavement volunteers, and providing targeted and culturally specific support, outreach and resources.

The Mindful Muslims Programme

The intervention offers peer-to-peer bereavement support for the Muslim community facilitated by a qualified and registered counsellor, ensuring emotional safeguarding as well as hosting a series of seminars to increase awareness and confidence on issues surrounding mental health.

Being Well Programme

Mental health and wellbeing training targeted at people aged 18 plus who have mild to moderate mental health issues and or at risk of developing mental health issues. This intervention will deliver 15 courses aiming to improve resilience, mental health and wellbeing, enhanced participation in community life and getting back to the post-Covid “new normal”.

Youth Mental Health Peer Support Programme

Using Personal Experiences to Support Youth Mental Health Youth mental health peer support workers who will enable and increase access to mental health services in the 0-25-year age group, reduce stigma around mental health and associated barriers to existing care. This intervention has been developed with service users and has wider partnership support. The Peer Support workers are all former users of mental health services.

The Creating a Mentally Healthy City Forum will oversee the delivery of the programme reporting into the Health and Wellbeing Board.

There were a small number of proposals that were put forward that did not meet the criteria of the fund or were considered longer term projects and these are being taken forward using the core Public Health grant funding.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND
NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR MATT BENNETT**

G1 Empty Council Homes

Question:

What is the total number of council homes that have been empty for more than 6 months and for more than 12 months. Broken down by property type and number of bedrooms.

Answer:

Voids more than 6 months

Property Type	Bed Queue 0	Bed Queue 1	Bed Queue 2	Bed Queue 3	Bed Queue 4	Total
Bungalow		1				1
High-Rise Flat	4		1			5
Sheltered high rise Flat	2	4	5			11
Low-Rise flat		2				2
House			2	1	2	5
Maisonette				1		1
Total	6	7	8	3	2	25

Voids more than 12 months

Property Type	Bed Queue 0	Bed Queue 1	Bed Queue 2	Bed Queue 3	Bed Queue 4	Total
Bungalow						0
High-Rise Flat	6	2	6			14
Sheltered High-Rise Flat		2	7			9
Low-Rise Flat						0
House			2		2	4
Maisonette						0
Total	6	4	15		2	27

The above figures exclude properties scheduled for demolition and represent less than 0.1% of the City's housing stock.

High-Rise Sheltered Flats can be harder to let in less popular schemes and have specific criteria compared to general needs dwellings.

Sixteen of the High-Rise Flats have been purposefully kept void during extensive and disruptive capital investment works in two of our blocks.

Houses will have serious structural issues including the need for underpinning and requiring full option appraisals and complex solutions to be developed before determining if they are to

be retained. Of the nine above, 7 are with contractors progressing the works required and two are having solutions completed.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND
NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP**

G2 CAZ delay informal Cabinet Meeting

Question:

According to a recent FOI response you were told about the ‘soft launch’ approach to the CAZ with no charging or enforcement until 14 June at an informal cabinet meeting on 26 May. This was after the call-in on the payment system procurement had been received and after it was pointed out that the meeting could not be rushed through without the requisite notice period. At that meeting was the call in or the delay in procurement cited as a reason for not charging from 1 June?

Answer:

It was not cited as a reason for delaying the launch of payments.

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

G3 Yardley Cemetery

Question:

Please can you provide an update of the plans to deal with the badger setts in Yardley Cemetery, which are causing considerable distress to relatives of those buried nearby?

Answer:

Bereavement Services are actively trying to find a solution to the damage being caused by the badger setts. Badgers are a protected species and therefore Bereavement Services are liaising with an ecologist and Natural England to obtain a Licence to interfere with the setts. Legally no-one can touch or disrupt any of the badger sett without a licence that approves specific works as detailed on the licence by Natural England.

The Service has been trying to address this disturbance for some years with Natural England and a previous application in 2019 for a licence was declined. We are now working together with an ecologist to achieve a licence. The ecologist has advised on all steps that can be taken to make the area “less attractive” to the badgers. This includes reduction of food sources and natural cover, however as a burrowing species it is difficult to change the environment to dissuade them from the area.

In the meantime, we are monitoring their movements and the graves that they have disturbed. The service has used cameras to track where they go and to try and establish how many are living in the cemetery. Efforts to encourage them to feed further away from the grave section has unfortunately not been successful.

We understand how distressing this situation is and can assure you that we are looking into every option possible to move the badgers from the grave sections. Unfortunately, this is not a quick process. Every effort is being made to convince Natural England that all other routes have been exhausted so that a licence can be obtained. Bereavement Services will rectify the damage for all the families affected.

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

G4 Women Rough Sleepers

Question:

As there has been a significant rise in female rough sleepers, could the Cabinet Member confirm how many female rough sleepers there are in the City and if these are all currently in accommodation?

Answer:

An official snapshot count of people sleeping rough in England takes place each autumn and is reported in the following January/February. This records the number of people bedded down across the city on a single night. The table below shows figures for the last 4 years relating to gender of people found sleeping rough.

Year	Female	Male	Not Know	Total
2017	13	36	8	57
2018	6	81	4	91
2019	8	41	3	52
2020	3	12	2	17

Based on that data women have represented between 7% and 23% of identified rough sleepers. It is noted and recognised that the experience and understanding of women rough sleeping is less well understood and often more hidden than that of men. This is highlighted in the recently published report: - <https://springhousing.org.uk/news/violence-under-quiet-conditions-initial-enquiry-into-women-and-rough-sleeping-within-birmingham/>

Partner agencies supported by Birmingham City Council undertake a monthly snapshot of rough sleeping in the city. This is not under the same conditions as the official annual count but is a regular measure of rough sleeping.

The June 2021 snapshot identified 37 individuals rough sleeping, of those 10 were women, 27 men. Of particular note, was the number of individuals with available accommodation but on that night sleeping rough. Of the women 5 had tenancies, and 2 supported housing, each of the 3 other women had received multiple offers of accommodation. No woman sleeping rough on the streets at this time is without an offer of accommodation. It can be a complex mix of poor mental health, substance misuse, relationships and vulnerability that make taking up and sustaining support and accommodation difficult. The services making up the partnership around preventing and relieving rough sleeping remain very engaged in this work.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND
NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR EWAN MACKEY**

G5 Housing and Environmental Health

Question:

Please detail what changes have been made, and on what date, in response to the complaint that led to the Local Government Ombudsman Decision 20 010 642 regarding the poor co-ordination between Housing Officers and Environmental Health.

Answer:

This recommendation relates to the fact that some noise issues are dealt with as Statutory Nuisances and others under Antisocial Behaviour legislation (ASB). This is due to the ASB act requiring primary legislation to be used where it can be and that not all noise falls under the statutory nuisance provisions. An example is behavioural noise (shouting) cannot be dealt with under statutory nuisance but is clearly ASB if it causes harassment, alarm or distress to others.

In response to a previous recommendation from a Community Trigger case, a joint working group was set up but unfortunately stalled in March 2020, due to COVID-19. Following the recent Local Government Ombudsman Decision this has since resumed with City Housing chairing a Noise Nuisance Focus Group on 18th May 2021. This group has managers from Housing, Environmental Health and ASB Partnership Team which is reviewing ASB Policy and adding Statutory nuisance considerations into the updated policy. Birmingham Community Safety Partnership has taken on the responsibility for this group.

At an Officer level additional noise monitoring equipment has been purchased by City Housing to reduce demand on the Environmental Health team's equipment and to ensure several recorders are available to Housing Officers in a timely manner. Training is ongoing for both officers to ensure the resources are used effectively and that whatever is recorded by the complainant is assessed and referred in a timely way to the relevant officer/team.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION,
COMMUNITY SAFETY AND EQUALITIES FROM COUNCILLOR BOB
BEAUCHAMP**

H CAZ delay informal Cabinet Meeting

Question:

According to a recent FOI response you were told about the ‘soft launch’ approach to the CAZ with no charging or enforcement until 14 June at an informal cabinet meeting on 26 May. This was after the call-in on the payment system procurement had been received and after it was pointed out that the meeting could not be rushed through without the requisite notice period. At that meeting was the call in or the delay in procurement cited as a reason for not charging from 1 June?

Answer:

It was not cited as a reason for delaying the launch of payments.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR MATT BENNETT**

I1 Mobile Recycling Wagons 1

Question:

What is the make, model, fuel type and emissions standards of the new mobile household waste recycling wagons?

Answer:

The Mobile Recycling Wagons are Romaquip Kerb Sort vehicles. 12 tonne capacity with Euro 6 Diesel engine

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR ADRIAN DELANEY**

I2 Mobile Recycling Wagons 2

Question:

Do the new mobile household waste and recycling wagons require any form of power source to run when parked up (e.g. to compact waste) if so what is this and what is the carbon footprint?

Answer:

The recycling vehicle has a number of compartments that require no power to operate. There is a compactor that is only operated when the hopper is full. During this operation the engine will need to be switched on.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR ADAM HIGGS**

I3 Mobile Recycling Wagons 3

Question:

Will the engines for the new mobile household waste and recycling wagons be prohibited from 'idling' when parked up to collect waste?

Answer:

All of the vehicles will be switched off during the loading operation. The engines will only be turned on to activate the compactor.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR DARIUS SANDHU**

I4 Additional Clean Street Investment

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of how much of the £7.2m investment in cleaner streets will be spent in each ward?

Answer:

It is not possible to provide a breakdown of expenditure to each Ward as these new initiatives are mobile and will be directed to areas of need based on local knowledge and LAMS data. Resources have been allocated across all the depots and will be spread across the City.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP**

I5 CAZ delay informal Cabinet Meeting

Question:

According to a recent FOI response you were told about the ‘soft launch’ approach to the CAZ with no charging or enforcement until 14 June at an informal cabinet meeting on 26 May. This was after the call-in on the payment system procurement had been received and after it was pointed out that the meeting could not be rushed through without the requisite notice period. At that meeting was the call in or the delay in procurement cited as a reason for not charging from 1 June?

Answer:

It was not cited as a reason for delaying the launch of payments.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR DOMINIC STANFORD**

I6 Agency Parks Staff

Question:

How many Parks Staff (as total number and proportion of total staff) are agency workers?

Answer:

There are 110 agency employees within Parks; 58 of these are seasonal roles. This is approximately 33% of the total staff. Where agency staff are currently covering for permanent posts, these full-time posts will be recruited to.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR PETER FOWLER**

I7 Agency spend in Parks

Question:

In each of the last 5 years, how much has the council spent on agency staff within the parks department?

Answer:

2020/21 = £2,118,505

2019/20 = £2,310,601 – first financial year of all contracts being in-house

2018/19 = £1,000,719

2017/18 = £930,451

2016/17 = £1,135,334

2019/20 was the year when GM was brought back in house. This meant that BCC took on the responsibility for seasonal work and cover for staff that were previously outsourced

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR BABER BAZ**

18 Household and Recycling Waste Collections

Question:

In light of proposals to standardise rubbish collections, could the Cabinet Member provide an update on the authorities proposals for the future of the city's waste services?

Answer:

We are fully committed to provide the best collection service in the UK. We have been working with Independent advisors and Trade Unions to improve our current services.

The Government has announced in this year's Queen's Speech that the Environment Bill will be passed. DEFRA are currently consulting on a number of areas raised in the Waste to Resources paper. One of these areas is consistency of collections. We have fed into this consultation and eagerly await their findings which will, of course, feed into the way we will collect in the future. It would be premature of me to think of changes before the outcome of this consultation and subsequent legislation.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR JON HUNT**

I9 Closure of Perry Barr Recycling Centre

Question:

Given the closure of the Household Recycling centre in Perry Barr, will the Cabinet Member ensure that the proposed mobile recycling units spend extra time in the wards served by this HRC to continue to provide local access to legal waste disposal services?

Answer:

Perry Barr Depot is undergoing a major development. The current depot is no longer fit for use and a modern facility will provide better accommodation for our staff, be designed to support the future vehicle fleet and provide the necessary space for the equipment required for safe handling of household waste.

This will require extensive building work and to complete that safely, the HWRC will close to the public at the end of normal opening hours on the 31st July 2021.

The work is expected to be completed and the site reopened by Spring 2023.

In the interim, users of the site will be redirected to use the Castle Bromwich HWRC on Tameside Drive, B35 7AG. There should be sufficient capacity there to cope with the loss of the slots at Perry Barr. Of course, residents are free to use any of the sites in the city. HWRC staff at Perry Barr will be redeployed to Castle Bromwich to support the expected increase in visitors.

We will display notices and issue leaflets to visitors to Perry Barr to make sure that they are aware of this change. We will liaise with the local media and also put the information out through our social media channels to reinforce this message.

We have also just significantly increased the number of slots available at all our sites by 35%, which means that there is usually availability within two hours.

We will monitor usage at Castle Bromwich and deploy the mobile HRC as needed. There is one unit based at Perry Barr to cover the northern part of the City.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR MORRIAM JAN**

I10 Closure of Perry Barr Recycling Centre

Question:

Given the closure of the Household Recycling Centre in Perry Barr, will the Cabinet Member restore special street collections for the wards serviced by this centre, especially in the light of the many traffic restrictions currently in this part of the city?

Answer:

Special street collections have been reviewed, but they are not an affordable option in the current budget.

We are proposing the following measures to mitigate the closure of Perry Barr to enable a total rebuild.

Users of the site will be redirected to use the Castle Bromwich HWRC on Tameside Drive, B35 7AG. There should be sufficient capacity there to cope with the loss of the slots at Perry Barr. Of course, residents are free to use any of the sites in the city. HWRC staff at Perry Barr will be redeployed to Castle Bromwich to support the expected increase in visitors.

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We will monitor usage at Castle Bromwich and deploy the mobile HRC as needed. There is one unit based at Perry Barr to cover the northern part of the City.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR ROGER HARMER**

I11 Missed Collections

Question:

In the Quarter 4 Performance Report which was presented to Cabinet on 29 June, it clearly says in relation to reported missed collections ‘.. There has been significant improvement in the reliability of the service and generally missed collections are made within 48 hours’ however we are receiving complaints from residents who have advised their household waste and recycling collections are being missed time and time again with some residents having to wait up to 6 weeks for their bins to be emptied. Could the Cabinet Member provide details of the improvements they believe have been made to this service?

Answer:

There have been improvements made to the service over the last 18 months and collections have improved. I am not complacent about what has been achieved and I recognise there is still a long way to go and I will not stop until we have no missed collections in the City.

However, here are some of the improvements made over the last 2 years:

1. Budgets - the budgets have been challenged and corrected. This has been reviewed by both CIPFA and the District Auditor. We now have a strong base to build upon.
2. Investment - £12m has been spent on new vehicles with more planned for 2022/23 and 2023/24. Lifford has had a new office and staff facilities built, Perry Barr is just about to start a total rebuild and a new site is starting to be developed to replace both Montague Street and Redfern Road.
3. We are currently replacing and installing in cab technology.
4. We have recruited to vacant posts.
5. We have improved communications with staff and hold regular Trade Union meetings.
6. We have just completed a recruitment drive for our Waste Enforcement Team taking them to 24.
7. We have reviewed and changed rounds following the Wood assessment. Performance is reviewed daily and a weekly report is produced and analysed.
8. The enquiries and complaints section have been improved and data is reviewed looking for common trends.

Performance has improved.

In the week ending 5 July 2019, there were 1096 outstanding roads waiting for collection. In the week ending 2nd July 2021, this was down to 18 roads.

In a service collecting from 450,000 properties every week – some 27 million collections a year, there will be always be specific problems – access to particular roads, COVID isolation, vehicle breakdown and staff sickness will always cause problems.

The Service has worked right the way through the pandemic, with staff showing resilience and flexibility to maintain collections – we should be very proud of the response from our people to keep the service functioning.

I am aware there is still more we can do to improve performance and we will keep driving to improve the service that we deliver to the residents of this city.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR ZAKER CHOUDHRY**

I12 Wildflower Meadows

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member explain what consultation has local communities about the programme of delivering wildflower meadows taking over playing fields?

Answer:

I am not aware of any programme of delivering wildflower meadows on playing fields. If you have any specific location I will ask officers to have a look and report back.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR SIMON MORRALL**

J1 Clean Air Day New Street Display 1

Question:

What was the total cost of the vehicles and display put on outside New Street Station for Clean Air Day?

Answer:

The vehicles and associated production costs were £20,000. In addition, there were costs of £25,970 which included creative development, production and event staffing (this includes security). All costs of the event were covered by the Clean Air Zone implementation budget.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID PEARS**

J2 Clean Air Day New Street Display 2

Question:

What vehicles and machinery (including engine specifications and power sources) was used to construct the Clean Air Day Display outside New Street Station?

Answer:

The three vehicles used in the display were a 2010 Vauxhall Combo Van, a Golf and a Citroen C3. The engines of all of the vehicles were removed from the cars prior to installation, and no additional power sources were used for these vehicles.

The vehicles were moved on site by a HIAB lorry (i.e. a flat-bed lorry with a crane attached), which was Euro 6 compliant.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR DEBBIE CLANCY**

J3 Clean Air Day New Street Display 3

Question:

What will the vehicles that formed part of the Clean Air Day Display outside New Street Station be used for once the display has finished?

Answer:

The vehicles used in the display have been returned to a production house, which specialises in custom builds for events of this type. Any materials used in the display will be broken down and re-purposed or recycled for future campaigns.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR PETER FOWLER**

J4 Pot Holes

Question:

How many potholes have been filled in each of the last 5 years?

Answer:

The term “pothole” is not defined in terms of size / extent or material. For example, there are a range of defects and deterioration in surfaces between cracking and the formation of holes.

For this reason, the council (in common with other highway authorities and in line with highway maintenance practice) uses a process of identifying defects in carriageway and footway surfacing (not just ‘holes’) and assessing the risk that the defect presents.

In respect of carriageway (‘roads’), the number of repairs that have been carried out is as follows:

Financial Year	Carriageway surfacing repairs
2016-2017	3,724
2017-2018	2,893
2018-2019	5,522
2019-2020	3,872
2020-2021	4,775
2021- July 2021	2,820

It should be noted that:

- A repair may be for more than one defect.
- This does not include repairs that have been carried out as part of resurfacing schemes, which will also repair multiple defects within the section surfaced.
- This does not include footway (‘pavement’) repairs. These may include defects that might be considered a pothole, but would also include defects such as cracking or missing slabs or blocks.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID BARRIE**

J5 Pot Hole Cost

Question:

What is the average cost to the council of fixing a pothole?

Answer:

The term “pothole” is not defined in terms of size/extent or material. For example, there are a range of defects and deterioration in surfaces between cracking and the formation of holes.

For this reason, the council (in common with other highway authorities and in line with highway maintenance practice) uses a process of identifying defects (not just ‘holes’) and assessing the risk that the defect presents.

To calculate an average cost as requested requires:

- A “pothole” to be defined and differentiated from other surfacing defects. As explained above, this is not done.
- The specific cost of all resources allocated exclusively to the repair of those surfacing defects.
- The number of defects that are rectified by each repair to be identified.

This information is not therefore held.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR KEN WOOD**

J6 Pot Hole Spend

Question:

In each year since 2012 how much has been spent on highways repairs?

Answer:

The council's costs for Highway Maintenance and Management services covers the full range of services within the scope of its contract. "Highways repairs" is not a specific term and the costs for "repairs" cannot be separated from other costs such as inspections, surveys, overheads and support.

The below table shows details of expenditure on Highway Maintenance and Management services from 2011-12 to 2020-21, which encompasses the period since January 2012.

	Highways Expenditure
Financial Year:	£
2011/12	55,989,948.50
2012/13	62,327,907.19
2013/14	70,943,112.79
2014/15	77,085,266.50
2015/16	68,030,297.07
2016/17	82,180,519.20
2017/18	70,715,186.63
2018/19	41,626,169.06
2019/20	55,890,982.12
2020/21	77,745,152.16
Total	662,534,541.22

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE ALDEN**

J7 PFI Legal costs

Question:

In the last ten years how much has the Council spent on legal advice relating to Highways PFI or Highways contractor issues.

Answer:

From December 2014 to May 2021 the council spent £7,886,657.09 on external legal advice (including relevant expert technical and commercial advice) relating to the Highway Maintenance and Management PFI contract.

It should be noted that:

1. These costs were incurred in connection with the costs of pursuing a complex combination of disputes and settlements relating to the contract. The expenditure should therefore be considered in the context of:
 - a. Retaining the PFI grant that the council receives from government - £50.3m per annum for 25 years.
 - b. The overall value of the disputes, in terms of the cost of the services of which the council was disputing provision. This resulted ultimately in a settlement exceeding £300m in value.
 - c. Money retained by the council under settlements, which remains ring fenced for Highways services.
 - d. The value of the council now being able to proceed with changes to restructure the contract and replace the contractor.
2. For clarity, this figure does not include:
 - a. VAT.
 - b. Internal legal, financial / commercial and technical costs (which are included within council staffing costs and are not separable).
 - c. Costs recovered where the council has been successful in disputes.
 - d. The actual costs of the council's contractor (Birmingham Highways Ltd) or their advisory costs, which are deducted from council payments.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR EWAN MACKEY**

J8 PFI Credits

Question:

In total, broken down by year, how much has the Council received in PFI credits from Government for the Highways Contract?

Answer:

The council's PFI grant is a fixed grant of £50,311,300 per annum, which is paid on a quarterly basis. It has been paid by government since 7 June 2010. The totals are shown in the table below.

	PFI Grant Income	
	£	
2010/11	39,846,549	
2011/12	50,311,300	
2012/13	50,311,300	
2013/14	50,311,300	
2014/15	50,311,300	
2015/16	50,311,300	
2016/17	50,311,300	
2017/18	50,311,300	
2018/19	50,311,300	
2019/20	50,311,300	
2020/21	50,311,300	
Total	542,959,549	

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR MAUREEN CORNISH**

J9 CAZ Soft Launch

Question:

On what date did the Council inform the Government\JAQU that it would definitely not be implementing charging for the CAZ until 14 June?

Answer:

There were a number of informal discussions with the Joint Air Quality Unit (JAQU) about how the scheme would launch on 1 June 2021 and these covered a range of potential scenarios. Through such discussions JAQU's focus was on ensuring that the scheme launched in line with the objective of achieving compliance with the legal limit for nitrogen dioxide in the shortest possible time.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR ADAM HIGGS**

J10 Parking

Question:

What is the total number of on and off street car parking spaces removed by the council since 2012 in the city centre and each district centre (listed separately).

Answer:

The council does not hold data on the number of parking spaces that have been removed by the council.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR DARIUS SANDHU**

J11 Number 11

Question:

Please provide a copy of the assurances given by National Express that the Number 11 Bus Service will return to a fully circular route following the completion of the current roadworks in Perry Barr?

Answer:

The 11 bus service provides key public transport accessibility for residents across the city and those in our adjoining districts. Further to my letter to the Managing Director seeking assurances that the 11 bus service will be returned to its full circular route as soon as possible, the attached was provided in response to my strong concerns.

The Council, Transport for West Midlands and National Express will continue to work closely to ensure a range of improvement works to enhance bus reliability are completed in an expedient manner to allow the normal routing to resume as soon as possible.



Our ref: DB/lab

30th June 2021

Sent by: Email : waseem.zaffar@birmingham.gov.uk

Cllr Waseem Zaffar MBE
Birmingham City Council House
Victoria Square
Birmingham
B1 1BB

Dear Councillor Zaffar

No 11 bus route

Thank you for your letter of 28 June 2021.

I can confirm that National Express West Midlands will be operating the 11 bus route in a different way from Sunday 4 July 2021. This is because of the disruption to the punctuality and reliability of service due to the roadworks at Perry Barr.

We have worked really hard behind the scenes with your officials and TfWM to try and NOT change how we run the 11. But between us, we just can't figure out a way for the works to be done without it affecting too many bus customers to an unacceptable degree - especially now that there are more cars on the roads as lockdown eases.

By organising the buses differently, 96% of our customers will get a much more punctual and reliable bus service while the roadworks continue.

As a transport operator, National Express would much prefer to run the 11 as a proper circular route. I am very pleased to hear you say that the key works should be significantly completed in October 2021. Our network team will keep working closely with your officials to understand the details of that, with the aim of getting back to running the buses round in the full circle as soon as possible.

In addition, the 11 route is a big focus of the work we're doing with TfWM on the West Midlands' Bus Service Improvement Plan (part of the National Bus Strategy). We are putting in plans - and will hopefully get funding - to address some of the other historical pinchpoints on the 11 route. We are determined to reverse the delays that have accumulated over the years as traffic has worsened, and try and make the service as fast as it used to be in previous decades.

I hope you find this information useful. As ever, please feel free to contact me at any time if I can help with anything.

Yours faithfully

David Bradford
Managing Director
National Express West Midlands
david.bradford@nationalexpress.com

david.bradford@nationalexpress.com Birmingham B5 6DD

 nxbus.co.uk

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5501

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR RON STORER**

J12 CAZ Launch Delay

Question:

The decision to suspend payments and enforcement of the clean air zone from 1 June to 14 June meant foregoing £1.68m in revenue (based on 2/52 of projected first year income in the FBC) as well as being a decision that impacted on more than more ward. As such it was clearly a key decision. Whilst Labour's excessive delegation policy allows officer financial decision at this level it is far from clear that given previous cabinet decisions that this could have been taken under delegated authority. In any event there should still be a clear and dated record of the key decision, including sign offs. Whilst we clearly welcome any form of delay to charging the least well off in our city, for transparency, please provide a copy of this decision record.

Answer:

The report to Cabinet on 19 January 2021 provided an update on the projected income for the Clean Air Zone. This update noted the impact on forecast income of two delays from the original launch date (January 2020). Similarly, the report noted potential additional pressures to the forecast income in the form of an increase in costs levied by the Government for the provision of its 'central services' and a maximum lifetime of six years (against the original business plan of 10 years) for the Clean Air Zone (on the basis that the Government had committed to providing its central services through to the end of financial year 2026/2027). On that basis any potential income during that period would have been significantly lower than the figure quoted in the question.

The update in January 2021 also made clear that the core objective for the Clean Air Zone was to accelerate compliance with the legal limit for nitrogen dioxide in the shortest possible time and while income could be generated the scheme was not designed with revenue generation in mind. The report also noted that while an update to forecast income had been provided the forecasts were still subject to a high degree of uncertainty and that an updated income and expenditure forecast would be provided once 'live' data from the scheme was available.

As this was an operational decision taken in consultation between the Head of Service, Senior Responsible Officer and Cabinet Member, no formal decision record was required.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND
THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR ALEX YIP**

J13 Highways Repairs

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of how much has been spent per ward on highways repairs since 2018

Answer:

The council's costs for Highway Maintenance and Management services covers the full range of services within the scope of its contract. "Highways repairs" is not a specific term and the costs for "repairs" cannot be separated from other costs such as inspections, surveys, overheads and support.

The council does not record details of spending on a ward basis. This is for two reasons:

- i. The costs are paid for under a single highway maintenance and management contract for the city; and
- ii. Costs are not attributed individually to wards, as the boundaries of wards are not necessarily the same as the areas used for highway maintenance.

However, total spend is set out per year as follows:

	Highways Expenditure
Financial Year:	£
2018/19	41,626,169.06
2019/20	55,890,982.12
2020/21	77,745,152.16
Total	175,262,303.34

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

J14 Highways Repairs 2021/22

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of how much will be spent in total on highways repairs in 2021/22 including the funding sources for this (i.e. new pfi credits, money from highways contract previously held back, new general fund commitments etc)

Answer:

The council's costs for Highway Maintenance and Management services covers the full range of services within the scope of its contract. "Highways repairs" is not a specific term and the costs for "repairs" cannot be separated from other costs such as inspections, surveys, overheads and support.

The council does not record details of spending on a ward basis. This is for two reasons:

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Total	175,262,303.34

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

J15 Highways PFI Contract

Question:

The highways PFI required one for one replacement of felled trees on the highway. Can the cabinet member confirm this arrangement is being maintained, both in the contract with Kier and with proposed contractual arrangements in the future?

Answer:

The Highway Maintenance and Management PFI contract required that the service provider ensure that there is no overall decrease in the number of highway trees (without consent from the council) and that they comply with the council's Tree Policy.

The interim contract with Kier includes requirements to comply with the Tree Policy, which preserves this requirement.

There are no proposals at present to change this requirement for future contracts.

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

J16 Perry Barr Railway Station

Question:

At cabinet he blamed the combined authority for complexities and delays in the works at Perry Barr caused by the building of a new rail station. As this project was always part of Perry Barr regeneration, could he explain in what way it has caused unexpected delays or complications?

Answer:

The evolving design of the rail station has required a change in the construction methodology being used by the contractor. This has resulted in the lane closure on the A34 being required for longer than anticipated further complicating the overall traffic management arrangements being coordinated across the various projects in Perry Barr.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIR OF LICENSING AND PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE FROM COUNCILLOR PETER FOWLER

K Environmental Health Enforcement

Question:

In each of the last 5 years, how many complaints have been received by Environmental Health that related to properties where the Council is landlord and how many of these complaints resulted in enforcement action being taken?

Answer:

We cannot provide the information requested. Environmental Health receives jobs whether they be statutory nuisances, pest control, drainage etc. and will require the owner, occupier or other relevant person to take action to remedy problems as necessary. As a result, we record the name of the relevant person, but we do not record the ownership of a property i.e. whether it is owner occupied, private or a public landlord. Below is a table of the number of Requests for Assistance (Service requests) Environmental Health receive over a 5-year period.

Area of work	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Animal Welfare (dogs only)	3,405	3,317	3,187	2,422	2,070
Pest Control	14,868	14,876	17,798	16,445	16,919
Request for Assistance	21,919	20,469	31,524	27,675	35,885
Coronavirus related				24	6,369
Grand Total	40,192	38,662	52,509	46,566	61,243

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIR OF PLANNING COMMITTEE FROM
COUNCILLOR DARIUS SANDHU**

L Booths Lane/Sandy Lane

Question:

As part of Planning Application 2013/09475/PA, and any other linked applications for the development at Booths Lane/Sandy Lane, please provide a breakdown of s106 agreements, including the total amount agreed, the total amount spent, the amount spent on individual projects, which ward these projects were in, and which ward councillors approved each one and on what date.

Answer:

Planning obligations, also known as Section 106 agreements are agreements made between local authorities and developers and can be attached to a planning permission to make acceptable development which would otherwise be unacceptable in planning terms. Planning Obligations are used for three purposes:

- **Prescribe** the nature of development (for example, requiring a given portion of housing is affordable)
- **Compensate** for loss or damage created by a development (for example, loss of open space)
- **Mitigate** a development's impact (for example, through increased public transport provision).

Planning obligations must be directly relevant to the proposed development.

2013/09475/PA was for 'Clearance of driving range and associated buildings and redevelopment of site (including part of associated golf range) to provide 249 new build dwellings together with realignment of Booths Lane. Other works to include provision of children's play area and associated works'. It was considered at the planning cttee meeting held on the 29th May 2014. It was resolved minded to approve subject to the completion of a section 106 legal agreement to secure the following:

- i. The provision of 46 houses to be provided for rent and/or intermediate rent.
- ii. The provision of a financial contribution of £380,000 to be paid upon implementation (index linked from the 17th April 2014) for the provision of public open space provision/improvement and or sports/ recreational purposes in the area or to be spent on any other purpose that shall be agreed in writing between the City Council

and the party responsible for paying the sum provided that any alternative spend purpose has been approved by the Council Planning Committee.

The contribution of £380,000 towards off site public open space improvements was as compensation for the loss of the driving range and part of the golf course. The applicant had provided a financial viability appraisal of the scheme that demonstrates that the development would be unviable with a contribution higher than £380,000. In order to provide flexibility in determining the final spend of this money, it was agreed that this sum be allowed to be used for public open space provision/improvement and or sports/ leisure/recreational purposes in the area. The S106 was subsequently completed and the planning permission issued on 12th June 2014.

£392.844 was received (with interest) and as the site was on the border of Oscott and Parry Barr wards, meetings were held with both sets of ward councillors who put forward a schedule of sites for improvement. Meetings and approvals were also sought from District and District Parks Managers, Friends of Queslett Nature Reserve and Friends of Turnberry Park. The money was spent as follows:

- £79,450 (including maintenance) was spent for the extension to the existing skate park in Perry Park (including maintenance) – Perry Barr Ward
- £139,480 (including maintenance) was spent on path improvement and street furniture at Queslett Nature Reserve, for laying out 300m grass running track at Glenmead unattached School Playing Field, fencing and storage container at Turnberry Park – Perry Barr and Oscott Wards
- £5,000 to develop masterplan for Turnberry Park – Perry Barr Ward
- £170,475 for new MUGA and path improvement works at Turnberry Park and upgrading existing lighting between the subway and Forgers Lane – Perry Barr Ward (NB – Since this approval, additional match funding has been approved by Veolia, reducing the S106 commitment).

There is approximately £20,000 remaining in the account and the Neighbourhoods Team will discuss options for these remaining monies (expiring January 2022).

CITY COUNCIL

14 SEPTEMBER 2021

APPOINTMENTS BY THE COUNCIL

Set out below for approval are appointments to be made by the City Council.

RECOMMENDED:-

That the appointments be made to serve on the Committees and Bodies below:-

Planning Committee

Councillor Kate Booth (Lab) to replace Councillor Kath Scott (Lab) for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of City Council in May 2022.

West Midlands Police and Crime Panel

Councillor Hendrina Quinnen (Lab) as substitute for Councillor Saima Suleman (Lab) for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of City Council in May 2022.

WMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Kate Booth (Lab) to replace Councillor Shabana Hussain (Lab) for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of City Council in May 2022.

WMCA Housing & Land Delivery Board

Councillor Shabana Hussain (Lab) to replace Councillor Sharon Thompson (Lab) for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of City Council in May 2022.

City Housing Liaison Board

Councillor Shabana Hussain (Lab) to replace Councillor Sharon Thompson (Lab) for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of City Council in May 2022.

Birmingham City Council

City Council

14 September 2021



Subject: Scrutiny Business Report
Report of: Chairs of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees
Report author: Emma Williamson, Head of Scrutiny Services

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

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the planned work programmes of Overview & Scrutiny Committees for the forthcoming year.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the report be noted.

3 The Start of the Year

- 3.1 In May 2021, the regulations allowing council meetings, including scrutiny meetings, to be held on-line expired and all formal meetings had to be held face to face. These meetings had to be held in line with government guidance, which emphasised the mitigating measures – social distancing for example – that needed to be in place for meetings to take place safely. The guidance also stated that meetings should be held only if essential to do so during the period of the restrictions. Scrutiny chairs therefore looked at other approaches, to ensure that scrutiny's work could continue without taking unnecessary risks.
- 3.2 This led to some of the June and July meetings being held as informal meetings. A number were nonetheless webcast and papers published on the website, to ensure full transparency. This was a temporary measure to accommodate concerns of members during the period of restrictions and to allow as full participation as possible. Since the ending of those restrictions, scheduled Scrutiny meetings have mostly moved back to formal "in-person" meetings, whilst retaining the flexibility to hold informal meetings and visits in accordance with members' wishes.

4 Scrutiny Priorities for 2021/22

Co-ordinating O&S Committee

- 4.1 Members of the Co-ordinating O&S Committee have continued to scrutinise the portfolios of the Leader and Deputy Leader throughout the last year and this will continue, with particular focus on customer services and the introduction of the revised customer and member enquiries system, digital inclusion and changes to the senior management structure of the council.
- 4.2 Members will also welcome the Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion, Community Safety and Equalities, as he addresses the committee in September, following the amendment to the committee's remit to include equalities and social cohesion.
- 4.3 The main piece of work for the first part of the municipal year will be the scrutiny inquiry into exempt accommodation. The inquiry was started largely in response to the dramatic growth in exempt accommodation properties in the city and the plea from residents in those areas with high concentrations for both greater monitoring and support. It also aims to support the Supported Housing pilot the Council is part of. Following a call for evidence that resulted in over 80 submissions, initial evidence gathering has focused on the views and experiences of residents living in these areas. Later in September 2021, a session will be held with relevant Cabinet Members and officers, to respond to the evidence and key questions. A report with recommendations to support the pilot will then be presented to the Executive.
- 4.4 Members have signalled their intention to undertake a review of the Council's response to the pandemic. This will be a cross-portfolio piece of work, to see what lessons could be learned and to understand the implications for the future. A terms of reference will be discussed by the Committee at a future meeting.

Health and Social Care O&S Committee

- 4.5 The introduction of Integrated Care Systems (ICS) in April 2022 will replace Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) as commissioners of health services and will bring about major changes in how health and care services are planned and delivered. In Birmingham, the transition from the Birmingham and Solihull CCG to the Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care System is currently under development. The Joint Birmingham/Solihull Health Scrutiny Committee will be the main body for scrutinising the ICS but the Birmingham Health and Social Care O&S Committee (HOSC) has an important part to play in engaging and commenting on emerging plans that will impact on the people of the city. The Committee recently held informal discussions with CCG and BCC Officers about how Scrutiny can influence the process and ensure full public accountability of the new system. Members also welcomed the integration of West Birmingham within the new system, a step the Committee has pressed to happen for several years.
- 4.6 The Committee will look to scope a review into Weight Management focussing on what support is available for those people living with weight management issues and affording them a platform to voice their own experiences. The intended

outcome of this review will be to form recommendations that complement the ambition of 'Creating a Healthier City'.

- 4.7 Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, planned citizen involvement sessions on Delayed Transfers of Care/Early Intervention Programme and Direct Payments had to be put on-hold but will now take place at the September and November committee meetings.
- 4.8 Concerns have been raised with HOSC members about the limited public access to GP primary care services currently. Initial discussions have been held with CCG officers which have highlighted some significant limitations to the public accountability of GP services, and the Committee will look in greater depth at this issue in the coming months.

Resources O&S Committee

- 4.9 Following the appointment of new Chair Cllr Mohammed Aikhlaq, the Committee will continue with a programme of monthly financial monitoring reports, which includes the quarterly reports which go to Cabinet. This allows members to see each month how the budget is being managed and flag any concerns with Cabinet Members or officers as appropriate, with the option of asking them to attend committee to report on any issues.
- 4.10 Members have also requested monthly updates on the implementation of the Council's new Finance and HR Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system, to monitor timescales, risks and costings.
- 4.11 At the end of the last municipal year an inquiry was started to look at procurement and contract management, due mainly to issues which had arisen over the previous couple of years, particularly coming up in requests for call-in Members have agreed to continue with the piece of work this municipal year, with an informal session planned for September.

Housing and Neighbourhoods O&S Committee

- 4.12 As in previous years, members of the Committee are taking a keen interest in Localisation and the intention is for this to be a main focus for the committee during this municipal year, with one of the areas of scrutiny to be around how the Localisation Star Chamber is working and the impact that has.
- 4.13 The Committee will continue to monitor progress with implementation of the recommendations in the O&S report on Reducing Fly-tipping which reported to Full Council in February 2021. Following on from this successful piece of work, the Cabinet Member for Street Scene and Parks has asked the Committee to assist in the development of a Litter Bins Policy. This will look at best practice examples elsewhere in the country with a view to holding one or two informal sessions, leading to proposals for the Cabinet Member to consider.
- 4.14 There are also a number of housing topics programmed for future meetings, including tenant engagement, housing repairs and maintenance including the

capital investment programme, and voids (with members looking at void turnaround times and the standard of properties). Members will also continue with their quarterly monitoring of performance measures within the Housing and Waste services;

- 4.15 This Committee is the statutory Crime and Disorder Committee and as such receives an annual report from the Birmingham Community Safety Partnership, currently scheduled for November.

Commonwealth Games, Culture & Physical Activity O&S Committee

- 4.16 The Committee will be focusing on how directorates are planning for and contributing to the Commonwealth Games (taking place from 28 July to 8 August 2022) and the Games legacy. To date, officers from the Policy Insight and Prevention Directorate, City Operations Directorate, Housing Directorate and Human Resources Directorate have attended Committee meetings to discuss their plans. Members have also had a workshop to discuss resilience, safety and security, and public health on 8th June 2021.
- 4.17 The remaining Directorates are programmed to attend including, at the September committee meeting, senior officers from the Children's Trust, Adult Social Care Directorate, and Education and Skills Directorate. A visit to the Alexander Stadium is also being planned, the second visit of the Committee to the stadium.

Sustainability and Transport O&S Committee

- 4.18 The Committee's focus this year will be on looking at what the Council is doing to support the implementation of the Climate Change Action Plan agreed in January 2020 as part of the Council's Climate Change Emergency Declaration (agreed by Full Council in 2018). The Committee has been tasked with monitoring what each directorate is doing to keep on track of this commitment and, with the imminent appointment of a lead officer and separate team to take this work forward, the Chair is keen explore this further, with the option to report back to Council in the future.
- 4.19 As lockdown restrictions lift and more people are expected to travel on public transport for work and social purposes, the Committee will be hosting a session in the autumn looking at public confidence in using public transport. This will be an opportunity for transport operators and other stakeholders to map out clearly the provision in place to help people feel safer whilst travelling, as well as explaining the level of service available and address any concerns. The focus on the use of public transport has been a key issue of interest for the committee and is especially important as it benefits the city and residents as a whole through the reduction in traffic and congestion, helps to tackle air pollution and promote cleaner air – something that has been of widespread interest to all those living and working in the city. These key issues are also addressed in the City's Transport Plan due to be finalised later this year and which the committee has been consulted on.

Economy & Skills O&S Committee

- 4.20 The Committee is (at the time of writing) awaiting the appointment a new Chair following Cllr Shabrana Hussain's appointment to Cabinet. Scrutiny Chairs want to thank Cllr Hussain for her work in scrutiny and wish her well in her new role.
- 4.21 The Committee has agreed that it will continue to monitor the economic recovery support work being provided both by the City Council and through its work with partners, to help and support SME's in the city and residents looking for work, training and re-skilling. Members have received updates during the last municipal year and going forward the focus of their attention will be on where the Council can add value and support businesses and individuals with the support they need to help people most affected get back on their feet. Working with partners on this is crucial and further updates are scheduled for the rest of the municipal year, including looking at sectors that have been most affected by the pandemic such as culture, leisure and hospitality.
- 4.22 With the introduction of the Clean Air Zone (CAZ) in June 2021 many businesses and self-employed individuals based in and using the city centre have raised concerns about the impact of the CAZ on their livelihoods. The Committee has received briefings on this and members have agreed that they will undertake a six month assessment to consider the impact of the CAZ on businesses within the area since it became operational and consider if any further measures are required and provide this feedback to the Cabinet Member and officers.

Education & Children's Social Care O&S Committee

- 4.23 Following the appointment of new Chair Cllr Narinder Kaur Kooner, the Committee continued to look at Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). At the June 2021 Committee meeting, Members discussed the joint local area SEND Ofsted and Care Quality Commission judgement with the Interim Director for Education and Skills. Members are keen to add value to the improvement journey and it was agreed that SEND will be the Committee's main area of focus, with officers regularly attending committee meetings to provide detailed updates and information. Also, the Committee may deep dive into certain areas to assist with the improvements and this will be programmed.
- 4.24 Another key area is safeguarding, and the Chair and Chief Executive of the Children's Trust will be attending the September 2021 committee meeting, and the Chair of the Birmingham Safeguarding Children's Partnership will be attending the October 2021 committee meeting.
- 4.25 In addition, young people and mental health / wellbeing was identified as a priority. This could be joint piece of work with the Health and Adults Social Care O&S Committee and this is to be programmed.

Birmingham City Council

City Council

14 September 2021



Subject: West Midlands Combined Authority Transport Delivery Committee

Report of: Councillor Kath Hartley, Lead Member

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

- 1.1 The West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) Transport Delivery Committee (TDC) is one of the thematic Boards/Committees under the formal WMCA Board.
- 1.2 TDC provides political oversight and engagement on strategic transport priorities of the WMCA and its transport delivery arm, Transport for West Midlands (TfWM). This includes monitoring and challenging the delivery of TfWM capital programmes. The committee also has oversight of the operational activities of the WM Transport Authority and receives regular updates and reports across the various portfolios. Members actively participate in liaison with partners, including bus, rail and Metro operators, and with passengers' and interest groups.
- 1.3 Councillor Kath Hartley (Labour, Birmingham) was the BCC Lead Member and Chair of the WMCA TDC for the 2020-2021 municipal year and remains in the roles. TDC Vice-chairs were Councillor Richard Worrall (Labour, Walsall) and Councillor Timothy Huxtable (Conservative, Birmingham).
- 1.4 All seven constituent authorities are represented on a population and political basis. Birmingham City Council was represented by the following councillors whose role has centred on ensuring that Birmingham achieves our deserved share of transport investment and network improvements as the West Midlands' largest and most strategic District and the centre of the region's travel-to-work area.
- 1.5 The BCC representatives in 2020-21 were:
 - Councillor Kath Hartley (Labour) BCC Lead Member
 - Councillor Chaman Lal (Labour)
 - Councillor Mohammed Fazal (Labour)

- Councillor Mary Locke (Labour)
- Councillor Mohammed Idrees (Labour)
- Councillor Timothy Huxtable (Conservative)
- Councillor Robert Alden (Conservative)

Cllrs. Ziaul Islam (Labour) and Cllr. Morriam Jan (Liberal Democrat) joined the committee for 2021-2022, replacing Cllr. Mary Locke and Cllr. Mohammed Fazal.

2 Recommendation

2.1 That the report be noted.

3 Introduction

- 3.1 I am pleased to provide this Annual Report as Birmingham's Lead Member on the WMCA Transport Delivery Committee at the end of a very difficult and challenging year for the public and for everybody involved in the delivery of services throughout the Covid emergency.
- 3.2 I would like to thank TDC members for their continuing involvement and support in carrying out our role of ensuring that Birmingham, as the region's largest and most strategic city, has our fair share of the Transport budget, capital schemes and operational attention, and that projects and activities that impact upon our city are delivered.
- 3.3 Thanks should also go to the following for their dedication to, and resilience in, maintaining a transport network during the emergency: TfWM and partners at both a strategic level and on delivery of services on the network and persevering with capital schemes, adapting to changing conditions; public transport operators and their public-facing staff; local authorities, especially Birmingham City Council, for their ability to respond to both new and ongoing demands including Emergency Active Travel measures and the capital transport schemes for the Commonwealth Games. The 'Birmingham Connected' updates deserve a mention too.
- 3.4 Transport user groups have also risen to the challenge by meeting on-line, even more often than pre-pandemic, to question the decisions and actions of TfWM and operators and to give the passengers' and network-users' views and experience. Some of our Bus Passenger Champions have volunteered as advisers at bus interchanges during the emergency and have continued to provide feedback on issues on the network.
- 3.5 As Lead Member for Birmingham, I have continued to:
- Follow up Members' and Birmingham residents' casework, overwhelmingly around bus services and infrastructure and Covid safety issues.

- Along with the other Birmingham TDC Members, track and champion projects and initiatives as they relate to Birmingham.
- Join meetings with NXWM and the Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment on Birmingham issues and plans for new vehicles, routes etc.
- Arrange for the distribution of updates to BCC Members.
- Join with the BCC Leader and Cabinet Member in our work to promote the city's needs as the region's strategic focus, for instance at the WM Strategic Transport Board and the WM Bus Alliance.

3.5 First of all, I will deal with what the TDC has been doing since my previous report of July 2020. I will then provide an update on how we have responded to both the TDC Review of late 2019 and to the recommendations of the WMCA Transport Scrutiny Committee, which were approved by the WMCA in March 2021.

4 The Committee's Business 2020-2021

4.1 The WMCA TDC held 8 meetings in 2019/20, all of them on-line via Microsoft Teams because of the Covid-19 pandemic. In July 2021, we held a hybrid meeting because of room restrictions at WMCA, Summer Lane.

4.2 The committee had 6 Lead Member Reference Groups (LMRG) for 2020/22:

- Putting Passenger First – Councillor Kath Hartley, Birmingham, Labour
- Air Quality, Congestion and Environmental Impact – Councillor Richard Worrall, Walsall, Labour
- Finance and Performance – Councillor Pervez Akhtar, Coventry, Labour
- Rail and Metro – Councillor Roger Lawrence, Wolverhampton, Labour
- Safe and Sustainable Travel – Councillor Diana Holl-Allen, Solihull, Conservative
- Sprint – Councillor Timothy Huxtable, Birmingham, Conservative

The groups enable TDC Members to focus more closely on key TfWM areas of work than is the case in full committee meetings. The LMRG's met via Teams throughout the 2020/21 municipal year.

Agendas and reports considered by the WMCA Transport Delivery Committee can be found at:

<https://governance.wmca.org.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=134>

4.3 The committee considered the standing items of financial monitoring and capital programme delivery monitoring for TfWM projects, the role of TDC being to review the financial delivery and rigour of TfWM and to track and champion the delivery of transport projects. This has been especially important in the Covid-19

emergency with its impacts on normal business and critical capital projects, over and above the pre-existing risk factors.

4.4 Items considered by the committee during 2020/21 included:

- Covid Impacts
 - Responses and Recovery
 - Bus, Rail and Metro
 - Safety
 - Travel to school
- Rail Business including new station projects
- Bus Business including infrastructure
- WM Cycling Charter Updates
- West Midlands Bus Alliance
- Park & Ride including impact of Covid
- Sprint schemes- current A34 and A45 and upcoming A456 Hagley Rd.
- Cycle Charter Progress including the Better Streets fund
- Safer Travel and Emergency Planning
- Commonwealth Games Transport Plan
- Enhanced Partnership
- Very Light Rail
- Ring and Ride Customer Contact
- Commonwealth Games 2022 Transport Plan
- LMRG Annual Reports
- All-Electric Bus City fund application.
- Swift Ticketing
- Freight and Logistics
- E scooter Trails
- Travel Survey Updates
- Deployment of Emergency Active Travel funding- Tranches 1 and 2
- Senior Citizen Railcard refunds
- No. 11a/c bus route changes and commitment to prioritising the service in the Bus Improvement Plan.

4.5 During 2020/21, the Covid-19 emergency prevented the committee from holding informal Policy Briefings on the morning of each TDC meeting. However, in

December 2020 it held an informal, on-line meeting to discuss the TfWM Budget for 2021/22. We also met formally in private and via Teams to discuss proposed new arrangements for the Customer Services for NEAT (Former WM Ring and Ride). In July, we held an on-line introduction session aimed at new TDC Members.

There will be an informal online briefing on 10 September on the Commonwealth Games Strategic Transport Plan and on the consultation on the DfT's Key Route Network: "Powers and responsibilities for locally important roads" proposals. The committee will also meet to input to the refreshed West Midlands Local Transport Plan.

- 4.6 The Covid emergency prevented planned and new site visits, network tours, attendance at the UK Bus Summit etc, from taking place.
- 4.7 Minutes of the committee are submitted to the WMCA Board. The TDC Chair attends the WMCA Board meetings to present TDC meeting minutes and to comment on outcomes and on Transport items on the WMCA agenda.
- 4.8 The TDC Chair is an observer at the Strategic Transport Board and feeds back to the TDC.

5 Key Highlights in 2020/21

- 5.1 The committee provided input, influence and challenge to the delivery of a range of transport projects and programmes during the financial year. Key highlights included the Commonwealth Games Transport Strategy, E Scooter trials, Sprint/Rail/ Metro Capital Projects, development of an Enhanced Partnership and the COVID-19 transport actions and recovery plans.
- 5.2 The committee monitored and input to the COVID-19 transport responses and preparation of plans for recovering the transport network recovery. Transport's role within the regional recovery will be critical to securing a fairer, greener and healthier West Midlands post pandemic. This means the safe and well-coordinated remobilising of the transport system and accelerating the region's infrastructure delivery programmes to support recovery in the longer term. Six goals to aid the regional recovery strategy for transport have been developed, and it is TDC's intention to continue to help shape and monitor the actions taken in the context of the emerging, refreshed WM Local Transport Plan, Bus Services Improvement Plan etc:
 - Regaining trust in public transport
 - Increasing patronage
 - Improving air quality
 - Decarbonising travel
 - Encouraging more active travel
 - Reducing congestion

- 5.3 A summary of TfWM's response to the Covid emergency can be found in the report to the WMCA of March 2021 at:

https://www.wmca.org.uk/media/4759/tfwm_report_v9.pdf

- 5.4 The committee considered the consultation on the Draft Commonwealth Games Strategic Transport Plan and is committed to ensuring that transport user groups are consulted and that the TDC itself contributes to the process. It intends to comment on the outcome of the consultation in Autumn 2021.

5.5 Monitoring Capital Schemes

The Committee has monitored and sought to influence progress on large capital projects in Birmingham. Updates on these schemes are provided in Appendix 1:

1. Tracking large Rail projects with tight deadlines has been undertaken by both the full TDC and the Rail and Metro LMRG (now MEG). Please see the update on University and Perry Bar Stations, and the Camp Hill lines. at 1 in Appendix 1.
2. The committee and the Sprint LMRG/MEG have considered and input on the progress and delivery of the A34 and A45 Sprint schemes- more recently, on priority deliverables, phasing of the A34 and A45 schemes, the Enhanced Partnership, zero emission vehicles, public engagement over TRO's, advance works for the A456 Hagley Rd. scheme and park and ride. (See 2. In Appendix 1)
3. The progress of the works on the Metro Extension to Edgbaston and Eastside has been followed and examined at TDC meetings and by the Rail and Metro LMRG/MEG. Update at 3, Appendix 1. Members have raised questions about the need for the track replacement along Corporation St.
4. TDC Members and the Putting Passengers First LMRG/MEG have been briefed on the development of Cross-City bus routes. I have been party to discussions with the Birmingham Transport and Environment Cabinet Member, BCC, TfWM and NXWM on the rationale and required measures, especially in the context of the Emergency Active Travel, Sprint, Dudley Rd. improvement plans. Find out more at 4, Appendix 1.

- 5.6 The committee has delegated authority for the development of bus partnership schemes in the West Midlands. In 2020/21 this has included overseeing the development of the first metropolitan Enhanced Partnership (EP) in England. An EP being one of the new powers available through the Bus Services Act 2017, to improve bus services with local bus operators. The committee has approved an Enhanced Partnership Plan and Scheme for public consultation and the associated consultation strategy and approach. The scheme is in its final stages and the TDC has responsibility for 'making' the agreement for and with the WMCA. As of 6 September 2021, all buses running on the A34 (Birmingham to

Walsall) and A45/B425 (Birmingham Airport/Solihull to Birmingham) routes will be of at least Euro V1 emissions' standard.

5.7 The Committee and/or Lead Members, have led on, and participated in, activities involving the public and interest groups, such as:

- Bus Passenger Champions
- West Midlands Pensioners' Convention
- Bus Users UK and WM
- Rail Future
- The reformed Metro Matters passenger group met in February 2020 but establishing its work schedule was held up once the Covid emergency took hold.

6 TDC and WMCA Governance

6.1 Last year, I reported that the WMCA Overview & Scrutiny had undertaken a review of the TDC and that the WMCA had approved its recommendations. There was to be engagement on the implementation of the recommendations between the WMCA and TFWM, with the TDC Chair and Vice Chairs and the WMCA Lead Member for Transport, with a report by the end of September 2020.

6.2 The Covid emergency prevented this engagement from happening. However, the recommendations of the establishment of a WMCA Transport Scrutiny Committee and the attendance of the TDC Chair at the newly formed Transport Strategy Board got off the ground.

6.3 I attended the Transport Scrutiny Committee on 22 February 2021, for my annual questions session. The feedback from the committee reiterated and strengthened those of the WMCA O and S Committee and were approved by the WMCA in late March.

6.4 The start to the new TDC year was delayed, but we have completed work on:

- a. Refreshed the Terms of Reference for the TDC; (See Appendix 2);
- b. Role Profiles for TDC Members; (See Appendix 2);
- c. Role Profiles for the Chair and Vice Chairs and portfolio Lead Members;
- d. Refreshed Terms of Reference for the re-named Member Engagement Groups (former Lead Member Reference Groups);
- e. A new way of forward planning better to ensure the emphasis on the delivery of the WMCA/TfWM Annual Plan and a closer focus on capital scheme delivery;
- f. Updating the structure of TDC agendas to enable a closer focus on the delivery of key capital projects and the Annual Plan (See 7.3);

- g. Publishing summaries of Member Engagement Group meetings as items for questions and discussion on TDC agendas;
- h. Focussing on issues as requested by the WMA Transport Lead and Strategic Transport Board for example: monitoring the application to, and pursuant delivery of, the upcoming City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement; inputting our response to the Key Route Network Consultation; following the formation and roll-out of the WM Bus Services Improvement Plan; and ensuring the maximum involvement of passengers and of transport user groups in the consultation on the formation of the new WM Local Transport Plan- ensuring that Birmingham receives the attention and investment that we deserve as the regional centre.

6.4 The review of WMCA governance agreed and announced a while ago, has been relaunched. The review is being led by Cllr. Bob Sleight of Solihull MBC and WMCA Vice Chair and the WMCA Interim WMCA Director, Law and Governance. Their report is expected in September.

7 Further Information

7.1 The West Midlands Combined Authority Annual Plan sets out what the WMCA will deliver during the financial year, and the links it makes to the range of regional policy, strategy and delivery plans that articulate the action the WMCA deliver and support to make further progress towards the vision of a healthier, happier, better connected and more prosperous West Midlands.

7.2 The plan can be found at:

7.3 TfWM's Annual Plans for 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 formed part of the WMCA Budget approval, due to the postponed and actual West Midlands Mayoral Elections. In both cases, the Transport Budget and Annual Plan is in Appendix A of the reports below:

2020-2021 <https://governance.wmca.org.uk/documents/s3937/Report.pdf>

2021-2022 <https://governance.wmca.org.uk/documents/s5244/Report.pdf>

7.4 Agendas and reports considered by the Transport Delivery Committee and all WMCA committees can be found here:

<https://governance.wmca.org.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=134>

7.5 Please visit the following to report problems and views:

<https://www.tfwm.org.uk/get-help/>

It will signpost you to public transport operators for all modes. Please scroll down all the boxes for directions for enquiries about stations and stops, ticketing, concessionary passes, safer travel issues etc. Please share the information with your constituents. Please let me know if I can be of help- I will follow up any issues.

Appendix 1- Progress on Large Capital Projects in Birmingham

1. West Midlands Rail Programme update- Birmingham Projects

Leadership Safety Tours have taken place and delivered constructive feedback. There has been an upturn in close call reporting and improvement plans, which is positive and reflects a strong safety culture.

Network Rail have now finalised the funding agreement to deliver £59m Rail National Enhancements Pipeline funding for Packages 1 and 2.

Hoarding signs, with community artwork, are complete and installed at University and Perry Barr.

University Station

- The current project baseline sees the new station being completed in September 2022 and the refurbishment of the existing station the following month.
- However, we are continuing to work with our contractor to seek to better this and the opportunity remains to accelerate delivery in advance of the Commonwealth Games, subject to negotiation and continued successful delivery.
- The precast building frame is now nearly complete, only five months after piling started, thanks to excellent joint work with Network Rail enabling the implementation of progressive assurance. The installation of the frame was undertaken over three possessions with no incidents.
- Intensive work is underway with Network Rail and Birmingham University to finalise the legal agreements that will be required to ensure that the bridges can be installed at the end of September. This is the next critical milestone.
- We have had positive engagement with NR and ORR on activity in support of Entry into Service

Perry Barr Station and Bus Interchange

- The old Perry Barr station building was demolished in May and we remain on track to open the new station by May 2022.
- Since then, we have seen significant progress on Perry Barr Rail Station, with steelwork now being installed for the main station building and work underway on the lift pits.
- Planning permission for the bus interchange was secured in July and we are now finalising the legal agreements necessary to allow work to begin. We have worked closely with BCC to address challenges on the bus interchange, including cost pressures due to the escalating cost of granite.
- Agreements are now nearly complete with Network Rail for repairs to the platforms and infill of the subway at Perry Barr.

Camp Hill Line Connectivity

- The Package 2 procurement strategy has been agreed and the Selection Questionnaire has been issued.
- Enabling work to relocate badgers has been completed safely ahead of schedule.
- We have reached agreement with Network Rail and DfT over futureproofing for electrification which will enable the project to proceed.

2. Sprint Update

About Sprint

Sprint is a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) scheme which will help reduce traffic congestion and give people an alternative to driving. It will make it easier to get the bus and reduce journey times. Sprint will also help us tackle climate change. We want our region to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2041. Sprint is part of our #WM2041 climate action plan.

General Update

The priority corridor links Walsall to Solihull and Birmingham Airport via Birmingham City Centre, along the A34 and A45. It will be delivered in two phases. Phase 1 construction work is underway with a planned substantial completion prior to March 2022. Phase 2 design continues, and construction will commence post Commonwealth Games, subject to design approval from local authorities and funding approvals.

Further schemes that have a strategic outline business case and will be developed in due course are:

- Birmingham to Halesowen and Dudley (Hagley Road)
- Longbridge to Birmingham (A38)
- Sutton Coldfield to Birmingham via Langley (SBL)
- Hall Green to HS2 Interchange via Solihull (HGIS)

The A456 Hagley Road works are being led by the Midland Metro Alliance.

Shelters

Covering both the A34 and A45 phase 1 works: 13 new shelters have been installed and are being brought into use. A further six sites are under construction and another 20 have advanced works (utility diversions) either ongoing or completed.

A34 Birmingham City Centre to Walsall

The main A34 construction works have been split into 4 packages and tendered independently, with an overarching contract for the traffic management. The contractors appointed are;

- Package A - (Walsall Town Centre to Scott Arms junction) - Colas
- Package B - (Scott Arms Junction to Tame Valley Canal) - Fitzgerald
- Package C - (Tame Valley Canal to Perry Barr) - Fitzgerald
- Package D - (Perry Barr to Birmingham City Centre) - McPhillips

The most visible and intrusive works in packages B & C where road widening is being undertaken is progressing well having moved from central reservation to nearside widening. Major junction works in Walsall town centre have commenced with temporary signals installed. Some elements of the works are being redesigned due to the discovery of buried utilities and drainage, but these are being dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

A45 Sprint to Solihull

Morgan Sindall are appointed as the Civil works contractor along the A45. Soft verge works for widening is nearing completion and reinstatement works have commenced. Trial holes and excavations on central reservation locations have commenced. Carriageway surfacing in 2 sections is progressing well, and along with the trial holes and excavations, is being undertaken in night-time road closures. Some elements of the works are being redesigned due to the discovery of buried utilities and drainage but these are being dealt with on a case by case basis.

Operator and Enhanced Partnership

Bus services operating on the Sprint corridors are primarily commercial services usually operating without subsidy (excluding current COVID-19 specific challenges). An Enhanced Partnership Scheme will cover the corridor and require enhanced standards of bus vehicle provision with more exacting requirements as years go by. The Enhanced Partnership Scheme

has been through all required informal and formal consultation stages with bus operators and stakeholders and is in the process of being 'made'. We expect this to be concluded before the end of summer 2021. National Express West Midlands will be operating the phase 1 services on the Walsall to Solihull cross city route.

3. Metro Works in Birmingham

West Side Extension

Main construction of the Edge extension is almost complete. Works in the past 6 months have been concentrated on completing the footway paving; installing shelters, soft landscaping and trees and minor snagging repairs. We will shortly be installing the sub-station at 5-ways roundabout and completing the terminus. The Overhead Line Equipment (OLE) cable will be installed later in the autumn to be followed by testing and commissioning of the systems. Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) to establish a red route on Broad Street are being finalised ahead of completion. We would then be able to open the section before the end of the year.

Birmingham Eastside Extension

Works have progressed well since starting late April and continue on schedule to be completed for the Commonwealth Games. Recent activities have seen the closure of the Bull Street and Corporation Street junction to install a delta junction, ongoing utility diversions and OLE installation on lower Bull Street. The first phase of works on Digbeth High Street is the implementation of the traffic management, bus diversions and removal of the central reservation in preparation for the main track construction due to start in autumn.

Discussions are not yet completed with HS2 about phasing of our construction in co-ordination with HS2. Their works are delayed where they interface with us, but we are optimistic to come to an agreement to deliver our works before end 2025. Depending on their phasing we will then be able to operate through their site or have to mothball the line for around one year before operations can start.

Corporation Street Track Replacement

Since the opening of the Birmingham City Centre Extension (BCCE) section we have been monitoring the track at Corporation Street and the curve into Stephenson Street. We have undertaken a number of minor maintenance works, but sections of the track were deteriorating to a point where they were raising concerns over future performance.

We, therefore, decided to take the opportunity presented by the line closure for installation of the BEE Delta junction to carry out these repairs now. This has enabled us to minimise the impact on tram customers, residents and businesses as we have avoided a second closure for these works which would have been needed in a couple of years' time. With normal delivery methods this would have taken much longer than the time needed for the Delta junction, but we have adopted a new methodology with pre-cast sections which removes the need for curing on site in all but the curved section at the bottom of Corporation Street. The replacement activity is proceeding very well. These works are very intrusive, but we have been working closely with residents and businesses to minimise the impact. Now that the breaking out is completed, the worst is past, though there will still be some frustrations for our neighbours. We are on track to complete this mid-October as planned, and so it should not have an impact on delivery of Edgbaston extension.

As we replace this section, we are reviewing the cause of the maintenance issues and looking at any possible actions that may come from that.

4. Birmingham's Cross-City Bus Programme

This is an overview and update on the Birmingham Cross City Bus Priority Interventions currently being developed and implemented by TfWM in partnership with Birmingham City Council and local Bus Operators.

Background

Buses are an affordable, accessible transport choice, with the ability to reduce congestion and improve air quality and bring economic benefits to the places they serve.

In the West Midlands, the Government, via the Better Deal for Bus Users, has provided over £20 million to fund the first tranche of prioritised bus priority measures that have been identified as necessary.

The overall package will benefit almost 90 million passenger journeys per year, providing 5 km of new bus only roads, 8 junction upgrades, 5 km of new bus lanes and 16 enhanced waiting facilities.

The elements of the wider programme not included in phases 1 & 2 detailed in this note will be included in the Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) submission to DfT in October.

Cross City

Transport for West Midlands along with our transport colleagues within Sandwell, Dudley and Birmingham City Councils are working together on a number of proposed schemes that aim to open new and direct bus links in and around Birmingham City Centre. These interventions are designed to complement and further improve public transport connectivity with the Sprint (Bus Rapid Transit in the West Midlands), Metro and Rail networks.

Programme

Phase 1

Anticipated construction 2021/2022

- City Centre (Margaret Street, Snow Hill, Newhall Street)
- Balsall Heath (Alcester Rd)

Public consultation and briefings to Cabinet Members, Ward Councillors and BID organisations have been undertaken. This has allowed progression of the above schemes to achieve Full Business Case Approval through Birmingham City Council's Governance process.

These projects are now awaiting Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) Consultation. It is important to note that Birmingham City Council resource for undertaking TRO Consultation is currently limited due to priority works centred around projects such as Metro/Commonwealth Games. Further work is being undertaken to identify where TfWM can support and assist.

Phase 2

Anticipated Construction 2022/2023

- Kings Heath (Alcester Road South)
- Birmingham City (Dudley Road, Summer Hill, Suffolk Street)
- Burnt Tree Island
- Cape Hill

The proposals are currently within the feasibility stages that includes traffic studies and surveys.

The survey results will provide us with a basis to draft the best design to consult on. Once the survey data is back, the ambition is to progress the draft designs public consultation in October 2021.

Appendix 2- Refreshed TDC Terms of Reference and TDC Member Role Profile

Transport Delivery Committee - Terms of Reference	
Purpose	To ensure oversight of the capital and operational delivery of transport across the West Midlands that are the responsibility of Transport for West Midlands. To undertake any additional responsibilities as requested by the WMCA Board or the Portfolio Lead for Transport, to provide a delivery perspective on emerging transport policy matters.
Accountable to	WMCA Board
Membership	Birmingham City Council - 7 members Coventry City Council - 2 members Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council - 2 members Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council - 2 members Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council - 2 members Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council - 2 members City of Wolverhampton Council - 2 members
Chair	The Chair will be appointed annually from amongst the members of the committee by the WMCA Board.
Voting	Each member of the committee has one vote. All business will be decided by a majority of the members present and voting on the matter. The Chair shall not exercise a casting vote; if a vote is tied the matter shall be deemed to have not been carried.
Quorum	The quorum for the committee shall be seven members.
Frequency	The committee shall meet six times per year, or more frequently if required to discharge its business.
Servicing	The committee shall be serviced by the WMCA's Governance Services team.

<p>Functions</p>	<p>To ensure that all members of the respective local authority that each member represents knows of the members responsibility in carrying out the duties of the Transport Delivery Committee and acting as a 'focal point' for conveying Local Authority member views or comments in relation to the delivery programme and operational conduct of TfWM.</p> <p>To consider and make recommendations to the WMCA Board for decision on the following functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policies that promote and encourage safe, sustainable, efficient and economic transport facilities and services. • relevant elements of the WMCA's revenue budget and transport levy. • Bus Quality Partnership schemes and Enhanced Partnership schemes. • other policy issues as specifically identified by the WMCA Board within its Annual Plan. <p>To determine the following matters, subject to it exercising these functions in accordance with the transport policies of the WMCA, the Local Transport Plan, and the WMCA's agreed transport budgets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitoring and overseeing the delivery of transport activities (including the power pursuant to s15 (6) of the Transport Act 1968) and to issue such directions to officers of the WMCA as it appears to the committee to be appropriate to secure the policy objectives of the WMCA. • ensuring that the WMCA secures the provision of appropriate subsidised public passenger transport services under s9A (3) of the Transport Act 1968. • considering and approving the creation and development of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ticketing Schemes under s135 - 138 of the Transport Act 2000. • Concessionary Travel Schemes under s93 - 104 of the Transport Act 1985. • determining what local bus information should be made available, and the way in which it should be made available, under s139 - 143 of the Transport Act 2000. • ensuring the outcomes of the committee can be appropriately delivered from within the funding allocations approved by the WMCA Board.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitoring expenditure against its approved budget. • approving and monitoring the WMCA's minor transport works capital programme and the agreed budget for the scheme concerned.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitoring performance against the agreed delivery plan and Local Transport Plan. • formulating, developing and monitoring procedures for public consultation of the WMCA's transport policies. • considering issues arising from the implementation of schemes for the introduction of smart ticketing systems and state of the art technologies. • determining the operation, performance, contract management and development of tendered bus services, bus stations/stops, and passenger transport services, under s10 (1) of the Transport Act 1968 and within the agreed WMCA budget. • Holding TfWM delivery and operations to account on matters of performance, meeting timescales, and expenditure. <p>To make recommendations to the Portfolio Lead for Transport in connection with the WMCA disposing of, acquiring or developing, any land related to transport outcomes.</p>
Review	Annually - next due in June 2022.

TRANSPORT DELIVERY COMMITTEE - 2021/22 ROLE PROFILES

CHAIR

- To chair all meetings of the Transport Delivery Committee and to undertake those functions and tasks normally associated with the chair of a meeting.
- To work with the Leadership Team of Transport for West Midlands, other officers and members in the preparation and continuous review of the work programme of the Transport Delivery Committee, ensuring that it focusses on the delivery of those high-level deliverables identified within the WMCA's Annual Plan, along with overseeing and monitoring the delivery of those public transport services that are the responsibility of Transport for West Midlands.
- To attend agenda setting meetings ahead of upcoming Transport Delivery Committee meetings in order to agree the agenda for the meeting and to give political guidance as to the expectations and needs of members in respect of the reports being considered.
- To ensure the agendas for meetings of the Transport Delivery Committee accurately reflects the portfolio of delivery activities undertaken by Transport for West Midlands on behalf of the WMCA and its constituent authorities.
- To attend meetings of the WMCA Board in order to present the minutes of meetings of Transport Delivery Committee, to answer any questions on those minutes, and to feed up to the board those matters that are considered, in the Chair's best judgement, to be worthy of wider dissemination or escalation.
- To ensure that the views of Transport Delivery Committee and its members are properly communicated to the Managing Director of Transport for West Midlands as appropriate so that the Managing Director remains informed of the thinking of the committee and its members in respect of the delivery of transport policies, projects and services.
- To meet with the Mayor of the West Midlands and/or the Portfolio Lead for Transport, as considered appropriate, to ensure that they are aware of matters relating to the delivery of transport policies, projects and services where these critically impact on the WMCA's ability to deliver its Annual Plan.
- To engage with the WMCA's Portfolio Leads (particularly the Portfolio Lead for Transport) in respect of those matters of a shared interest or where the implications for the delivery of transport policies, projects or services need to be drawn to the attention of Portfolio Lead.
- To attend meeting of the Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee, as invited, to answer questions on the activity of the Transport Delivery Committee, its work programme for the year, and other matters considered relevant by members of the Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee.
- To attend meetings of the Transport Delivery Committee's Member Engagement Groups and to report on cross-cutting matters as appropriate and where invited to do so.

- To attend any other appropriate meetings, outside bodies or events from time to time as are considered commensurate with the role of Chair of the Transport Delivery Committee, e.g. Strategic Transport Board, West Midlands Rail Board of Directors.

VICE-CHAIR(S)

- To deputise for, and act with the authority of, the Chair of Transport Delivery Committee in respect of any of the responsibilities of the Chair when they are reasonably informed that the Chair will be unable to carry out their responsibilities for any period of time.
- To attend agenda setting meetings ahead of upcoming Transport Delivery Committee meetings in order to agree the agenda for the meeting and to give political guidance as to the expectations and needs of members in respect of the reports being considered.
- To attend any other appropriate meetings or events from time to time as are considered commensurate with the role of Vice-Chair of the Transport Delivery Committee.
- To attend meetings of the Transport Delivery Committee's Member Engagement Groups and to report on cross-cutting matters as appropriate and where invited to do so.

TRANSPORT DELIVERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- To attend meetings of Transport Delivery Committee to comment on and make decisions relating to be reports and other matters being considered as judged to be in the best interests of the West Midlands region and without favour to your appointing authority.
- To ensure that you are prepared for all meetings by reading reports and to ask for explanation or clarification, either beforehand or at the meeting, on any matter that is not clear and might impact on your ability to make a decision or form a view on any report.
- To participate in at least one Member Engagement Group, chosen as a result of a particular topic interest or to support an area of work related to your appointing authority, including attending visits and other activities relating to the work of the Member Engagement Group.
- To engage with the Cabinet Member for Transport from your appointing authority on matters relating to the delivery of transport policies, projects and services by Transport for West Midlands.
- To act as a conduit for members of your appointing authority to raise issues of interest or concern with Transport for West Midlands, ensuring that there is a clear understanding of the delivery role of Transport for West Midlands within your authority area and your role to ensure effective oversight of the delivery functions and engagements with other members within your authority.

- To attend policy briefing sessions organised by Transport for West Midlands related to matters that fall within the remit of Transport Delivery Committee.
- To act as an ambassador and champion for matters relating to transport delivery on behalf of members of the public from within your authority's area.

LEAD MEMBERS

- To chair meetings of the corresponding thematic Member Engagement Group, including meeting with Transport for West Midlands officers beforehand to discuss and agree relevant agenda items for consideration and discussion.
- To report back to each meeting of the Transport Delivery Committee following a meeting of the Member Engagement Group on those items discussed, and to feed back any matter to the full committee that is considered, in the Lead Member's best judgement, to be worthy of wider dissemination or escalation.
- To engage with the Chair of the Transport Delivery Committee in the continuous review of the work programme of the committee, ensuring that it focusses on the delivery of those high-level deliverables identified within the WMCA's Annual Plan, along with overseeing the delivery of those public transport services that are the responsibility of Transport for West Midlands.
- To attend agenda briefings for forthcoming Transport Delivery Committee meetings and contributing to the development of agenda items and reports.
- To support the process that keeps the administration and governance of the Transport Delivery Committee and Member Engagement Groups effective and streamlined.
- To attend any other appropriate meetings or events from time to time as are considered commensurate with the role of thematic Lead Member on the Transport Delivery Committee.

Birmingham City Council

City Council

Date 14th September 2021



Subject: Youth Justice Plan 2021-2022

Report of: Cabinet Member for Vulnerable Children & Families

Report authors: Garath Symonds,
Assistant Director (Commissioning) for Education and Skills
Email: Garath.Symonds@birmingham.gov.uk

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

1 Motion

- 1.1 That Council approves the Birmingham Children's Trust's draft 2021 - 2022 Youth Justice Plan.

2 Background

Context for Youth Justice Plan

- 2.1 There is a statutory requirement in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Section 40, for every local authority, after consultation with partner agencies, to produce and implement a Youth Justice Plan.
- 2.2 The plan sets out how local youth justice services are to be provided and funded. There is a requirement for the Plan to be submitted to the national Youth Justice Board (YJB) and published in accordance with the directions of the Secretary of State.

2020 HMI Probation Inspection

- 2.3 In March and July 2020, the Service was inspected by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation. In October 2020, the findings of the inspection were published with the Service being judged overall as requires improvement.

- 2.4 The report made 12 recommendations that inspectors, which would need to be addressed to improve the quality of the Service and would consequently improve the lives of those children who it comes into contact with and better protect the public.
- 2.5 The Service's improvement plan is directly linked to the findings of the HMIP inspection published in 2020. Twelve recommendations were made within this report, spanning core case practice, strategic activity, and governance. As a Service, progress has been made with the expansion of the senior leadership team, the appointment of an independent Chair of the Partnership Board, strengthening of the board membership and additional assurance Board meetings.

Local Context

- 2.6 Birmingham, the biggest city in the UK outside London, is a diverse, multicultural city. More than half its one million population identified as non-white British in the 2011 census and that figure is likely to be higher in 2020. The latest census figures identify that over 26% (274,135) of the population is under 18 years and 58% of these are from minority ethnic backgrounds. There are approximately 117,000 10-17-year-olds.
- 2.7 Birmingham is one of the most deprived local authorities in England according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation statistics from 2019.
- 2.8 In the last 15 years, Birmingham has become more deprived, moving from the 16th most deprived local authority in 2004 to sixth in 2019 and overtaking Sandwell in 2015 as the most deprived authority in the West Midlands. Although many children achieve good outcomes, others face a range of challenges, particularly in terms of their wellbeing and staying safe.
- 2.9 Analysis of local data for 2020/21 (a different period to the national dataset) has identified that most first-time entrants were aged 15-17, with 43.1% aged 16 or older. 12.5% of first-time entrants were female. The most prevalent offences amongst first time entrants were Violence against the Person, Motoring offences and Robbery.
- 2.10 Black, Asian, and other minority ethnic children accounted for 69.4% of all First Time Entrants compared with 55.0% in the general 10 -17 population.
- 2.11 Black and Black British ethnic categories are over-represented appearing at approximately twice the rate of their incidence in the general 10-17 population. Furthermore, children from a Black or Mixed ethnicity (108 children) accounted for 38.4% of all first-time entrants while comprising 19.15% of the general 10 -17 population.

3 Key Issues

- 3.1 In March and July 2020, the Service was inspected by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation. In October 2020, the findings of the inspection were published with the Service being judged overall as requires improvement.

- 3.2 The report acknowledged that the period following inspection was a critical time and for a rating of inadequate to be avoided “there must be a high level of scrutiny and a relentless focus on making improvements with pace”.
- 3.3 The implementation Youth Justice Plan will ensure that the “high level of scrutiny and relentless focus” outlined in the report will support making improvements with pace and mitigate the risk of an inadequate rating by Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Probation.

Disproportionality of Black Children in the Youth Justice System

- 3.4 We know that children from Black and other minority ethnic groups are over-represented within the criminal justice system with clear evidence of the extent of this across Birmingham. Children from these ethnic groups account for a disproportionate number of those arrested, and this over-representation continues and is evident at every stage of the justice system.
- 3.5 The Service and its partners are committed to reducing this over-representation, with a vision that the incidence of each ethnic group is proportionate to its incidence in the general 10 -17 population.
- 3.6 Work is on-going to ensure alignment with the Trust’s Equalities and Diversity Action Plan whilst ensuring that the wider context of the criminal justice system is considered. A disproportionality taskforce has been established and is developing a multi-agency action plan for 2021/22 which will support this priority in the Service’s wider Improvement Plan.

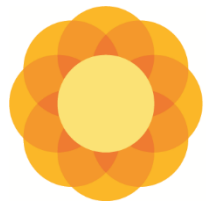
4 Strategy Approach and Action Areas

- 4.1 During 2020/21, the Senior Leadership Team within the Service has been expanded as there was recognition that, such is the size of the Service and breadth of improvement required, increased resource at this level was necessary and this was progressed swiftly by the Trust Executive.
- 4.2 Critically, an immediate change around the management and responsibility for the budget attached to remands of children was made. This strategic decision immediately alleviated the burden on the Service to meet any costs exceeding the remand grant from the central budget.
- 4.3 Capturing the key priorities for the Service is essential. As a partnership we are attempting to navigate the findings of the YOS HMIP inspection in the context of the challenges the city faces and the partnership responses to this. The Service Improvement Plan is robust, and captures the activity linked to each of the HMIP recommendations, alongside those actions arising from internal audit and review, broader HMIP Inspections, Serious Case Reviews and Safeguarding Children Practice Reviews.
- 4.4 A robust approach to audit, review and learning is essential to the Service’s improvement journey. An improved understanding of the quality of local practice will allow the Service to respond quickly to areas for improvement.

- 4.5 In 2021/22 an annual audit plan has been developed which has a focus on the quality of core case practice (assessment and planning) at the start of a child's involvement with the Service. Additionally, thematic audits including children in custody and resettlement will also be conducted.
- 4.6 The Service has also commissioned two detailed case audits which will be externally and independently conducted in 2021/22. The first will focus on the quality of the Service's work in relation to out of court disposals and this will inform practice development with West Midlands Police. The second audit will concentrate on those children receiving a court disposal. The findings of both audits will contribute to the Improvement Plan and its actions.
- 4.7 The aim is to work alongside children and families, within a model underpinned by relationship-based practice which is fundamental to the effectiveness of our work.
- 4.8 Birmingham Children's Trust is currently developing a practice model that will define key principles and ways of working with children, families, carers, and communities. As a Trust there is a clear commitment to child-centred practice, with a focus on keeping children safe, meeting their needs whilst at the same time involving parents, or carers, and wider family members. The vision is that involvement should always be collaborative and reflect the expertise and resources of families and local community networks and this will span the Service.
- 4.9 It is without doubt an exciting time for Birmingham Youth Offending Service and Partnership Board. We have an innovative programme of recruitment and service reform ahead, helping children to lead healthy and happy lives, to be safe from harm, to achieve and to be ready to contribute to adult life.

5 Appendices

- 5.1 Appendix 1 – Draft Youth Justice Plan 2021 -2022



**BIRMINGHAM
CHILDREN'S TRUST**

Youth Justice Plan 2021 -2022

Birmingham Youth Justice Partnership

Draft

Published: 01/09/2021 17:26

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1. Introduction, Vision and Strategy

Welcome to the Birmingham Youth Justice Partnership Plan 2021-2022. This plan has been developed collaboratively with Birmingham's Youth Justice Partnership and has since been subject to expansive consultation.

Across the city we have high aspirations for our children, families and communities. Our ambition is that all children and families achieve their full potential and are supported by a confident workforce, with a common core of knowledge and understanding of children's needs, the importance of building positive relationships and a consistent approach to practice. Achieving our ambition will mean Birmingham is a great place for all children to grow up in and Birmingham Youth Offending Service have a key part to play in this.

In 2020, Birmingham Youth Offending Service was inspected by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP). The inspection concluded that the quality of work needed to be improved at pace and gave an overall rating of 'requires improvement'. Whilst these findings undoubtedly presented their challenges, they also provided the partnership with opportunity, and a platform from which innovation and development could be driven forward. In 2020/21 the YOS Partnership Board membership was strengthened, and meetings increased in frequency, providing much needed additional opportunity for scrutiny, support and challenge. I was welcomed as the independent Chair of the Board and the YOS Leadership Team was expanded. This year we will see a creative, and exciting recruitment campaign, further enhancing the services we are able to provide, supporting our ambitions set out within this plan. The Service is in a period of significant reform, with children, families, victims and communities central to this. There is a detailed and robust improvement plan, responding to the inspection findings, that is owned and overseen by the Strategic Partnership Board.

Violence and exploitation within our city remain a concern and is a key priority and challenge for the partnership. We know that nationally there are predictions that youth violence will potentially rise over the summer, a situation many feel has been aggravated by COVID lockdowns, mental health problems and months out of education for our children. Within Birmingham the Youth Offending Service is working closely with the West Midlands Violence Reduction Unit, the Birmingham Community Safety Partnership, the Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partners and others to ensure that the work of the Service is effectively contributing to reducing youth violence and supporting children through taking a public health approach. It is clear, that enforcement as a standalone strategy is insufficient. We must work with compassion, to secure engagement in order to effect change and these principles will be instrumental in how services are shaped within the Youth Offending Service.

Across Birmingham Children's Trust there is commitment to building a practice model that is underpinned by being strengths and relationship based, trauma informed and responsive. Children have been disproportionately impacted by COVID, primarily as a result of the containment measures, leading to social and economic impacts and negative impacts on their emotional and mental health and long-term prospects. This plan is cognizant of that, and the work around the practice model, emphasis on education training and employment and workforce development will ensure that as a youth offending service our colleagues are well placed to support children and families in the right way.

Work to tackle disproportionality, strengthen approaches to risk management, develop services to victims, parents and carers, the review of appropriate adult provision and the development of a robust prevention offer are several of the workstreams that the service will be delivering against this year. This plan sets out an ambitious programme for change, that is supported by all stakeholders.

It is without doubt an exciting time for Birmingham Youth Offending Service and Partnership Board. We have an innovative programme of recruitment and service reform ahead, helping children to lead healthy and happy lives, to be safe from harm, to achieve and to be ready to contribute to adult life.

John Drew

Chair of the Birmingham Youth Offending Service Partnership Board

2. Purpose of the Plan

There is a statutory requirement in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Section 40, for every local authority, after consultation with partner agencies, to produce and implement a Youth Justice Plan. The plan must set out how local youth justice services are to be provided and funded. There is a requirement for the Plan to be submitted to the national Youth Justice Board (YJB) and published in accordance with the directions of the Secretary of State.

The principal aim of the Youth Justice System, established by Section 37 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, is to prevent offending and re-offending by children aged 10-17 years. Local youth justice services are delivered and managed through Youth Offending Services, which are multi-agency partnerships with statutory representation from local authorities (specifically Social Care and Education), the Police, Probation and Health. The model brings together a range of agencies with expertise in welfare and enforcement practices to improve outcomes. Many of the services are prescribed by statute or policy. Birmingham Youth Offending Service (BYOS) is the largest metropolitan Youth Offending Service in the country and is identified as the most complex by the Youth Justice Board given its urban context. The Service works to achieve the following national youth justice strategic objectives:

- Prevent offending;
- Reduce re-offending;
- Reduce anti-social behaviour;
- Increase victim and public confidence;
- Ensure the safe and effective use of custody.

In support of the national objectives, the board monitors several locally agreed performance indicators:

- Assessment completion;
- Contact frequency;
- Victim engagement and satisfaction;
- Education, training and employment distance travelled;
- Referral to specialist services;
- Black children as a percentage of all first-time entrants and as a proportion of the overall case load of the YOS.

Collectively these objectives contribute to the shared ambition across the partnership for Birmingham to be a great place for all children to grow up in, leading to the following outcomes:

- Healthy, happy and resilient children living in families;
- Families (especially parents, but also children) take responsibility for their wellbeing;
- Children attend, learn and maximise their potential at school;
- Children are ready for and able to contribute to adult life; and
- Children are protected from significant harm.

This plan outlines the governance arrangements, including the role of the Youth Offending Service Partnership Board, which ensures the statutory requirements are met. The Board has responsibility for overseeing the performance of the Birmingham Youth Justice Partnership against national and local outcomes, maximising its collective resources and contributing to wider priorities as set out in Council and partnership plans. The Board also prioritises the quality of core casework through both regular audit and national standards monitoring. Strong partnership working is essential across criminal justice and children's welfare services to ensure improvements in outcomes related to the prevention and reduction of offending by children, public protection and the safeguarding of children. This plan outlines Service performance benchmarked against comparators, outlines the latest evidence on what works and outlines the priorities for 2021 -2022 and has been informed by self-assessment surveys completed by children.

2.1 Context

Birmingham, the biggest city in the UK outside London, is a diverse, multicultural city. More than half its one million population identified as non-white British in the 2011 census and that figure is likely to be higher in 2020. The latest census figures identify that over 26% (274,135) of the population is under 18 years and 58% of these are from minority ethnic backgrounds. There are approximately 117,000 10-17-year-olds.

Birmingham is one of the most deprived local authorities in England according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation statistics from 2019. In the last 15 years, Birmingham has become more deprived, moving from the 16th most deprived local authority in 2004 to sixth in 2019 and

overtaking Sandwell in 2015 as the most deprived authority in the West Midlands. Although many children achieve good outcomes, others face a range of challenges, particularly in terms of their wellbeing and staying safe.

The prevalence and impact of serious organised criminality and related/non-related serious violence across the city remains a concern across the partnership. Second only to Greater London, the West Midlands are the next largest exporters of drugs nationally, with Birmingham responsible for the highest number of 'County Lines' in the region. Children and the community are routinely and significantly affected by exploitation and serious youth violence. A key Community Safety and Safeguarding Children's Partnership priority is to continue to tackle and reduce violence, exploitation, 'County Lines' and the effects on children of urban street gangs and child sexual exploitation.

Section 39 (1) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the cooperation of the named statutory partners (Local Authority, Police, Probation and Health) to form a Youth Offending Team, which includes staffing contributions from those statutory partners. The Service must provide the main supervisory elements of statutory youth justice services:

- Assessment and management of risk and safeguarding;
- Effective interventions.

These main elements are achieved through:

- The delivery of Appropriate Adult Services and Pre-Court Interventions, including Cautions and Community Resolutions;
- Support to those children:
 - subject to civil and criminal anti-social behaviour contracts and orders;
 - remanded in custody and local authority care, and those requiring intensive bail support in the community;
 - Subject to court orders managed in the community, including the provision of a lay youth panel to discharge the responsibilities of Referral Orders;
- The delivery of Parenting Contracts and Orders;
- Restorative Justice to support victims of crime;
- Effective and robust sentence planning and delivery of services for children in custody and in the community.

The youth justice system works by addressing risk and vulnerability factors such as: family breakdown, educational underachievement, substance misuse, mental illness, recent bereavement or loss within the family and building resilience as the best way to reduce a child's likelihood of offending and re-offending.

Birmingham Youth Offending Service has five multi-agency area-based case management teams across the city: a city-wide alternative to custody in its Intensive Supervision and Surveillance (ISS) Team; a Court, Bail and Remand Team and a Harmful Sexual Behaviour Team supporting children aged 6 – 17 years. In addition to statutory partners, the Service benefits from co-located specialist staff, including Restorative Practice Workers, supporting victims of crime; Parenting Workers, offering individual and group work support to parents and

carers; an Accommodation Officer; specialist Autism Worker; Substance Misuse Case Workers; Speech and Language Therapists (SALT) and Training and Employment Mentors.

The Service supports and deploys volunteers to support the delivery of the Appropriate Adult service and Referral Order panels.

2.2 Inspection 2020

In March and July 2020, the Service was inspected by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation¹. In October 2020, the findings of the inspection were published with the Service being judged overall as requires improvement. The report acknowledged that the period following inspection was a critical time and indeed for a rating of inadequate to be avoided inspectors commented how *"there must be a high level of scrutiny and a relentless focus on making improvements with pace"*. The report made 12 recommendations that inspectors felt if implemented would have a positive impact on the quality of the Service and would consequently improve the lives of those children who it comes into contact with and better protect the public. Since this time, a robust improvement plan has been developed and work is underway to deliver improvements ensure that the services delivered to children, families and victims are advanced.

This plan sets out the proposals for 2021/22 and a longer-term vision for the Service, that seeks to address the findings from HMIP's published report but also aligns the Service with local and national expectations around working with children in this context. Across the Trust, Council and partnership there is a collective commitment to making improvements and doing better.

3. Governance, Leadership and Partnership Arrangements

Youth Offending Services were established under the statutory provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Act sets out the requirement for local Youth Offending Teams to comprise the four statutory agencies: The Local Authority (including Children's Services), Police, Probation and Health. The primary duty to ensure a Youth Offending Service, and appropriate youth justice services are in place, rests with the Chief Executive of the local authority. The Youth Justice Board later set down requirements for governing Management Boards.

The Birmingham Youth Offending Service Partnership Board currently meets 8 times per year and in 2021/22 an independent chair was appointed, with the Head of Birmingham Probation Service, retaining the role of Deputy Chair.

The Board is primarily responsible for:

- Providing strategic direction and delivering the principal aim of preventing offending and re-offending;
- Determining how appropriate services are to be provided and funded;

¹ <https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmiprobation/inspections/birminghamyos2020/>

- Ensuring the effective delivery of services for children through the provision of scrutiny and challenge;
- Ensuring children involved in the youth justice system have access to universal and specialist services delivered by partners and key agencies;
- Ensuring that the services delivered reference the responsibility towards victims of youth crime;
- Providing support to the Service.

Board members comprise representatives of each of the statutory partners, in addition to representation of the Chair of the Youth Bench, a community member and other local partners. The Board reports to the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and the chair of the CSP is a member of the YOS Partnership Board.

The Youth Offending Service is hosted by Birmingham Children's Trust (BCT). Birmingham Children's Trust exists to make a positive difference for children and families in the city. Formerly Children's Services and run by Birmingham City Council, for a period Birmingham needed to do much more to support disadvantaged children in the city and make sure they were safe.

In April 2018, Children's Services became a Children's Trust to help accelerate these changes. The Trust is owned by, but independent from, Birmingham City Council.

The work is supported by a Children's Trust Board and the Director for Education & Skills (DCS) for Children and Young People, and Director of Children's Services is responsible for ensuring children's social care is effectively delivered through the Children's Trust.

Birmingham Children's Partnership (BCP), established in 2018, is a partnership committed to transforming the system of services and support, and improving the lives and outcomes of children and families. The BCP brings together the local authority, NHS commissioners and providers, the police, voluntary sector, the Children's Trust, plus children themselves, to work together to improve the lives of children and families in Birmingham. The Service is represented within this partnership through the attendance of the Trust Chief Executive Officer. The BCP has developed Birmingham's BIG IDEAS² setting out the ambition for all children within the city and the work delivered by the Service seeks to further support this ambition.

² <https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/professionals-and-education-settings/birmingham-childrens-partnership/birmingham-childrens-partnership-vision-for-children-and-families/>

Birmingham Children's Partnership

Birmingham's BIG IDEAS

1

Be a child friendly city

We celebrate our youth and super-diversity, and value our children and young people. Birmingham is a Child Friendly City.

2

Invest in early help

Early help is everyone's business, and the responsibility of all professionals. We are investing to support families before their needs get worse.

3

Lift children out of poverty and adversity

Through this investment we will reduce the number of children growing up in poverty, invest in jobs, education and outdoor spaces, and reduce needs such as mental ill-health, substance misuse and domestic abuse.

So every child and young person has a bright future



4. Partnership Arrangements

In addition to the existing partnership arrangements that support the direct work with children and families, the Service is currently represented at several relevant strategic and operational meetings, including:

- Birmingham Children's Partnership
- Birmingham's Fair Access Governance Board
- Birmingham Tackling School Exclusions Partnership
- Birmingham Community Safety Partnership
- Birmingham Safeguarding Children's Partnership
- Birmingham Early Help Partnership
- Birmingham Contextual Safeguarding Board
- Birmingham Preparation for Adulthood Board
- Birmingham Strategic Life Course Board
- Birmingham Prevent Strategic Board
- Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Partnership Forum
- Substance Misuse Strategy and Commissioning Group
- West Midlands Head of Youth Offending Strategic Leads Group
- Birmingham CYP 0-25 Mental Health Transformation Programme Board
- Birmingham Gangs, Violence and Serious Organised Crime Operational Group
- Birmingham Channel Panel
- Birmingham One day One Conversation (child focussed integrated offender management)
- Community Safety Partnership Operational Meeting
- Joint Decision-Making Panel (Partnership response to use of out of court disposals)
- Youth Justice Board Midlands Developing Practice Forum
- YOS/The Probation Service Operational Transitions meeting
- Birmingham Strategic Gangs, Violence and Serious Organised Crime Board
- Birmingham CYP 0-25 Mental Health Transformation Programme Board
- Birmingham Think Family Operational Group
- The West Midlands Violence Reduction Unit Strategic Board
- Integrated Offender Management Strategic Group

These partnership arrangements provide the opportunity to work collaboratively and provide the opportunity to highlight and respond to the specific and often complex needs of children involved with the Service.

5. Resources and Services

The Youth Offending Service partnership's overall delegated funding for 2021/22 is £8,523,071.

Birmingham Children's Trust's contribution for 2021/22 is £4,172,661, this includes £462,214 which funds the Business Support and Services staff. For 2021/22, BCT funding has increased by £200,000 to support the Service on its improvement agenda and £118,491 for staff pay increments. The Trust are funded by Birmingham City Council in the core contract, including for the delivery of YOS services.

For 2021/22 the Youth Justice Board grant allocation has been confirmed at £2,106,280, an increase of £146,512 compared with 2021/22.

Probation, Health and Police partners continue to second staff into the Service.

The West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner funding has been confirmed for 2021/22 at £275,000. This is underpinned by a detailed spending plan and funding received contributes to the delivery of the Female Gender Specific Programme, Speech and Language Therapy, Knife Crime Prevention, delivered through mentoring provision, Serious Youth Violence Prevention, and therapeutic work with children where harmful sexual behaviour is a concern.

Other funding sources include Think Family and funding from Birmingham and Solihull Clinical Commissioning Group.

The YOS received a local financial contribution under the Supporting Families programme, £646,862. This allows the service to take a systemic approach to working with children. It enables children and families to remain open on a voluntary basis, once statutory involvement has ended, where ongoing support is wanted, in support of improved outcomes as set out in the Think Family strategy. The service remains committed to supporting this agenda and further embedding the principles into the practice model within the service.

Partner	Staffing	Payments in Kind	Other Delegated Funds	Total
Birmingham Children's Trust	£3,528,334		£644,327	£4,172,661
Police	£322,000			£322,000
Police & Crime Commissioner	£166,195		£108,805	£275,000
Probation	£152,052		£15,000	£167,052
Health	£253,327			£253,327
Youth Justice Board	£2,106,280			£2,106,280
Other sources of funding	£1,165,251		£61,500	£1,226,751
Total	£7,693,439		£829,632	£8,523,071

6. Performance and Priorities

6.1 Performance Against the National Youth Justice Priorities

Reducing the Number of First-Time Entrants

First Time Entrants (FTEs) to the criminal justice system are classified as those children (aged 10 - 17), resident in England and Wales, who received their first caution or conviction in a given period. The figures are presented as a number and as a rate per 100,000 of the 10-17-year-old local population. The latest national figures for first time entrants (January – December 2019) identify that Birmingham's performance against this national priority continues to improve year on year. The total number of FTEs between 01 January 2019 and 31 December 2019 was 410 children, a reduction of 9.5% from 453 in

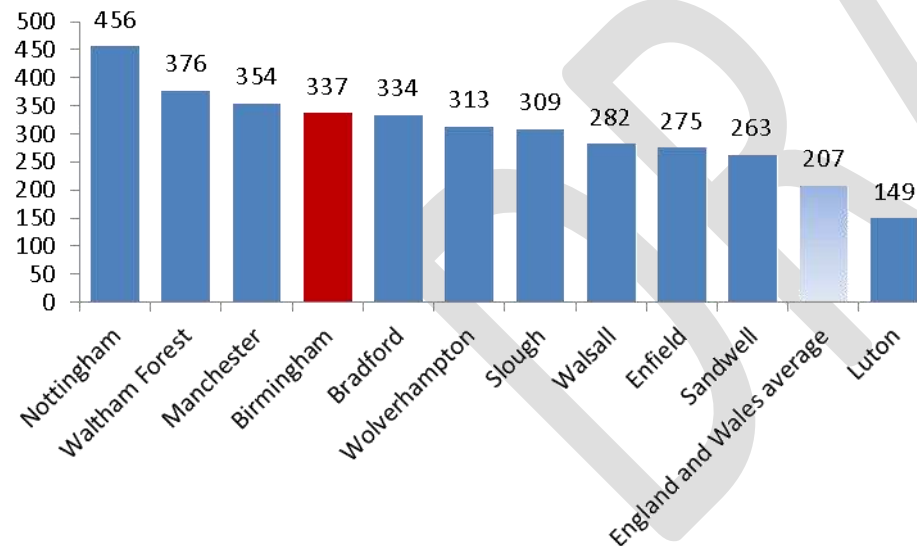


Figure 1: First time entrants, Jan – Dec 2019, YOT family comparison

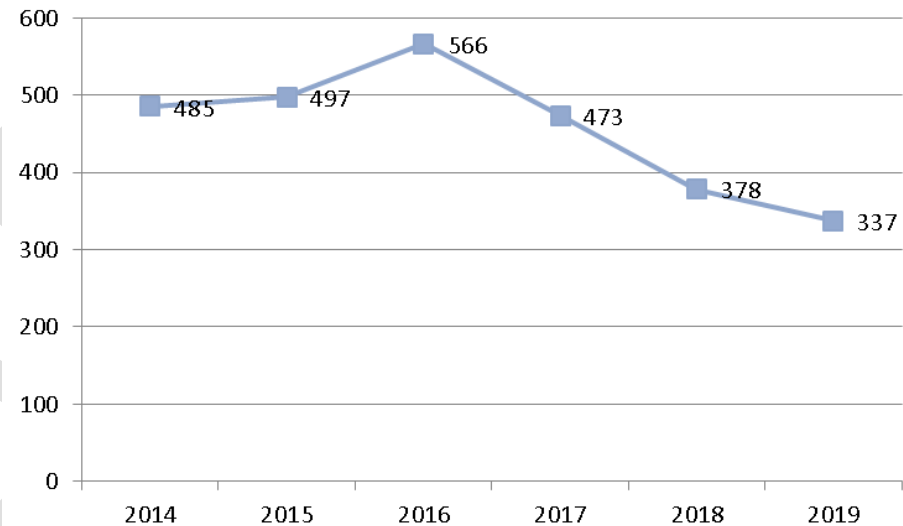


Figure 2: First-time entrants, 2014 – 2019, National dataset

the same period the previous year. Over the same period the first-time entrant rate fell from 378 children per 100,000 to 337 children per 100,000, an improvement of 10.8%.

The Service is currently performing more poorly than the England and Wales average, though it is similar to other Core Cities and its YOT Family³.

Analysis of local data for 2020/21 (a different period to the national dataset) has identified that the majority of first-time entrants were aged 15-17, with 43.1% aged 16 or older. 12.5% of first-time entrants were female. The most prevalent offences amongst first time entrants were Violence against the Person, Motoring offences and Robbery.

Black, Asian and other minority ethnic children accounted for 69.4% of all First Time Entrants compared with 55.0% in the general 10 -17 population.

Black and Black British ethnic categories are over-represented appearing at approximately twice the rate of their incidence in the general 10-17 population. Furthermore, children from a Black or Mixed ethnicity (108 children) accounted for 38.4% of all first-time entrants while comprising 19.15% of the general 10 -17 population.

Violence Against the Person was the most prevalent offence category accounting for 146 offences which is 52.0% of all proven offences for first time entrants. Compared with the same period in 2019/20, the category shows a decrease of 5.2%.

In the period, 166 Community Resolutions were issued and though these do not count as substantive outcomes and therefore do not feature in the First Time Entrants figures, they are an informal way to deal with children coming to the attention of the Police for the first time.

Community Resolutions are jointly assessed with West Midlands Police (WMP) at the Joint Decision-Making Panel to identify whether the child and/or their families need additional support provided through the Service's 'Think Family' responsibilities. This includes children who have been excluded from school. 36.7% of children becoming a first-time entrant had an identified special educational need.

Of the outcomes given to first time entrants, 41.8% received pre-court outcomes, 50.5% first-tier outcomes, 7.7% community penalties, and 2.9% were sentenced to custody. As we move through 20/21 and beyond, the Service will be working with colleagues in West Midlands Police and Liaison and Diversion Teams to strengthen our collaborative preventative and diversionary responses to children coming to the attention of the criminal justice system. As a collective, we will build an understanding around each child becoming a first-time entrant, so that we can be assured that this was the most appropriate course of action.

³ The YOT families, set by national government, group services that are deemed to be similar in terms of the socio-demographic characteristics of their area. They enable YOTs to benchmark their performance with other YOTs.

Reducing Re-offending

The latest national figures (April 2018 – March 2019) show the Service is performing better than the England and Wales national average and is in the top quartile of all Youth Offending Teams across the country. The Service continues to perform well in comparison with others in its statistical family.

Within this period were 718 children, the largest nationally, with a 35.0% re-offending rate, which was one of the lowest within its statistical family and lower than the England and Wales average.

However, there is more work to do. In 2021/22, one of the Service's key priorities will be to establish a local re-offending cohort so that we are better able to monitor and understand children's reoffending in a timelier manner and in a way that supports the meaningful development of practice to support a child's move away from offending.

An analysis of Birmingham children shows that those who re-offended were more strongly affected by the following risk factors than those who did not re-offend:

1. Lack of commitment including truancy;
2. Living in families under stress due to criminality, substance misuse, mental health issues;
3. Special Educational Needs;
4. Children in Care status;
5. Having a large number of previous outcomes;
6. Young people at risk of gang affiliation

A public health approach to tackling the root causes of a child's offending is required. In response, the service:

- Commissions dedicated education mentors to break down barriers and support engagement and attendance
- Works systemically with children and their families, including support of Parenting Officers

Re-offending Rate per 100,000: Apr 2018 to Mar 2019 cohort

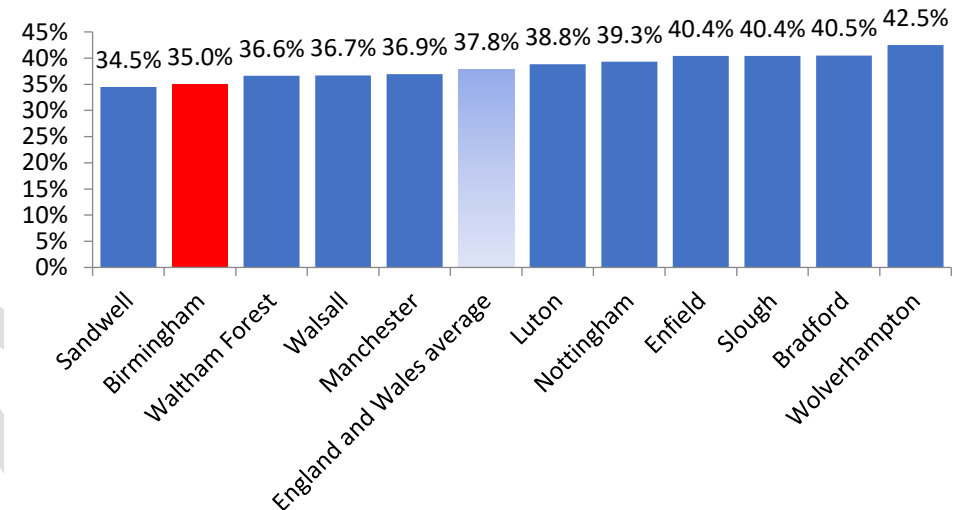


Figure 3: Recidivism, Apr 2018 -Mar 2019 cohort, YOT Family comparison

- Is supported by dedicated Aquarius substance misuse workers, Forward Thinking Birmingham Nurses and Speech and Language Therapists
- Commissions specialised mentoring around knife crime prevention and those children who are gang affiliated

It is clear from the data that children in care are over-represented across the service. In 2021/22, plans to tackle disproportionality will be progressed across the partnership. The Service will work with colleagues across west Midlands Police and the Trust, including the corporate parenting board, to consider how we seek to reduce the unnecessary criminalisation of children in care. As part of the plan to tackle disproportionality there will be scrutiny around each first-time entrant to understand the root causes of this and take appropriate actions.

Reducing the Use of the Secure Estate

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

Birmingham has a higher rate of custodial sentences than the national average, although within the range of other Core Cities. Whilst it is positive that the number of children sentenced to custody in Birmingham has decreased, from 66 in 2019/20 to 40 in 2020/21, this remains a priority for the Trust and Service and features within the improvement plan.

In 2021/22 a system will be developed to allow for the scrutiny of each child entering the secure estate. This will allow for a learning review of each child and will critically include the quality of pre-sentence reports, including victim work. The work to strengthen the prevention offer delivered by the YOS, will support this priority, as will the work to tackle disproportionality across the system.

The latest national data for custodial sentences (April 2020 – March 2021) shows the Service is performing worse than the national average and worse than most other members of its statistical family.

Rate per 1,000 of the 10-17 population

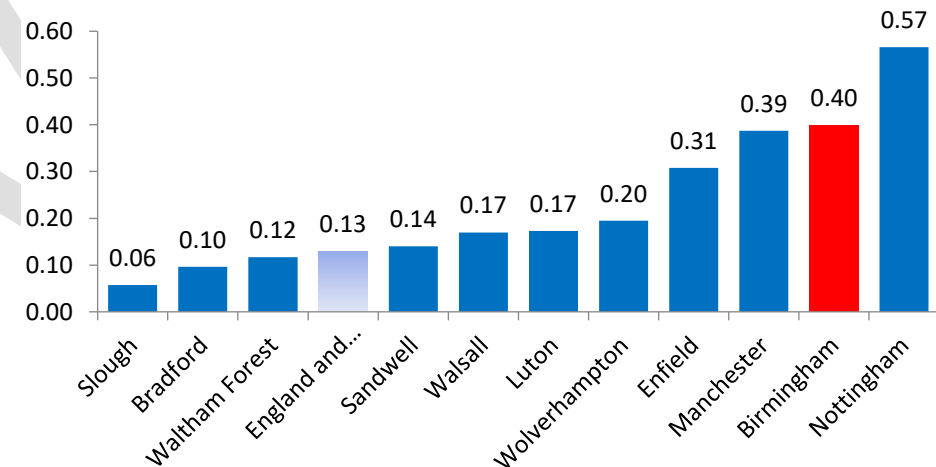


Figure 4: Custodial sentences, April 2020 – March 2021, YOT family comparison

The majority (64%) of young people sentenced to custody were aged 16-17. Boys of either Black or Black British ethnicity or dual heritage backgrounds remain over-represented in comparison with the general population. Black, Asian and other minority ethnic children accounted for 75.8% of all children receiving a custodial disposal compared with 55.0% in the general 10 -17 population. 3% of those sentenced to custody were female.

Violence Against the Person is most prevalent offence category accounting for 40 offences which is 34.2% of proven offences. Compared with the same period in 2019/20, the category shows a decrease of 47.4%.

Further work is required, through the disproportionality taskforce to ensure that we strengthen our understanding of our practices across the partnership. It is only then, that as a partnership, we can begin to educate and challenge disproportionality where it is evident within the system.

Remand Bed Nights

The Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders (LASPO) Act 2012 introduced a new remand framework for 10- to 17-year-olds in December 2012.

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

Between 01/04/2020 and 31/03/2021, a total of 61 children were remanded to the secure estate, representing a decrease from 74 in the previous year (17.6%). However, what is clear is that in 2020/21, children on average spent longer held on remand: much of which is explained by the COVID-19 pandemic and the restricted court time due to the lockdown. In 2020/21, 61 children spent a total of 5316 nights held on remand (average of 87 nights per child) in comparison to 74 children, spending 4767 nights in custody in the previous year (an average of 64 nights per child).

In 2020/21 children placed in SCHs spent a longer period of time (66.4 days) compared with STCs (48.0 days) and a shorter period of time than YOIs (92.1 days). By establishment type, the figures for 2019/20 were 44.2 for LASCHs, 18.6 for STCs and 64.2 for YOIs.

Of the 61 young people remanded during the period 26 (42.62%) were Children in Care at the time of the remand. A further 4 were previously a Child in Care. 35 young people (57.4%) gained Child in Care status as a result of their remand.

As a Service we are committed to reducing the use of the secure estate and tackling the over-representation of Black, Asian and other minority ethnic children in the secure estate. Various actions are contained within the improvement plan in support of this and critically, the implementation of a learning review, post every child entering the secure estate, will help us to understand, shape and improve practice and performance in this area.

6.2 Performance Against Local Indicators

Education, Training and Employment

The engagement of children into positive education, training and employment (ETE) is a clear protective factor and contributes significantly to the reduction of further offending. It is a priority objective for the Service.

A number of our children are disengaged from the academic GCSE education provision and struggle to cope in the larger classroom environment. This is not uncommon within the Youth Justice arena. Within Birmingham we have a disproportionately high number of children with Education Health and Care plans and special educational needs (SEN) open to the Service. In June 2021, 44% of children open to the service had either an EHCP or SEN. In addition, we have a considerable number who have not had their educational learning needs identified, often due to sporadic or non-attendance. The service has responded in several ways. Across the city Speech and Language Therapists provide assessments, diagnostic reports, deliver interventions of support and support Case Managers in their work. This is a valuable resource to help us better understand the learning needs of those who may previously have gone under the radar.

The Service's ETE Engagement strategy continues to use, at its core, the deployment of dedicated ETE mentors across the city. This is combined with the offer of highly supported and enhanced curriculum vocational provision and skills development opportunities. These are delivered either one to one or in small nurture groups, to help prepare children for ETE re-engagement. This provision includes:

- Music Recording Studio;
- Functional Skills support;
- Construction, Motor vehicle;
- Landscaping / Estate Improvement;
- Boxing, Sports Leaders Award;
- Health and Social Care;
- an Entrepreneurial provision.

Funding from the Birmingham Community Safety Partnership (BCSP) has helped us to offer this provision as a catalyst to re-engage children. The outcomes of the ETE Re-engagement programme during 2020/21 not only improved engagement in ETE but had a dramatic effect on reducing re-offending. Out of the 22 who engaged, only 1 had re-offended as of 31st March 2021 (project end date). On the back of this success continuation funding has been provided by the BCSP for 2021/22.

In addition, the Service has successfully launched the “Skill Mill”⁴ employability scheme during 2020. This scheme provides 32 employment opportunities for our children over the next 4 years. This supported employment offer provides a route out of offending for some of our most complex children.

The Service recognises the need for a targeted offer for those with specific barriers and needs and in response we continue to fund Barnardo’s to provide a specialist autism mentor. We also utilise a range of gang specialist mentoring providers to support our children who are sadly gang-affiliated or have been exploited for “County Lines”.

The Service has secured a range of externally funded mentoring options that supports ETE re-engagement. This includes sports based mentoring programmes from Aston Villa FC, Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) funded resettlement mentors from Phoenix United CiC and from July 2021 mentoring support from Catch 22 for those trying to move away from gang influences. In addition, we continue to benefit from having dedicated Post 16 ETE Intervention Workers based with the Service via the European Social Fund (ESF) Youth Promise Plus initiative. This mentoring support combined with access to our re-engagement provision, provides a fantastic opportunity for many of our children to re-engage and thrive as we tailor this offer so their needs can be met. However, our funding only enables us to offer this provision part time as an interim solution.

To help track and monitor the educational offer and engagement for our young people, the Service, alongside its partners, is developing a “Virtual School” concept. This will entail keeping a school register that will identify clearly any child who does not have a school place and highlight those who are disengaged from their school offer. This will and is helping us to collaboratively develop and implement a strategic and operational response to improve school engagement and ensure no child will be without a school or alternative provision offer. As a result of this more intensive tracking, the numbers of children identified as without a school place have reduced significantly. Most notably at the end of June 2021, all children known to YOS and in the community had a school place, albeit across BYOS and Education and Skills departments, there is a shared commitment to driving up attendance and engagement. This is strengthened and evidenced by the regular joint review of children's education placements and the addition in 20-21 of the Head of Service for Schools Admissions and Fair Access, Education and Skills Department to the BYOS Partnership Board, bringing much welcomed scrutiny and support around this area. In addition, support for the PRUs is being increased with staff from the Service being utilised to support the work of the Pupil Referral Units.

The Service continues to play a key support role in influencing the provision and ETE landscape in Birmingham, supporting the work of SENAR and the Education and Skills Directorate.

⁴ <https://www.theskillmill.org/>

Assessment Completion

A local target has been identified and is monitored and reported, to ensure that all children's assessments are completed and reviewed within prescribed timescales. This is critical to ensuring the planning for and the delivery of work is informed by a good understanding of the needs in the case and can commence before a child becomes disengaged. At the same time as driving up compliance with this target, the Service's quality assurance and audit process provides an ability to measure assessment quality.

In January 2021, the average performance across the Service was 49.7% which has improved to 81.9% at the end of June 2021. Stretch targets will be set in 21-22.

Contact with Children

The contacts between our staff and our children are a fundamental aspect to the work. We know that through building trusted, safe and secure relationships with our children, we are better placed to identify needs, secure engagement and work to help guide children away from offending. As a service it is essential that we understand and are assured that we are working alongside our children as their assessment tells us they need.

This indicator measures the percentage of our children who are being seen in line with the 'Scaled Approach' guidelines for contacts. Where this is not happening, the Leadership Team have the information to enable them to pick up conversations where required, so that swift action can be taken to address this.

In January 2021, the average performance across the Service was 65.9% which has improved to 75% at the end of June 2021. The Service has a set target of 90%.

Victim Engagement and Satisfaction

This is an area that is identified as requiring improvement and this local indicator will support change.

At the beginning of 2021, the average performance across the Service was that 39.3% of identified victims were contacted. Of those responding in terms of their satisfaction, 80% were "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the support they had received. At the end of June 2021, this had improved to 59.1% of identifiable victims contacted with 66.6% saying they were "satisfied" or "very satisfied".

As a service we are fully committed to ensuring that every identifiable victim, who has consented to being contacted, receives an offer from Birmingham Youth Offending Service. In 20/21, the Service will be recruiting to a Restorative Practice and Victim Coordinator, who will be driving forward developments in this area, including:

- Strengthening systems so that we receive high quality information from WMP ensuring consent is sought in every case, and where unclear, Police colleagues revisit this;
- Developing robust internal policies and procedures, that ensure a consistent response is delivered to victims across the city

Referral to Specialist Services

Birmingham YOS is truly multi agency and there is access to a range of internal and external specialist practitioners, commissioned services and pathfinder projects. The expectation is that appropriate services are explored and accessed where a need is identified. We know that many of the children in the youth justice system have often experienced adversity, trauma and have unmet need and experience inequality, including for many poverty, poor health and absence of opportunity.

The Service monitors the involvement of specialist practitioners cross-referenced against identified needs from Asset Plus. Currently, this is restricted to Substance Misuse and Mental Health provision with Speech and Language being added in 21-22.

In January 2021, 10.2% of children's case files had a recorded involvement with a specialist provision where it had been identified in the Asset Plus assessment. At the end of June 2021, this had risen to 61.5%.

Disproportionality of Black Children in the Youth Justice System

We know that children from Black and other minority ethnic groups are over-represented within the criminal justice system with clear evidence of the extent of this across Birmingham. Children from these ethnic groups account for a disproportionate number of those arrested, and this over-representation continues and is evident at every stage of the justice system. The Service and its partners are committed to reducing this over-representation, with a vision that the incidence of each ethnic group is proportionate to its incidence in the general 10 -17 population.

Work is on-going to ensure alignment with the Trust's Equalities and Diversity Action Plan whilst ensuring that the wider context of the criminal justice system is considered. A disproportionality taskforce has been established and is developing a multi-agency action plan for 2021/22 which will support this priority in the Service's wider Improvement Plan.

How we Measure Performance and Quality

The Youth Offending Service performance framework has recently been strengthened to support individual teams, case workers and managers to deliver the best possible service to children and their families. Several individual strands underpin this and are supported by the Service's Performance Improvement Framework and case management system:

1. Weekly reports for individual case workers and managers, identifying pending and outstanding assessments, plans and reviews;
2. Weekly team briefings for team management and staff to identify actions addressing priorities for the coming week;
3. End-of-week performance roundups to look at data, identify blockages and set priorities;
4. Monthly service-wide performance Improvement meeting;
5. Monthly case file audits;
6. Learning from Strength and Difficulties Questionnaires (SDQ);
7. Learning from feedback from children and families;
8. Learning from victims of crime;
9. Learning from Thematic inspections and serious incidents.

The Service contributes to the Birmingham Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment and the West Midlands Combined Authority Strategic Needs Assessment. The Service contributes data to the city-wide Children's Services data-sharing hub (Sentinel) which brings together, cleans and matches data from the Care Director (Youth Offending), CareFirst (Social Care) and Impulse (Education) case management systems to provide a holistic 'single view' of a client's interaction with the numerous services.

6.3 Our Children and Families

In the period 01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021, the Service worked with 750 children subject to court ordered programmes and Youth Conditional Cautions. This compares with 844 children in the previous year. Though the overall number has fallen, there has been a rise in the proportion presenting with complex needs and high-risk behaviours requiring a more intensive approach and interventions. 194 children were supported whilst subject to anti-social behaviour disposals and specialist interventions such as: harmful sexual behaviour (6-17 years) and funded preventative programmes. In addition, 31 victims of youth crime were offered a service and 155 Community Resolutions were triaged. Additionally, the Service has supported 24 children on court orders who are the responsibility of other local authorities but are placed in Birmingham under caretaking arrangements.

The Service has adopted a whole family response under the city's 'Think Family' approach, conducting a systemic assessment of the child within the context of their family. Across the Service, many practitioners and managers have been trained in 'Working with Complex Families (Level 4, City and Guilds)', to promote a consistent approach across the city. The Service benefits from a range of disciplines through seconded

officers (mental health, substance misuse, education link mentors, speech and language, probation and police) and this allows for creative support and access to opportunities for all family members.

Assessing and Addressing Need

Assessing children in the youth justice system requires the consideration of the wider social context of the child's behaviour and of the fundamental importance of trusted professional relationships as a medium for change. The Youth Justice Boards 'Child First' vision, was further reinforced by the publication of the Punishing Abuse Report in February 2021, commissioned by the West Midlands Combined Authority and the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner. This report set out the results of an action research project designed to discover the extent of abuse and other adversity for a diverse range of children known to Youth Offending Teams in the West Midlands.

The report highlighted the systemic failure to meet the needs of children encountering the criminal justice system and made a series of recommendations for reform. The report emphasised the impact of abuse, loss, trauma and attachment difficulties and recognised the wide-ranging and often complex vulnerabilities of children known to Youth Offending Services. It is these very children who are regularly punished for behaviours that are intrinsically linked to their childhood experiences, which for many is completely outside of their control.

Assessing and responding to need on an individual and child first basis and taking on board the relevant findings from the punishing abuse report is a clear priority for the Service.

Our work with children includes personalised interventions to remove structural barriers, including exclusions from education, training and employment. It promotes engagement with the wider social context especially the family but also peers, schools, colleges and work, creating opportunities, enhancing social inclusion and promoting individual change, aspiration and sense of hope.

'Asset Plus', an assessment and planning framework, implemented nationally by the Youth Justice Board, contains materials premised on desistance theory and the practical application of desistance. Use of this framework allows for the personalisation of support for children and this is supplemented by a range of assessments, services and interventions informed by research and best practice. These include: Asset Plus, AIM2, Triple P Positive Parenting Teen; Multi Systemic Therapy; Restorative Justice; Family Group Conferencing; Good Lives; Cognitive Behavioural Therapy; Dialectical Behaviour Therapy; Female Gender Specific Interventions and trauma informed approaches. Asset Plus categorises the risks to a child and the risk that they pose in 4 broad categories (Low, Medium, High, Very High) and sets out an indicative level of intervention (Standard, Enhanced, Intensive) to meet the assessed need.

Between 01 April 2020 and 31 March 2021 694 children completed self-assessment surveys. The information these provide the service help to shape and influence partnership and commissioning priorities:

- 406 (58.5%) get angry and lose their temper.
- 291 (41.9%) admitted to truanting from school.
- 117 (16.9%) wanted help with writing.
- 58 (8.4%) reported living with others who got into trouble with the police.
- 27 (3.9%) drank alcohol too much and 36 (5.2%) used drugs too much.
- 313 (45.1%) had friends who got into trouble.
- 257 (37.0%) had lost someone special from their life.
- 102 (14.7%) wanted help with reading
- 47 (6.8%) had thoughts about hurting themselves and 40 (5.8%) had thoughts about killing themselves.

Our aim is to work alongside children and families, within a model underpinned by relationship-based practice which is fundamental to the effectiveness of our work.

Birmingham Children's Trust is currently developing a practice model that will define key principles and ways of working with children, families, carers and communities. As a Trust there is a clear commitment to child-centred practice, with a focus on keeping children safe, meeting their needs whilst at the same time involving parents, or carers, and wider family members. The vision is that involvement should always be collaborative and reflect the expertise and resources of families and local community networks and this will span the Service.

Identifying, Managing and Reducing risk

Criminal exploitation, including "County Lines" and gang affiliation, are complex and developing areas of youth justice, social work and family support practice. Protecting children from risks outside the family home requires a creative, often different partnership approach. Children at risk of, or being, criminally exploited or those affiliated to gangs are generally influenced by their peer group and adults external to the family network. A response is needed that addresses these extra-familial contexts including disrupting the exploitation.

Research tells us that many children may not recognise their experience as being abusive or exploitative. However, many want to end their association with this activity but continue because of coercion and threats to them or their families and many are unable to communicate this to professionals or their families. The most effective method to prevent children becoming involved in gangs and/or criminal exploitation is early identification. Intervening early to help children make positive life choices and distance themselves from gang-related activity.

Birmingham's 'Right Help Right Time' guidance and front door arrangements (CASS/MASH) have been strengthened to recognise the potential harm for children.

'Contextual Safeguarding' is an approach to understanding, and responding to, children's experiences of significant harm beyond their families. Traditional approaches to protecting children from harm have focussed on the risk of violence and abuse from inside the home, usually from a parent/carer or other trusted adult and don't always address the time that children spend outside the home and the influence of peers on a child's development and safety.

Contextual safeguarding recognises the impact of the public and social context on children's lives, and consequently their safety. Contextual safeguarding seeks to identify and respond to harm and abuse posed to children outside their home, either from adults or other children. It is an approach that looks at how interventions can change the processes and environments, to make them safer for all children, as opposed to focussing on an individual.

In 2020 Birmingham Children's Trust broadened the reach of their safeguarding response through the development of the multi-agency EmpowerU Hub model, providing a robust response to contextual safeguarding. The Service has established effective working relationships with the Hub and work is underway to explore the co-location of staff within this hub. The EmpowerU hub coordinates the response to children missing, holds daily briefings examining critical incidents, promoting the sharing of information across the partnership, coordinating and assisting with immediate safety planning and leading on disruption planning meetings, where needed.

Safeguarding

The growing complexity of those children encountering the service is evident from the data presented. As those children assessed as 'Low' safety and wellbeing is falling, we are seeing a rise in those children assessed as medium or above.

BCT's Children's Advice and Support Service (CASS) is a multi-agency front door using the principles of Right Help, Right Time. The Youth Offending Service provides daily support to CASS which has improved:

- Timeliness and quality of YOS safeguarding referrals;
- A greater understanding around Remands to Local Authority Accommodation and Youth Detention Accommodation for colleagues in other services;
- An Increase in early partnership referrals to the YOS Harmful Sexual Behaviour Team;
- YOS attendance at strategy discussions and meetings;

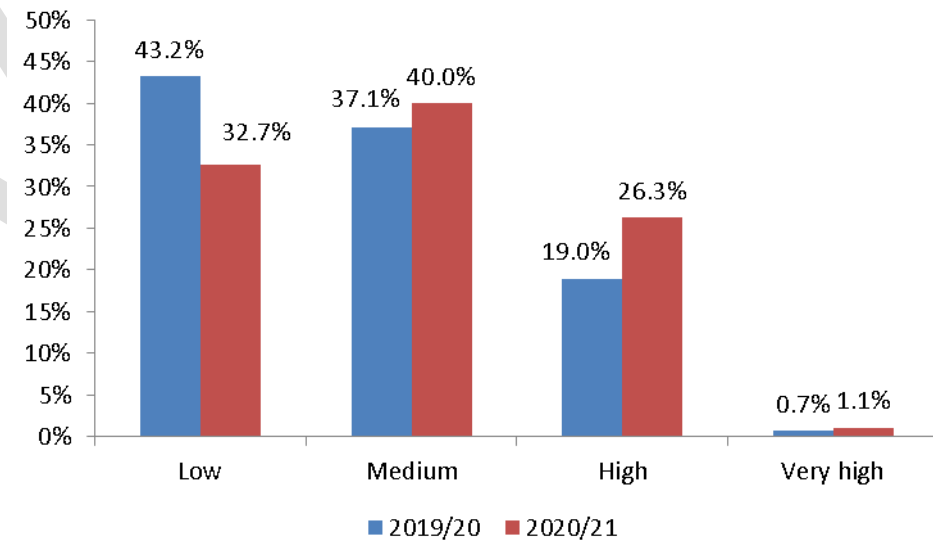


Figure 5: Assessed level of risk to safety and well-being, comparison 2019/20 - 2020/21

- Understanding changing threats and risk, including child criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation
- understanding around the factors related to desistance in strategy discussions
- understanding around YOS assessments and interventions

Within the Youth Offending Service all children are screened for issues of safety and well-being. Between 01/04/2020 and 31/03/2021, 750 children were assessed for safety and well-being compared with 844 children in the previous year. 505 (67.3%) children were identified as at a having medium or high vulnerabilities, requiring an enhanced response to mitigate these, compared with 56.8% in the previous year. The proportion of those assessed with 'High' or 'Very High' vulnerabilities increased to 27.3% in 2020/21 compared with 19.67% in 2019/20. Responses include referrals to Children's Safeguarding Services, Child and Adolescent Mental Health, intensive family and mentoring interventions, increased offender management and intensive interventions, and substance misuse and alcohol treatment services.

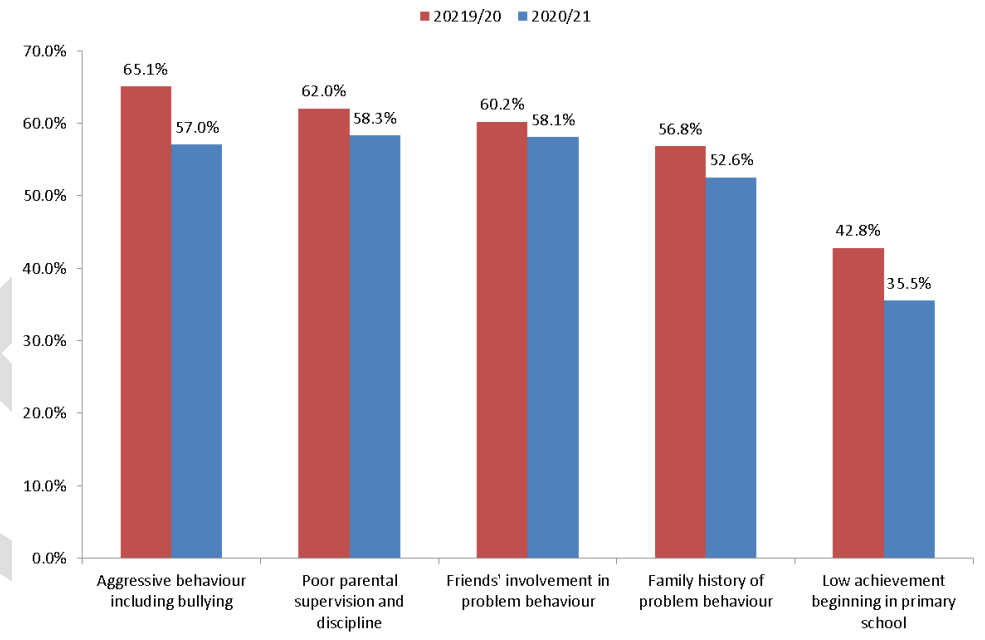


Figure 6: Significant risk factors, comparison 2019/20 – 2020/21

During the period April 2020 – March 2021, there were several recurring risk factors within children's Asset Plus assessments. 5 risk factors were identified as each, in turn, affecting over 40% of the young people

Tackling these factors, alongside strengthening protective factors helps to support children to avoid further offending and helps to mitigate the effect of static risk factors and those which are more difficult to change. Of the children assessed between April 2020 and March 2021, 83.2% of those assessed were judged to have at least one protective factor.

Public Protection

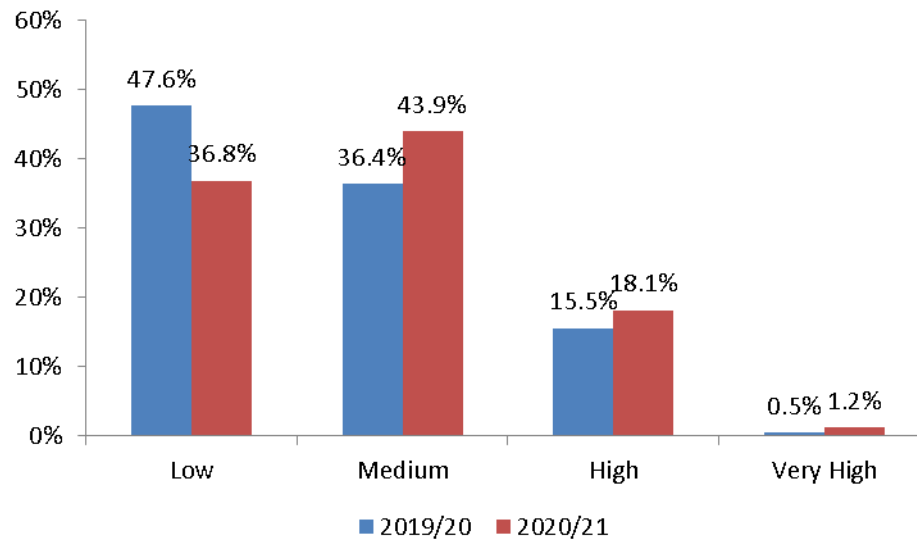


Figure 7: Assessed level of Risk to others, comparison 2019/20 – 2020/21

The Scaled Approach lays down, within National Standards, how each child is set an 'intervention level' and the levels of contact that each child subject to a court order will receive. This is regularly reviewed within the 'Asset Plus' framework. 2020/21 saw an increase in the proportion of children within the Service's caseload assessed on the Enhanced level of intervention compared with 2019/20. Those children requiring an Intensive level of intervention remained static. Those on an Enhanced and Intensive level require higher contact levels than the Standard intervention level.

Integrated Offender Management (IOM) brings a cross-agency response to the crime and reoffending threats faced by local communities. The most persistent and problematic offenders are identified and managed jointly by partner agencies working

The management of children subject to court orders is a key responsibility of the Youth Offending Service. Those children assessed as posing a higher risk to the public are subject to a more intensive multi-agency approach.

The Youth Offending Service continues to lead and chair local Risk Panels to discuss those children assessed at medium to high risk of reoffending, harm and vulnerability. This allows the Service to co-ordinate services for the child to reduce risk and vulnerability.

The Service is responsible, within the Asset Plus framework, for completing assessments of the risk posed by children and co-ordinates robust multi-agency plans for these children. Compared with 2019/20, 2020/21 saw 474 (63.2%) assessed as medium or high risk to others compared with 442 (52.4%). There has been an increase in the proportion of children assessed as high or very high risk to others from 16.0% to 19.3%.

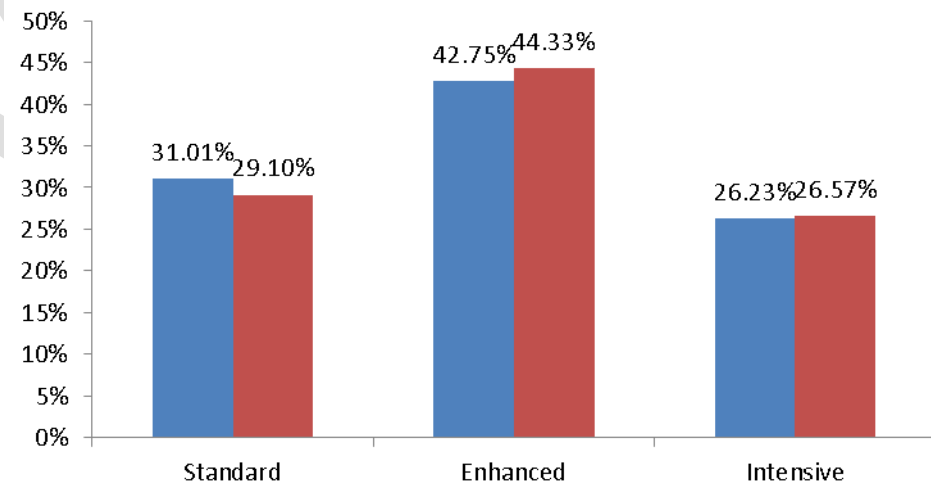


Figure 8: Intervention levels, comparison 2019/20 – 2020/21

together. The Youth ODOC (“One Day One Conversation”) case management meeting is steered within a pan-Birmingham Strategy in line with adult offender management but recognising the differences in managing the risk of children and children. Police Youth Offender Managers are closely aligned to the Service and work in partnership alongside YOS case managers with those children who require more intensive engagement and management.

The Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) are a key part of the government’s strategy in protecting the public and are intended to help manage the risks presented by those individuals committing serious violent and sexual offences. The four key functions of MAPPA are to:

- Identify all relevant individuals;
- Complete comprehensive risk assessments that take advantage of coordinated information sharing across agencies;
- Devise, implement and review robust MAPPA management plans;
- Focus available resources in a way which best protects the public from serious harm.

In every child’s case and as part of the risk assessment, the Service considers the need for MAPPA in the management of risk to the public. All Asset Plus assessments are subject to management oversight, and this, alongside the case management data, supports the accurate identification of those children relevant under these arrangements.

Children in Care

National research has concluded that children in care are disproportionately represented in the criminal justice system and recommends the use of restorative justice as an alternative form of behaviour management for minor offences. The latest Local Authority returns identified that 31 (3.2%) of the 962 children aged 10 or older who had been looked after for more than 12 months had a conviction or were made subject to a youth caution during the period 1st April 2019 - 31st March 2020, a reduction from 46 (4.6%) out of a total of 979 children in 2018/19. This compares with the national average of 2.9% and has been supported by Police and Crown Prosecution Service practices to reduce criminalisation of children in care for minor offences such as criminal damage.

Children in Care are an especially vulnerable group and their prevalence in the youth justice system is regularly monitored and reported upon. 71 children were currently or had previously been looked after at the point of receiving a substantive outcome in 2020/21.

Children with a history of being looked after were more likely to be sentenced to custody, with custodial sentences comprising 9.8% (8 children) of all children in care sentenced. Despite this, children with a history of being looked after only constituted 3.6% of First Time Entrants during the period. Of the 61 children remanded during the period 26 (42.62%) were Children in Care at the time of the remand. A further 4 were previously a Child in Care. 35 children (57.4%) gained Child in Care status as a result of their remand. These 26 children accounted for 2158 (40.6%) of the 5316 bed nights in 2020/21.

Serious Incidents Procedures

In May 2018, the requirement for Youth Offending Services to notify the Youth Justice Board of all serious incidents was abolished. Instead, locally youth justice services are required to ensure that there are clear pathways to identify and review relevant safeguarding and public protection incidents.

Whilst the Youth Justice Board will be reinstating a requirement for YOTs to notify from 2022/23, in 2021 the Service has conducted a full review, with the Safeguarding Children Partnership, of internal processes to ensure a robust and appropriate response. It has further been agreed that the Service will take part in the voluntary notifications to the YJB for the remaining part of 2021/22.

Whenever there is a serious safeguarding or public protection incident involving a child, it is imperative that YOS liaise with partners to ensure:

- relevant professionals are aware of the incident and
- immediate action is taken to promote the welfare of the child and take steps to safeguard others.

It is vital that we understand the circumstances of the incident and any learning or improvements in the case are identified, action is taken, and learning is appropriately shared.

The relevant reportable incidents fall under two criteria as follows:

Safeguarding – Where a child:	Public Protection – Where a child is charged with:
Dies	Murder/Manslaughter
Attempts suicide with intent to end life	Rape
Is the victim of rape (where allegation has been made to the Police)	A Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) Serious Further Offence when the child is already subject to MAPPA
Is the victim of sexual abuse or exploitation	A Terrorism related offence
Has sustained a life-threatening injury or serious / permanent impairment of health and development	

In all cases the Service will conduct an internal learning review. The purpose of this is to provide the opportunity to reflect, identify good practice and learning to improve practice and service delivery. The findings should inform any external statutory review and will support the creation of a learning culture within the Service.

In all internal reviews, the author will examine any factors in the child's life that could have helped to predict that the incident might occur, what measures have been taken to reduce the likelihood of the incident being repeated and the quality of practice evident within the case, including management oversight. Where appropriate, we will work alongside the child and their system to understand their views of the incident, their involvement with the Service and what needs to happen to ensure as best as we can that there is no repeat incident.

The Service's Partnership Board will receive quarterly reports on serious incidents in the period with a summary of findings and actions.

6.4 Priorities

Capturing the key priorities for the Service is essential. As a partnership we are attempting to navigate the findings of the YOS HMIP inspection in the context of the challenges the city faces and the partnership responses to this. The Service Improvement Plan is robust, and captures the activity linked to each of the HMIP recommendations, alongside those actions arising from internal audit and review, broader HMIP Inspections, Serious Case Reviews and Safeguarding Children Practice Reviews. The key priorities for the Service in 2021/22, expanded later in the report, are:

- Reviewing and enhancing the Service prevention offer across the partnership;
- Developing robust approaches to effective multi agency risk management;
- Ensuring practice is of consistently high priority;
- Responding to disproportionality where it exists across the service;
- Workforce Development; Including a programme of restorative practice training across the Service;
- Ensuring that services to victims are considered in all cases and are delivered well;
- Developing a Birmingham YOS identity, culture and vision that secures consistency across the city and promotes best practice.

A robust approach to audit, review and learning is essential to the Service's improvement journey. An improved understanding of the quality of local practice will allow the Service to respond quickly to areas for improvement.

In 2021/22 an annual audit plan has been developed which has a focus on the quality of core case practice (assessment and planning) at the start of a child's involvement with the Service. Additionally, thematic audits including children in custody and resettlement will also be conducted.

The Service has also commissioned two detailed case audits which will be externally and independently conducted in 2021/22. The first will focus on the quality of the Service's work in relation to out of court disposals and this will inform practice development with West Midlands Police. The second audit will concentrate on those children receiving a court disposal. The findings of both audits will contribute to the Improvement Plan and its actions.

7. Responding to the Pandemic and Recovery from COVID-19

All Services have experienced significant and unprecedented challenges since March 2020. Birmingham YOS is no different and since this time, there has been much activity around responding to the crisis, the needs of the children, families, victims and employees whilst at the same time planning for recovery.

COVID 19 has had a major impact in how we work with all stakeholders encountering our Service. With the government restrictions and the closure of all YOS premises, came the necessity to develop a creative approach to delivering support, meeting needs and managing risk. Most YOS services continued in a virtual space: processes and procedures were adapted, and new ones created to support continued delivery.

In February 2021, the Service took the decision that all contact with children, families and victims should resume, in person, with the necessary social distancing and personal protective equipment in place. This has been welcomed.

Across the Trust, we are on a recovery journey and the Service is well connected to this, with a particular focus on estates. Whilst the pandemic has presented some significant challenges, including for the staff team, there will undoubtedly be some opportunities. The Service is exploring new, more child friendly premises; we are considering what we have learned through the pandemic; how, moving forward, the delivery of our services could continue in a 'blended' manner, where appropriate; and opportunities to work smarter, more effectively and more responsively to the needs of individuals.

In November 2020, HMIP published a thematic review of the work of Youth Offending Services nationally during the COVID-19 pandemic. This report acknowledged the unprecedented challenges that had been faced by services and acknowledged that at a local and partnership level there had been a quick response to the needs of children and families. This report summarised several key recommendations and learning points including for YOT Management Boards and YOTs and these are included within the COVID-19 Recovery strand of the Service's Improvement Plan. This plan is kept under regular review, and we are continually assessing our ability to respond and learn from the pandemic, alongside our children, families and victims.

In addition to the impact of the pandemic on services, we know that children, particularly those already experiencing inequalities, have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19. The COVID-19 Marmot Review: Build Back Fairer⁵ commissioned by the Health Foundation highlights growing concerns around some key areas:

- The mental health of children is worsening;
- Exposure to abuse at home has risen;
- Unemployment is rising.

The Service must adopt a trauma informed, relationship-based approach to our work with children. This need has never been greater, and this is a key workforce development priority in 2021/2022 and beyond.

8. Challenges, Risks and Issues

Aside from the challenges presented by the pandemic, the Service was inspected by HMIP during this period. The inspection published in 2020, identified that the service required improvement and made several recommendations. All recommendations are contained within a structured improvement plan, they have a lead officer and clear timescales for implementation. The Service and plan benefits from the support of a Project Manager and there are scheduled meetings to review progress, understand barriers and collectively problem solve.

As part of improvement journey and action planning, we have embedded recommendations from other HMIP inspections and learning from Local Safeguarding Children Practice Reviews. As we progress through improvement and raise local practice standards, we intend to benchmark practice within the Service against published recommendations, including those contained within the findings of the YJB report “Ethnic disproportionality in remand and sentencing in the youth justice system”⁶ published January 2021 and the HMIP annual report published November 2020⁷.

During 2020/21, the Senior Leadership Team within the Service has been expanded as there was recognition that, such is the size of the Service and breadth of improvement required, increased resource at this level was necessary and this was progressed swiftly by the Trust Executive. Critically, an immediate change around the management and responsibility for the budget attached to remands of children was

⁵ <https://www.health.org.uk/publications/build-back-fairer-the-covid-19-marmot-review>

⁶

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/952483/Ethnic_disproportionality_in_remand_and_sentencing_in_the_youth_justice_system.pdf

⁷ <https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmiprobation/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2020/11/HMI-Probation-Youth-Annual-Report-2020.pdf>

made. This strategic decision immediately alleviated the burden on the Service to meet any costs exceeding the remand grant from the central budget. These two decisions have been critical for the Service.

The Service is undoubtedly on a significant improvement journey. HMIP's inspection highlighted key issues around:

- the consistency of practice across the city;
- the quality of assessments carried out;
- practice around those children in custody;
- the overall quality of practice in riskier cases;
- the over-representation of black and mixed heritage boys;
- the routine and standard delivery of victim and restorative practices;
- consistency of out of court disposal work and partnership working.

In addition to this, in 2021 Birmingham has tragically experienced a number of serious incidents involving the murder of children either known to the Service or committed by children known. This has required a joined up and partnership response and the Service has been integral to this and is connected to the Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership (BSCP), West Midlands Police and Birmingham City Council Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and the West Midlands Violence Reduction Unit. Across the city and West Midlands region, there is a shared commitment to tackling serious violence through a public health approach. It is widely recognised that health and well-being must be at the heart of policy change in this area if we are to genuinely affect change and recognition across the region that we cannot simply enforce our way out of youth violence. There is a shared recognition that we must 'do more' and we must 'do better'. Without a culture of compassion, there is mistrust, there is a lack of engagement and a subsequent inability to effect change. The developing practice model within the Service, will support our ability to do more and to do better.

A West Midlands conference in July 2021 brought together key strategic stakeholders and keynote speakers to support the collaboration and joining up of our work in this area. Within Birmingham, it is acknowledged that there is much more to do and commitment to the development of a shared BSCP and CSP strategy and operational infrastructure to tackle serious violence, underpinned by the Serious Violence Duty.

Delivering services at a time when the city feels unsafe is a significant challenge. Children very often do not feel safe, and neither do some of our colleagues. The Service is carefully considering the safety of staff and those we are working alongside and exploring ways of responding to this which, at the same time, allow us to fulfil our statutory obligations. In 2021/22 the Service has given a commitment to investing in and rolling out a personal safety system

9. Service Business and Improvement Plan

The Service's improvement plan can be directly linked back to the findings of the HMIP inspection published in 2020. Twelve recommendations were made within this report, spanning core case practice, strategic activity and governance. As a Service, progress has been made with the expansion of the senior leadership team, the appointment of an independent Chair of the Partnership Board, strengthening of the board membership and additional assurance Board meetings.

The plan has been developed, reviewed, prioritised and work is being delivered to improve the quality of practice within the service. Progress against improvement is monitored via monthly project meetings and overseen by the YOS Partnership Board. It is evident from the HMIP Inspection report and breadth of work contained within the plan, that the improvement journey will take some time, not least around the culture and shared vision within the service. However, across all partners and within the Service there is a clear understanding of the need to improve and a commitment to this.

Key priorities include:

- Reviewing and enhancing the Service prevention offer across the partnership;
 - Recruitment of a dedicated Prevention Coordinator; expansion of the team of Prevention Officers, including a Serious Youth Violence Prevention Officer; development of pathways and promotion of the developing YOS offer across the partnership;
- Developing robust approaches to effective multi agency risk management.
 - Development of Birmingham YOS Risk Management Policy; review of internal risk management processes; work to strengthen understanding and application of MAPPA.
- Improving the quality and consistency of practice;
 - Development of a robust audit programme and audit cycle for 2021/22; ensuring that findings are collated and fed back to teams and are informing practice development and workforce development.
- Responding to disproportionality where it exists across the service;
 - Re-forming of the disproportionality working group; development and implementation of a multi-agency action plan, including the development of a robust data set.
- Workforce Development; Including a programme of restorative practice and trauma informed training across the Service;
 - Training needs analysis, drawing upon developmental needs across the service; creation and implementation of a workforce development plan.
- Ensuring that services to victims are considered in all cases and are delivered well;
 - Recruitment to a Restorative Practice and Victim Coordinator; Building consistency around the offer to victims; embedding victims voices, views and wishes appropriately across the system; RP training across the service.
- Developing a Birmingham YOS culture and vision that secures consistency across the city;

- Rolling out an all-staff survey; sharing findings and using these to inform development; communication strategy, including service development days.

The Youth Justice Board 2021-2024 Strategic Plan⁸ sets out several clear priorities that will help to shape the development of the Birmingham YOS culture and vision as we start work on this in 2021/22. Our aim is to provide: the best possible service to children, their families and victims, to be creative, responsive, relationship based, and trauma informed, that is underpinned by a recognition that children experience inequality, to build a system that works for them which is accessible and not overly bureaucratic, and our aspiration for them to lead safe, happy and fulfilling lives, will be just some of our core values.

Underpinning the improvement plan is a communication strategy. In 2021/22, new initiatives have been introduced to improve the quality and transparency of communication, including:

- Fortnightly service-wide briefings;
- Monthly “Keeping in Touch” sessions hosted by the Head of Service;
- Bi-Annual Service Development days.

Investing in our staff and recognising the workforce as our greatest asset will be vital as we improve. As a Service we are connected to the BCT Practice Hub and are working alongside them to understand the needs of the workforce, translating this into a clear training plan which aligns with the priorities contained within the improvement plan.

The Youth Justice Board are a key member of the YOS Partnership Board and strong connections exist between the Regional Advisor, who attends the Board, and the Head of Service. In addition to Board attendance, monthly meetings are held providing support and monitoring functions and opportunities to reflect on Service priorities and emerging regional and national priorities.

⁸ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/966200/YJB_Strategic_Plan_2021_-_2024.pdf

10. Sign Off, Submission and Approval

Senior partner name	Role	Signature	Date

Appendix 1: Glossary

Absolute discharge: Discharges are given for minor offences at Court. An 'absolute discharge' means that no more action will be taken.

Bed night: measure of occupancy one young person for one night in the secure estate.

Breach of statutory order: Is an offence of failing without reasonable excuse to comply with the requirements of an existing statutory order.

Community Sentence: When a court imposes a community sentence, the young person carries out this sentence in the community. Community Sentences in the Youth Justice System include Youth Rehabilitation Orders.

Criminal Behaviour Orders: Civil orders (which replaced ASBOs), designed to prevent someone causing "harassment, alarm or distress". Breach of an order is a criminal offence, punishable by up to 5 years in prison (2 years for juveniles).

Detention and Training Order (DTOs): Detention and Training Orders (DTOs) are determinate custodial sentences which can last from four months to 24 months in length. A young person spends the first half of the order in custody and the second half released on licence. If they offend while on licence, they may be recalled back to custody.

Disposals may be divided into four separate categories of increasing seriousness starting with out-of-court disposals then moving into first tier and community-based penalties through to custodial sentences.

First-tier penalty: This is an umbrella term used for the following orders made at court: Referral Orders, Reparation Orders, bind over, discharges, fines and deferred sentences.

First Time Entrants: First time entrants to the criminal justice are classified as offenders who received their first caution or conviction, based on data recorded by the police on the Police National Computer.

Intensive Supervision and Surveillance: Intensive Supervision and Surveillance (ISS) is attached to a Youth Rehabilitation Order and has been set as a high intensity alternative to custody. ISS combines a set period of electronic tagging, with up to 25 hours per week intensive supervision. ISS is aimed at young offenders on the custody threshold and must be considered as an option before a custodial sentence is given. ISS may also be attached to conditional bail.

Parenting Orders: Parenting Orders aim to prevent offending and anti-social behaviour by reinforcing parental responsibility.

PENY: Police Electronic Notification to YOTs. Daily information sent to YOTs regarding children and young people coming to notice.

Pre-sentence report: This is a report to the sentencing magistrates or judges containing background information about the crime and the defendant and a recommendation on the sentence to assist them in making their sentencing decision.

Proven offence: A proven offence is defined as an offence which results in the offender receiving a caution or conviction.

Remands: When a case is adjourned, the court has a number of options to ensure that the defendant returns on the next occasion, refrains from further offending and does nothing to interfere with victims or witnesses.

Bail: Can be unconditional or have any number of conditions placed upon it including a curfew, residence requirements and electronic tagging.

Bail Supervision and Support: Bail Supervision and Support (BSS) is an intervention provided by the YOT to help ensure a young person meets the requirements of bail. The young person may additionally be electronically tagged.

Once the court has denied bail, there are two remand options:

Remand to local authority accommodation: A young person may be remanded to local authority accommodation. This remand may be accompanied by electronic tagging.

Remand to Youth Detention Accommodation: If the court is not satisfied that imposing community-based bail will ensure compliance, or if the offence is serious, or if the young person frequently offends, then it may order a remand to the secure estate.

Restorative Justice: Restorative justice is an approach to justice that focuses on the needs of the victims. Victims can take an active role in the process, whilst offenders are encouraged to take responsibility for their actions.

Section 90/91 of the Criminal Court Sentencing Act (2000): Any young person convicted of murder is sentenced under section 90. A section 91 sentence is for young people convicted of an offence other than murder for which a life sentence may be passed on an adult. The court can, if appropriate, sentence a young person to detention for life.

Secure estate: There are three types of placements in the secure estate. These are Secure Children's Homes (SCH), Secure Training Centres (STC) and Young Offender Institutions (YOI):

Local Authority Secure Children's Home (LASCH): Secure Children's Homes in England are run by Local Authorities and are overseen by the Department for Education in England. They generally accommodate remanded or sentenced young people aged 12-14 and girls and 'at risk' boys up to the age of 16. They can also accommodate young people placed by Local Authorities on welfare matters.

Secure Training Centre (STC): There are four purpose-built Secure Training Centres in England offering secure provision to sentenced or remanded young people aged 12-17. They provide a secure environment where vulnerable young people can be educated and rehabilitated. They are run by private operators under contracts which set out detailed operational requirements.

Young Offender Institution (YOI): Young Offender Institutions can accommodate young people and young adults who offend from between the ages of 15-21 years old.

Substantive Outcome: Is an umbrella term referring both to sentences given by the court and pre-court decisions made by the police.

Self-harm: Self harm is defined as any act by which a young person deliberately harms themselves irrespective of the method, intent, or severity of the injury.

Youth Offending Service (YOS): The Youth Offending Service comprises of seconded representatives from police, probation, education, health and social services, and specialist workers, such as restorative justice workers, parenting workers and substance misuse workers.

Birmingham City Council

City Council

14 September 2021



Subject: Motions for Debate from Individual Members

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

If relevant, state which appendix is exempt, and provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential :

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

A. Councillors Roger Harmer and Morriam Jan have given notice of the following Notice of Motion:-

“Council notes that it is over five years since a pilot scheme of average speed camera enforcement (ASE) was installed in 5 locations in Birmingham including the Hagley Road and Coventry Road. This pilot scheme successfully demonstrated that ASE has a positive impact on speed compliance and speed reduction, with consequent benefits in reducing the number and severity of road traffic collisions.

Council notes that other West Midlands authorities, such as Coventry, have continued programmes of installation of ASE.

Council notes the lack of progress in rolling out this successful pilot to other locations in Birmingham, in spite of clear and growing hazards on several main roads across the City, for example, the A34 Walsall Road and Fox Hollies Road.

Council notes the widespread concern in the city about the high volume of speeding traffic on our roads.

Council therefore calls on the executive, as a matter of urgency, to:

- Complete the current review which is assessing the expansion of ASE.
- Take a leading role, as a member of the Birmingham Road Safety Partnership, in bringing forward a comprehensive road safety plan, making use of ASE and local initiatives, as appropriate, to tackle areas with high accident rates.

- Work closely in partnership with West Midlands Police to tackle street racing.”

B. Councillors John Cotton and Olly Armstrong have given notice of the following Notice of Motion:-

“The Council notes that the Covid pandemic has exacerbated and highlighted the issue of food insecurity in the UK, resulting in a crisis of food poverty with approximately 10 million people experiencing food insecurity. This crisis is born out of the political choices and systemic failings created by a decade of austerity and policies that have torn gaping holes in the social security safety net. As a result, many in our communities have reached a crisis point.

The use of food banks was increasing well before the Covid-19 pandemic. During the pandemic, food bank use has effectively doubled and all indications are that this situation will continue to get worse. The Trussell Trust reported the number of food parcels given to children rose by 52 per cent during the pandemic. These figures are devastating for one of the richest nations in the world and highlight the sheer scale of inequality in the UK.

As a city with high levels of disadvantage, and a growing number of children living in poverty, we see the profound and devastating consequences of food insecurity on the health, wellbeing and livelihoods of citizens in our communities.

The Council further notes that during the pandemic, Birmingham City Council stepped up to ensure that Free School Meal provision was extended over the summer holidays, ensuring that no child went hungry whilst out of school. Whilst the Council is proud to have provided this support, the Government must be compelled to act in such circumstances and not be shamed into doing so by Premier League footballers.

The National Food Strategy, Independent Review, published earlier this year, is the first independent review of England’s entire food system for 75 years. Its purpose is to set out a vision for the kind of food system we should be building for the future, and a plan for how to achieve that vision.

The Council agrees that:

- Our society should be taking progressive steps towards the eradication of hunger, and towards the development of fair and balanced system for sustainable farming and fishing that works for both food producers and consumers alike
- The government must take a lead on making this happen, for everyone’s benefit, by upholding our Right to Food
- The Government has a duty to ensure nobody in our communities goes hungry and that the “Right to Food” should be enshrined in UK law in order to make clear this obligation and

- Free School Meal provision should be extended in line with a recommendation of the National Food Strategy, Independent review, as the current threshold means that families must be extremely poor to qualify.

The Council also notes that the Government recognises the United Nations International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, including the “*fundamental right to be free from hunger*” (Article 11:2)

Therefore the Council resolves to call upon the Government to:

1. Include the ‘Right To Food’ in the ‘National Food Strategy’.
2. Extend Free School Meals provision throughout school holidays.
3. Retain the £20 uplift to Universal Credit.
4. Scrap the five week waiting period for Universal Credit.

Taken together, these measures would help to alleviate some of the worst food insecurity in our country and ensure that the Right to Food is properly recognised in law.”

