

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

TUESDAY, 10 JANUARY 2023 AT 14:00 HOURS
IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL HOUSE, VICTORIA SQUARE,
BIRMINGHAM, B1 1BB

A G E N D A

1 NOTICE OF RECORDING

Lord Mayor to advise that this meeting will be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's meeting You Tube site (www.youtube.com/channel/UCT2kT7ZRPFCXq6_5dnVnYlw) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Members are reminded they must declare all relevant pecuniary and other registerable interests arising from any business to be discussed at this meeting.

If a disclosable pecuniary interest is declared a Member must not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless they have been granted a dispensation.

If other registerable interests are declared a Member may speak on the matter only if members of the public are allowed to speak at the meeting but otherwise must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless they have been granted a dispensation.

If it is a 'sensitive interest', Members do not have to disclose the nature of the interest, just that they have an interest.

Information on the Local Government Association's Model Councillor Code of Conduct is set out via <http://bit.ly/3WtGQnN>. This includes, at Appendix 1, an interests flowchart which provides a simple guide to declaring interests at meetings.

3 MINUTES

To confirm and authorise the signing of the Minutes of the City Council held on 6 December 2022.

4 LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(10 minutes allocated) (1400-1410)

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

5 PETITIONS

(10 minutes allocated) (1410-1420)

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

As agreed by Council Business Management Committee a schedule of outstanding petitions is available electronically with the published papers for the meeting and can be viewed or downloaded.

6 QUESTION TIME

(70 minutes allocated) (1420-1530)

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

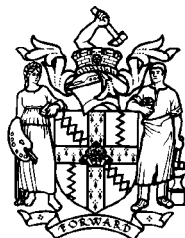
- A. Questions from Members of the Public to any Cabinet Member or Ward Forum Chair (20 minutes)
- B. Questions from any Councillor to a Committee Chair, Lead Member of a Joint Board or Ward Forum Chair (up to 10 minutes)
- C. Questions from Councillors other than Cabinet Members to a Cabinet Member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

7 APPOINTMENTS BY THE COUNCIL

(5 minutes allocated) (1530-1535)

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

- 109 - 168**
- 8 **EXECUTIVE BUSINESS REPORT**
- (55 minutes allocated) (1535-1630)**
- Councillor Brigid Jones Jones to move the following recommendation:
- "That the report be noted".
- (break 1630-1700)
- 169 - 178**
- 9 **LEAD MEMBER REPORT: WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**
- (30 minutes allocated) (1700-1730)**
- Councillor Zafar Iqbal to move the following recommendation:
- "That the report be noted".
- 179 - 184**
- 10 **DECISIONS NOT ON THE FORWARD PLAN AND THOSE AUTHORISED FOR IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION**
- (15 minutes allocated) (1730-1745)**
- The Leader of the Council, Councillor Ian Ward to move the following recommendation:
- "That the report be noted".
- 185 - 188**
- 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,
6 DECEMBER 2022**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL HELD
ON TUESDAY, 6 DECEMBER 2022 AT 1400 HOURS IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER, COUNCIL HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM**

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

Councillors

Akhlaq Ahmed	Fred Grindrod	Lee Marsham
Saima Ahmed	Roger Harmer	Karen McCarthy
Alex Aitken	Deborah Harries	Saddak Miah
Deirdre Alden	Kath Hartley	Shehla Moledina
Robert Alden	Adam Higgs	Gareth Moore
Gurdial Singh Atwal	Des Hughes	Simon Morrall
Raqeeb Aziz	Jon Hunt	Yvonne Mosquito
Shabina Bano	Mumtaz Hussain	Richard Parkin
David Barker	Mahmood Hussain	Rick Payne
David Barrie	Shabrana Hussain	David Pears
Baber Baz	Timothy Huxtable	Miranda Perks
Matt Bennett	Mohammed Idrees	Rob Pocock
Jilly	Zafar Iqbal	Julien Pritchard
Birmingham	Ziaul Islam	Lauren Rainbow
Marcus	Morriam Jan	Darius Sandhu
Bemasconi	Kerry Jenkins	Kath Scott
Sir Albert	Meirion Jenkins	Shafique Shah
Bore	Brigid Jones	Rinkal Shergill
Nicky	Jane Jones	Sybil Spence
Brennan	Amar Khan	Ron Storer
Kerry Brewer	Ayoub Khan	Saima Suleman
Martin Brooks	Saqib Khan	Jamie Tennant
Mick Brown	Izzy Knowles	Sharon Thompson
Debbie Clancy	Narinder Kaur	Paul Tilsley
Liz Clements	Kooner	Lisa Trickett
John Cotton	Chaman Lal	Penny Wagg
Jack Deakin	Bruce Lines	Ian Ward
Adrian Delaney	Mary Locke	Ken Wood
Jayne Francis	Ewan Mackey	Alex Yip
Sam Forsyth	Basharat	
Ray Goodwin	Mahmood	
Rob Grant	Majid Mahmood	
Colin Green	Rashad Mahmood	

NOTICE OF RECORDING

- 59 The Lord Mayor advised that the meeting would be webcast for live and subsequent broadcasting via the Council's internet site and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there were confidential or exempt items.
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DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

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

Councillor Narinder Kaur Kooner declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to agenda item 9 (Motion 9B). Councillor Kooner held a job in the domestic abuse support sector.

Councillor Izzy Knowles declared a pecuniary interest in relation to agenda item 9 (Motion 9A). Councillor Knowles was a host under the 'Homes for Ukraine' scheme.

MINUTES

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and –

- 61 **RESOLVED:**

That the Minutes of the City Council meeting held on 1 November 2022 be taken as read and confirmed and signed.

LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**1 Death of Honorary Alderman Margaret Wells**

The Lord Mayor indicated her first announcement related to former Councillor, Honorary Alderman Margaret Wells, who passed away in November 2022 in North Tyneside Hospital.

Margaret served as a Councillor for Stockland Green Ward from May 1988 to May 2007, during which time she served on numerous Committees, Sub-Committees and outside bodies, some as Chair.

She became an Honorary Alderman on 22 May 2007.

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

62

RESOLVED:-

That the Council placed on record its sorrow at the death of former Councillor, Honorary Alderman Margaret Wells and its appreciation of her devoted service to the residents of Birmingham. The Council extended its deepest sympathy to Margaret's family and friends in their sad bereavement."

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

2 Death of Former Lord Mayor's Consort Professor John Stewart

The Lord Mayor indicated her second announcement related to former Lord Mayor's Consort, Professor John Stewart, who died peacefully at home on 23 November 2022.

Professor Stewart was one of the most influential local government academics of the 20th century and was a founder of Birmingham University's Institute for Local Government, now known as Inlogov, from 1966 until the late 1990s.

In 2007 the Society of Local Government Chief Executives gave him the inaugural Presidents Award for an outstanding contribution to local government.

Alongside his enormous and lasting contribution to the development of local government and local governance, Professor Stewart was a tremendous support to his wife, former Councillor and Honorary Alderman Theresa Stewart, throughout her career, but especially in his role as Lord Mayor's Consort, when Theresa served as Lord Mayor of Birmingham from May 2000 to May 2001.

John left behind 4 children - 2 daughters and 2 sons - as well as his loving grandchildren.

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

63

RESOLVED:-

That the Council placed on record its sorrow at the death of former Lord Mayor's Consort Professor John Stewart and its appreciation of his service to the residents of Birmingham. The Council extended its deepest sympathy to John's children and all of the family in their sad bereavement.

3 Professional Driver QSI Awards

The Lord Mayor indicated her third announcement related to the Professional Driver QSI Awards.

The Chamber noted that one of the Lord Mayor's Chauffeur/Attendants has been awarded a major accolade.

At November's QSI Professional Driver Magazine Awards, held at Celtic Manor Hotel in Cardiff, Kenneth Bond was presented with the Gold Award in the category of Professional Driver of the Year.

The Chamber gave a round of applause to congratulate Ken on this marvelous achievement.

64 **RESOLVED:-**

That this Council placed on record its congratulations to Ken on his receipt of this award.

PETITIONS

Petitions Relating to City Council Functions Presented at the Meeting

The following petitions were presented:-

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

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

65 **RESOLVED:-**

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

Petitions Update

A Petitions Update had been made available electronically:-

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

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and

66 **RESOLVED:-**

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

QUESTION TIME

67 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

There were no changes in relation to City Council appointments.

68

RESOLVED:-

Council noted that there were no changes proposed to the current City Council appointments.

SCRUTINY BUSINESS REPORT

A report from the Chair of the Co-Ordinating Overview and Scrutiny was submitted:-

(See document No. 3, agenda item 8)

Councillor Sir Albert Bore moved the recommendation which was seconded by Councillor Kerry Jenkins.

Councillor Jack Deakin declared a non-pecuniary interest. Councillor Deakin was an employee of the University Hospital Trust.

A debate ensued.

Councillors Kerry Jenkins, Deidre Alden, Brigid Jones, Roger Harmer, Mick Brown, Chaman Lal, Alex Yip, Saima Suleman, Mohammed Idrees, Simon Morrall, Jack Deakin, Liz Clements, Gareth Moore and Ken Wood spoke during the debate.

It was therefore-

69

RESOLVED:-

1.) That City Council noted the report.

ADJOURNMENT

70

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and-

RESOLVED:-

That the Council be adjourned until 1715 hours on this day.

The Council then adjourned at 1645 hours.

At 1715 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. Councillors Roger Harmer and Colin Green had given notice of the following Notice of Motion:-

(See document No. 4, agenda item 9)

Councillor Izzy Knowles left the Chamber before the Motion was moved and observed the debate from the public gallery.

Councillor Roger Harmer moved the Motion which was seconded by Councillor Colin Green.

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

(See document No. 5, 'Amendments – City Council')

Councillor Alex Yip moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Rick Payne.

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

(See document No. 6, 'Amendments – City Council')

Councillor John Cotton moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Martin Brooks.

A debate ensued.

Councillors Majid Mahmood and Julien Pritchard spoke during the debate.

The Lord Mayor invited Councillor Roger Harmer to sum up.

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

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

Names were called and the Chamber doors were locked.

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

For the Motion (55)

Mary Locke	Chaman Lal	Shehla Moledina
Des Hughes	Saqib Khan	Shabrana Hussain
Alex Aitken	Zafar Iqbal	Saima Suleman
Sam Forsyth	Saddak Miah	Mohammed Idrees
Miranda Perks	Colin Green	Sybil Spence
Paul Tilsley	David Barker	Narinder Kaur Kooner
Jack Deakin	Deborah Harries	Nicky Brennan
Jamie Tennant	Mumtaz Hussain	Jilly Bermingham
Karen McCarthy	Jon Hunt	Marje Bridle
Brigid Jones	Morriam Jan	Lauren Rainbow
Majid Mahmood	Lisa Trickett	Mahmood Hussain
Liz Clements	Ray Goodwin	Fred Grindrod
John Cotton	Basharat Mahmood	Lee Marsham
Ziaul Islam	Amir Khan	Shabina Bano
Rinkal Shergill	Saima Ahmed	Mick Brown
Baber Baz	Roger Harmer	Julien Pritchard
Rob Grant	Marcus Bernasconi	Raqeeb Aziz
Kath Hartley	Martin Brooks	Sir Albert Bore
Rob Pocock		

Against the Motion (17)

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

Abstentions (1)

Alex Yip

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

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-

RESOLVED:-

“This Council stands firmly and unwaveringly with Ukraine as its people bravely resist Russian aggression.

This Council thanks the many Birmingham hosts and community groups who have made huge efforts to provide support for Ukrainian Refugees under the Homes for Ukraine Scheme.

This Council also notes:

- 1) The recent significant progress made by the people of Ukraine in freeing large areas of their country from Russian occupation, but despite this, there is a high risk that the War will continue well into 2023 and potentially beyond.
- 2) With the war continuing and major attacks on Ukrainian infrastructure, it is unlikely that many existing Ukrainian refugees will be able to return home for many months at least, and there is a risk that more may arrive.
- 3) Therefore, it is important that we in Birmingham, together with other communities in the UK, enhance our long-term plans for the welfare of our Ukrainian refugees.
- 4) This work forms part of Birmingham's proud status as a City of Sanctuary for people fleeing war torn countries and persecution.
- 5) Learning from the Homes for Ukraine Scheme should be used to provide lessons for future support to all refugees arriving in Birmingham.

This Council therefore calls for:

- 1) A quick assessment, involving Scrutiny, of the existing programme of support provided so far in Birmingham, by the Council and its partner agencies, in terms of its timeliness and value for money. This assessment should include looking at the successes and lessons learned in other UK local authorities and the interaction with the other pressures the City is facing in areas such as Housing, Education and the Cost of Living Crisis. This assessment should also take into account wider issues around asylum and immigration and the existing Government policy that places pressure on cities like Birmingham.
- 2) The Government to provide enhanced support to Ukrainian Refugees, including extending the maximum period of Host Support beyond a year, as part of a co-ordinated effort to avoid the use of Temporary Accommodation. In addition, we ask the Government to provide similar information and financial support for Ukrainian arrivals under visa schemes other than Homes for Ukraine.
- 3) Greater recognition of the massive cultural, social and economic contribution of refugees and migrants to this city and to the UK and seeks to champion this by: celebrating refugee week and working with organisations such as the Refugee Council to remove barriers and empower refugees to rebuild lives and contribute to the community.

Council notes that Ukraine is the fastest-growing refugee crisis since the Second World War. Approximately 6.65 million people inside Ukraine have been displaced since the conflict started, and 5.8 million people are registered as refugees across Europe.

The UK government quickly committed large-scale humanitarian funding, sending experts to the region, and delivering life-saving supplies to Ukraine, including medical and food aid. The UK is providing £220 million of humanitarian assistance including up to £145 million to UN and Red Cross Agencies and £25 million in matched funding to the Disasters Emergency Committee Appeal (DEC) – the largest ever aid match contribution committed by a UK Government.

This is in addition to the Homes for Ukraine scheme, which was rolled out at pace to offer safe refuge for those fleeing the war here in the UK. Council agrees with the Government that Councils have a critical role to play in the success of the Homes for Ukraine scheme and are uniquely placed to support local communities to offer people from Ukraine the warmest possible welcome to the UK.

This Council is proud of the way the sector, along with charities, families and volunteers, have stepped up to work with government to deliver this urgent and large-scale scheme.

Council notes the concerns raised by a number of Host families within Birmingham regarding both the speed and quality of support received from council commissioned services and the impact this has had on both them and the refugees they have taken into their homes.

Council therefore asks Scrutiny to bring in Birmingham host families to provide evidence when carrying out their assessment of the scheme so that concerns can be properly understood and addressed with improvements made going forward.

Council further notes concerns have been raised regarding the procurement for the delivery of support, including the late mobilisation of the contract and the ability of the provider to meet the needs of the contract. Whilst the contract was let via single contractor negotiations based on the justification it would allow a known existing provider to commence work immediately, it took 4-5 months to fully mobilise after the contract award.

Concerns have also been expressed about the needs for a database as part of the support scheme and if this represented value for money. Council asks that both these matters are considered within the scrutiny review, including a full audit of how funds received from the Government have been allocated.

This Council resolves to:

- 1) Defend the right to seek safety from war and persecution in the UK and sign the national 'Fight the Anti-Refugee Laws' pledge.

2) Call on the UK Government to withdraw the UK-Rwanda agreement, repeal the Nationality and Borders Act, and work with Local Authorities and communities to build a refugee protection system that treats all people with dignity and compassion.”

B. Councillors John Cotton and Shehla Moledina had given notice of the following Notice of Motion:-

(See document No. 5, agenda item 9)

Councillor Nicky Brennan left the Chamber before the Motion was moved.

Councillor John Cotton moved the Motion which was seconded by Councillor Shehla Moledina.

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

(See document No. 7, ‘Amendments – City Council’)

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

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure, Councillor Morriam Jan and Izzy Knowles gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No. 8, ‘Amendments – City Council’)

Councillor Morriam Jan moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Izzy Knowles.

A debate ensued.

Councillors Jack Deakin and Sam Forsyth spoke during the debate.

The Lord Mayor invited Councillor John Cotton to sum up.

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

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

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-

RESOLVED:-

“This Council notes the recent research conducted by Women’s Aid on the impact of the Cost of Living on survivors of domestic abuse which found that:

- Almost all survivors (96%) responding had seen a negative impact on the amount of money available to them as a result of cost of living increases.
- Two thirds (66%) of survivors told us that abusers are now using the cost of living increase and concerns about financial hardship as a tool for coercive control, including to justify further restricting their access to money.
- Almost three quarters (73%) of women living with and having financial links with the abuser said that the cost of living crisis had either prevented them from leaving or made it harder for them to leave.

This Council also notes the recommendations in the recent report by the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner Victims’ Commissioner which are:

- An increased uplift to victims’ services
- A commitment to provide a multi-year funding strategy in line with inflation
- Overhaul of child maintenance service
- Commitment for increased number of specialist refuge bed spaces in West Midlands
- Overhaul how Universal Credit works for victims of domestic abuse
- Commitment for benefits to rise in line with inflation
- A commitment to working towards a whole culture change

This Council resolves to:

Write to the Chancellor to urge him not to cut funding for Domestic Abuse services through the Home Office budgets or the Justice budgets.

Explore what options may be available to provide specialist support for women who are survivors of domestic abuse via the Council’s growing network of Warm Welcome Spaces.

Write to the Government in support of the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner Victims’ Commissioner’s recommendations.

Ensure all Council Directorates and city partners are fully engaged in the work to renew Birmingham’s Domestic Abuse Prevention Strategy and are clear on the part they must play in tackling and preventing domestic abuse in our communities.

Acknowledge the work that the co-ordinating overview and scrutiny committee have commenced to support work to renew the strategy and ask that they continue to facilitate engagement with other scrutiny committees.

Write to the Council Executive calling on them to ensure that council funding for domestic abuse related services is protected within the council's medium term financial plan.

Calls on the Council Executive to ensure that, within its powers, victims of domestic abuse are not placed in Exempt or Temporary Accommodation with known sex or violence offenders.

Calls on the Executive to carry out a review, and report back to Scrutiny within 6 months, on how it can increase the number of specialist refuge bed spaces within Birmingham.

Ensure that, whilst noting that domestic abuse\violence is overwhelmingly a gendered crime, that all strategies, plans and funding decisions do not overlook other victims of domestic abuse including intergenerational, male and same sex relationships.

Calls on the Executive to review what additional support can be provided specifically to children who are caught up in domestic abuse situations to ensure that their futures are not compromised as a result of what they have witnessed.

Calls on the Executive to ensure that head teachers are aware of the importance of providing school places to children who have to move schools due to domestic abuse, within the school admissions statutory code of practice.

Record its thanks to the numerous charities and organisations across Birmingham and the UK providing invaluable support to victims of domestic abuse.

Facilitate a two-tier training programme to cover:

- 'What is a healthy relationship?', to be made available to all professionals working with young people as well as Safeguarding Teams, including elected members as Corporate Parents, to help facilitate early interventions.
- Healthy relationship training in schools to enable young people to recognise unhealthy relationships, understand the complexities of relationships and have a good understanding of strategies they can deploy to successfully address relationship issues."

The meeting ended at 1855 hours.

APPENDIX

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

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022



**CITY COUNCIL
6 DECEMBER 2022
WRITTEN QUESTIONS
TO CABINET
MEMBERS AND
COMMITTEE CHAIR
AND LEAD MEMBER**

A1

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

“Exempt accommodation debate dispensation”

Question:

On what date and time was the Chair of Standards asked for, and on what date and time did he agree to, the granting of dispensation for councillors with a pecuniary interest in exempt accommodation to take part and vote in the November Full Council debate in accordance with the councillor code of conduct and powers granted in part B16.1 i) g) of the constitution granted to Standard Committee and the powers of the Chair to act between meetings?

Answer:

The late receipt of the dispensation request did not afford the time for the Standards Cttee to be convened and or consulted. The Monitoring Officer has the responsibility to ensure that the Council has an effective Code of Conduct and as this motion involved a discussion about potential revisions to the existing Code of Conduct, it was felt necessary, to aid transparency that all Members should have the opportunity to give their views.

Part of this consideration was to remain compliant to the provisions of the Localism Act. As it was not possible for the Monitoring Officer to know the extent of the involvement of members with exempt accommodation, which could trigger an interest and cause potential unbalance of the vote, a dispensation was granted. Despite this, all Elected Members remained free to declare any relevant interests should they have so wished.

The Monitoring Officer will be taking a report to the next meeting of the Standards Committee (the December meeting has been cancelled, and the next meeting will be scheduled for January/February 2023)

A2

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR RICK PAYNE**

“Balsall Heath Neighbourhood Council ballot”

Question:

Please provide a detailed explanation of the issues with the Balsall Heath Neighbourhood Council ballot that result in the poll having to be extended. Please include what happened, why, the number of residents affected and other steps taken beyond extended the deadline to ensure the integrity of the ballot

Answer:

The ballot in Balsall Heath is being conducted under the provisions set out in the Local Government Act 2003 and forms part of the wider consultation on whether the residents in the proposed area support the creation of a new Neighbourhood Council.

Under the provisions of the Act (s116) it is for the Council to determine how the ballot (although to use its correct term under the Act, local poll), is conducted, which includes for example the timetable to be used or whether it's all postal. Whilst the outcome of the ballot is not binding on the Council it is one of the factors it must consider when making its decision on whether to establish a new Neighbourhood Council.

The proposed area for the Neighbourhood Council covers parts of two wards; Balsall Heath West and Sparkbrook and Balsall Heath East.

The data, containing the details of all the residents eligible to vote, was sent to our printers in 5 separate files. They were also advised of the number of files and the number of records there were in total.

Unfortunately, only 2 of the files were processed initially, and this fact was not picked up by either the printers or the proofers. Unfortunately, the proofing was not carried out by a member of the election's office team, who are used to proofing large numbers and different types of ballot papers. Consequently, the usual checks and balances to ensure that every file had been processed and the correct number of ballot papers were dispatched were not undertaken.

This meant that initially only ballot papers for the Sparkbrook and Balsall Heath East part of the proposed Neighbourhood Council were sent ballot papers. This amounted to 4,229 people out of a total electorate of 10,764. When the omission was

discovered (following a handful of people contacting the printer to obtain replacement ballot papers), immediate action was taken to rectify the situation and ballot papers were sent out to all the eligible residents in Balsall Heath West as soon as was practicable (the remaining 6,535 electors).

As acknowledged in the question the deadline was extended to ensure no elector was disadvantaged by the initial delay in ballot papers going out.

The integrity of the ballot has not been affected and as part of that process members of the Election Matters Members Forum (EMMF), which is cross party, were informed and notified of the action to be taken.

Immediate steps were also taken to ensure all information about the ballot and what a neighbourhood Council is, was updated to show the revised deadline by which all ballot papers had to be returned. This included information that was sent with the ballot papers as well as information that could be found online.

The lead community group involved in the Governance Review were also updated as soon as the issue became known and messages were put on the usual social media feeds used by the Council to highlight the deadline to cast votes had been extended until 15th December.

Finally, additional checks and balances have now been put in place to ensure that when the Council holds a ballot/referendum (under the Local Government Act) this error is not repeated.

A3

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

“Independent review”

Question:

Will you commit to publishing the 'independent' review into the culture of the Birmingham Council Labour Group that you commissioned following reports of racism and a toxic culture

Answer:

The review is being carried out by the National Labour Party.

A4

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

“Independent review – residents input”

Question:

As part of the 'independent' review into the culture of the Birmingham Council Labour Group you commissioned following reports of racism and a toxic culture, are residents outside of the Labour Party being asked for their views?

Answer:

The review is being carried out by the National Labour Party.

A5**CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022****WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR BRUCE LINES****“Late mailing”****Question:**

Following complaints of residents receiving notification of planning applications, sometimes months late, what assessment has been undertaken to understand the root cause of the issue and if other council areas are affected?

Answer:

Once the issue was identified, Senior officers undertook a systematic review of the consultation process to understand the causes of the issue, how it happened, legal implications and process going forward. This is an isolated issue to the planning service for a period of time to a limited number of users producing consultation letters which has now been resolved.

Following a thorough investigation, the issue effected **752** planning applications. **177** of those were refused, **257** withdrawn (not decided) and **318** were approved. These were predominately Householder applications, for developments such as single storey rear extensions. The individual applicants and their neighbours would have been impacted by this issue.

A number of safeguards have subsequently been put in place to ensure that this does not happen again.

A6

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

'Birchfield Harriers'

Question:

Could the Leader comment on whether the costs incurred by Birchfield Harriers, during works to Alexander Stadium, will be fully reimbursed?

Answer:

Expenditure incurred by Birchfield Harriers during the duration of occupation by the Birmingham 2022 Organising Committee (April – November 2022) is subject to a claim that is currently being progressed with the expectation being that costs will be reimbursed in full.

In addition, Birchfield Harriers were given access to track facilities during the demolition phase of the works programme and as soon as construction commenced were relocated to the nearest athletics track at Wyndley Leisure Centre at the cost of the Council. During this period a clubhouse was maintained for the exclusive use of Birchfield Harriers throughout the works period.

A7

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR MORRIAM JAN

‘Birchfield Harriers’

Question:

Could the Leader provide details of when Birchfield Harriers will be able to use the main track at Alexander Stadium again?

Answer:

Alexander Stadium was handed back from the Birmingham 2022 Organising Committee on 4th November 2022. Birchfield Harriers were given immediate access to the warm-up track and High Performance Centre to commence their training nights week commencing 7th November.

It has been known for some time that the stadium would immediately go into a reinstatement programme of capital works after the games. Therefore, from 5 November to 1 April 2023 the stadium and west stand was not scheduled to be open to the public or anyone to allow for clear passageway and access to this area by our contractors. This has always been the plan and the warm-up track has been provided to Birchfield Harriers throughout because of this. No offer or expectation to have access to the main stadium has ever been made to Birchfield Harriers during this time.

Track damage following the Commonwealth Games, along with remediation to the main track infield is required prior to any use. In addition, canopy lights need to be installed requiring contractor access on the track whilst these works are undertaken. Works are progressing at pace and it is hoped that daytime access to the track may be made available in the New Year where works have been completed in this area and where it is safe to offer access for athletics. A temporary lighting solution is also being explored so that Birchfield can be relocated to the main track at the earliest opportunity following works.

B

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

“Ombudsman complaints”

Question:

Please provide a breakdown by service area for how much has been paid to complainants in each of the last 3 years as a result of Ombudsman complaints (Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman and Housing Ombudsman)

Answer:

Ombudsmen (LGSCO/HO) Compensatory Awards	Nov 19-Oct 20	Nov 20-Oct 21	Nov 21 - Oct 22	Total Compensation amount
Adults Social Care	£ 3,200	£ 3,600	£ 400	£ 7,200
Birmingham Children's Trust	£ 7,950	£ 9,600	£ 250	£ 17,800
Birmingham Children's Trust & Adults	£ 7,500	£ -	£ -	£ 7,500
Children & Families	£ 13,500	£ 35,025	£ 3,380	£ 51,905
City Housing	£ 13,280	£ 49,348	£ 43,925	£ 106,553
City Operations	£ 16,330	£ 12,550	£ 3,140	£ 32,020
Council Management (Digital and Customer Servs)	£ 1,152	£ 1,100	£ 4,759	£ 7,011
Place, Prosperity and Sustainability	£ 280	£ 225	£ -	£ 505
Grand Total	£ 63,192	£ 111,448	£ 55,854	£ 230,494

C1

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES FROM COUNCILLOR DEBORAH HARRIES

'Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children'**Question:**

Following recent reports of the further increase in unaccompanied asylum-seeking children coming to the UK, could the Cabinet Member confirm how many unaccompanied children have presented themselves to the City setting out if they been housed in hotels or bed and breakfast accommodation in the City?

Answer:

For context the cohort of unaccompanied children and care leavers being supported by the Trust is as follows.

As at 26 th November 2022			
Aged	UASC CiC	Aged	UASC 18+
Aged 12	1	Aged 18	75
Aged 14	1	Aged 19	43
Aged 15	12	Aged 20	66
Aged 16	46	Aged 21	11
Aged 17	68	Aged 22+	11
Total	128	Total	206
Total Cohort	334		

For the period of June to November 2022, the specific 'routes' for unaccompanied children and people being referred to the Trust are as follows,

- a. Trafficking & Exploitation - YP being identified as the victims of trafficking and exploitation, in the main in cannabis cultivation properties who then make a claim of being a child. These YP will then be referred by the police and accommodated if their claimed age is supported.
- b. Adult Dispersal Hotels - The Home Office through the adult asylum dispersal mechanism will place adults in hotel provision in Birmingham. Some of these adults will then with 'advocacy' support make a claim to be a child and then referred to the Trust. If on initial assessment their claimed age is accepted or they need to be accommodated pending the completion of an age assessment, they will be accommodated by the Trust.
- c. National Transfer Scheme (NTS) - The Home Office have mandated the National Transfer Scheme of dispersing children from the port of Kent and other accommodation to all local authorities. In using a specific formula of number and cycles, the Trust will have to accommodate the allocated number.
- d. Spontaneous Arrival - Several YP will present themselves as unaccompanied mainly at police stations with a claimed age of being a child. They too will be referred to the Trust and accommodated if on initial assessment their claimed age is accepted, or they need to be accommodated pending the completion of an age assessment, they will be accommodated.

An overview of this is as follows:

UASC Referral Overview	TOTAL	Accommodated	Age Assessments to be undertaken
Jun-22	10	8	3
Jul-22	7	7	3
Aug-22	9	8	2
Sep-22	19	18	9
Oct-22	19	16	15
Nov-22	18	17	14
Total	82	74	46

Once accommodated by the Trust no child is placed in either hotel or bed and breakfast accommodation. All young people aged 16-17 are placed in supported accommodation and those under 16 placed in a foster placement.

C2

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES FROM COUNCILLOR ZAKER CHOUDHRY

‘OFSTED Results’

Question:

With reports that most of the ‘outstanding’ schools inspected last year have been downgraded by Ofsted, could the Cabinet Member confirm how many schools this affects in the City, as well as providing details of their new ratings?

Answer:

In the three years since January 2020, 116 Birmingham schools have been inspected, of which **16** were previously rated Outstanding by OfSTED. Of these:

- Three schools remained rated Outstanding;
 - o King Edward VI Aston School (academy)
 - o King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls (academy)
 - o Brearley Nursery School (LA maintained nursery school). Brearley’s previous inspection was a Short Inspection
- Four schools received a Short Inspection only and remained Outstanding;
 - o English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School (voluntary aided school)
 - o King Edward VI Handsworth Grammar School for Boys (academy)
 - o Parkfield Community School (community school)
 - o Brays School (academy)
- Four schools’ ratings dropped from Outstanding to Good;
 - o St Ambrose Barlow Catholic Primary School (voluntary aided school)
 - o St Teresa's Catholic Primary School (voluntary aided school)
 - o Holyhead School (academy)
 - o Fox Hollies School and Performing Arts College (foundation school). Fox Hollies previous inspection was a Short Inspection

- Five schools' ratings dropped from Outstanding to Requires Improvement;
 - o Ark St Alban's Academy (academy)
 - o Greet Primary School (academy)
 - o King Edward VI Lordswood School for Girls (academy)
 - o Allens Croft Nursery School (LA maintained nursery school)
 - o Cherry Oak School (community school). The previous inspections at Allens Croft Nursery and Cherry Oak were Short Inspections.

Of the 16 published inspections listed above all but the highlighted four took place in the last year, as there was a hiatus in OfSTED inspections for considerable periods during 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID19 pandemic.

D

D - NO WRITTEN QUESTIONS SUBMITTED

E1

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

“GRIME WATCH”

Question:

Since it was raised at the last cabinet meeting, the council has finally launched a second episode of 'Grime Watch', 8 months after the first was released before the local elections. What frequency is planned going forward?

Answer:

As a point of clarification, the second episode of Grime Watch was in the advanced stages of production before the question at the recent council meeting.

The production of an episode has to pass through several stages, as per the CCTV usage policy that was approved prior to Episode One in the spring. Resourcing meant there was a longer than anticipated period between the first two episodes but going forward we anticipate the frequency increasing, but it will ultimately depend upon having footage of cases that pass the various thresholds laid out within the CCTV policy. Also, cases will be shown on episodes of Grime Watch when all other avenues to identify a culprit have been exhausted.

E2

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

“Missed Collections feedback forms”

Question:

In each month since it was introduced, how many missed collection feedback forms were emailed to those who reported a missed collection and of those what number were returned and what number reported that their bin had been collected ahead of the next scheduled collection

Answer:

The missed collection feedback form was introduced at the end of November 2021. The link to the form is emailed to every citizen who reports a missed collection via the website or contact centre (providing an email address is given to the agent). The email is sent on the date that the next collection is due.

We do not have the exact number of links to the feedback form that have been emailed, however we have provided the number of missed collections that have been reported in each month below.

Note that the month of responses relates to the month that missed collection was reported, rather than the date of completion of the feedback form. For example, if a missed collection was reported in January and a feedback form was completed for that missed collection, it is also included in the data for January, regardless of the month it was actually completed.

Month of reporting missed collection	Number of residual, recycling and garden missed collections reported	Number of responses to missed collection report feedback form

2021		
Nov	10341	1143
Dec	7502	2725
2022		
Jan	8520	2814
Feb	6324	2159
Mar	13425	4669
Apr	6866	2145
May	4885	1524
Jun	6640	2313
Jul	7911	2554
Aug	9439	2976
Sep	5753	1786
Oct	4399	1521
Nov (to 27th)	4455	926

Since its implementation, every missed bin reported will have had the feedback form link sent to the citizen via email.

However, please be aware that if the citizen doesn't provide a valid email address the form will send the link to that email address. This is the case for both online and Contact Centre.

Should a citizen refuse to give their email address or does not have an email address, the Contact Centre will simply enter madeup@madeup.com so they can complete the missed bin reporting.

E3

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

“Action Plan to address Ombudsman concerns”

Question:

Please provide a copy of the 'comprehensive action plan' drawn up in response to the recent Ombudsman findings into 3 complaints of problems with assisted collections (Ombudsman ref 22 002 457), including how the failing in corporate leadership highlighted by the Ombudsman are being addressed

Answer:

At time of reporting it was established via the depot that the side of Citizens property is not a traditional assisted collection storage point which would normally be near to a resident's front door. The crews reported that side of the property is very narrow and manoeuvring bins is difficult, however, the depot/crews now understand and accept Citizen's preference is to present her bins at the side and for them to be put back there once emptied.

Subsequent action implemented in the event of complaint

Monitoring was carried out by an Assistant Service Manager visiting the road on scheduled collection days to check and verify bin(s) have been emptied and duly returned to the agreed storage point. Preference is to present her bins at the side and for them to be put back there once emptied.

The depot advised going forward, relief crews who cover for holidays, sickness and other absences will be fully briefed regarding Citizens assisted collection status and preference to leave her bins at the side of her property as an ad hoc arrangement.

- Citizen has since been awarded compensation to the amount of £100

- Monitoring was set up and implemented from the period of 31st March 2022 to 19th May 2022 specifically for the purpose of ensuring checks and verification that bins were being returned to the storage point.
- Real-time feedback from Depot as of today - 30/11/2022. Crews have continued to adhere to ad hoc preference of collection point and report of no issues re accessing bin. This feedback correlates with the fact that no further complaints have been received from the address in relation to the original complaint.

E4

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

“Missed collections and reported missed collections”

Question:

How many bin collections (broken down by type and ward) does the council know to have missed between 1 January 2022 and 25 November 2022 and in the same time period how many were reported as missed by residents?

Answer:

Please see the table below.

Data for missed collections reported by residents is the period between 1/1/22-25/11/22. It does not include reports about missed large shared containers at flats and apartments.

The number of properties on roads that are reported as dropped excludes most of January 2022 as depots only began recording this information centrally in the range between the end of January and beginning of February (depending on the depot). There are several points to note with this data set:

- If a whole street is reported as being dropped, then every property is included in the data set. However, not every property would actually present their bin for collection, so these would not actually be missed collections. Typically, bin set out rates are around 85% depending on the area of the city and service. Reasons for these non-presented bins include: not requiring a weekly residual collection, not recycling, being away from the property and the property being vacant.

- Where the crew have reported a road as being partly dropped then half the property count of the street has been used in the absence of an actual number.
- While every effort has been made to maintain an accurate data set, dropped roads are not always reported accurately and are occasionally under reported. This is mainly due to the manual method of compiling the data. We are currently rolling out tablets to all residual, recycling and garden waste vehicles and this digital technology will ensure that we have accurate digital records. This will be fully implemented by the end of 2022.

	Missed collections reported by residents		Number of properties on roads reported as dropped by crews - see notes	
	Recycling	Residual	Recycling	Residual
Acocks Green	281	990	1955	7078
Allens Cross	181	392	920	62
Alum Rock	270	1117	2338	7853
Aston	270	689	6100	9532
Balsall Heath West	226	293	682	394
Bartley Green	431	1041	360	1233
Billesley	364	623	1285	636
Birchfield	163	411	2457	10473
Bordesley & Highgate	180	331	811	4477

Bordesley Green	177	326	4718	8319
Bournbrook & Selly Park	270	366	291	608
Bournville & Cotteridge	285	342	42	83
Brandwood & Kings Heath	391	457	1438	1025
Bromford & Hodge Hill	563	722	5571	1188 3
Castle Vale	353	624	4021	8124
Druids Heath & Monyhull	128	266	18	37
Edgbaston	335	466	108	259
Erdington	775	1509	8128	2117 7
Frankley Great Park	194	592	1	258
Garretts Green	296	649	2606	8063
Glebe Farm & Tile Cross	578	1295	3480	7254
Gravelly Hill	217	492	3678	1049 1
Hall Green North	316	1037	1989	5022
Hall Green South	328	473	476	3444
Handsworth	138	379	2659	1025 1
Handsworth Wood	433	712	2648	1771 8
Harborne	631	785	1827	891
Heartlands	143	415	985	2785
Highters Heath	138	424	43	32
Holyhead	177	406	1415	1215 7

Kings Norton North	123	450	0	739
Kings Norton South	151	451	0	122
Kingstanding	753	1681	7262	2298 5
Ladywood	184	216	2186	4251
Longbridge & West Heath	366	623	68	32
Lozells	94	290	2759	5059
Moseley	200	800	502	4001
Nechells	109	315	1675	4043
Newtown	62	184	684	5231
North Edgbaston	563	889	4444	7160
Northfield	182	289	0	113
Oscott	706	1766	6481	2241 8
Perry Barr	418	1497	5981	2690 0
Perry Common	356	767	3435	1137 3
Pype Hayes	286	1002	4555	1787 3
Quinton	549	819	2505	420
Rubery & Rednal	161	311	84	110
Shard End	303	806	2702	8598
Sheldon	579	994	5099	4470
Small Heath	104	527	644	5740
Soho & Jewellery Quarter	256	495	3434	1034 2

South Yardley	240	620	2860	4085
Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East	171	539	585	2736
Sparkhill	176	530	1548	1439
Stirchley	117	295	196	214
Stockland Green	409	1213	5890	2683 1
Sutton Four Oaks	903	974	8335	1306 4
Sutton Mere Green	507	1038	4944	1462 8
Sutton Reddicap	346	1028	3866	1579 8
Sutton Roughley	513	959	4374	1120 4
Sutton Trinity	668	1015	6640	1349 0
Sutton Vesey	945	1876	7455	2083 5
Sutton Walmley & Minworth	725	1186	6353	1414 7
Sutton Wylde Green	319	869	1989	1167 5
Tyseley & Hay Mills	165	507	1063	4634
Ward End	128	667	1305	5294
Weoley & Selly Oak	400	813	0	231
Yardley East	237	592	1840	3806
Yardley West & Stechford	189	727	1118	6275

E5

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

‘Grime Watch’

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member provide details of the cost so far of producing the one ‘Grime Watch’ video, reporting the number of perpetrators identified via (a) the ‘Grime Watch’ video and (b) Council CCTV cameras?

Answer:

(a) – The recently published episode of Grime Watch was done at no extra cost beyond the time of officers who worked on this as part of their business as usual Bold Green Birmingham communications activity.

(b) – CCTV can play a role at various points in an investigation. Cases will be shown on episodes of Grime Watch when all other avenues to identify a culprit have been exhausted, which means the camera may have achieved a positive result much earlier in the investigatory cycle of a given case.

In which case I can confirm that the number of perpetrators identified via the Grimewatch videos is zero. For the number of perpetrators identified via Council CCTV cameras, I’m afraid it’s not possible to provide these stats as this is not directly tracked and it would require a resource-intensive data trawl to retrieve the requested information. However, in more general terms, I can confirm that the CCTV has identified zero perpetrators who have committed a fly-tipping offence on-foot. Where perpetrators have deposited waste from a vehicle and the CCTV has successfully captured a registration plate, this frequently precipitates an identification of the offender, by means of a Statutory Demand for Information being issued to the

registered keeper, requiring them to provide details of the driver at the time/date the offence occurred. Where the registered keepers fail to provide driver details, the legislation permits for the person in control of the vehicle to be prosecuted for the fly-tipping offence, even if they were not the person who deposited the waste.

E6

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

‘Mobile Household Recycling Centre’

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member provide daily details of tonnage collected from MHRC during October and November by depot, providing details of the wards visited each day?

Answer:

Please see the attached.



CCQ - October 2022
Data.xlsx

E7

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

‘Compensation’

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member give details of how many Ombudsman claims have been received from residents seeking compensation for their poor waste collections, setting out how much has been paid out in claims over the last 3 years, split by ward?

Answer:

In the last three full years, the Council received 103 Ombudsman complaints relating to waste. These resulted in total compensatory awards of £8,090, and individual amounts by year and BCC Ward can be identified as follows:

	Total Compensation amount
Nov 2019 - Oct 20	2,450
Castle Vale	100

Hall Green North	300
Harborne	100
Kingstanding	100
Ladywood	200
Longbridge & West Heath	100
Moseley	300
Sutton Wylde Green	300
Unknown	950
Nov 2020 - Oct 21	2,740
Bartley Green	200
Castle Vale	100
Edgbaston	340
Handsworth Wood	100
Harborne	300
Holyhead	100
Ladywood	100
Perry Barr	100

Quinton	100
South Yardley	200
Sutton Wylde Green	300
Unknown	650
Ward End	150
Nov 2021 - Oct 22	2,900
Aston	650
Bournbrook & Selly Park	100
Frankley Great Park	200
Ladywood	100
Northfield	500
Perry Barr	150
Perry Common	200
Pype Hayes	100
Quinton	300
Sparkhill	200
Unknown	400

Grand Total	8,090
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Please note that the above table includes all complaints concerning waste and/or refuse collection and as such may include limited matters not directly related to residential waste collections.

E8

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

‘Love Your Environment’

Question:

Although each City ward is scheduled to have a ‘deep clean’ under the new Love Your Environment initiative, I am aware 15 wards have been identified as ‘priority’ and given extra resources. Can the Cabinet Member confirm which wards this will affect?

Answer:

Top 15 Wards highlighted within the monthly performance indicators that are High in Litter and Dumping.

1. Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath (Redfern)
2. Soho & Jewellery Quarter (Perry Barr)
3. Alum Rock (Redfern)
4. Bordesley Green (Redfern)
5. Holyhead (Perry Barr)
6. Bromford & Hodge Hill (Redfern)
7. Small Heath (Redfern)
8. Aston (Perry Barr)
9. Handsworth (Perry Barr)
10. North Edgbaston (Lifford)
11. Sparkhill (Redfern)
12. Balsall Heath West (Redfern)
13. Glebe Farm & Tile Cross (Redfern)
14. Ward End (Redfern)
15. Moseley (Lifford)

Other wards will get LYE 1 – 2 per year subject to resource availability.

E9

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT
FROM COUNCILLOR DEBORAH HARRIES‘CCTV for Fly Tipping’

Question:

Further to the written question I asked at last month’s Council meeting regarding mobile CCTV and the number of prosecutions brought against fly tippers (question E5), for the last five years could the Cabinet Member give details of (a) the number of prosecutions that have been brought (b) the number of fly tippers that have been processed (c) the total amount of monies which have been raised as a result of prosecutions and (d) the wards in which successful prosecutions have been made?

Answer:

The below tables provide details of the number of cases taken through Court.

The information concerning the wards where the offences took place would require officers to go individually into each of the case files to determine the locations. This would be prohibitively resource intensive. The number of prosecutions is also reported to Licensing and Public Protection Committee on a monthly basis.

CASES FINALISED BY LEGISLATION 2017/18

LEGISLATION	CASES	OFFENCES	FINES	COSTS AWARDED	OTHER PENALTY
Environmental Protection Act 1990					
Section 33* (Flytipping)	43	72	£51,927	£38,701	12mth community order, 80hrs unpaid work, 8mths imprisonment suspended, 200hrs community work, disqualified from driving for 12mths
Section 34 (Duty of Care)	25	43	£22,346	£17,066	27mth Conditional Discharge

* includes 6 Sec 34 offences, 3 sec 71 offences, 3 scrap metal offences

CASES FINALISED BY LEGISLATION 2018/19

LEGISLATION	CASES	OFFENCES	FINES	COSTS AWARDED	OTHER PENALTY
Environmental Protection Act 1990					
Section 33** (Flytipping)	58	126	£72,045	£40,179	9mths imprisonment suspended for 2yrs, 12mths disqualification, 6 penalty points, 12mth community order, 430hrs unpaid work, 18 mths cond dis
Section 34 (Duty of Care)	72	91	£49,399	£45,737	6 mth cond dis

** includes 8 x sec 71 offences, 27 x sec 34 offences, 3 x EA sec 110 offences, 1 x RTA sec 143 offence, 1 x RTA sec 87 offence, 1 scrap metal dealer offence

CASES FINALISED BY LEGISLATION 2019/20

LEGISLATION	CASES	OFFENCES	FINES	COSTS AWARDED	OTHER PENALTY
Environmental Protection Act 1990					
Section 33*** (Flytipping)	35	60	£104,657	£27,138	5 mths imprisonment
Section 34**** (Duty of Care)	52	63	£22,326	£20,834	15mth conditional discharge, absolute discharge

***includes 8 sec 34 offences, 3 sec 71 offence, 4 road traffic offences

**** includes 7 sec 110 ea offence

CASES FINALISED BY LEGISLATION 2020/21

LEGISLATION	CASES	OFFENCES	FINES	COSTS AWARDED	OTHER PENALTY
Environmental Protection Act 1990					
Section 33***** (Flytipping)	16	55	£31,512	£10,683	48mth conditional discharge, 13mths imprisonment, 12mth community order & 60hrs unpaid work

***** includes 1 sec 71 offence

CASES FINALISED BY LEGISLATION 2021/22

LEGISLATION	CASES	OFFENCES	FINES	COSTS AWARDED	OTHER PENALTY
Environmental Protection Act 1990					
Section 33***** (Flytipping)	35	57	£19,312	£19,967	Absolute Discharge, 18mth imprisonment suspended 18ths, 15 rehabilitation, 4 mth tag, 12 mth community order, 100 hrs community service
Section 34 (Duty of Care)	2	2	£500	£585	

***** includes 6 sec 71 offence, 2 sec 34, 1 Fraud Act

E10

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

‘Love Your streets initiative:

Question:

Can I thank the cabinet member for consulting ward members about actions to be undertaken during the Love Your Streets day in Perry Barr ward on 23 November. Having submitted a significant list of roads needing leaf and gutter clearance, I have had no feedback about what work was undertaken. The following day the city was subject to heavy rain, which I understand amounted to half an inch in an hour, leaving to further accumulation of leaves in drains and significant flooding near events in at least two neighbourhoods. Could the cabinet member report on what work was done?

Answer:

On the Love Your Environment Day for Perry Barr the crews were litter picking, removing dumping and collecting dumped fridges across the ward. Please see below:

PERRY BARR DUMPING CREW 0.52 TONS, 2 MATTRESSES, 4 CHAIRS, 1 WARDROBE, 85 BAGS OF RUBBISH.

PERRY BARR DEEP CLEAN 0.48 TONS, 35 BAGS OF LITTER, RUG, PAINT TUBS, CUPBOARD, LARGE BUILDERS' BAGS OF GENERAL WASTE.

PERRY BARR LYS CREW 22 BAGS OF LITTER, TV STAND, 3 FRIDGES, CABLEWIRE, TV, 0.42 TON OF WASTE



SSLYE Perry Barr
Dumping Crew.pdf



SSLYE Perry Barr
Litter.pdf

Perry Barr	23.11.22
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Crew	Tonnage
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LYS crew Perry Barr	0.42
Deep Cleaning Crew Monty	0.54
Deep Cleaning Crew Perry Barr	0.48
Dumping Crew 1 Perry Barr	0.52
Dumping Crew Monty	1.54
MHRC Derrydown Road B42 1RZ	4.14
Parks	0.20
Total	7.84
Bed Bases	4
Builders Bags	5
Chairs	4
Cupboard	1
Doors	5
Fridges	3
Graffiti Tags Removed	36

Litter Bags Removed	260
Mattresses	5
Paint Tubs	15
Rugs	1
Sofas	2
TV Stand	1
Wardrobes	1
Wooden Pallets	71

E11

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

‘Climate Emergency’

Question:

Does he agree that the demolition (as opposed to a retrofit) of the 1960’s Ringway Centre in Smallbrook Queensway is incompatible with the 2019 Declaration by this Council of a Climate Emergency?

Answer:

As this is a live planning application I cannot comment at this stage.

The application will go to Planning Committee in the New Year and I’m sure that the issue you raise will be discussed there.

F1

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR ROBERT ALDEN**

“Spending controls”

Question:

Please list all 'rigorous spending controls' introduced in July 2022 to mitigate the risk of a £44.6m overspend this financial year, as referenced in the financial monitoring report to Cabinet on 8 November (paragraph 4.2)

Answer:

We reported the return to rigorous spend controls as part of the Quarter 2 financial monitoring report to Cabinet on 7 November and in a presentation to Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 17 November.

As Members will know, we are constantly horizon scanning and alert to changes in rising costs and pressures on our budget. The introduction of the spend controls first put in place in November 2021 (and continuing this year), being an example which we saw work at the end of the last financial year.

We continue to recognise that there are a number of risks to balancing the budget. These risks must all be carefully gripped and managed at pace and offset by opportunities to make savings. We have returned to rigorous spend controls focusing on staffing, facilities management, and procurement. We continue to undertake due diligence around the value of risks identified. We will continue to report progress against these rigorous spend controls as part of the monthly reporting to Cabinet and Resources OSC.

F2

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

“Statutory interest”

Question:

Since 1 April 2022, how much in statutory interest has been paid, or is still owed by the council for invoices not paid within the 30 days allowed within Public Contract Regulations

Answer:

Payments information in respect of statutory interest charges related to invoices that are not paid within 30 days is not collected at a level of detail to answer this question fully. Where charges have been made/paid these are recorded within the ledger alongside the original invoice.

We are aware of two charges incurred for the late payment of energy invoices totalling £3,135.36. A process is now in place to avoid this occurring in the future.

F3

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR RON STORER**

“Court action for non-payment of invoices”

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of cost to the Council of each the 15 court actions identified in answers to November written questions as having been undertaken since the roll out of Oracle for the non-payment of invoices, including whether they reached court or were settled out of court before a hearing?

Answer:

This matter was paid as Ordered by the Court; however, the summary judgement is currently being contested as such this amount could be reduced/deleted

F4

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR KERRY BREWER**

“Awards dinners”

Question:

**Please provide a breakdown of council spend on tickets or sponsorship to
awards dinners in each of the last 5 years, broken down by event**

Answer:

Unfortunately, we do not hold data at that level of information across the Council.

F5

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

“Oracle direct debits”

Question:

Please provide a copy of the action plan (or extract from wider action plan) agreed prior to the roll out of Oracle for dealing with invoices due to the council, including the decision to pause direct debits, along with any updates to that plan post roll out to adjust to issues that arose

Answer:

1. The plan from SAP to the new financial system Oracle was to continue creating invoices using manual processes whilst working on Interfaces after go live, which at the time was not deemed as high risk. After go live some of the invoice interfaces did take a little longer to work, so we continued with the contingency manual invoicing processes. We will need to get the latest cut over plan from the project and forward it on to you.
2. We did not actually pause all Directs Debit runs in 2022. There were a few issues with regards to making sure that we did not put anyone into a position of hardship, but we continued to take direct debits manually with a pause between September and October. We paused because we have moved to a semi-automated Direct Debit run which collects monies from residents/customers every Tuesday and Thursday. As at 28th November 2022 we have collected 6,416 direct debits totalling £74.7m.

F6

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

“Treasury investments”

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of the banks, building societies and funds that the council has used for treasury investments in the last 3 years, including the amount deposited in each

Answer:

The Council uses ‘Treasury Investments’ to manage cash flows in a liquid and secure manner. It doesn’t use Treasury Investments seeking a return, in line with the current Treasury Management Policy.

The table below lists the investment counterparties that the Council has used for its treasury investments in the past three years.

The total deposits made in each investment counterparty for the whole year are the sum of all deposits made in the year in a number of transactions. Deposits and withdrawals are made on almost on a daily basis.

At any one time, the Council does not currently deposit more than £40m in each Money Market Fund and £15m in each Bank call account, based on the investment limits set as part of the Council’s Treasury Management Policy.

			2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	
Total in year deposits 2020/21	Closing balance 2020/21	Total in year deposits	Closing balance 2021/22	Closing balance 2022/23	Total in year deposits	Closing balance 2022/23
	Opening balance at 29 November 2020	2021/22	Opening balance at 29 November 2021	2022/23	2022	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	2021/22	2021/22	2022/23	2022/23	2022	2023
	37,380,000	8,000,000	1,000,000	12,150,364	24,400,000	5,035,271
	18,000,000		0		0	0
	14,500,000	14,613,237	1,036,000	14,998,603	22,118,000	2,121,668
	0	0	21,000,000	11,400,000	15,000,000	
	341,700,000	40,000,000	523,500,000	0	111,500,000	27,500,000
	116,000,000	25,000,000	341,800,000	0	38,000,000	0
				0	111,500,000	
	152,000,000	40,000,000	3,500,000	33,800,000	253,200,000	5,000,000
	421,500,000	34,000,000	14,290,000	0	444,500,000	31,200,000
	353,400,000	32,000,000	359,500,000	0	186,000,000	4,000,000
	287,000,000		58,000,000			0
	479,400,000					
			0		91,500,000	
	241,500,000		30,000,000			
	2,805,500,000		1,293,000,000	74,000,000	607,000,000	
	0		84,837,597	0	0	
	0	0	40,748,556	0	0	0

F7**CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022****WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR TIMOTHY HUXTABLE****“Oracle custom reports”****Question:**

Since 1 April, how many days have custom reports on Oracle been unavailable for officers to use?

Answer:

Custom reports have been available for all staff since go-live in April. Due to an identified security risk, access to reports was removed on 1st November 2022. A temporary workaround was implemented within a few days and as of today, we have 250+ BCC and BCT subject matter experts who have access to those reports.

F8

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR EWAN MACKEY

“Remote printers”

Question:

How much has the Council spent on 'remote printers' for the purposes of home working?

Answer:

The total amount spent since 2020 is: £29,087.

F9

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

“Away days”

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of money spent on employee 'away days' in each of the last 5 years, split by service area.

Answer:

For clarity; the Corporate Leadership Team aspect forms part of a leadership development programme that runs over a time period to ensure that the top team are positioned to deliver the corporate plan recognising delivery has been an issue in the past here at BCC.

Some of the below costs are associated with BCC buildings to enable us to keep costs in house.

Service	Costs
Finance	£1624.00
Leaal & Governance	£9 360.00
Audit & Risk	None
Human Resources	£1 349.00
Procurement	None
Adults	£505.30
Customer Services	£3 433.75
Public Health	£15.708
Strateav Eauality & Partnerships	£7 598
Place Prosperity, and Sustainability	£23 176.96
PPI Divisional Awav Dav	£339.50
City Housing	£595.95
Partnerships. Insiaht and Prevention	£2097.00
City Operations	£1 754.60
CLT Awav Dava	£36.780.00
Children's & Families	£882.78

F10

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

“Budget task and finish groups”

Question:

How much is being paid to PwC for support with the ‘task and finish groups’ set up to work on closing the budget gap and what procurement route was followed to award this work?

Answer:

The estimated total value for this contract with PwC is £140,600 (plus expenses up to 3% of this fee), total fee £144, 818 exclusive VAT. The 3% for expenses is calculated in accordance with the relevant rates specified as a part of the ESPO Consultancy Services Framework and the contract runs for 3 months from 20th October 2022. The award report allows for additional /extended work to cap of £170k. The ESPO Consultancy Services Framework 664_21 via Lot 1 – Business Services, was used for this procurement route. This framework was considered the best option due to timescales of having a supplier in place to provide the services.

F11

CITY CUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR BRUCE LINES

“Budget position by service”

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of the budget position for each service, at the level of head of service as of the date of the latest monitoring report. Please note this is the level of granularity below the headline figures in the cabinet monitoring report.

Answer:

This information is not in the public domain, reporting is done at a higher level

G

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND
SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR MATT BENNETT**

“Invoices for Care Costs”

Question:

In response to question G1 from the November Council meeting, you promised to provide an answer as soon as possible. As of the date of the written question deadline for this month, no answer has yet been received. Please can you provide an answer to the question, repeated below

In each month since April 2022, how many service user who pay in part or in full for their care have not been invoiced on time by the council for these costs and what is the total and average amount owed from this backlog as of today?

Answer:

My apologies to Cllr Bennett for not having provided this information in time for the last Council meeting, nor before this meeting. Officers were keen to provide as detailed a response as possible to the questions Cllr Bennett raised, and I hope the answer below addresses that.

Q1: In each month since April 2022, how many service users who pay in part or in full for their care have not been invoiced on time by the council?

Residential

Average of 2939 clients, delayed by 2 months on average

Non-Residential

Average of 3232 clients delayed by average of 3 months

Based on Analysis below

Q2: What is the total and average amount owed from this backlog as of today?

The total and average amount owed from the delayed invoicing is as follows;

Total delayed invoicing as @ Oct 2022 £3.8 million across Residential & Non-Residential

Total Residential Debt = £2.9 million / Clients 2887

Residential average debt owed is £1019.00

Total Non-Residential Debt = 959k / Clients 3411

Non-Residential average debt owed is £281.00

We are sending out invoices to customers, including a narrative with regards to the repayments of any amounts owed. We are very conscious about the cost of living crisis, and we will continue to work to avoid any customers being in a position of hardship.

H1

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND
HOMELESSNESS FROM COUNCILLOR KEN WOOD**

“Unsuitable housing”

Question:

How many council tenants are currently being housed in accommodation the council has itself deemed to be unsuitable?

Answer:

There are many factors in which council tenants require more suitable accommodation, including for example, due to under occupancy, overcrowding, medical and/or disability reasons. There are 4710 (5%) of council tenants currently registered for a housing transfer with a recognised housing need.

Birmingham City Council does not consider any of its let accommodation to be unsuitable for council tenants due to current disrepair.

We recognise the need to continuously invest in our homes to ensure decent and safe accommodation and will spend £93 million this year on capital improvements.

H2

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS FROM COUNCILLOR ADRIAN DELANEY

“Property acquisition programme”

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of current spend to date of the £60m property acquisition programme approved by Cabinet in February 2022, included the total number of properties bought by ward, existing use, housing type, total number of bedrooms and number of people rehoused in purchased properties (split between temporary housing and social housing)

Answer

The Council undertook a competitive procurement exercise (March – May 2022) to appoint a provider to support the acquisition of the properties. The programme started in June 2022 with the first set of completions started in October 2022.

The table below provides a breakdown of spend to date by month, with the projected purchases by December 2022.

	Properties	Spend	3 Bed	4 Bed	5 Bed	6 Bed
October Purchases	5	£ 1,303,042	3	0	2	0
November Purchases	10	£ 2,580,845	6	3	0	1
December Expected	6	£ 1,737,518	3	2	1	0
Total	21	£ 5,621,405	12	5	3	1

21 properties have been purchased to date.

The table includes a breakdown of the size of homes by number of bedrooms. All purchases are traditional build, residential houses over two or three floors.

These properties are to provide emergency temporary accommodation for families. The plan is they will convert to social housing at a future date, once the level of demand for emergency accommodation reduces.

The table overleaf shows the total number of properties bought by ward:

Ward	Purchases
Pype Hayes	3
Perry Common	2
Stockland Green	2
Erdington	2
Kingstanding	2
Sutton Vesey	1
King's Norton North	1
Kings Norton South	1
Weoley & Selly Oak	1
Sutton Roughley	1
Bromford & Hodge Hill	1
Ward End	1
Glebe Farm & Tile Cross	1
Gravelly Hill	1
Oscott	1
Total	21

Currently no families have moved into the properties, pending completion of preparing the properties.

H3

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND
HOMELESSNESS FROM COUNCILLOR SIMON MORRALL**

“Decent Homes – key components”

Question:

What proportion of council homes have one or more key components that are old and, because of their condition need replacing or major repair?

Answer:

15.6 % of council homes have one or more key components that are old and, because of their condition need replacing or major repair.

We recognise the need to continuously invest in our homes to ensure decent and safe accommodation and will spend £93 million this year on capital improvements.

A recent bid for £23m of grant funding through the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund has been submitted, committing the Council to over £90m investment from our own budgets.

H4

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND
HOMELESSNESS FROM COUNCILLOR GARETH MOORE**

“Decent Homes – Category 1 Hazards”

Question:

**What proportion of council homes have a category 1 hazard as defined by the
Housing Health and Safety Rating System**

Answer:

There are currently no council homes with a category 1 hazards that either officers and the contractors are aware of, as defined by the Housing Health and Safety Rating System.

If a category 1 hazard is identified and an order raised, the repairs contractors attend and resolve within the prescribed service level agreement.

H5

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS FROM COUNCILLOR BRUCE LINES

“EPC ratings council homes”

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of the EPC rating of council homes including the number of properties within each rating category

Answer:

EPC (Energy Performance Certificates) were not required by law until 1st October 2008, when they were required for all new tenancies only.

The council's strategy for obtaining EPCs was initially focussed on new tenancies to comply with this statutory requirement, however since then, EPC surveys are also undertaken on Stock Condition Surveys.

We currently hold physical EPC survey data for 13,110 of our properties, as detailed below:

Birmingham City Council Property EPC Breakdown	
A	2
B	137
C	4012
D	5826
E	2315
F	714
G	104
Grand Total	13110

Based on extrapolated data, 68% of our social housing properties have an EPC rating of EPC D or below. This is typical of the housing sector generally, with the UK average EPC rating of all tenures being D across the UK.

Acivico have been commissioned to complete a sample of EPC surveys and will increase the volume of data held.

H6

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS FROM COUNCILLOR RICHARD PARKIN

“Council tower blocks”

Question:

For each council owned tower block that previously had a concierge service, please provide a breakdown of problems reported since their removal, including reports of fly tipping, litter, graffiti, ASB, and criminal damage

Answer:

Since the removal of the concierge service in 2013 a night-time and weekend security service has been in operation in 88 tower blocks. This includes camera door entry system monitoring and 3 physical patrols per week in each block.

On site caretaking services continue to be delivered.

Fly Tipping and Litter

The onsite presence of caretakers in all tower blocks ensures the swift removal of all rubbish/litter from communal areas.

There has been an average report of 2 instances of fly tipping in each block so far this year.

Instances of fly tipping prior to this year were recorded differently and no comparable data is available.

Communal Repairs

There has been an increase of 10% of communal repair requests comparing the years 2013-2015 to 2019-2021.

These repairs include graffiti removal.

Years	Total Communal Repairs
2013 - 2015	11,287
2019 - 2021	12,491
Variance	1,204 +

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

There is no comparable data for ASB prior to the year 2019.

The table below records all instances of all ASB. This includes reports of domestic abuse.

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total	160	271	219	205

The forthcoming Assets Management Strategy will consider data intelligence within tower blocks and inform future service priorities.

H7

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS FROM COUNCILLOR RICK PAYNE**“Damp and mould complaints”****Question:**

In each of the last 5 years, how many complaints\reports have the council received on damp and\or mould in council properties?

Answer:

In the last 5 years, the Council received 15,130 reports regarding damp and mould.

Cases that are more serious often require further visits and multiple treatments before they are rectified.

Financial Year	Total	Rectified in one visit	Multiple Treatments
2017-18	3126	69%	31%
2018-19	3130	76%	24%
2019-20	2659	72%	28%
2020-21	3211	73%	27%
2021-22	3004 (to date)	77%	23%

H8

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID PEARS

“Damp and mould repairs”

Question:

In each of the last 5 years, how many repairs have the council made to address damp and/or mould in council properties, split between temporary repairs (e.g. painting over damp/mould patches) and work to address root causes of damp

Answer:

In the last 5 years, the Council received 15,130 reports regarding damp and mould out of a total of 60,000 properties. This equates to instances of damp and/or mould in 5% (3000) of homes each year.

Repairs more serious often require further visits and multiple treatments before they are rectified.

Financial Year	Total	Resolved at First Visit	Further visits required
2017-18	3126	69%	31%
2018-19	3130	76%	24%
2019-20	2659	72%	28%
2020-21	3211	77%	23%
2021-22	3004 (to date)	73%	27%

H9

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND
HOMELESSNESS FROM COUNCILLOR DARIUS SANDHU**

“Decent Homes – damp or mould”

Question:

What proportion of council homes have been assessed as failing the decent homes standard for reasons of damp and/or mould?

Answer:

There are no council homes failing the decent homes standard for category 1 hazards due to damp and/or mould.

Any category 1 hazards identified are immediately rectified and would not therefore fail the decent home standard.

H10

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS FROM COUNCILLOR IZZY KNOWLES

‘Council Owned Hostels and Temporary Accommodation’

Question:

Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods - What is the procedure whereby Birmingham City Council carry out inspections on council owned hostels and temporary accommodation. Please confirm; (a) How often do inspections take place (b) What is the criteria for those inspections. (c) Who carries out the inspections and (d) Where are the results of the inspections published?

Answer:

The inspection process varies depending upon the type of temporary accommodation council owns.

a. How often do inspections take place?

All self-contained temporary accommodation (Dispersed Temporary Accommodation) the property is inspected as part of the void process i.e. when vacant, and again at letting. Households can request a visit/inspection at any time after this.

Homeless Centres (hostels) have staff on site 24hrs a day. This includes very regular engagement with residents and their properties. Rooms are inspected on a daily basis and buildings on a weekly basis.

b. What is the criteria for those inspections?

The Housing Health and Safety Ratings (HHSRS) are the criteria applied. These include the 29 hazards.

c. Who carries out the inspections?

Contract Works Officers carry out the void inspections in Dispersed Temporary Accommodation. Housing Solutions Officers carry out inspections in Homeless Centres. All are Housing Health and Safety Ratings (HHSRS) certified and carry out inspections in line with the Housing Act 2004.

d. Where are the results of the inspections published?

The results of the inspections are for internal management purposes to ensure accommodation is fit.

The inspections are not published.

11

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

“PWC Ukraine database”

Question:

Please provide a list of all the functionality and data sources the £330k database developed by PWC for the Homes for Ukraine scheme offers that the Government's mandated and free 'Foundry' case management system does not

Answer:

The Foundry case management system which is owned by Central Government contains some initial personal details of each Sponsor and Ukrainian visa applicant (full name, address and contact number). This information is downloaded into Birmingham's Refugee Resettlement Solution (the database developed by PWC).

The sponsor personal details are then validated, and the guest information is also confirmed. There are at times inaccuracies with the information relating to guests and sponsor pairings so this data is 'cleansed' at a local level. Approximately 50% of the data can contain inaccuracies relating to the guest. Therefore, we build our information from the sponsor and this is then reported back into Foundry

The Foundry data is then built upon by adding the following additional data sources:

- **Sponsor household info** – personal details are obtained of other members of the sponsor household to support the Disclosure and Barring Checks (DBS) process. This helps to identify if there are children residing in the hosted accommodation, which is part of what informs the level of check that will to be done (basic or enhanced)
- **Enhancement of guest information** – further contact details are captured, for example email addresses and also the estimated and actual date of arrival of the guest into the sponsor household. There is also a section to record any disclosed current medical information.
- **Sponsor checks** – information is recorded on all the checks that are required to assess sponsor suitability, i.e. the DBS, pre-arrival home visit and Children's Advice and Support Service (CASS) check. The system records when each check has been initiated and the outcome for each sponsor.

- **Sponsor payments** – the system records the dates when the monthly thank you payments for the sponsor has been initiated and if they have come to an end. There is automated functionality so that once the checks have been satisfactorily completed the payments are automatically triggered.
- **Guest immediate support** – the system records for each guest, when immediate resources have been provided such as the distribution of the prepayment card, free 12 week bus pass – it records when this is sent out.
- **Access to services** – there are also data fields that can be updated for each guest to show when they have registered with a GP, school, applied for their Biometric Resident Permit, accessed universal credit and/or actively seeking work
- **Transition information** – the system also records for each guest when they have moved out of their hosting arrangement and whether they have exited sponsor arrangements or have been rematched with another sponsor. It also holds information at sponsor level on the number of guests they have hosted and details of that time period.

In terms of functionalities, the system does the following:

- **Automates correspondence with sponsors** – at particular junctures its automatically sends out correspondence to onboard a sponsor, notify of the sponsorship application outcome and it sets up the payment arrangements.
- **Alerts and commissions**- there is in-built functionality which alerts relevant partners and teams to key activities; for example, when a sponsor is onboarded it will alert and trigger the relevant checks to be started and send out correspondence on the final outcome, it will flag when a guest has arrived and trigger the process at that point for the prepayment card and free bus pass to be sent out, it will automatically set up the thank you payment when the sponsor checks have been satisfactorily passed.
- **Management reports** – based on the data in the system, there are a suite of management reports that have been developed which enables the Council and partners to see at any one time how many guests have arrived; where applications are still pending; the number of checks that have been conducted and where they are in the process; the distribution of support to guests and how guests are accessing services.

The tool has been demonstrated to Central Government, where they have commended the work that has been done within the Council and have commented that it is one of the more advanced data capture and recording tools they have seen across the country. They are now proactively trying to connect our system to Foundry so there is a direct flow of information between our system and Foundry, as a result of the richness of information being captured.

I2

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

“Use of consultants”

Question:

Your cabinet roles includes “Oversight of the use of consultants with particular focus on their duration, renewal and cost.” Please provide a list of each occasion since May 2022 that you have personally directly challenged the use of consultants that resulted in them not being used, not renewed, or had their duration or cost reduced?

Answer:

The Commissioning Gateway Panel oversees and challenges pre-approved requests from managers to recruit or extend an interim or consultancy role. This includes carrying out validation of employment status for Tax (CEST) and Status Determination Statements (SDS).

The Panel rejects requests where there is no confirmation of portfolio holder agreement (for requests in excess of £100k) or if the CEST and SDS do not correlate. Managers must have finance sign off that the budget is confirmed before it is submitted to the Commissioning Gateway Panel.

Since May 2022 the Commissioning Gateway Panel have not directly refused any requests received.

All interims or consultants covering JNC roles are required to be approved at the JNC Core Panel before they are engaged.

Our overarching aim is to recruit permanently, wherever possible. However, it is recognised that interims are sometimes required to backfill absence or whilst vacancies are being recruited to consultants often bring scarce capability for short term projects and programmes as required.

The council is undergoing a significant change of structure in many directorates with transforming project and/or new target operating models that mean interims provide continuity and afford the time to establish the route to market to appoint high quality permanent staff.

13

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

“Ukraine refugee housing support learning”

Question:

Please provide a list of all visits made by officers or the cabinet member to the different housing support services for Ukrainian refugees which have been established by other local authorities during the past eight months along with any analysis undertaken of learning from other models?

Answer:

The housing challenges and market in Birmingham are very different to many other areas that have received large numbers of Ukraine guests. Many of these areas have not been historic refugee and asylum seeker dispersal areas and thus do not have to address the combined challenges facing our city.

Since March 2022 BCC officers have been responding to the immediate needs of those dispersed as a result of the crisis. To ensure the best use of officer time and resources, we have also engaged in ongoing discussions with a number of local authorities on housing matters through virtual meetings. This includes our active participation in the 137-member local authority Homes for Ukraine Support Group, which brings together Councils from across England to share queries, good practice, alongside learning from what others are doing as well as resources and tools.

We are also in regular communication with our immediate neighbours in Solihull, Walsall, Wolverhampton, Sandwell and Coventry on these matters.

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

“Homes for Ukraine Scheme post March 2023”

Question:

What plans has the authority made for the support of Ukrainians under the Homes for Ukraine scheme beyond March 2023?

Answer:

The Government has only guaranteed funding for the Homes for Ukraine scheme until March 2023. As it stands, our commissioned provider, Refugee Action will continue to support Ukraine guests immediately and to continue that support for 12 months after the last arrival. This support will continue as guests move into alternative accommodation as hosting arrangements end. BCC will continue to support the integration of those arriving on the homes for Ukraine scheme during 2022-23 until March 2024.

BCC has had commissioned services in place for several years that support the wider integration of resettled refugees in the city. These services have been commissioned following in-depth consultation and are largely considered to be successful services, furthering our commitments as a City of Sanctuary. Pending further announcements from Government concerning ongoing funding and support for Ukrainians, BCC would look to use these services as a basis for further support for Ukrainian guests. We would also ensure the voices of Ukrainians themselves are involved in the development of any services designed for them, as is the case with our existing commissioned services.

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

“Homes for Ukraine Lessons Learnt”

Question:

Please provide a copy of any lessons learnt report produced relating to the procurement, mobilisation and running of the Homes for Ukraine scheme

Answer:

The Homes for Ukraine scheme is a DLUHC initiative. The government have not shared a lessons learned report with BCC.

At a local level, an evaluation of the Homes for Ukraine scheme and the lessons learned from it will be undertaken 12 months after the scheme is implemented and at the end of the contracted service delivery period (March 2024).

16

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

‘Christmas for Ukrainian families’

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member give details of any schemes or events being planned in the City for Ukrainian families over the festive period?

Answer:

The council has not planned any events over the festive period specifically for Ukrainian families. Any events or activities arranged for refugees and guests are circulated widely via the Birmingham Migration Forum mailing list so that people working with families living here as guests or refugees can extend the invitation. Birmingham is home to many dedicated and active voluntary sector organisations, such as City of Sanctuary and others, who may be hosting events during this period. In line with experience with BCC’s more established refugee resettlement schemes, BCC will soon be arranging opportunities for the Ukrainian community to meet, socialise and link with relevant organisations and services to seek support.

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

‘Nitrous Oxide’

Question:

The use of Nitrous Oxide as a ‘recreational drug’ has been steadily increasing in the city over the last two years as has admissions of patients to local hospitals. Could the cabinet member comment on measures adopted by the Council to tackle this epidemic?

Answer:

The Council is responsible for commissioning the treatment and support for substance misuse, which is funded through the ring-fenced public health grant.

At substance misuse treatment entry for adults (provider is CGL – Change, Grow, Live), individuals are screened for N₂O use or other inhaling gases and supported appropriately

Aquarius (children and young people service provider) provides treatment for children/young people referrals for Nitrous Oxide in the same manner as a Class A substance with advice and instant harm reduction. Cases are classed as high-risk throughout treatment.

Locally we have done some work on social media about the potential risks as feedback from young people is that “they really don’t think Nitrox Oxide use is a big deal,” and it is only after a conversation with a practitioner they recognise the dangers.

Enforcement

The primary enforcer of this legislation is laid down as police forces across the country in line with all other such controlled drugs. In essence where the supply of the gas is for recreational inhalation, this would be on a parity with drug supply, the difference in this arena is the substance has legitimacy (ie it is used within the culinary profession) and is not a controlled drug.

The Council is happy to support a multi-agency approach, led by the Police in tackling this issue.

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE,
COMMUNITY SAFETY & EQUALITIES FROM COUNCILLOR MORRIAM
JAN**

‘Funding’

Question:

The government is providing additional funding to councils to provide education and childcare services for children from families arriving from Ukraine under the Homes for Ukraine scheme. The Department for Education (DfE) will allocate funding, pro-rata on a per pupil basis for the 3 phases of education based on the following annual rates:

- **Early years (ages 2 to 4) - £3,000**
- **Primary (ages 5 -11) - £6,580**
- **Secondary (ages 11-18) - £8,755**

Schools in Birmingham have reported they have not yet received the funding despite some having taken Ukrainian children over six months ago.

How many nurseries and schools who have children under the Homes for Ukraine scheme have now received a payment and what is the procedure for nurseries and schools who have children under the H4U scheme to claim payment of the DfE funding?

Answer:

The Council is providing full funding to all schools that have received children under the Homes for Ukraine Scheme. The funding will be made in one payment, unlike under previous resettlement schemes where we have paid in instalments.

An online claim form is being sent to 152 education and early year establishments that we have identified, from our admissions list, where Homes for Ukraine children are currently enrolled. The form is being rolled out and all establishments will have received this by the 9th December, if not already. On completion of the claim forms, payments will be made using the agreed and established arrangements that exist between the individual establishment and the Council.

J1

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

“Bus Journey Times”

Question:

What assessment has been made of bus journey times through and near local traffic neighbourhoods within Birmingham?

Answer:

Bus operators undertake ongoing monitoring of route performance and engage with the Council as required to resolve any issues. A comprehensive monitoring strategy, which includes impacts on buses, has been developed for future phases of Places for People roll out, subject to approvals.

Ultimately, such schemes aim to have a positive impact on the public transport network by making the journey to and from the bus stop safer and more pleasant and by discouraging car use.

J2

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR BABER BAZ**

'Highways and Pavement Schemes 2022/23'

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member provide details of all Highways and Pavement Schemes, scheduled by ward, for 2022/23?

Answer:

Please see below

Ward	USRN	Scheme Ref	Section ID	Road Name	Location	Traffic Management	Type of Programmed Work	Inventory Length (m)	Inventory Area (m2)	Anticipated Start	Anticipated Finish	Comments
Glebe Farm & Tile Cross	2705922	IWP3/CW/D04/7	C2705922/005	COTTERILLS LANE	Cotterills Lane-Alum Rock Road to RBT at Stechford Lane	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	1389	11333	22/08/2022	05/09/2022	
Castle Vale	2707850	IWP3/CW/D02/1	C2707850/005	FARNBOROUGH ROAD	Farnborough Road-RBT at Tangmere Drive to Park Lane	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	1584	14422	22/08/2022	02/09/2022	
Erdington	2707935	IWP3/FW/D02/1	2707935/001 2707935/002 2707935/003	HAYES GROVE	HAYES GROVE FROM PITTS FARM ROAD TO END / HAYES GROVE FROM NO 8 TO NO 14 / HAYES GROVE FROM SIDE OFF NO 27 TO END AT GARAGES	Road Closure	Footway Maintenance	236	1,057	22/08/2022	14/09/2022	
King's Norton South	2700491	IWP3/FW/D06/1	2700491/001	MARSH END	MARSH END FROM PRIMROSE HILL TO SIDE OF H/SE NUMBER 72	Road Closure	Footway Maintenance	210	1336	22/08/2022	02/09/2022	
Holyhead	2702866	IWP3/CW/D07/3	C2702866/005	SANDWELL ROAD	Sandwell Road-Island Road to Holyhead Road	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	382	3238	22/08/2022	07/09/2022	
Hall Green North	2706975	IWP3/FW/D03/1	C2706975/010	SCHOOL ROAD	School Road-RBT at Shirley Road to Lakey Lane	Road Closure	Footway Maintenance	183	1098	22/08/2022	15/09/2022	
Perry Common	2704986	IWP3/CW/D02/4	C2704986/005	HURSTWOOD ROAD	Hurstwood Road-College Road to Maxted Road	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	358	2721	30/08/2022	02/09/2022	
Yardley East	2706225	IWP3/CW/D10/4	C2706225/005	MOAT LANE	Moat Lane-Barrows Lane to Yew Tree Lane	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	558	4241	30/08/2022	26/09/2022	
Holyhead	2702633	IWP3/CW/D05/2	C2702633/005	CROCKETTS ROAD	Crocketts Road-Holyhead Road to Booth Street	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	530	4290	01/09/2022	13/09/2022	
Perry Common	2705062	IWP3/CW/D02/5	C2705062/005	MAXTED ROAD	Maxted Road-Hurstwood Road to Witton Lodge Road	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	334	2672	05/09/2022	08/09/2022	
Glebe Farm & Tile Cross	2706249	IWP3/FW/D04/2	2706249/001	NORTH ROUNDHAY	NORTH ROUNDHAY FROM GILLSCROFT ROAD TO FL 20 GILLSCROF	Road Closure	Footway Maintenance	364	2280	08/09/2022	21/10/2022	
Acocks Green	2706906	IWP3/CW/D10/1	B4514/015	OLTON BOULEVARD EAST	Olton Boulevard East-Roundabout at Shirley Road	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	188	1094	13/09/2022	16/09/2022	
Castle Vale	2708226	IWP3/CW/D02/1	C2708226/020	TANGMERE DRIVE	Tangmere Drive-Roundabout at Farnborough Road	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	72	475	14/09/2022	21/09/2022	
Bournville & Cotteridge	2735864	IWP3/CW/D06/9	C2735864/005	HOLE LANE	Hole Lane-Newent Road to Bunbury Road	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	247	1551	14/09/2022	18/09/2022	
Bromford & Hodge Hill	2706405	IWP3/CW/D04/4	B4147/005	STECHFORD ROAD	Stechford Road-Stechford Lane to RBT at Coleshill Road	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	1315	10873	16/09/2022	25/10/2022	
Hall Green North	2706613	IWP3/FW/D03/2	2706613/001	BODEN ROAD	BODEN ROAD FROM SHIRLEY ROAD TO FOX HOLLIES ROAD	Road Closure	Footway Maintenance	388	2173	16/09/2022	31/10/2022	
Bournville & Cotteridge	2703859	IWP3/FW/D08/3	2703859/001	CEDAR ROAD	CEDAR ROAD FROM BOURNEVILLE LANE TO HAY GREEN LANE	Road Closure	Footway Maintenance	294	1470	16/09/2022	21/10/2022	
Allens Cross	2708455	IWP3/CW/D12/1	B4121/060	BELL HILL	Bell Hill-C/L of Whitehill Lane to Sir Herbert Austin Way	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	426	3600	20/09/2022	28/09/2022	
Hall Green South	2706953	IWP3/CW/D12/4	A4040/450	ROBIN HOOD LANE	Robin Hood Lane-RBT at Highfield Rd to RBT at Sarehole Rd	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	674	4448	20/09/2022	30/09/2022	
Harborne	2704397	IWP3/CW/D01/2	C2704397/005	WAR LANE	War Lane-Fellows Lane RBT to RBT at Lordswood Road	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	532	3624	03/10/2022	13/10/2022	
Hall Green South	2705556	IWP3/CW/D03/4	2705556/001	TIXALL ROAD	TIXALL ROAD FROM HIGHFIELD ROAD TO SCRIBERS LANE	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	687	3847	05/10/2022	18/10/2022	
Edgbaston	2701741	IWP3/FW/D12/2	A456/080	HAGLEY ROAD	Hagley Road -No329 to C/L of Rotten Park Road	Road Closure	Footway Maintenance	702	7020	18/10/2022	08/12/2022	
Longbridge & West Heath	2700854	IWP3/FW/D06/2	2700854/001	HAWKESLEY CRESCENT	HAWKESLEY CRESCENT FROM CL OLD OAK WALK TO CONEY GREEN DR	Road Closure	Footway Maintenance	288	2016	17/10/2022	15/12/2022	
Sutton Roughley	2707382	IWP3/FW/D09/1	2707382/001	MARLPIT LANE	MARLPIT LANE FROM WILLMOTT ROAD TO NO 85	Road Closure	Footway Maintenance	444	2710	17/10/2022	18/11/2022	
Moseley	2703639	IWP3/CW/D03/7	B4146/065	SWANSHURST LANE	Swanshurst Lane-Wake Green Rd RBT to Yardley Wood Rd RBT	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	818	8216	21/10/2022	16/11/2022	
Bartley Green	2700293	IWP3/FW/D01/1	2700293/001	TRIMPLEY ROAD	TRIMPLEY ROAD FROM ADAMS HILL TO FIELD LA	Road Closure	Footway Maintenance	451	2790	17/10/2022	07/12/2022	

Hall Green South	2705525	IWP3/CW/D03/3	C2705525/010	BALDWINS LANE	Baldwins Lane-Roundabout at Newborough Road	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	82	492	25/10/2022	31/10/2022	Adjacent Newborough Road delivered as part of the scheme
Weoley & Selly Oak	2703780	IWP3/CW/D12/2	B4121/170	BARNES HILL	BARNES HILL FROM WEOLEY CASTLE ROAD RBT TO STONEBROOK WAY RBT	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	652	#N/A	18/10/2022	31/10/2022	
Moseley	2703520	IWP3/CW/D03/5	C2703520/005	QUEENSBRIDGE ROAD	Queensbridge Road-Moor Green Lane to Alcester Road	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	724	5792	18/10/2022	31/10/2022	
Moseley	2703434	IWP3/CW/D03/6	C2703434/005	MOOR GREEN LANE	Moor Green Lane-Reddings Rd RBT to Queensbridge Rd	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	83	664	31/10/2022	03/11/2022	
Sutton Four Oaks	2704584	IWP3/CW/D09/1	2704584/001	PARK VIEW ROAD	PARK VIEW ROAD FROM WALSALL ROAD TO STREETLY LANE	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	750	4650	20/10/2022	03/11/2022	
Allens Cross	2735826	IWP3/FW/D12/1	C2735826/005	FRANKLEY BEECHES ROAD	Frankley Beeches Road-Bristol Rd South to C/L of Hanging La	TBC	Footway Maintenance	748	6883	18/10/2022	14/02/2023	
Ward End	2705866	IWP3/FW/D04/3	C2705866/005	BURNEY LANE	Burney Lane-Alum Rock Road to RBT at Stechford Lane	Road Closure / Temporary Traffic Lights	Footway Maintenance	652	4787	31/10/2022	03/02/2023	
Bartley Green	2700236	IWP3/CW/D01/1	2700236/001	LUTLEY GROVE	LUTLEY GROVE FROM ADAMS HILL TO END	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	83	842	03/11/2022	08/11/2022	
Northfield	2701092	IWP3/CW/D06/10	2701092/001	ST LAURENCE ROAD	ST LAURENCE ROAD FROM BRISTOL RD S TO HEATH RD S	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	397	2241	07/11/2022	18/11/2022	
Shard End	2735870	IWP3/CW/D04/9	C2735870/025	HEATH WAY	Heath Way-School Lane RBT to Shard End Crescent	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	469	4620	03/11/2022	11/11/2022	
Sutton Mere Green	2700033	IWP3/CW/D09/2	2700033/002	HILL VILLAGE ROAD	HILL VILLAGE ROAD FROM BRENTNALL DRIVE TO LICHFIELD	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	1266	8045	04/11/2022	02/12/2022	
Aston	2701216	IWP3/CW/D05/1	2744797/001	ALBERT ROAD	ALBERT ROAD FROM MANSFIELD RD TO WITTON RD	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	205	1640	09/11/2022	18/11/2022	
Bournbrook & Selly Park	2703593	IWP3/FW/D08/1	2703593/001	SIR JOHNS ROAD	SIR JOHNS ROAD FROM PERSHORE ROAD TO END	Road Closure	Footway Maintenance	274	2192	06/01/2023	28/02/2023	
King's Norton South	2700433	IWP3/CW/D06/4	C2700433/005	HARBINGER ROAD	Harbinger Road-C/L of Lazy Hill to Junction of Chelworth Road	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	91	637	15/11/2022	18/11/2022	
Alum Rock	2706473	IWP3/CW/D04/1	2706473/001	WARD END PARK ROAD	WARD END PARK ROAD FROM WASHWOOD HEATH ROAD TO FOXTON ROAD	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	690	5520	15/11/2022	02/12/2022	
King's Norton South	2700610	IWP3/CW/D06/5	C2700610/005	WALKERS HEATH ROAD	Walkers Heath Road-C/L Gay Hill Lane to C/L Lazy Hill	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	606	3270	21/11/2022	06/12/2022	
Bromford & Hodge Hill	2705862	IWP3/CW/D04/5	2705862/001	BUCKLANDS END LANE	BUCKLANDS END LANE FROM STECHFORD ROAD TO HODGE HILL ROAD	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	518	3531	17/11/2022	05/12/2022	
Sutton Vesey	2707516	IWP3/FW/D09/2	2707516/001	STONEHOUSE ROAD	STONEHOUSE ROAD FROM JOCKEY ROAD TO MONMOUTH DRIVE	Temporary Traffic Lights	Footway Maintenance	437	3316	21/11/2022	13/01/2023	
Bournville & Cotteridge	2704458	IWP3/CW/D08/3	C2704458/005 2704458/006	WOODLANDS PARK ROAD	WOODLANDS PARK ROAD FROM HEATH RD RBT TO BUNBURY ROAD	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	#N/A	#N/A	30/11/2022	20/12/2022	
Bromford & Hodge Hill	2706107	IWP3/CW/D04/3	2706107/001	HODGE HILL ROAD	HODGE HILL ROAD FROM STECHFORD ROAD TO BUCKLANDS END LANE	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	699	5638	01/12/2022	12/12/2022	
Ladywood	2702000	IWP3/CW/D11/3	2702000/001	MARSHALL STREET	MARSHALL STREET FROM HOLLOWAY HEAD TO UPP GOUGH ST	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	113	848	01/12/2022	12/12/2022	
Pype Hayes	2704767	IWP3/CW/D12/8	A452/135	CHESTER ROAD	Chester Road -RBT at Tyburn Rd to C/L Grange Rd	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	827	6325	30/11/2022	13/12/2022	
Ladywood	2701703	IWP3/CW/D11/4	2701703/001	GRANVILLE STREET	GRANVILLE STREET FROM BROAD ST TO RBT AT HOLLIDAY STREET	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	245	1470	05/12/2022	08/12/2022	
Bournville & Cotteridge	2703823	IWP3/FW/D08/2	C2703823/005	BOURNVILLE LANE	Bournville Lane-Linden Road to Bristol Road	Temporary Traffic Lights	Footway Maintenance	1372	8673	01/03/2023	18/04/2023	
North Edgbaston	2702683	IWP3/CW/D05/4	2702683/001	GILLOTT ROAD	GILLOTT ROAD FROM ICKNIELD PORT ROAD TO ROTTON PARK ROAD	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	930	7440	09/12/2022	10/01/2023	
Weoley & Selly Oak	2703925	IWP3/FW/D08/5	2703925/001	DURLEY DEAN ROAD	DURLEY DEAN ROAD FROM WOOLACOMBE LODGE RD TO CORISANDE RD	Road Closure	Footway Maintenance	498	3536	07/12/2022	13/02/2023	
Glebe Farm & Tile Cross	2705668	IWP3/CW/D04/6	C2705668/002	LEA VILLAGE	LEA VILLAGE ROUNDABOUT AT MIRFIELD RD	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	105	840	15/12/2022	19/12/2022	

Pype Hayes	2735894	IWP3/CW/D12/7	B4148/065 B4148/075	EACHELHURST ROAD	Eachelhurst Road LC 68 to CL Ashford Drive	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	780	4,777	09/01/2023	27/01/2023	
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Yardley West & Stechford	2706476	IWP3/CW/D10/5	C2706476/010	WASH LANE	Wash Lane-Hob Moor Rd RBT to C/L Millhouse Rd	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	681	3915	09/01/2023	04/02/2023	
King's Norton South	2700485	IWP3/CW/D06/6	C2700485/010	LONGDALES ROAD	Longdales Road-C/L Greenway Gardens to Icknield St	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	1424	11578	13/01/2023	23/01/2023	
Ladywood	2735904	IWP3/CW/D12/5	A456/100	HAGLEY ROAD	Hagley Road-LHC C/L of Monument Rd to C/L of Highfield Rd	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	289	3570	23/01/2023	27/01/2023	
Sutton Roughley	2707382	IWP3/CW/D09/4	2707382/001	MARLPIT LANE	MARLPIT LANE FROM WILLMOTT ROAD TO NO 85	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	444	2710	24/01/2023	02/02/2023	
King's Norton North	2701027	IWP3/CW/D06/2	2701027/001	POPES LANE	POPES LANE FROM WYCHALL LANE TO CL INGOLDSBY RD	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	528	2056	26/01/2023	01/02/2023	
Garretts Green	2706209	IWP3/CW/D12/3	C2706209/005	MEADWAY	Meadway-C/L of Church Road to Start of Dual Cway	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	1,269	12,772	24/01/2023	16/02/2023	
North Edgbaston	2735905	IWP3/FW/D12/3	A456/070	HAGLEY ROAD	Hagley Road-C/L of Barnsley Road to C/L of Sandon Road	Road Closure	Footway Maintenance	584	8287	22/02/2023	02/05/2023	Swapped position in programme with Lyndworth Road IWP3/FW/D08/4
Nechells	2702062	IWP3/CW/D12/6	A47/120	NECHELLS PARKWAY	Nechells Parkway-LHC C/L Bloomsbury St to C/L of Rupert St	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	545	4287	01/02/2023	13/02/2023	
Sutton Wylde Green	2735900	IWP3/CW/D09/6	B4148/110	PENNS LANE	Penns Lane-C/L of Plants Brook Bridge to Birmingham Road	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	1167	9725	TBC	TBC	Consultation underway to agree suitable delivery dates
Longbridge & West Heath	2700641	IWP3/CW/D06/7	2700641/001	ABBEYDALE ROAD	ABBEYDALE ROAD FROM WESTHEATH RD TO COLEYS LANE	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	205	1257	02/02/2023	06/02/2023	
South Yardley	2735942	IWP3/FW/D12/5	A45/060	COVENTRY ROAD	Coventry Road-LHC C/L Manor House Lane to C/L Clay Lane	Lane Closure	Footway Maintenance	316	2646	16/01/2023	10/02/2023	
King's Norton North	2701153	IWP3/CW/D06/3	2701153/001	VARDON WAY	VARDON WAY FROM REDNAL ROAD TO THE FAIRWAY	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	724	13756	07/02/2023	22/02/2023	
Handsworth Wood	2705375	IWP3/CW/D07/2	2705375/001	CAMP LANE	CAMP LANE FROM OXHILL ROAD TO PARK LANE	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	834	5004	14/02/2023	28/02/2023	
Yardley West & Stechford	2705898	IWP3/FW/D10/1	2705898/001	CLEMENTS ROAD	CLEMENTS ROAD FROM BLAKESLEY ROAD TO HOB MOOR ROAD	Road Closure	Footway Maintenance	719	4314	06/02/2023	03/05/2023	
Holyhead	2702927	IWP3/CW/D05/3	2702927/001	WATTVILLE ROAD	WATTVILLE ROAD FROM HOLYHEAD ROAD TO FW CHANGE AT BDGE	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	591	4735	14/02/2023	27/02/2023	
Stockland Green	2735955	IWP3/CW/D12/11	A4040/140	MARSH HILL	Marsh Hill- Bleak Hill Road to C/L of George Road	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	744	5354	21/02/2023	07/03/2023	
Longbridge & West Heath	2735823	IWP3/CW/D12/9	A38/485	BRISTOL ROAD SOUTH	Bristol Road South-LHC RBT at Lickey Rd to Rubery Bypass	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	1393	12876	23/02/2023	31/03/2023	
Birchfield	2705146	IWP3/CW/D07/1	2705146/001 2705146/002 2705146/003	PUTNEY ROAD	PUTNEY ROAD FROM HUTTON ROAD TO CROMPTON ROAD	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	553	4,043	01/03/2023	10/03/2023	
South Yardley	2735942	IWP3/FW/D12/6	A45/075	COVENTRY ROAD	Coventry Road-End of Underpass to C/L of Clay Lane	Lane Closure	Footway Maintenance	206	2531	13/02/2023	01/03/2023	
Weoley & Selly Oak	2704462	IWP3/FW/D08/6	2704462/001	WOOLACOMBE LODGE ROAD	WOOLACOMBE LODGE ROAD FROM WEOLEY AVE TO CORISANDE ROAD	Road Closure	Footway Maintenance	535	3210	14/02/2023	18/04/2023	
Alum Rock	2701211	IWP3/FW/D04/1	2751501/002	ADDERLEY ROAD	ADDERLEY ROAD FROM C/L OF ASH ROAD TO ARDEN ROAD	Road Closure	Footway Maintenance	528	4224	15/02/2023	13/04/2023	
Yardley West & Stechford	2735887	IWP3/CW/D10/6	C2735887/020	YARDLEY GREEN ROAD	Yardley Green Road-C/L of River Cole Bridge to Richmond Rd	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	323	1938	02/03/2023	07/03/2023	
Sutton Walmley & Minworth	2708275	IWP3/CW/D09/5	2708275/001	WALMLEY CLOSE	WALMLEY CLOSE FROM WALMLEY RD PAST SHOPS TO CRAWFORD RD	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	97	782	08/03/2023	09/03/2023	
Perry Common	2705000	IWP3/CW/D02/3	2705000/002	JERRYS LANE	JERRYS LANE FROM ROUNDABOUT TO TURFPITS LANE	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	753	4813	10/03/2023	23/03/2023	
Heartlands	2706518	IWP3/CW/D04/8	C2706518/015	YARDLEY GREEN ROAD	Yardley Green Road-Newbridge Rd RBT to River Cole Bridge	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	260	1955	08/03/2023	13/03/2023	
Soho & Jewellery Quarter	2708382	IWP3/CW/D11/5	2708382/001	VYSE STREET	VYSE STREET FROM CL OF HOCKLEY ST TO HOCKLEY HILL	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	307	2149	13/03/2023	20/03/2023	

Tyseley & Hay Mills	2707005	IWP3/CW/D10/3	C2707005/005	SPEEDWELL ROAD	Speedwell Road-Amington Road to Kings Road	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	446	3844	14/03/2023	23/03/2023	
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Oscott	2751652	IWP3/CW/D07/4	C2704681/007 C2704681/010	BEECHES ROAD	Beeches Road-Walsall Road to C/L of Motorway Bridge	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	#N/A	#N/A	21/03/2023	06/04/2023	
South Yardley	2735942	IWP3/FW/D12/8	A45/120	COVENTRY ROAD	Coventry Road-Slip Rd-Start of Underpass to Church Rd RBT	Lane Closure	Footway Maintenance	163	1385	02/03/2023	15/03/2023	
Stockland Green	2707853	IWP3/CW/D02/6	2707853/001	FENTHAM ROAD	FENTHAM ROAD FROM SLADE ROAD TO GRAVELLY HILL NORTH	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	678	4610	24/03/2023	06/04/2023	
Sheldon	2708940	IWP3/CW/D10/2	C2708940/005	MANOR HOUSE LANE	Manor House Lane-Coventry Rd to Ollerton Road	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	330	2312	24/03/2023	31/03/2023	
Sutton Reddicap	2707450	IWP3/CW/D09/3	C2707450/005	REDDICAP HEATH ROAD	Reddicap Heath Road-Springfield Rd to Hollyfield Rd	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	1125	7986	03/04/2023	26/04/2023	
South Yardley	2735942	IWP3/FW/D12/7	A45/115	COVENTRY ROAD	Coventry Road-LHC Slip Rd Church Rd RBT to End of Underpass	Lane Closure	Footway Maintenance	156	1026	16/03/2023	29/03/2023	
Stirchley	2703395	IWP3/FW/D08/4	2703395/001	LYNDWORTH ROAD	LYNDWORTH ROAD FROM CARTLAND ROAD TO DERWENT ROAD	Road Closure	Footway Maintenance	347	2068	12/12/2022	21/02/2023	Swapped position in programme with Hagley Road IWP3/FW/D12/3
Bordesley Green	2706126	IWP3/CW/D04/2	2706126/001	IMPERIAL ROAD	IMPERIAL ROAD FROM BORDESLEY GREEN TO GREEN LANE	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	360	2945	03/04/2023	12/04/2023	
Perry Barr	2704681	IWP3/CW/D07/5	C2704681/005	BEECHES ROAD	Beeches Road-Walsall Road to C/L of Motorway Bridge	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	775	6114	11/04/2023	27/04/2023	
Gravelly Hill	2708317	IWP3/CW/D02/2	2708317/001	WOOD END LANE	WOOD END LANE FROM KINGSBURY ROAD TO RBT GRAVELLY HILL N	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	724	4346	11/04/2023	26/04/2023	
Balsall Heath West	2703202	IWP3/CW/D03/1	C2735920/010	EDWARD ROAD	Edward Road-C/L of Mary Street to C/L of River Bridge	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	500	3783	13/04/2023	21/04/2023	
Small Heath	2735911	IWP3/FW/D12/4	A45/175	SMALL HEATH HIGHWAY	Small Heath Highway-LHC Heybarnes Circus to Poets Corner	Lane Closure	Footway Maintenance	1585	12578	30/03/2023	13/04/2023	
Sparkhill	2703162	IWP3/CW/D03/9	2703162/001	COURT ROAD	COURT ROAD FROM STRATFORD ROAD TO SHOWELL GREEN LANE	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	248	1785	24/04/2023	26/04/2023	
Longbridge & West Heath	2700697	IWP3/CW/D06/8	2700697/001	BRANDON GROVE	BRANDON GROVE FROM KINGSWOOD RD TO END	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	68	483	27/04/2023	27/04/2023	
Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East	2706883	IWP3/CW/D03/8	2706883/001	MEDINA ROAD	MEDINA ROAD FROM WARWICK ROAD TO WESTON LANE	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	340	2728	27/04/2023	05/05/2023	Deferred from IWP3 Programme
Billesley	2703668	IWP3/CW/D08/2	C2703668/005	TRITTIFORD ROAD	Trittiford Road-Highfield Rd to Yardley Wood Rd	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	1119	8952	27/04/2023	24/05/2023	
Highter's Heath	2700325	IWP3/CW/D08/6	2700325/001	ARUNDEL ROAD	ARUNDEL ROAD FROM ALCESTER RD TO HIGHTERS HEATH LANE	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	504	2975	28/04/2023	09/05/2023	
Frankley Great Park	2700068	IWP3/CW/D06/1	2700068/001	ARDEN ROAD	ARDEN ROAD FROM NEW ST TO ORMOND ROAD	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	312	2094	28/04/2023	08/05/2023	
Edgbaston	2702965	IWP3/FW/D01/2	2702965/001	YATELEY ROAD	YATELEY ROAD FROM HARBORNE ROAD TO NURSERY ROAD	Road Closure	Footway Maintenance	460	3908	14/04/2023	05/06/2023	
Hall Green North	2703141	IWP3/CW/D03/2	B4146/045	COLE BANK ROAD	Cole Bank Road-Stratford Rd to RBT at Sarehole Rd	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	495	4664	27/04/2023	12/05/2023	
Perry Barr	2705265	IWP3/CW/D07/6	2705265/001	TURNBERRY ROAD	TURNBERRY ROAD FROM BEECHES RD TO BOOTHS FARM RD	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance		3676	28/04/2023	05/05/2023	
Harborne	2704329	IWP3/CW/D01/3	2704329/001	ST JOHNS ROAD	ST JOHNS ROAD HIGH STREET TO CLARENCE ROAD	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	149	954	09/05/2023	10/05/2023	
Brandwood & King's Heath	2700354	IWP3/CW/D08/5	2700354/001	BRYNDALE AVENUE	BRYNDALE AVENUE FROM YARNINGALE RD TO ROUNDABOUT AT NO 80	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	272	1551	10/05/2023	15/05/2023	
Billesley	2703711	IWP3/CW/D08/1	2703711/001	WESTRIDGE ROAD	WESTRIDGE ROAD FROM BROOK LA TO COLEBOURNE ROAD	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	809	5716	11/05/2023	29/05/2023	
Brandwood & King's Heath	2703738	IWP3/CW/D08/4	C2703738/005	WOODTHORPE ROAD	Woodthorpe Road-Alcester Rd South to Brandwood Rd	Road Closure	Carriageway Maintenance	641	3846	16/05/2023	30/05/2023	
Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East	2703088	IWP3/CW/D03/10	C2703088/005	BRIGHTON ROAD	Brighton Road - Ladypool Road to Moseley Road	TBC	Carriageway Maintenance	613	TBC	05/06/2023	16/06/2023	
Bordesley & Highgate	2701654	IWP3/CW/D05/5	C2701654/005	GARRISON LANE	Garrison Lane - Lawley Middleway RBT to Start of Dual C'way	TBC	Carriageway Maintenance	697	TBC	12/06/2023	23/06/2023	

Handsworth Wood	2705298	IWP2/CW/D12/23	A4040/055	WELLINGTON ROAD	Wellington Road-RBT at Church Lane to start of Dual Cway	TBC	Carriageway Maintenance	100	TBC	19/06/2023	20/06/2023	
Ladywood	2701854	IWP3/CW/D12/14	A4540/210	ISLINGTON ROW	Islington Row -C/L Bath Row to C/L Wheeleys Lane	TBC	Carriageway Maintenance	75	TBC	20/06/2023	21/06/2023	
South Yardley	2706106	IWP3/FW/D10/2	2706106/001	HOBMOOR CROFT	HOBMOOR CROFT FROM BF HOB MOOR ROAD TO END	TBC	Footway Maintenance	254	TBC	19/04/2023	27/04/2023	
Sutton Vesey	2707979	IWP3/FW/D09/3	2707979/001	IVY ROAD	IVY ROAD FROM ANTROBUS ROAD TO REDACRE ROAD	TBC	Footway Maintenance	295	TBC	14/04/2023	25/04/2023	
Sutton Vesey	2707927	IWP3/FW/D09/4	2707927/001	HASELOR ROAD	HASELOR ROAD FROM GE41 KINETON ROAD TO GE48 HASELOR ROAD	TBC	Footway Maintenance	188	TBC	26/04/2023	04/05/2023	
North Edgbaston	2702941	IWP3/CW/D01/4	2702941/001	WILLOW AVENUE	WILLOW AVENUE FROM SANDON ROAD TO DORSET ROAD	TBC	Carriageway Maintenance	697	TBC	25/05/2023	09/06/2023	Adjacent Dorset Road to be delivered as part of the scheme
Bordesley Green	2706023	IWP3/CW/D04/10	2706023/001	FOURTH AVENUE	FOURTH AVENUE FROM GREEN LANE TO BORDESLEY GREEN	TBC	Carriageway Maintenance	321	TBC	13/06/2023	21/06/2023	
Hall Green North	2706856	IWP3/FW/D03/3	2706856/001	LITTLEOVER AVENUE	LITTLEOVER AVENUE FROM STRATFORD ROAD TO END	TBC	Footway Maintenance	211	TBC	28/04/2023	09/05/2023	
Sutton Reddicap	2707514	IWP3/CW/D09/7	2707514/001	STONE AVENUE	STONE AVENUE FROM FOWLER ROAD TO END	TBC	Carriageway Maintenance	140	TBC	02/06/2023	12/06/2023	
Quinton	2704464	IWP3/CW/D01/5	2704464/002	WORLDS END LANE	WORLDS END LANE FROM RIDGACRE ROAD TO HIGGINS LANE	TBC	Carriageway Maintenance	378	TBC	15/06/2023	23/06/2023	
Sutton Trinity	2707543	IWP3/CW/D09/8	C2707543/005	UPPER HOLLAND ROAD	Upper Holland Road-Coleshill Rd to C/L of Lower Queen St	TBC	Carriageway Maintenance	560	TBC	29/05/2023	09/06/2023	
Sparkhill	2703227	IWP3/CW/D03/11	2703227/001	FERNLEY ROAD A	FERNLEY ROAD FROM STRATFORD ROAD TO RYLAND ROAD	TBC	Carriageway Maintenance	315	TBC	17/05/2023	22/05/2023	
Sparkhill	2703227	IWP3/CW/D03/11	2703227/002	FERNLEY ROAD B	FERNLEY ROAD FROM RYLAND ROAD TO PERCY ROAD	TBC	Carriageway Maintenance	141	TBC	23/05/2023	26/05/2023	
Moseley	2702991	IWP3/CW/D03/12	2702991/001	ANDERTON PARK ROAD A	ANDERTON PARK ROAD FROM WAKE GREEN RD TO WOODSTOCK RD	TBC	Carriageway Maintenance	662	TBC	29/05/2023	07/06/2023	
Moseley	2751574	IWP3/CW/D03/13	2702991/002	ANDERTON PARK ROAD B	ANDERTON PARK ROAD FROM WOODSTOCK RD TO YARDLEY WOOD RD	TBC	Carriageway Maintenance	253	TBC	08/06/2023	19/06/2023	
Hall Green South	2706702	IWP3/CW/D03/14	2706702/001	DOVERIDGE ROAD	DOVERIDGE ROAD FROM TIXALL ROAD TO KEDLESTON ROAD	TBC	Carriageway Maintenance	439	TBC	08/05/2023	16/05/2023	
Yardley East	2706490	IWP3/CW/D10/7	2706490/001	WESTACRE GARDENS A	WESTACRE GARDENS FROM YARDLEYFIELDS ROAD TO ROUNDABOUT	TBC	Carriageway Maintenance	101	TBC	30/05/2023	02/06/2023	
Yardley East	2706490	IWP3/CW/D10/7	2706490/002	WESTACRE GARDENS B	WESTACRE GARDENS ROUNDABOUT	TBC	Carriageway Maintenance	537	TBC	05/06/2023	08/06/2023	
Bromford & Hodge Hill	2705879	IWP3/CW/D04/11	2705879/001	CHATTOCK CLOSE	CHATTOCK CLOSE FROM BROMFORD ROAD TO END AT NO 27	TBC	Carriageway Maintenance	70	TBC	22/06/2023	28/06/2023	
Bromford & Hodge Hill	2705879	IWP3/FW/D04/4	2705879/001	CHATTOCK CLOSE	CHATTOCK CLOSE FROM BROMFORD ROAD TO END AT NO 27	TBC	Footway Maintenance	70	TBC	10/05/2023	15/05/2023	

J3

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

‘Highways and Pavement Schemes’

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member set out the criteria being used to decide Highways and Pavement Schemes for 2023-24?

Answer:

I can confirm that officers develop the list of potential schemes on a worst-first basis, which are validated with video survey and site visits. This is prioritised from:

- Completion of deferred schemes from the 2020-21 programme (where it is appropriate to do so); and
- Analysis of survey information, condition maps, user complaints, some recommendations from Councillors, local engineers, highway stewards and other council priorities.

J4

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

'Fines'

Question:

The first time fine for a parking offence in the City is £30 whereas its £60 for the Clean Air Zone – could the Cabinet Member explain why the discrepancy, bearing in mind a fine is a penalty?

Answer:

Charging level bands in respect of Penalty Charge Notices are set by the Government.

The charges are the same regardless of whether it is the first time that a Penalty Charge Notice has been received or not.

Parking contraventions - there are two levels:

£70/£35 - The higher level £70 is for the more serious contraventions, eg parking where it is always prohibited such as on a red route or double yellow lines, discounted to £35 if payment is made within the 14-day discount period.

£50/£25 - The lower level £50 is for the less serious contraventions such as overstaying where parking is permitted, discounted to £25 if payment is made within the 14-day discount.

Bus lane contraventions:

£70/£35 - £70 discounted to £35 if payment is made within the 14-day discount period.

Clean Air Zone contraventions:

£120/£60 - £120 discounted to £60 if payment is made within the 14-day discount period.

J5**CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022****WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR MORRIAM JAN****'A34 Sprint Route'****Question:**

The last Council meeting heard from WMCA Transport Delivery Committee that a further phase of A34 Sprint works is planned for next year. Could the cabinet member set out what works are proposed, explaining when ward members and local residents will be informed?

Answer:

The second phase of Sprint works form part of the City Regional Sustainable Transport Settlement programme approved by the WMCA Board in March 2022. Scheme proposals will likely include additional bus priority measures and new shelter installations, but the detail is still being developed. TfWM expect to carry out local consultation on the proposals early in the new year, and ward members will be briefed in advance of this.

J6

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

'Funding for LTN'

Question:

Could the cabinet member comment on reports that sums of several million pounds are to be sought from other transport budgets in order to pay the costs of progressing the Kings Heath Low Traffic Neighbourhood, explaining what other funding sources are being considered?

Answer:

National and global events have seen record levels of inflation across all sectors including the construction industry. An Outline Business Case for the Kings Heath and Moseley Places for People scheme is due to be presented to Cabinet early in the new year. This report will set out current estimated scheme costs taking into account inflation and proposed sources of funding from ringfenced transport budgets established to deliver the transport policies of the Council.

J7

CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

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

‘Fixed Penalty Notice’

Question:

How many fixed penalty notices have been issued in 2022 for illegal parking in the Moseley Road bus lane?

Answer:

There have been 515 Penalty Charge Notices issued for vehicles parked in contravention of all of the restrictions in place in Moseley Road which includes where vehicles have parked in contravention in the bus lane.

Data is recorded by street location and it is therefore not possible to just provide the number of notices issued for vehicles parked in the bus lane.

K**CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022****WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIR OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE FROM
COUNCILLOR MATT BENNETT****“Late notification of planning applications”****Question:**

How many complaints has the Council received regarding the late receipt of notification of planning applications to households as part of the consultation process and what assessment has been made of the scale of the issue (including the total number of applications and total number of residents impacted)

Answer:

The council has received 70 complaints about letters received with late receipt. Following a thorough investigation, the issue effected **752** planning applications. **177** of those were refused, **257** withdrawn (not decided) and **318** were approved. These were predominately Householder applications, for developments such as single storey rear extensions. The individual applicants and their neighbours would have been impacted by this issue.



CITY COUNCIL – 6 DECEMBER 2022

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEAD MEMBER FOR THE TRANSPORT DELIVERY COMMITTEE FROM COUNCILLOR COLIN GREEN

‘Tram’

Question:

Following questions asked at the last council meeting, could the Lead Member explain how the strategy for tram development in the City is going to work?

Answer:

The West Midlands City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) programme contains development funding for two further rapid transit routes in the city, Hagley Road and the East Birmingham/North Solihull Corridor over the next five years. The funding for the East Birmingham/North Solihull corridor is contained within the Regional Very Light Rail (VLR) allocation. VLR is being developed with partners such as Coventry City Council and Dudley MBC to look at innovative ways of delivering the benefits of light rail at much lower costs. As part of the options assessment process for these routes all viable modes of public transport will be considered including tram, VLR and Bus Rapid Transit.

The new West Midlands Local Transport Plan (LTP5) will begin to look beyond this five-year delivery period and identify additional corridors that maybe suitable for future Rapid Transit routes. The new LTP is programmed to be consulted on and adopted in 2023.

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Birmingham City Council

City Council

10 January 2023



Subject: Executive Business Report

Report of: Cabinet

Report author: Sue Harrison (Director - Children & Families)
 Richard Brooks (Director - Strategy, Equality and Partnerships)
 Peter Bishop (Director – Digital and Customer Services)

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

If relevant, state which appendix is exempt, and provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential:

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1. On 10th September 2019, Full Council accepted the recommendations of the Coordinating O&S Committee review in respect of changes to the Full Council agenda.
- 1.2. Recommendation 3 of the review requested that the Executive provide an update to Full Council on its work via the provision of an Executive Business Report (EBR). EBRs will be provided to Full Council four times per municipal year and will include details of progress made in relation to Council strategic outcomes and priorities linked to two Cabinet Member portfolios.
- 1.3. In October 2022, the City Council approved the Corporate Plan 2022-2026. This new strategy, alongside a refreshed delivery plan and performance management framework, sets out a bold ambition and commitment to drive improvement across all our services, transform how we operate as an organisation, and tackle the complex challenges facing our city. Together, working with our communities, third sector partners, and national government, we will create a city that is truly Healthy, Green, Thriving and Bold.
- 1.4. Going forward into 2023, the City Council will continue to drive ambitious progress against our strategic objectives while also supporting our

communities, businesses and families through one of the most severe cost of living crises on record. Using the lessons learned from our Covid response, we are working with partners across the private, public and voluntary sectors to deliver a city-wide 'Help in Brum' campaign, linking our most vulnerable citizens in with signposting, advice and direct financial support. 100 Warm Welcome spaces are now open across the city, with further in development, and extended opening hours are now in operation across all our Neighbourhood Offices, generating an average of £1600 in additional benefits per service user through income maximisation advice.

- 1.5. For more information about what advice, guidance and support is available, please go to the 'Help In Brum' pages on the Birmingham City Council website here: <https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/livingsupport>
- 1.6. Combined with high levels of inflation and existing financial pressures, the current cost of living crisis presents a profound challenge for the city. However, with a Golden Decade of opportunities on the horizon, including a robust development pipeline and the arrival of HS2, Birmingham still faces a bright future. The City Council stands poised to grasp these opportunities, working alongside local and regional partners to level up Birmingham, tackle the historic inequalities that continue to blight our city, and ensure that every citizen in Birmingham has an equal opportunity to succeed.
- 1.7. This report will be used to provide an update on two Cabinet Member portfolios:
 - Deputy Leader, including levelling up, strategic partnerships, employment and skills; pages 2 - 33
 - Digital, Culture, Heritage and Tourism; pages 33 - 57

2 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 That the report be noted.

3 Deputy Leader

3.1 Levelling up

- 3.1.1 In May 2022, the Deputy Leader portfolio was expanded to include responsibility for levelling up, including the delivery of 'Prosperity and Opportunity for All: Birmingham's Levelling Up Strategy'.
- 3.1.2 Launched in November 2021 with a parliamentary reception in Westminster, 'Prosperity and Opportunity for All' sets out an ambitious vision for levelling up, to 'increase growth and harness it to create a fairer, stronger city, where all citizens share in the benefits, including through a just transition to net zero, where our citizens live longer, healthier and happier lives with opportunities to

shape their own lives and communities, and we overcome long-standing inequalities such as child poverty.’

3.1.3 To achieve this vision, the strategy brings together existing and new programmes of activity that support the levelling up agenda. This includes a development pipeline to drive growth, jobs, and place transformation, a delivery programme for new affordable housing, and a commitment to inclusive growth and community wealth building.

3.1.4 The strategy also sets out five ‘Levelling Up Accelerators’:

1. Long-term, single pot funding and devolved powers for the city, to accelerate the pace and scale of levelling up and move the dial further to achieve key outcomes for the city.
2. An integrated local place delivery model demonstrator in East Birmingham.
3. An early intervention and prevention model, moving from dealing with crises to delivering co-designed support and early intervention services.
4. Green and digital infrastructure, including a comprehensive green, reliable, frequent and affordable transport network.
5. An at-scale housing retrofit programme across the cities of Birmingham, Coventry and Wolverhampton to tackle carbon emissions and create new green jobs (‘3 Cities’).

3.1.5 The Council has been working with national government and our local, regional and national partners to progress our levelling up programme, and will continue to do so.

Levelling Up Board

3.1.6 A new Strategic Levelling Up Programme Board has been established to provide a senior officer overview of the delivery of the city’s levelling up strategy. This is a director-led, cross-service Board which will seek to integrate, coordinate and add value to the work that is taking place across the Council.

3.1.7 Each Board meeting includes a ‘deep dive’ thorough examination of a specific levelling up priority, programme or project. Given its importance and timeliness in the current Trailblazer Devolution Deal (TDD) negotiations with the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) and national government, East Birmingham was chosen as the subject of the first deep dive at the Board’s inaugural meeting on 29th September 2022. The second meeting of the Board, held on 25th November, focused on Inclusive Growth activity across the Council and how best this might be integrated into a coherent programme. The Board’s feedback will be incorporated into the development of a new Inclusive Growth Strategy.

Trailblazer Devolution Deal (TDD)

- 3.1.8 In February 2022, the announcement of the Trailblazer Devolution Deal (TDD) for the West Midlands (the third devolution deal for the region) provided a mechanism by which the Council might seek additional devolved powers and funding to enable levelling up.
- 3.1.9 The TDD process is being coordinated by the WMCA, with the City Council playing a full role. We have put forward overarching principles to guide the TDD, including the concept of double devolution, with powers and funding being devolved to both the combined authority and local authorities as appropriate.
- 3.1.10 The TDD covers a range of areas including devolved powers and funding around transport, skills and employment support, housing and regeneration, business support and trade and investment, innovation and R&D, business support, retrofit, energy planning, climate adaptation, nature environment financing, industrial decarbonisation, culture, digital, crime and community safety, health and wellbeing, data, homelessness and social capital. Underpinning all these areas are proposals for funding simplification and devolution, addressing the proliferation of one off-competitive bidding processes for funding that do not bring certainty, hamper innovation, and undermine the joining up of services.
- 3.1.11 The coordination process has been complex and faced challenges due to recent changes in Cabinet Ministers, affecting the timetable. We now expect to see a completed deal in the first quarter of 2023. All proposals are subject to ongoing negotiation with national government, which are ongoing at the time of writing this report.

East Birmingham

- 3.1.12 The East Birmingham Inclusive Growth Strategy was published in February 2021. An East Birmingham Board oversees the programme of activity. East Birmingham is a cornerstone of the city's wider levelling up programme. Projects include the £2m Dolphin Centre at Ward End Park, new Meadway local centre, a vision for the Tyseley Environmental Enterprise District, development of a Net Zero Neighbourhood for Castle Vale, and a Youth Employment Pilot, funded under the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities' (DLUHC) Partnerships for People and Place scheme, which includes pathways coaches work with cohorts of around 30 young people in each school.
- 3.1.13 Further funds have also been sought. A £20m bid into the Round 1 Levelling Up Fund for Bordesley Park (the former Birmingham Wheels Site) has been successful, while a decision is imminent on a Round 2 bid for the proposed National Centre for Decarbonised Heat at Tyseley.

East Birmingham devolution

- 3.1.14 Following the February 2022 announcement of a Trailblazer Devolution Deal (TDD) for the West Midlands, Birmingham City Council wrote to the West Midlands Mayor to outline how progress in East Birmingham could be faster and at greater scale if additional funding and powers were devolved via the TDD.
- 3.1.15 Subsequently, Birmingham City Council joined with Solihull and the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) to develop joint working for the East Birmingham North Solihull (EBNS) growth corridor area. EBNS is a functional economic area of around 375,000 people, framed by the HS2 station at Curzon Street in the west with the HS2 Interchange station at the NEC and Birmingham Airport in the east. It is a vibrant and diverse place but also has the highest concentration of deprivation outside of London. It has very poor connectivity and some of the highest level of unemployment in the country. The area is a major opportunity for the UK and West Midlands, for housing, employment growth and innovation in low carbon energy.
- 3.1.16 A proposal has been drawn up to enable growth at pace and scale alongside an integrated approach to infrastructure investment, housing and local public services. Through a proposed 'levelling up zone' for EBNS, the local authorities would be able to retain business rate growth within the zone or specific sites, but with the flexibility to spend the income on local levelling up priorities. A tax incremental finance (TIF) mechanism would enable business rate growth to generate up to £850m over 30 years for much needed investment in infrastructure including transport and site preparation. Alongside would be local public service innovation and integration, focussing initially on a neighbourhood level, primary care services and getting people into employment. Support from government and Homes England is also being sought to deliver a strategic programme of housing sites.
- 3.1.17 When Liz Truss became Prime Minister in September 2022, the government announced a process for expressions of interest for new investment zones. The EBNS proposal was calibrated to respond to this and meet the rapid timetable set out by government. Expressions of interest were submitted on 14th October 2022. With the change of Prime Minister to Rishi Sunak, the Autumn Statement confirmed that Investment Zones were not being taken forward. The Autumn Statement put forward Innovation Zones which are now being assessed. The EBNS levelling up proposal continues to be advocated through the TDD.

Early Intervention and Prevention (EI&P)

- 3.1.18 The Early Intervention and Prevention (EI&P) programme focuses on how council services move from crisis management to prevention, ensuring that we identify and work with vulnerable citizens and families at an early stage rather

than waiting for a crisis presentation. Such an approach would both improve long-term outcomes for citizens and help to tackle the financial pressure placed upon Council services by increased demand for acute support. It is identified as a key accelerator for the Council's levelling up approach.

- 3.1.19 In March 2022, the proposed approach to EI&P was approved by Cabinet and since then the programme has focused on developing the detailed design of the future EI&P service. Proposals have been taken to Co-ordinating Overview and Scrutiny Committee for discussion, in addition to online and in-person Member briefings.
- 3.1.20 Two pilots will test the EI&P approach. The first, in December 2022, was the introduction of a proactive homes and money advice service in Northfields. This initiative aims to identify and support citizens facing financial difficulty. The second is a place-based approach, using council assets more effectively to co-locate and deliver local services. This will launch in Shard End Library in February 2023 and will bring together a broad set of services to citizens in that locality. Staff and clients have co-designed the pilots to ensure a citizen-centric approach.
- 3.1.21 A business case for the future EI&P function, a Target Operating Model for the Homes and Money Advice service, and an Outline Business Case for the place-based approach will all be presented to Cabinet in early 2023.

3 Cities retrofit programme

- 3.1.22 The 3 Cities retrofit involves the cities of Birmingham, Coventry and Wolverhampton coming together to pool expertise and develop housing energy efficiency and retrofit solutions at pace and scale to meet the Council's and government's net zero goals. Rapid progress is further needed because energy inefficient homes are increasing fuel poverty and the cost of living crisis. Around 22% of Birmingham homes are in fuel poverty, which is worsening due to the cost of living crisis. The scale of the 3 Cities can help market shape solutions and secure wider benefits including the creation of jobs and development of the local supply chain to undertake the retrofit work.
- 3.1.23 The scale of investment needed is significant and the 3 Cities programme is developing funding and financing models alongside seeking private and public investment. Over the last year, the 3 Cities team have presented to potential partners and investors at MIPIM and UKREiiF, as well as having discussions with the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and DLUHC, who visited the city in May 2022.
- 3.1.24 On 17th November 2022, Birmingham City Council submitted a bid to the BEIS Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund for £24.8m for the retrofit of 2,076 social housing units, with a total project cost of £146m. Over 20 different types of homes are included, all with an Energy Performance Certificate rated D or

below, and in areas that suffer from high levels of fuel poverty. This approach will ensure that learning can be scaled up.

- 3.1.25 Alongside, the 300 homes retrofit pilot in East Birmingham is being taken forward, a bid has been submitted for funding to enhance tenant engagement on retrofit, and a path for the ECO4 government energy efficiency scheme is being developed.
- 3.1.26 The City Council worked with Low Carbon Homes to hold the Birmingham Retrofit Summit 6th-8th December 2022. The event, with an audience of over 200, sought to share lessons on retrofit with industry partners and how to take forward the retrofit programme.

Inclusive growth

- 3.1.27 An Inclusive Growth Plan is being developed as a key element of the levelling up strategy. It is an identified priority within the Corporate Plan, as well as featuring across other Council strategies and plans. Initial mapping has indicated varied activity aimed at reducing poverty and creating more equality and opportunity in Birmingham's economy. The plan will seek to build on this and draw it together to encourage closer coordination and securing greater value, for example between regeneration and employment, and between community wealth building, social procurement and use of local authority assets. The plan will be supported by economic analysis and a range of supporting activities including the creation of a city Employment Charter, further development of the Birmingham Institution Anchor Network, and enhancing the Council's social value function to draw in the potential of the private sector.

3.2 Strategic Partnerships

- 3.2.1 The Deputy Leader portfolio includes responsibility for the Council's strategic partnerships and collaborative working relationships with stakeholders, as part of the city's Civic Family.
- 3.2.2 In a world of ever-increasing complexity, no one single organisation can devise and deliver the effective solutions needed to improve outcomes. Addressing the five Grand Challenges identified in the Council's Corporate Plan 2022-2026 will require a multi-agency response including partners from across the public, private and voluntary sectors and the Council in its role as leader of place. Effective partnership working is therefore key - not just to the achievement of the Council's strategic priorities, but to delivering improved outcomes for citizens and communities. It will also be a necessary enabler of the successful delivery of the city's levelling up strategy.
- 3.2.3 A new Strategic Partnerships, External Affairs and Corporate Leadership (SPEACL) division has been established within the Strategy, Equalities and

Partnerships (SEP) directorate, to hold responsibility for the Council's strategic partnerships across local, regional, and national levels. This includes a dedicated Strategic Partnerships team to work with partners on strategic issues facing the city, such as the cost of living crisis, and act as a corporate repository of knowledge about partner organisations, stakeholders and key decision-makers.

- 3.2.4 The Council has a number of key strategic partners, including the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA), Core Cities UK, our city's universities, and a range of think tanks and research organisations. This section provides a brief overview of key partnership activity that has taken place over the last six months.

West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA)

- 3.2.5 As the regional government body for the West Midlands, the WMCA is one of the Council's most significant strategic partners. Set up in 2016, and including seven constituent member councils including Birmingham City Council, it has powers in a number of areas including transport, jobs and skills, and industrial strategy.
- 3.2.6 WMCA Portfolio Leads are drawn from constituent member local authorities and include the Leader as Portfolio Lead for Transport, and the Deputy Leader as Portfolio Lead for Levelling Up.
- 3.2.7 Work is underway by the Strategic Partnerships Team to ensure that the Council engages fully across the work of the Combined Authority and provide appropriate leadership as a constituent member. Going forward, the Team will take responsibility for coordinating briefings to senior leader attendees at WMCA Boards, including the Chief Executive, Leader and Cabinet Members, and aligning WMCA engagement across Cabinet and the Corporate Leadership Team (CLT).
- 3.2.8 This includes ensuring the Council's full engagement and input into the process around the Trailblazer Devolution Deal (TDD), the third devo deal for the West Midlands. Working with other local authorities and the WMCA, the Strategic Partnerships team has worked to shape the draft devolution proposals to ensure that they reflect our strategic priorities for Birmingham, including the levelling up approach set out in our levelling up strategy.

Core Cities UK

- 3.2.9 Core Cities UK is an alliance of the eleven largest cities in the UK outside of London. Its mission is to unlock the full potential of city regions to create a stronger, fairer economy and society, providing a collective voice for cities on shared strategic issues and challenges. The Council has identified Core Cities as a key partner, and is investing additional resource to supporting the Core

Cities work programme, including the Urban Futures Commission and the 3CI climate change investment commission.

- 3.2.10 Deborah Cadman, Chief Executive, will be taking over as Chair of the Core Cities Chief Executives Group in 2023.

Local Government Association (LGA)

- 3.2.11 We continue to engage with the work of the Local Government Association, including representation on several boards, such as City Regions, Executive Advisors, Improvement and Innovation and Environment, Economy, Housing, and Transport.

Bilateral partnerships with neighbouring authorities

- 3.2.12 In addition to our membership with the WMCA, we have taken steps to develop some key bi-lateral partnerships with neighbouring authorities to drive forward shared priorities. These include:

The East Birmingham-North Solihull Levelling Up Zone

- 3.2.13 This is a tripartite partnership to develop proposals for an innovative regeneration zone covering the whole of East Birmingham and North Solihull. We reached out to the West Midlands Mayor and to Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council (Solihull MBC) to establish this partnership and have included it in discussions on the Trailblazer Devolution Deal, as well as planning for a longer-term engagement with government and other stakeholders to gain support for the model.

3 Cities

- 3.2.14 The 3 Cities partnership of Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry is now an established process for sharing evidence, challenges and innovative approaches to policy issues between the three West Midlands cities, including our response to the climate emergency. We have jointly developed an at-scale programme for the retrofit of social housing across the three partners (identified as a Levelling Up Accelerator) and are actively seeking investment partners.

Greater Birmingham and Solihull Chambers of Commerce (GBCC)

- 3.2.15 We continue to work closely with the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Chambers of Commerce (GBCC), including joint lobbying of national government on support to businesses during the current cost of living crisis, and contributions to their events with member businesses.

Think tanks

- 3.2.16 Finally, we have also expanded our work with think tanks and other centres of expertise who can help us to achieve our objectives, with a range of projects involving different services and partners such as Nesta, Reform, Demos, Collaborate, New Local, Localis, Onward, CLES, the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and the Resolution Foundation.

3.3 Birmingham City Partnership Board (BCPB)

- 3.3.1 The Strategic Partnerships Team acts as Secretariat to the Birmingham City Partnership Board (BCPB), a city-wide, cross-sector strategic board formed in 2018 to tackle the major policy challenges and opportunities facing the city. The Board has no statutory decision-making or budget responsibilities, but acts as an informal body to ensure a collective response to the strategic issues affecting the city.

- 3.3.2 The Birmingham City Partnership Board is chaired by the Deputy Leader, in her capacity as lead for strategic partnerships. Membership is drawn from across Birmingham's public, private and voluntary sectors. Member organisations are selected on the basis that they can provide the strategic leadership, sponsorship and direction to enable the city to respond effectively to the risks, challenges and opportunities it faces. Chairs of statutory partnerships across the city are also included in Board membership.

- 3.3.3 An extensive programme has taken place over the past twelve months to refresh the Board, agreeing a new set of governance principles including a mission, purpose and strategic goals.

- 3.3.4 The mission of the Board has been agreed as follows:

We want to play our part in cementing Birmingham's position as a thriving golden city, as the beating heart of the UK both commercially and culturally; a place in which diversity is not a drawback and truly is a strength to be celebrated; where no one is excluded from the opportunities that the city can offer; a place where we can look back at our heritage with a sense of pride but also look forward with a sense of optimism, a golden decade of opportunity in a Bolder Brighter Birmingham.

- 3.3.5 The Board's purpose is:

...to provide strategic leadership, sponsorship and direction that enables Birmingham to respond ambitiously and effectively to the challenges, risks and opportunities facing the city, and ensure an inclusive and sustainable recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic.

It ensures a unified and amplified single voice and advocacy for the city as it seeks to 'level up' and overcome long-standing inequalities so that citizens live longer, healthier and happier lives.

3.3.6 Six strategic goals have been agreed by the Board:

1. Improve employability and employment
2. Increase living standards for all citizens
3. Engage with and empower our communities
4. Create a safer lived experience for our residents
5. Improve health and happiness
6. Lead the way to net zero

3.3.7 An updated Terms of Reference has been prepared and will be circulated for agreement by partners at the beginning of 2023, as well as being published on the BCC website.

3.3.8 Recently, the Board has focused on the city's collective response to the cost of living crisis, with meetings focused on the immediate, medium and long-term responses of partners. Two members of the City Partnership Board - the NHS Integrated Care Partnership, and the Birmingham Voluntary Services Council - sit on the Council's Strategic Board overseeing our cost of living response.

3.3.9 In September 2022, City Board Partners came together to agree a collective, cross-sector set of asks to national government to support the city through the crisis, which were sent to then-Prime Minister Liz Truss on 5th October 2022. These were recirculated to Jeremy Hunt MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer, on 16th November 2022 ahead of the November Autumn Statement.

3.3.10 A copy of these collective asks can be read online [here](#).

3.4 External Affairs

3.4.1 As part of the new Strategic Partnerships, External Affairs and Corporate Leadership (SPEACL) function, the External Affairs team works to build a network of advocates for both the Council and the city. It does this through raising awareness of the Council's policies and activities, shaping and influencing external policy agendas, and strengthening the Council's reputation through managing arising issues. In so doing, it enables the achievement of the Council's strategic objectives and the overall Corporate Plan.

3.4.2 The team works closely with Insight, Policy and Strategy, and Corporate Communications, allowing for the clear assessment of challenges and proposed policy solutions, identification of and engagement with relevant partners to deliver change, and the development and delivery of impactful communications to wider stakeholders.

- 3.4.3 This section provides an overview of key external affairs activity over the last twelve months.

External Affairs Strategy

- 3.4.4 The Council adopted its first External Affairs Strategy in September 2021, using the strategic priorities outlined in the draft Corporate Plan as a guiding framework for activity.
- 3.4.5 Since then, the External Affairs Strategy has been regularly refreshed on a six monthly basis, incorporating the five Levelling Up Accelerators included in the Council's levelling up strategy alongside policy and political priorities identified by directorates, CLT and Cabinet Members.

Climate Change Committee (CCC) visit to Birmingham

- 3.4.6 In February 2022, the External Affairs Team, working closely with the Route to Zero (R20) team and Corporate Communications, coordinated a visit of the Climate Change Committee (CCC) to Birmingham for a day of events focused on the climate emergency.
- 3.4.7 The CCC, chaired by Lord Deben (former Environment Secretary, John Selwyn Gummer) is an independent, statutory body established under the Climate Change Act 2008 with the purpose of advising the UK Government and devolved administrations on emissions targets and to report to Parliament on progress made in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and preparing for and adapting to the impacts of climate change.
- 3.4.8 The day of events marked the beginning of a new 'national conversation' initiative that the CCC held to hear from and reflect on the views of the authorities, organisations and individuals involved in delivering Net Zero on the ground throughout the UK.
- 3.4.9 Led by Lord Deben and Chris Stark, Chief Executive, the CCC took part in a series of stakeholder and engagement events across the city, including:
- A visit to St Paul's School for Girls in Edgbaston, including a Q&A session with their sixth form and members of the student Climate Action Group
 - A site visit to Tyseley Energy Park, including a demonstration of new hydrogen bus technology
 - A roundtable session with businesses from across Birmingham and the West Midlands, including the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Chambers of Commerce (GBCC) and the Confederation of British Industry (CBI)
 - A roundtable discussion with the Birmingham Faith Leaders Network

- A stakeholder workshop and engagement session with members of the public and stakeholder groups across the city

3.4.10 As a follow-up to the visit, Birmingham City Council submitted a further package of briefings and asks to the CCC, to be incorporated into their findings. These were reflected in the final 2022 Progress Report to Parliament, which can be read [here](#).

All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Levelling Up Birmingham

3.4.11 Over 2022 the Strategic Partnerships and External Affairs functions have supported the launch and development of an All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Levelling Up Birmingham, as a vehicle for parliamentary engagement and advocacy on behalf of the city.

3.4.12 The APPG was formally constituted in May 2022 in Westminster, with the following purpose:

- To showcase and advocate for *Prosperity and Opportunity For All: Birmingham's Levelling Up Strategy*, putting the city at the forefront of this emerging policy agenda.
- To use the APPG as a vehicle to engage with key influential stakeholders including Government, investors, businesses, public sector partners etc. with a view to securing the resources, powers and system change required to deliver the strategy.
- To promote the city as a *global city*, articulating that whilst there are many challenges, we also have the solutions in Birmingham, with huge potential and untapped talent. We need Levelling Up to be the key to unlock what we call a 'golden decade of opportunity'.

3.4.13 Chaired by Preet Gill MP (Labour, Edgbaston) and Andrew Mitchell MP (Conservative, Sutton Coldfield), the APPG is being run on a cross-party basis, with the explicit aim of building a diverse coalition of advocates for the city and its levelling up agenda, lobbying on behalf of our citizens, communities, and businesses. The APPG uses the five Levelling Up Accelerators identified in 'Prosperity and Opportunity for All' as an overarching framework for its work programme.

3.4.14 The APPG was publicly launched in June 2022 ahead of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, at a joint event with the West Midlands Forum at the Library of Birmingham. Speakers included Preet Gill MP, Andrew Mitchell MP (Conservative, Sutton Coldfield), Andy Street (West Midlands Metro Mayor), and Liam Byrne MP (Labour, Hodge Hill).

3.4.15 In October 2022, the APPG held its inaugural business meeting in Birmingham to coincide with the Conservative Party Conference. The agenda centred

around the 3 Cities retrofit programme, making links to the current cost of living crisis and climate emergency.

- 3.4.16 A work programme is in development for 2023, with future events planned in both London and Birmingham.

Exempt accommodation

- 3.4.17 On 17th March 2022, national government announced that it intended to bring in new legislation to regulate the supported housing sector, alongside a £20million Supported Housing Improvement Programme. This was the culmination of a nationally coordinated programme of External Affairs activity spearheaded by the Council, and supported by colleagues from City Housing.
- 3.4.18 Previously, subject matter experts and policy officers has identified regulation of the exempt accommodation sector as a key strategic objective for the Council and partners across local government. A targeted campaign of external affairs activity was led by the External Affairs team to galvanise a broad coalition of local, regional and national stakeholders behind the agenda for change, including:
- Awareness raising interviews in the trade and national press
 - The public launch of a 'Charter of Rights' for residents in exempt accommodation
 - Proactive engagement with the Chair of the Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Select Committee, Clive Betts MP
 - Coordination with other pilot areas across the country to produce learning from the supported accommodation pilot and joint asks to national government
- 3.4.19 The External Affairs team continues to work closely with the Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness and colleagues in City Housing to position the Council as a 'thought-leader' in the exempt accommodation issue, proactively lobbying national government on behalf of our most vulnerable citizens.
- 3.4.20 On 5th October 2022, the External Affairs team delivered the inaugural Birmingham City Council Exempt Accommodation Conference, which took place as part of a comprehensive programme of External Affairs events the Conservative Party Conference. The conference attracted over 200 delegates from across local government, exempt accommodation providers, national government, think tanks and the wider voluntary and community sector. Speakers included Jess Phillips MP (Labour, Yardley), Matt Downie (Chief Executive, Crisis), and Jonathan Walters (Deputy Chief Executive, Regulator of Social Housing).

Political party conferences

- 3.4.21 Over the 2022 party conference season, the External Affairs team led on the development and delivery of a comprehensive programme of activity to promote the Council's strategic priorities, including our levelling up approach and the 3 Cities retrofit programme.
- 3.4.22 The external affairs approach to conferences focused on four main areas of activity:
- BCC-led events, where the External Affairs team directly led on the design and delivery of events.
 - Partner events and fringe programme, with the External Affairs team reaching out to partners and think tanks to identify opportunities to field BCC speakers.
 - Ministerial stakeholder engagement, through a number of vehicles including the APPG for Levelling Up Birmingham, the offer of speaking opportunities and lobbying to Secretaries of State on Council priorities.
 - Communications and promotions, working closely with Corporate Communities and partner organisations to develop integrated communications and engagement strategies around events and produce promotional materials for delegates and stakeholders.
- 3.4.23 Between 2nd and 5th October 2022, the Conservative Party Conference took place in Birmingham. This represented a major opportunity for the Council to build on the reputational boost of the Commonwealth Games, promote our strategic objectives, and build on our relationship with national government, with additional significance due to the recent election of a new Prime Minister.
- 3.4.24 As the 'host city' for the Conference, Birmingham was in a uniquely prominent position to develop our own events as part of the conference fringe programme. During the three days of the Conference, we held the following events:
- First business meeting of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Levelling Up Birmingham, focusing on the 3 Cities retrofit programme and links to the current cost of living crisis.
 - 'Birmingham's Golden Decade: From CWG to HS2', a panel discussion and Q&A event held at 103 Colmore Row. Speakers included the Leader of the Council, Andrew Mitchell MP, Casey Bailey (Birmingham Poet Laureate), and Erica Love (CEX, Culture Central).
 - The inaugural Birmingham City Council Exempt Accommodation Conference (as outlined above), attracting over 200 delegates from across the UK.
- 3.4.25 We also secured speaking opportunities for the Leader, Deputy Leader, CLT and Cabinet Members at a wide variety of partner events and panel

discussions, including events with Centre for Cities, Localis, Reform, the Institute for Government (IfG), Core Cities UK and the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR).

Cost of living response

3.4.26 In August 2022, an External Affairs strategy was developed in response to the emerging cost of living crisis, setting out a proactive approach to ensure that we worked effectively with partners across the city to support our citizens, communities, and businesses. In setting out a suggested approach, we ensured that we learned the lessons from the Covid-19 response, strengthening and building on those relationship that had been built during the pandemic. This included a focus on the Council working with existing community, voluntary and charity networks rather than seeking to duplicate services.

3.4.27 Specific activities included:

- Development of and support around the declaration of a Cost of Living Emergency by the Leader of the Council on 6th September 2022.
- Support to the Birmingham City Partnership Board to produce a set of collective, cross-sector asks to national government for cost of living support on 5th October 2022 (as outlined above).
- Joint announcement with the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Chambers of Commerce (GBCC) around the launch of their 'Business Manifesto' on 6th November 2022, setting out the specific support required by businesses.
- Support to the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) Annual Summit, held at the Library of Birmingham on 18th November 2022, including an announcement that the Birmingham Anchor Institutions Network would renew its commitment to community wealth building activity for a further eight years.

Future work programme

3.4.28 A future work programme for the External Affairs team, as part of a wider business plan and work programme for the SPEACL function, is currently in development. This will continue to be informed by the strategic objectives highlighted in the Corporate Plan, directorate priorities and the developing national policy landscape (including priorities as communicated by national government).

3.5 **Birmingham City Observatory**

- 3.5.1 On 22nd November 2022, the Deputy Leader launched the Council's new open data platform, known as the "City Observatory". With approximately 70 people in attendance, the citywide audience was presented with a live demonstration of the online platform, and the initial set of interactive dashboards developed to demonstrate data and insights across key thematic areas. These themes included:
- City indicators which closely link to our partnership priorities as well as the council's strategic objectives.
 - Financial resilience in the 69 wards. This is against five dimensions: mosaic demographic segmentation, indices of multiple deprivation, fuel poverty, benefits and unemployment, and children in financially vulnerable households.
 - Ward Profiles including data from a wide range of sources.
 - Homes for Ukraine, which provides an insight into the aid delivered to Ukrainian refugees settling in Birmingham.
- 3.5.2 The event culminated in a panel discussion on how open data could be used to support the city's future development and how partners might best use this information.
- 3.5.3 Going forward, the City Observatory (as part of the Council's new Insight, Policy and Strategy Division) will play a key role in achieving the Council's corporate and strategic aims, providing the Council with the data, insight and analysis needed for evidence-based decision making.
- 3.5.4 On 19th December 2022, the City Observatory was updated with a new Census 2021 dashboard that provides a more detailed view of the city and its diversity across key issues including ethnicity, religion, language, the age profile of the population and how people travel to work.

Employment and Skills

3.6 14–19 Participation and Skills Team

- 3.6.1 The 14-19 Participation and Skills Team are responsible for delivering the Council's statutory duties for young people's participation through the Education Act 1996, Education and Skills Act 2008 (ESA 2008), and Children and Families Act 2014.
- 3.6.2 Local authorities have broad duties to encourage, enable, and assist young people to participate in education or training. Specifically, under the Education Act 1996, local authorities have a duty to secure sufficient suitable education and training provision for all young people in their area who are over compulsory school age, but under 19, or aged 19 to 25 and for whom an Education, Health, and Care (EHC) plan is maintained. To fulfil this, local

authorities need to have a strategic overview of the provision available in their area and to identify and resolve gaps in provision.

- 3.6.3 Local authorities also have a duty to make available to all young people aged 13-19 and to those between 20 and 25 with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), support that will encourage, enable, or assist them to participate in education or training under Section 68 of the ESA 2008.
- 3.6.4 Tracking young people's participation is a key element of these duties. Local authorities are required to collect information about young people so that those who are not participating, or are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET), can be identified and given support to re-engage. Robust tracking also provides the local authority with information that helps to ensure that suitable education and training provision is available in their area, and that resources can be targeted effectively
- 3.6.5 Finally, the ESA 2008 placed Raising Participation Age (RPA) related duties on local authorities regarding 16- and 17-year-olds:
- Local authorities must promote the effective participation in education and training of 16- and 17-year-olds in their area with a view to ensuring that those persons fulfil the duty to participate in education or training.
 - A key element of this is identifying the young people in their area who are covered by the duty to participate and encouraging them to find a suitable education or training place.
 - Local authorities must make arrangements i.e. maintain a tracking system to identify 16- and 17-year-olds who are not participating in education or training, putting in place robust arrangements to identify young people who are not engaged in education or training or who have left provision enables local authorities to offer support as soon as possible.
- 3.6.6 The cohort size of 16-18-year-olds in Birmingham is 31,253 young people. This is approximately 1,600 more young people than 2021, and cohort size will continue to increase in future years with a peak of approximately 35,000 young people in 2025.
- 3.6.7 The 14-19 Participation and Skills Team are currently in the business-critical period for the September Guarantee and Annual Participation Survey (APS). This is a period of annual reporting by the Department for Education (DfE) on participation, NEET, and Not Known young people aged 16-18 years (and up to 25 with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)).

September Guarantee position

- 3.6.8 The September Guarantee requires local authorities to find education and training places for all 16- and 17- year olds in their areas.

- 3.6.9 This year, September Guarantee monitoring recorded that 95.3% of young people in Years 12 and 13 in Birmingham had received an offer to participate in education or employment with training (as shown in the below table). This is an improvement of 2% on last year, despite the previously mentioned growth in cohort numbers.

	Yr12	Yr13	Total
Offers	14762	14561	29323
Cohort	14990	15776	30766
Percentage	98.48%	92.30%	95.31%

- 3.6.10 There are more offers recorded per person than in previous years on the NCCIS (National Client Caseload Information System) reporting system, also exceeding the national average from previous years.

Annual Participation Survey (APS) update

- 3.6.11 Annual Participation Survey (APS) processes for 2022 differ from previous years, with general further education colleges required to provide early information on enrolments. This information is being used to test the market, to see if it reduces the number of Not Known young people with an unknown participation status.
- 3.6.12 As a result, for the first time in over a decade, the percentage of young people whose participation status is 'not known' has reduced to 7.77% (as of 3rd November 2022). While lower than previous years at this stage, this figure remains too high and tackling this will be a key priority.
- 3.6.13 The Birmingham NEET figure is currently below the national average. In the previous years it finalised at between 2.5-3% of the overall cohort.
- 3.6.14 Earlier reporting has supported the early identification of those young people at risk of disengaging and Birmingham Careers Service (BCS) have put early intervention strategies in place to provide impartial advice and support to young people around the offers that they have received.
- 3.6.15 Birmingham is supporting the national development of a Risk of NEET Guidance Document, the first draft of which is due to be published for national roll out in January 2023. Our indicator tool has been cited as good practice in this area, with learning being shared.
- 3.6.16 Based on current figures, good progress is being made on the numbers of NEET young people in Years 12 and 13. The latest data indicates a figure of under 10%, compared to previous years' figures of over 20%. This success is due to lessons learned from previous years, and the establishment of good working relationships with key stakeholders across the city.

- 3.6.17 Final APS figures are due at the end of February 2023, at which point we will know the final participation figures for young people in Birmingham.
- 3.6.18 With continued investment into data tools, including MI Data Groups, close working with delivery providers, and active linking in to the SEND Accelerated Project Plan (APP), we are widening data collection to include Year 14 and transitions for young people on EHCPs.
- 3.6.19 Birmingham's 14-19 Acting Head of Service co-chairs a national core cities group to share good practice across Post-16 Teams.
- 3.6.20 The below figure shows the position as of November 2022 (all figures are subject to change and awaiting final confirmation from the DfE).

Summary of NCCIS Cohort Years 12 and 13 by Participation, NEET and Not Known Status

Date Run: 03/11/2022

	NEET		Participating		Not Known		Cohort
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Yr12	270	1.74%	14374	92.82%	842	5.44%	15486
Yr13	460	2.92%	13720	87.02%	1586	10.06%	15767
Total	730	2.34%	28094	89.89%	2428	7.77%	31253

Post-16 jobs and skills strategy development

- 3.6.21 The 14-19 Participation and Skills Team are working with existing post-16 delivery providers to meet the provision gaps in the city. Evidence shows that entry level provision in the south of the city is lacking, and that in general the variety of sectors covered by work-based providers is limited.
- 3.6.22 Over the last 8 years, 15 post-16 providers have withdrawn provision across the city. This is due for a number of factors depending on the provider, including inadequate Ofsted inspection findings, financial viability, and contract closure. In some cases, provision in specialist areas have been lost, further reducing the variety of opportunities open to young people.
- 3.6.23 In order to respond to an increasing cohort of young people on EHCPs, and to reduce youth unemployment going forward, the 14-19 Team are procuring a sufficiency survey to address the challenges the city faces, with key professionals contributing to the development of a new jobs and skills strategy, Building Down Opportunities.

Travel to Succeed programme

- 3.6.24 The 14-19 Team have devised a Travel to Succeed programme for young people to address the first recommendation in the Breaking Down Barriers

report, which identified the cost of public transport as a barrier to employment for many 16- to 18-year olds. The programme is supported by £1.2m funding from the Leader's Priority pot, and will support young people with transport needs across the city of Birmingham, helping to tackle transport barriers and increase their participation in activities and events.

3.6.25 As part of the programme, 12-month multi-travel passes will be issued to all young people in the below target groups:

- 16-18 NEET young people
- 19-25 NEET young people on an Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP) or in need of additional support as identified with their support worker
- Young people who are known to Birmingham Children's Trust (BCT)
- Young people who require Travel Confidence Training

3.6.26 The Travel to Succeed programme is due to go live in January 2023.

Response to the SEND Accelerated Project Plan

3.6.27 The 14-19 Team are leading a number of workstreams to increase opportunities within 14-29 employment pathways for SEND young people, in addition to supporting seven task and finish groups. These will build a variety of opportunities at key transition points for young people, including:

- Supported internship development
- Inclusive apprenticeship development
- Promotional campaigns to raise awareness and increase disability confident employers
- Production of a directory of Day Opportunities
- Working with voluntary and community sector organisations
- BCC Procurement and the Birmingham Charter for Social Responsibility (BC4SR)
- BCC Planning Policy – Local Employment and Skills

3.6.28 A safeguarding and tracking element is in development as part of an already robust tracking process for SEND young people over 19-years old. This will further strengthen our existing processes, supporting wider participation and entry into meaningful adult engagement activities.

3.7 Birmingham Careers Service

3.7.1 Birmingham Careers Service (BCS) delivers impartial careers information advice and guidance service for young people who are aged 16-19 and NEET.

The service also delivers a traded service for schools who wish to purchase a careers guidance service for their students, which assists them in their statutory responsibilities as an educational institution.

- 3.7.2 The delivery of these services ensures that the Council meets its statutory requirements around the need to 'encourage, enable and assist' NEET young people to re-engage in education, training, or employment. This delivery relates to the requirements set out within Education and Skills Act 2008, Children and Families Act 2014, DfE Raising Participation Age Statutory Guidance for local authorities (last updated 2016), and DfE SEND Code of Practice 0-25 (last updated April 2020).
- 3.7.3 The service is a major contributor to the Youth Promise Plus project, as covered below in the next section of this report. Delivery of all services is carried out by level 6 and level 7 professionally qualified careers advisers.
- 3.7.4 BCS continued to deliver services throughout Covid-19 on a face-to-face, in person basis, offering impartial careers information advice and guidance as well as developing a digital and online service including the website, webinars, Microsoft Teams sessions, and social media channels. These new digital and online services have continued post-pandemic.
- 3.7.5 Our public service delivery was reviewed post-pandemic, and continues to deliver via a drop-in & appointment service from the Library of Birmingham, The Factory, and Lighthouse Youth centres. Delivery on an appointment-only basis for young people is available at 14 other locations across the city, including youth centres, community libraries, and community venues.
- 3.7.6 We have seen increased demand for our impartial careers' guidance service from 16-19-year-old NEETs. Despite this, all referrals of young people are allocated an individual careers adviser within four days, with engagement commencing in line with a young person's individual needs.
- 3.7.7 BCS is the major contributing service to reducing 16-18-year-old NEET figures because of the statutory requirements it discharges on behalf of the Council around enabling assisting and supporting young people to enter employment, education, or training. Close collaboration and synergy with the 14-19 Team, Birmingham Youth Service, the Employment Team, BAES, and the Library service (both Library of Birmingham and community libraries) is crucial to this area of work.

Traded services delivery

- 3.7.8 There is an ever-increasing interest and demand for the Careers Information and Guidance (CIAG) traded service from schools, colleges and learning providers across Birmingham, recognising that the BCS brand stands for quality, independence, and impartiality. We currently trade with 33 mainstream or special schools, offering a careers guidance service in line with individual

institutional requirements. Development of the digital service will also increase both the volume of and geographical reach within the market.

- 3.7.9 The success of our traded services poses a challenge, in the form of meeting increased levels of demand with existing levels of resource. Work is taking place to look at potential future structures for support, alongside the WMCA and the Careers Enterprise Company. A reconfiguration of service delivery to meet new demand is expected to take place over the next 12 months.
- 3.7.10 EU funding, in the form of European Structural Funds (ESF) is due to finish in October 2023. This will have a detrimental impact on service delivery, and requires consideration. Work is taking place within the services to consider all funding and service delivery options and possibilities moving forward.

3.8 Youth unemployment

- 3.8.1 Employment levels in Birmingham are still recovering from the pandemic, especially among young people. Our best measure of unemployment is the unadjusted Jobs Centre Plus claimant count, which measures the number of people claiming benefit for the reason of being unemployed. After steadily falling in the first half of 2022, the all-age count in Birmingham increased in September 2022 by 665 to 61,665. While the claimant count also increased nationally and regionally in the same month, rates of unemployment in Birmingham remain higher than the national average.
- 3.8.2 The September 2022 all-age claimant count is a decrease of 22,225 (-27%) on the 'pandemic peak' of March 2021. It is, however, still 13,105 (+27%) higher than pre-pandemic levels in February 2020, showing that employment levels have not yet recovered from the impact of Covid-19.
- 3.8.3 This situation is reflected in the figures for youth (18-24) unemployment in the city, which increased by 210 in September 2022 to stand at 10,700. Young people aged 18-24 were worst hit by the pandemic, with the city seeing fastest rise in claimant numbers during the pandemic (76%).
- 3.8.4 The Council's 'Breaking Down Barriers' report, published in July 2021, was based on research with stakeholders and young people. The report sets out ten recommendations with clearly identified actions to improve the quality and visibility of the careers and employment support on offer across the city.
- 3.8.5 Like the Breaking Down Barriers report, other national reports such as Youth Employment UK's Youth Voice Census 2022 found that young people are in a mental health emergency. The research from across the youth employment sector has highlighted growing concern about rising economic inactivity and worklessness among young people due to ill mental and physical health.
- 3.8.6 For the adult population, the city still has a higher proportion of residents with no qualifications and a lower proportion of residents with qualifications at NVQ Level 3 equivalence, compared to the national average.

Youth Promise Plus (YPP)

- 3.8.7 Since 2016, the EU-funded Youth Promise Plus (YPP) project has been supporting young people who are NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training). This year the funding was extended to December 2023.
- 3.8.8 YPP has targeted delivery for young people who face challenging life circumstances such as children in care, care leavers, and young people referred by the youth offending service, the police, and social services, as well as young people engaged through careers and youth services' peripatetic and outreach work.
- 3.8.9 YPP funds person-centred support, which can range from life-stabilisation (e.g., linking with housing, health, and income support) to work-ready CV and interview preparation, as well as support for up to a month after the young person achieves an employment, education, or training outcome.
- 3.8.10 The YPP project funds the equivalent of around 120 full time staff provided by a combination of Birmingham and Solihull Council teams and a range of specialist partners and contractors, including:
- The Prince's Trust - who provide one to one support and an exciting range of programmes with major employers
 - University Hospital Birmingham Learning Hub - specialising in health care training and jobs links
 - Change Grow Live - intensive support for vulnerable young people such as care leavers
 - Better Pathways - providing professional mental health advice
- 3.8.11 The service supports young people to gain qualifications and progress to either employment, further education or training, such as college courses, traineeships or apprenticeships.
- 3.8.12 Prior to the pandemic, the Youth Promise Plus project was achieving over 90% success rate against 15 of its 17 key performance indicator (KPI) targets, having supported over 14,000 NEET young people. Just under 4,500 young people achieved a positive employment, education, or training outcome since delivery of the project fully commenced in March 2016.
- 3.8.13 The pandemic impacted on the engagement of young people and has also had the potentially positive impact of more young people staying on in education rather than seek employment. Currently YPP supports approximately 1,500 young people per year and maintains its high levels of support for the monitored equality measures. Of the 17,096 young people engaged to date on 30th September 2022:
- 53% of young people are from Black, Asian or other minoritised ethnic groups

- 39% are long-term unemployed
- 20% have a self-declared disability or learning difficulty
- 12% are 'lone parents'

- 3.8.14 The YPP project offers the most intensive support to young people referred from Birmingham Children's Trust (from children in care, care leavers, youth offending and supported families services), West Midlands Police, and specialist partners like the Red Thread charity.
- 3.8.15 A wrap-around mental health service is offered that provides low level mental health interventions addressing mental health barriers to employment e.g. managing anxiety, sleep, and self-esteem issues.
- 3.8.16 Participants' issues range from Generalised Anxiety Disorder (GAD) to phobias and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), and they can be hesitant in sharing the struggles they face with their condition. One recent example concerns a young person estranged from their parents due to a complicated home life, with their younger siblings being taken into care. The situation left the young person hesitant to engage in the YPP service through fear of the service disclosing their circumstances.
- 3.8.17 The YPP service provides support over a relatively long period (most commonly between 13 and 52 weeks) so that each young person can learn coping strategies and find ways of overcoming their difficulties in a productive manner.
- 3.8.18 A number of YPP staff are co-located with Jobcentre Plus (JCP) Youth Work Coaches in a city-wide network of Youth Hubs. Youth Hubs offer more friendly locations than job centres and more time per appointment with the work coach compared to usual unemployment services, plus joined up support from YPP and other providers on-site. A central Hub is located at Library of Birmingham, with smaller hubs at the Lighthouse (Lozells) and Factory (Longbridge) Youth Centres. JCP also provide a Youth Hub based within Witton Lodge Community Centre and are planning to co-locate at the Dolphin Centre in East Birmingham.
- 3.8.19 Our collaborative working with Jobcentre Plus and the WMCA has led to delivery of a series of six successful Birmingham Jobs Fairs over the last 18 months. Each Job Fair has attracted around 1000 attendees, with approximately a quarter of attendees progressing into training or interviews at each event. In October 2022 we incorporated cost of living support providers as part of the fair. This was very successful and will be embedded into future jobs fairs in 2023/2024.
- 3.8.20 We have also delivered a series of smaller events held at Library of Birmingham, focussed on speedy recruitment, apprenticeships, and the employment sectors that young people are most interested in (creative, digital, administration). These events were created based on consultations with young

people. The Employment and Skills team are now planning an Apprenticeship Event for National Apprenticeship Week in February, with another large Birmingham Jobs Fair scheduled for May 2023.

Maximising social value through construction

- 3.8.21 Through procurement, social value and planning obligations negotiations, our Employment Access Team (EA Team) maximises the Council's employer links and ensures that jobs and skills opportunities generated through social value obligations are appropriately targeted. There is a particular focus on opportunities in the construction sector, ensuring that jobs and skills commitments from developers join up with local training provision.
- 3.8.22 Between April and August 2022, 779 jobs and opportunities generated through social value commitments were successfully gained by unemployed local people. This is twice as many in the same period for the previous year. Prior to the involvement of the EA team, construction teams would often be brought in by contractors from other areas, with local people missing out on opportunities.
- 3.8.23 Building on our strong relationship with the development industry, we are piloting a new social value approach to jobs and skills agreements to widen our 'ask' across careers and community-based youth interventions. This is being done with a view to creating an early intervention model of career pathways into the construction industry and ring-fencing targeted jobs for priority groups such as NEETs, care leavers, ex-offenders, homeless people, veterans, and people with special educational needs and disabilities.
- 3.8.24 We are also working with Procurement colleagues to provide the same driving force to the rest of the Council's supply chain. This will ensure that unemployed residents are linked in with new job opportunities, as well as working with contractors on their social value programme to link careers interventions with the SEND Improvement Plan. Recommendations in the Breaking Down Barriers report will also be used to provide clear pathways from education to employment for disadvantaged groups and those most at risk of becoming
- 3.8.25 Our latest initiative to support youth employment and skills is to support the construction sector to offer work experience placements. The team's built environment sector employer relationships generate over 250 work experience opportunities per year. In 2023/2024 we are working to increase this figure to 500 to better target opportunities to local areas and schools with the highest levels of need. We are aiming to standardise the post-16 work experience offer to increase the number of young people that can benefit from placements, working with the WMCA and South and City College to develop a web portal that matches the needs of young people with potential employers.
- 3.8.26 Looking ahead, we project that the HS2 building programme will generate 9,000 jobs to Birmingham and the wider region over the next three years.

Birmingham residents already gain 34% of all HS2 prime contractor roles in the West Midlands; however, we will be working to increase this success rate year on year.

- 3.8.27 Balfour Beatty Vinci are offering bespoke support for care leavers, including paid placements with an inbuilt support offer. We are also working in partnership with the Birmingham Education Partnership (BEP) to develop a vocational STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) programme to equip young people with the skills and qualifications they need to benefit from the opportunities arising from the HS2 programme.

Commonwealth Games jobs and skills legacy

- 3.8.28 Birmingham has delivered a superb Commonwealth Games and we are committed to achieving a lasting jobs and skills legacy, especially for the thousands of residents involved in the hospitality and event services industries and volunteers. We held a successful 2-day West Midlands Showcase event in August 2022 at Library of Birmingham aimed at supporting next steps for Games staff and volunteers. Following this, we will host ongoing recruitment events with Games sector employers e.g., hospitality, cleaning, catering, security through a local partnership approach. Legacy support will continue to be delivered throughout 2023/2024.
- 3.8.29 As part of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, a unique partnership was created between Birmingham City Council and our development partners JCP and West Midlands Combined Authority, plus a host of specialist training and community-based employability providers. As a result of work done in this partnership, 378 unemployed residents, students, and residents 'at risk' of losing their jobs were able to access employment opportunities arising from the Commonwealth Games construction phase, despite the challenging context of the Covid-19 pandemic. Approximately 25% of these opportunities were secured by young people aged 15 – 24 and over 50% went to residents under the age of 35. Our wider social value programme has brought further engagement with young people through schools, colleges, universities, and local community settings.
- 3.8.1 Targeting our activity in local job centres and community settings in unemployment hotspots close to developments has ensured that the benefits go to residents in local communities. 55% of the opportunities created on Alexander Stadium and Perry Barr Residential Scheme construction projects were taken up by residents living in the neighbouring areas of Erdington, Perry Barr, and Ladywood.

Kickstart delivery

- 3.8.2 This year we have successfully completed delivery of our Kickstart placement programme for unemployed 18 – 24-year-olds. The Kickstart Scheme was launched by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) in response to Covid-19, creating high quality six - month work placements for young people aged 16-24, fully funded by national government up to Minimum Wage levels. In February 2021, we backed delivery of a Kickstart programme offering 50 internal Kickstart placements within Birmingham City Council, topping up national government funding so that Council Kickstart placements could be paid a Real Living Wage.
- 3.8.3 Birmingham City Council invested in a wrap-around support package for Kickstarter participants, delivered by our own Birmingham Adult Education Service (BAES) and a new Kickstart Co-ordination team to support the recruitment and delivery process.
- 3.8.4 To support small employers to apply to have Kick-starters, the Council also partnered with the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership who provided business advice and support.
- 3.8.5 Of the 50 placements that the Council sought to offer, 47 were filled. Three placements were not successfully delivered due to late drop-out during the recruitment process, after the window for national Kickstart recruitment had closed. All 47 Council Kickstart placements were successfully completed. Of the young people supported who responded to our post-placement survey, 46% reported they had never been employed before.
- 3.8.6 The Council's 14 – 19 tracking team undertakes an annual Skills Sufficiency survey and works with colleges and Independent Training Providers to develop services to meet gaps in provision. Our experience of delivering the Kickstart programme will feed into the Council's developing Early Careers programme.

Apprenticeships

- 3.8.7 We continue to work with the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Economic Partnership (GBSLEP) to increase spend from the Council's Apprenticeship Levy Transfer Fund. As of September 2022, we have supported 21 local employers to deliver 65 apprenticeships across all levels, with the greatest number of apprenticeships at Level 3. Such activity supports the ongoing upskilling of Birmingham residents past Level 2.
- 3.8.8 Overall, Birmingham continues to lag behind other areas in take-up of apprenticeships. The latest figures show that only 3.7% of 16-17 year olds in Birmingham are in an apprenticeship, compared to a national average of 4.7% and 11% in top performing areas. Increasing our apprenticeship rates to the national average would generate an additional 315 apprenticeships for Birmingham; matching the top-performing rate would mean an extra 3,480

apprenticeships. Development of a successful, local partnership-based solution for apprenticeship matching therefore has the potential to achieve significant employment impacts for both young people and businesses.

- 3.8.9 In collaboration with The Ladder for Greater Birmingham and the Multicultural Apprenticeship Alliance, we are working to increase the take-up of apprenticeships in the city. This includes the development of a placement matching service at the Library of Birmingham Youth Hub, to be launched during National Apprenticeship Week in February 2023.

Looking ahead

- 3.8.10 In line with the Corporate Plan and Council strategic priorities, we are seeking to move to a model of early intervention in youth unemployment services, including increased partnership working with education providers. As referenced in earlier sections of this report, Birmingham City Council has been successful in bidding for Partnerships for People and Place (PfPP) funding from DLUHC to pilot new ways of working with schools in East Birmingham. Delivery of this project has now commenced, supporting up to 150 Year 11s with enhanced employer links, mentoring for self-esteem and entrepreneurial thinking. A Reverse Mentoring event in January 2023 will see young people and local employers exchanging expert opinions on what makes for successful recruitment and employment practices.
- 3.8.11 Increased place-based working is central to our levelling up plans. In 2022/2023 we will develop our own model for local integrated careers and employment support, linking up essential services and additional training provision so that they are easier for local people to access. We will be working alongside the WMCA and Solihull Council to drive this forward in East Birmingham and North Solihull, where together we are seeking additional powers from national Government via the Trailblazer Devolution Deal.
- 3.8.12 We are also working with the WMCA to develop a Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) Investment Plan for Birmingham that supports locally-led delivery and public sector leadership in accessible recruitment practices.

3.9 Birmingham Adult Education Services (BAES)

- 3.9.1 For the 2021/22 academic year, Birmingham Adult Education Services (BAES) delivered programmes for over 6000 adults from 78 community venues in areas with the highest level of deprivation. Our programmes range from co-designed community learning first steps or engagement courses such as Family Learning to nationally recognised foundation qualifications including:
- English/Maths Functional Skills
 - English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

- Digital Skills
- GCSEs
- Bespoke SEND programmes
- Vocational programmes across areas including health and social care, business and accountancy.

3.9.2 In addition, BAES offers Route to Work packages and Sector-Based Work Programmes in partnership with DWP and employers, supported by wrap-around services including academic support and careers advice. For learners leaving the service in the 2021/22 academic year, 29% secured employment and 41% continued with further education.

3.9.3 BAES is developing its employment and supported internship programme for job seekers on discreet SEND programmes in partnership with the BCC Objective 4 Progression Pathway Programme. It is also developing a strategic plan with DWP for a place-based approach to supporting the unemployed, those not economically active and increasing in-work progression, and upskilling.

3.9.4 The service received a highly commended MATRIX report for the quality and impact of its careers and advice service, especially in meeting the needs for those members of the community furthest from employment and 'good jobs'.

BAES Advisory Board

3.9.5 Cllr McCarthy (Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families) has assumed the Chair of BAES Advisory Board. The December 2022 meeting will formally receive and approve the BAES Self-Assessment Report; this will include detailed report on learner outcomes, quality of learner experience and progression data. The remit and membership of the Board will be reviewed in time for 2023/24 academic year.

3.9.6 BAES is exploring securing higher 'programme weighting' for Adult Education Budget from WMCA to meet increasing costs.

3.9.7 We have responded to the DfE consultation on Funding and Accountability. Any changes as a result of the consultation will come into effect from September 2023.

Cost of living crisis

3.9.8 BAES has delivered a range of activities to support our learners and wider communities in response to the current Cost of Living crisis. This section outlines some of the specific activities that have taken place, in collaboration with other teams across the Council and our local, regional and national partners.

- 3.9.9 In collaboration with Warmer Homes, we are developing a course focusing understanding energy bills and energy usage, as well as wider financial literacy and sustainability. In addition to the main course, learners will have access to a 1-1 session with Warmer Homes, in which they will learn about government support grants and how to get useful items to reduce energy costs, such as electric blankets and lightbulbs. The course will be offered in all of our centres, and we will advertise them also as part of our 'Warm Place to Be' campaign.
- 3.9.10 BAES will also deliver awareness-raising workshops on loan sharks, the impact of debt and understanding interest rates.
- 3.9.11 Most BAES centres have learner spaces for self-study (when not in 'contact time' in classes) to allow students to keep warm. In response to the cost of living crisis, BAES has further become involved in organised warm spaces initiatives in Bartley Green Surgery, Weoley Castle Library, and Harborne Baptist Church. Kings Norton Library will be available as a designated warm space shortly. Creative and healthy living activities are open to all the community in those areas.
- 3.9.12 A Warm Welcome space has been established at the Library of Birmingham, with staff resourcing and signposting to BAES programmes.
- 3.9.13 We are providing Cost of Living workshops at Ley Hill survey, Handsworth Library, Four Oaks, and Rookery Children's Centre. We are also in the process of setting up workshops alongside Family Action in the Aston area to support their warm space settings.
- 3.9.14 BAES has a training kitchen already in use to support independent living for learners on discreet SEND programmes. We are expanding our 'healthy eating on a budget' to other learners.
- 3.9.15 Finally, for enrolled learners (subject to eligibility and individual assessment) support for travel, books, digital devices, or childcare is available. We encourage all our learners that are struggling with the cost of living crisis to contact BAES for signposting to sources of support.

Multiply update

- 3.9.16 Launched in 2021, the national government Multiply programme is intended to increase the levels of functional numeracy in the adult population across the UK. It is being delivered through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund for three years, with West Midlands funding distributed through the WMCA.
- 3.9.17 BAES has now received the Multiply specifications and business case documents from the WMCA. A 'Financial Literacy' proposal for full Cabinet approval to bid and receive Multiply Funding for approximately £1.5m will be submitted in January 2023.

Digital inclusion

- 3.9.18 BAES continues to work in partnership with colleagues in Digital and Customer Services, as well as local stakeholders, to deliver the Digital Inclusion Strategy. The Strategy includes the provision of devices, connectivity and skills training through a place-based approach.

Key performance and destination data

- 3.9.19 The remainder of this section provides an overview of key performance and destination data for the BAES service for both 2021/22 and 2022/23 where available).
- 3.9.20 Overall, positive learner destinations for 2021/22 stand at 70%. This includes all learners that move on to any type of employment, further study, or voluntary work.
- 3.9.21 The proportion of learners moving into employment has increased from 26.2% in 2020/21 to 28.7% overall in 2021/22. Over the last three years from 2020/21, the three year trend shows 16.1% more learners have moved into employment following participation in a BAES course.
- 3.9.22 The below table shows recruitment demographics for the 2022/23 academic year (to date). 78% of enrolments to date are female, and we continue to attract a large proportion of learners with an identified disability or from a Black, Asian or minoritised background.

	Enrolments	
	No.	%
Enrolments – female	11668	78%
Enrolments – male	3263	22%
Enrolments – with identified learning difficulty, disability or health concern	2776	19%
Enrolments – from Black, Asian or other minoritised ethnic background	9952	67%

- 3.9.23 For 2022/23, 50% of our enrolments are from the most deprived areas according to the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). The IMD, compiled by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) uses a range of indicators to measure relative levels of deprivation in geographic areas. This is an increase on previous years and demonstrates that we are getting better at targeting the most disadvantaged to engage in learning activities.

	Enrolments	
	No.	%
IMD quintile 1	7530	50%
IMD quintile 2	2893	19%

3.9.24 53% of enrolees in the 2022/23 academic year are unemployed, looking for work and available to start work. This is an increase of 8% from the previous year 2021/22.

	Enrolments	
	No.	%
In paid employment	3070	21%
Unemployed, looking for work and available to start work	7963	53%
Unemployed, not looking for work and/or not available to start work	1581	11%
Data not collected	2237	15%

3.9.25 Overall attendance for the 2022/23 academic year as at 9th November 2022 is 89.5%.

Area	Attendance %
English	86.1%
Maths	91%
SEND	89.1%
English as a Second Language (ESOL)	89.6%
Languages	88.5%
IT and business	91.1%
Pre-employment	94.6%
Health and social care	86.1%
Community learning	93.5%

Average attendance across all areas	89.5%
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- 3.9.26 As at 9th November 2022, overall learner retention for the 2022/23 academic year was 96.5%.
- 3.9.27 It is too early to provide pass and achievement data for 2022/23. Learners must be on courses for a certain period (in most cases be on programme for six weeks) before they count as formally on the 'enrolment roll' as a funded learner for the academic year.
- 3.9.28 Attendance at the start of term takes a few weeks to settle into a normal pattern, as learners transfer between courses due to changes in personal circumstances and learners who have not joined courses are removed from registers.

4 Cabinet Member for Digital, Culture, Heritage and Tourism

4.1 Library Services

- 4.1.1 Libraries are playing a central role in key Council led events and initiatives such as the Commonwealth Games Legacy programme, New Ways of Working and the cost of living crisis response.

Attendance and performance data

- 4.1.2 Key performance indicators for Community Libraries, Library of Birmingham (LoB), Library Services at Home and Mobile Library services include the following data sets (reported monthly):

Library of Birmingham

Key Performance Indicator	Latest National Value	Latest Good+ Value	B'ham baseline	Target	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22
Membership and visitors																	
Number of visitors to libraries for all purposes																	
High is better											65,828	69,110	74,860	73,881	90,035	166,984	93,182
Active users of the library who have borrowed a book in the past twelve months																	
High is better											142,850	140,982	141,981	142,922	143,790	142,408	143,441
Book loans and E-issues																	
High is better											21,427	21,413	20,514	19,826	22,771	25,961	25,772
BREC (Business and Reception)																	
Employment and business services (number of direct assists to customers to improve their employability)																	
High is better											1,881	1,474	1,370	1,450	1,853	1,607	2,077
Cultural and family attendance																	
Children and cultural events																	
High is better											1,610	1,219	1,499	1,977	1,829	1,370	1,227
Social media and online																	
Social media hits (Facebook visits, Twitter impressions and Webpage visits)																	
High is better											375,132	290,201	286,232	270,165	298,545	328,967	309,216

Community Libraries

Key Performance Indicator	Latest National Value	Latest Good+ Value	B'ham baseline	Target	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22
Membership and visitors																	
Number of visitors to libraries for all purposes																	
High is better											73,350	77,050	85,063	86,050	107,521	101,058	89,896
Active users of the library who have borrowed a book in the past twelve months																	
High is better																	
Book loans and E-issues																	
High is better											71,719	72,058	72,442	65,906	82,723	89,975	74,042
BREC (Business and Reception)																	
Employment and business services (number of direct assists to customers to improve their employability)																	
High is better																	
Cultural and family attendance																	
Children and cultural events																	
High is better											9,889	10,474	11,197	11,928	12,201	13,977	9,021
Social media and online																	
Social media hits (Facebook visits, Twitter impressions and Webpage visits)																	
High is better											66,635	129,511	110,535	101,730	124,537	92,516	50,765

- 4.1.3 In general, we have seen a steady increase in visitor numbers post-Covid as people return to our public spaces. This was boosted in August due to the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games and accompanying programmes of legacy and community activity.
- 4.1.4 Seasonal events such as the Summer Reading Challenge and school holiday periods are reflected in a big uplift in library attendance, especially as family events and activities are provided.
- 4.1.5 The numbers of physical books issued tend to track with general attendance data, while the accessing of e-books online remains steady throughout the year. Other influences on book issuing figures include the release of new titles from popular authors, and larger trends within the publishing industry.
- 4.1.6 Social media engagement is quite variable across the reporting period and is likely to be linked to third party content output that library accounts follow and retweet.

Library of Birmingham (LoB)

- 4.1.7 Visitor numbers at our largest library continue to increase and now exceed the pre-Covid figures for 2018 & 2019. The period for April to September 2022 saw 580,567 visitors to the Library of Birmingham, compared to 502,333 for the same period in 2018.
- 4.1.8 Visits to LoB increased by 4000 per day during the Commonwealth Games, boosting visitor numbers for 2022 overall. In 2022 we saw a daily average of 7,800 visitors compared to the 2018/19 daily average of 3,500, with over 100,000 visitors attending during the Commonwealth Games period.

Digital inclusion

- 4.1.9 All libraries continue to provide quality information and digital support, enabling individuals and communities to develop learning skills to find answers and to inform life choices. The citywide library offer helps children and adults to engage and feel safe online.

- 4.1.10 Community Libraries worked with the Council's Digital Inclusion Team, Vodafone, and the Good Things Foundation to help citizens in Birmingham get online over Summer 2022. Eligible citizens were able to pick up a refurbished laptop or a sim card from South Yardley, Small Heath, Ward End, Kings Norton, Frankley and Handsworth Libraries. Volunteers from Barclays, Experian and Virgin Media 02 were also on hand to answer questions around how to stay safe online, how to set up an email address or how to video call loved ones. The scheme has had a good take-up and libraries are pleased to play a part in a digital success story.

Youth hub

- 4.1.11 The Library of Birmingham supports the wider jobs and skills agenda by operating as a multi-agency hub, working alongside our Careers and Youth Services, as well as local employers. The hub offers advice for business start-ups, alongside youth services and job fairs (in partnership with DWP the and WMCA).

Libraries Warm Welcome

- 4.1.12 Libraries are currently supporting the Council-wide response to the cost-of-living crisis, linking in with public health, housing and the Early Intervention and Prevention programme team. We want to make our community libraries a 'Warm Welcome' for all members of the community enabling them to be safe and warm.
- 4.1.13 It is hoped that libraries will be able to provide facilities at each site and work with local businesses to provide refreshments. The aim is to partner with local charities to dispense blankets and other donated items.
- 4.1.14 The Library of Birmingham is offering a safe warm space for young people and families over the winter, operating from the Youth Hub and Library Meeting room.
- 4.1.15 Library Services at Home are providing Winter Warm Packs to all vulnerable customers. We are also identifying a couple of temporary stops close to foodbanks to ensure information is easily accessible for those who may need it.
- 4.1.16 As part of the wider Early Intervention and Prevention programme, a new library pilot is being developed that will explore current use and access to the library estate and related services to support health, employment and signposting to advice and information.

Archives and collections

- 4.1.17 In 2022, the Archives Team delivered their most successful Birmingham Heritage Week yet, hosting several free workshops for the public.
- 4.1.18 The team launched online access to the Aris's Gazette, a digitisation project in collaboration with the British Library and Birmingham City University, funded by a private donor.

- 4.1.19 They also successfully launched the volunteer programme as part of the City of Empire to City of Diversity project, engaging volunteers from the University of Birmingham to work on the Dyche Collection of photographs, which documents the Windrush generation of migrants to Birmingham. This follows support of a successful exhibition in the Library Gallery from March to June 2022.

Everything to Everybody (E2E) Project 2022

- 4.1.20 In Summer 2022, in collaboration with the University of Birmingham, the Council embarked on a £1.7m plan to revive the city's almost-forgotten Birmingham Shakespeare Memorial Library, housed in LoB. This is the first great Shakespeare library in the world - which, from the very beginning, has belonged to all the people of the city.
- 4.1.21 The 'Everything to Everybody' Project aims to:
- Unlock the first, oldest and largest Shakespeare collection in any public library in the world
 - Revive and extend its founding principle that culture should be actively owned by everybody
 - Inspire Birmingham people and communities to explore, interrogate and improve the collection now
- 4.1.22 Highlights of the E2E project include:
- Family days in the Library of Birmingham.
 - Seven First Folio tours to venues across the region including Gap Arts, Sense Touchbase Pears and Selly Manor Museum. Over 1,200 people attended these events.
 - Co-curated exhibitions in the Shakespeare Memorial Room in LoB with community partners including the Birmingham Centre for Arts Therapies, Stan's Café, Shakespeare Birthplace Trust and DESIBlitz.
 - The exhibition 'Your Shakespeare, Your Culture', part of the B2022 cultural programme, on display in LoB's gallery from 22nd July to 5th November 2022.
 - The ideas of George Dawson around culture for all and the civic gospel featured in the Commonwealth Games opening ceremony.
 - A number for workshops about the collection for community groups.
- 4.1.23 In addition, the project ran a volunteer programme with over 40 volunteers working on events, cataloguing, and digitisation, hosted a week-long summer school for young people aged 18-25 to learn about archives and heritage projects, and also hosted six postgraduate and three undergraduate university students on placement. A book based on highlights from the Shakespeare Memorial Library titled 'Forgotten Treasures' was published in July 2022 by History West Midlands.
- 4.1.24 In 2023, E2E will deliver the rest of the First Folio tour to eight venues across the region including Winson Green Prison and Handsworth Gurdwara and there will be another series of co-curated exhibitions in the Shakespeare

Memorial Room. The volunteer programme will continue, and the summer school will hopefully be repeated twice. We will also run a series of workshops with existing and new community partners to explore the legacy of the project and potential next steps as the project is due to end in December 2023.

Business and learning libraries

- 4.1.25 Supporting pre and start-up businesses has been key in supporting the local economy. The team have achieved this over the last twelve months through the delivery of business and Intellectual Property 1:1 advice and guidance, workshops including: 'Don't Dream, Achieve', networking events, a comprehensive range of free business databases, and SME books for loan and local delivery through monthly advice sessions in key Community Libraries.
- 4.1.26 Our partnership work with the British Library's BIPC Network and delivering the 'Enterprise for Success' business support programme, has ensured the team have delivered effective business support for pre and start-up businesses.
- 4.1.27 Our top three business support areas are technology, E-Commerce, and Beauty. 51% are start-ups formed by women, and 33% are from black and minority ethnic groups.
- 4.1.28 Moving forward, the next twelve months will see the team expanding business delivery at a local level in community libraries, the Prison Library and the Mobile Library. New workshops will focus on specific target groups e.g., young entrepreneurs. Our Digital Literacy offer will cover the introduction of Code Club plus a book based Digital Literacy Collection. The Library Shop will continue to support and develop links with local Birmingham business whilst the Tourist Information Service will work with the West Midlands Tourist Board and Visit Birmingham to promote Birmingham businesses and the local economy. Our business and Intellectual Property advice sessions will continue to be delivered, both in person and remotely, and the team will continue to proactively develop and deliver partnership work with Barclays, NatWest, PATLIB UK, Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, GBSLEP and the Government's Intellectual Property Office.

Bookstart

- 4.1.29 The UK Bookstart Programme has been reconfigured to become a targeted programme, focusing on children living in deprivation.
- 4.1.30 Bookstart Birmingham is working with the Council's Early Year service, health visitors, libraries, and local partners to gift out these packs over 2022-23. We are currently working with targeted nurseries, Children's Centres, local libraries, the Prison Service, and children in accommodation.
- 4.1.31 The Baby Pack is still universal – one for each child – and this is currently under review from Bookstart.
- 4.1.32 From October-December 2022, the Council have been involved in the Festive Book offer, partnering up with local/independent food banks. The Storytime Award started in September 2022 and all libraries are contributing to this by

holding story times using the allocated resources, and sending in votes for the most engaging story read out of the resource pack. Time to Read, the Programme for Reception aged children, requires an annual update of school intake figures, and this was completed in August 2022.

Summer Reading Challenge (SRC)

- 4.1.33 The Summer Reading Challenge (SRC) is run throughout the school summer holidays and assists with encouraging children aged 4-11 years to read for pleasure. Consequently, this supports children's literacy level and avoids educational dip due to the long summer break.
- 4.1.34 This year's theme was Gadgeteers and focussed on science and fun activities. All 36 community libraries plus the Library of Birmingham and Mobile Library took part in the scheme. This is the first summer following the pandemic that libraries have been able to engage with children and families without any restriction on numbers. The table below highlights the increase in participation and book borrowing over the holiday period, in addition to Summer Reading Challenge figures.

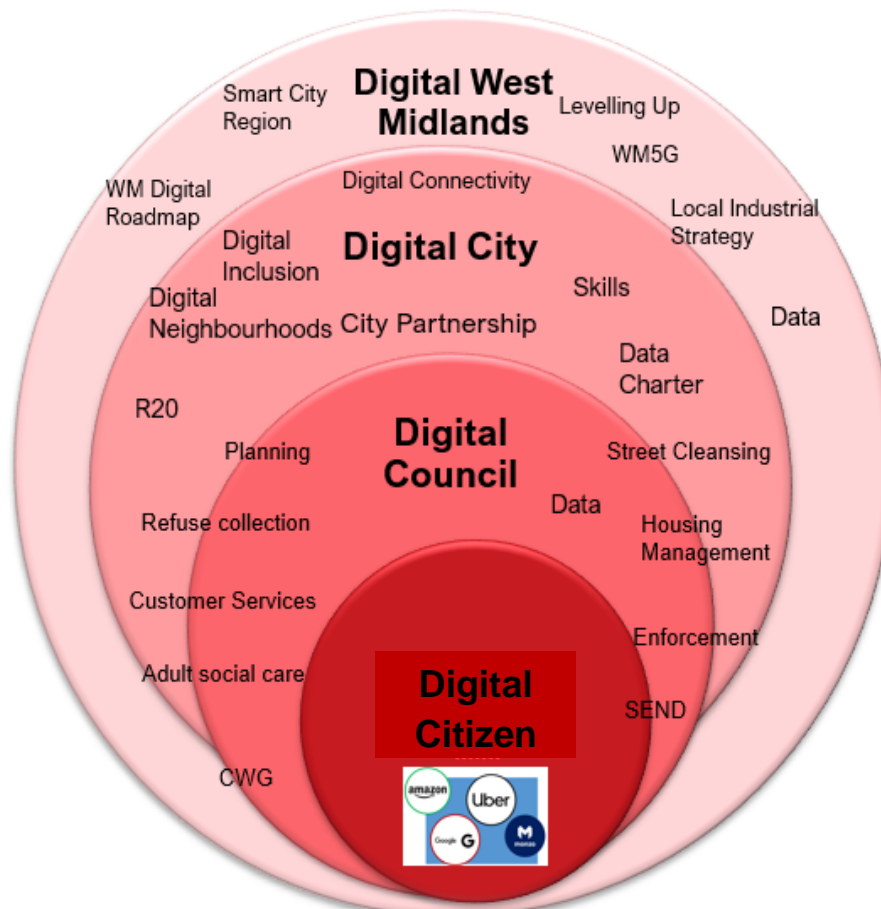
	2021	2022	% increase
How many children took part in the SRC	2,957	4,325	46%
How many children completed the SRC	2,048	3,229	57%
How many children became new library members	285	478	67%
Children's physical book issues between 9th July - 17th September	98,579	135,098	37%
Volunteers who helped run the SRC	8	33	312%
How many children attended SRC events (both digital and in-person)	3,318	6,730	102%

4.2 IT and digital

- 4.2.1 The Council's Digital Strategy, Digital City Programme and Roadmap, and Digital Inclusion Strategy and Action Plan were approved by Cabinet in March 2022, April 2022, and September 2021 respectively. These documents collectively set out our digital ambition for the city, supporting the Digital Birmingham brand which is widely known and respected across the UK.
- 4.2.2 The below diagram shows the linkages and interrelationship of our digital ambition and how we are working to shape and influence the wider regional digital ecosystem.
- 4.2.3 Our digital ambition for the city includes our ambition to be the best Digital Council – applying the culture, processes, business models and technologies of the internet era and redesigning services and processes with citizen needs

at the forefront. We will maximise the value of data, technologies infrastructure, people and innovation to prioritise limited resources on achieving the best possible outcomes for the Council and the city. Key to this will be integrating our digital ambition and principles across all strands of Council services, transformation, policies and practices.

- 4.2.4 This section of the Executive Business report highlights the major activities that are being delivered and developed to support the city to achieve its digital ambition, support the levelling up agenda and ensure we are responding to the city's Grand Challenges by creating innovative and transformation opportunities for the Council, businesses and citizens.



Transforming Council services – Digital Strategy

- 4.2.5 In May 2022, the Council launched a bold and ambitious Digital Strategy, developed from conversations with our citizens. Through this strategy, we want to make Birmingham City Council a place that uses the best of data, digital and technology so that we can respond even better to the changing needs and expectations of our citizens and businesses. The strategy splits the work into 5 themes, all of which are being delivered through strong and mature work programmes.

Theme	Work programme
Creating online services that are easy to use	Customer Service programme: developing several initiatives to improve online services for residents.
Giving our Council Teams the right tools to do their jobs	New Ways of Working Programme: helping our staff do their best work from anywhere. This includes the Field Worker and Automation projects.
Building the best technology to support council services	Technology Roadmap: putting the foundation platforms in place to enable digital transformation at pace. Cyber Programme: keeping the council's data and information assets safe.
Improving our data and evidence-based decision making	Data programme: putting the skills and culture in place to make sure our data provides insight and wisdom.
Building the Council's digital and data skills	Capability and Culture plan: developing a skills programme to develop leadership in the digital age, technical skills and all-round user confidence.

4.2.6 The Council is undertaking innovative work on this strategy and has a number of successes to date, with more to come as the delivery continues into the remaining two years of the strategy. Key achievements so far include:

- Obtaining central government funding for exemplar digital projects that will be re-used across the country. These are:
 - Field worker project – a user-centred project that has designed and built reusable digital capabilities for our staff so they can get their work done on digital devices on-site without having to return to the office
 - Children's placement portal project – a user-centred project to deliver a solution for commissioning staff to find the best and most cost-effective placements for children in care. This has been co-designed with all 14 councils in the West Midlands.

- Improvements have been made on a number of online services for residents meaning residents needs are better met whilst at the same time delivering efficiencies for the Council. The improvements include:
 - Bereavement services – end to end content review and 28 improvement opportunities identified
 - Waste management – improved data collection and launch of KIT
 - Housing - end to end review of the tenant journey and a discovery with the aim of putting housing repairs online
 - Highways - dropped kerbs and skip licensing
 - Benefits online and landlord portal
- We have delivered strong improvements to our technology infrastructure, including our cyber maturity and have a clear roadmap for our technology to ensure we can deliver change at pace to support the Council's ambitions.
- We have delivered a range of automation solutions to enable more efficient performance of council services e.g. the Revenues Team
- We are gaining increasing recognition within local government as a leader in this arena:
 - Our Chief Information Officer (CIO) was asked to take part in a panel on a national digital training programme from DLUHC
 - Our Director and CIO are regularly invited to speak at national and regional events
 - We have hosted regional networking events on digital for DLUHC and the Local Government Digital Network.
 - The IT&D Head of Culture and Capability is the chair of the Local Government Digital Network

Digital City Programme and Roadmap

4.2.7

The aim of the Digital City Programme and Roadmap is to bring together a range of capabilities including digital connectivity, data, and technology to accelerate inclusive economic growth opportunities for the city and improve the way people and businesses in Birmingham live, learn, work, grow and enjoy themselves at every stage of life. It sets out five strategic outcomes:

- A future-proofed digital infrastructure that accelerates entrepreneurship and innovation
- Improve digital inclusion and connectivity for citizens and businesses

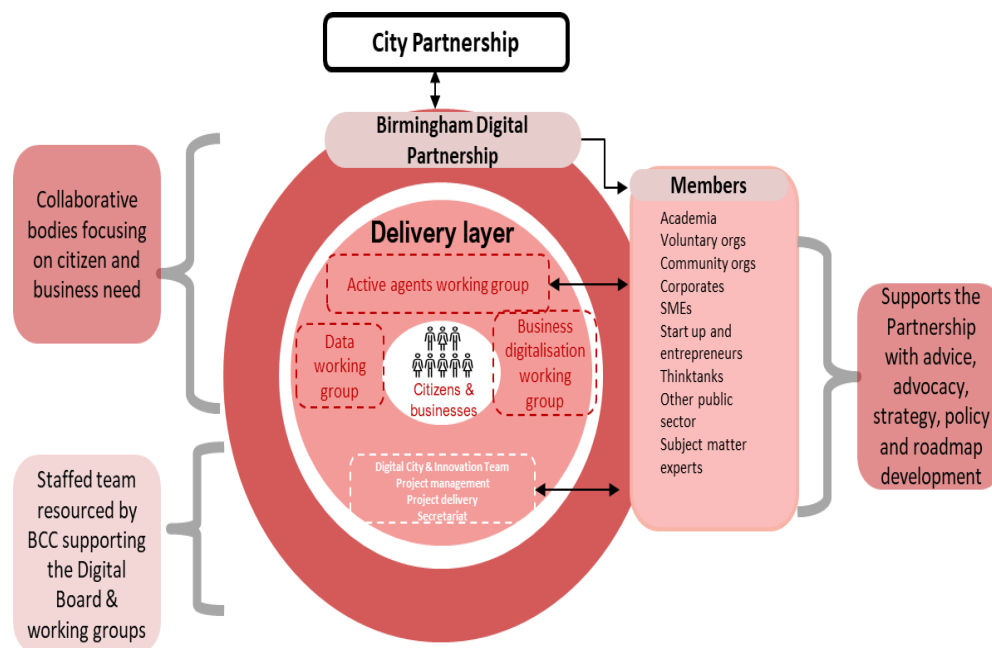
- Increase digital investment in the City for increase inclusive economic opportunities
- Maximise the use of city data – improved city collaboration and partnership working
- Establish Birmingham as a leading international digital city

4.2.8 Following engagement and consultation with stakeholders from across the public, private, academic and voluntary and community sectors, a number of strategic priorities were identified which collectively could deliver approximately £1 billion of economic uplift for the city providing benefits for businesses and citizens. These five strategic priorities are:

- Establish governance & leadership to support the digital aspects of the grand challenge
- Create a city digital infrastructure that attracts investment, increased economic output and innovation
- Create an ecosystem for data sharing between public, private and academic sectors
- Enable community led innovation to enhance community capacity and capability
- Use digital technologies for carbon reduction

4.2.9 Approximately 36 projects and activities have been established and 26 are in delivery. These projects and activities have been developed through stakeholder engagement and consultation, aimed at delivering the key priorities using an innovation framework. Many of these projects are developing the enabling environment for businesses and citizens to adopt and innovate - for example, rollout of 5G small cells, the Data Charter and full fibre deployment. The new products and services created by businesses will then lead to transformation opportunities, as well as accelerate inclusive growth capabilities. To add further capacity and capability for the Digital City Programme, a digital city and innovation team is being recruited.

4.2.10 The Birmingham Digital Partnership (BDP) has recently been established and is in its early stages of forming and establishing the priorities and activities of the Digital City Programme that will best address the city's grand challenges. The partnership is made up of representatives from the public, private and academic sectors. It is intended that the BDP will have a reporting line to the Birmingham City Partnership Board to ensure alignment with the Grand Challenges. There are a number of supporting functions that will contribute to the development and delivery of the priorities of the Digital City Programme. An illustration of the governance approach for the partnership and support functions is shown below.



- 4.2.11 The Birmingham Digital Partnership includes representatives from Jacobs, Bruntwood, WM5G, CityRedi, Birmingham Tech, KPMG and Microsoft, alongside a Smart City expert, the Cabinet Member for Digital, Culture, Heritage and Tourism, and the Council's Director for Digital and Customer Services.
- 4.2.12 Several projects are ongoing that will enable significant economic and social benefits to our businesses and citizens and will create an enabling environment to deliver inclusive economic growth. Some of these are outlined below.
- 4.2.13 A digitally connected city project aims to deploy full fibre to areas of Birmingham that are underserved and are unlikely to receive investment for the commercial suppliers in the next few years. It will create the enabling infrastructure to accelerate economic growth and support improvements in business productivity and innovation opportunities as well as provide the infrastructure to 5G and the Internet of Things (IoT) deployments.
- 4.2.14 Working in collaboration with the Strategy, Equalities and Partnerships directorate, we are producing a city-wide data charter which will underpin the development of the City Observatory. The charter will set out how data will be shared among city partners in an ethical, transparent and reusable way. The aim is to publish the data charter in Summer 2023. The charter aims to provide confidence and engender trust from city stakeholders and citizens and will accelerate the release and access to data from multiple organisations, enabling greater and meaningful insights and creating opportunities for businesses to innovate and develop new applications and solutions.
- 4.2.15 The high streets data modelling project aims to use footfall and spend data to gain better insights in the high street day and night-time economy. It will be able to differentiate between visitors and residents and where and what they

are spending their monies on in Birmingham. The analysis will enable the Council to target its resources more effectively in supporting the recovery of the high street. The project team is securing funding to procure the data to progress the opportunity.

- 4.2.16 Digital twinning is an innovative approach to model and de-risk investments and ensure that we can maximise the impacts of any investment. For example, the council is working with universities and private sector organisations to create a virtual representation of Tyseley Energy Park and use multiple sources of data to understand the impacts and outcomes of energy generating and saving ideas. The digital twin will provide insights on the most optimal approaches before any physical build is considered. A bid has been submitted to the West Midlands Accelerator fund to secure funding for this proposition. Digital twins can be used in many areas, such as social care, educations, planning and construction etc. We will be taking a case led approach, working to city partners to consider other opportunities.
- 4.2.17 A 'City As A Platform' proposal is in development that provides a unique opportunity to bring together existing city and partner assets in order to gain greater insights on how services can be transformed, as well as aggregating data sources from the city's ecosystem. The project is establishing how the Council can capture data from city sensors and other IoT devices onto its own data platforms in order to firstly enable Council business areas to gain insights on how their service areas could be transformed. Secondly, it can enable City businesses to use the data to develop new applications and services.

Digital inclusion

- 4.2.18 Digital inclusion was an issue before the Covid-19 pandemic. However, the pandemic and lockdown highlighted those that were digitally excluded and facing widening inequalities in accessing services and information. In response, the Council published a Digital Inclusion Strategy and Action Plan and established a City Council Digital Inclusion function to create opportunities and lift vulnerable people out of digital poverty. Details of the outcomes achieved by the Digital Inclusion Team include providing devices, boosting connectivity and delivering skills training as part of place-based approach. Detailed work has been carried out in 16 areas of Birmingham with elevated risk of digital exclusion according to DERI index and IUC (CDRC's analysis of Internet User Classifications) including:
- Connectivity
 - A 24-month deal with a major internet service provider (ISP) has been provisionally agreed financed by the Children's Trust, essential for establishing the UK's first carers social tariff.
 - The Birmingham Device Bank has been launched, enabling community organisations to receive free recycled computer

devices from the City Council. Along with the circa 650 devices that have already been delivered to communities, approximately 2,000 devices are being prepared for distribution.

- National Databank awareness has led to many community organisations including housing associations, religious institutions and youth centres apply to access the databank, enabling them to provide data to their communities. A pilot is being developed with BT and the Good Things Foundation to create home WiFi/broadband as the databank for identified citizens.
- Skills
 - A detailed map showing key skills provision centres in Birmingham has been developed.
 - A rolling programme by Barclays Wings is being delivered to train front-line staff to be digital champions across 189 GP surgeries in Birmingham and Solihull.
 - Promotion of the DCMS commissioned Cyber Explorers programme to schools and education partnerships across the city is now taking place in 34 schools, with 789 learners across the city.
 - We are working with community groups and third sector to coordinate delivery of training to citizens across the city from care-leavers to those being supported by Adult Social Care.
 - Birmingham Adult Education Service (BAES) delivered 185 Digital Skills courses to 1155 learners in 2021-2022 academic year. This work continues in 2022-2023. BAES is piloting Essential Digital Skills from libraries. The aim is to role this training out to all libraries that have a dedicated room or space to run training from.
- Devices
 - During the Summer of Skills, the Digital Inclusion Team distributed 75 laptops from the device bank. They have been identifying and making charities and community groups aware of the device bank. Now that the device bank is officially live, charities and community groups can apply for laptops or desktops. Our next steps are to continue to inform organisations of this scheme.
 - The team are also recruiting organisations to become digital partners of the Birmingham device bank to support the delivery of this programme. As a digital partner, they can support by donating devices, providing funding and supporting services.
 - There are a further 600 laptops and 97 desktop PCs ready to go to the Digital Inclusion Team for distribution and 1300 laptops and 490 desktops in assessment for the next phase of the work.

Open data

- 4.2.19 The Digital and Customer Services directorate has been leading on improving the maturity of how the Council uses data and information to improve council services in latter months working closely with the Strategy, Equalities and Partnerships directorate. The Data Programme is a use case led approach to use data in order to gain insights of issues and challenges raised by council officers. The current use case includes homelessness, the joint strategic needs assessment and the cost of living. Considerable work was undertaken by the Data Programme to identify vulnerable citizens during the pandemic to ensure that the Council was able to make data informed decisions on how best to support them.
- 4.2.20 The City Observatory has also been launched by the Strategy, Equalities and Partnerships Directorate, supported by Digital and Customer Services.
- 4.2.21 As part of the Digital City Programme, the Council is working with city stakeholders to develop a Data Charter. This Charter will underpin the principles, transparency and ethical way in which open data will be used by city partners, businesses and entrepreneurs. It aims to provide citizens, public, private and community organisations with the trust, confidence and re-assurance that their data will be used ethically and to support the well-being of the City.

Information governance

- 4.2.22 The risk of cyber-attack and loss of data is a strategic risk. We have developed a strategy and improvement programme to increase our cyber security and information governance maturity.
- 4.2.23 The actions on the cyber security programme are targeted to decrease the likelihood of an attack; deliver staff training and software to detect attacks, and increase our ability to recover quickly if we are attacked through offline backups and business continuity planning.
- 4.2.24 We have made great progress resulting in the risk being downgraded. However, the programme remains critical to the resilience of the Council.
- 4.2.25 The Council has also put in place a number of key activities to support good information governance practice.

4.3 Culture

Culture sector recovery

- 4.3.1 Significant challenges continue for the city's cultural organisations in the form of the cost of living crisis, just as the cultural sector was starting to recover

from the impact of Covid-19. The rising cost of services and utilities (particularly for those running buildings), combined with the cost of living increase means that organisation costs are rising at the same time as income is increasingly challenging.

4.3.2 Whilst the Arts Council England's recent National Portfolio Organisation funding investment in Birmingham for 2023-26 is welcomed, most of our funded organisations have been awarded standstill grants with no inflation over the next three years.

4.3.3 Officers have been working with city partners to identify other streams of external funding that could help support the wider cultural sector over the next couple of years e.g. proposed cultural investment in communities and places. In addition, the council recently supported an event with Culture Central and New Philanthropy Capital to encourage philanthropic giving for arts & culture in Birmingham.

Commonwealth Games 2022 (CWG) Cultural Programme

4.3.4 The City Council's Culture Team assisted the Organising Committee (OC) cultural programme team, advising on delivery and facilitating projects on the ground.

4.3.5 Officers have since been working with Culture Central (Birmingham arts sectors' network consortium) on their commission from the OC to review the legacy of the cultural programme. This work will contribute towards the OC's full evaluation report of the overall cultural programme, due to be published in January 2023.

4.3.6 In the meantime, the City Council Culture Team is currently investing £100,000 project funding in 2022-23 across those Birmingham based arts organisations applying to continue the legacy of their Creative City projects. It is a competitive process so not all who apply will be eligible and/or successful. However, officers are currently building the plan and case for £4m Legacy funding to develop cultural engagement in communities during 2023-25.

Developing Birmingham's Cultural Strategy 2023-33

4.3.7 Over the summer of 2022, the Council embarked on a series of consultations with a wide range of communities and stakeholders across the city entitled The Big Creative Conversation. The purpose and outcome were to deliver a Statement of Intent for culture in Birmingham, as the precursor to undertaking more in-depth work with stakeholders and communities to develop a new Cultural Strategy for the city 2023-33.

4.3.8 The consultations took place between June and August 2022 and the Statement of Intent for culture was subsequently supported by Cabinet

colleagues in September 2022. Recruitment of additional staff to help coordinate the project is underway.

- 4.3.9 In the meantime, officers were pleased to learn that University of Birmingham has approved a proposition called Culture Forward to increase its resource for supporting culture in the city which will be an integral part of supporting the Cultural Compact for the city.

Festivals and cultural events

- 4.3.10 Commissioned by the Council, Birmingham International Dance Festival (BIDF) 2022 took place in June 2022.
- 4.3.11 Following the Council motion in January 2022 for an annual cultural festival, officers commissioned a report to review the scope and feasibility of an annual cultural festival from 2023. It was agreed that a second commission to a local consortium of partners led by The Hippodrome Theatre to review and develop proposals for the scope, cost, and governance of an annual Birmingham Festival from 2023 – initially celebrating the ‘One Year On’ legacy from the Commonwealth Games.
- 4.3.12 Amal ‘The Walk’ was a large-scale puppet representation of a nine-year-old refugee girl walking across North Africa and Europe looking for her mother. This event to highlight the plight of migrants and refugees started in Turkey and made its way across North Africa and Europe coming to several UK cities including Birmingham (Erdington Town Centre) in October 2021. This was so successful that the producers made a return visit to the city centre in June 2022.

4.4 Museums and heritage

- 4.4.1 Officers continue regular dialogue with the heritage sector through quarterly Heritage Strategy Group meetings.
- 4.4.2 A new Conservation and Heritage Panel was appointed in June 2022, and the revised Birmingham Heritage Strategy (incorporating the new Heritage Strategic Planning Document) will shortly be circulated to heritage stakeholders. The final draft of the Strategy will go to Cabinet in early 2023 before going out to public consultation.
- 4.4.3 Alongside this work, officers have been commissioning and facilitating a range of organisations to deliver heritage projects, including:
- Birmingham Heritage Week was successfully held in September 2022. 198 events took place with 32 new organisations joining in and over 100,000 views online.
 - Black History Month launched in September 2022, including promotion of a wide range of events right across the city during October 2022.

- ‘The World Reimagined’ (national education project in cities highlighting true history of trafficking slaves across the Atlantic) including the Birmingham Globes art trail was delivered from August to October 2022 culminating with display of all ten Globes in the Bullring.
- Commissioning of Legacy West Midlands to deliver ‘Jamaica 60’ anniversary independence project.

4.4.4 The Council is recruiting a new Museums & Heritage officer to help monitor the museums contract, coordinate Birmingham’s Heritage Group and lead on Public Art matters.

4.4.5 To enable infrastructure repairs and improvements to Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, the Council was granted £4.99m in March 2022. The Full Business Case was approved by Cabinet in December 2022 with physical works to progress at BMAG to start in the new year.

4.4.6 Work has progressed with Birmingham Museums Trust and The Science and Industry Museum Group on the vision and feasibility for a new Science & Industry Museum for the city. The Stage 1 report, including potential site options, the range of capital costs and business model options was delivered in September 2022.

4.5 Tourism

4.5.1 Cabinet approved Birmingham’s Visitor Destination Plan in June 2022.

4.5.2 A major cultural events feasibility study was delivered in September 2022, followed by a study reviewing the feasibility of a City Attractions Pass. Two other tourism projects (Support for Accessible Tourism and Support for Sustainable Tourism) are due to report in early 2023.

4.5.3 The Tourism Officer continues to work with West Midlands Growth Company (WMGC) on travel trade engagement, attending trade events to educate tour operators and online travel agents about Birmingham’s tourism, heritage, and cultural offer.

4.5.4 The UKinbound convention took place in September 2022. It was the first opportunity for the Council to engage with the travel trade following the Games and provided a litmus test as to how perceptions of Birmingham have started to change. This will take time, but the benefits of the Commonwealth Games are significant.

4.5.5 The Council was represented the city at World Travel Market at Excel London in November, making new contacts and following up leads from UKinbound. In addition, Birmingham and our regional partners will be showcasing Birmingham at the British Travel and Tourism Show at the NEC in March 2023.

4.5.6 Officers have also re-engaged with coach operators, identifying, and distributing the information and resources required for the travel trade to

include Birmingham on their itinerary. An internal quarterly internal Coach Tourism meeting has been convened to ensure that coach tourism remains at the heart of future plans and strategies. The Council is in the process of joining the Coach Tourism Association.

Commonwealth Games Business and Tourism Programme (BATP)

- 4.5.7 We assisted the WMGC in ensuring that Birmingham visitor economy businesses had the opportunity to benefit from Commonwealth Games Business and Tourism Programme (BATP) support, including travel trade training, World Host training, new photographic and video assets, and hosting familiarisation trips with Commonwealth markets. We have also been involved in the updating of map assets for the priority city centre totems and printed materials which were completed in July 2022. The working group will continue to meet to action a rolling programme of totem updates across the rest of the city.
- 4.5.8 Birmingham Airport and WMGC were encouraged to jointly fund the installation of Welcome to Birmingham & the West Midlands wall graphics at the airport arrivals to achieve a sense of place. This was completed in July 2022 prior to the arrival of Commonwealth Games athletes and spectators.
- 4.5.9 Some elements of the BATP continue including targeted marketing campaigns to Commonwealth Games spectators and travel trade engagement. These are due to end in March 2023. The analysis of visitor and perception surveys are complete, and the report will be published shortly.

4.6 Commonwealth Games Legacy

- 4.6.1 In December 2021, BCC produced the 'Delivering a Bold Legacy for Birmingham' plan – the city's ambition and strategic framework for the legacy that we wanted to see from hosting the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games. This plan aligned with the cross-partner Games Legacy Plan, the Games Legacy Pillars and the current Council plan objectives.
- 4.6.2 The BCC Legacy Plan focuses on how hosting a major event like the Games can contribute towards driving forwards the Council's broader agenda across the city and make a difference to the lives of our residents as well as supporting organisational development and transformation.

A Thriving City (Bolder, Prosperous Birmingham)

- 4.6.3 The ambition in this area was to boost investment in Birmingham, creating thousands of jobs and becoming a world leader in hosting international events.

- 4.6.4 The capital investment into the delivery of the Alexander Stadium and the broader regeneration of Perry Barr provided us with the opportunity to create new jobs and upskilling opportunities for Birmingham residents.

Alexander Stadium

- 4.6.5 The redevelopment of Alexander Stadium created 370 employment opportunities, upskilling 340 people with 34% of staff working on the project living within 10 miles of the Stadium. In total 16,323 work placement hours were delivered across the build.
- 4.6.6 The Stadium build also supported local business (and therefore the retention of existing local employment) with 40% of local spend being within 10 miles of the point of delivery. 82% of spend was with Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) (defined as businesses with less than 250 employees).

Perry Barr Regeneration

- 4.6.7 The Perry Barr regeneration has already exceeded targets. As of November 2022, 587 jobs have been created, 1,354 upskilling opportunities provided, and 41,515 work placement hours delivered across the build.
- 4.6.8 £265.5m has been spent with local businesses, and £790,600 with social enterprises. As the project moves into the second phase of delivery, these figures will continue to increase.
- 4.6.9 Birmingham also benefitted from the delivery of the BATP. Funded by the UK Government and WMCA, the programme focussed on creating opportunities to connect with Commonwealth nations, territories and key global markets. As part of the BATP, UK House was hosted at the Exchange in Birmingham, putting our city front and centre as an example of what the UK can offer to key national and international delegates. Running over eight days and across more than 90 sessions, panels and events, UK House focussed on key sectors such as education, data-driven healthcare, sports economy, creative and digital technologies, food and drink, future mobility, tourism and legacy.
- 4.6.10 Alongside this, BCC's inward investment team delivered seven Breakfast Briefing sessions complementing the UK House agenda. This provided a platform for the Host City to celebrate and champion our successes and ambitions amongst new stakeholders, counterbalancing the regional and national focus of UK House. Going forwards we are exploring the opportunities that may arise from a potential extension to the BATP programme, working alongside colleagues at the WMCA to identify how we continue to drive strong investment outcomes for Birmingham and the wider region.
- 4.6.11 Throughout the delivery of the Games, BCC's Major Events team have been focussing on the next events coming to Birmingham. 2023 brings the World

Blind Games and the World Gymnastic Trampolining Championships to the city; and the successful bid to host the 2026 European Athletics Championships means that planning is now underway to bring this world-class event to the UK for the first time, to be held at Alexander Stadium. Birmingham's newly launched Visitor Destination Plan will help us showcase Birmingham to national and international visitors, supporting our tourism and cultural economy, jobs and business working in these sectors.

An Aspiring City (A Bold, Inclusive Birmingham)

- 4.6.12 The ambition in this Legacy area was to engage every child and young person in the Games, including 400+ schools across the city
- 4.6.13 It was hugely important to us that as a young city we put opportunities for young people at the forefront of engagement and legacy from the Games. We therefore invested £500,000 from the £6m Community Grant into the delivery of activity through a Birmingham-specific extension of the Bring The Power programme delivered by the Organising Committee, and through work delivered via BCC's Youth Service.

Bring The Power

- 4.6.14 Headline outputs from the Bring The Power programme for Birmingham schools were as follows:
- 187 workshops were delivered in Birmingham schools:
 - 92 Bring the Power workshops (KS1-3) engaging over 5,000 pupils
 - 65 School Sport workshop days (primary schools)
 - 10 Drama workshop days (primary schools)
 - 10 Female Empowerment workshops (secondary schools)
 - 10 Non-verbal theatre workshops delivered specifically for pupils with SEND
 - 81 primary schools received a Perry Assembly, engaging 19,815 pupils
 - 33 primary schools and over 500 pupils participated in the Bring The Power Celebration Day held at KEHS on 4th July. The day allowed pupils to participate in sports and art activities, and focused specifically on pupils who wouldn't ordinarily participate in activities.
 - 28 secondary schools were involved in the Common Ground project, each receiving £1,000 grant to deliver their project.
 - 11 secondary schools attended the Common Ground Youth Summit held at University of Birmingham (UOB) on 13th July 2022.
 - Nine School Festival Days were delivered in Birmingham, with over 800 pupils engaging in these.

- 86 School Batonbearers were nominated from secondary schools across the city.
- 750 pupils participated and 35 schools attended the commonwealth-themed UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools event at the Birmingham REP on 8th July.
- Over 300 downloads of the Bring The Power educational resources from Birmingham – KS1, KS2 and KS3 resources focused on Journey to the Games, Finding Common Ground and We Can Change our World.

BCC's Youth Service

- 4.6.15 Four youth centres across Birmingham (Lighthouse, The Factory, Clifton Road and Concord) were designated official games hubs as a focal point for young people in their community. Each hub ran a six-week programme with events focussing on awareness and understanding of the Games and Commonwealth, music and food workshops focussing on commonwealth countries and sports sessions focusing on commonwealth sports. A total of 17,122 young people were engaged across the four hubs. Highlights included an intercity basketball skills competition, a Commonwealth album and a project focussing on youth violence reduction in Burberry Park through engagement, physical activity, mentoring, commonwealth sport and guest coaches – supporting parents and young people to re-engage in their local green space.
- 4.6.16 Birmingham's Youth City Board met with the Youth Programmes team regularly from October 2021. The Board comprised of 35 young people from 12 schools aged 14-18. In addition to shaping and advising on the development and delivery of the Bring The Power programme itself, they also supported the QBR Launch, Young Volunteers process and Batonbearer nomination panel. The Board also made two development trips to Liverpool and London to meet and share learning with other youth voice organisations in these two cities. It is hoped that this tri-city link can be maintained as an ongoing legacy from the Games, and work is underway to secure external funding to support this.
- 4.6.17 Members of the Youth City Board were also involved in the design and delivery of the Commonwealth Games Youth Grant, which provided micro-funding for young people across the city to support them with their mental and physical health. A total of 153 grants were awarded across Birmingham, supporting over 1,000 young people, alongside "Bring In On Brum" family activity bags.
- 4.6.18 The Youth Service Oscars were held on 13th July 2022, recognising young people for their specific contributions to the Bring The Power programme.
- 4.6.19 The Birmingham Children's Trust also worked hard to ensure that children and families known to the Trust were able to engage with and enjoy the Games. In addition to the 5,000 tickets secured for young people and their carers, the

Trust have also launched the Bfriends Charity and worked with local partners over the summer to provide activities for young people and their families, with the flagship Donate1Create1 Hub at Action Indoor Sport in Erdington. BCT is now seeking to extend its network of community providers to access additional funding via the Trust and other bodies to continue to grow the Hub approach.

A Healthy City (A Bolder, Healthier Birmingham)

- 4.6.20 The ambition of this strand was to build programmes and community projects to kickstart an accessible fitness and wellbeing boom
- 4.6.21 The Games and other future major sporting events provide a great opportunity for Birmingham to promote and support sport, physical activity and wellbeing for our residents. £1m from the £6m Community Fund was allocated to deliver projects that would support Birmingham residents to connect. Programmes were designed to minimise the barriers when accessing physical activity, as well as providing greater opportunities for underrepresented groups and communities living in areas of higher deprivation to access physical activity and sports.
- 4.6.22 Highlights from this strand of the Legacy programme include:
 - Eight free to access Community Games were delivered across Birmingham reaching over 8,000 people. 77% of survey respondents expressed an interest in joining a sports group following attending the Community Games
 - 70 Active Streets were delivered across Birmingham taking place in areas where there are hard to reach vulnerable communities including those with local people in emergency accommodations and those with disabilities.
 - 48% of grants from the Celebrating Communities city-wide small grants fund supported physical activity through sports days, free to access delivery sessions and sporting celebrations in wards across the city.
 - Sports Birmingham established anchor clubs in local communities, with the aim tackling inequalities by increased engagement and outreach to new and other members of the community, resulted in increased inclusivity, access, and greater community connectivity. A total of 12 anchor clubs will be become an established hub to access sports across Birmingham, with the ability to support communities and other local groups. This programme will continue into the new financial year and link into the wider development work around the sport and physical activity strategy.
 - The City of Nature Alliance has been established to support the delivery of Birmingham's City of Nature Strategy. The Alliance will work firstly in 5 of the city's most deprived wards where green space is not well utilised

as identified by the city's Fair Parks Standard, working to improve the rating of each park within these wards, with a view to the model being rolled out across the city.

- Public Health colleagues delivered a number Games-related projects including Community Health profiles, Commonwealth Food Events and a Food Summit and Food Justice Pledge.

4.6.23 Looking ahead, work is underway to deliver a new Sport and Physical Activity Strategy for Birmingham, and to secure additional funding to support grass-roots sports development in the city.

A Welcoming City (A Bolder, Inclusive Birmingham)

4.6.24 The ambition of this Legacy strand was to use the Games to bring communities together, and create a shared sense of pride in Birmingham.

4.6.25 The £6m Community Fund was developed with the aim of encouraging Birmingham communities to come together to celebrate the Games their way, especially for those communities outside the city centre, or not located closely to a Games venue. In addition to the funds mentioned earlier, we also delivered £2m Celebrating Communities fund, £2m Creative City fund and a £500,000 Stronger Communities programme.

4.6.26 The Celebrating Communities fund placed local people at the heart of decision making with a participatory approach to funding awards. All 69 wards across the city received funding to deliver community projects, resulting in a total of 316 grants awarded to deliver 263 projects (some of which were multi-ward) across Birmingham, the majority of which took place over the Summer of 2022.

4.6.27 Communities delivered activity across three themes – Get Active, Ready Steady Fun (getting areas games-ready and hosting celebrations) and Celebrating Culture. A wide variety of activity was delivered in local communities ranging from sport taster sessions and community celebrations to community clean ups, horticulture, and arts and culture projects.

4.6.28 Creative City grants flooded the city with community art as part of Festival 2022. 106 projects were delivered across 56 of the city's wards in 393 individual locations, with 76% of projects delivered in areas of highest deprivation. All Creative City projects will have engaged with a variety of communities as work has been shared, but of those that specified engagement with a particular group for their project:

- 21 (20%) of the Creative City Projects engaged d/Deaf, disability or neurodivergent communities in creative co-creation
- 51 (48%) of the Creative City Projects engaged Asian, Black and minority ethnic communities in creative co-creation
- 10 (9%) of the Creative City Projects engaged LGBTQI+ communities in creative co-creation

- 24 (22%) of the Creative City Projects engaged young leaders and participants aged 16-30 in creative co-creation

4.6.29 Stronger Communities projects have focussed on building strong relationships between diverse communities from across different social and ethnic backgrounds, sharing the stories and experiences of all Birmingham's communities, and supporting under-represented groups and communities to actively participate in civic life. To date the programme has:

- Commissioned 20 organisations to deliver community-led heritage trails across the city
- Trained 35 young community journalists to record the stories of local communities in Birmingham
- Enabled 29 organisations to support over 550 women from marginalised, migrant and refugee communities for whom English is not a first language to integrate into their local communities
- Supported work to re-establish the Peace Garden as a place of remembrance for all communities across the city
- Supported young people from under-represented groups to access leadership and development training.

4.6.30 The £6m Community Fund and focus on the development of a community centred legacy approach has resulted in the council receiving a nomination at the International Sport and Peace Awards for Institution of the Year. Going forward, the Council is looking at ways to support future community activity, wrapping this around key moments for the city as they are developed, eg the new signature Festival.

A Green Growth City (A Bolder, Greener Birmingham)

4.6.31 The ambition in this Legacy area was to launch an era of green growth through high quality sports facilities, thousands of new sustainable homes and green transport links to become a carbon neutral city by 2030.

Alexander Stadium

4.6.32 After the Commonwealth Games, Alexander Stadium and associated facilities will become a centre of sporting excellence at a local, regional and world class level. It will be accessible to all who wish to visit it, with enhanced community facilities set to benefit the city and its residents for generations to come.

4.6.33 We have most recently announced a partnership with UK Athletics to host a new Performance and Innovation Centre from Summer 2023 at the Stadium. This state-of-the-art facility will enable world-leading capability to understand track and field performance through enhanced technology and analytics, which are not currently available to athletes in the UK – so this will be unique to the city.

- 4.6.34 Birmingham City University are also relocating their sports faculty to the Stadium, complementing the role that the Stadium can play in research, development and education, training the next generation of athletes and sport scientists and positioning Birmingham as the home of UK Athletics.
- 4.6.35 As outlined in the Business Case to Cabinet on October 11th 2022, access to high-quality facilities for sport and recreation is an important aspect of the future vision, enabling the Stadium to play a central role in the life of the local community. Plans are underway to extend and enhance the gym and leisure facilities around the stadium site, and to improve the park that surrounds the stadium with a visitor centre, café, cycling and walking routes and play and physical activity equipment.

Perry Barr Masterplan

- 4.6.36 The decision to host the Commonwealth Games unlocked over £700m of public sector investment in transport, new homes, and facilities in Perry Barr before the Games had taken place. To date, nearly 1,000 new homes have been delivered with consent secured for circa 2000 more, the railway station has been redeveloped to improve access and capacity and a new bus interchange has been created. Significant improvements have been made to highways infrastructure and the pedestrian environment, and a segregated cycle pathway installed. A new secondary school and sixth form has been delivered, alongside two new parks.
- 4.6.37 The Perry Barr Masterplan 2040 sets out how we will continue to deliver a positive legacy for local communities in Perry Barr; delivering significant sustainable growth over the next 2 decades including new homes, a revitalised urban centre, and a greener, healthier environment that will create long-term benefits for the people that live, work and visit the area.

Council Legacy

- 4.6.38 Our ambition in this area was to deliver our promise to become a leading local authority with bold ambitions.
- 4.6.39 We knew that delivering an enormous multi directorate, multi-organisation and multi-partner project like the Commonwealth Games would provide us with the opportunity to strengthen our capabilities and contribute to our journey to become a 'best in class' local authority, helping us to deliver transformational change for our people and places.
- 4.6.40 We are establishing a Portfolio for all 80+ programmes related to Games legacy and will be evaluating our successes and the benefits to Birmingham from hosting the Games. We will be regularly reporting on achievements, but also sharing the lessons learnt to support the Council wide transformation programme.

5 Legal Implications

5.1 There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.

6 Financial Implications

6.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report.

7 Public Sector Equality Duty

7.1 There are no immediate equality implications arising from this report.

8 Other Implications

8.1 None.

9 Background Papers

9.1 None.

10 Appendices

10.1 None.

Birmingham City Council

City Council

10 January 2022



Subject: Lead Member Report: West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority

Report of: Cllr Zafar Iqbal, Lead Member

Report author: Kirsty Tuffin, Democratic Services Officer, West Midlands Fire Service

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

If relevant, state which appendix is exempt, and provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential :

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report summarises the activities of the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority over the previous six months.

2 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 That the report be noted.

3 Options considered and Recommended Proposal

- 3.1 There are no options to be considered.

4 Legal Implications

- 4.1 There are no legal implications as a result of this report.

5 Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

6 Public Sector Equality Duty

6.1 There are no immediate equality implications arising from this report.

7 Other Implications

7.1 None.

8 Background Papers

8.1 None.

9 Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1 – Lead Member Report: West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority.



Fire Service Headquarters,
99 Vauxhall Road, Birmingham B7 4HW

Birmingham City Council
November 2022
West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority
'Making the West Midlands Safer, Stronger and Healthier'

Report by Cllr Zafar Iqbal

Membership of the Authority

The Member of the Authority for 2022-23 is as follows:

Local Authority	Councillor(s)
Birmingham	Councillor Zafar Iqbal* (Labour) <i>Vice-Chair</i> Councillor Gurdial Singh Atwal (Labour) Councillor Sybil Spence (Labour) Councillor David Barrie (Conservative)
Coventry	Councillor Catherine Miks* (Labour) Councillor Gavin Lloyd# (Labour)
Dudley	Councillor Peter Miller* (Conservative) Councillor Ian Kettle (Conservative)
Sandwell	Councillor Rizwan Jalil* (Labour) Councillor Zahir Hussain (Labour)
Solihull	Councillor Peter Hogarth MBE* (Conservative)
Walsall	Councillor Vera Waters* (Conservative) Councillor Ann Young (Labour)
Wolverhampton	Councillor Greg Brackenridge* (Labour) <i>Chair</i> Councillor Jas Dehar (labour)
Additional Member(s)	
Independent Member of the Audit and Risk Committee	Mr Mike Ager
Independent Member of Appointments, Standards and Appeals	Mr R Tomkinson (Standards Committee only)
Co-opted Members of the Authority	Professor Simon Brake Sarah Middleton
Police and Crime Commissioner: Represented by (if applicable):	Simon Foster Assistant PCC Wasim Ali Richard Castello – Head of Communications

* Section 41 member

Replaced Cllr Seamus Walsh as of 10 October 2022

Service Performance against Strategic Plan 2021/22

WMFS set a range of targets for operational and other performance indicators, which enable the Service to define the improvements which contribute to making the West Midlands safer, stronger and healthier, and to manage the resources allocated to this work. The latest reported figures for the service as a whole are reported below. It should be noted that these figures cover a period impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, which saw an overall reduction in incident numbers as well as face-to-face prevention and protection activity.

Indicator	Target	Performance
Risk Based Attendance Standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category 1 (high risk) – 5 minutes Category 2 – 7 minutes Category 3 – 10 minutes Category 4 – 20 minutes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category 1 - 4 minutes 43 seconds Category 2 – 5 minutes 26 seconds Category 3 – 4 minutes 59 seconds Category 4 – 7 minutes 8 seconds
Accidental dwelling fires	1623 (tolerance 1543-1655)	1506 – overperformance
Injuries from accidental fires in dwellings (requiring hospital treatment)	52 (41-57)	43 – performance on track
Safe & Well points achieved by the Brigade (visits to higher risk people bring a bigger point score)	259,680 (259,680 – 272,664)	252,269 – underperformance
Deliberate fires in dwellings	202 (180-212)	193 – performance on track
Deliberate rubbish fires	1448 (1375-1476)	1356 – overperformance
Deliberate fires in derelict buildings	108 (98-113)	121 – underperformance
Accidental fires in non-domestic premises	406 (366-426)	390 – performance on track
False alarm calls due to fire alarm equipment problems	5797 (5508 – 5912)	5930 – underperformance

Local Authority performance and key statistics

In addition to the service level performance indicators above, specific statistics are available for the Birmingham City Council area for Q1 and Q2 2022-23 (April-September 2022). As these are the latest figures, they are subject to change as data is further interrogated.

Indicator	Performance	Notes
Accidental Dwelling Fires	350	On target for the year
Deliberate Rubbish Fires	256	Overperforming target in Birmingham North, Above target for Birmingham South.
False Alarms (Equipment)	495+952 1	Overperforming target in Birmingham South, Above target for Birmingham North. Wards covering the city centre make up biggest portion of FAEs.
Safe and Wells completed	7,582 (39.1% partner referrals)	Below the target of 45% target for partner referrals
Average Assessment Points*	6.26	Below the service average of 6.89

* Assessment points measure the vulnerability of the individual or family we undertake a SAW with – the more vulnerable someone is, the more points that visit will garner. WMFS is committed to targeting our interventions at the most vulnerable in our communities.

WMFS activities during the last six months

1. HMICFRS Inspection Update

The latest round of the inspection by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services began in January 2022 and concluded on 21 May 2022. The second round continued to assess performance within the three main themes of Effectiveness, Efficiency and People. This was followed with a debrief with the Chair of the Authority and Chief Fire Officer. The final inspection report is due to be published in early 2023.

[Read WMFS's 2019 HMICFRS report here.](#)

2. Hot Weather response

There were two significant periods of hot weather over July and August, with the two days in July (18th & 19th) seeing the UK hit over 40°C which is a new record. Over the two days in July Staffordshire & West Midlands Fire Control (SWMFC) received around 1000 calls and attended just over 300 incidents. This represented a significant increase in calls and incidents compared to business as usual (Where normally we would only receive up to 300 calls).

The service managed our response within are normal business as usual arrangements and were able to support National Resilience arrangements by sending two PRLs to Norfolk for 12 hours following a request from the Service. In addition to this, WMFS also supported neighbouring Services which included a significant incident on top of the Lickey Hills (Hereford & Worcester FRS). In all cases where WMFS sent resources over the border, this was done following a risk assessment to ensure that we were able to meet the increased demands on the Service from the communities of the West Midlands.

The heatwave in August (11th to 14th) extended over the course of the weekend and whilst not hitting temperatures as high as those seen in July, nevertheless saw a significant increase in calls received and incidents attended. Due to the prolonged period, spate conditions were declared within WMFS which allowed the service to activate plans to ensure that Fire Control

was not overwhelmed with calls. This 'buddying' arrangement would see overflow calls being picked up by other control rooms across the country if required, in this instance LFB (SWMFC also has buddy arrangements with North West Fire Control). However, this is not the same as Ops Welbeck which is a national procedure for distributing calls in the event of Fire Control rooms being overwhelmed. In total between 11th August to 14th August Staffordshire & West Midlands Fire Control received 2909 calls and mobilised resources to 954 incidents (704 West Midlands and 232 Staffordshire FRS).

3. Tech upgrade benefits West Midlands 999 fire callers

A major tech upgrade in [Staffordshire and West Midlands Fire Control](#) (SWMFC) is benefiting 999 callers. The 'Vision 4' system enables control room staff to pinpoint the locations of emergencies even more accurately and quickly, and to mobilise fire engines and other resources more rapidly.

It will be used to handle approximately 70,000 calls taken by the control room each year, and to manage resources at 38,00 incidents attended by firefighters across the West Midlands and Staffordshire. Since its 'go live' on 7 June, the system has been used to manage more than 2,000 999 calls across the two fire and rescue services' areas.

Just two days after its launch, the system was used by SWMFC to manage a significant fire at a paper processing and recycling plant in Birmingham to which 20 fire engines were initially mobilised. [The full article can be accessed here.](#)

4. West Midlands Fire Service host UKRO festival

From September 29th – October 1st 2022, West Midlands Fire Service was proud to host the prestigious UKRO Festival of Rescue 2022. Communities from across the region were invited to come and see the show, and thousands attended to see more than 400 expert fire crews from across the UK test their skills across a variety of challenging scenarios (despite very poor weather on the Friday!)

Teams competed to be the best at vehicle extrication, rope rescue from height, water rescue, trauma care and urban search and rescue from collapsed structures. We also introduced a new "Firefighter fitness challenge" for the first time and welcomed national fire cadets to compete in their own Trauma challenge.

We're delighted that the West Midlands Cadets took first place in the Cadet Trauma Challenge, and West Midlands placed third in the USAR, Rope Rescue and Trauma.

[Read more about the event here.](#)

[Find out each of the award winners here.](#)

5. Immediate Detriment – Firefighters Pension Scheme

In 2015 most public service pension schemes, including the Firefighters' Pension Scheme, were reformed. These reforms included 'transitional protection' for people closest to retirement. In 2018, the Court of Appeal ruled that the transitional protection element of the 2015 public service pension reforms constituted unlawful age discrimination in the Firefighters' Pension Schemes.

On 7 December 2020, the Audit and Risk Committee, in its role as Scheme Manager for the Firefighters' Pension Schemes, took the decision to instruct the scheme administrator to act upon guidance issued by the Home Office in August 2020 to make payment to "Immediate Detriment" cases – where pension scheme members had been financially impacted by the unlawful pension reforms. The Government confirmed that it will remove the difference in treatment across all main public service pension schemes.

On 29 November 2021, the Home Office withdrew their guidance. The key reason for withdrawal of the guidance was uncertainty on the power of Section 61 of the Equalities Act 2010 to support correction of Immediate Detriment cases before new legislation was in place, with specific reference to tax relief on the contributions that a member would need to make to reinstate their membership of the 1992 Pension scheme.

On 6th June 2022 the Audit and Risk Committee, in its role as Scheme Manager for the Firefighters' Pension Scheme, approved to lift the pause in processing of Immediate Detriment cases. To ensure that payments can be processed efficiently, and normal activity can continue with limited impact, a staged approach to implementing the decision is proposed.

Members who are currently active and who have membership within the legacy period, (1st April 2015 to 31st March 2022), known as Category 1 members, will be offered a choice of benefits aligned to the arrangements set out in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) agreed between the LGA and the FBU on 8th October 2021.

Members known as Category 2 members, who left the scheme after 1st April 2015 and before 30th June 2022, with service during the legacy period and who have already submitted a claim for remedy under the terms of the MoU, need to be processed. The aim is to process all of these cases by 28th February 2023, if not before, prioritised based on the date a claim was made, dealing with the earliest claim first and working through all subsequent claims.

6. Inclusion in the Fire and Rescue Service – Uniform and Equipment

West Midlands Fire Service remains committed to being a diverse and inclusive service, which reflects the population and communities it represents. However, it is recognised that some important operational policies, in place to protect the health and safety of staff, may make it difficult for people with certain beliefs to pursue a career in the Fire and Rescue Service.

Current Fire Service policy and national Health and Safety Legislation mean that operational firefighters that have to wear breathing apparatus (BA) must be clean-shaven. This ensures an appropriate seal is maintained to prevent dangerous gases or particulates from entering the face mask. This requirement is reflected in both current health and safety legislation, and the guidance issued by BA manufacturers. There are currently no BA sets that meet UK standards that allow for facial hair. This may prove a barrier for Muslims, Sikhs or Orthodox Jews, as well as individuals with medical conditions that may make shaving difficult.

At the end of 2021 work was commissioned to review the Service's uniform policy, specifically around facial hair with a view to enabling uniformed personnel who are not likely to be required to wear BA to wear facial hair. The benefits of providing greater flexibility for members of staff to have facial hair. This policy is progressing towards consultation.

The review of our uniform policy also extends to what our people choose to wear. We understand that members of staff, including operational employees, may consider the wearing

religious or cultural dress and symbols an important expression of an individual's religion, belief, or identity and WMFS will, wherever reasonable, support these wishes. Some individuals may also wish to avoid certain materials in their clothing/dress due to a belief or lifestyle choice. Each circumstance will be judged on its own merit and consider an appropriate risk assessment.

There is also currently national work underway to determine the currency of current guidance and HSE regulations around facial hair and the wearing of BA. The Service is engaged directly with this work, led by the NFCC, to explore the opportunities which may exist around research and development of a solution to existing health and safety barriers to allowing facial hair in operational roles.

National Fire and Rescue Service developments

1. Fire Reform White Paper

The Government first announced its intention to publish a White Paper on Fire Reform in Spring of 2021, although various other priorities delayed its publication until May 2022. The paper, entitled [Reforming our Fire and Rescue Services](#) kicked off a period of consultation that closed in July 2022.

The reform agenda covers three broad areas – People, Professionalism and Governance – and includes proposals such as;

- Increased flexibility about the way fire service resource are used and can be adapted to new ways of working.
- A review into fire service pay negotiation mechanisms
- Introduction of new senior leadership training and talent management pathways.
- Placing the LGA and NFCC Code of Ethics on a statutory footing.
- Introduction of a new College of Fire (mirroring the current College of Policing).
- A move to a single accountable political leader for services (PCC, Mayor or Executive Cabinet Member)
- Statutory Operational Independence for Chief Fire Officers.

Both the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority and the Senior Officer team provided responses to the consultation.

2. Grenfell Tower Inquiry – Recommendations and Actions

The Grenfell Tower Inquiry was formed in August 2017 to investigate the circumstances surrounding the tragic fire that occurred on 14 June 2017 and which claimed the lives of 71 people. It produced its first set of recommendations in a four-part report published in October 2019.

These recommendations applied to local authorities, government, industry, and fire services (in particular London Fire Brigade) and included a wide range of suggested improvements and changes relating to building design and construction, communications, command and control, training and other matters.

West Midlands Fire Service have worked hard since then to implement the relevant recommendations, including:

- Auditing and collecting more information on all residential tall buildings over 18m in the West Midlands area
- Updating training and procedures regarding the provision of Fire Survival Guidance to people trapped by fire, including implementing new digital tools
- Updated evacuation policies including relevant training
- Introducing new training for all staff on fires in tall buildings as part of fully refreshed policy and procedures.
- New training exercises implemented for fires in tall buildings
- Collaborated with social and private housing providers to ensure that Building Information Plates (BIPs) are fitted to all residential tall buildings.
- Working with local authorities and housing providers to increase the use of sprinklers in higher risk (including tall) residential buildings.

The second phase of the inquiry began shortly after, and has recently completed its public phase. The report and recommendations are expected in the near future and WMFS will again take steps to implement relevant recommendations as a matter of priority.

3. National Pay Negotiation

Employees of West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority are either employed on “Grey Book” employees if they are operational firefighters or fire control staff, or on “Green Book” conditions as local government employees.

In July 2022, Grey Book employees were offered a 2% pay increase for 2022/23 by Local Government Employers through the National Joint Council. This was rejected by Representative Bodies in August 2022, and steps taken to ballot for industrial action. National Employers have subsequently offered a 5% pay increase, funded from service budgets (as no further funding has been made available by the Home Office). The FBU are balloting members on the pay offer and are recommending rejection. The ballot will likely go ahead throughout November.

As with all other local government employees, Green Book employees have been offered a fixed sum increase by National Employers of £1,950, plus other benefits. Representative bodies have balloted members on the offer, which was accepted on 1 November.

Birmingham City Council

City Council

10 January 2023



Subject: Decisions Not on the Forward Plan and Those Authorised for Immediate Implementation

Report of: Janie Berry, City Solicitor and Monitoring Officer

Report author: Christian Scade, Head of Scrutiny and Committee Services, 07517 550013, christian.scade@birmingham.gov.uk

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

If relevant, state which appendix is exempt, and provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential : N/A

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report, which is required under Part B6.2 of the Constitution, sets out key decisions not included on the Forward Plan and any decisions which were authorised for immediate implementation.
- 1.2 Following amendments to the Constitution in July 2022 this is the first report to be submitted on a quarterly basis, covering the period 16 August to 5 December 2022.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 That Full Council notes the report.

3 Background

- 3.1 Key decisions should be included on the Forward Plan not less than 28 clear calendar days in advance of the proposed decision. If a matter, which is likely to be a key decision has not been included on the Forward Plan, but it is impracticable to defer the decision, the decision may still be taken provided it meets the requirements set out in the Constitution (Part B6.2).
- 3.2 Where there is an intention for Cabinet to consider matters in private, i.e. information that is confidential or exempt, 28 days' notice must also be given. This is done through inclusion on the "Notification of intention for Cabinet to consider matters in private" form. Any report containing confidential or exempt information that is not included requires agreement from the Chair of the relevant

Overview and Scrutiny Committee that the report is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred.

- 3.3 There is also a requirement for the Leader of the Council to provide details on any reports authorised for immediate implementation: i.e. where the interests of the Council are jeopardised unless an executive decision is implemented immediately and when its implementation cannot wait until the expiry of the call-in period.
- 3.4 In an emergency, as set out under Part B6.6 of the Constitution, an executive decision may be agreed by the Chief Executive, following consultation with the Group Leaders, as long as the requirements set out in Part E4.2 are met. However, there were no emergency or urgent decisions taken by the Chief Executive for the period in question.
- 3.5 Appendix 1 provides details on all decisions not included on the Forward Plan and those that were authorised for immediate implementation for the period 16 August 2022 to 5 December 2022.

Late Reports Not on Forward Plan

- 3.6 For the period in question, there were 4 key decisions not included on the Forward Plan.
- 3.7 In comparison, last year (2021/22) there were 11 key decisions not included on the Forward Plan, including five urgent decisions taken by the Chief Executive. Overall, this compares with nine in 2020/21, one in 2019/20 and 11 in 2018/19.

Reports Authorised for Immediate Implementation

- 3.8 There were no reports authorised for immediate implementation for the period 16 August – 5 December 2022.
- 3.9 In comparison, last year (2021/22) there were 8 decisions that were not subject to call in. This compares with none in 2020/21, six in 2019/20 and five in 2018/19.

Reports containing confidential or exempt information

- 3.10 For the period in question, there were no reports, containing confidential or exempt information, that were not notified 28 days in advance of the proposed decision.

4 Legal Implications

- 4.1 This report is required under The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.
- 4.2 In addition to reporting to Full Council, the information set out in this report will be presented to the Corporate Leadership Team as part of the City Solicitor's Assurance and Performance Report.

5 Financial Implications

5.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

6 Appendices

6.1 Appendix 1 – Decisions Not on the Forward Plan and Those Authorised for Immediate Implementation

APPENDIX 1

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

16 AUGUST – 5 DECEMBER 2022

Table 1 of 2 – Key Decision Reports Not on the Forward Plan¹

Date	Report Title	Decision Taken By	Reason for Lateness – set out via the report
6 Sept 2022	Private Rented Sector Leasing Scheme – Capital Grant	Cabinet	It has been agreed to accept funding (circa £4m) from DLUCH, via WMCA, to support our Homelessness Strategy to reduce the number of families in Bed and Breakfast accommodation. The announcement from DLUCH is expected at the beginning of next week – week commencing Monday 22nd August 2022. Notification of this funding was received too late to enable us to make the 28-day statutory timeframe to achieve the September 2022 Cabinet date.
6 Sept 2022	Family Hubs Best Start for Life – Funding	Cabinet	The senior managers in the directorate understood that as a grant this didn't need Cabinet approval, however finance colleagues reviewing the constitution noted that was not the case. The submission date for the Sign-Up form was the 24th of August, and an urgent decision is needed now.
6 Sept 2022	CWG Legacy Projects	Cabinet	Cabinet approved a report in June 2022 where authorisation was given to bid to host the European Athletics Championships 2026. Information regarding the underspend from the Commonwealth Games was awaited to inform the financial commitment needed for the European Athletics event. This information was not available 28 days before the decision. The bid is now being considered by European Athletics enabling them to provide feedback, seek clarification on matters and enable the city to progress to the final bid stage at the end of September 2022.
11 Oct 2022	Cost of Living Emergency Project	Cabinet	On the 6th of September 2022, the Leader announced his intention for the council to declare a 'Cost of Living Emergency'. Shortly after the announcement, the country went into a national period of mourning following the Queen's death on the 8th of September 2022. The first consideration of the announcement was discussed by the Council's Corporate Leadership Team on the 20th of September, where it was agreed that a Cost-of-Living programme should be established, and agreement sought from Cabinet on the governance, priorities and funding. A public commitment to bring in 'warm banks' as soon as possible and early analysis has shown that there is an immediate priority to have some areas of work delivered and in place ahead of the cold weather setting in, and most significantly ahead of the school October 2022 half term where there will be increased pressure on families to heat their homes all day. Therefore, there was agreement at the 20th of September Corporate Leadership Team that a key decision on the

¹ For clarity, there were no Emergency or Urgent Decisions taken by the Chief Executive across the period 16 August – 5 December 2022

			programme and funding be brought to the 11th of October 2022 (Cabinet) meeting. This would also align with the Leader's intention to announce a Cost-of-Living emergency and provide a strong response in terms of immediate support that will be put in place to support the most vulnerable and those at greatest risk.
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*Further information on each of these decisions can be found on CMIS via: [CMIS > Meetings](#)

Table 2 of 2 – Reports Authorised for Immediate Implementation

Date	Report Title	Decision Taken By	Key/Non-Key Decision	Authorised for Immediate Implementation
There were no reports authorised for immediate implementation for the period 16 August – 5 December 2022				

Birmingham City Council

City Council

10 January 2023



Subject: Motions for Debate from Individual Members
Report of: Janie Berry, City Solicitor (Monitoring Officer)
Report author: Ben Patel-Sadler, Interim Senior Committee Manager
 07395 883 886
Ben.Patel-Sadler@birmingham.gov.uk

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

If relevant, state which appendix is exempt, and provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential :

1 Recommendation(s)

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

2 Notices of Motion

A. Councillors Ken Wood and Adrian Delaney have given notice of the following Notice of Motion:-

“This Council notes that between 2004 and 2012:

- The Birmingham Municipal Housing Trust was created and began building the first new social housing in the city for 30 years
- The Council’s housing department became rated as one of the best three in the country by the audit commission
- The stock condition of council housing in Birmingham increased from just 30% meeting the decent homes standard to 99%
- During these years, under New Labour’s system of national pooling, £77m of rent raised in Birmingham was being handed over to the treasury each year. The self-financing model introduced by the Coalition Government in 2011

meant a £37.9m additional resources annually (£49.8m after also taking into account rent increases) to reinvest in the housing stock.

This Council notes that between 2012 – 2022:

- There has been a decline in performance against the decent homes standard from 99% in 2011 to just 61%
- the Housing Ombudsman has been forced to launch an investigation into potential systemic failings at the council due to the high number of similar concerns and repeated failings as a landlord.
- 2 findings of severe maladministration by the Ombudsman against the council within the last 6 months.
- There have been an increasingly number of high profile media stories about tenants living in squalid or unsafe conditions, including people being hospitalised due to damp
- That 68% of Birmingham Council Homes have an energy efficiency rating of D or below, compared to 44% of social housing stock nationally.
- There have been 15,000 complaints of damp or mould in the last 5 years
- There are now 9000 properties in Birmingham that have one or more key components (such as doors, windows or central heating systems) that are old and, because of their condition need replacing or major repair

This Council believes that everyone has a right to live in a decent home and that where we live has a significant impact on wider outcomes, including physical and mental health, prosperity, educational achievement and the ability to reach individual potential.

This Council has no confidence in the Executive's management of the repair and maintenance of the Council's housing stock and believes that the current Administration have let tenants in this city down and failed in their legal and moral duties as landlord.

Council therefore calls on the Executive to

- Refocus the Council's Housing Department on its core purpose, which should be to provide decent, safe homes for those who can't afford the market, and to deliver against this purpose
- Carry out an in-depth condition survey to establish the true condition of all council housing stock
- Work with tenants, partners and scrutiny to develop and apply a clear standard of what an excellent repairs and maintenance service looks like

- Review contract management arrangements for repairs and maintenance, to include physical inspection and audit of repairs carried out
- Review the effectiveness of Housing Liaison Boards to ensure that tenants have a genuine and effective voice at all levels of decision making, including reviewing performance against standards and monitoring complaints to ensure lessons are being picked up and acted on
- Commit to re-establishing Birmingham's position as a national exemplar of the decent homes standard, with a target of 99% compliance by 2026
- Commit to implementing all recommendations from the Housing Ombudsman and to report back to Council within 6 months on progress against this."

B. Councillors Morriam Jan and Deborah Harries have given notice of the following Notice of Motion:-

"This Council recognises the difficult situations faced by Care Leavers in the City who can face significant barriers after they leave Local Authority care such as struggling to cope with independent living and placing them at heightened risk of social isolation, homelessness, unemployment and involvement in crime. Although care leavers have access to benefits, as the cost of living has increased, so have their struggles to travel and access basic needs. In order to make life easier and to help aid further integration, this Council proposes:

Lobbying the Combined Authority and National Government to ensure:

All care leavers have access to free public transport, for travel to work, apprenticeships or interviews until they are 25, so there are no barriers to attendance at their chosen workplace.

All care leavers, who are part of the National Apprentice Scheme or are in employment, have access to free medication up to the age of 25.

All care leavers are able to access a full package of Mental Health Support with specific focus on trauma and past harm."

