



## Agenda

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To all Members of the

# CABINET

**Notice is given that a Meeting of the Cabinet is to be held as follows:**

**Venue:** Council Chamber, Civic Office, Waterdale, Doncaster DN1 3BU

**Date:** Wednesday, 29th March, 2023

**Time:** 10.00 am

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**Damian Allen**  
**Chief Executive**

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Issued on: Tuesday, 21 March 2023

**Governance Services Officer for this meeting:** Amber Torrington  
01302 737462

City of Doncaster Council

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## Items:-

1. Apologies for Absence
2. To consider the extent, if any, to which the public and press are to be excluded from the meeting
3. Public Questions and Statements

**(A period not exceeding 20 minutes for questions and statements from members of the public and Elected Members to the Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones. Questions/Statements should relate specifically to an item of business on the agenda and be limited to a maximum of 100 words. As stated within Executive Procedure Rule 3.3 each person will be allowed to submit one question/statement per meeting. A question may only be asked if notice has been given by delivering it in writing or by e-mail to the Governance Team no later than 5.00 p.m. on Friday, 24th March, 2023. Each question or statement must give the name and address of the person submitting it. Questions/Statements should be sent to the Governance Team, Floor 2, Civic Office, Waterdale, Doncaster, DN1 3BU, or by email to [Democratic.Services@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:Democratic.Services@doncaster.gov.uk))**

4. Declarations of Interest, if any.
5. Decision Record Forms from the meeting held on 15th March, 2023 for noting (previously circulated)

### **A. Reports where the public and press may not be excluded**

#### **Key Decisions**

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 6. Youth Strategy 2023-2028 (including Youth Investment Fund).                      | 1 - 32    |
| 7. Doncaster's Locality Plans 2023-2024.  | 33 - 114  |
| 8. South Yorkshire Integrated Care Partnership Strategy.                            | 115 - 124 |
| 9. 2023-25 Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Framework and Protected Characteristics. | 125 - 144 |

#### **Rule 15 Urgent Decision**

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| 10. Delivering Better Value in Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Grant. | 145 - 156 |
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## **Cabinet Members**

### **Cabinet Responsibility For:**

**Chair – Ros Jones, Mayor of  
Doncaster**

Budget and Policy Framework

**Vice-Chair – Deputy Mayor  
Councillor Glyn Jones**

Housing and Business

Councillor Lani-Mae Ball

Portfolio Holder for Education, Skills and Young  
People

Councillor Nigel Ball

Portfolio Holder for Public Health, Leisure, Culture  
and Planning

Councillor Joe Blackham

Portfolio Holder for Highways, Infrastructure and  
Enforcement

Councillor Rachael Blake

Portfolio Holder for Children’s Social Care,  
Communities and Equalities

Councillor Phil Cole

Portfolio Holder for Finance and Trading Services

Councillor Mark Houlbrook

Portfolio Holder for Sustainability and Waste

Councillor Jane Nightingale

Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources

Councillor Andrea Robinson

Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care

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## Doncaster Council

Date: 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023

To the Chair and Members of Cabinet

REPORT TITLE: Youth Strategy 2023-2028 (including Youth Investment Fund)

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Councillor Lani-Mae Ball  Councillor Rachael Blake	All	Yes

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this report is to outline the refreshed Youth Strategy 2023 – 2028. It sets out the vision, to create a modern 21<sup>st</sup> century youth offer, with eight ambitions that form the foundations for the delivery of our strategy. These are essential in helping young people develop the confidence and resilience to improve their life chances, transition to adulthood, and engage meaningfully with their communities and wider society.
2. The new Youth Strategy will contribute to the City Strategy by supporting more young people to be active citizens, who are able to thrive in the place where they live.
3. Partnership working and the need to deliver services on a locality basis, ensuring young people are safe from harm, thriving and community respect and resilience is promoted underpin the vision and ambitions that are set out in the strategy.
4. The Youth Strategy reflects the Council's drive for an early intervention and prevention approach, ensuring the majority of our resources are targeted into universal youth provision, providing engaging and diversionary opportunities, therefore reducing the need for more expensive targeted provision.
5. The targeted offer for young people will embrace technology, bringing in expertise from specialist providers and sourcing diverse opportunities for young people via external funding.
6. In addition, in October 2022 the Department of Digital Media, Culture and Sports announced the Youth Investment Fund inviting Local Authorities to apply for predominately capital (80%) and revenue (20%) funding to support the delivery of youth provision. There are two distinct funding pots. The first, Phase One is aimed to test out new modern methods of construction, and the second is Phase Two (22/23 to 24/25) will deliver up to 300 youth facilities across the country that represent positive value for money.

7. Doncaster has been successful in Phase One of the YIF, however this is dependent on the relevant permissions and planning approval. The proposed site is in Wheatley.
8. A programme board for the Youth Investment Fund (YIF) has been established with key services including Planning, Commissioning, Assets, Corporate Landlord, Children, Young People and Families, Finance along with Communication and Marketing colleagues. This group will report directly to the lead Assistant Director.
9. A provisional funding plan is in place for the delivery of the Youth Strategy that includes the potential monies from the YIF, current budget, Holiday Activity and Food Programme funding, and the potential ability to generate external funds and has been shared with the Director of Corporate Resources and Section 151 Officer. At the time of writing this report, there is a challenge around the ability to extend the YIF funding beyond 2025. Along with other Local Authorities we are lobbying DCMS with regards to extending the timescales.
10. **We would not accept any YIF phase two funding if we are unable to develop a sustainable model for long term delivery from the youth hubs.**
11. The creation of any new Youth Hubs, will be part of the wider Council asset review, to ensure value for money and in line with our corporate green ambitions.

## EXEMPT REPORT

12. There is no exempt information detailed within this report.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

13. To approve the Youth Strategy (2023-2028) and to note the co-produced delivery plan will be complete in April 23 and overseen by the Youth Advisory Board.
14. To note the progress on the Wheatley Youth Hub and the expected opening date of November 2023, subject to planning. (44-48)
15. To delegate the decisions on the expression of interest in phase two Youth Investment Funding, including site locations, commencing capital build projects, acceptance of associated revenue funds and grant terms and conditions to the Director of Children, Young People and Families, the Director of Corporate Resources and in consultation with Lead Member. The expected timeframe for the decision is April 23. (49-54)

## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

16. Section 507B of the Education Act 1996 imposes a duty on a Local Authority to secure sufficient educational and leisure activities, and facilities for those activities, for all young people in their area aged 13 to 19, and for young people in their area with a learning disability aged 20 to 24. Wide discretion is given as to the way in which this duty is met; it may include direct provision as well as planning with others to provide the service and/or facilities. There is also statutory guidance 'Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities on Services and Activities to Improve Young People's Wellbeing', published in June 2012. The proposals set out in this report comply with this legislation and guidance.
17. The proposed strategy and model of delivery will encapsulate partnership working at its best. **It will deliver the broadest possible Youth Offer provided by working with the Community Voluntary and Faith Sector, Schools, and the business community, with young people at the heart of the offer as equal partners.** The strategy will deliver a more diverse range of provision and interventions to ensure that children and young people are able to thrive and develop their interests and talents to live successful lives.

18. An underpinning principle of the Youth Strategy is co-production, both with our partners, but importantly with children, young people, and their families, ensuring lived experience and local intelligence influence the decisions we make. The strategy is supported by a cycle of co-production and review activity with children, young people, parents, and carers.
19. Through the delivery of the Strategy and its eight ambitions, we aim to ensure that each locality will have an increased youth offer, through expanded universal provision and increasing the capacity of the voluntary, community and faith sector. In addition, through successfully securing capital through the Youth Investment Fund to design and build new Youth Hubs, we aim to expand the number of safe spaces for young people to meet and access.
20. Based on intelligence and data, local areas will be identified and supported by street based provision to work with hard-to-reach groups of young people in the places young people congregate. Working from a range of bases including schools, youth centres and community settings.
21. The Participation and Engagement/Children's Rights Service have dedicated Youth Participation and Engagement Officers that ensure that young people are empowered, with support, and that their voices are heard and acted upon using the following approach:
  - Young Advisors
  - Youth council
  - Independent Visitor Scheme
  - Children in Care Council.
22. Alignment and reference to other key strategies is crucial in the delivery of the strategy, in particular **The Children and Young People Plan, Early Help Strategy, Mental Health in Schools Strategy** and **Education and Skills 2030**. In addition the as the Youth Strategy has an ambition to increase locality based delivery it is crucial to be aligned with the refreshed **Locality Plans**.

## BACKGROUND

### National Context

23. Doncaster and other Local Authorities across England and Wales have a statutory duty under Section 507B, Education Act 1996 to 'secure, so far as is reasonably practicable sufficient provision of educational and recreational leisure-time activities for young people, and to make sure young people have a say in the local offer'. This is often referred to as the '**Youth Service Duty**'. This includes youth work and other provisions that:
  - Connects young people with their communities.
  - Offers young people opportunities in safe environments to take part in a wide range of activities
  - Supports the personal, social, and economic development of young people
  - Improves young people's physical and mental health, and emotional wellbeing
  - Raises young people's aspirations, builds their resilience, and informs their decision-making
24. In 2019, the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Youth Affairs published its Youth Work Inquiry findings, highlighting the need to provide a positive commitment to our young people by encouraging the whole of society to invest in them, ensuring that they are fully included in decision-making and democratic processes.
25. In October 2020, the National Youth Agency (NYA) also published new guidance to support Local Authorities in their statutory duty to secure local services. This includes the meaningful

engagement of young people to ensure access to quality youth services at a neighbourhood level, whether they are directly delivered, commissioned by, or run independently from the Local Authority.

26. The government is currently reviewing its programmes to support youth services, including the National Citizenship Service (NCS). With the potential for additional funding to be made available.
27. In May 2022, the Government announced that hundreds of youth groups across the country could benefit from the Youth Investment Fund, in relation to youth provision. Doncaster was one of many areas across England that met the eligibility criteria to apply for the funding.
28. Since 2010 there has been a continued reduction in national funding with Local Authorities across the country have made significant cuts to youth budgets. A report from the YMCA in 2021 found that across England and Wales in 2018/2019, there was around £429million spent on youth services compared to a spend of £1.4billion in 2010, this is a decline of 70%. This report also found that some Local Authorities had ceased all funding on youth services.
29. Recently the Government funded Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Programme has provided Local Authorities with funding to provide holiday activities for those in receipt of free school meals. Whilst this has been positive, it limits who can access the activities. Lobbying to the Government has resulted in a slight broadening of the criteria, with 15% of the funding now available to other children deemed to be vulnerable, but not in receipt of free school meals. The delivery of the Youth Strategy will be aligned to the HAF Programme to ensure we are supporting delivery across 52 weeks of the year, especially for our most vulnerable families.

#### **Local Context:**

30. Whilst Doncaster has seen a reduction in funding for youth services, it has maintained some youth provision, through both in-house provision and the commissioning of Expect Youth. This was further bolstered this with an additional £250k in 2022 to provide a comprehensive universal free at the point of access summer holiday programme, that engaged with over 10,000 children and young people.
31. Whilst funding was provided for additional holiday activity, the funding for youth services has reduced over recent years, as referred to above in the national context and this has been reflected in the local funding available. Currently the designated budget for universal youth provision in Doncaster is £100k and therefore whilst we are ambitious in our plans to grow our youth offer we are also realistic in what we can achieve.
32. Due to the reduction in council budgets and youth services, we have worked closely with our Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector Partners to ensure we are still able deliver a vibrant youth offer to our children and young people. This Youth Strategy will extended this commitment through the offer of workforce development, training and qualifications. Alongside practical support in the delivery of youth activities and help in bid writing.
33. In Doncaster, there are a range of VCF partners from our middle tier organisations through to our grassroots providers. This has allowed Doncaster to still offer children and young people a range of positive activities in their local area.
34. The Holiday Activity and Food Programme is an example of this, in that we now work with around 25 larger VCF groups alongside over 75 smaller grassroots organisations. Through this model smaller groups are supported to grow and expand their offer, whilst the larger groups have provided quality assurance and financial framework.
35. The new partnership City Strategy, 'Doncaster Delivering Together', with its 'Great 8' priorities, has informed the content of this strategy. This strategy will be critical to ensuring that children and young people develop the skills to thrive in life and work and will deliver a more child and family



friendly approach to delivering provision. It will be key to ensuring greater fairness and inclusivity in education and employment in the future.

36. Doncaster's all-age 'Education & Skills 2030 Strategy' sets out the key priorities, which will deliver against these broader strategic ambitions, with a vision to deliver 'Equitable and inclusive lifelong learning that empowers people to fulfil their potential and thrive in life and work.' Over the next decade, we will focus on five key areas for transformation – four of which cover key learner age stages, with a fifth (**Equitable & Inclusive Learning**) providing a crosscutting 'golden thread'. The Youth Strategy will contribute significantly to a range of activities which will enhance the achievement of a number of these priorities and aims; particularly those around support for transitions, mental health, the development of curricula, and pathways to employment.
37. In 2022, the plans for the four localities included increased positive activities for children and young people as a priority.

## Youth Strategy – Ambitions

38. Working with the wider partnership and young people we are aiming to create a Modern 21<sup>st</sup> Century Youth Offer, we have eight ambitions, which form the foundations for the delivery of our strategy. These are essential in helping young people develop the confidence and resilience to improve their life chances, transition to adulthood, and engage meaningfully with their communities and wider society.
39. Under our vision to create a **Modern 21<sup>st</sup> Century Youth Offer**, we have **eight** ambitions, which form the foundations for the delivery of our strategy. These are essential in helping young people develop the confidence and resilience to improve their life chances, transition to adulthood, and engage meaningfully with their communities and wider society.

1

**Expand Universal provision** - We will provide a more accessible and inclusive youth offer by utilising digital youth work alongside a local community in person offer.

2

**Capacity Building** – We will accelerate the growth of the Voluntary Community and Faith Sector through regular stakeholder engagement, initial set up along with continued workforce development and support with identifying funding streams.

3

**Locality Based Delivery** – We will establish an area-based Youth Work Model with trained Youth Support Workers based in communities delivering a high-quality youth work curriculum.

4

**Safe Spaces** – We will ensure we have more safe spaces for all young people to access.

5

**Youth Work Curriculum** – We will co-design with young people a youth work curriculum which will complement learning in school and raise the aspirations of young people in Doncaster. Including implementing the findings of the Youth Work in Schools Review (published Spring 2023).

6

**Targeted and Street-based Youth Work Teams** – We will provide access to support and services for young people within communities, in the spaces and places where they live and meet.

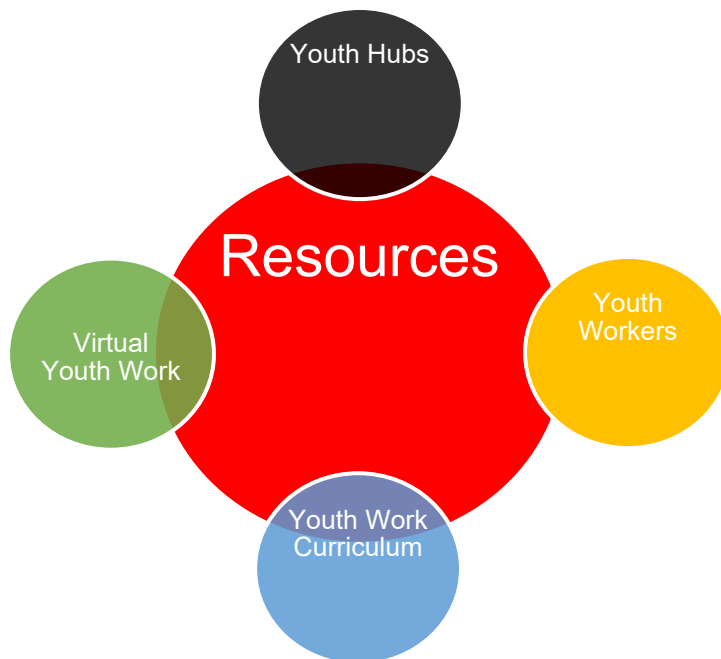
7

**Sustainable Funding** – We will identify and seek funding opportunities from local and national sources including the Youth Investment Fund.

8

**High-Quality Workforce** – We will recruit, support, and train a youth service workforce to deliver 21<sup>st</sup> Century Youth Work offer. Our focus will be to develop and implement a comprehensive learning and development package for staff working with young people in a youth-based setting. For example we will be able to support the wider workforce to gain a range of qualifications including Level 2 in Youth Work through to Degree Level and apprenticeships.

40. **Conditions for success towards achieving our 'Eight' ambitions.**



41. To deliver our stated ambitions for all young people across Doncaster the following requirement will need to be prioritised.
42. **Youth Hubs** that are modern safe and future-proof for the next generation of young people. This will be supported through the submissions to the Youth Investment Fund but also looking at our existing assets across both the council and its partners.
43. Being clear in Doncaster Council's role in convening and co-ordinating the Youth Strategy alongside leading the delivery. This will include ensuring funding streams are identified and VCF organisations are supported to draw down monies they are able to access.
44. To work with our Voluntary, Community and Faith organisations to offer a comprehensive and supportive **Training Pathway for those working with young people** to enhance and extend the local voluntary youth work offer.
45. To introduce the National Youth Agency progressive **Youth Work Curriculum** to all youth work, deliver across the City supported by access to high-quality training.
46. Partner with schools, colleges and wider educational settings to support delivery, for example as venues for local delivery and the application of the youth work curriculum. Ensuring all our education partners are aware of the importance of youth work and the positive impact it has on the life chances of young people, not only supporting their personal and social development, but provides training, awards and qualifications. Alongside supporting and enhancing their academic achievements.
47. Provide targeted and specialist support for children and young people when it is needed and at the earliest point possible, including on issues such as alcohol and substance misuse, sexual health, sexual or criminal exploitation and gangs.
48. To develop a **Virtual and Digital Youth Work** offer that enables young people to connect with youth support services digitally.

49. To ensure there is a high quality workforce which is provided with training and development opportunities. This also includes quality assuring youth providers, making sure they are safe and delivering high quality services and activities for children and young people. Exploring with partners the need for a minimum qualification.
50. The delivery of the Youth Strategy and the ambitions will be enhanced by the Youth Investment Fund and the build of new youth hubs, however its delivery is not dependent on the Youth Investment Funding.
51. Currently there is a dedicated £100,000 Youth budget which will be utilised to deliver the Youth Strategy, this will fund Youth Officer Posts which will both support the Voluntary, Community and Faith sector to deliver youth provision as well as provide face to face delivery of youth activities.

### **Youth Investment Fund**

52. The Youth Investment Fund (YIF) is providing £368 million to create, expand and improve youth facilities and services. The Department of Digital Culture Media and Sports (DCMS) objectives are to create, expand and improve local youth facilities and their services, to drive positive outcomes for young people, including improved mental and physical wellbeing, and skills for life and work. **At this stage, there are two distinct funding pots.**
53. **The first is to test out new modern methods of construction**, which will test facilities designed to meet the needs of smaller youth organisations, with space requirements ranging from circa 100m<sup>2</sup> to 350m<sup>2</sup>. They have made this available to only four Local Authorities nationally. Doncaster was successful in being chosen as one of four Local Authorities nationally.
54. We are currently working with the company Architecture 00 to complete the design of a new Youth Hub in Wheatley. The planning application has been submitted, with an end date of 16<sup>th</sup> February 23. There has been on-going consultation with residents and ward members, and the feedback is very positive.
55. All relevant groundworks for Wheatley Youth Hub have been submitted and were given the green light to proceed pending the planning application approval on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023 following this DCMS are expected to commence the build stage. The build time is up to nine months and DCMS are aiming to have the build complete by November 2023. DCMS have full responsibility for all capital costs and we understand that they will be contracting with the project construction company for the build stage of the pilot. At this point, there is no confirmation of the capital costs.
56. DCMS will confirm associated revenue funding, as highlighted in the grant application criteria. This will be to cover the development cost including staffing and training of the delivery team at the Youth Hub. At this stage, we are still waiting on confirmation of the one-off revenue funding amount.
57. Revenue funding is likely to be restricted to covering project management costs, workforce development and training and project delivery costs in year 1 for innovation / proof of concept rather than ongoing operational cost. Existing staffing will be from current budgeted resource and the new building running costs of £15k per annum are to be covered by relocating the Epic team and using their current rental budget, which is £17k. Therefore we are comfortable that we could use existing resources to run the hub, if there wasn't to be ultimately any revenue funding, therefore removing the risk.
58. **The second is Phase Two of the Youth Investment Fund (22/23 to 24/25)**, which will

deliver across the country up to 300 facilities that represent positive value for money, are environmentally sustainable and enable positive activities for young people aged 11 to 18 (up to 25 for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) in eligible places across England.

59. The Youth Investment Fund will drive value for money facilities that youth organisations can afford to sustain. Utilising innovative construction techniques, as well as supporting redevelopment projects that expand youth service provision, the YIF will achieve savings on facility running costs, benefiting providers so resources can focus on activities that enrich young people's lives.
60. The capital/revenue split was identified as the same as the pilot, with an 80/20 split. However, DCMS have agreed to review this element on a case-by-case basis, after we lobbied for a review
61. Our Phase Two, Expression of Interests have been successful, and we have now been allocated a Relationship Manager from the Key Fund commissioned by DCMS to provide the support in completing our Phase Two Full Bid Submission. All grant funds awarded for Phase Two, by the Youth Investment Fund must be spent by 31st March 2025. We are pursuing funding for five new youth hubs, whilst lobbying DCMS regarding the funding timescales, along with other Local Authorities.
62. A programme board has been established with key internal DMBC departments from Planning, Commissioning, Assets , Economy and Environment, Corporate Landlord, Young People's Services, Finance along Communication and Marketing , drive forward the YiF work. This group will continue to develop the bid, constantly checking sustainability and value for money.
63. At the time of writing the report, it is likely that a final decision will be made by DCMS in April 2023. **We would not accept any YIF phase two funding if we are unable to develop a sustainable model.**

### **Key Issues and Challenges**

64. Budget reductions have affected capacity over the last few years and this option provides a model of delivery that is founded on an asset-based community development approach. Joint working between youth work providers and a range of stakeholders is evident and valued across the city. There is good engagement with elected members and increasing partnership delivery between the third sector and the council as demonstrated in the Holiday Activity and Food Programme.
65. Quality and outcome monitoring varies across services and groups and has been a challenge, therefore through the implementation of the strategy and its ambition to have consistent high quality youth work. A quality assurance framework will be implemented for all providers commissioned by Doncaster Council and those smaller VCF groups who are providing youth activities. This will also be closely aligned to a workforce training and development plan.
66. The population of young people is growing, becoming more diverse and more children live in the most deprived neighbourhoods. Children and young people living in the most deprived neighbourhoods have lower attainment at school, are more likely to be NEET (not in education, employment, or training) post 16, and are more likely to be involved in crime and anti-social behaviour. Where a child lives has a major impact on their outcomes later in life, the youth work curriculum will complement that of formal education, providing opportunities for young people to access youth provision when they need it.

- 67. Through consultation, stakeholders highlighted that there is a need for the youth work workforce to reflect all communities so that young people can build relationships with adults that understand their culture, background, and speak their language. Therefore, this is a key element that will be incorporated into a workforce development plan.
- 68. Accessing quality venues in the right locations is a challenge. Street based youth work is an important starting point to engagement and valued by all but both young people and adults around them agreed that building based youth work is the most effective way to deliver outcome-based youth work. EPIC have delivered in the space well over recent years. However, sometimes access to quality venues is difficult or cost prohibitive. Taking an asset-based approach to work with young people by collaborating with community organisations to deliver positive activities has proved successful in some areas and could be key to expanding provision where we are looking to secure funding from DCMS for new Youth Hubs.
- 69. The fundamental aim of the Youth strategy In Doncaster is to deliver a preventative and early intervention service for young people. As such, the Youth Strategy plays an integral part in delivering the outcomes of the Doncaster Children and Young People’s Plan and is a key component of achieving our ambition of being a Child Friendly City.
- 70. The biggest challenge to the delivery of the strategy is financial, as the current budget attached to youth delivery is £100k, some of which is already committed to youth related salary costs. However, we are ambitious and doing everything we can to secure additional funding including the Youth Investment Fund. A decision on phase two funding is likely in March/April 2023. In addition, as a key component of the strategy is to expand and bolster voluntary, community and faith organisations to support youth delivery we can support organisations to drawn down funding we as a LA are not eligible for.

**OPTIONS CONSIDERED**







- 71. Do nothing and maintain the status quo (*not recommended*)
- 72. Move forward with implementing the changes to the Youth Strategy based upon the model of delivery set out in this report (*recommended*).



**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION**

- 73. The recommended option is to implement fully the Youth Strategy at pace to ensure we meet our statutory duty as detailed under Section 507B, Education Act 1996 to ‘secure, so far as is reasonably practicable sufficient provision of educational and recreational leisure-time activities for young people, and to make sure young people have a say in the local offer’.

**IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL’S KEY OUTCOMES**

<b>Great 8 Priority</b>	<b>Positive Overall</b>	<b>Mix of Positive &amp; Negative</b>	<b>Trade-offs to consider – Negative overall</b>	<b>Neutral or No implications</b>
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 <b>Tackling Climate Change</b>	✓			
Comments: Securing capital funding from the Youth Investment Fund to develop new network of Youth Hubs using modern construction methods will contribute to our environment friendly city agenda.				
 <b>Developing the skills to thrive in life and in work</b>	✓			
Comments: Youth work helps all young people to successfully navigate this journey, giving them access to new opportunities and experiences and provide information and guidance that will support their personal and social development. It will raise their aspirations, build resilience, and enable them to make informed decisions that are right for them.				
 <b>Making Doncaster the best place to do business and create good jobs</b>	✓			
Comments: As part of this strategy, we will work with training providers and employers to ensure that young people are able to access meaningful and successful employment in later life.  Youth work builds on the strengths of a young person in an asset-based approach and helps build social capital within communities. Youth workers provide emotional and practical support to young people and help them develop the skills they need to succeed in life.				
 <b>Building opportunities for healthier, happier, and longer lives for all</b>	✓			
Comments: High quality youth work will support young people's increased attendance, attainment and achievement in learning and improve their destinations as young adults. It will reduce the need for statutory interventions in their families life, reducing teenage conceptions and engagement in risky behaviours such as substance misuse or involvement in anti-social behaviour or offending, all of which will potentially impact on their life opportunities.				
 <b>Creating safer, stronger, greener and cleaner communities where everyone belongs</b>	✓			
Comments: Providing local youth provision supports opportunities for children and young people to contribute to their local area and encourage greater multi-generational working. A principle of the Youth Investment Funding is ensuring all new buildings or refurbished buildings must have green credentials and wherever possible be carbon neutral.				
 <b>Nurturing a child and family-friendly City</b>	✓			

<p>Comments: This principle is key to our work in supporting partners to deliver improved practices to work with families to meet the needs of young people at an earlier point. In Doncaster, the Youth Strategy will support a preventative and early intervention service for young people. Therefore plays a significant part in delivering the outcomes of the City Of Doncaster Children and Young People's Plan and is a key element of achieving our ambition of being a Child Friendly City.</p>				
	<p><b>Building Transport and digital connections fit for the future</b></p>	✓		
<p>Comments: As part of this Strategy, we will work to provide an opportunity for young people to access a range of services digitally and that provides the basis for a truly inclusive and modern 21<sup>st</sup> Century offer.</p>				
	<p><b>Promoting the City and its cultural, sporting, and heritage opportunities</b></p>			✓
<p>Comments: Not directly relevant</p>				
	<p><b>Fair &amp; Inclusive</b></p>	✓		
<p>Comments: Fairness and inclusivity underpin the core principles of this strategy. Children and young people living in the most deprived neighbourhoods have lower attainment at school, are more likely to be NEET (not in education, employment, or training) post 16, and are more likely to be involved in crime and anti-social behaviour. Where a child lives has a major impact on their outcomes later in life.  Stakeholders also highlighted that there is a need for the youth work workforce to reflect all communities so that young people can build relationships with adults that understand their culture, background, and speak their language.</p>				

**RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS**

- 74. **Risk:** Key stakeholders such as schools and the voluntary community and faith sector do not engage productively with this strategy.
- 75. **Mitigation:** We will mitigate this by building relationships with all key stakeholders including schools and VCFS, through consultation and working groups. We will work with a body of head teachers to ensure that the strategy is owned and delivered collaboratively. We will also establish a cycle of meetings with parents, children, and young people to ensure that their experiences are central to all activity. We are also mitigating this by working with NYA to ensure that national perspectives are presented to partners so that partners can understand the wider context.

76. **Risk:** Without a clear, shared vision for youth work in Doncaster the provision and Opportunities available for young people to access and benefit from could be limited or inconsistent across the city.
77. **Mitigation:** we will mitigate this by working with all key partners, creating a strong brand identity for youth provision that is creatively communicated to young people as part of ensuring universal, and targeted youth work opportunities are widely accessed as part of a valuable ecosystem that supports young people.
78. **Risk:** There is a risk that youth work and universal services are not valued and not understood.
79. **Mitigation:** We are mitigating this by holding engagement events and co-producing with a range of stakeholders. We will take a whole family approach and be visible to both young people and their families, so they know where to go for support. Parents and carers will be encouraged to be involved in the youth work process to ensure sustainable change and benefits.
80. Youth work opportunities across the city will be well publicised on our shared partners websites with young people taking the lead to identify the most effective ways in which to reach and connect with all groups.
81. **Risk:** Actions within this strategy will not be delivered on time and this will exacerbate existing pressures.
82. **Mitigation:** We are working on establishing a Project Implementation Board with all partners that will set out clear milestones and outcomes. The Children and Families Executive Board and the NYA will monitor this plan to ensure accountability and timeliness of delivery.

#### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials CD Date 7/2/2023]**

83. As set out in the body of the report. Section 507b of the Education Act 1996 requires that every Local Authority must, so far as reasonably practicable, secure for qualifying young persons in the authority's area access to sufficient educational and recreational activities which are for the improvement of their well-being, and sufficient facilities for such activities.
84. The Youth Strategy 2023-2028 will set the vision of what the Council wishes to achieve which will a public document and the delivery plan will set out the route and timescale for delivering the strategy. This will help the Council to stay focused on the delivery of its vision.
85. Where we consult, either in accordance with a statutory duty or by choice, the process must comply with the established consultation principles. These are that: consultation should occur when proposals are at a formative stage; consultation should give sufficient reasons for any proposal to permit intelligent consideration; consultation should allow adequate time for consideration and response; and the decision maker must demonstrate that it has considered the consultation responses or a summary of them, before taking its decision.
86. The decision maker must also comply with the Public Sector Equality duty to consider the need to promote equality for persons with "protected characteristics": age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation and have due regard to:



- i) eliminate discrimination, harassment, and victimisation;
  - ii) advance equality of opportunity
  - iii) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it.
87. In order to do this the decision maker will need to have sufficient information about the effects of the proposed changes on the aims of the Equality Duty. The Equalities implication section is designed to assist with compliance with this duty and so the decision maker must take that into consideration and the public sector equality duty before taking the decision.
88. The decision to submit an expression of interest for phase two Youth Interest Funding has been delegated. If successful, a further cabinet approval will be required to accept and use the funding.
89. Should any funding be used to purchase goods, services and/or works, those procurements must be carried out in accordance with the terms and conditions of the respective funding agreement, the Councils contract procedure rules and the Councils financial procedure rules
90. Further legal advice should be sought as the matters proceeds.
91. Section 1 of the localism act 2011 provides the council with a general power of competence, allowing the council to do anything that individuals generally may do.
92. s112 of the local government act 1972 allows a local authority to appoint such officers as are necessary for the proper discharge of its functions, on such reasonable terms and conditions as it thinks fit. salary grade should be determined by job evaluation.
93. Where a permanent contract of employment is entered into, this will continue until the employee or the council choose to end the contract. a contract must be terminated in accordance with any express or implied terms to avoid a claim for breach of contract.
94. The council should note that time spent on a fixed term contract immediately before a permanent contract will count towards continuous service in order for employment rights to be conferred.
95. If the employee is employed for 2 years or more, they will acquire statutory protection against unfair dismissal. There are however certain grounds for which an employee can claim automatic unfair dismissal, for which there is no period of qualifying service. If the length of the contract exceeds 1 year upon termination the employee may be entitled to be placed on the redeployment register and after 2 years may be entitled to a redundancy payment.
96. The council's recruitment, retention, and vacancy management policies should be followed and hr advice should be sought.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials DB Date 6/2/2023]**

97. The Youth Strategy outlined is to be funded from within ongoing existing resources, including core staffing and general fund youth budget of £100k. This will be supplemented via external funding where possible, including a mix of Holiday Activity and Food Programme funding and YIF revenue funding to cover fixed term expenditure.

98. The YIF funded Wheatley hub build is expected to be completed by DCMS, following planning approval, with DCMS responsible for all related capital costs. There is expected to be an associated revenue funding allocation of c.£180k still to be confirmed which is expected to cover one-off costs such as project management, workforce development, training and project delivery. Acceptance of this funding will need to be covered in a separate ODR setting out the plan to spend the revenue allocation. The ongoing running costs of the Wheatley hub have been identified as costing up to £15k (but expected to be less based on current building plans) which are to be funded by the saving generated from locating the EPIC team at this location (current rent budget for EPIC team) and the staffing will be from existing resources.
99. Delegation is sought in the recommendations of this report for YIF phase 2 and, as set out in the report, phase 2 funding is only to be accepted if a sustainable funding model can be produced covering all ongoing running costs including any staffing and related costs and consideration of any future capital investment required. External funding is expected to be from a variety of potential sources that all need further investigation and confirmation and will be considered further by the YIF Programme board, outlined in the report, as to ongoing sustainability. Officer decision records would then be required, as per the delegation requested, to sign off on those plans.

#### **HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials JC Date 09/02/2023]**

100. There are no direct HR implications associated with this report. However, should there need to be any changes to staffing resources at a later date, this would require separate authorisations.

#### **TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials NR Date 07/02/2023]**

101. Any technology requirements to support the delivery of the Youth Strategy 2023-2028 (including new Youth Hubs and developing a Virtual and Digital Youth Work offer) will need to be considered and prioritised by the Technology Governance Board (TGB).

#### **EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials RM Date 09/02/2023]**

102. The aim of the Youth Strategy is to increase universal youth provision across Doncaster. It is also clear in its approach that there should be no barriers for young people when accessing youth provision and therefore we need to ensure that the offer is equitable for all. Whether this be young people in our more deprived communities or those from marginalised groups. Through this refreshed Youth Strategy will be ensure that alongside the universal offer we will target activities and funding towards those groups are in greater need of the provision or face barriers in accessing.

#### **CONSULTATION**

103. A series of consultation events have taken place with partners, including elected members and MPs. This included a member's briefing session on 24th November 2022 and via Lead Member with MP's at the start of December 2022.
104. Consultation and co-production with children and young people is an on-going process and there are numerous forums, and examples of doing this. A rough figure would be around

10,000 children and young people engaged to date. This will continue throughout the life of the strategy.

105. Council officers are also working closely with National Youth Agency (NYA) to ensure that our strategy is in line with the national strategy and makes the best use of experiences in other local areas.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

106. None

## **GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

- 107.

VCFS Voluntary Community and Faith Sector  
NYA National Youth Agency  
YIF Youth Investment Fund  
NCS National Citizen Service  
YMCA The Young Men's Christian Association  
DCMS Department of Digital Culture Media and Sports  
NEET Not in Education, Employment or Training

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**Riana Nelson – Director of Children, Young People and Families**

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**Doncaster  
Council**

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# **Youth Strategy**

**Encouraging Potential Inspiring Change  
2023 – 2028**

# **Content**

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## **1. Forward**

In 2022, we launched our new Children and Young People's Plan, which was produced by young people for young people. This plan builds on our ambition to be the most Child Friendly Borough in the country setting out how we will make this ambition a reality and now make Doncaster the most Child Friendly city.

Therefore, we are refreshing our Youth Strategy, setting our children and young people at the centre of our plans and asking them to support developing and realising our ambitions.

All young people deserve to lead safe and fulfilling lives from childhood through to adulthood. We also know that for a range of reasons many children and young people find the world we live in difficult to navigate. Therefore, we have a responsibility to provide everyone with the opportunities, guidance, experiences and tools to enable them to grow personally, socially and academically.

It is important that we continuously listen to their views and experiences and harness their creativity. We want to be ambitious and deliver what children and young people want.

Youth Work and Youth Services are one of the best ways in encouraging young people's potential and inspiring change by providing high quality support and opportunities. This refreshed Youth Strategy sets out our vision, ambitions and how we will achieve them. We are strongly committed to improving outcomes for young people and our communities across Doncaster.

We also know that everyone has a role to play in making a positive impact on young people's lives. We are all role models and can support young people to reach their potential. That is why this Youth Strategy is not just about what the Council will do but what is our shared responsibility, and we are committed to working with all our partners whether it's our statutory services such as schools or the police or our communities and the people living in them.

As the Portfolio Lead for Education, Skills & Young People, I am dedicated to making sure that youth work is strengthened and empowered to support young people's ambitions and advocate for their rights.

**Cllr Lani-Mae Ball**

**Portfolio Lead for Education, Skills & Young People**

## 2. Strategic Context and Background

### National Drivers

Doncaster and other Local authorities across England and Wales have a statutory duty under Section 507B, Education Act 1996 to 'secure, so far as is reasonably practicable sufficient provision of educational and recreational leisure-time activities for young people, and to make sure young people have a say in the local offer'. This is often referred to as the '**Youth Service Duty**'. This includes youth work and other provisions that:

- Connects young people with their communities
- Offers young people opportunities in safe environments to take part in a wide range of activities
- Supports the personal, social, and economic development of young people
- Improves young people's physical and mental health, and emotional wellbeing
- Raises young people's aspirations, builds their resilience, and informs their decision-making

Recommendations outlined in the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Youth Affairs<sup>1</sup>, which published its Youth Work Inquiry findings highlighted the need to provide a positive commitment to our young people by encouraging the whole of society to invest in them, ensuring that they are fully included in decision-making and democratic processes.

In May 2022, the Government announced that hundreds of youth groups across the country could benefit from the Youth Investment Fund, in relation to youth provision. Doncaster was one of many towns across England that met the eligibility criteria to apply for the funding.

### Funding

Since 2010 and the steady reduction in national funding, Local Authorities across the country have made significant cuts to youth budgets. A report from the YMCA in 2021 found that across England and Wales in 2018/2019, there was around £429million spent on youth services compared to a spend of £1.4billion in 2010, this is a decline of 70%. This report also found that some LA's had ceased all funding on youth services.

Whilst Doncaster has also seen a reduction in funding for youth services, it has continued to have youth as a priority and in March 2020, an additional £100k was allocated to support the delivery of youth provision. In addition, in summer 2022, £250k was allocated to fund a universal summer programme, to sit alongside the Holiday Activity and Food Programme. Both programmes were really well attended with lots of positive feedback from those taking part. The current economic situation makes funding a comprehensive youth provision extremely difficult, which is why the Youth Investment Fund opportunity would allow us to accelerate this strategy. If we were unsuccessful, then there would need to be a review of what is possible.

### Local Policy

The Doncaster Borough Strategy, Delivering Together sets out our mission for thriving people, places, and planet. It is our plan to improve the quality of life for residents, communities, and businesses and to leave it a better city for future generations. This sets of the 'Great 8' priorities that will drive this work.

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<sup>1</sup> APPG on Youth Affairs, National Youth Agency, Youth Work Inquiry 2019, London





In summer 2022, we launched our new Children and Young People’s Plan, which was produced by young people for young people. This plan builds on our ambition to be the most Child Friendly Borough in the country setting out how we will make this ambition a reality. It again sets out 8 priorities:

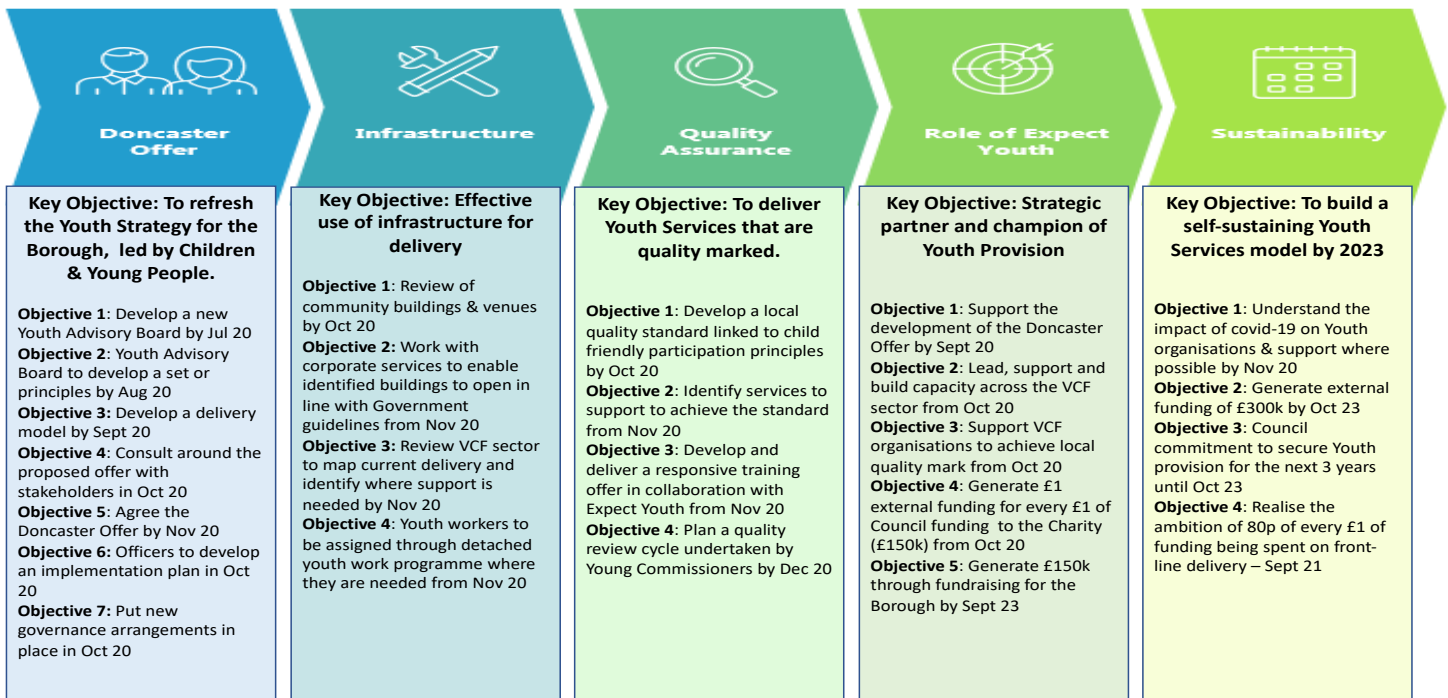
- Connecting Young People of Doncaster
- Building an Inclusive Doncaster
- Creating a Happy and Healthy Doncaster
- Providing Opportunities for Participation and Engagement
- Ensuring a Community Focused Doncaster
- Promoting a Strong Education and Skills System
- Ensuring Doncaster is a High-Quality Place to Live
- Delivering High Quality Services.

As well as the two key plans above this Youth Strategy renews our commitment to children and young people with a local and whole city approach, contributes, and supports a number of other key areas of work such as **Doncaster Education and Skills 2030**, **The Youth Justice Plan**, **The Culture Strategy** and **The Mental Health in Schools Strategy**. Due to the delivery model it is also crucial it aligns to all the refreshed **Locality Plans**.

### **Doncaster Offer 2020**

The Doncaster Offer is the current Youth Strategy and was refreshed in late 2020 consists of five areas of focus with several projects delivered with a range of activities.

This was co-produced with young people to ensure it reflected the views of children and young people not only in its creation but also in how it was delivered. Young People emphasised the needs for this to be governed by young people and this saw the creation of the Youth Advisory Board, which now sets within several governance structures. This is a key legacy from the Doncaster Offer and an area that will be further strengthened to deliver a Youth Strategy over the next five years.



## Progress

Over the last two years, work has progressed on all five areas:

- Doncaster Offer – all objectives achieved
- Infrastructure – all objectives achieved
- Quality Assurance – all objectives achieved
- Role of EXPECT Youth – partially achieved
- Sustainability – partially achieved

The pandemic has slowed progress in achieving some of the objectives, in particular sustainability. There is now a need to review progress in a post COVID landscape and within the context of other strategic priorities and ensure they are delivered under this new strategy.

The current offer delivers under four key areas; the details of these are set out below. This is not a replacement for the Early Help windscreen but specifically created to demonstrate the four key areas as it relates to Youth Offer.

## Universal

The current Universal Offer includes youth work delivery at My Place Bentley & Tom Hill supported by 1 Full-Time, two part time Youth Workers, and three Part-Time Assistant Youth Engagement Workers providing access to five open evening sessions a week. In the last year, this has also included a comprehensive summer holiday programme funded by one of monies of £250k to support an array of activities across Doncaster.

A range of voluntary, community and faith sector organisations are also responsible for delivering a range of universal youth activity across local areas. There are also a vast range of uniform groups such as Scouts, Brownies, and Cadets, alongside sports and dance clubs.

2022 saw the expansion of the universal holiday activity programme, the Doncaster Staycation providing a wide range of positive holiday activities open to all but targeting provision in the 15 most deprived wards. These complements. The Holiday and Food Programme, which is funded by the Department for Education and provides healthy food and enriching activities for primary and secondary school aged children who are eligible for benefits related free school meals, SEND as well as other vulnerable groups. Both holiday programmes are based on an incubator-commissioning model ensuring that VCF organisations are used to provide the majority of the activity and those larger groups or partners must ensure their delivery is supported by smaller grass roots organisations. This model has supported over a 100 smaller VCF organisations to access funding.

The voice of children and young people is also a key element of our universal youth offer. The Doncaster Youth Council is an elected forum group of young people from all parts of the borough who are between the ages of 11 and 18. They work to give local youth a stronger voice and make sure their opinions are taken into account. They participate in a variety of initiatives to better the lives of young people in Doncaster and have a say in some of the major choices that are made in the borough. In addition, the Youth Advisory Board, which is a group of young people from a selection of forums such as the Youth Council and Young Advisors and was established to have oversight of the Youth Strategy in 2020 and continued to monitor its progress.

The Youth Council and Young Advisors have also delivered several key campaigns, often tackling some of the big issues facing young people and some of the harder hitting topics. For example, the Red Flags film which was produced to raise awareness about domestic abuse in young people's relationship sin particular controlling and cohesive behaviour. Or Lives Up, Knives Down, which tackled knife crime.

### **Early Intervention**

Through an Early Intervention approach, EPIC is tasked to deliver the '*Team around the School*' preventative offer working in Schools across the borough and initially prioritising hotspot areas, with high levels of anti-social behaviour. This team of four Full-Time Youth Support workers will be delivering programmes across the week and into Schools Holidays. This programme is Home Office funded until September 2023.

One to one support is offered to young people through an early intervention approach. This could be through school referrals or service referrals through to the youth team.

### **Prevention**

EPIC working with a range of partners delivers a Preventative focused youth work offer at the EPIC Hub based in the Frenchgate Centre currently across 4 days including Saturday and Sunday with a team of four Part-Time Youth Support Staff.

### **Targeted**

EPIC delivers Street Based interventions, targeting hotspot areas across Doncaster. Four Full-Time Youth Workers provide the work across three days per week. There are also targeted Forum groups, for example Children in Care Youth Council which is not just a "talking shop"; it is ***an opportunity for young people to develop ideas and projects that will improve the lives of children and young people in care and care leavers.*** Ensuring the lived experiences of children in care or leaving care are shaping how services are delivered. There are also forums and support groups for our LGBTQ young people and children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities.

### 3. Theory of Change

Young people’s worlds today are complex: full of ever-changing opportunities and challenges. We work with young people and the organisations and people that support them, to ensure their needs are met through high-quality youth work and evolving needs analysis and constant evaluation. We help transform the lives of young people through the power of youth work.



This is our Theory of Change. A simple stepped approach to ensure there is a skilled workforce that delivers high quality youth services, which in turn provide better outcomes for young people. It aims to stretch our ambitions and commitment to young people and concentrate our resources. Through this, we also build our case for partnership working and share best practices, fostering identity and strength across the entire workforce.

### 4. Young People’s Voice

The voice of Doncaster young people is at the heart of everything we do; we are committed to listening to their views and ensuring we work in partnership to co-design our services. We already have a range of data and intelligence both at a national and local level that have already informed this strategy, however we are committed to having an ongoing dialogue with children and young people to ensure their views and experiences continue to shape our service delivery. Nationally the *‘Youth Review: Summary findings and government response’* published in February 2022<sup>2</sup> highlighted clearly what young people enjoyed, this included having something fun to do after school and in the holidays, alongside learning new skills and having a place to be myself.

The initial findings from the 2022 Youth Crime Perception Survey Young People in Doncaster, has also highlighted that young people would be interested in taking part in a range of activities including dance, football, and gaming. Make Your Mark is a national ballot which targets all young people in England aged between 11 – 18 years. Its aim is to identify the issues most important to young people nationally and locally and find shared ways to tackle them. In 2022 over **8,000** young people in Doncaster voted, which is a turnout rate over 29%. They voted the following as the top three issues:

#### **Health and Wellbeing, Jobs, Money, Homes, and Opportunities and Education and Learning**

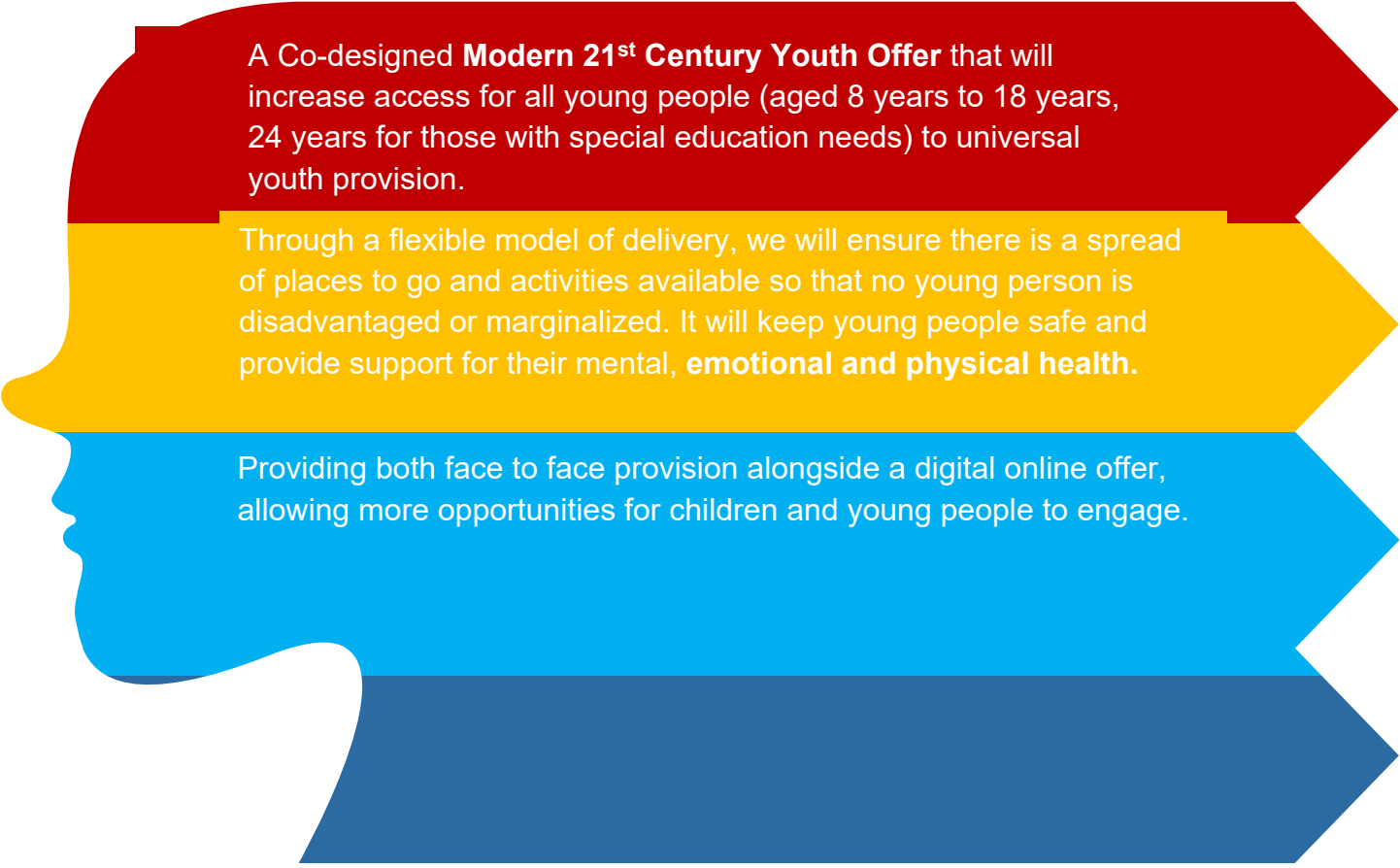
As health and wellbeing continues to be a priority for young people across the city, whether this is in relation to their physical or emotional health or in terms of sexual health and relationships. Therefore, this will be a key part of the Youth Strategy delivery ensuring young people receive the education and support needed. Across Doncaster, our Locality Plans developed in 2022 have mirrored and amplified similar areas of interests, needs, and wants from young people. The need for more youth provision in all local areas was identified as a priority in all

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/youth-review-summary-findings-and-government-response/youth-review-summary-findings-and-government-response>

four plans; this was based on both young people and wider resident views. Therefore, our Youth Strategy will be flexible in its approach, ensuring we can deploy resources where they are needed.

In addition to a strategy that responds to the views of children and young people and the needs of a local area, this strategy will also respond to the diversity and richness of our children and young people, understanding that needs can be shaped by a range of factors including gender, race, disability, and socio-economic circumstances. We will not only respond to our duty to provide positive and diversionary activities but enriching opportunities for young people to be involved in.

## 5. Our Vision



A Co-designed **Modern 21<sup>st</sup> Century Youth Offer** that will increase access for all young people (aged 8 years to 18 years, 24 years for those with special education needs) to universal youth provision.

Through a flexible model of delivery, we will ensure there is a spread of places to go and activities available so that no young person is disadvantaged or marginalized. It will keep young people safe and provide support for their mental, **emotional and physical health**.

Providing both face to face provision alongside a digital online offer, allowing more opportunities for children and young people to engage.

## 6. Our Eight Ambitions: Achieving Our Vision

Under our vision to create a **Modern 21<sup>st</sup> Century Youth Offer**, we have **eight** ambitions, which form the foundations for the delivery of our strategy. These are essential in helping young people develop the confidence and resilience to improve their life chances, transition to adulthood, and engage meaningfully with their communities and wider society.

1

**Expand Universal provision** - We will provide a more accessible and inclusive youth offer by utilising digital youth work alongside a local community in person offer.

2

**Capacity Building** – We will accelerate the growth of the Voluntary Community and Faith Sector through regular stakeholder engagement, initial set up along with continued workforce development and support with identifying funding streams.

3

**Locality Based Delivery** – We will establish an area-based Youth Work Model with trained Youth Support Workers based in communities delivering a high-quality youth work curriculum.

4

**Safe Spaces** – We will ensure we have more safe spaces for all young people to access.

5

**Youth Work Curriculum** – We will co-design with young people a youth work curriculum which will complement learning in school and raise the aspirations of young people in Doncaster. Including implementing the findings of the Youth Work in Schools Review (published Spring 2023)

6

**Targeted and Street-based Youth Work Teams** – We will provide access to support and services for young people within communities, in the spaces and places where they live and meet.

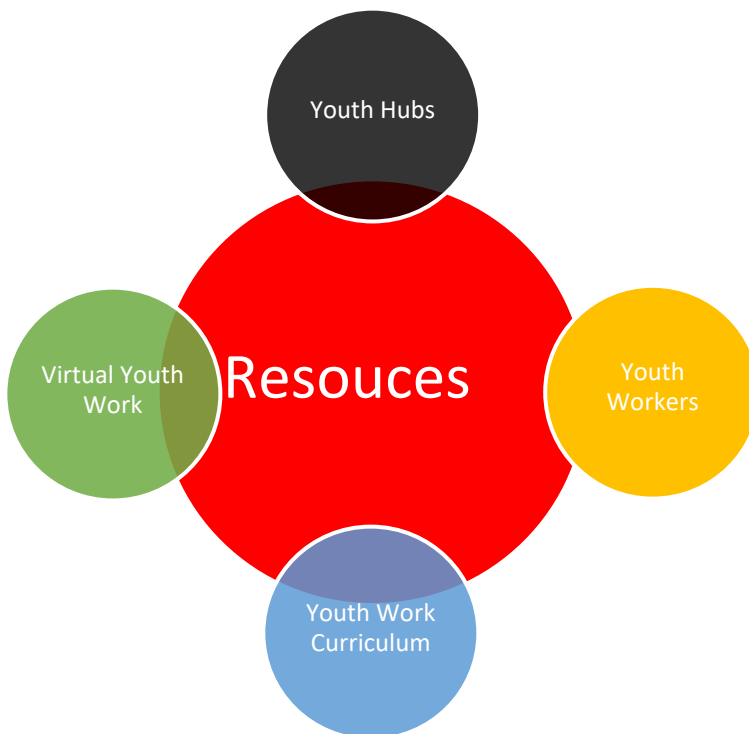
7

**Sustainable Funding** – We will identify and seek funding opportunities from local and national sources including the Youth Investment Fund.

8

**High-Quality Workforce** – We will recruit, support, and train a youth service workforce to deliver 21st Century Youth Work offer. Our focus will be to develop and implement a comprehensive learning and development package for staff working with young people in a youth-based setting. For example we will be able to support the wider workforce to gain a range of qualifications including Level 2 in Youth Work through to Degree Level and Apprenticeships.

## 7. Conditions for success towards achieving our 'Eight' ambitions.



To deliver our stated ambitions for all young people across Doncaster the following requirement will need to be prioritised.

- i. **Youth Hubs** that are modern safe and future-proof for the next generation of young people. We will submit a Youth Investment Fund proposal to design and build six Youth Hubs to the Departments of Culture Media and Sport (DCMS).
- ii. To work with our Voluntary, Community and Faith organisations to offer a comprehensive and supportive **Training Pathway for those working with young people** to enhance and extend the local voluntary youth work offer.
- iii. To introduce the National Youth Agency progressive **Youth Work Curriculum** to all youth work, deliver across the borough supported by access to high-quality training.
- iv. To develop a **Virtual and Digital Youth Work** offer that enables young people to connect with youth support services digitally.
- v. To ensure there is a **high quality workforce** which is provided with training and development opportunities. This will include quality assuring youth providers, making sure they are safe and delivering high quality services and activities for children and young people.

## 8. Partnerships

We can only achieve our ambitions successfully through working collectively. Working together with Voluntary Community Faith Sector (VCFS) and youth work organisations, we will monitor and evaluate the provision of youth work in locality plans. This will help ensure that all young people, in every part Doncaster have access to high quality and effective youth work practice.

**Our partnership with schools will be strengthened as both a deliverer and convener of youth provision** but also in the identification of young people who may need additional or targeted support and in signposting young people to the range of youth provision across the area. This partnership will be crucial in the on-going development of the Youth Work Curriculum and its support of the more academic curriculum offered through schools.

Using the principles, values, and behaviours of the Team Doncaster approach, the Council has strong internal and external partnerships across a number of service areas, including Communities, Leisure, Culture, Libraries, Health, Education and Crime Prevention. These partnerships ensure we are maximising our potential and enhancing the offer for young people.

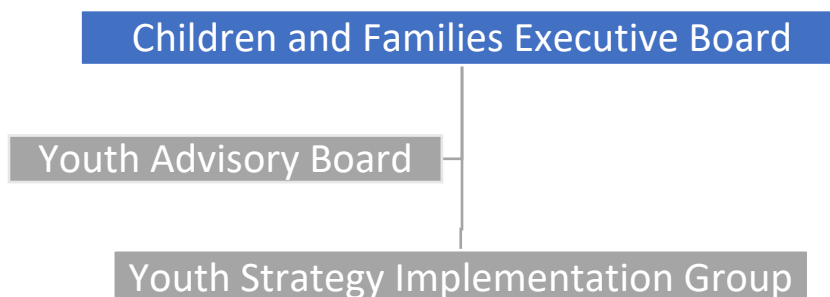
Through the partnerships we can ensure that funding, resources, and services are delivered and coordinated in the most effective way for young people.



## 9. Delivery and Governance

The successful delivery of this strategy will require a collective effort by several different stakeholders and a **comprehensive co-produced delivery plan**, detailing the data, metrics and how we will measure success. It will measure not only our delivery against key data but will also gather the views and experiences of young people to ensure it is delivery is having a positive impact on their lives.

Young People will be the key stakeholders in holding the partnership to account for what and how we deliver against the Youth Strategy and therefore the Youth Advisory Board will oversee the monitoring of the strategy and the delivery plan and will report to the Children and Families Executive Board.



The Youth Advisory Board consist of a representative group of young people in terms of demographics and lived experience. They will also be responsible for engaging and consulting wider groups of young people to gain their views on the strategy, and how we deliver against it.

The formal progress reporting on the implementation of the strategy will be assessed and measured through quarterly performance reporting. Detailed reports will also be monitored and evaluated at other relevant Executive, Scrutiny, Directorate, and Partnership Board meetings.

The delivery of the Youth Strategy and how we oversee the delivery is interconnected with many other areas of work therefore although we have our own governance arrangements we understand how it sits within the wider partnership priorities and boards.

<p><b>CFEB</b> As per the Terms of Reference, CFEB is responsible for the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CYP Plan &amp; associated priority lead meetings</li> <li>- Workforce Development</li> <li>- Joint Commissioning</li> <li>- Data &amp; Performance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CFEB sits within wider Team Doncaster governance and provides partnership oversight to the system</li> <li>• In particular, this focuses on the priorities and commitments within the CYP alongside other work streams related to workforce development, data &amp; performance monitoring, and making best use of the voice and engagement of children and young people</li> </ul>
<p><b>Education &amp; Skills Board</b> The following strategies are linked to the Education &amp; Skills Board or will be in the future;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Education &amp; Skills 2030</li> <li>- Learning Provision Strategy</li> <li>- SEND Strategy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The education and skills board has oversight of the partnerships approach for improving all aspects of our education from early years through to adulthood</li> <li>• It also incorporates our approach to ensuring sufficiency and providing support to those with additional needs</li> </ul>
<p><b>DSCPB</b> The priorities, as set out in the governance and delivery plan of DSCP are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Early Help</li> <li>- MASH</li> <li>- Exploitation</li> <li>- Neglect</li> <li>- Mental Health</li> <li>- Performance &amp; Data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DSCPB has responsibility related to practice, quality, data and workforce development but there are also specific work streams and priorities within that</li> <li>• DSCPB is home to our work improving the MASH and enhancing our approach to a host of key issues within Doncaster such as Early Help, Neglect, Exploitation, and Mental Health.</li> <li>• Each of these strands has a strategy or action plan that is reported on through the DSCPB governance</li> </ul>
<p><b>Other Programmes</b> Further programmes of work are captured in the following ways;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Localities Programme</li> <li>- Culture Strategy</li> <li>- Domestic Abuse Strategy</li> <li>- Youth Justice Plan</li> <li>- Adolescents Strategy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Localities Leadership Group oversees the Localities Programme</li> <li>• The Domestic Abuse strategy sits within SSDP governance and tackles this key issue</li> <li>• The Youth Justice Plan outlines our approach to supporting engaged with the criminal justice system and reports within SSDP governance</li> <li>• The culture strategy builds the cultural offer in Doncaster for the benefit of all and is overseen by the culture partnership</li> <li>• The Adolescents strategy requires fresh governance</li> </ul>

## 10. Links to Local and National Policies (QR codes to be added)

### Doncaster Delivering Together

<https://dmbcwebstolive01.blob.core.windows.net/media/Tenant2/Documents/DDT%20Prospectus%20-%20Single%20Pages.pdf>

### Doncaster Children's and Young People Plan

<https://dmbcwebstolive01.blob.core.windows.net/media/Default/ChildrenYoungPeopleFamilies/Documents/CYPP-2022-LR2.pdf>

### Doncaster Locality Plans

#### South

<https://dmbcwebstolive01.blob.core.windows.net/media/YourLifeDoncaster/documents/South%20Locality%20Plan%20FINAL%20AUGUST%202022.pdf>

#### North

<https://dmbcwebstolive01.blob.core.windows.net/media/YourLifeDoncaster/documents/North%20Locality%20Plan%20FINAL%20AUGUST%202022.pdf>

#### Central

<https://dmbcwebstolive01.blob.core.windows.net/media/YourLifeDoncaster/documents/Central%20Locality%20Plan%20FINAL%20AUGUST%202022.pdf>

#### East

<https://dmbcwebstolive01.blob.core.windows.net/media/YourLifeDoncaster/documents/East%20Locality%20Plan%20FINAL%20AUGUST%202022.pdf>

### Doncaster Community Safety Strategy

<https://dmbcwebstolive01.blob.core.windows.net/media/Default/CrimeAntiSocialBehaviourNuisance/Documents/Community%20Safety%20Strategy%20-%202022-25%20-%20FINAL.pdf>

### Doncaster Youth Offending Service Plan

<https://doncaster.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s36399/i6%20Youth%20Justice%20Plan%202022-23%20DRAFT%20v6.pdf>

### Youth Review: Summary findings and government response

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/youth-review-summary-findings-and-government-response/youth-review-summary-findings-and-government-response>

**Ten Year Vision for Youth Work 2020-2030** <https://s3.eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/assets.nya2.joltrouter.net/wp-content/uploads/20210419131200/Ten-Year-Vision-for-Youth-Work-1-1.pdf>

**APPG on Youth Affairs, National Youth Agency, Youth Work Inquiry 2019, London.**  
<https://nya.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/APPG-Youth-Work-Inquiry-Final-Report-April-2019-ONLINE.pdf>

**Education Act, Section 507B, 1996.**

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/56/contents>

**UNICEF, UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, January 2020.**

<https://www.unicef.org.uk/what-we-do/un-convention-child-rights/>

**Get Doncaster Moving Strategy**

<https://getdoncastermoving.org/uploads/get-doncaster-moving-strategy-document.pdf?v=1662728340>

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### Report

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Date: 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023

To: The Mayor and Members of Cabinet

#### Doncaster's Locality Plans 2023-2024

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Rachael Blake	All	Yes

#### 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 Doncaster is a city but it is also a place of places. Its large geography and significant diversity requires an approach that moves beyond "one size fits all". This report seeks approval of Doncaster's four Locality Plans for 2023-24, covering the East, North, South and Central parts of our Borough. These four Localities each contain between 5 and 6 wards. Plans reflects the priorities that local people in each of these Localities have said is most important to them.
- 1.2 This is the second year in which Locality Plans have been produced. As well as describing future objectives this year's plans sets out what the first year of partnership working with local people and organisations has already achieved.
- 1.3 Many people, families and communities in Doncaster have experienced a year of incredible pressure in relation to rising cost of living. Locality Plans set out a way of working alongside people, thinking locally and acting personally, that provides the best chance of navigating challenges that are unprecedented in recent times.

#### 2. EXEMPT REPORT

- 2.1 This is not an exempt report.

#### 3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To approve the attached Locality Plans, noting the progress made over the last year, the degree of engagement with local people and the priorities agreed for the year ahead.

#### 4. WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

- 4.1 Locality Plans are intended to drive collaborative ways of working that will support Doncaster people and places to thrive. They encompass all aspects of community living, from the economy through the environment to personal safety, health and wellbeing.

## **5. BACKGROUND**

- 5.1 Each Locality Plan aims to use plain language and a straightforward format that is accessible to local people, businesses, organisations and communities and supports working together on a shared agenda.
- 5.2 Plans set out the approach that has been used to engage people and ensure that community voices are properly listened to.
- 5.3 They provide specific data for each ward, and describe the views gathered by people about what they are proud of and what needs to be improved.
- 5.4 They set out what has been achieved over the past year.
- 5.5 They identify the priorities that need to be worked on, and the actions that will help make the necessary progress.
- 5.6 They also highlight the connections with existing strategies so that efforts can be better harnessed to achieve the desired local effects.
- 5.7 They show how further information can be obtained from Your Life Doncaster to help local people get involved.

## **6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: EXTENDING OUR REACH**

- 6.1 2023-24 Locality Plans are built on strong engagement across Doncaster communities. This second year of Plans has seen a strengthening of engagement in a number of aspects:
  - Ten additional deprived communities in Doncaster were visited and supported as part of Well Doncaster “appreciative enquiry” work, on top of revisiting the twenty communities that were part of this work last year to help them with further progress.
  - There was a much greater emphasis upon engagement with Doncaster’s Town and Parish Councils, building greater understanding of the valuable work they are doing and the issues that they face
  - In addition to the above face-to-face opportunities, the Council’s “Your Life Doncaster” on-line platform was improved to become much more interactive, building on localised engagement with communities via social media
  - There was a specific focus on more effective engagement with Doncaster’s businesses, not only through existing business forums but also through direct outreach to our high streets
  - The voice of young people in these plans was strengthened via joint work with the Children, Young People and Families Directorate that accessed local surveys, forums, schools, youth clubs and family hubs.
  - There was a particular focus on engaging with Doncaster people who have protected characteristics under the Equality Act. Officers worked alongside the Minorities Partnership Board, Health Protection Team and local Community Connectors to engage with representatives from Doncaster’s diverse communities, ensuring Locality Plans are informed by perspectives from different ages, genders, races, religions, sexual orientations and experiences of disability.
- 6.2 The insights from this engagement, combined with local data, provide the basis for action. Both engagement and data will be improved year-on-year, picking up additional voices and interests and enabling a progressively stronger understanding and response.

## 7. OPTIONS CONSIDERED








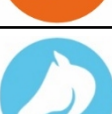
7.1 The Council could have chosen to abandon its focus on Locality Plans and rely on Borough-wide plans to drive progress.

## 8. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

8.1 The recommended option is to continue to produce, develop and promote Locality Plans as a catalyst for local improvement, bringing people together in a way that better improves the prospects of the Borough as a whole as well as the diverse communities within it.

## 9. IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

9.1 Locality Plans demonstrate 2022-23 progress and identify 2023-24 objectives that address all eight priorities below, and are underpinned by a commitment to ensure a fair and inclusive Borough.

Great 8 Priority	Positive Overall	Mix of Positive & Negative	Trade-offs to consider – Negative overall	Neutral or No implications
 Tackling Climate Change	✓			
 Developing the skills to thrive in life and in work	✓			
 Making Doncaster the best place to do business and create good jobs	✓			
 Building opportunities for healthier, happier and longer lives for all	✓			
 Creating safer, stronger, greener and cleaner communities where everyone belongs	✓			
 Nurturing a child and family-friendly borough	✓			
 Building Transport and digital connections fit for the future	✓			
 Promoting the borough and its cultural, sporting, and heritage opportunities	✓			

Great 8 Priority	Positive Overall	Mix of Positive & Negative	Trade-offs to consider – Negative overall	Neutral or No implications
Fair & Inclusive	✓			

**10. Legal Implications [Officer Initials: SF | Date:23/02/23]**

Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 provides the Council with a general power of competence, allowing the Council to do anything that individuals generally may do. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 gives an Authority power to purchase goods and services. S112 Local Government Act 1972 allows an Authority to ability to employ such staff as they think necessary for the proper discharge by the authority of such of their functions. The Council also has a number of statutory duties which it must deliver within its area. The Locality model is intended to enhance the Council’s ability to deliver those duties.

**11. Financial Implications [Officer Initials: CL | Date: 24/02/23]**

There are no specific financial implications arising from this report at this stage, but we will need to consider financial implications and appropriate governance requirements if and where proposing any related service changes and/or allocating budgets on a locality basis.

There is a £5m contingency budget included in the council’s capital programme (including additional funding approved in the 2023/24-2026/27 capital budget), which provides flexibility for any new schemes identified in year which includes any additional capital requirements arising from the locality plans. Any additional investment required for community hubs etc. will be subject to appropriate funding approval and dependant on assets already held in the areas for instance.

There is a £2.039m locality commissioning allocation set aside within the authorities non-recurrent better care fund earmarked reserve, planned to be targeted to localities through proposed investment each of the four localities, with overall allocation split on a per capita basis. The better care fund reserve for localities is being spent over a period of 24 months and can be spent over a number of financial years (expenditure started in 2022/23 and will span three financial years). The final approach, including business case process and management of funds, is to be considered further at Doncaster Place Committee and approved through separate council key decision.

**12. Human Resources Implications [Officer Initials: AT | Date: 23/02/23]**

There are no Human Resources implications arising from this report.

**13. Technology Implications [Officer Initials: PW | Date: 23/02/23 ]**

Technology is a key enabler that will continue to underpin the delivery of the Locality Plans. Early engagement with Digital and ICT will be needed in relation to any requirements for new, enhanced or replacement technology to support the delivery of the plans.



## **RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS**

14. Locality Plans assume strong collaboration between Team Doncaster partners, working alongside local people to jointly deliver what matters most to them.
15. The way of working that Locality Plans embody will make the best use of available local resources by doing what is most important to local people and by drawing on existing local strengths. However there will be limits to what is ultimately achievable without additional long-term resources coming into Doncaster.

## **CONSULTATION**

16. Each Locality Plan has been developed through engagement with people, families and communities. They have also drawn on engagement with local forums including Town and Parish Councils.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

17. None.

## **REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS**

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2023 - 2024

# LOCALITY PLAN

FOR THE **CENTRAL** COMMUNITIES

HEXTHORPE • BESSACARR • INTAKE • BALBY NORTH  
BALBY SOUTH • TOWN WARD • CANTLEY • WHEATLEY HILLS



# Welcome to the 2023 Locality Plan for the Central area of Doncaster.

**In 2022, Doncaster Council published its first ever locality plans. Working with partners, communities and businesses, a set of agreed priorities for each area across Doncaster were agreed, alongside a list of actions to support them.**

The 2023, Central Locality Plan looks back at what has been achieved throughout 2022 and sets out the plan for how this work will continue and grow over the next 12 months, as we work together to improve the lives of those communities that make up the North Locality.

At the core of the plan is the ongoing commitment by all Team Doncaster partners to hear the voices of local people, to understand the strengths in our neighbourhoods and build capacity in communities so that they can take control of their own destiny.

**This plan is for the community and we encourage you to read it and get involved!**



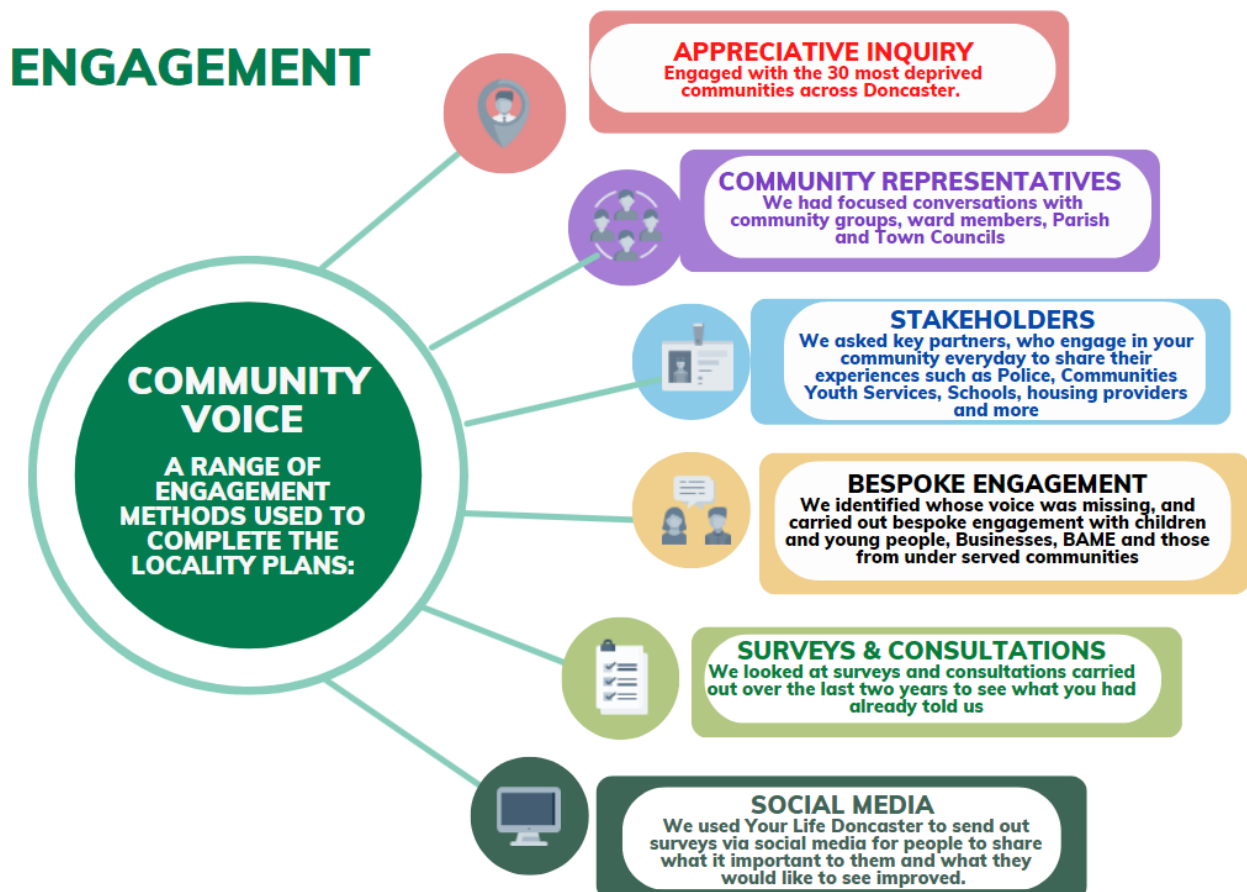
## WHAT IS A LOCALITY PLAN?

Locality plans look at how we can work together to strengthen communities and improve the lives and opportunities for the residents living there.

Doncaster is a place of places, where no two communities are the same. This means that deciding on what services, support or priorities are required at a City-wide level can risk leaving some communities behind. Planning these things at a locality level allows us to make sure that this will never happen.

A locality plan is something that needs to be truly owned by the communities it affects. This plan has been put together with more input and engagement from those living and working in the central area than ever before. Our communities have told us exactly what they want to see change and improve in the areas where they live and we have taken this insight and turned it into a workable plan we will deliver in conjunction with our communities and partners.

We engaged with communities through a number of different ways:



## WHAT IS THE CENTRAL LOCALITY?

For the purpose of delivering the locality approach, Doncaster has been split into four localities, each consisting of a number of different communities.

The 'Central' locality includes the following wards:

- **Hexthorpe and Balby North**
- **Balby South**
- **Wheatley Hills and Intake**
- **Bessacarr and Cantley**
- **Town ward**

Although each of the above wards are grouped under the Central locality, they will all also be considered and supported for the unique communities they are.

The Central Locality is located in the centre of the Borough, with the wards surrounding the City Centre. It is very diverse, with a mix of black and minority ethnic communities in some areas.

Central is home to many of Doncaster's physical assets, the Racecourse, Keepmoat Stadium, Doncaster Minster, The Hub College, UTC, CAST, Danum Gallery, The Dome, Library & Museum, Castle Park and the Mansion House to name a few.

It has great transport links with the national motorway infrastructure (M18, A1), the interchange and newly restored train station, coupled with a range of cycle paths and walking routes for all ages.

Central has many retail parks and centres; Frenchgate Centre, Wheatley Hall Road and Lakeside shopping centres, as well as, Doncaster Market and a variety of local High Streets in each community. One of Central's major assets are its array of green spaces, which include Westfield Park, Elmfield Park, Hexthorpe Park, Sandall Park, Cantley Park, Grove Park, Townfields and Sandall Beat. Additionally, there are also several golf courses to support recreational activity these include Town Moor, Doncaster and Wheatley Golf Clubs.



# Hexthorpe

## Key facts about your community

Hexthorpe is a suburb of Doncaster, and borders Balby and the City Centre. It sits within the Doncaster Central Locality in the Balby North & Hexthorpe Ward area.

Hexthorpe is separated by railway lines and the river Don from the villages of Sprotbrough and Newton. It has a multi-cultural community and has great community groups. It has a well-attended Primary School and a large park called Hexthorpe Flatts, which is popular with families from the surrounding area. Another popular attraction within Hexthorpe Flatts is the Dell, which has a bandstand set in what was a small quarry.

There are two industrial estates in Hexthorpe: one at Cherry Tree Road, and the other at Hexthorpe Trading Park.

*This ward has the following plans: Hexthorpe Strategic Plan, Hexthorpe Community Plan*

The below statistics relate to the Hexthorpe & Balby Ward area

All age Population:

**13,788**

Life Expectancy  
(in % avg.)

Males: Females:

**75.6 79.4**

**13,788**

are in England's most  
deprived 20%

Crime Rate

**228**

(per 1000 population)

**24.6%**

of households are in fuel  
poverty

ASB Crime Rate

**6**

(per 1000 population)

**9.3%**

of working age population  
are claiming Universal  
Credit (Oct 21)

Domestic Violence Incidents

**51**

(per 1000 population)

## Like



### Community Spirit & Support:

Good neighbours, family, friends and good community support network through Family Hub, Churches, School.



### Local Support & Facilities:

Voluntary, Community & Faith groups, Boxing and rowing clubs. The Junction, the Community Hall, foodbanks.



### Connectivity & Green Space:

Good connections to transport network and local parks (Dell, Pavilion, Hexthorpe).

"I love Hexthorpe. I love the community"

"I really enjoy the ladies art group."

"We like the allotments and would like more gardening sessions for kids"

"Litter getting worse, People sit outside and leave rubbish at night"

## Improve



### Community Spirit & Support:

More community groups, activities & events, publicise what is going on and better use of community assets.



### Community Safety:

Crime, anti-social behaviour, community cohesion, drugs and feeling/perception of safety, police visibility.



### Fairness, Health & Wellbeing:

Access to health services, cost of living support, education and training, facilities & activities for young people



### Environment & Sustainability:

Waste, litter, fly-tipping, education, community groups, equipment in parks, poor housing conditions.

"Handy for being near town and school has good links."

"Free English classes, IT classes and language barriers in access to health & housing"

"We need more cultural and community events"

## Key facts about your community

Balby is a suburb of Doncaster located to the south-west of the borough. Balby is within the Doncaster Central Locality and its community spans across the Balby South and Balby North & Hexthorpe Ward areas.

In the early 20th century, St Catherine's Hospital was built in the south of Balby, near to the site of St Catherine's Well, an ancient site of healing and pilgrimage. Balby is home to the Carr Lodge Nature Reserve, a low-lying grassland; it is flooded in winter but dries out in summer and is used by local birdwatchers.

Economic activity is still centred on heavy industry, especially around the Carr Hill Industrial Estate, home to Bridon-Bekaert Rope manufacturer and Pegler's Brass Foundry.

This ward has the following plans: Balby Community plan.

*Key facts on this page have been taken from the Balby South ward data. At the request of residents, elected members and stakeholders, the voice is from Balby as a whole.*

The below statistics relate to the Balby South ward area



### Like



**Community Spirit & Support:**  
Good family, friends & neighbours, volunteers, community groups, local churches, Family Hub and foodbanks.



**Local Amenities & Connectivity:**  
Good local shops, Doctors, schools, transport links and access to the City centre.



**Environment:**  
Good parks and access to wildlife, walks and green spaces. Good range of local businesses

### Improve



**Thriving Communities:**  
More activities, events and publicise what is on. Support and funding for community groups.



**Fairness, Health & Wellbeing:**  
Support for cost of living, isolation, mental health, substance misuse, raise awareness of local services & support.



**Community Safety:**  
Anti-social behaviour, crime (drugs, theft, violence), improve police visibility, road safety, speeding.



**Environment & Green Space:**  
Litter, fly-tipping, road maintenance, green community groups and activities, promote sustainability.

"More community activities for all ages"

"Parks, green spaces, walking routes, they are free and accessible"

"Local residents do a local litter pick"

"Better lighting in side streets and around bus shelters"

"More police on patrol, more clamping down on drug use"

"ASB is a big issue with teens; kids need more to do in the area"

"A good variety of restaurants, shops and new businesses gets the community together"



# Wheatley Hills & Intake

## Key facts about your community

Wheatley Hills & Intake ward is made up of four villages Wheatley Hills, Wheatley Park, Clay Lane and Intake, situated around two miles north-east of the City centre.

Doncaster Royal infirmary is located in the area, close to Wheatley Hills. The area has a range of parks and green spaces, which include Town Fields, a large area of public land based on Town Moor Avenue, Grove Park near the Hospital, Sandall Park and Sandall Beat Woods. Clay Lane lies close to Sandall Park, the Shaw lane industrial park and the Wheatley Hall Road shopping outlet.

It also houses Wheatley Golf Club, Castle Park, Wheatley Hall Road shopping outlet and is close to Doncaster Racecourse.

*This ward has the following plans: Wheatley & Intake Community Plan*

All age Population:

**18,402**

Life Expectancy  
(in % avg.)

Males: Females:

**77.3 81.6**

**10,790**

are in England's most  
deprived 20%

Crime Rate

**178**

(per 1000 population)

**21.8%**

of households are in  
fuel poverty

ASB Crime Rate

**6**

(per 1000 population)

**4.6%**

of working age  
population are  
claiming Universal  
Credit (Oct 21)

Domestic Violence  
Incidents

**38**

(per 1000 population)

### Like



**Community Spirit & Support:**  
Good family, friends, neighbours,  
community groups, places of worship.



**Local Amenities:**  
Access to health care, library, schools,  
family hub, foodbanks, local parks &  
green spaces. Good transport options.



**Businesses:**  
Good range of local shops, access to  
larger retail outlets and investment in  
local community.

### Improve



**Community Safety:** Crime (drugs,  
theft, knife, hate) anti-social  
behaviour, begging, prostitution,  
parking, speeding, feeling of safety.



**Environment & Sustainability:**  
Cleanliness, maintenance, accessibility,  
litter, fly-tipping, cleanliness, parks  
facilities, more trees, planting.



**Thriving Communities:**  
More community groups, activities &  
events, better access to funding.  
Publicise what is on & local services.



**Fairness, Health & Wellbeing:**  
Support for cost of living, mental  
health, isolation, substance misuse,  
education, training & employment.

"Good library  
volunteers who  
do a great job"

"Sandall Park  
is nice"

"Parking by people going  
to DRI, they should have  
better alternatives. Free  
of charge"

"Anti-social  
behaviour, selling  
drugs openly in  
the streets"

"More things  
for teenagers,  
youths to do"

"Ease of access to  
Town, Wheatley  
Shopping Centre  
and other areas"

"Quiet, clean, nice  
area, feel safe and  
secure with nice  
neighbours"

"No community, schools  
and social club now  
gone, Clay Lane is  
always missed off"

## Key facts about your community

Bessacarr and Cantley ward lies to the southeast edge of Doncaster and is made up of three areas; Cantley, Bessacarr and Lakeside.

The Dome leisure facility can be found in the Ward and it is close to Doncaster Racecourse, home of the famous St Leger Festival. Cantley has a large park and areas of woodland, with great access to shops and services, as well as, good transport links into Doncaster. It has two large landmarks in the form of two water towers.

Doncaster Lakeside is a recreational area, housing estate and shopping complex, this area has a shared boundary with the Town Ward. It is centred on a lake, around two miles south-east of Doncaster City centre. In recent years, it has been expanded and modernised, making the area popular with visitors. There are various events are held in the area throughout the year.

All age Population: <b>15,161</b>	Life Expectancy (in % avg.) Males: <b>79.9</b> Females: <b>83.8</b>
<b>3,102</b> are in England's most deprived 20%	Crime Rate <b>111.8</b> (per 1000 population)
<b>13.7%</b> of households are in fuel poverty	ASB Crime Rate <b>4.3</b> (per 1000 population)
<b>2.7%</b> of working age population are claiming Universal Credit (Oct 21)	Domestic Violence Incidents <b>21</b> (per 1000 population)

### Like



#### Local Amenities & Greenspace:

Close to shops, post office, schools, foodbanks, health services, places of worship, parks & green spaces.



#### Community Spirit & Support:

Good family, friends, community groups, volunteers. Support from neighbourhood & community centres



#### Connectivity & Transport:

Good transport links and close to City centre.

### Improve



#### Fairness, Health & Wellbeing:

Access to schools, health care, mental health, physical therapy, cost of living support. Activities for older people & young people. Education & training.



#### Environment & Sustainability:

Litter, waste, fly-tipping, improve park facilities, more tree planting, community groups & initiatives.



#### Thriving Communities:

More community groups, activities & events. Support for local groups, access to funding and local facilities.



#### Community Safety:

Crime (drugs, theft, violence), anti-social behaviour, feeling of safety, speeding vehicles, police visibility.

"Nice walks and green spaces close to Lakeside and Asda, not far from the City centre"

"Road repairs, speeding vehicles"

"Maintenance of parks and green spaces, support physical and mental wellbeing"

"Anti-social behaviour, mainly teenagers hanging about the shops and parks vandalising"

"Good shopping facilities, great bus service"

"More fun community events such as food festivals"

"Support to help older/disabled people out of the house"

"It's quiet, nice neighbours there's always activities on, centres and churches"

# Town Ward

## Key facts about your community

Town Ward is made up of six areas; City centre, Lower Wheatley, Hyde Park, Bennetthorpe, Belle Vue, Town Moor and part of Lakeside.

Town ward is home to many historic listed buildings including the Mansion House and Doncaster Minster. It also has Doncaster College 'The Hub' on the waterfront next to the canal. The areas surrounding the City centre have great access to the Wool Market, Frenchgate shopping centre and entertainment destinations including The Danum Gallery, Library and Museum, Cast Theatre, and the Savoy cinema. Netherhall Road area also has a multi-cultural community with many shops and eateries selling produce from a wide range of countries.

The ward has great transport links with the train station, bus interchange and the main motorway network close by. There is great access to parks and green spaces, with Elmfield Park and Town Fields being a short walk from the City centre. Town fields is one of the largest outdoor spaces in the borough and is popular with walkers and sports fans.

This ward has the following plans: Town Centre Masterplan, Town Deal

The below statistics relate to the Town Ward area



Information below contains insight from Town ward excluding Town Centre.

### Like



#### Local Amenities & Green Spaces:

Close to shops, market, restaurants, parks, post office, schools, and places of worship.



#### Transport Links:

Good access to trains, buses, motorway and walking and cycle routes.



#### Community Spirit & Support:

Multi-cultural community, good family & friends close by. Local volunteers, community groups, places of worship



#### Business Support.

Good access to local shops, retail outlets and larger City centre businesses.

### Improve



#### Community Safety:

Crime (violence, drugs), anti-social behaviour, prostitution, begging, speeding, police visibility, community cohesion, feeling of safety.



#### Environment & Green Space:

Housing standards, landlords, aesthetics of the area, litter, waste, fly-tipping, parks facilities, community groups & initiatives.



#### Fairness, Health & Wellbeing:

Access to health services, mental health. Support for cost of living, mental health, substance misuse, isolation, homelessness



#### Community Spirit & Pride:

More groups, activities & events. Support to access funding and community facilities. Publicise what is going on.

"More visible police patrols"

"Drugs and Anti-social behaviour"

"Close to the market, walking distance to Town, love community and love trees"

"Lived here 45 years, wouldn't move, people are warm and from all over the world"

"Friendly atmosphere, local Mosque, good Town centre connections"

"Better access to GP's and mental health services"

"Litter collecting and more community groups"

"How everyone gets together, Doncaster Pride and other events"

## Key facts about your community

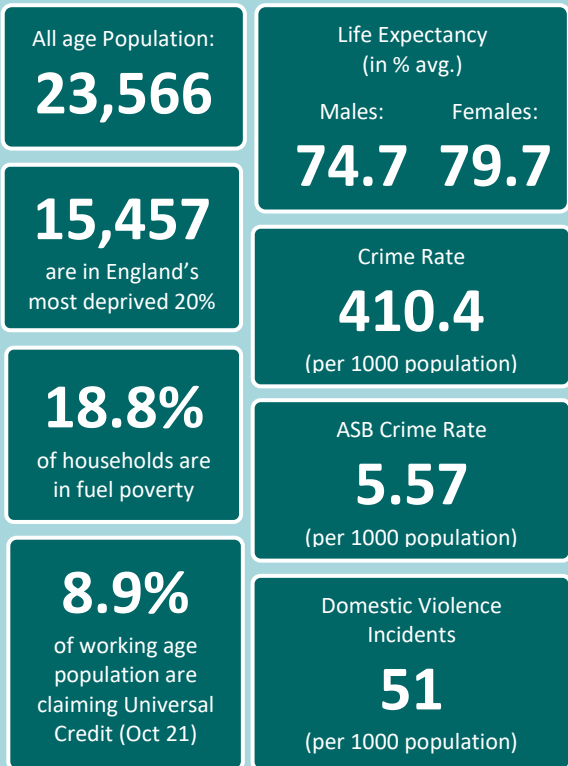
The City centre is part of Town Ward which is made up of six areas, including; the City, Lower Wheatley, Hyde Park, Bennetthorpe, Belle Vue, Town Moor and part of Lakeside.

The City centre is defined within the boundaries of St James Street, encompassing St Georges Bridge & the College area, and runs behind the Market to the East and the Train Station to the West. It is home to historic listed buildings including the Mansion House and Doncaster Minster. The Wool Market is a vibrant and bustling destination with international eateries.

The Danum Gallery, Library and Museum is built around the frontage of Doncaster High School for Girls. The state of the art venue houses new Libraries, a Rail Heritage Centre, two Museums and an Art Gallery. The Cast Theatre and Savoy cinema complex showcase further development in Doncaster. UTC and Doncaster College 'The Hub' provide state of the art education facilities. The Frenchgate shopping centre provides an extensive range of retail and food outlets. The City centre also provides access to excellent transport via the Interchange, Train Station and close motorway networks.

This ward has the following plans: Town Centre Master Plan and Town Deal.

The below statistics relate to the Town Ward area



Information below contains insight from City centre excluding Town ward.

### Like



#### Community Spirit:

Good neighbours, family, friends and community groups, places of worship



#### Connectivity & Transport:

Great links to trains, buses, motorways, cycling and walking routes. Active Travel Hub to support access to cycles.



#### Local Amenities:

Access to culture and heritage venues, Cast, Library, parks, health & specialist services



#### Businesses & Investment:

Established local businesses, good range of shops, hospitality and markets. Continued investment to improve facilities & infrastructure.

### Improve



#### Thriving Community:

More communication with residents & businesses, more community groups, events and activities. Promote the City positively.



#### Environment & Sustainability

Cleanliness of City centre, litter, waste, reuse/recycling, more green spaces, parking.



#### Fairness, Health & Wellbeing:

Youth education & activities, support for homelessness, substance misuse, mental health, cost of living.



#### Businesses & Economic Investment:

Cost of living, empty properties, market management, attract new investment, accessibility, events, promotion the City.



#### Community Safety:

Crime (theft, drugs, violence, knife), anti-social behaviour, homelessness, begging, street drinking, feeling of safety.

"Very happy, big impact and improvement"

"Deal with street drinking, beggars, people fighting and harassing members of the public, youths causing damage in the Frenchgate"

"Theft by young people increasing"

"Quite a lot of homeless and drug addicts"

"Cleaner streets brings more people into the area"

"Parking and double parking"

"Lots of different places to eat out, different fast food places"

# What have we achieved in the last 12 months?

The **CENTRAL Locality Plan** has now reached its first year milestone. Over the last 12 months local people, businesses, VCFS and partners have come together to co-design, co-produce and co-deliver against our local priorities in order to make a positive difference across our communities.



## Environment, Sustainability & Green Spaces

- 'Sandall, Hexthorpe and Elmfield parks were awarded with 'Green Flag' status'
- Our schools have planted 3,457 trees as part of the Tiny Forest Programme & Queens Green Canopy and a Memorial tree was planted in Elmfield Park
- A 'Refill campaign' launched during 'Delicious Doncaster Food festival' and the Rugby League World Cup
- 350 homes in Intake are being improved through the Thermal Efficiency Programme
- 'Hexthorpe Selective Licensing Scheme' launched to address ASB, improve property conditions and promote inclusivity; 546 applications received, 259 final licences & 480 draft licences issued, 63 compliance inspections carried out to date
- 'Council Tax reductions introduced for bands A-D, along with the 'Fuel Bank Foundation' voucher scheme, supported by a targeted media campaign by the energy team
- Community Groups supported the Great British Spring Clean campaign and Love Doncaster litter picking and clean-up campaign throughout spring and summer
- The Community Renewal Fund has been used to support energy audits in local schools
- Infrastructure improvements completed on Duke Street & St Sepulchre Gate, - carriageway resurfacing, new road markings, new paving on all footways and new planting / landscape area



## Community Safety

- Youth ASB Action Plan and 'Youth Charter' developed with young advisors, businesses, South Yorkshire Police and EPIC to combat youth ASB in the City centre
- 'Youth Zone' launched in Frenchgate to offer a safe space & fun activities for young people
- A series of 'Partnership Days of Action' have taken place to reduce ASB, support behaviour change, increase visibility, engage residents/businesses and improve safety
- Ward Councillors have funded a new 'Home CCTV project' in Balby & Hexthorpe to support vulnerable victims
- A 'Report IT' campaign launched to improve confidence in reporting local issues, which are impacting communities
- A 'Thorne Road Improvement Plan' was developed by local residents & partners to tackle ASB associated with sex work, ensuring a supportive, proportionate & graduated response
- 80 drugs warrants executed across communities, leading to the recovery of 7000 cannabis plants
- Health and community partners published harm reduction campaigns; 'Rethink Your Drink', 'Stoptober' and 'Nitrous Oxide' to raise awareness
- Road safety presentations have been delivered in Primary schools, 41 'Speedwatch' operations have been carried out across local communities, 2157 cars were checked, and 183 were found speeding.
- Relunched 'Real Help Doncaster' diverted giving scheme with a focus on helping people off the streets & ending rough sleeping



## Support for Businesses

- Visitor Guide launched to promote the City of Doncaster
- Successful events - Delicious Doncaster Food and Drink Festival, Steampunk, Armed Forces Day, Halloween and Christmas
- Awareness days to promote Doncaster City centre venues and businesses
- Climate Day of Action - 66 people attended Carbon Literacy Training and City of Doncaster Council awarded the Local Authority with 'Carbon Literacy Action Day Catalyst Award'
- Successfully delivered 'Business Doncaster Showcase 2023' and 'Advance Recruitment Showcase' events
- Supported 'Buy Local' campaign (Christmas & Valentine's Day) and 'Small'
- Shop front improvement scheme launched for Scot Lane, Goose Hill and Sunny Bar with grant funding available
- Mapping of city centre ownership complete, filling of void properties ongoing through Business Doncaster & St Leger Homes
- Hospitality Forum launched promoting collaboration and a unified voice



## Amenities & Services

- 'Active Travel Hub' launched at the Railways Station
- Inclusive cycling offer 'Wheels 4 all' at the cycle track (weekly) and 'Bikeability' offered to years 5/6 in Primary schools
- Network of 'Positive Activities' Groups' have been established across Central building community capacity and local leadership
- Launch of 'Your Place' hub at the Civic Office and mobilisation of 'Your Families' Triage Team
- 'Welcome Spaces' have been opened across Central to provide a safe, supportive, warm space to help relieve the pressure on residents to heat their homes
- 'Kooth' app and toolkit launched in all secondary schools and 'TogetherALL' adult mental health support website launched. 'Zero suicide alliance' training facilitated for practitioners and the community
- 'Fibromyalgia peer group' established in Wheatley and a 'Long Covid peer group' established in Balby to support residents with their health and wellbeing
- ESOL provision supported at Doncaster Minster and Doncaster College delivery language skills in Hexthorpe
- Household support fund used to provide additional monies for foodbanks across winter
- Citizens Advice & Age UK Doncaster providing working age / 65+ benefits information and advice through Civic hub, telephone helpline, email, virtual sessions and in community venues
- Launched 'Domestic Abuse' awareness campaigns 'Survivor', 'Ask for Angela', 'No More' and 'Pin Badge Army', 'Ask for Angela' initiatives
- Community Safety partners have supported the re-establishment of 'Best Bar None' for licensed premises, conducting 'Spiking', 'Domestic Abuse' and 'Sexual Abuse' awareness training for venues

Find full details on the progress made as part of the Locality Plan for the Central communities, by visiting:

[www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk/central](http://www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk/central)



## Community Spirit & Pride

- Local community groups & stakeholders have delivered events and activities for all ages across Central; Hexthorpe Health Fair, Wheatley Carribean Fun Day, Princess & Hero's fun day, Doncaster 'Lions' disabled fun & sports day, Bessacarr summer fayre, St Hugh's Church Family Fun Day, Delicious Doncaster, DN Festival of Light etc...
- '15559' people accessed free activities, groups & support at our Central, Balby & Wheatley Family Hubs and through outreach venues in Hexthorpe, Intake & Flourish, Balby
- Operation Anticipate funding supported 'Junior Rangers' to deliver an exotic animal session at Sandalwood Communal Hall; 20+ young people & parents attended & some joined the 'Junior Rangers'
- Royal Visit to mark city status - HRH King Charles visited the city centre and Mansion House
- 'Right up our Street' brought 'Mystery Birds' to Hexthorpe & Balby to brighten up the dark nights and bring arts into the community
- 'Party in the Park' family events hosted in Westfield, Hexthorpe, Townfields, Cantley & Elmfield parks over the summer
- Launched 'Your Life Doncaster' community pages and a new Central Locality newsletter to keep residents informed about what is happening in their local community with 4351 subscribers so far
- A new 'South Yorkshire Talking Together' speech, language and communication pathway has been launched for 0-5 year olds at the Central Family Hub
- '19' voluntary, community and faith sector organisations have been awarded grants to deliver a range of activities across the Central to promote and support financial security, positive lifestyle, community spirit and mental health and wellbeing
- Local community groups, stronger community's team and stakeholders have established 'Community Conversation Points' across all communities to promote wellbeing and independence
- 'Cost of Living' newsletter launched and 'Winter Booklet' issued to local residents, to provide information and contact details for local support service

## PRIORITIES FOR CENTRAL LOCALITY

At the beginning of this plan, we stated we would define the priorities for improving the area over the next year. We have outlined how we have analysed the information and have identified the following priorities for the Central Locality:



### Environment, Sustainability and Green Spaces

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### Community Safety

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### Thriving Communities

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### Fairness, health & Wellbeing

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### Support for Businesses

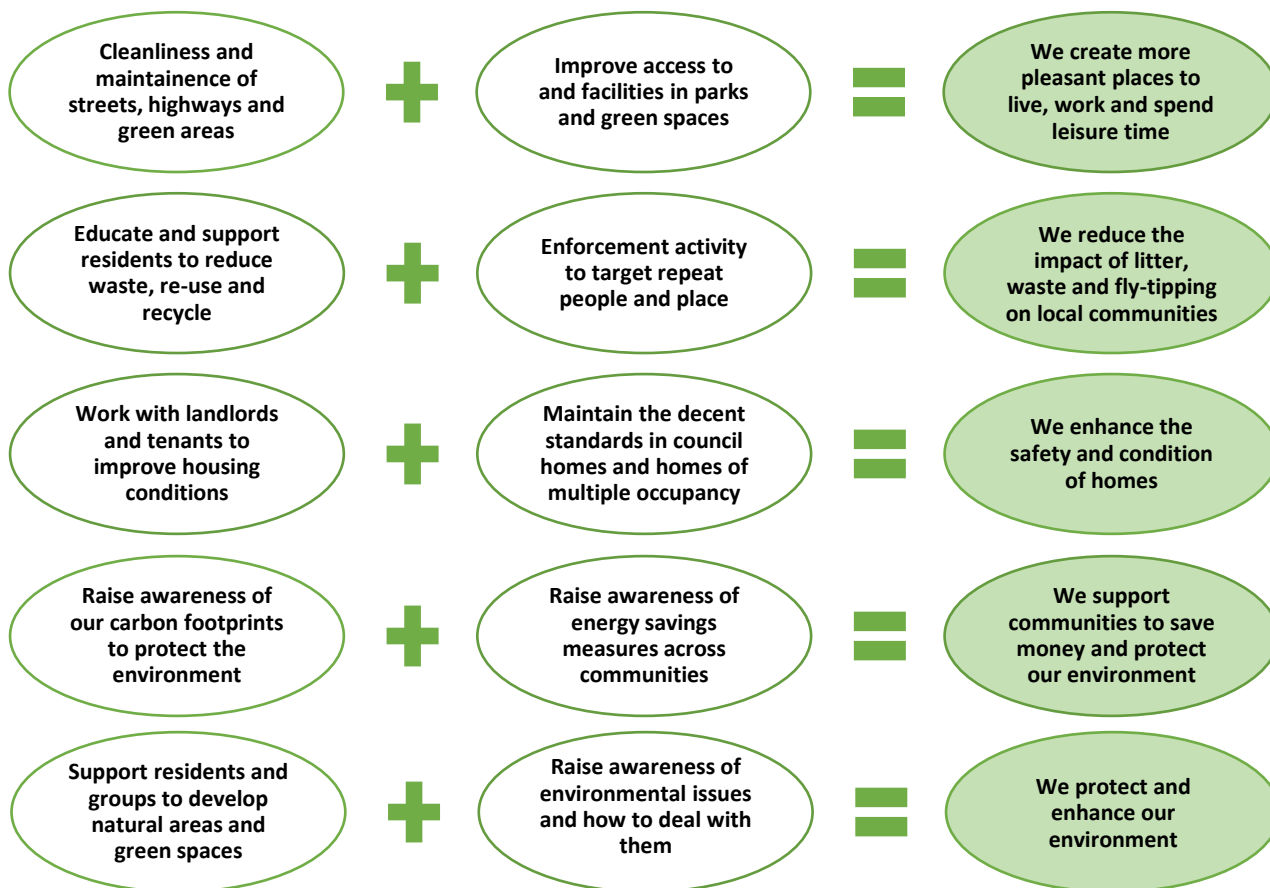
On the following pages, we have illustrated further details of what actions will support improvement for each priority theme and how this will build on and link to existing strategies, plans and activity.

**\*The plans and strategies detailed in the coming pages are examples of how we are currently working to support these priority areas and are not meant to represent a complete list. Extracts need to be considered in the context of the whole plan or strategy document**



## Improve the **environment, sustainability** and **green spaces**

Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration** and **communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the Central locality:



### SUPPORTED BY

#### Environment & Sustainability Strategy

- Protect, maintain and enhance our natural areas, and access to and within them.
- Robust and fair enforcement activity in response to fly tipping and littering
- Use the Future Parks Programme to develop, implement and share best practice
- Effective and accessible communication and engagement to discourage fly tipping and littering
- Provide advice and guidance on energy saving measures to residents, landlords, schools, businesses, community groups
- Reduced carbon footprint from homes & buildings and reduced running costs for residents

#### Economic Strategy

- Create a thriving green sector and build the skills for local residents to access it
- Support organisations across Doncaster to have a positive social impact on people, places and planet
- Transition our industries and communities to be circular, low waste and low carbon

#### Housing Strategy

- Work more proactively with private rented sector landlords and tenants to engage, educate and enforce when needed
- Develop information, advice and guidance to support people to take action to make their own homes more energy efficient and affordable
- Maintain the decency standards of all Council homes

#### Doncaster Local Plan: Sustainability appraisal

- Protect, increase and enhance the natural environment

#### Get Doncaster Moving Strategy

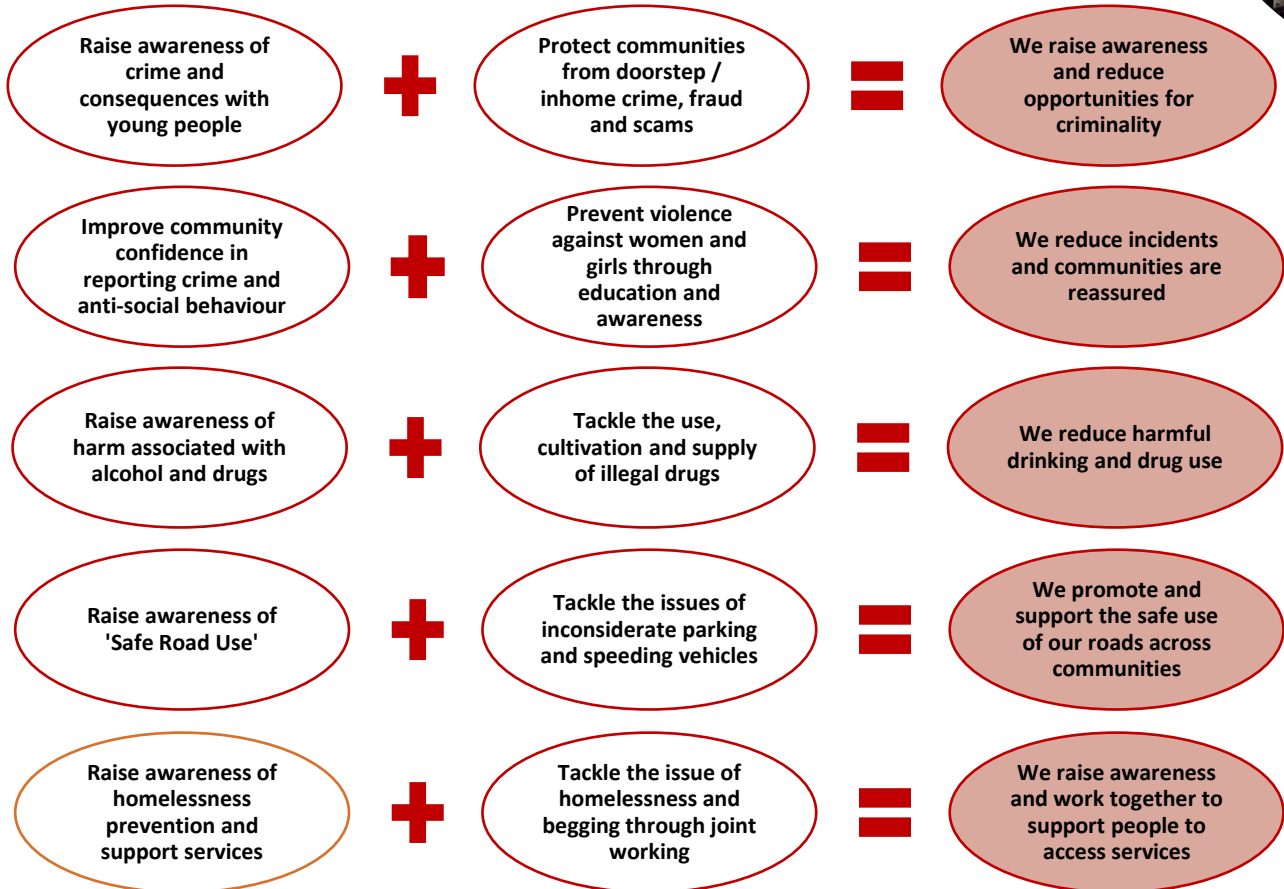
- Deliver the actions within the Doncaster Future Parks Plan, including 15 bespoke park plans.
- Increase the land devoted to greenspace and nature to support physical activity.
- Support complementary and sustainable community led programmes that are designed by local people in their local area.





## Improve community safety

Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration** and **communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the Central locality:



### SUPPORTED BY

#### Doncaster Community Safety Strategy

- Work closely with key partners to improve the public experience of reporting crime
- Effectively manage ASB through proactive and responsive approaches
- Effective management of first time entrants into the criminal justice system to ensure low levels are maintained
- Reduce the number of children, young people and families affected by drug and/or alcohol misuse
- Monitor and respond to increased levels of alcohol consumption and referrals for alcohol treatment
- Tackle the issue of street homelessness and begging through joint locality working
- Protect communities from cyber enabled crime such as fraud
- Develop and implement an effective multi-agency response to tackling violence against women and girls

#### Housing Strategy

- Work with the Safer Stronger Doncaster partners to reduce ASB in and around Doncaster
- Tackle drugs and reduce ASB and the root causes

#### Homeless and Rough Sleeping Strategy

- Deliver a 'Whole System' wide plan for Homelessness Prevention
- Provide specialist support services for rough sleepers with multiple and complex needs
- Develop an assessment hub with the aim of rapidly rehousing individuals using a strength based approach
- Explore options with our partners for those with no recourse to public funds

#### Health & Wellbeing Strategy

- Reducing alcohol-related harm requires a focus on prevention and early intervention alongside conventional treatment

#### South Yorkshire Safer Roads Partnership: Vision Zero Strategy

- No human being should be killed or seriously injured as the result of a road collision in South Yorkshire

#### Children and Young People's Plan

- Reduce anti-social behaviour and the root causes
- Reduce the number of Children & Young People at risk of exploitation

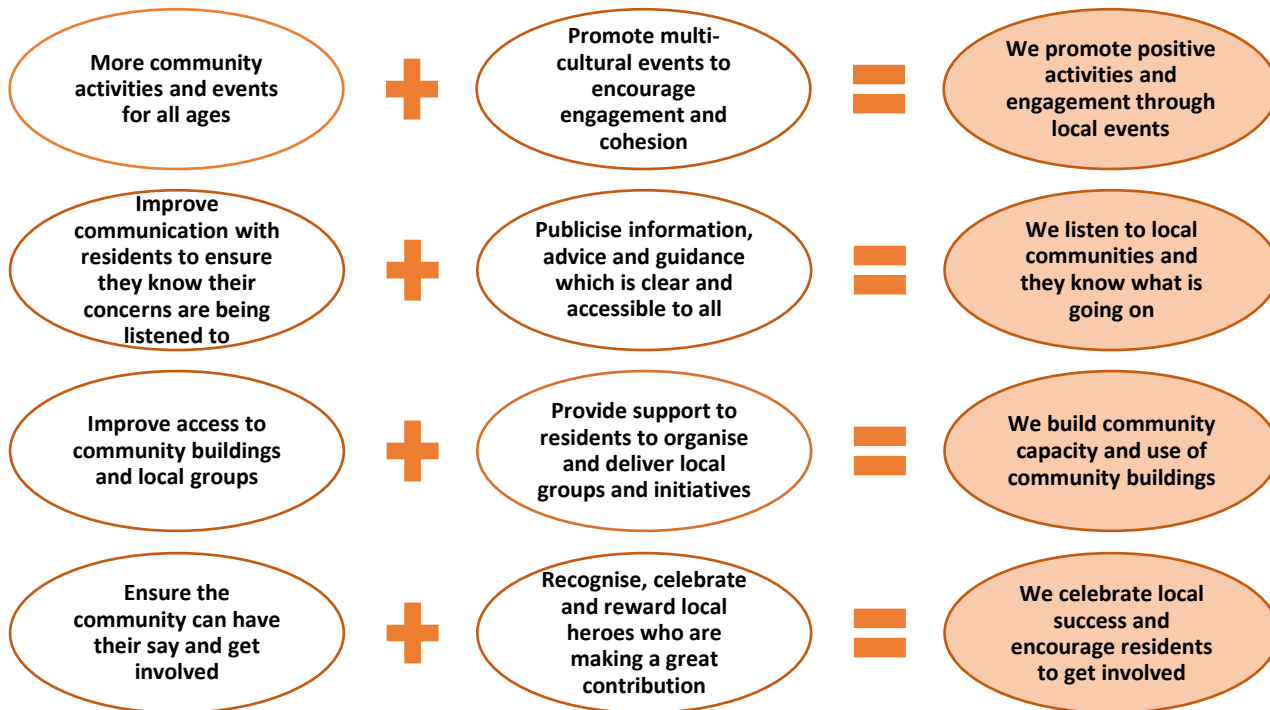
#### Violence Reduction Action Plan

- Develop an effective multi-agency response to tackling violence against women and girls
- Ensure victims of violent crime receive the appropriate and timely support
- Promote the public health approach to reducing violent crime



## Support communities to thrive

Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration** and **communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the Central locality:



### SUPPORTED BY

#### Get Doncaster Moving Strategy

- Work across public and private sector organisations, businesses, residents and voluntary and community sector to provide more equitable, inclusive and enjoyable local opportunities to be active.
- Develop and deliver an engagement and communication plan to support consistent messaging so that local people have the right exposure to the campaigns and range of opportunities available.

#### Cultural Strategy

- Take a partnership approach to delivering Doncaster's festivals and events
- Identify ways to engage with local people who don't traditionally take part
- Ensure culture is accessible to residents with protected characteristics
- Champion amateur and voluntary arts and culture supporting them to thrive

#### Children & Young People's Plan

- Plan community and celebratory events for children and young people to participate and engage in

#### Health and Wellbeing Strategy

- Using social media to reach those individuals and groups who do not engage with services
- Make greater use of campaigns to raise public awareness and influence peoples' attitudes to alcohol, and work with business to help foster an ethos of responsibility
- Communication and awareness raising to all groups

#### Community Engagement Strategy

- Make community information available
- Map community enquiries to areas to better understand local issues
- Make our community assets available to local communities
- Explore how we can use people in their community to deliver key messages to reach more people
- Explore an annual event to celebrate the work of Voluntary, Community, Faith sector

#### Early Help Strategy

- Empower children young people and families to provide feedback
- Provide accessible forums for local residents to have a voice
- Develop the 'Your Life' offer to increase reach and visibility of local services

#### Doncaster Local Plan

- Reinforce and support community identity and pride

#### Doncaster All Age Carers Strategy

- Carers will have access to high quality information and advice

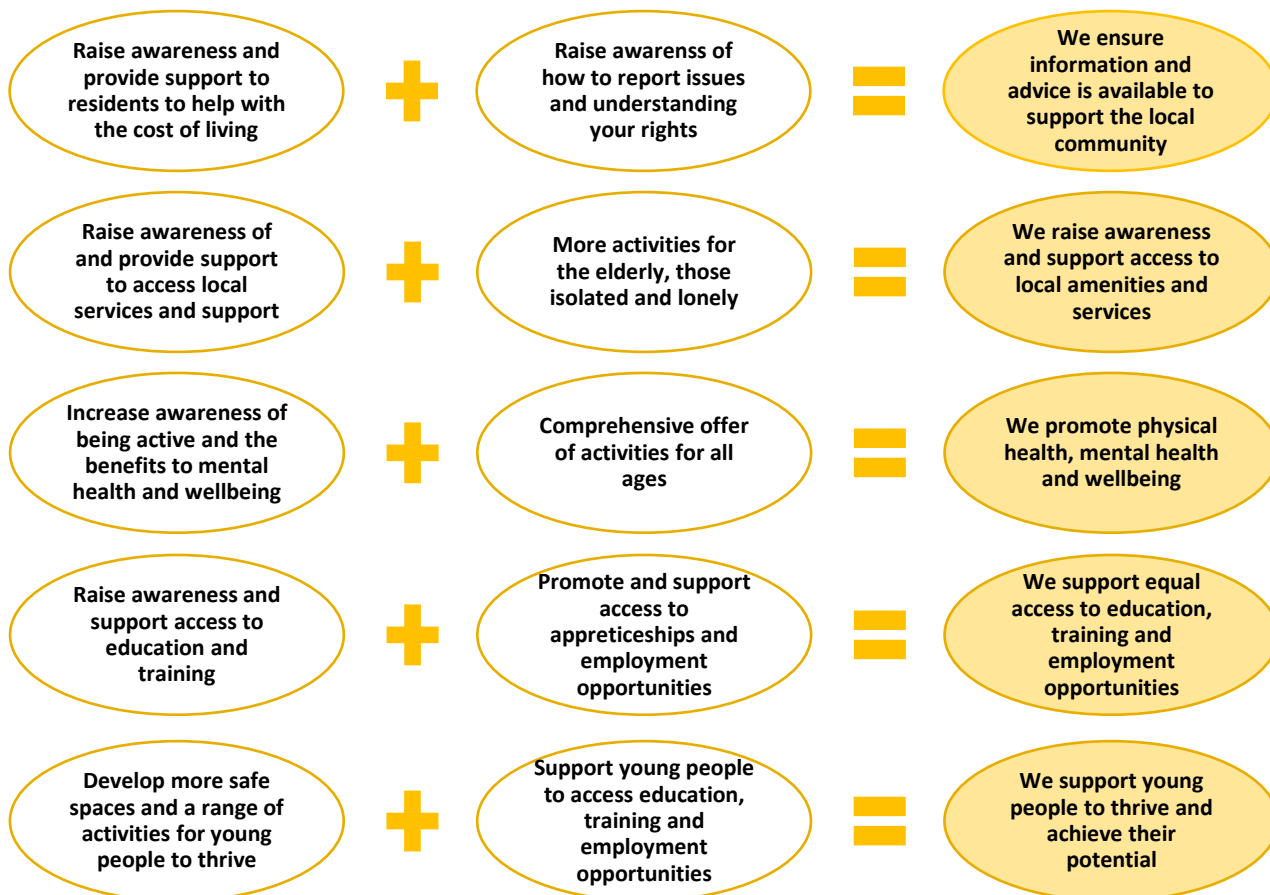
#### Economic Strategy

- Create a thriving City Centre and local town centres that foster community wellbeing and civic pride
- Strength and promote the cultural sector and visitor economy across Doncaster



## Improve fairness, health & wellbeing

Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration** and **communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the Central locality:



### SUPPORTED BY

#### Health & Wellbeing Strategy

- Education – lifelong learning, work readiness, family support
- Economy –business support, money management, living wage/fairer working conditions, apprenticeships/employment opportunities and financial planning
- Physical and mental health – personal responsibility; physical activity, lifestyle choices, reducing stigma

#### South Yorkshire Integrated Care Plan

- People in South Yorkshire live longer and healthier lives and the physical and mental health and wellbeing of those with the greatest need improves the fastest
- People are supported to live in safe, strong and vibrant communities
- People are equipped with the skills and resources they need to thrive

#### Doncaster Economic Strategy

- Support everyone in Doncaster to have equitable access to employment opportunities by utilising a compassionate approach to employment support
- Support residents to improve digital skills

#### Education & Skills Strategy

- Ensuring that every child and young person achieves their potential at key stages 2 to 4
- Providing opportunities for residents to learn and acquire new skills throughout life, and access secure, rewarding employment
- Addressing educational and skills disparities across our communities and the issue of social mobility.

#### All Age Learning, Disability & Autism Strategy

- Be supported to access universal and early support services, where their needs are understood, they are accepted for who they are and reasonable adjustments are made

#### Get Doncaster Moving Strategy

- Embed physical activity into health and care pathways – prehabilitation, rehabilitation and treatment.
- Implement the Healthy Learning, Healthy Lives programme in early years, schools and colleges

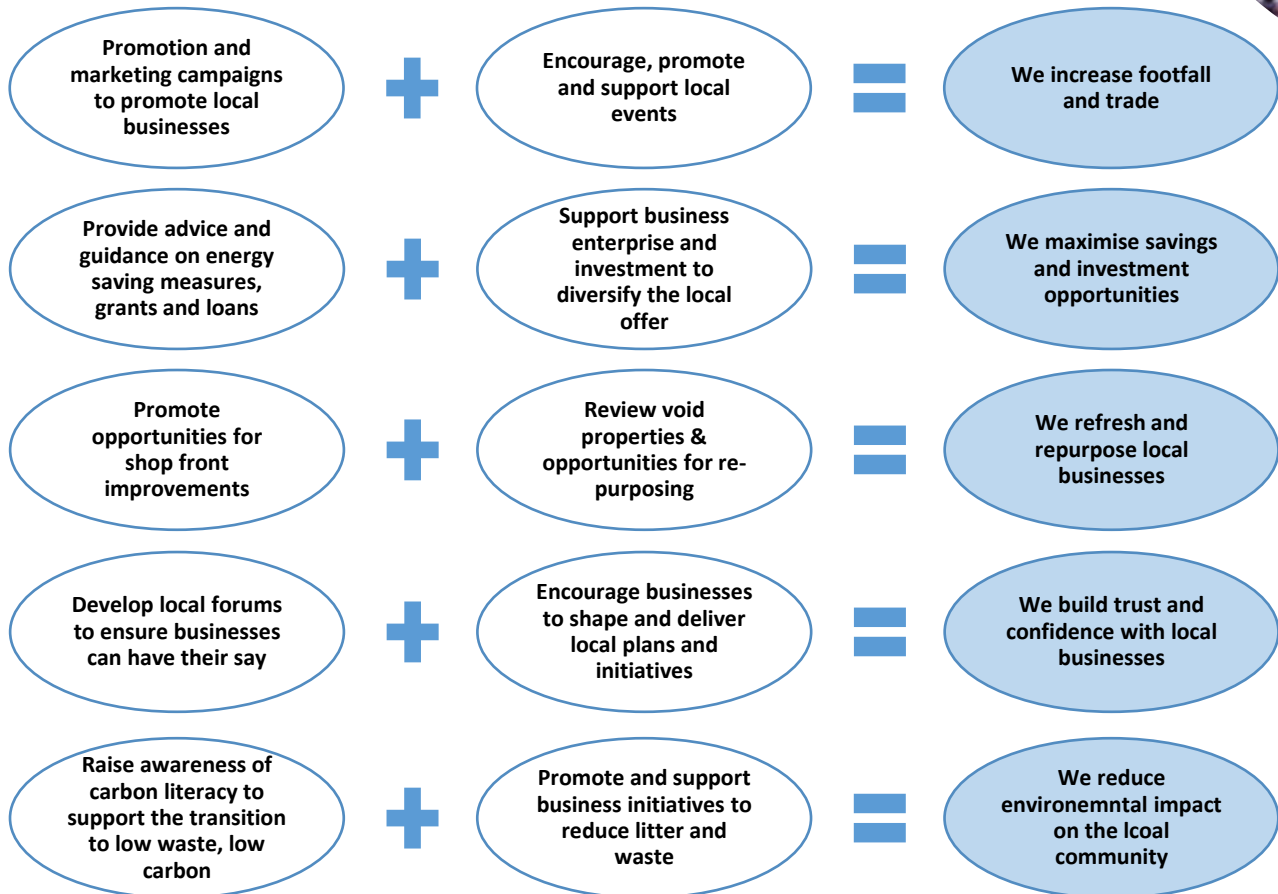
#### Doncaster All Age Carers Strategy

- Carers are aware of their rights and their entitlement to an assessment
- Carers have access to activities with 1-2-1 and group support



## Support local businesses

Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration** and **communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the Central locality:



### SUPPORTED BY

#### Environment & Sustainability Strategy

- Maximise the energy efficiency of new and existing homes and buildings
- Promote and support access to energy saving grants/loans for households and businesses
- Develop innovative ways of working with local businesses to reduce the amount of take-away litter and encourage businesses to take ownership of localised issues caused by their packaging
- Maximise involvement in local initiatives e.g. Big British Spring Clean and Love Where You Live

#### Town Deal

- Driving private sector investment and ensuring Towns have the space to support skills and small business development

#### Economic Strategy

- Provide high quality business, enterprise, and investment support
- Support organisations across Doncaster to have a positive social impact on people, places and planet
- Create a thriving green sector and build the skills for local residents to access
- Transition our industries and communities to be circular, low waste and low carbon
- Create a thriving City Centre and local town centres that foster community wellbeing and civic pride
- Strengthen and promote the cultural sector and visitor economy across Doncaster
- Develop a more accessible, affordable, and green transport system
- Support employers across Doncaster to provide employment opportunities that are inclusive and support health and wellbeing

#### Town Centre Masterplan

- Ensuring the centre is a focus for business and enterprise

#### Doncaster Local Plan

- Maintain and increase Doncaster's growth / prosperity and diversify its economic base
- Create new jobs and new businesses

#### Inclusive Growth Strategy

- Maximise investment into the Borough

#### Housing Strategy

- Support our Town Centres as shopping and working habits change, with new homes to raise footfall and improve viability
- New residential opportunities are developed in our Town Centre



# Your Life Doncaster

Discover the Your Life Doncaster website  
you can find helpful information about  
your community, including:

## Help

Information and support for adults, young people and children to live happy and healthy lives

## Community

What is available in your area from community groups and Family Hubs, to your local Police and community contacts

## News

New stories, events and updates about your local community



Find out more by visiting  
[www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk](http://www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk)

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2023 - 2024

# LOCALITY PLAN

FOR THE **EAST** COMMUNITIES

ARMTHORPE • THORNE • KIRK SANDALL • HATFIELD  
MOORENDS • EDENTHORPE • STAINFORTH • BARNBY DUN



# Welcome to the 2023 Locality Plan for the East communities of Doncaster.

**In 2022, Doncaster Council published its first ever locality plans. Working with partners, communities and businesses, a set of agreed priorities for each area across Doncaster were agreed, alongside a list of actions to support them.**

The 2023, East Locality Plan looks back at what has been achieved throughout 2022 and sets out the plan for how this work will continue and grow over the next 12 months, as we work together to improve the lives of those communities that make up the North Locality.

At the core of the plan is the ongoing commitment by all Team Doncaster partners to hear the voices of local people, to understand the strengths in our neighbourhoods and build capacity in communities so that they can take control of their own destiny.

This plan is for the  
community and we  
encourage you to read  
it and get involved!





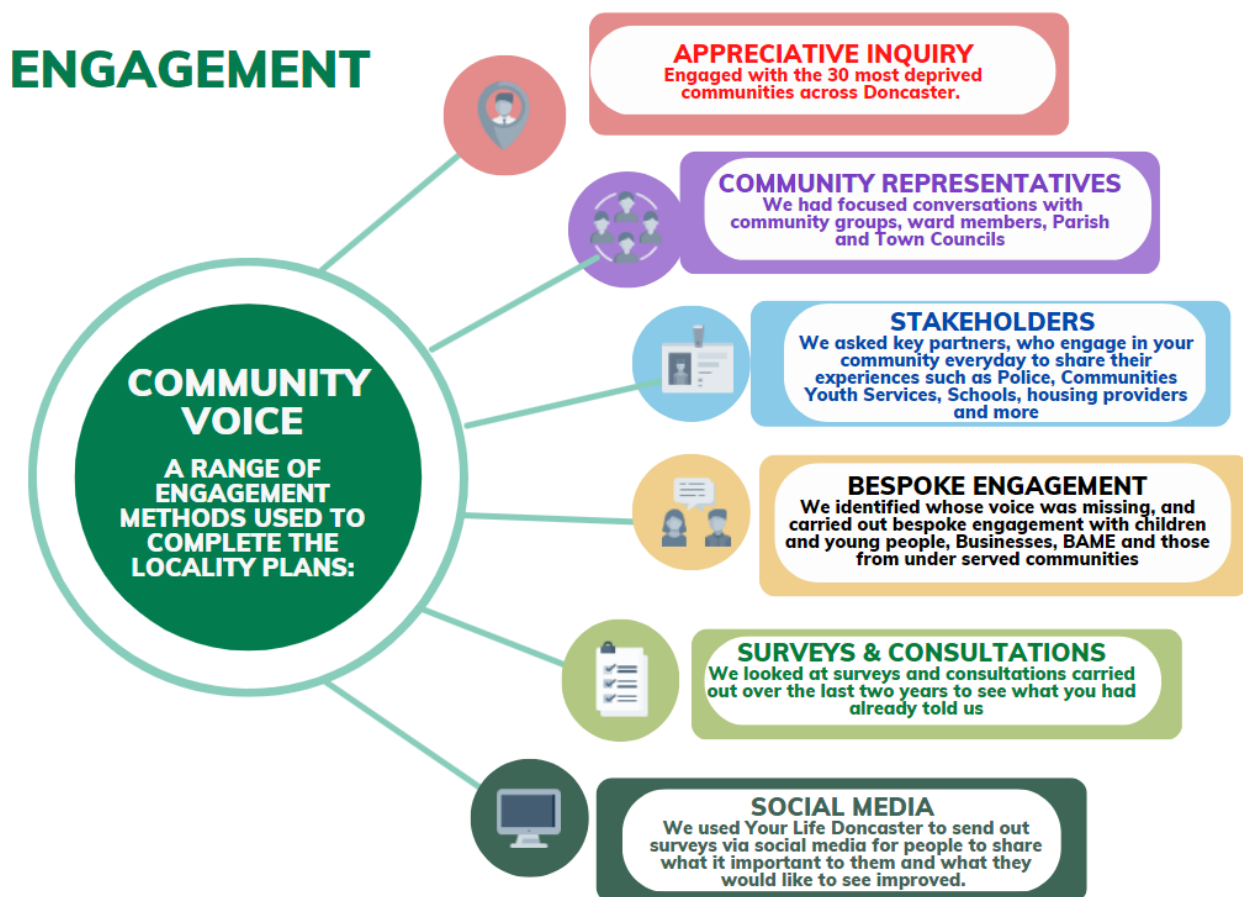
## WHAT IS A LOCALITY PLAN?

Locality plans will look at how we can work together to strengthen communities and improve the lives and opportunities for the residents living there.

Doncaster is a place of places, where no two communities are the same. This means that deciding on what services, support or priorities are required at a City-wide level can risk leaving some communities behind. Planning these things at a locality level allows us to make sure that this will never happen.

A locality plan is something that needs to be truly owned by the communities it affects. This plan has been put together with more input and engagement from those living and working in the East area than ever before. Our communities have told us exactly what they want to see change and improve in the areas where they live and we have taken this insight and turned it into a workable plan we will deliver in conjunction with our communities and partners.

We engaged with communities through a number of different ways:



## WHAT IS THE EAST LOCALITY?

**For the purpose of delivering the locality approach, Doncaster has been split into four localities, each consisting of a number of different communities.**

The 'East' locality includes the following wards:

- Armthorpe
- Edenthorpe and Kirk Sandall
- Hatfield – which includes Dunsville, Dunscroft, Hatfield Woodhouse and Lindholme
- Stainforth and Barnby Dun
- Thorne and Moorends

Although each of the above wards are grouped under the East locality, they will all also be considered and supported for the unique communities they are.

The East locality is located east of the City Centre with county boundaries to East and North Yorkshire

East is home to Thorne Leisure Centre, Armthorpe Leisure Centre, Castle Park, and the Canal Water Way covering Kirk Sandall and Barnby Dun and Hatfield House.

The East has great access to a variety of green spaces and walks. Thorne and Hatfield Moors part of the Humberhead Peatlands. A historic reserve, as the last remnants of a large wetland that occupied the floodplain of the Humberhead levels thousands of years ago. An area of beauty and the home to a diverse range of wildlife.

The East locality has Thorne as a principal town centre in Doncaster attracting visitors, business and investment opportunities. Additionally, the east is made up of several Parish and Town councils.



## Key facts about your community

The Ward is made up of 1 village; Armthorpe with a population of 14,440.

Armthorpe is a vibrant village with a host of shops, facilities and community venues. A village of mining history, which it shares proudly with the community.

Armthorpe has a range of properties, primary and secondary schools and excellent transport links that attract residents to the area.

Armthorpe village is surrounded by attractive and open countryside and seeks to enhance the quality and role of the natural environment and its many features. (Armthorpe ND, 2021)

This ward has the following plans; Main Town Local Settlement Plan and the Neighbourhood Plan



### Like



#### Local Support & Facilities:

A village full of community assets, community centre, library, leisure centre, great schools



#### Environment & Green spaces:

Nearby woods and green spaces for dog walks and family days out. Enjoying the natural environment



#### Thriving Communities:

The people, the great community spirit and friendly village feel. Community events.

### Improve



#### Community Safety:

Improving community safety, road safety and tackling anti-social behaviour.



#### Environment & Green Spaces:

Keeping green spaces and village areas clean and tidy.



#### Thriving Communities:

Community events and opportunities to volunteer in the community

'Traffic is an issue, lots of diversion tend to come through the village meaning lots of customers are late'

'Zebra crossing near the horse and groom, so when trying to cross the road people and children from the Western side can do so safely. Put traffic calming cushions coming into the village.'

'Everyone pulls together and there is a real sense of community.'

'Quiet, friendly neighbourhood with local amenities.'

'Self-sufficiency. Most aspects of shopping can be done via the shops in Armthorpe without necessarily travelling out of the village. Community centre and the fitness programmes provided by Sam, set up by our 'ladies' group.'

'I like that it's just generally (apart from the occasional ASB on the Park/surrounding streets) nice and quiet and that you don't need to leave the village if you don't want too.'

'Improvements to local play areas would be good.'

# Edenthorpe and Kirk Sandall

## Key facts about your community

The Ward is made up of 2 villages; Edenthorpe and Kirk Sandall with a population of 9,954.

Edenthorpe is a friendly and thriving village and civil parish with a range of local shops, social and community spaces and hugely valued areas of woodland and open space.

Kirk Sandall is a popular area, benefitting from strong transport links. Kirk Sandall also has access to a range of shopping and recreational facilities. It has a proud history as a centre for glass manufacture.

The Glass Park and the canal tow path are popular areas for walks.

This ward has the following plans; Edenthorpe Neighbourhood Plan and Barnby Dun and Kirk Sandall Neighbourhood Plan.

All age Population:

**9,954**

Life Expectancy  
(in % avg.)

Males: Females:

**79 84**

**0**

Of residents in most deprived 20%

Crime Rate

**73.3**

(per 1000 population)

**12%**

of households are in fuel poverty

ASB Crime Rate

**4.3**

(per 1000 population)

**1.8%**

of working age population are claiming Universal Credit (Oct 21)

All domestic abuse crime for year 2022

**14.9**

(per 1000 population)

### Like



#### Environment & Green spaces:

Enjoy all access to green spaces such as Parks, Canal walks and woodland.



#### Local Support & Facilities:

Enjoy the local facilities; near supermarkets, the church community, shops, schools and local pubs.



#### Thriving Communities:

A community of friendly people and good neighbours.

### Improve



#### Community Safety:

Concerns over road safety with speeding cars and inconsiderate parking.



#### Environment & Green Spaces:

Would like to see green habitats protected from over development and litter.



#### Youth Provision & Thriving Communities:

Accessible buildings for community use, especially a youth club.



#### Health, Wellbeing:

Dedicated cycle ways into the City centre.

'Good neighbours, good transport links, easy access to open areas.'

'Stop building new houses. Infrastructure cannot cope with it. Taking all green areas. Would like to have better police service and cleaner town centre.'

'We have great local amenities and green spaces in a good central location.'

'The Local Community with Councillors appears to be tight knit and very motivated to improving the environment.'

'School time parking and traffic issues.'

'It would be nice to have more lighting on paths around public parks.'

'A better more reliable Bus service, roads improved. More events for younger people to attend.'

## Key facts about your community

Hatfield ward is made up of several communities: Hatfield, Dunscroft, Dunsville, Hatfield Woodhouse. Hatfield ward population has a total population of 17,584.

Hatfield ward area has historically been used as agricultural land and was split into areas known today as Dunscroft and Dunsville. Quarry Park and all the surrounding shops, restaurants and food outlets are easily accessible from Dunscroft and Dunsville.

Hatfield Woodhouse is a small, semi-rural village sitting opposite Hatfield, Dunsville and Dunscroft. Hatfield Water Park, offers a range activities for local communities as well as attracting visitors to the area.

This ward has the following plans; Main Town Local Settlement Plan for Hatfield, Dunscroft and Dunsville.

All age Population: <b>17,584</b>	Life Expectancy (in % avg.) Males: <b>79</b> Females: <b>82</b>
<b>5,459</b> Of Hatfield residents in most deprived 20%	Crime Rate <b>120</b> (per 1000 population)
<b>16.5%</b> of households are in fuel poverty	ASB Crime Rate <b>5.5</b> (per 1000 population)
<b>3.3%</b> of working age population are claiming Universal Credit (Oct 21)	All domestic abuse crime for year 2022 <b>23.8</b> (per 1000 population)

### Like



**Environment & Green spaces:**  
A beautiful village with a country feel and a good business community.



**Thriving Communities:**  
Lots of volunteers in the community that work together to make it a great place.



**Health & Wellbeing:**  
Places to keep healthy, such as the cricket club, yoga and dance classes, parks.

### Improve



**Health & Wellbeing:**  
Health care provision, both health centres are very busy.



**Transport:**  
Improve public transport, with more reliable links and safe cycle areas.



**Youth Provision:**  
More for all children and young people to do in their community

'The community, the people all help each other. I like the facilities in the village, with good transport links.'

'Traffic speeding near school, it's dangerous.'

'Village Hall brings people together, with good volunteers at Village Hall. Residents look after the area. Green spaces are clean and well looked after.'

'Youth club for children, better use of the sports fields.'

'Health services there are only two doctors one in Hatfield and one in Dunscroft and trying to get an appointment is near impossible.'

'The area I live is dark, isolated and close to a council car park and stretch of bridleway which attracts Vehicles at all hours of the night which is open 24 hours. Better lighting, regular patrols, gating the access would make me feel safer and reduce crime in this area.'

'Successful garden club which has 2 shows per year and monthly talk with a speaker at Working Men's Club.'

# Stainforth and Barnby Dun

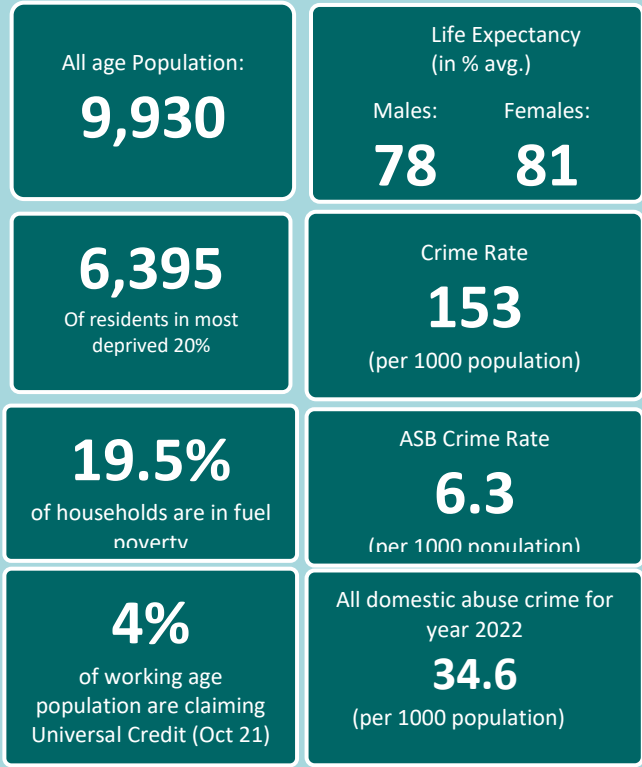
## Key facts about your community

This ward is made up of two communities; Stainforth and Barnby with a population of 9,930

Stainforth is an expanding village with a central spine of shops, supermarkets and food outlets. Stainforth is an active community supported by a civil and town parish with Town Council status granted to the Parish Council in 1998.

Barnby Dun is closely linked with Kirk Sandall sharing a Parish Council. Barnby Dun has a variety of amenities, with local schools, social clubs, farm shops and regular theatre productions. An active community supported by councillors and local community.

This ward has the following plans; Main Town (with Duncroft, Dunville and Hatfield), Well Doncaster Plan, Shaping Stainforth, Stainforth Neighbourhood Development Plan (in development), Barnby Dun and Kirk Sandall Neighbourhood Plan, and Stainforth Town Deal



### Like



**Thriving Communities:**  
The community – ‘it’s not where you live, but who you live next door to.’



**Local Support & Facilities:**  
Community activities from Stainforth4All, the Family hub, the football club and Stainforth Community Centre.



**Environment & Green spaces:**  
Nice places to walk; Glass Park, Peacock Park, Welfare Park and the canal.



### Improve



**Community Safety:**  
Reduce the various anti-social behaviours in our community



**Environment & Thriving communities:**  
Improve the appearance by dealing with derelict or run-down buildings, and keeping pathways clean.



**Thriving communities:**  
Need community resilience for those who feel excluded due to a disability.

‘More lampposts as on my street there are not many this would make it brighter at night. Also security cameras would make me feel safer.’

‘I feel safe in my community as in general it is a nice village and I know a lot of my neighbours so I know if I'm in trouble then I can rely on them.’

‘Walking groups or team sports. More high intensity activities/groups exercise, boot camp.’

‘Stainforth junior’s football club. S4all has been really good. Good activities in the summer holidays.’

‘Lots of shops not open in the day or empty. Too much litter and uneven path surface. Parking is really bad.’

‘I really enjoy the community events in the summer for kids. We need more of these throughout the year.’

‘Canal walks, glass park walks, plenty of local venues with fitness classes, nice village and shops.’

## Key facts about your community

This ward is made up of two communities; Thorne and Moorends with a population of 17,921.

Thorne is a market town and civil parish, and still boast many shops and services that are used by local residents and visitors. A history of boat building is evident in the thriving marinas, boat yards and boat building still in Thorne. The Flat landscape of Thorne enables access to many green space, including marked walks.

Moorends is a village has developed into its own community serviced by shops, schools, allotments and sports facilities. It is part of the civil parish of Thorne. Moorends is the gateway to Thorne Moors, part of the Humberhead Peatlands Natural Nature Reserve.

This ward has the following plans; Main Town (Thorne), Well Doncaster Plan, Thorne and Moorends Neighbourhood Development Plan (In development), and Thorne and Moorends Masterplan



### Like



**Environment & Green spaces:**  
Green spaces such as local parks and the local nature reserve.



**Thriving Communities:**  
Great community events, such as the Christmas lights switch on and summer festivals.



**Thriving Communities:**  
Community centre, like Moorends Miners Welfare that provide activities for all members of the community.



**Businesses:**  
The independent shops and business with a strong business community.

### Improve



**Businesses:**  
Promotion of local shops and businesses and community events



**Health & Wellbeing:**  
Leisure facilities, waiting for the reopening of the leisure centre.



**Thriving Communities:**  
More community all age events.



**Environment & Sustainability:**  
Less litter from local fast food places and less dog fouling.

'Community spirit. People pull together, would never move from here and allotments keeps me here. Close to nature, out in sticks, the moors are really good. People of the community. Working in allotments and volunteering.'

'Speeding motorists on Kirton Lane are a problem to aging and disabled residents.'

'Improved transport links - buses quite often don't turn up. There seem to be quite a lot of young people wandering around - maybe something for them to do - a youth club or something similar perhaps?'

Friendly and quiet. Close to Thorne centre.

'I like that we live in a rural part of Thorne with old buildings. Independent shops and businesses. Natural areas. Out of school extracurricular activities for children, and Community celebrations.'

'Pavements could be improved, uneven and dangerous.'

# What have we achieved in the last 12 months?

The **EAST Locality Plan** has now reached its first year milestone. Over the last 12 months local people, businesses, VCFS and partners have come together to co-design, co-produce and co-deliver against our local priorities in order to make a positive difference across our communities.



## Environment, Sustainability & Green Spaces

- **Green Flag status** awarded to Hatfield's Quarry Park
- **Tiny Forests tree planting (600 trees)** taking place across Kirton Lane Primary school in Stainforth and King Edwards School in Thorne contributing to Queen's Green Canopy initiative
- Working on the development of a 'friends of group in Stainforth, such as 'The Friends of Peacock Park'
- Supported the **Environment & Sustainability newsletter sent out to the East Locality**, providing residents with information regarding what action they can do to support a greener Doncaster
- Launch of the **Environmental Pride Community project grants**. Applications made across the East for grants of £100-£5000
- **Allotments across the East** provide opportunities for the community to protect and enhance their local green spaces. From establish plots in Thorne and Moorends to new community site starting up in Armthorpe
- Upkeep across all wards in the East to **ensure community green spaces are cut and useable** for all local football teams. Bin reviews carried out and replacement of new bins. Each ward area is kept clean and tidy with weeding and routine scheduled road sweeping. Street Scene supporting community litter pickers across every ward with equipment and waste collection.
- **Fly tipping monitored** across the East area hotspots, with additional monitoring and collaboration between



## Community Safety

- There were **multiple days and weekends of action** carried out in each East ward area to prevent and address anti-social behaviour
- The **Report It campaign was launched** and supported through the Your Life Doncaster website, social media and monthly newsletters
- A series of **Practitioner training was delivered around County Lines, Child Criminal Exploitation, and Violence Against Women & Girls'**
- Regular **community engagement meetings re-established** post-covid across all East Ward locations with multiple Pop-up Police Stations to engage the community and provide advice and guidance
- **Community Speed Watch checked** 2,409 vehicles across the East of Doncaster with 96 receiving a fixed penalty and 9 vehicles seized
- **East NPT targeting vehicle crime & burglaries** in Hatfield area, with proactive patrols and crime prevention. PCSOs delivering crime prevention leaflets on parked vehicles to raise awareness of securing your property and vehicle
- **Response to increased burglary** -SYP newsletter using WIDEN to prevent burglary. (Windows, Interior, Doors, Exterior, Neighbours)
- **Regular Off Road Bike Patrols** across Armthorpe, Stainforth, Hatfield and Dunscroft



## Support for Businesses

- The Advance Team have worked across the East of Doncaster providing pop up employment support and skills development
- **Doncaster College employment support programme**, including summer classes in hairdressing and gaming for pupils who may wish to follow those careers
- Development of a 'Wellbeing Hub' in Stainforth in conjunction with Business Doncaster and a range of Doncaster council teams
- **Project Unity** spanning across the wards of Hatfield and Stainforth and Barnby Dun is well underway to supporting 1,000 local jobs. The onsite hub to provide employment support for local people to use. The development of new
- Funding support for Stainforth4All to work alongside VAD. Providing a combination of digital training and equipment to ensure people are not digitally excluded by skills or means





## Mental & Physical Health

- Commissioning of Doncaster MIND peer support group for adults (18+) who need support around their mental health. Residents who may benefit from this support will be identified via linking with partners including the General Practitioner (GP) in Stainforth.
- Doncaster MIND reboot session commissioning of sessions with a focus on wellbeing and self-esteem.
- Development of Mental Health First Aid Champions in Stainforth in conjunction with Business Doncaster, MIND and other local authority teams.
- Commissioning of mental health support in schools, delivered via Worth Unlimited. Each school in Stainforth provided with 0.5 days a week per school, including the high school, targeting six children or young people.
- The Friday Men's club was established to bridge the gap for males to get together and reduce isolation – playing darts, walking, meeting for coffee, chatting and sharing stories. The club have now acquired 2 allotment plots in Stainforth/Barnby Dunn – the intention of the plots will be community gardens for all. As 'No' dig allotments they allow all abilities to participate with raised beds growing organic produce. St Leger committed to helping the group get started and helping to make a plan for each season
- East Health Focus group, a collaborative multi partnership group with health focus, working proactively to improve access to health and improve the provision available in line with the wants and needs of local residents. Compassionate weight management shared across partners of East Health focus group
- Active Travel investment to provide a safe cycling route to the City Centre from Kirk Sandall Train station.
- DARTS Dance session in Armthorpe, Stainforth and Thorne for over 50's. Sessions work to support social interaction and qualified dance teachers able to support with fall prevention.

Find full details on the progress made as part of the Locality Plan for the East communities, by visiting:

[www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk/east](http://www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk/east)



## Youth Provision & Community Pride

- Development of a YARN toolkit. Shaping Stainforth created a toolkit to support communities in making and managing their neighbourhoods. Shaping Stainforth worked with Green Spaces office to explore how the 'Voice Opportunity Power' toolkit could be used with young people
- Funding provided for Flying Futures to work collaboratively with Team Mac, Game Changed Network and Club Thorne to provide children & young people and families of ALL East communities with activities & experiences. Followed by a Community Come Together event with a gala, activities including fishing, archery, sports, live music, walks, food & drink
- Your Life Doncaster- Social media tool to share good news stories and events to all communities. Email contacts for over 3,500 residents. All Doncaster Council services to have at least one web editor who can update and add events/news/IAG to keep all residents up to date with the latest information
- HAF and Universal programmes ran across the East during school summer holidays and half terms, providing local free or low cost activities for children and young people. Family hubs provided a successful picnic in the park over the summer holiday
- Support from Local Councillors and community members, 'Right Up Our Street' brought arts to local communities with the Mystery Bird light show in Edenthorpe and Kirk Sandall and Stainforth & Barnby Dun
- The development of a community-recognised symbol that represents Shaping Stainforth via a local creative company. This was coproduced with residents of Stainforth
- Launch of Your Family hub at Vermuyden Centre in Thorne. Your Families" triage teams are mobilised and delivering their service offer, the swift response to meeting needs is proving successful
- Over 50% of requests for support to "Your Families" service are managed through a see and solve approach in triage. The current feedback rating of the service from families is 2.95 out of 3 and for professionals using the service the current feedback rating is 4.61 out of 5.

## PRIORITIES FOR EAST LOCALITY

At the beginning of this plan, we stated we would define the priorities for improving the area over the next year. We have outlined how we have analysed the information and have identified the following priorities for the East Locality:



### Community Safety

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### Environment, Sustainability and Green Spaces

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### Thriving Communities

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### Youth Provision

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### Fairness, Health and Wellbeing

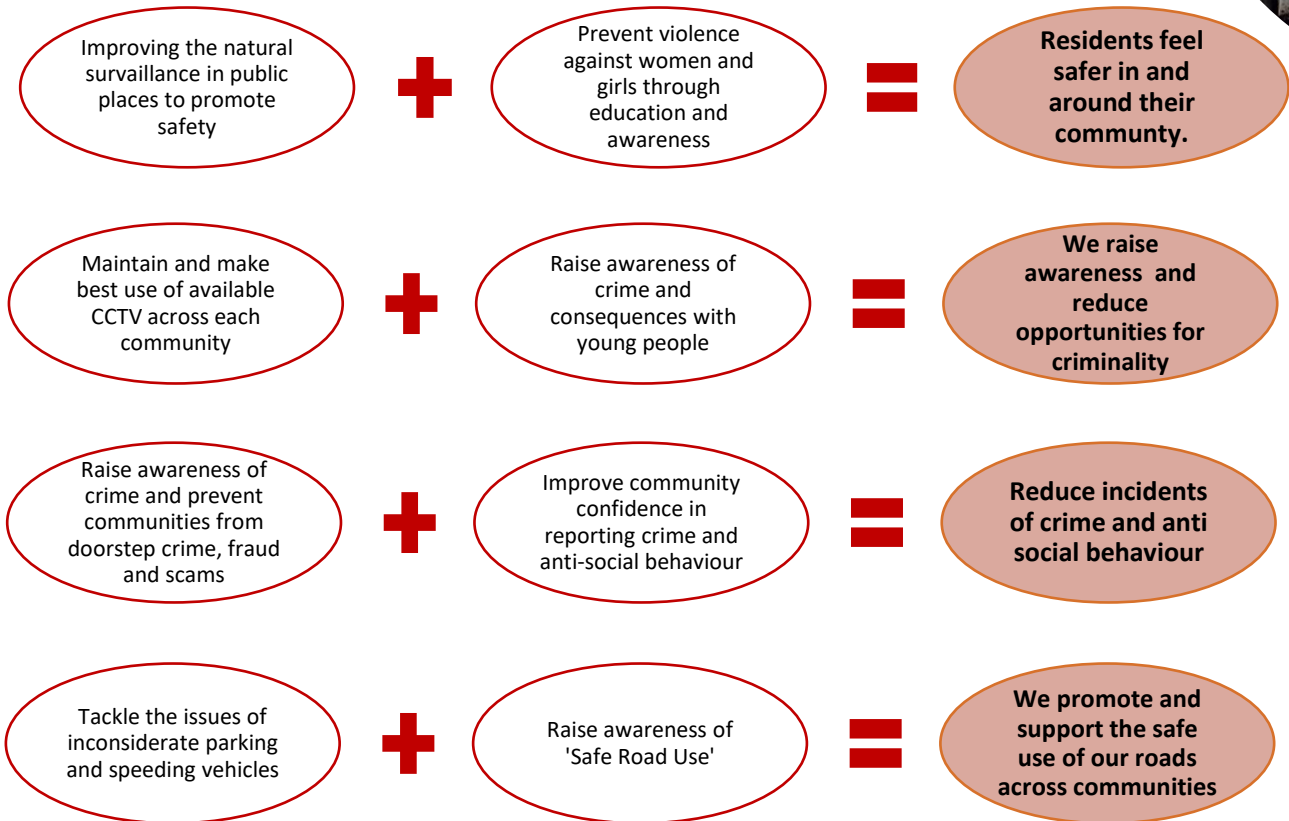
On the following pages, we have illustrated further details of what actions will support improvement for each priority theme and how this will build on and link to existing strategies, plans and activity.

**\*The plans and strategies detailed in the coming pages are examples of how we are currently working to support these priority areas and are not meant to represent a complete list. Extracts need to be considered in the context of the whole plan or strategy document**



## Improve Community safety

Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration** and **communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the East Locality:



### SUPPORTED BY

#### Doncaster Community Safety Strategy

- Work closely with key partners to improve the public experience of reporting crime
- Effectively manage ASB through proactive and responsive approaches
- Effective management of first time entrants into the criminal justice system to ensure low levels are maintained
- Reduce the number of children, young people and families affected by drug and/or alcohol misuse
- Monitor and respond to increased levels of alcohol consumption and referrals for alcohol treatment
- Protect communities from cyber enabled crime such as fraud

#### South Yorkshire Safer Roads Partnership: Vision Zero Strategy

- No human being should be killed or seriously injured as the result of a road collision in South Yorkshire

#### Children and Young People's Plan

- Reduce anti-social behaviour and the root causes
- Reduce the number of Children & Young People at risk of exploitation

#### Housing Strategy

- Work with the Safer Stronger Doncaster partners to reduce ASB in and around Doncaster
- Tackle drugs and reduce ASB and the root causes

#### Anti- Social Behaviour Delivery Plan

- Effectively manage anti-social behaviour through proactive and responsive approaches to respond to incidents.
- Tackle the issue of illegal off-road bikes and quads through a partnership approach, utilising all available tools and powers
- Communicate the successful use of existing CCTV through newsletters to demonstrate the benefits and value of our CCTV deployments.

#### Doncaster Borough Strategy 'Doncaster Delivering Together'

- Tackle crime and anti-social behaviour and the root causes
- Tackle domestic abuse and its root causes

#### Health & Wellbeing Strategy

- Reducing alcohol-related harm requires a focus on prevention and early intervention alongside conventional treatment

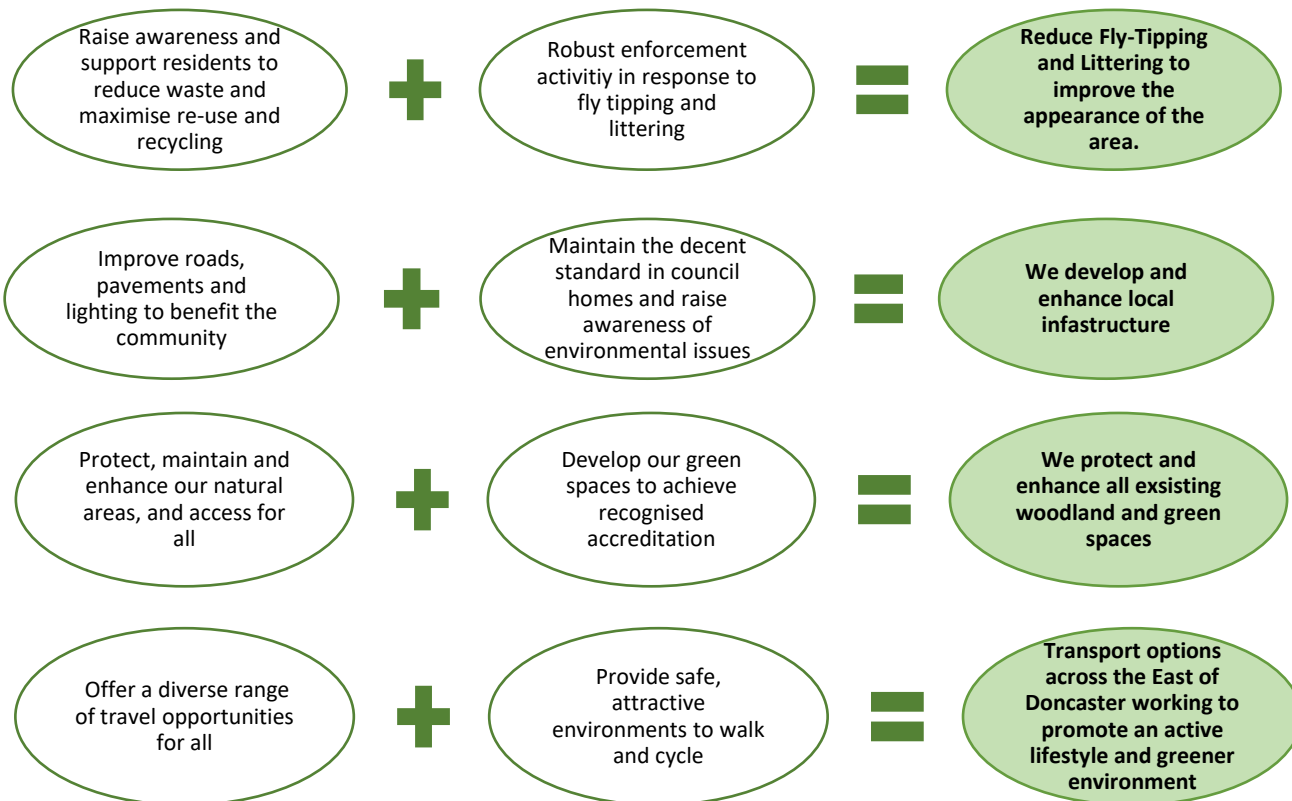
#### Violence Reduction Action Plan

- Develop an effective multi-agency response to tackling violence against women and girls
- Ensure victims of violent crime receive the appropriate and timely support
- Promote the public health approach to reducing violent crime



## Improve Environment, Sustainability and Green Spaces

Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration** and **communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the East Locality:



### SUPPORTED BY

#### Environment & Sustainability Strategy

- Use the Future Parks Programme to develop, implement and share best practice; and integrate new technologies into parks provision through the Smart Parks project.
- Develop and implement a tree-planting programme, to include various sized sites from individual trees in gardens, to strategic woodland creation where feasible.
- Robust and fair enforcement activity in response to fly tipping and littering.
- Improve awareness of legal waste disposal contractors and the consequences of using unauthorised contractors.
- Effective and accessible communication and engagement to discourage fly tipping and littering.
- Reduce energy use and encourage the production and use of renewable energy.

#### Get Doncaster Moving Strategy

- Deliver the actions within the Doncaster Future Parks Plan, including 15 bespoke park plans.
- Increase the land devoted to greenspace and nature to support physical activity.
- Support complementary and sustainable community led programmes that are designed by local people in their local area.

#### Housing Strategy

- Aim to complete a new condition survey of privately owned homes.
- Work more proactively with private rented sector landlords and tenants to engage, educate and enforce when needed
- Maintain the decency standards of all Council homes

#### Doncaster Local Plan: Sustainability appraisal

- Provide more green spaces and trees
- Create new areas of biodiversity value
- Offset / compensate for the loss of habitats and species as a result of development
- Protect and restore priority species and habitats Geodiversity

#### Doncaster Borough Strategy 'Doncaster Delivering Together'

- Reduce fly-tipping and graffiti and regularly clean the streets and roads.

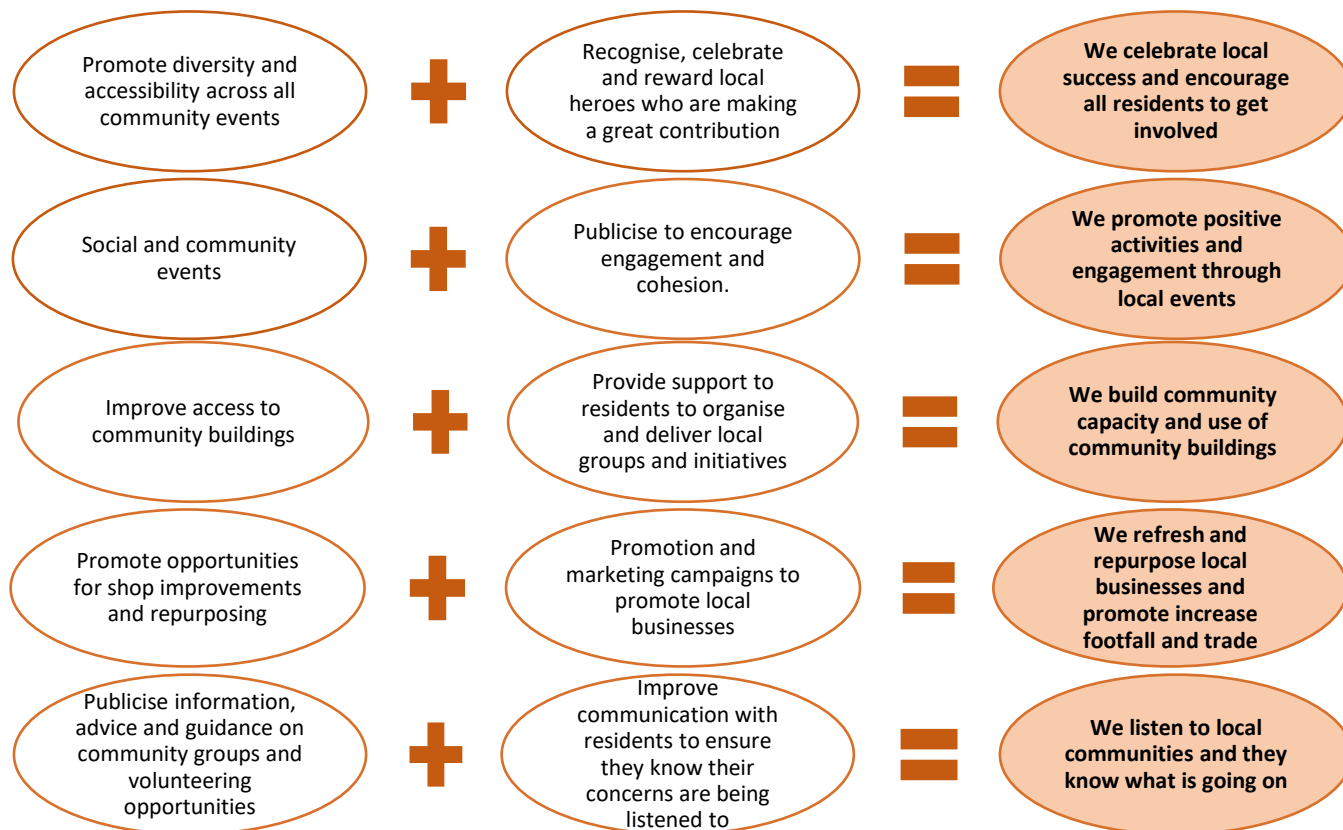
#### Economic Strategy

- Create a thriving green sector and build the skills for local residents to access it
- Support organisations across Doncaster to have a positive social impact on people, places and planet
- Transition our industries and communities to be circular, low waste and low carbon



## Create and support Thriving Communities

Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration** and **communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the East Locality:



### SUPPORTED BY

#### Community Engagement Strategy

- Make community information available
- Map community enquiries to areas to better understand local issues
- Make our community assets available to local communities
- Explore how we can use people in their community to deliver key messages to reach more people
- Explore an annual event to celebrate the work of Voluntary, Community, Faith sector

#### Cultural Strategy

- Take a partnership approach to delivering Doncaster's festivals and events
- Identify ways to engage with local people who don't traditionally take part
- Ensure culture is accessible to residents with protected characteristics
- Champion amateur and voluntary arts and culture supporting them to thrive

#### Get Doncaster Moving Strategy

- Work across public and private sector organisations, businesses, residents and voluntary and community sector to provide more equitable, inclusive and enjoyable local opportunities to be active.
- Develop and deliver an engagement and communication plan to support consistent messaging so that local people have the right exposure to the campaigns and range of opportunities available.

#### Doncaster Borough Strategy 'Doncaster Delivering Together'

- Increase the availability and invest in the quality of activities for families and young people.
- Use Family Hubs to deliver a range of activities, services and information.
- Provide more equitable and inclusive opportunities to enjoy art, culture, sport and community activities.

#### Doncaster Local Plan sustainability appraisal

- Get people involved in local issues.
- Make people proud of their own community and Doncaster.

#### Economic Strategy

- Provide high quality business, enterprise, and investment support
- Support organisations across Doncaster to have a positive social impact on people, places and planet
- Create a thriving green sector and build the skills for local residents to access
- Transition our industries and communities to be circular, low waste and low carbon
- Create a thriving City Centre and local town centres that foster community wellbeing and civic pride
- Strengthen and promote the cultural sector and visitor economy across Doncaster
- Develop a more accessible, affordable, and green transport system
- Support employers across Doncaster to provide employment opportunities that are inclusive and support health and wellbeing

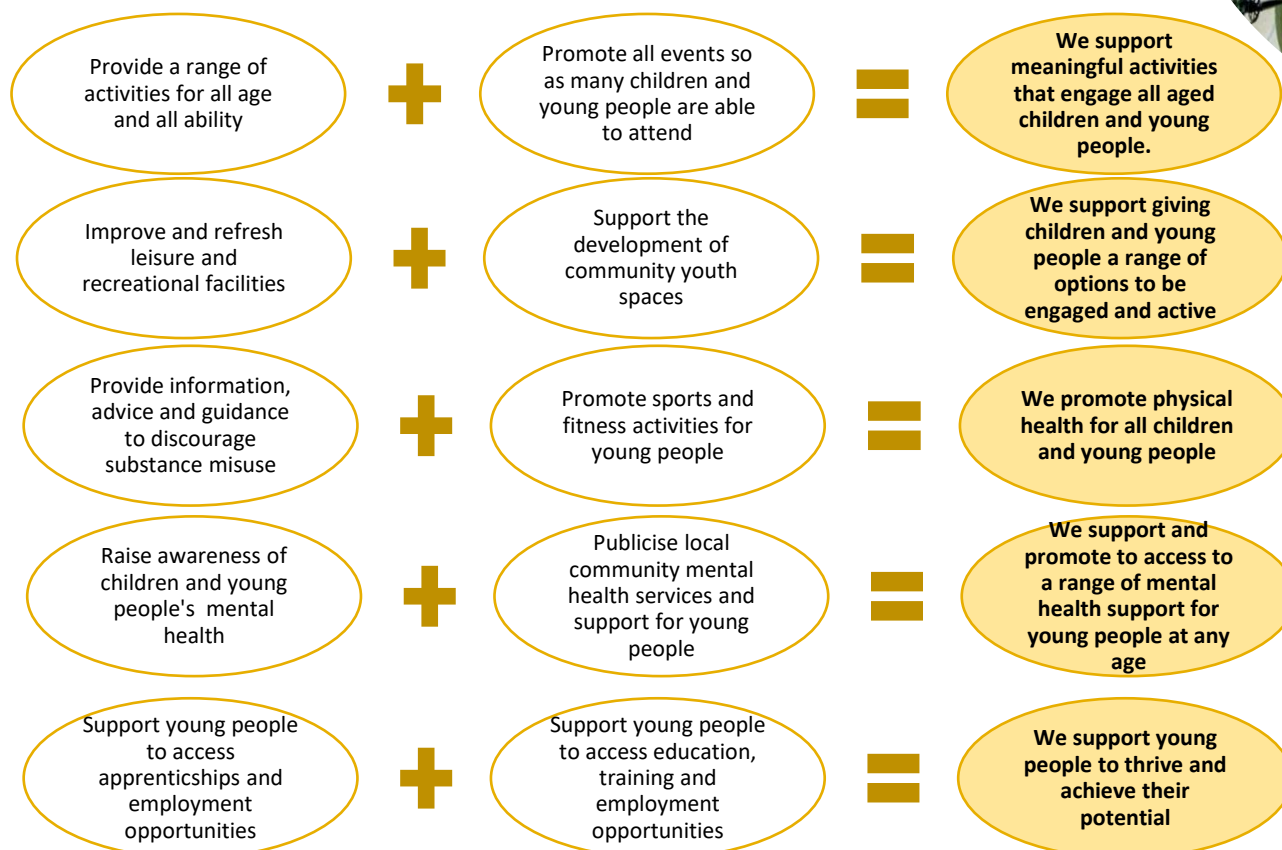
#### Well Doncaster Community Plans

- Provide continuous professional development and training to all voluntary and paid staff who engage with young people to promote the benefits of physical activity.
- Influence decision makers to provide accessible and affordable community use of sports facilities.



## Improve Youth Provision

Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration and communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the East Locality:



### SUPPORTED BY

#### Early Help Strategy

- Empower children young people and families to provide feedback
- Provide accessible forums for local residents to have a voice
- Develop the 'Your Life' offer to increase reach and visibility of local services

#### Get Doncaster Moving Strategy

- Refresh Doncaster's stock of leisure facilities, to meet community needs.
- Support every primary school pupil to be physically active for more than one hour a day.
- Take a test and learn approach to temporary and permanent street closures including School Streets and Play Streets.
- Review, refresh and support the delivery of the Get Doncaster Walking strategy.
- Support the delivery of the Get Doncaster Cycling Strategy

#### Education & Skills Strategy

- Ensuring that every child and young person achieves their potential at key stages 2 to 4
- Providing opportunities for residents to learn and acquire new skills throughout life, and access secure, rewarding employment
- Addressing educational and skills disparities across our communities and the issue of social mobility.

#### Health and Wellbeing Strategy

- Using social media to reach those individuals and groups who do not engage with services
- Make greater use of campaigns to raise public awareness and influence peoples' attitudes to alcohol, and work with business to help foster an ethos of responsibility
- Communication and awareness raising to all

#### Education & Skills 2030 Strategy

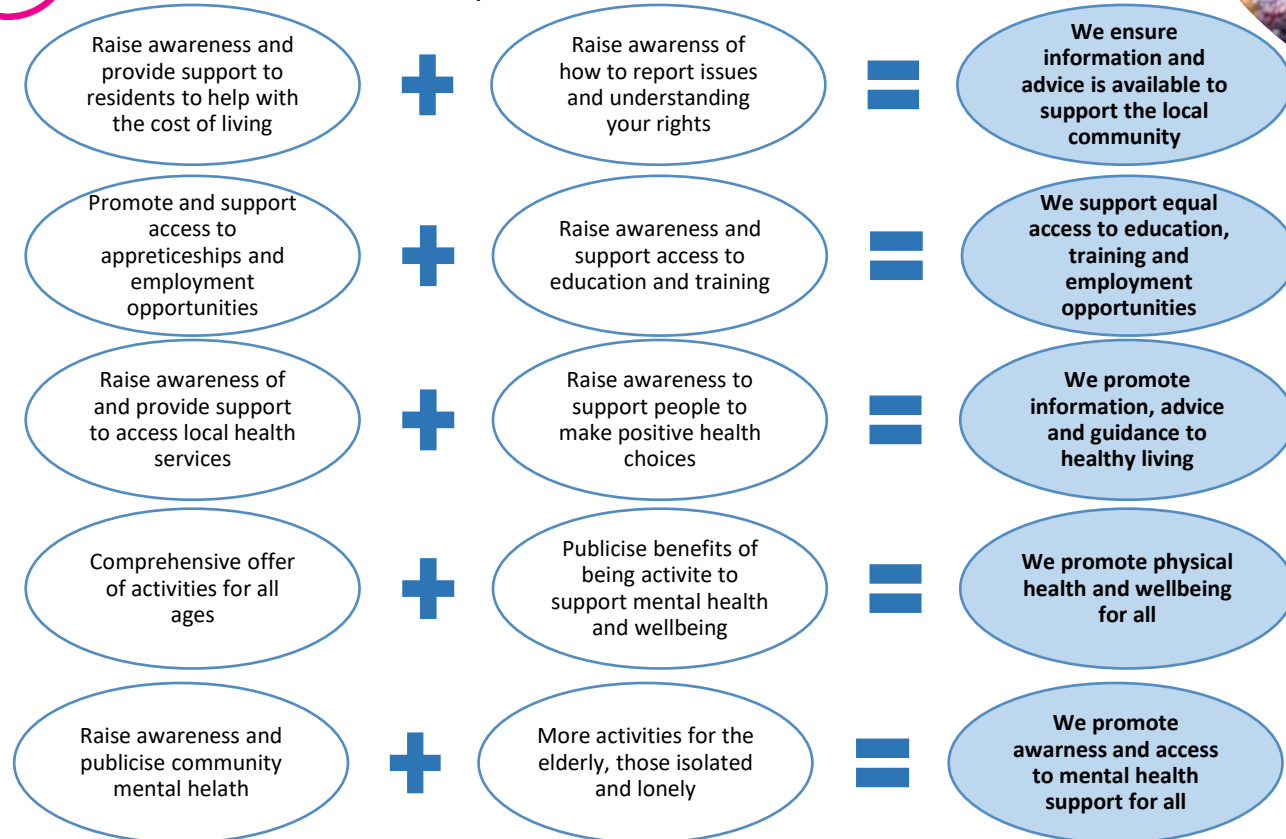
- Promote readiness to learn & build strong foundations in learning.
- Promote family and community learning to support families.
- Ensure the Education and skills system is responsive to the needs of the local and national economy.
- Champion & empower disadvantaged learners to enable social mobility.
- Improve outcomes for minority & vulnerable learners.
- Equitable lifelong learning for every community.



# Improve Fairness, Health and Wellbeing



Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration** and **communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the East Locality:



## SUPPORTED BY

### Doncaster Economic Strategy

- Support everyone in Doncaster to have equitable access to employment opportunities by utilising a compassionate approach to employment support
- Support residents to improve digital skills

### Doncaster All Age Carers Strategy

- Carers are aware of their rights and their entitlement to an assessment
- Carers have access to activities with 1-2-1 and group support

### All Age Learning, Disability & Autism Strategy

- Be supported to access universal and early support services, where their needs are understood, they are accepted for who they are and reasonable adjustments are made

### Get Doncaster Moving Strategy

- Embed physical activity into health and care pathways – prehabilitation, rehabilitation and treatment.
- Implement the Healthy Learning, Healthy Lives programme in early years, schools and colleges

### Health & Wellbeing Strategy

- Education – lifelong learning, work readiness, family support
- Economy –business support, money management, living wage/fairer working conditions, apprenticeships/employment opportunities and financial planning
- Physical and mental health – personal responsibility; physical activity, lifestyle choices, reducing stigma

### Core20plus5

- Core20 – the most deprived 20% of the national population
- Clinical areas of health inequalities; Asthma, Diabetes, Epilepsy, oral health, mental health

### South Yorkshire Integrated Care Plan

- People in South Yorkshire live longer and healthier lives and the physical and mental health and wellbeing of those with the greatest need improves the fastest
- People are supported to live in safe, strong and vibrant communities
- People are equipped with the skills and resources they need to thrive
- Reduce the economic inactivity rate in South Yorkshire to less than 20% across our places by 2028/30
- Develop a Workforce Strategy that will enable us to collaborate across South Yorkshire to educate, develop and support our workforce
- Contribute to South Yorkshire becoming an anti-racist and inclusive health and care system through everything that we do and how we do it with our communities. Committing to real actions that will eradicate racism.



# Your Life Doncaster

Discover the Your Life Doncaster website  
you can find helpful information about  
your community, including:

## Help

Information and support for adults, young people and children to live happy and healthy lives

## Community

What is available in your area from community groups and Family Hubs, to your local Police and community contacts

## News

New stories, events and updates about your local community



Find out more by visiting  
[www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk](http://www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk)



2023 - 2024

# LOCALITY PLAN

FOR THE **NORTH** COMMUNITIES

CARCROFT • SPROTROUGH • NORTON  
ADWICK • ASKERN • BENTLEY • ROMAN RIDGE



# Welcome to the 2023 Locality Plan for the North communities of Doncaster.

**In 2022, Doncaster Council published its first ever locality plans. Working with partners, communities and businesses, a set of agreed priorities for each area across Doncaster were agreed, alongside a list of actions to support them.**

The 2023, North Locality Plan looks back at what has been achieved throughout 2022 and sets out the plan for how this work will continue and grow over the next 12 months, as we work together to improve the lives of those communities that make up the North Locality.

At the core of the plan is the ongoing commitment by all Team Doncaster partners to hear the voices of local people, to understand the strengths in our neighbourhoods and build capacity in communities so that they can take control of their own destiny.

This plan is for the community and we encourage you to read it and get involved!



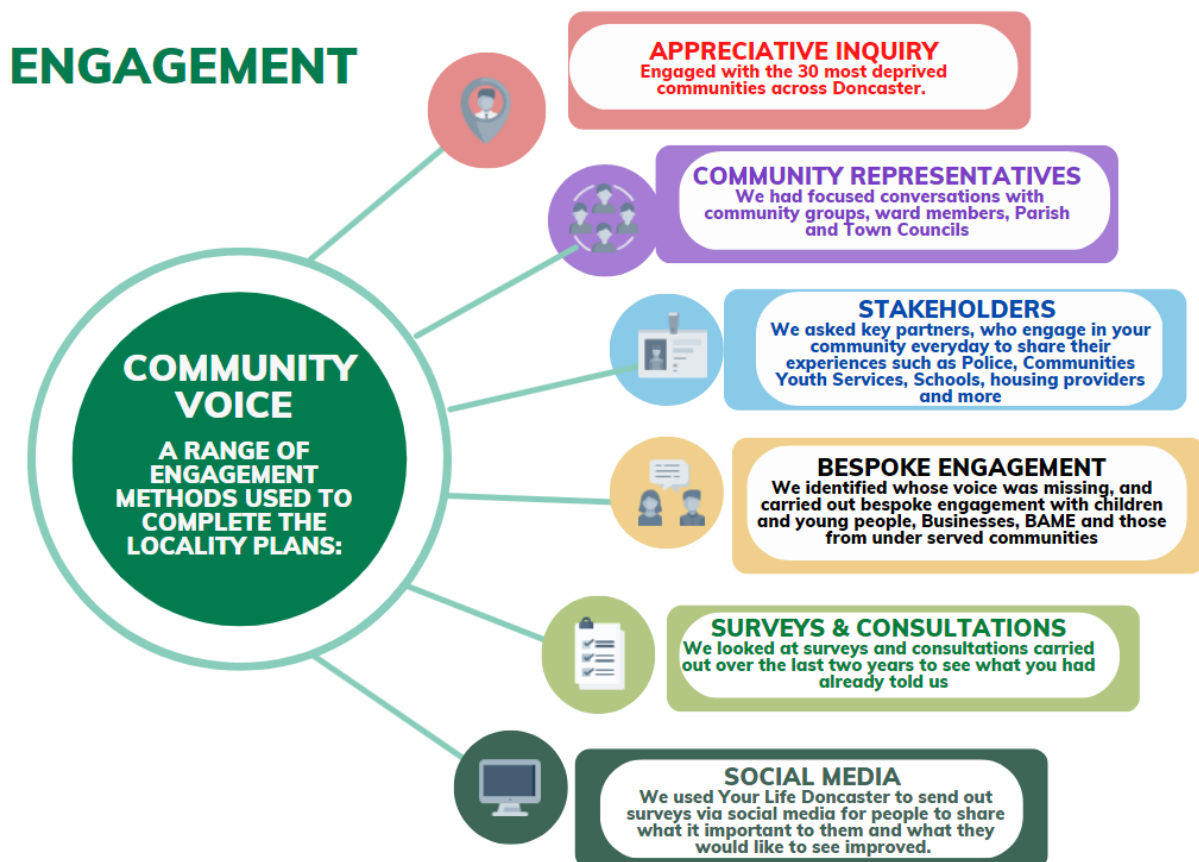
## WHAT IS A LOCALITY PLAN?

Locality plans will look at how we can work together to strengthen communities and improve the lives and opportunities for the residents living there.

Doncaster is a place of places, where no two communities are the same. This means that deciding on what services, support or priorities are required at a City-wide level can risk leaving some communities behind. Planning these things at a locality level allows us to make sure that this will never happen.

A locality plan is something that needs to be truly owned by the communities it affects. This plan has been put together with more input and engagement from those living and working in the East area than ever before. Our communities have told us exactly what they want to see change and improve in the areas where they live and we have taken this insight and turned it into a workable plan we will deliver in conjunction with our communities and partners.

We engaged with communities through a number of different ways:



## WHAT IS THE NORTH LOCALITY?

**For the purpose of delivering the locality approach, Doncaster has been split into four localities, each consisting of a number of different communities.**

The 'North' locality includes the following wards:

- Adwick and Carcroft
- Bentley
- Norton and Askern
- Roman Ridge
- Sprotborough

Although each of the above wards are grouped under the North locality, they will all also be considered and supported for the unique communities they are.

It is home to Campsall Country Park, Cusworth Hall, Barnsley Park, Adwick Park, Leisure Centre, Danum retail shops, Woodlands shops Boat Inn and Boating Lake. Additionally, it has several parish and town councils.



The following pages highlight what is good about our local communities and what you would like to see improve...

## Key facts about your community

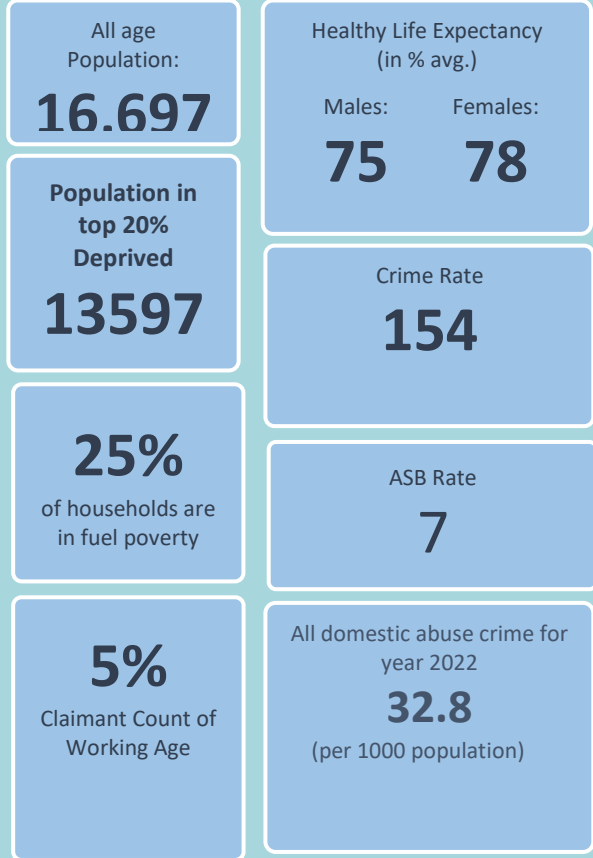
Adwick and Carcroft ward is made up of five villages. Adwick le Street, Carcroft, Woodlands, Highfields and part of Skellow. The ward has a population of 16,697.

Adwick-le-Street is situated North West of Doncaster, it has great transport connections with links to the A1 and Adwick train station. It also has access to green space with Adwick Park. It is home to Adwick Outwood academy and the Red House industrial park.

Carcroft is a village and civil parish. There is good access to amenities and a supermarket. Carcroft borders with Skellow; part of Skellow Village also lies in the Adwick & Carcroft Ward with the area known locally as five lane ends being part of the Norton & Askern Ward.

Woodlands is an ex-mining community, with many residents once working at nearby Brodsworth colliery. There is a good shopping area with a wide variety of retail outlets. Woodlands has great access to green space and countryside. Highfields is a small village, with its own primary school. It has access to countryside and is home to Highfields Lake and Country Park.

This ward has the following plans; Well Doncaster Plan Woodlands, Well Doncaster Plan Highfields.



### Like

- Thriving Communities: Community Spirit & pride & Close to Family & Friends**

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- Environment, Facilities & Green Space: Good Transport Links**

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- Environment, Facilities & Green Space: Local Facilities & Amenities**

### Improve

- Improving community safety and ASB**

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- Environment, Facilities & Green Space: More for Young People to do**

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- Environment, Facilities Green Space: Improve Public Transport**

“On the edge of countryside but close to good transport links and other cities”

“My daughter accesses the foodbank here, so I am thankful for this” service”

“I would like to see more police on foot patrols to help me feel safer”

“Kids have nothing to do in the area”

“More employment opportunities”

“Good community spirit before. I would like to see that again”

## Key facts about your community

**Bentley ward is made up of four villages: Bentley, Arksey, Toll Bar and part of Scawthorpe. The ward has a population of 18,367.**

Bentley is a suburb of the north locality of Doncaster. It has its own railway station with links to places such as Leeds, Doncaster and Sheffield. Bentley has green space including Bentley Park, which was awarded the Green Flag award in 2021. It is also home to the Pavilion and has lots of shops and amenities.

Arksey is a village and has four satellite hamlets, Shaftholme, Tilts, Almholme and Stockbridge. Arksey has good access to the countryside and greenspace.

Shaftholme is a small hamlet in South Yorkshire in the parish of Arksey that is located half a mile north of Bentley and two miles north of Doncaster.

Toll Bar is a semi-rural hamlet and is situated on the A19 road, and approximately 3 miles north from the town of Doncaster, and adjacent to Bentley. This ward has the Well Doncaster Plan (Bentley and Toll Barr), and Bentley is part of the Major Urban Area (MUA).

All age Population:

**18,367**

Healthy Life Expectancy  
(in % avg.)

Males: Females:

**76 80**

**9,673**

Population in top  
20% Deprived

Crime Rate

**178**

(per 1000 population)

**22%**

of households are  
in fuel poverty

ASB Rate

**6**

(per 1000 population)

**5%**

Claimant Count of  
Working Age

All domestic abuse crime  
for year 2022

**39.7**

(per 1000 population)

### Like



**Thriving Communities: Community Spirit & Pride & Social Capital**



**Environment, Facilities & Green Space: Good Transport Links**



**Environment, Facilities & Green Space: Good Events & Activities**

### Improve



**Community safety and tackling anti-social behaviour**



**More Community Events & Activities & ones that support health & wellbeing**



**Environment, Facilities & Green Space: More affordable activities for young people**

**"Neighbours look after one another, make you feel safe."**

**"More buses and cleaner area"**

**"Build better stuff and repaint park and put camera and street lights on park, more parks, more shops, summer thing for kids like arts or swimming"**

**"Good variety of businesses"**

**"No police presence"**

**"Better youth clubs and free access to gyms"**

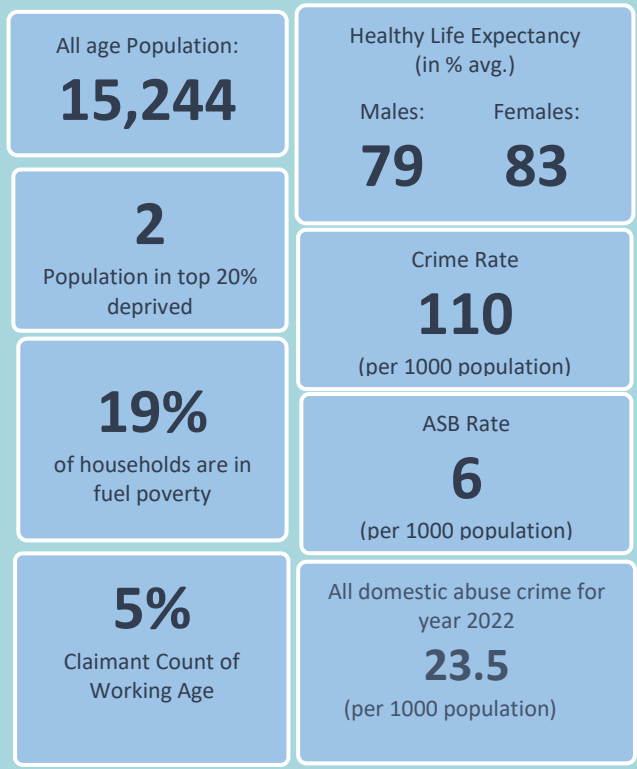
## Key facts about your community

**Norton and Askern Ward is made up of multiple villages: Norton, Askern, Campsall, Burghwallis, Thorpe In Balne, Owston, Sutton, Fishlake & Fosterhouses, Sykehouse, Moss, Braithwaite & Kirk Bramwith, Fenwick, and parts of Skellow. The Ward has a population of 15,244.**

The Norton & Askern Ward is historically part of the old West Riding of Yorkshire and has borders with both West and North Yorkshire. Having extensive areas of mixed farmland, giving the area a rural feel, the Ward covers a large geographical area, allowing great access to countryside and greenspace. The Ward retains a strong mining community, with it at one time being the home of Askern Main colliery, until its closure. Norton Parish comprises the villages of Norton, Campsall and Sutton, with boundaries formed by the River Went and the A1/Great North Road.

Askern is a town and civil parish. It is on the A19 road and lies between Doncaster and Selby. Askern is home to the Boating Lake, with adjacent sports and play facilities, a lakeside café and a regular Friday market. Askern became a famous spa town in the late 19th century, but lost its popularity with the opening of the coalmines.

Some parts of Skellow village lie within the Ward. The areas included are known locally as Five Lanes End and the Buttercross together with one side of Crossfield Lane and Lodge Road. The A1 runs immediately along the Western edge of the village, giving great motorway access. The Green Flag rated Campsall Country Park, Thornhurst Golf Course and Owston Hall, with its golf course and spa, are all located within the Ward. This ward has the Well Doncaster Plan (Askern).



### Like

**Thriving Communities: Community Spirit & Pride**

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**Environment, Facilities & Green Space: Community Venues, Events & Facilities**

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**Crime & ASB: Feelings of Safety**

### Improve

**Crime & ASB: Police Presence & tackling ASB**

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**Environment, Facilities & Green Space  
Public Transport, Road Safety & parking**

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**More activities for young people**

**“The residents and parish Church”**

**“More police around maybe to make all children feel safe no matter where you are.”**

**“Improved amenities, such as public transport”**

**“Campsall is lovely friendly family orientated,”**

**“The residents, local pub, the parish Church and Parish Council”**

**“Feel safe working here – compared to city centre”**

**“People seem a bit apathetic. You set things up and you don't get great take up but people still complain.”**

## Key facts about your community

**Roman Ridge ward is made up of multiple villages: Cusworth, Scawsby, Scawthorpe, and York Road. The ward has a population of 10,815**

The Roman Ridge is that part of the Roman road of Ermine Street located in the Doncaster area of South Yorkshire. Although in places, Ermine Street follows the modern Great North Road, there is a stretch between Sunnyfields and Red House, which is known as the Roman Ridge.

Scawthorpe is situated close to the York Road area. It is a residential area with good transport links to the A1 motorway and is close to Bentley train station. The transpennine trail runs through some of the village giving great access to the trail and walking routes. Scawthorpe has its own small shopping area and good access to a variety of amenities

Scawsby is a suburb of Doncaster situated close to the A1 (M) motorway, and it has great amenities, with a supermarket and other local facilities. It has several popular schools and access to Barnsley Road Park and nearby Cusworth Hall and gardens.

Cusworth is a semi-rural village and suburb of Doncaster located 2 miles north-west of central Doncaster in the civil Parish of Sprotbrough and Cusworth. It is home to Cusworth Hall, an 18th century country house, and its surrounding parkland, attracting many visitors to the area. Some buildings in the old village can be dated back to the 16th century.

All age Population:

**10,815**

Healthy Life Expectancy  
(in % avg.)

Males: Females:

**80 87**

**0**

Population in top  
20% deprived

Crime Rate

**79**

(per 1000 population)

**14%**

of households are  
in fuel poverty

ASB Rate

**6**

(per 1000 population)

**2%**

Claimant Count of  
Working Age

All domestic abuse crime for  
year 2022

**21.2**

(per 1000 population)

### Like



**Thriving Communities: Neighbours,  
Community and community spirit**



**Thriving Communities: Local support**



**Environment, Facilities & Green space:  
Local Amenities**

### Improve



**Crime & ASB: More Police Presence**



**More Community Events & Activities**



**More activities for young people**

“Our neighbours  
are very friendly  
and very helpful”

“Something for  
younger kids to do  
instead of wrapping  
swings up on local  
park, swearing &  
damaging park”

“More community  
attitude and interest  
and enthusiasm –  
community centres  
here but none use  
them”

“Good shops,  
eco-power,  
Doncaster being  
a city”

“It would be better if they  
cared more about the  
mental health department,  
especially for teenagers”



## Key facts about your community

Sprotbrough ward is made up of multiple villages: Sprotbrough, Hooton Pagnell, Clayton, High Melton, Marr, Cadeby, Brodsworth & Pickburn, Hampole & Skelbrooke, Barnburgh, Harlington and Hickleton. The ward has a population of 10,824.

Sprotbrough is a large village to the west of Doncaster. Together with Cusworth to the north, it forms the civil parish of Sprotbrough and Cusworth.

Lower Sprotbrough is located east of the A1 (M) motorway, closer to Doncaster, while Sprotbrough Village lies to the west.

Sprotbrough Village harbours the grade one-listed St Mary's Church and The Old Rectory – the childhood home of Second World War flying ace, Douglas Bader.

The Ward has great access to green space and walks, with Sprotbrough Flash, the Lock and Sprotbrough Bridge all being popular places to visit. It is surrounded by countryside with many of its small villages having a rural feel.

The ward is also home to Brodsworth Hall and gardens one of the most complete surviving examples of a Victorian country house in England. It is virtually unchanged since the 1860s.

All age Population:

**10,824**

Healthy Life Expectancy  
(in % avg.)

Males: Females:

**83 83**

**0**

Areas in this ward  
in England's most  
deprived 10%

Crime Rate

**71**

(per 1000 population)

**12%**

of households are  
in fuel poverty

ASB Rate

**5**

(per 1000 population)

**2%**

of working age  
population are  
claiming Universal  
Credit (Oct 21)

All domestic abuse crime for  
year 2022

**10.9**

(per 1000 population)

### Like



**Health & Wellbeing: Supportive Services**



**Thriving Communities: Community & Community Spirit, Good Neighbours & Social Capital**



**Crime & ASB: Feelings of Safety**

### Improve



**Crime & ASB: Improve Police presence, response and relationship with the police**



**Environment, Facilities & Green Space: Improve Public Transport**



**Health: Provide more activities for young and older people and improve local facilities**

"Where I live is quiet and less crime is committed in it"

"Nice sense of community, neighbours are nice"

"How kind the wellbeing officer had been in trying to get hold of me again and come back – you are a credit to your company. Thank you."

"Good facilities and bus route"

"Friendly village & community"

"The Council needs to listen to local experts in the area."

"It would be easier if some buses ran a little more often"

# What have we achieved in the last 12 months?

The **North Locality Plan** has now reached its first year milestone. Over the last 12 months local people, businesses, VCFS and partners have come together to co-design, co-produce and co-deliver against our local priorities in order to make a positive difference across our communities.



## Environment, Sustainability & Green Spaces

- Effective use of household waste and recycling facilities to reducing fly tipping and littering
- Offered a Reuse and removal of bulky items service
- Provided bin stickers to aid understanding-reducing contamination
- Worked with Stronger Communities, organising litter picks in schools
- Active Travel & Carbon literacy Champions
- The “One Million Trees” programme and Doncaster Tree Register. Tree planting season is underway, and ties in with the ‘Queen’s Green Canopy’ campaign. 22 schools have participated
- Food Network & Allotments Service encouraging communities to feed their families lower cost, healthier meals
- Tree planting Woodland Trust’s Grow Back Greener Challenge Fund & planting across the North
- Heat Decarbonisation Plan (HDP) for Askern Leisure Centre
- Achieved Green Flag Park Status at Bentley Park, Campsall Country Park and Cusworth Hall Park.
- St Leger Homes has also committed £60k to tree planting, in line with the Mayor’s pledge.



## Community Safety

- North area Police team aligned with the 4 locality areas, increasing presence
- Secured Safer Streets funding to tackle ASB and Violence against Women and Girls
- Delivered Operation Anticipate through the autumn and Winter Months and continued to roll our Stronger Families programme
- Run virtual reality workshops in North schools, to educate young people about ASB and its impact
- Worked with the Domestic Violence Theme Group regarding Domestic Violence across the locality and initiatives, strategies and responses to it.



## Housing

- Income Management Officers work with struggling families to develop alternative payment arrangements to reduce rent arrears.
- They have carried out Days of Action across the North, including identification of messy gardens and tenancy breaches, signposting tenants to support. This should also improve neighbour relations and reduce the likelihood of disputes.



## Amenities, Services and Support

- Increased numbers of GP appointments available, extending working hours and days. Offered health, including blood pressure checks in alternative settings to traditional health care ones to provide a more holistic approach to health and wellbeing
- Recruited Mental Health Support workers in our GP practices and delivered Mental Health Inequality awareness training for all practices
- Offered mental health first aid training for employees of organisations in our locality
- Referred families presenting with mental health support needs to other services via our triage function
- Launched a SPA for personalised care – providing a more holistic and streamlined process for patients presenting to primary care for personalised care
- Launched Personalised Care Pilot – for high intensity users to engage them with proactive social prescribing or other personalised care
- Launched a Pain Support Service Pilot
- Launched Primary Care Mental Health Hubs
- Developed strategies for Early Cancer Diagnosis, Health inequalities and Learning Disabilities/Mental Health



## Children and Young People

- Delivered the Holidays and Food Programme to give Children and Young People positive activities to engage in, and tackle poverty, ensuring children, particularly the most disadvantaged have a meal
- Supported the reopening of Shakers at Askern
- Recruited a dedicated youth worker for the North



## Poverty

- Delivered the Winter Warmth Programme in the North, supplying:
  - Advice packs, draft excluders, slow cookers, warm clothing, blankets, electric blankets, hot water bottles
- Provided Safe warm spaces in our Triage function.
- Developed and rolled out of the Cost of Living Toolkit
- Provided & promoted Foodbanks and hygiene banks across the North and support to buy white goods
- Supported residents in our North triage setting into work and/or upskill to a higher-paid job/career
- We share information on Facebook around services provided in our North Hub
- Provided Information, Advice & Guidance on income and benefits through the Citizens Advice Bureau and other agencies



Find full details on the progress made as part of the Locality Plan for the North communities, by visiting:

[www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk/north](http://www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk/north)

## 2023 PRIORITIES FOR NORTH LOCALITY

At the beginning of this plan, we stated we would define the priorities for improving the area over the next year. We have outlined how we have analysed the information and have identified the following priorities for the North Locality:



### Environment, Sustainability & Green Space

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### Health & Wellbeing

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### Business & Regeneration

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### Thriving Communities

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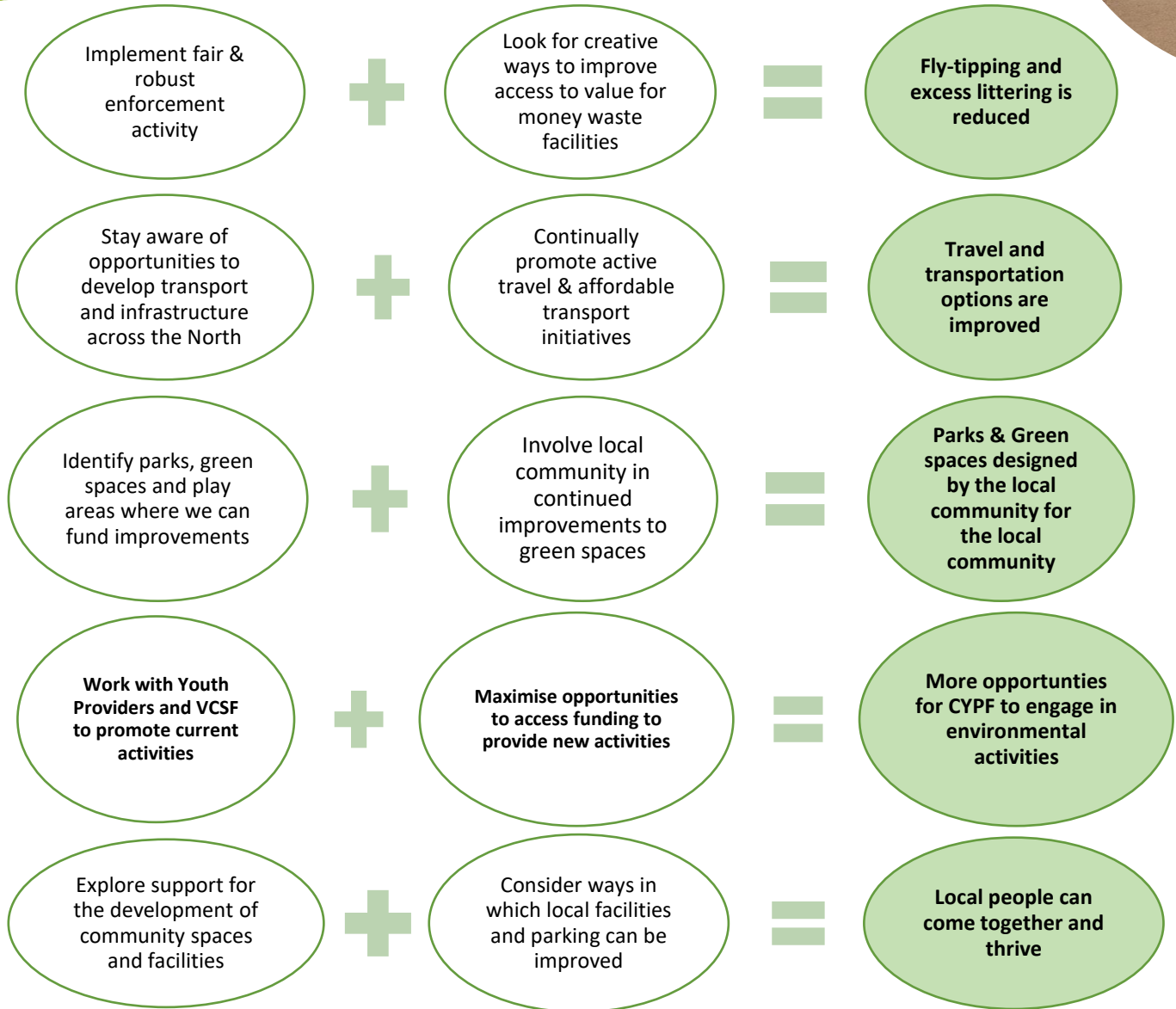


### Community Safety

\*The plans and strategies detailed in the coming pages are examples of how we are currently working to support these priority areas and are not meant to represent a complete list. Extracts need to be considered in the context of the whole plan or strategy document.



Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration** and **communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the North Locality:



**SUPPORTED BY**

**SYMCA Strategic Economic Plan**

- We will build a transport system that works for everyone, connecting people to the places they want to go within the region as well as nationally and internationally. Our transport system will be safe, reliable, clean, green and affordable

**Get Doncaster Moving Strategy**

- Everyone in Doncaster can enjoy being active in local places and spaces. The natural and built environment will be safe, accessible and inclusive for **local people**. We must provide the right environment if we want people to be active

**Local Plan:**

- Ensure that new development and infrastructure requirements such as, roads, broadband, open space, health facilities and schools are improved and/or delivered together; enhance the vitality of our existing town centres and the wider Borough making a more attractive, healthier, safer and more active place to live, visit and work

**Doncaster Community Safety Strategy**

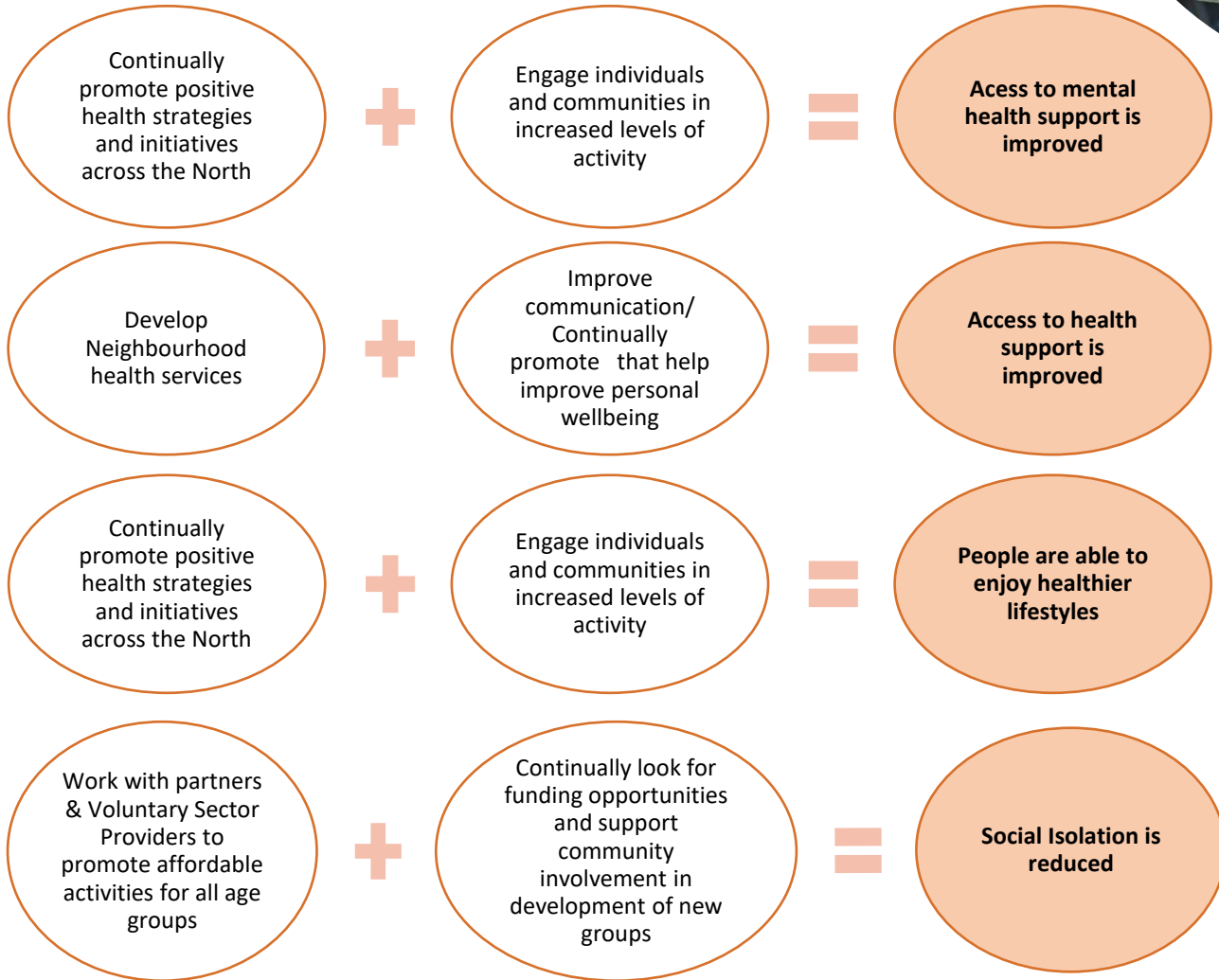
- Implement effective problem-solving approaches to reduce the impact of fly tipping and criminal damage within communities, particularly damage linked to anti-social behaviour e.g. graffiti

**Doncaster Borough Strategy**

- Reduce fly-tipping and graffiti and regularly clean the streets and roads
- Explore ways of improving travel around the borough through the integrated transport and improved access to work initiative.
- Strive to make Doncaster accessible by all means of transport and promote the use of cycling and walking activities as an alternative to using traditional means of transport
- Continue the success of our events programme with a programme of events for the next year. We will support businesses and enterprise to maximise on the events programme.
- Explore ways of improving travel around the borough through the integrated transport and improved access to work initiative



Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration and communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the North locality:



## SUPPORTED BY

### North PCN Strategy:

- A clear understanding of the strengths, needs and health inequalities of the population served by the PCN
- Resilient, high quality general practice services which are easy to access for all patients
- Effective collaborative working with our local communities and health and care system partners
- Better prevention, diagnosis and care for cancer, heart disease and stroke especially for people with a higher risk of illness and death
- A diverse and well-trained Professional Support Team providing an additional primary care workforce to support general practice, provide personalised care and improve wellbeing
- An effective, diverse and inclusive leadership which supports workforce development

### Doncaster Borough Strategy

- Work towards a healthy and compassionate borough where collectively everyone is supported to add life to years and years to life where everyone has access to essential health services

### Health and Wellbeing Strategy

- Improve the mental health and wellbeing of the people of Doncaster ensuring a focus on preventative services and the promotion of well-being for people of all ages
- **For** all Doncaster people to be able to make informed choices to enjoy a good quality and healthy life

### Get Doncaster Moving Strategy:

- **Everyone in Doncaster can enjoy being active in local places and spaces.** The natural and built environment will be safe, accessible and inclusive for **local people**. We must provide the right environment if we want people to be active

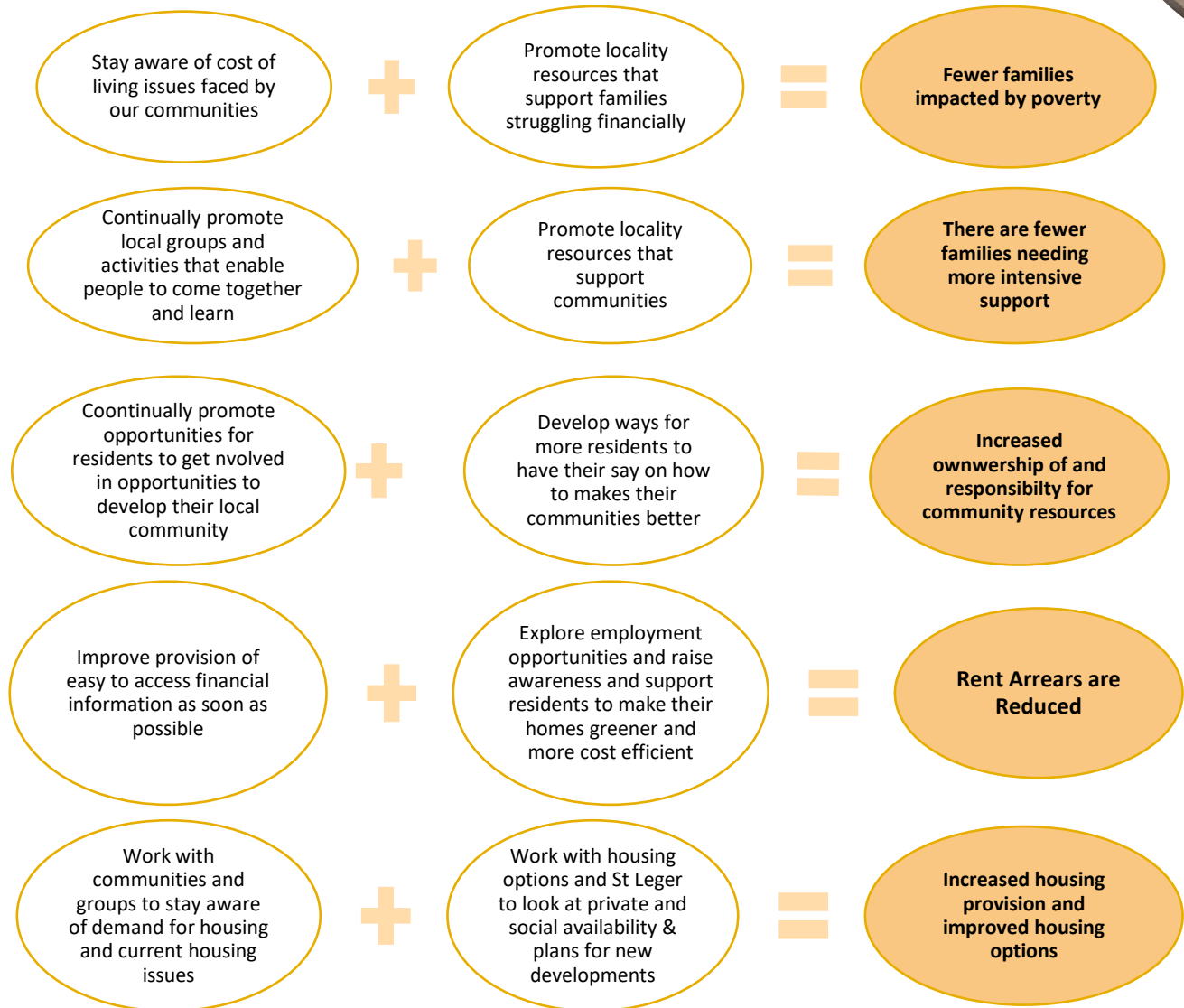
### Doncaster Place Plan

- Develop communities to enable people to access support, information, advice and guidance through local solutions

# You asked us to... Strengthen and Empower Communities and Enable Them to Thrive



Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration and communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the North locality:



## SUPPORTED BY

### Doncaster Borough Strategy:

- Thriving People, Places and Planet
- Prosperous & Connected
- Safe & Resilient
- Skilled & Creative

### SYMCA Strategic Economic Plan:

- Build a fairer, more inclusive economy, linked more closely to wellbeing and to our communities – helping people gain a greater stake in their work and removing barriers so everyone has the chance to prosper

### Get Doncaster Moving:

- Ensure Active Design is at the forefront of planning proposals so that natural and built assets meet the needs of local communities, wildlife and the environment whilst supporting movement, physical activity and sport
- Increase the land devoted to greenspace and nature (including developing a 'Great Yorkshire Fen') to support physical activity

### Doncaster Housing Strategy:

- Meet housing need & aspirations, support our local economy and help revitalise town centres and communities.
- Make homes greener and more energy efficient to keep energy costs affordable

### Doncaster Place Plan:

**Supporting communities** to thrive, working much more closely with the voluntary, community and faith sector, investing in social prescribing to improve health and emotional wellbeing

Developing a **'front door system'**, where there is no wrong door to access health and care services. This will help get people to the right place, first time

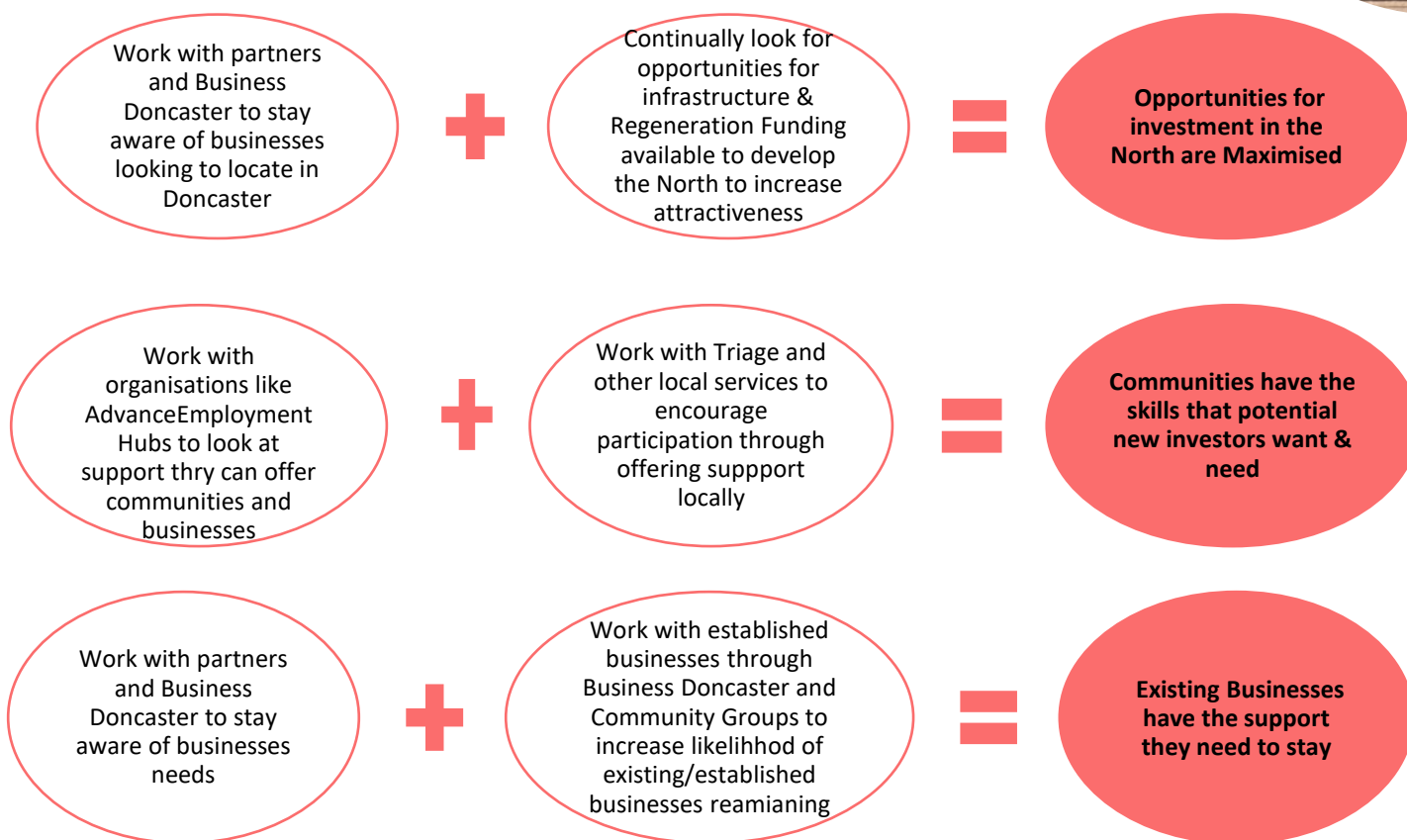
**Joining up care and support at home.** We know many people can recover quickly and easily if they are supported at home

All of this will help ensure our **specialist services can be used more appropriately**, across all three life stages – reducing the demand and need for hospital and emergency care.

# You asked us to... Make improvements for Businesses and Maximise Opportunities for Regeneration



Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration** and **communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the North locality:



## SUPPORTED BY

### SYMCA Strategic Economic Plan:

- People - Helping people find jobs and adapt to the new economy with regard to:
  - Unemployment
  - Pay
  - Recruitment
  - Education
  - Workforce Pipeline

#### Employers:

Support for employers to adapt, survive and thrive and deliver a jobs-led recovery

### Team Doncaster Education & Skills Strategy 2030:

- Priority 1: Best Start
- Priority 2: Accelerating Achievement
- Priority 3: A New Model of Post-16 Education
- Priority 4: New Skills and Pathways to Fulfilling Life and Work
- Priority 5: Equitable and Inclusive Lifelong Learning

### Doncaster Economic Strategy 2030: By 2030: We aspire to have:

- An economy that improves living standards for all and leaves no people behind
- A more resilient, productive economy across all places
- A greener regenerative economy that restores and enhances our planet

### Doncaster Core Strategy

- Distribute growth and regeneration where it would do most good in terms of supporting prosperous and sustainable communities by improving the economic performance of towns, promoting regeneration and tackling deprivation

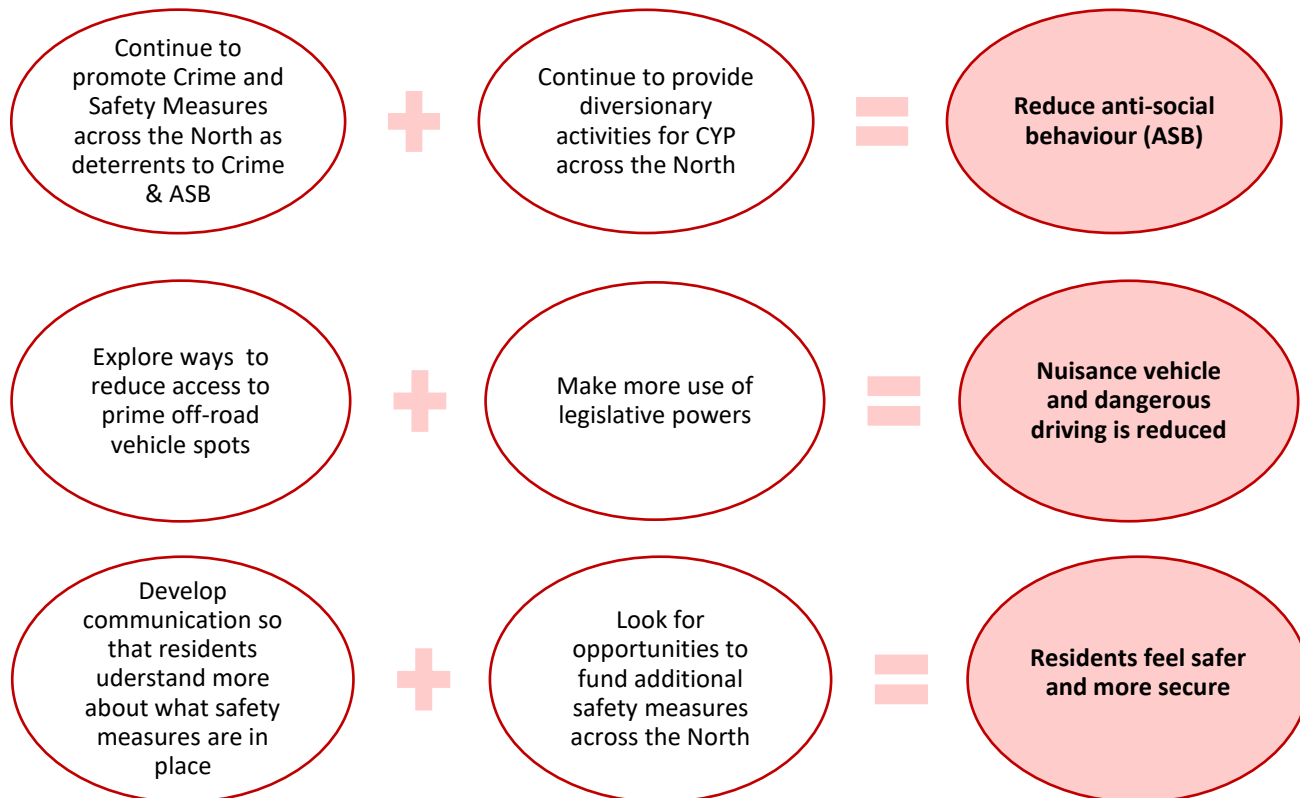
### Doncaster Borough Strategy

- Work towards a Doncaster where everyone can secure the income they need to have a decent minimum living standard and access debt advice and support if needed





Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration and communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the North locality:



## SUPPORTED BY

### **Children and Young People’s Plan: LOCYP engagement and partnership**

- Work with the Safer Stronger Doncaster partners to reduce ASB in and around Doncaster.

### **Doncaster Community Safety Strategy**

- Effectively manage anti-social behaviour (ASB) through proactive responsive approaches supported by improved mechanisms to report and respond to incidents
- Improve community confidence in reporting ASB by providing reassurance that we will listen, understand and build relationships with victims and communities

### **Anti- Social Behaviour Delivery Plan**

- Effectively manage anti-social behaviour through proactive and responsive approaches to respond to incidents.
- Tackle the issue of illegal off-road bikes and quads through a partnership approach, utilising all available tools and powers
- Communicate the successful use of existing CCTV through newsletters to demonstrate the benefits and value of our CCTV deployments.

### **Violence Reduction Action Plan**

- Develop an effective multi-agency response to tackling violence against women and girls
- Ensure victims of violent crime receive the appropriate and timely support
- Promote the public health approach to reducing violent crime

### **Get Doncaster Moving – Waking Strategy**

- Work with South Yorkshire Safer Roads Partnership to ensure Road Safety Training is offered to all primary schools in the Borough.

### **Doncaster Borough Strategy – ‘Doncaster Delivering**

- Tackle crime and ASB and the root causes
- Tackle domestic abuse and its root causes



# Your Life Doncaster

Discover the Your Life Doncaster website  
you can find helpful information about  
your community, including:

## Help

Information and support for adults, young people and children to live happy and healthy lives

## Community

What is available in your area from community groups and Family Hubs, to your local Police and community contacts

## News

New stories, events and updates about your local community



Find out more by visiting  
[www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk](http://www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk)

2023 - 2024

# LOCALITY PLAN

FOR THE **SOUTH** COMMUNITIES

ROSSINGTON • WADWORTH • TICKHILL • EDLINGTON • MEXBOROUGH  
CONISBROUGH • BAWTRY • WARMSWORTH • FINNINGLEY • DENABY



The locality approach is a way in which Doncaster Council and partners can get closer to communities to understand their strengths and different

Welcome to the 2023 Locality Plan for the South area of Doncaster.



**In 2022, Doncaster Council published its first ever locality plans. Working with partners, communities and businesses, a set of agreed priorities for each area across Doncaster were agreed, alongside a list of actions to support them.**

The 2023 South Locality Plan looks back at what has been achieved throughout 2022 and sets out the plan for how this work will continue and grow over the next 12 months, as we work together to improve the lives of those communities that make up the South Locality.

At the core of the plan is the ongoing commitment by all Team Doncaster partners to hear the voices of local people, to understand the strengths in our neighbourhoods and build capacity in communities so that they can take control of their own destiny.



This plan is for the community and we encourage you to read it and get involved!

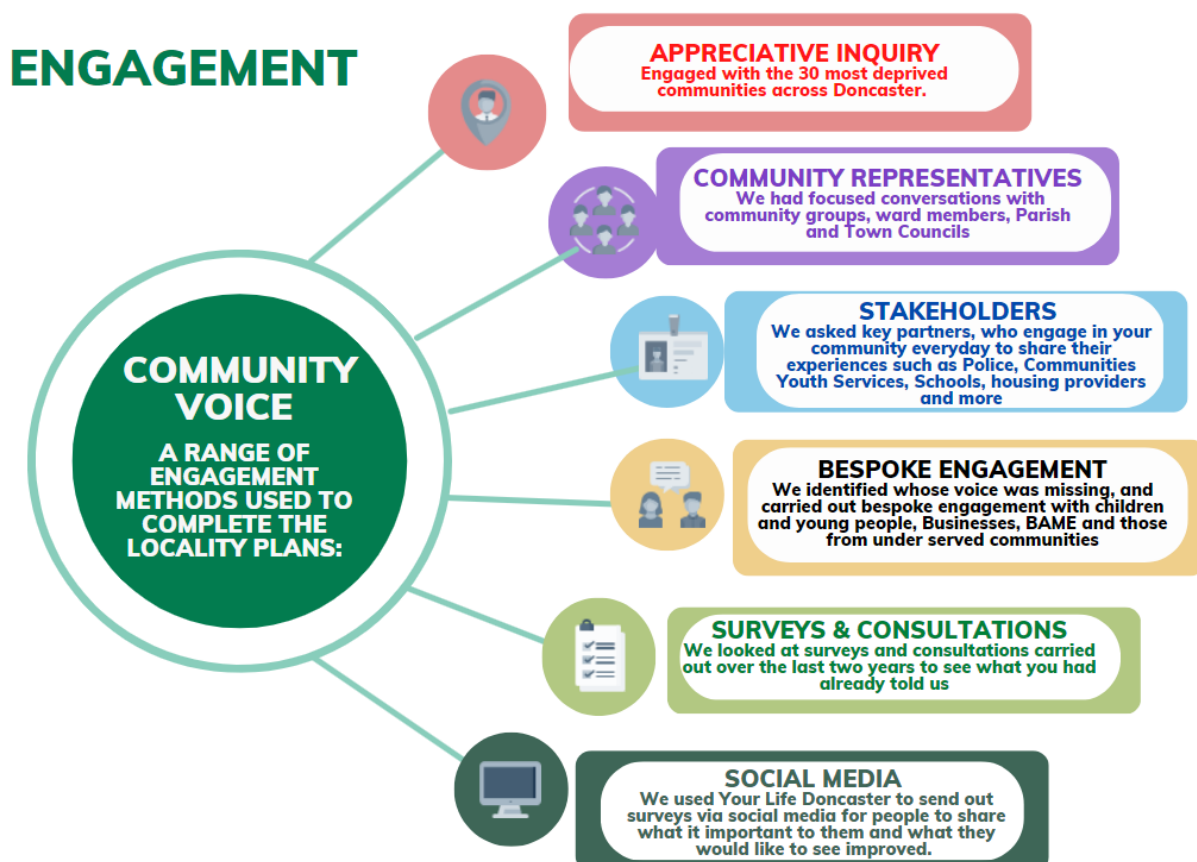
## WHAT IS A LOCALITY PLAN?

Locality plans will look at how we can work together to strengthen communities and improve the lives and opportunities for the residents living there.

Doncaster is a place of places, where no two communities are the same. This means that deciding on what services, support or priorities are required at a City-wide level can risk leaving some communities behind. Planning these things at a locality level allows us to make sure that this will never happen.

A locality plan is something that needs to be truly owned by the communities it affects. This plan has been put together with more input and engagement from those living and working in the central area than ever before. Our communities have told us exactly what they want to see change and improve in the areas where they live and we have taken this insight and turned it into a workable plan we will deliver in conjunction with our communities and partners.

We engaged with communities through a number of different ways:



## WHAT IS THE SOUTH LOCALITY?

For the purpose of delivering the locality approach, Doncaster has been split into four localities, each consisting of a number of different communities.

The 'South' locality includes the following wards:

- Conisbrough & Denaby Ward
- Edlington & Warmsworth Ward
- Finningley Ward
- Mexborough Ward
- Rossington & Bawtry Ward
- Tickhill & Wadworth Ward

Although each of the above wards are grouped under the South locality, they will all also be considered and supported for the unique communities they contain.

The South Locality is home to Doncaster Airport, Yorkshire Wildlife Park, and two castles in Conisbrough and Tickhill. It has great access to green space and walks. It has great transport links with the Doncaster train service running through Mexborough and

Conisbrough & Denaby wards, and great access to motorways. The South also has two of Doncaster's town centres, Bawtry and Mexborough, which attract visitors, business and investment opportunities.

There are a number of parks and green space for recreation, Warmsworth Park, Denaby Crag, Edlington Pit Wood, West End Lane, canal walks, Conisbrough viaduct and the Trans Pennine trail.



# Conisborough & Denaby

## Key facts about your community

The villages of Conisbrough and Denaby are roughly midway between Doncaster and Rotherham alongside the River Don. The Ward has a population of 16,495.

Denaby Main was built by the Denaby Main Colliery Company to house its workers and their families hence the strong ex mining community.

It has good transport links and its own train station, Conisbrough railway station. It is home to the Historical Conisbrough Castle and has its own well-established town centre.

It has great access to green space and the TPT with Kingswood activity centre and several parks, Flower Park being one of them. Denaby Crags & Denaby memorial park are both receiving capital investment as part of the Future Parks work.

*This ward has the following plans: Denaby Community plan*

All age Population:

**16,495**

Life Expectancy at Birth (in % avg.)

Males: Females:

**76.3 79.5**

**6628**

No. of population in most deprived 20%

Crime Rate

**161**

(per 1000 population)

**20%**

of households are in fuel poverty

ASB Crime Rate

**6**

(per 1000 population)

**4%**

of working age population are claiming Universal Credit (Dec 22)

Domestic Violence Incidents

**38**

(per 1000 population)

### Like



**Thriving Communities:**  
Neighbours, family and friends



**Close to Local Amenities**



**Environment**  
It's quiet

### Improve



**Community Safety:**  
Drugs and alcohol, road safety, ASB



**Environment:**  
Litter



**Local Amenities & Town Centre:**  
Investment in local business

"Variety of local shops good transport"

"Really like the community - people support each other."

"Seen street drinkers, intimidating for customers, drug use, ASB, fighting"

"Rural issues such as fly-tipping and agricultural theft"

"Reduce nuisance caused by speeding cars, bikes and off roads."

"I love that we have a castle and a Norman church in our village. I have good neighbours and we have new micro pubs and food outlets"

"Wouldn't go into village centre in evening on my own due to youths and druggies"

# Edlington & Warmsworth

## Key facts about your community

**Edlington & Warmsworth ward, lying to the south west of Doncaster, comprises three villages: Edlington and Old Edlington, served by a town council, and Warmsworth, which has a parish council. The total population is 12,093.**

Edlington has a strong ex-mining heritage with the Yorkshire Main Colliery once situated in the village. It has a small town feel with local shops, health centre and library. Edlington has easy access to green spaces, Martinwells lake and nature reserve. Edlington Pit wood, once home to a Roman camp, is receiving capital investment as part of the Future Parks programme.

Warmsworth Hall, today a hotel, has a 13<sup>th</sup> century bell tower. Warmsworth Primary is an Ofsted-rated outstanding school and the village has good access to green space and the Trans Pennine Trail. Old Edlington, a connected hamlet, is home to the 12<sup>th</sup> century St Peter's church.

***This ward has the following plans:  
Edlington Neighbourhood plan, Edlington Well Doncaster Profile,  
Old Edlington/Tait Avenue Community Well Doncaster Profile***

All age Population:

**12,093**

Life Expectancy at Birth  
(in % avg.)

Males: Females:

**77.3 81.3**

**5960**

No. of population in  
most deprived 20%

Crime Rate

**143**

(per 1000 population)

**19%**

of households are  
in fuel poverty

ASB Crime Rate

**7**

(per 1000 population)

**4%**

of working age  
population are  
claiming Universal  
Credit (Dec 22)

Domestic Violence Incidents

**31**

(per 1000 population)

### Like



**Thriving communities:**  
Good neighbours/people



**Community Groups:**  
Support and activities



**Environment & Green Spaces:**  
Good access to green spaces

### Improve



**Community Safety:**  
Police visibility, youth ASB/crime, ASB  
in general, road safety, feeling unsafe,  
drug and alcohol issues



**Thriving communities:**  
Improvements to housing, especially  
some on the Royal Estate



**Environment & Green Space:**  
Litter

"I like Martinwells lake and the new area nearby with seats"

"Lots of green space, good schools and shops"

"Sam at ECO and helping hands do a lot for the community"

"Don't see enough of the Police"

"Stop breaking windows, and I want no boarded windows on my street" (A young person)

"Sense of community, looking out for each other"



# Finningley

## Key facts about your community

The Ward is made up of several villages (Auckley, Blaxton, Branton, Cantley, Finningley, Hayfield Green and Old Cantley). It has a population of 17,109.

The ward lies about six miles from the centre of Doncaster and is just a short distance from Doncaster's Yorkshire Wildlife Park.

It is known for its airport, formerly RAF Finningley, which housed a 'V' force of Vulcan bombers in the Cold War.

It is also home to the Grade II listed Georgian manor house Cantley Hall, and Hayfield fishing lakes

All age Population:

**17,109**

Life Expectancy at Birth  
(in % avg.)

Males: Females:

**81.2 83.7**

**0**

No. of population in most deprived 20%

Crime Rate

**61**

(per 1000 population)

**12%**

of households are in fuel poverty

ASB Crime Rate

**4**

(per 1000 population)

**2%**

of working age population are claiming Universal Credit (Dec 22)

Domestic Violence Incidents

**17**

(per 1000 population)

## Like



### Environment

Good location, nice area, rural, village feel. It's quiet.



### Thriving Communities:

The people, good neighbours



### Green Spaces:

Especially walks

## Improve



### Community Safety:

Police visibility, Improve lighting, CCTV, feeling unsafe, road safety, youth ASB/crime, drug and alcohol issues



### Local Amenities & Town Centres:

Investment & Support for business, especially the town centre



### Environment:

Litter

"More foot patrols/police visibility"

"Families and households struggling with the cost of living have less support here than in some other areas and are more difficult to identify"

"Very peaceful, rural and green but near enough to shops when needed"

"More street lighting in the area, particularly in woodland walkway/public"

"The people are very friendly and there are some very nice walks"

"The Ward is split between two different localities"

# Mexborough

## Key facts about your community

Mexborough was historically part of the West Riding of Yorkshire and has a population of 15,600.

It is situated between Manvers and Denaby Main, it lies on the River Don close to where it joins the River Dearne. Mexborough has its own town centre and market area, with its own hospital the Mexborough Montague, and great transport links with a bus and train station.

The earliest known written reference to Mexborough is found in the Domesday Book of 1086

*This ward has the following plans: Mexborough Master Plan, Mexborough Well Doncaster Profile*

All age Population:

**15,600**

Life Expectancy at Birth (in % avg.)

Males: Females:

**74.1 79.6**

**9828**

No. of population in most deprived 20%

Crime Rate

**145**

(per 1000 population)

**22%**

of households are in fuel poverty

ASB Crime Rate

**6**

(per 1000 population)

**6%**

of working age population are claiming Universal Credit (Dec 22)

Domestic Violence Incidents

**39**

(per 1000 population)

### Like



**Community spirit:**  
Good neighbours, friendly people



**Local Amenities:**  
Close to shops and amenities with a good variety



**Green Spaces:**  
Good access to Green Spaces especially walks, parks and play areas

### Improve



**Community Safety:**  
Police visibility, drug/alcohol issues, feeling unsafe, road safety especially speeding, ASB, youth ASB & crime



**Local Amenities & Town Centres:**  
Investment and support for business, especially town centres.



**Environment:**  
Litter

"Local shop keepers. Always with a smile and a laugh through these tough times"

"I would feel safer if there were more patrols on foot and in cars"

"Need more for teenagers to stop those becoming bored & causing issues"

"I like the amenities we have. We also have a cricket club and a tennis club. A running club and a leisure centre close by."

"Friendly people, free parking in town centre, plenty of shops, plenty of green spaces"

"We lost a thriving outdoor market when it was altered"

# Rossington & Bawtry

## Key facts about your community

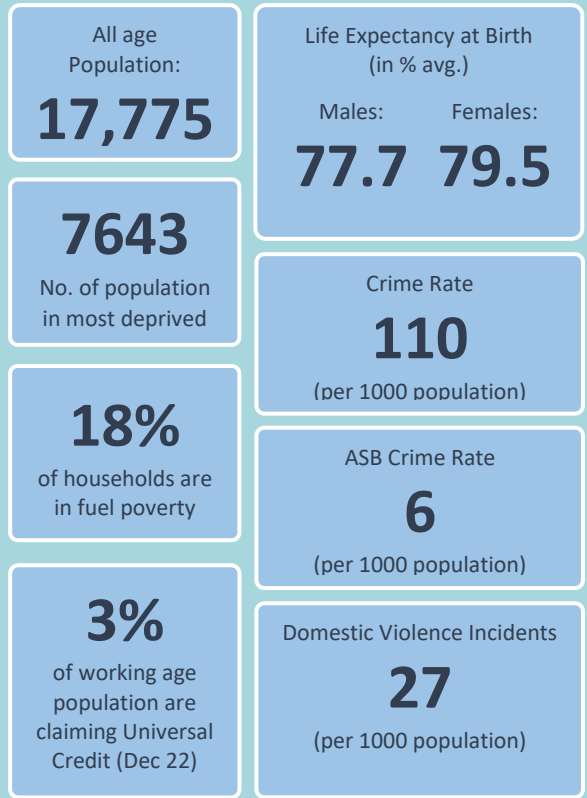
The Ward is made up of 3 villages (Bawtry, Rossington and Austerfield) with a population of 17,775.

Bawtry is a market town with a town council. It has many shops, bars and restaurants adding to the thriving market town feel. The town is just south of Doncaster Sheffield Airport.

Austerfield is a small village, it is home to the Field Study Centre and surrounded by green space and has a rural feel.

Rossington is a civil parish and former mining village and has great access to surrounding green space and countryside. The old and new villages are separated by the East Coast Main Line. Rossington also has great access to motorway links.

*This ward has the following plans; Bawtry Neighbourhood Plan, Rossington Neighbourhood Plan, New Rossington Well Doncaster Profile*



### Like



**Thriving Communities:**  
Family, neighbours, people



**Local Assets:**  
groups, support, volunteers.



**Green Space:**  
Parks and wildlife areas.

### Improve



**Investment & Support for business:**  
Especially improving the market and variety of shops



**Road Safety:**  
Speeding, amount of traffic and HGVs



**More community events for all**

“Good local community spirit, events and activities”

“I like the Centre, Memorial Hall and the Welfare.”

“I like the lots of greenspaces. Like play areas. Like we have a wildlife park.”

“Lovely vibrant town with a good trade” (Bawtry)

“It is a great small town” (Children in Bawtry)

“I’d like a better variety of shops. Bring the market back more regularly, the market was the hub of the village.” (Rossington)

“Speeding traffic through Austerfield, especially unlicensed motorbikes on and off road”

## Key facts about your community

The ward is made up of several villages, Braithwell, Loversall, Micklebring, Stainton, Tickhill, Wadworth and Woodfield Plantation. It has a population of 11,282.

The ward is a town and civil parish and lies eight miles south of Doncaster. It has great access to green space and has a rural theme.

The ward is home to Loversall Lakes, Quarry farm that is popular for fishing and the fields surrounding are often used for Clay pigeon shooting.

Notable local buildings include the ruins of Tickhill Castle and Wadworth Hall

***This ward has the following plans: Tickhill neighbourhood plan***

All age Population:

**11,282**

Life Expectancy at Birth (in % avg.)

Males: Females:

**82.1 83.8**

**0**

No. of population in most deprived 20%

Crime Rate

**83**

(per 1000 population)

**12%**

of households are in fuel poverty

ASB Crime Rate

**5**

(per 1000 population)

**2%**

of working age population are claiming Universal Credit (Dec 22)

Domestic Violence Incidents

**19**

(per 1000 population)

### Like



**Community Spirit & Pride:**  
People, good neighbours



**Local Amenities:**  
Close to amenities, shops, worship, hospitality. A good variety. Businesses have regular customers and a high footfall



**Environment & Green Spaces:**  
Good location. Quiet. Access to green spaces

### Improve



**Community Safety:**  
Road safety, police visibility



**Local Amenities & Town Centres:**  
Investment & Support for business, especially town centres including more affordable shops



**Frequency of Public Transport.**  
Improve public transport; routes and reliability

“Public transport - increased frequency and improved links”

“More police patrols in cars in the roads that connect villages.”

“Rural communities feel forgotten, especially rural crime and the impact of heavy traffic”

“Excellent facilities; butchers fish monger fruit and veg shop plus cafes and wine bars and pubs.”

More people mentioned feeling safe than unsafe

“More affordable shops and hospitality venues”

# What have we achieved in the last 12 months?

The **South Locality Plan** has now reached its first year milestone. Over the last 12 months local people, businesses, VCFS and partners have come together to co-design, co-produce and co-deliver against our local priorities in order to make a positive difference across our communities.



## Environment, Sustainability & Green Spaces

- **Fly tipping and littering was reduced:** Last summer, South investigated all 125 fly tipping complaints, 13 CCTV cameras installed, 6 Fixed Penalty Notices and 2 Prosecutions submitted
- **Large bins were installed in town centres:** 240lt wheelie bins put in housing at rural locations. All bins accept a range of waste, including dog waste
- **Waste Bin audit complete:** new bins have ordered to replace worn bins. These will be installed in 2023
- **We improved communications on waste disposal and promote community initiatives:** We promoted national and local campaigns for litter and fly tipping. In Rossington, Ward Members led on a litter-bin sticker competition
- **We publicised for volunteers:** we supported community groups for parks through the Doncaster Green Space Network. We also provided training, knowledge, networking and promotional materials
- **There is a variety of well-maintained and safe recreation facilities and green space:** We started the Future Parks project. This is already helping us plan attractive, safe parks of high quality. We have started to write a new play area strategy. This will look at the quantity/quality and value of existing play provision and consider improvements as well as a new designs for signage and similar.



## Community Safety

- **We developed safe reporting mechanisms:** In the autumn we co-launched a Crimestoppers campaign. This is an independent charity which guarantees 100% anonymity when reporting crime or suspected crime Promoted particularly in Edlington, Mexborough Conisborough and Denaby. If the information you give them leads to an arrest or is of significant use you will be rewarded up to £1000, again anonymously. Call 0800 555 111
- **We improved our communication with residents around community safety:** South Yorkshire Police and the City of Doncaster Stronger Communities Team re-established regular Community Engagement Meetings, on-line engagement and pop up stalls on a regular basis. In Finningley we hold these at Walkers nursery, Kilham Hall and Finningley Village Hall. We use these to seek your views too so we can continually adapt our response
- **We acted on nuisance vehicles, speeding and dangerous driving:** We held a multi-agency operation on the Trans-Pennine Way to stop off road vehicles. We installed physical barriers where we could. Residents told us about individuals after the event, which is more effective than us catching them in the act. A big thank you to those of you who helped us. On our roads, Police Community Support Officers and community delivered several Speed Watches catching those in the act

Find full details on the progress made as part of the Locality Plan for the South communities, by visiting:

[www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk/south](http://www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk/south)



## Children and Young People

- **We improved the quantity, quality and variety of youth provision:** we were successful in more funding. Young people participated in the whole commissioning cycle creating diverse and exciting activities. This meant many young people could continue to engage there after the summer. An example is in Tickhill where we provided sports and crafts at St Marys and also stay and play sessions
- **All families can afford for their children to engage in activities:** the summer staycation was provided at nine locations in South Doncaster. Activities and food were included. These provided a variety of face to face free activities, events and summer holiday clubs for all children and young people. Hot or cold meals were provided free of charge for everyone at every activity session
- **Parks are more attractive and inclusive:** we launched Future Parks in 2022. This is a pilot and our learning from working with communities is helping us to design safer and more attractive parks across Doncaster. We are working with local school children involving them in the design of Edlington Pit Wood. This builds on improvements we delivered with the community at The Craggs in Conisbrough this year.



## Poverty

- **We developed and understanding of the implications of poverty on everyone and every place:** our collective data provides a picture of areas with high deprivation and therefore high numbers of residents struggling with the cost of living. However, there are pockets of poverty in every Ward. Our communications have set up a digital hub for access by Doncaster residents regardless of their location
- **We provided better support for those in all forms of poverty:** we set up a Digital Hub with on-line links to support including: Food Banks, Warm Welcome Spaces, Debt Advice, Energy Advice, Healthy Homes Health and Wellbeing, Citizens Advice and more. Booklet also distributed to all households with the same information. Social Isolation campaign aimed at those less likely to seek help.
- **We took positive steps to minimise the impact of future poverty with diverse employment opportunities:** our Education & Skills 2030 Strategy delivered programmes around young children, education and lifelong learning which is relevant to local industry needs. Funding gained for a Remake Learning Festival in 2023 to celebrate and promote all learning opportunities for everyone.



## Local Amenities and Town Centres

- **Improve the appearance of town and high streets and variety of facilities, encouraging communities to shop locally:** Your community voices in South tell us that most people like their local town centres, with a good range of shops and businesses. Some people tell us they would like more variety and more affordable shops. We encourage new business. Business Doncaster provide a range of support for new and existing companies, including a business start-up programme
- **More residents have access to the required public transport at an affordable cost:** The South Locality Lead has made links with South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority and we are now raising your concerns at Enhanced Partnership Forum meeting to influence local bus services. This includes development of a Customer Charter, setting targets for reliability and frequency (including last buses home) and communications to increase bus use
- **Town and high streets to become cleaner and more appealing places to visit:** larger bins have been installed in town centres. This has increased capacity for takeaway litter. We are currently undertaking a digitalised litter bin trial to optimise cleansing and capturing images of bin conditions and relevant capacity. Some new bins have been ordered to replace older bins and their capacity will be increased if required

## PRIORITIES FOR SOUTH LOCALITY

At the beginning of this plan, we stated we would define the priorities for improving the area over the next year. We have outlined how we have analysed the information and have identified the following priorities for the South Locality:



### Community Safety

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### Children & Young People

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### Environment & Green Spaces

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### Local Business & Town Centres

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### Thriving Communities

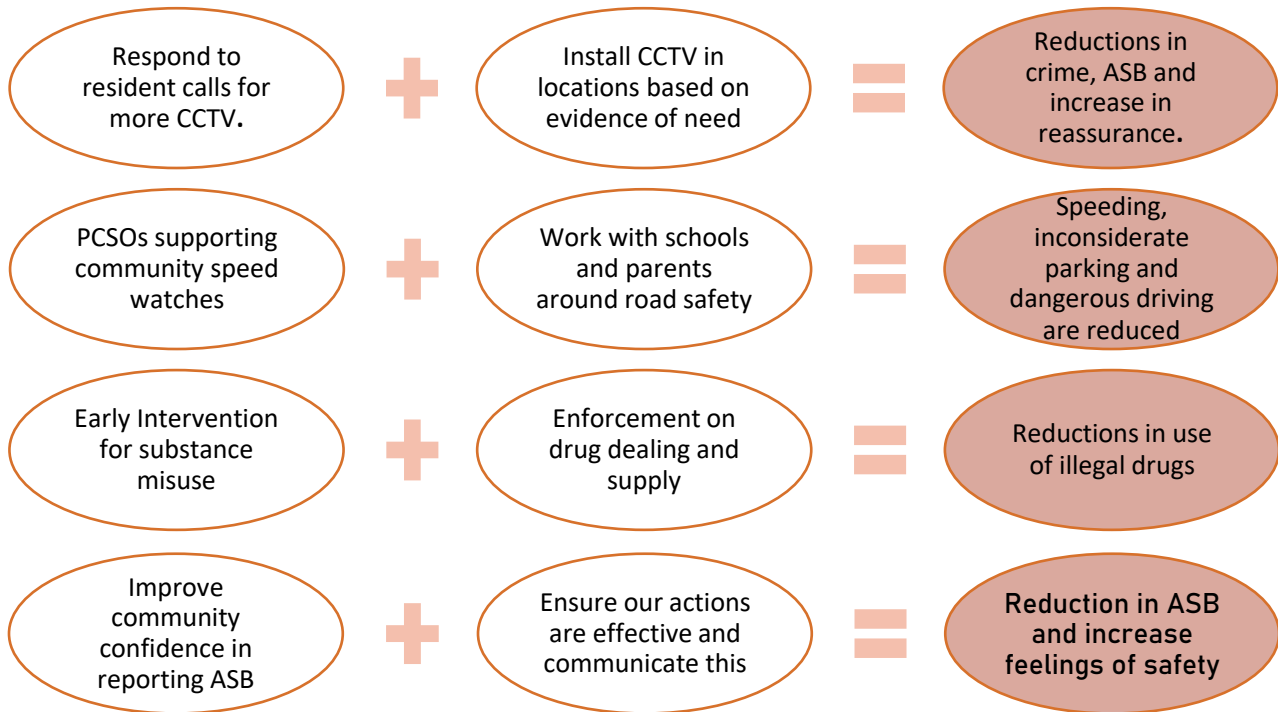
On the following pages, we have illustrated further details of what actions will support improvement for each priority theme and how this will build on and link to existing strategies, plans and activity.

**\*The plans and strategies detailed in the coming pages are examples of how we are currently working to support these priority areas and are not meant to represent a complete list. Extracts need to be considered in the context of the whole plan or strategy document**



## Improve Community Safety

Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration** and **communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the South Locality:



### SUPPORTED BY

#### Doncaster Community Safety Strategy 2022 - 2025

- Communicate the successful use of CCTV through local media and newsletters to demonstrate the benefits and value of our CCTV deployment
- Seek all available opportunities to gain additional funding for CCTV, for the benefit of communities. Improving our capabilities to gain evidence and reassure the public
- Provide a comprehensive, accessible, high quality drug and alcohol treatment service across Doncaster Borough in order to reduce associated crime and health harms.
- Using the locality approach, developing an improved partnership response to anti-social behaviour ensuring we build effective relationships, understand clearly the experience of victims and show we have followed through with an effective outcome.
- Partners work together to ensure people presenting as street homeless are supported to access services and enforcement action is taken when appropriate.

#### UK Government's 10 Year Drug Strategy 2022; From Harm to Hope

- Break drug supply chains
- Deliver a world-class treatment and recovery system
- Achieve a generational shift in demand for drugs

#### Get Doncaster Moving – Walking Strategy

- Work with South Yorkshire Safer Roads Partnership to ensure Road Safety Training is offered to all primary schools in the Borough.
- Work with South Yorkshire Safer Roads Partnership to explore how road safety training and promotional opportunities could be delivered through existing engagement and training opportunities.

#### Doncaster Borough Strategy 'Doncaster Delivering Together'

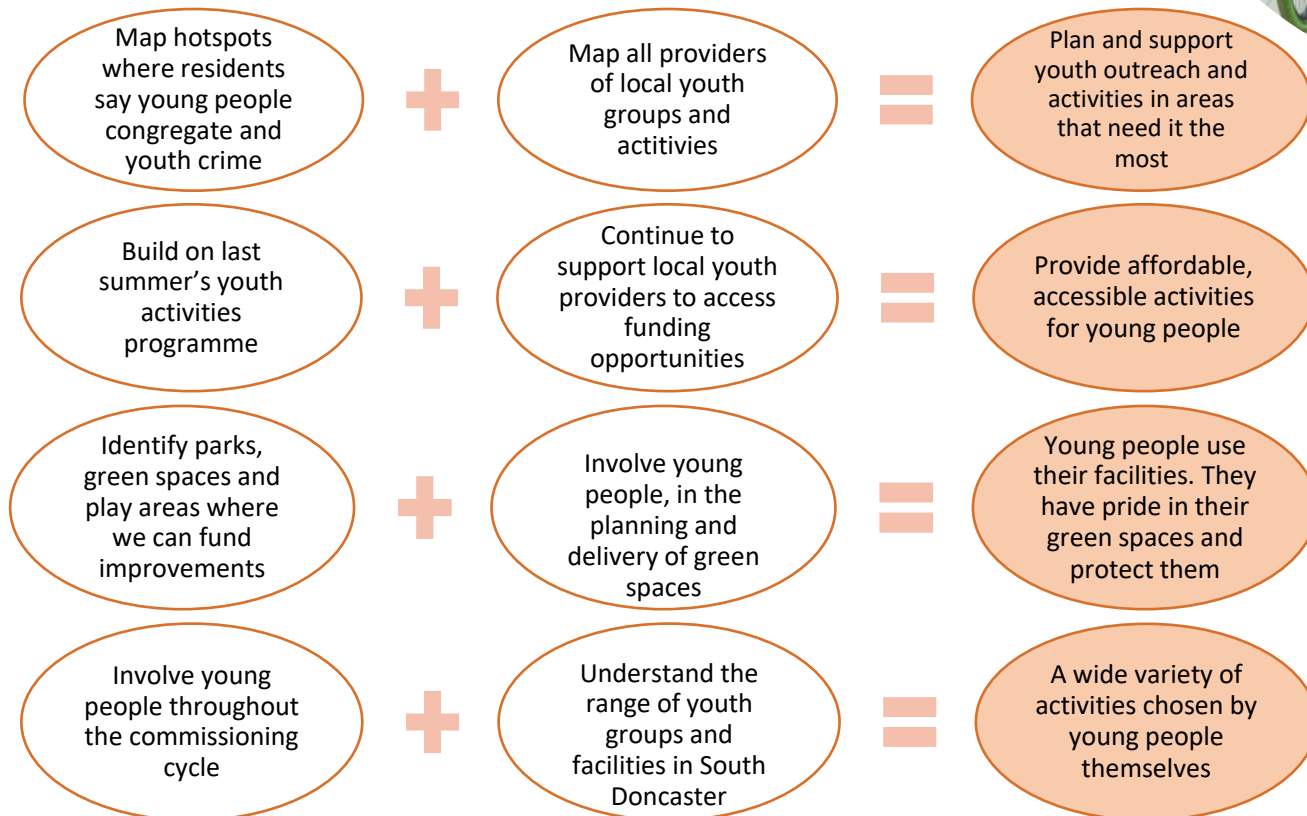
- Tackle crime, anti-social behaviour and the root causes
- Tackle domestic abuse and its root causes





## Improve Children & Young People Provision

Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration and communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the South Locality:



### SUPPORTED BY

#### Education & Skills 2030 Strategy

#### Cultural Strategy

#### Doncaster Local Plan sustainability appraisal

- Get people involved in local issues  
Make people proud of their own community and Doncaster.

#### Doncaster Local Offer

- Children and young people's forums within the council and with our partner organisations, through a model of 'for young people, by young people'.
- Supporting our voluntary, community and faith sectors to increase high quality, accessible youth provision across the borough.
- VCF sector working with C&YP to enable them to build their quality systems and access funding to deliver services.

#### Children & Young People Activities (Formerly Youth Strategy)

- Engage with initiatives such as National Youth Work programmes, UK Youth Awards, British Youth Council, UK Youth Parliament and Young Advisors.

#### Community safety partnership

- Deliver youth diversion schemes to ensure young people avoid criminal convictions and are supported in the community, where appropriate.

#### Doncaster Borough Strategy 'Doncaster Delivering Together'

- Increase the availability and invest in the quality of activities for families and young people.
- Use Family Hubs to deliver a range of activities, services and information.
- Provide more equitable and inclusive opportunities to enjoy art, culture, sport and community activities.

#### Children & Young People's Plan

- Increase the availability and invest in the quality of activities for families and young people.
- Use Family Hubs to deliver a range of activities, services and information..
- Provide more equitable and inclusive opportunities to enjoy art, culture, sport and community activities.

#### Environmental & Sustainability Strategy

- Use the Future Parks Programme to develop, implement and share best practice; and integrate new technologies into parks provision through the Smart Parks project.15 bespoke parks identified across Doncaster to improve accessibility to physical activity & sports initiatives.

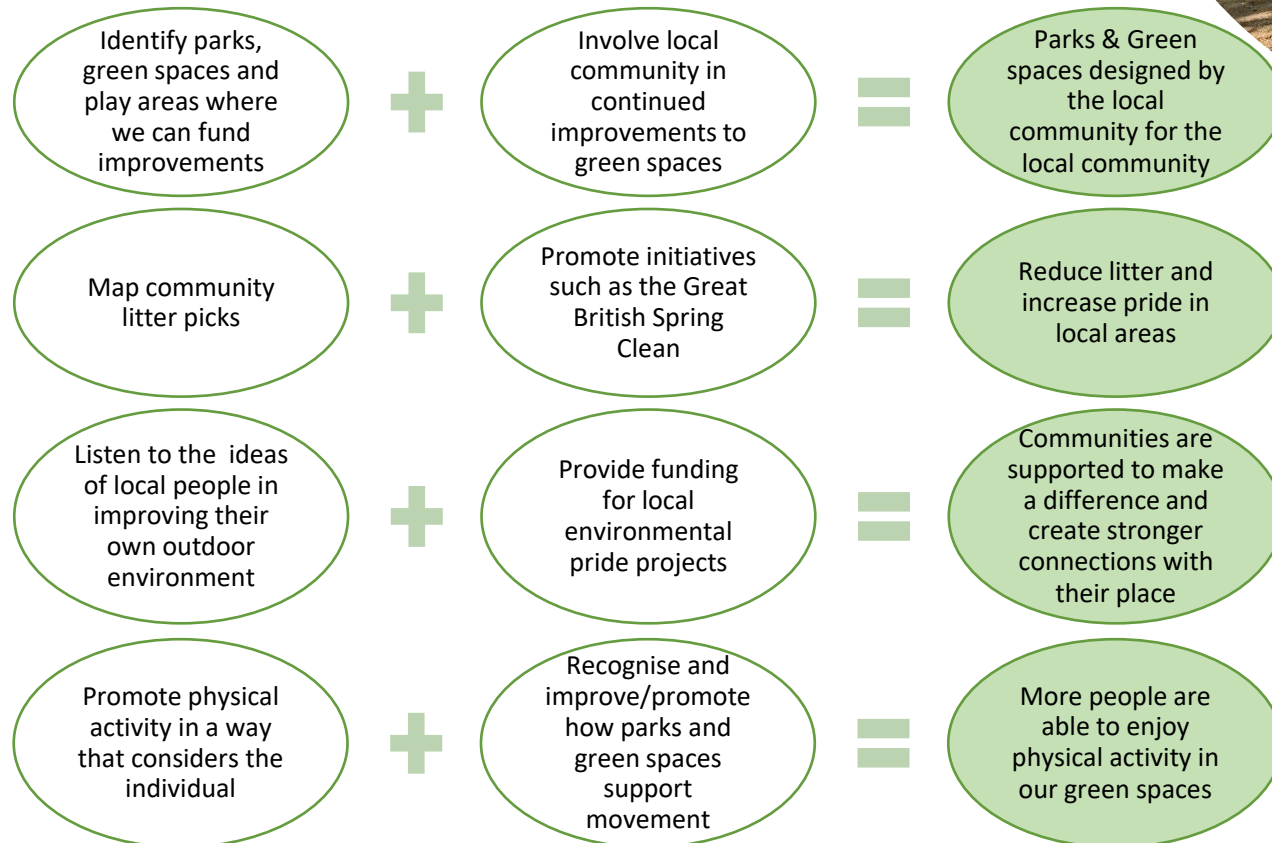
#### Well Doncaster Community Plans

- Provide training to all voluntary and paid staff who engage with young people to promote the benefits of physical activity.



## Improve Environment & Green Spaces

Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration** and **communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the South Locality:



### SUPPORTED BY

#### Doncaster Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal

- Provide more greenspaces and trees.
- Create new areas of biodiversity value.
- Offset / compensate for the loss of habitats and species as a result of development.
- Protect, maintain and improve sites of geodiversity importance.

#### Doncaster Borough Strategy 'Doncaster Delivering Together'

- Reduce fly tipping and graffiti and regularly clean the streets and roads.
- Support residents to take positive action for themselves and their communities.

#### Get Donaster Moving

- Active Communities Grants
- "Heathy and Compassionate"
- "Greener and Cleaner"

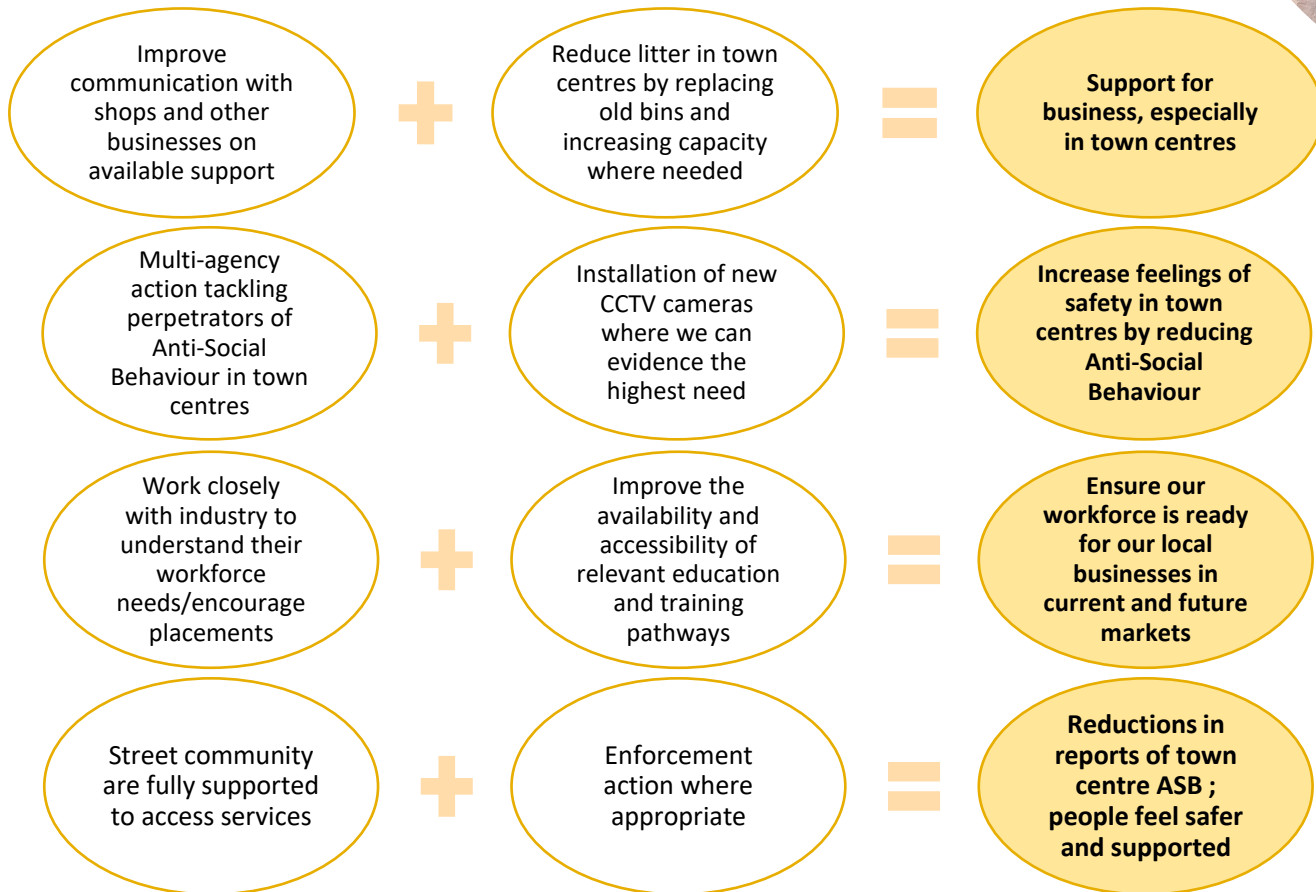
#### Doncaster Environment and Sustainability Strategy

- Use the Future Parks Programme to develop, implement and share best practice, and integrate new technologies into parks provision through the Smart Parks project.
- 15 bespoke parks identified across Doncaster to improve accessibility to physical activity & sports initiatives.
- Develop and implement a tree-planting programme, to include various sized sites from individual trees in gardens to strategic woodland creation where feasible.
- Maintain and improve current and future green infrastructure assets.
- Support the continued development of the Doncaster Green Space Network – enhancing social & community capacity, developing local knowledge share/best practice.
- Robust and fair enforcement activity in response to fly tipping and littering.
- Improve awareness of legal waste disposal contractors and the consequences of using unauthorised contractors.
- Effective and accessible communication and engagement to discourage fly tipping and littering.



## Assist Local Business & Town Centres

Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration** and **communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the South Locality:



### SUPPORTED BY

#### Doncaster Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal

- Ensure places can be accessed via public transport
- Support Existing Businesses

#### Doncaster Borough Strategy 'Doncaster Delivering Together'

- Better, connect the Borough with reliable, appropriate and affordable public transport

#### Education & Skills 2030 Strategy

- Reform our Post-16 education and skills system to equip residents with the skills, ambition and attributes that allow them to thrive in life and work

#### Doncaster Economic Strategy 2030

A *regenerative and inclusive* economy for thriving people, places and planet

#### Local Town Plans:

- Mexborough Master Plan
- Edlington Neighbourhood Plan
- Bawtry Neighbourhood Plan
- Rossington Neighbourhood Plan
- Tickhill Neighbourhood

#### Doncaster Resilient Network Plan

The ability of our transport network to cope and manage the impacts extreme weather incidents and the quick return to normality

#### 'Doncaster Delivering Together' Strategy

- Reduce fly tipping and graffiti and regularly clean the streets and roads

#### Doncaster Infrastructure Strategy

Infrastructure underpins everything we do and is fundamental to our daily lives. Infrastructure supports new development (e.g. new shops, offices and homes) and facilitates the growth of jobs and access to technology and services.

#### Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy

Promote earliest possible prevention by embedding homelessness prevention awareness and information through a multi layered, whole system, effective partnership working and strategic response. We will improve our rapid rehousing pathway for rough sleepers and people presenting as homeless to accommodation they can call their own

#### Doncaster Community Safety Strategy

- Partners work together to ensure people presenting as street homeless are supported to access services and enforcement action is taken when appropriate.
- Using the locality approach, develop an improved partnership response to anti-social behaviour showing we have followed through with an effective outcome

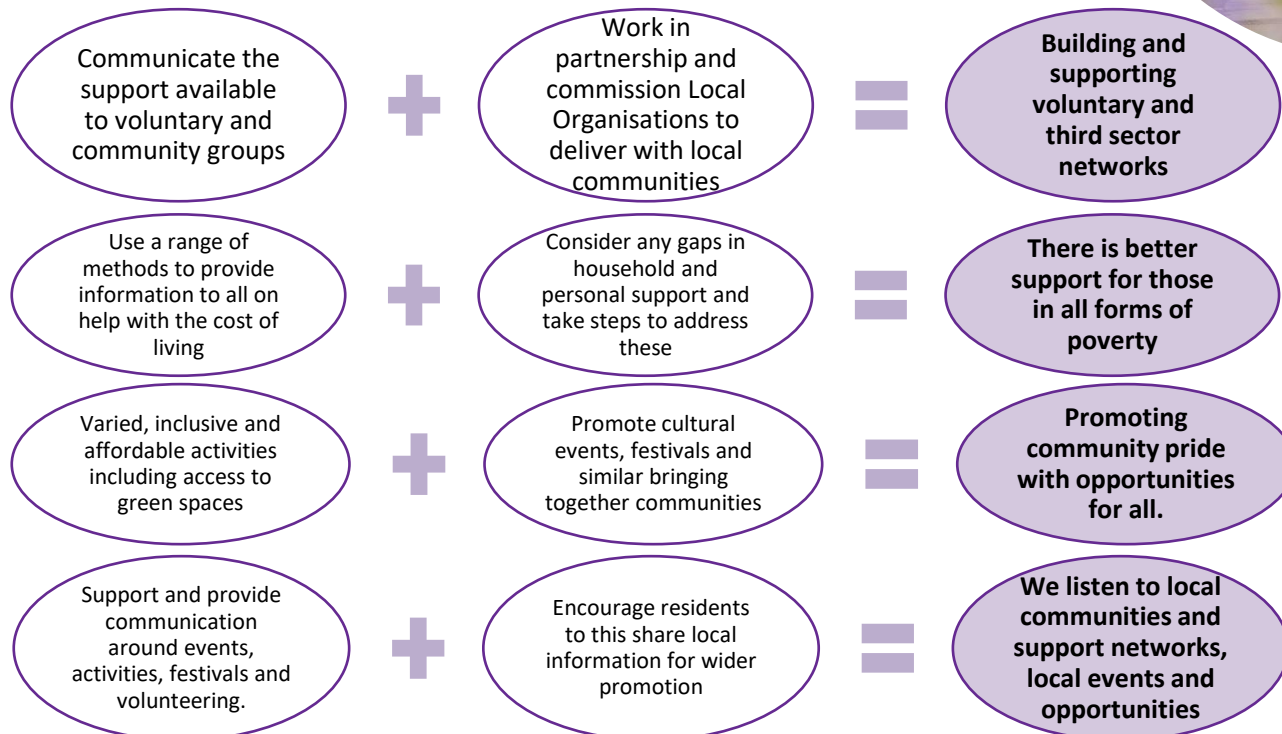
#### Doncaster Core Strategy

- Protect and enhance local amenities that are well designed, attractive, fit for purpose and locally distinctive.



## Support Thriving Communities

Through effective **coordination, continuous engagement, collaboration** and **communication** we will **work together to build on the local strengths and assets** across the South Locality:



### SUPPORTED BY

#### Doncaster Borough Strategy

- Work towards a Doncaster where everyone can secure the income they need to have a decent minimum living standard and access debt advice and support if needed.

#### Doncaster Local Plan

- Stimulate regeneration to tackle deprivation especially in the most disadvantaged areas and ensure an inclusive approach for those at risk of poverty.

#### Doncaster Fairness & Wellbeing Commission

The Commission may need to prioritise a number of key issues. These may include:

- Barriers to work
- Maximising income/debt
- Food security
- Housing costs
- Fuel Poverty

#### Doncaster Core Strategy

- Distribute growth and regeneration where it would do most good in terms of supporting prosperous and sustainable communities by improving the economic performance of towns, promoting regeneration and tackling deprivation.

#### Cultural Strategy

- Doncaster is a place of places with a varied and vibrant culture. Our communities flourish by expressing their own creativity and connecting through shared cultural experiences of power and meaning.

#### Get Doncaster Moving

- For thriving people, places and planet

#### Voluntary Action Doncaster

- Building the capacity of third sector organisations and provide them with the necessary support, information and services to benefit local residents and communities.
- Promote, organise and facilitate co-operation and partnership working between third sector, statutory and other relevant bodies

#### Communications & Engagement Strategy

- Regular, open and two-way communications with our residents, communities and staff

#### Doncaster Economic Strategy 2030

*A regenerative and inclusive economy for thriving people, places and planet*

#### Doncaster Housing Strategy

We will help our residents to access good housing. Our homes have a powerful influence on our health and wellbeing and we want everyone to have a healthy home that is secure, in good repair, warm, comfortable, and free from hazards.



# Your Life Doncaster

Discover the Your Life Doncaster website  
you can find helpful information about  
your community, including:

## Help

Information and support for adults, young people and children to live happy and healthy lives

## Community

What is available in your area from community groups and Family Hubs, to your local Police and community contacts

## News

New stories, events and updates about your local community



Find out more by visiting  
[www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk](http://www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk)

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## Doncaster Council

### Report

**Date: 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**To: Chair and Members of Cabinet**

**Report Title: South Yorkshire Integrated Care Strategy**

<b>Relevant Cabinet Member(s)</b>	<b>Wards Affected</b>	<b>Key Decision</b>
Cllr Nigel Ball Cllr Rachael Blake	All	Yes

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. All Integrated Care Partnerships were required to publish an interim Integrated Care Strategy by the end of December 2022. There was an acknowledgement nationally that this timeline was challenging, and as such the initial strategies are expected to be a starting point and will evolve over time.
2. Integrated Care Strategies are expected to build on existing work, plans and momentum to further the change needed to tackle challenges such as reducing inequalities in health and social care; improving quality and performance; preventing mental and physical ill health; maximising independence and preventing care needs, by promoting control, choice and flexibility in how people experience and receive care and support.
3. Further to the ICP strategy launch, the 5 year forward plan for South Yorkshire will be developed with each Place contributing to the overall joint plan. Through local governance, Doncaster partners are reviewing and refreshing the priorities for Doncaster for 2023/24 in a Doncaster Place Plan, building on existing life stage plans.

#### **Developing the Strategy**

4. In readiness to inform the South Yorkshire ICP Strategy by December 2022, four areas of preparatory work were agreed by the South Yorkshire System Leaders Executive Group in August 2022. These were brought together into a baseline report and were actively used to inform Strategy development.

- Understanding the South Yorkshire Population Health Needs
- Capturing the learning from our approach to date
- Reflecting the views of stakeholders, patients and the public
- Outlining existing plans and commitments

5. Work to develop the initial Integrated Care Strategy progressed at pace within challenging timelines which were set nationally. Strategy development was informed by:

- A refresh of the South Yorkshire population health needs assessment, completed in September 2022.
- Insights from what the public and patients have told us are important to them. This used a phased approach to engagement:

- I. Gathering insights from existing engagement and involvement work undertaken by ICP partners in the last few years
- II. A campaign by way of a survey aimed at seeking views from as many of our 1.4 million population across South Yorkshire as possible asking a simple question – ‘What matters to you about your health and wellbeing?’
- III. Gaining deeper insights into underrepresented groups and people with lived experience working with and through Healthwatch and the Voluntary Sector.

The key themes identified in phase 1) used to inform the Strategy were as follows:

- Awareness – including the need for more information about prevention of ill health and availability of different health and social care services.
- Access – including removing barriers to accessing health and social care services, noting that people’s experiences of accessing services have also been affected by the pandemic.
- Agency – including providing people with the information, tools and capacity to manage their own care

The ‘What matters to you about your health and wellbeing?’ campaign to gain new insights ran throughout November and early December. Receiving over 600 responses from people across South Yorkshire, the following key themes emerged in addition to those identified and they have been used to further shape the initial strategy:

- Access to care
- Quality of care



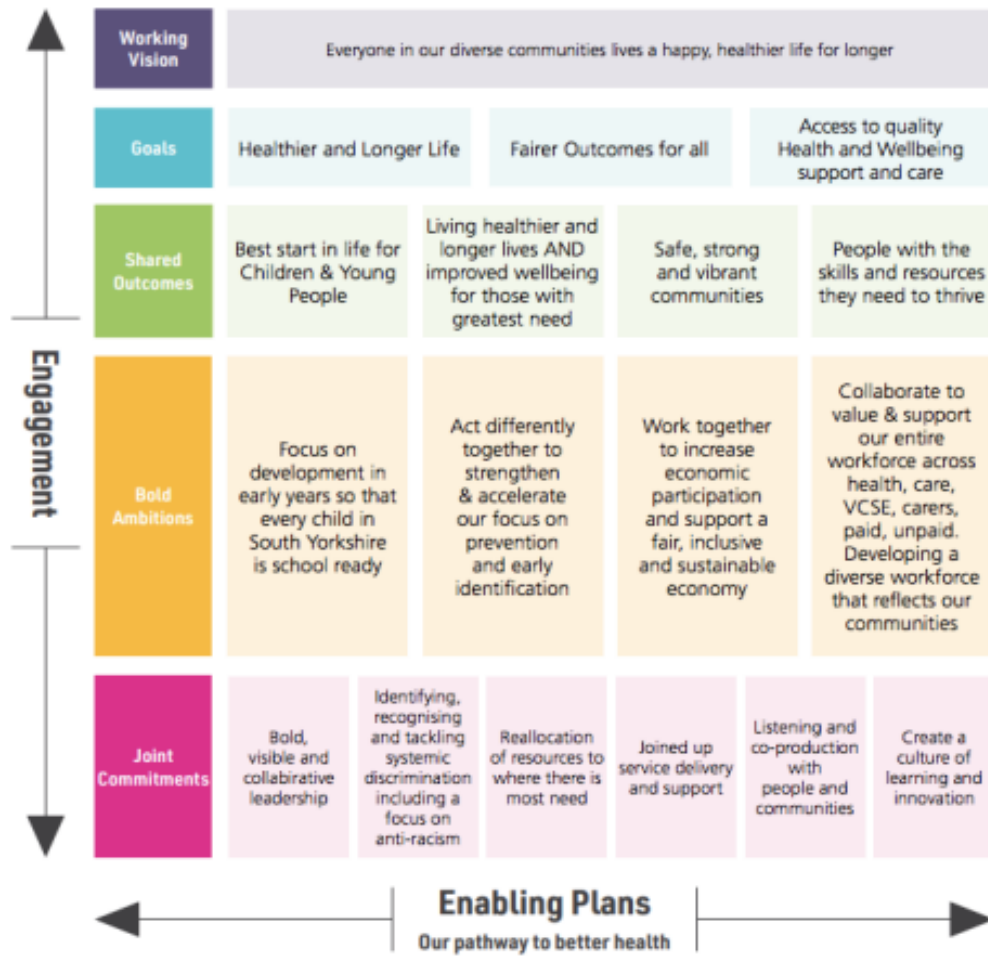
- Improving mental health and wellbeing
- Support to live well
- Wider determinants of health
- Affordability
- Accountability

Although the ICP have endeavoured to engage broadly, the national timeline for development of this initial Strategy has made it challenging. Going forward there is a strong commitment to continue to engage and involve as the Strategy evolves and is translated into delivery plans including the Integrated Care Board 5-Year Joint Forward Plan.

6. The Strategy builds on existing Strategies and plans, including place based Health and Wellbeing Strategies, Place Health and Care Plans and our South Yorkshire Strategic Plan. For Doncaster, existing and developing local focussed plans at place and locality scale will continue to provide direction and strategy for improvements in health and wellbeing.
7. Within the challenging timescales, Strategy development has been shaped by the work of the Integrated Care Partnership since 23 September 2022, including the inaugural meeting on 23 September and focussed development sessions that took place in late October and November 2022. These sessions were supported by the ICP Working Group and were used to develop the vision and content of the initial Strategy, including shared outcomes and bold ambitions

### **The Integrated Care Strategy**

8. The Vision, Shared Outcomes, Bold Ambitions and Joint Commitments described in the Strategy are summarised on the diagram below:



9. The working vision for the initial Integrated Care Strategy co created by the Integrated Care Partnership is for:

*Everyone in our diverse communities lives a happy, healthier life for longer*

10. The shared outcomes agreed by the Integrated Care Partnership are:

- Children and young people have the best start in life
- People in South Yorkshire live longer and healthier lives AND the physical and mental health and wellbeing of those with the greatest need improves the fastest
- People are supported to live in safe, strong and vibrant communities
- People are equipped with the skills and resources they need to thrive

11. Action focused bold ambitions have also been identified where the Partnership has the potential to join forces and to practically align our collective power and influence to make a difference. These include:

- Focus on development in early years so that every child is school ready
- Act differently together to strengthen and accelerate our focus on prevention and early detection

- Working together to increase economic participation and support a fair, inclusive and sustainable economy
- Working together to value and support out entire 'One Workforce' across health and care, voluntary care sector, carers, paid and unpaid. Developing a diverse workforce that reflects our communities.

12. To enable delivery of shared outcomes and bold ambitions, joint commitments have been agreed across the Partnership. These include:

- Be bold, visible and collaborative in our leadership for the people of South Yorkshire, doing things differently being courageous and taking risks where it improves outcomes or reduces health inequalities.
- Identify, recognize, and tackle systemic discrimination together, with a focus on anti-racism
- Reallocate our resources to where there is most need and where they can have the greatest impact on population health outcomes. This means reducing duplication, investing differently and earlier in people's lives. It means reallocating our collective resources towards prevention and those people and areas with the greatest needs.
- Join up service delivery and support between health and social care and VCSE where it makes sense to do so in our places and across South Yorkshire
- Listen and facilitate co-production with people and communities
- Create a culture of learning and innovation, where best practice is shared confidently and adopted quickly across communities, places and South Yorkshire as a whole and where community-based innovations are adopted.
- Develop and deliver inclusive enabling plans which support delivery of our strategy to better health, including workforce, quality and quality improvement, data, digital and technology

### **Health and Care Partnership Delivery at Place**

13. The 5 year forward plan for South Yorkshire will be developed with each Place and contribute to an overall joint plan. The Doncaster Place Plan will build on existing life stage plans and build on existing development and achievements in Doncaster.

14. Partners have an established agreement to work together on behalf of the people of Doncaster to develop the '1 Plan' which will:

- Identify the health and care needs of the Doncaster population
- Develop a strategic and operational response
- Deliver integrated health support and community care
- Deliver mandated national priorities
- improve health and care outcomes for the people of Doncaster

15. This agreed way of working also set out the governance structures underpinning the Doncaster delivery plan including the Place Delivery Group and Place Committee.

16. Partners have also agreed to further develop our joint way of working across the Doncaster Place in a Place Development Plan. The areas for development are:

- Leadership
- Workforce and culture
- Values and behaviours
- Integration of service
- Purpose of vision
- Governance
- Coordinated decision making and system design
- Finance framework
- Quality and outcomes reporting

## **EXEMPT REPORT**

17. No

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

18. Cabinet is asked to note the progress and endorse the initial South Yorkshire Integrated Care Strategy. Cabinet will need to consider any steps that need to be taken to align council strategies and plans with the South Yorkshire Integrated Care Strategy.

## **WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?**

19. The Integrated Care Strategy describes this regional approach to improve the health and wellbeing of people across South Yorkshire and reduce inequalities in access, experience and outcomes. The strategy sets out a vision, outcomes, ambitions and joint commitments. Local governance and plans will continue to focus on local people in this context.

## **BACKGROUND**

20. The Health and Care Act 2022 amends the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, and requires integrated care partnerships to write an integrated care strategy to set out how the assessed needs (from the joint strategic needs assessments) can be met through the exercise of the functions of the integrated care board, partner local authorities or NHS England.

## **OPTIONS CONSIDERED**


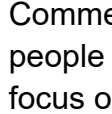


21. No other options considered.




## REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

22. The recommendation fulfils the council's duty as a partner local authority in the South Yorkshire Integrated Care Partnership.

## IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

23.

Great 8 Priority	Positive Overall	Mix of Positive & Negative	Trade-offs to consider – Negative overall	Neutral or No implications
 <b>Tackling Climate Change</b>	✓			
<p>Comments: The ICP strategy states an ambition to play its part in an inclusive and sustainable economy.</p>				
 <b>Developing the skills to thrive in life and in work</b>	✓			
<p>Comments: The ICP strategy states an ambition to play its part in equipping people with the skills and resources they need to thrive, as well as having a clear focus on the workforce.</p>				
 <b>Making Doncaster the best place to do business and create good jobs</b>	✓			
<p>Comments: The ICP strategy states an ambition to play its part in creating a healthy and thriving place.</p>				
 <b>Building opportunities for healthier, happier and longer lives for all</b>	✓			
<p>Comments: The ICP strategy focuses on this and states an ambition for all people in South Yorkshire to live longer and healthier lives and that the physical and mental health and wellbeing of those with the greatest need improves the fastest. More detail is needed in future delivery plans.</p>				
<b>Creating safer, stronger, greener and cleaner</b>	✓			

<b>communities where everyone belongs</b>				
Comments: The ICP strategy states an outcome that everyone should live in safe, strong and vibrant communities.				
 <b>Nurturing a child and family-friendly borough</b>	✓			
Comments: The ICP strategy states an ambition that every child should have the best start in life.				
 <b>Building Transport and digital connections fit for the future</b>				✓
Comments: The ICP strategy is not explicit about this.				
 <b>Promoting the borough and its cultural, sporting, and heritage opportunities</b>				✓
Comments: The ICP strategy is not explicit about this.				
<b>Fair &amp; Inclusive</b>	✓			
Comments: The ICP strategy focuses on this and states an ambition for all people in South Yorkshire to live longer and healthier lives and that the physical and mental health and wellbeing of those with the greatest need improves the fastest. More detail is needed in future delivery plans.				

**Legal Implications [Officer Initials: SRF Date: 03.02.23]**

24. Clause 26 of the Health and Care Act 2022 sets out certain amendments to the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007

25. The amendments provide for an Integrated Care Partnership to be created which is made up of the Integrated Care Board and each responsible local authority within the Integrated Care Board's area.

26. The Integrated Care Partnership must prepare an Integrated Care Strategy setting out how the assessment needs in relation to its area are to be met by the exercise of functions of the Integrated Care Board for its area, NHS England or the responsible local authority
27. The Integrated Care Strategy must consider how NHS bodies and local authorities could work together to meet these needs using section 75 of the NHS Act 2006. In preparing this strategy, the Integrated Care Partnership must have regard to the NHS mandate and guidance published by the Secretary of State, and it must involve the local Healthwatch and people who live or work in the Integrated Care Partnership's area.

#### **Financial Implications [HR 02/02/23]**

28. There are no specific financial implications arising as a result of this report. Financial Management should be consulted should any reallocation of resources be required in the future.

#### **Human Resources Implications [Officer Initials: EL Date: 09/02/2023]**

29. There are no specific human resource implications with this report.

#### **Technology Implications [Officer Initials: PW Date: 03/02/23]**

30. Technology will be a key enabler to support the delivery of the strategy. Robust and effective ICT governance arrangements will continue to be needed. Any requirements for new, enhanced or replacement technology will be considered by the Council's Technology Governance Board (TGB) for inclusion in the Technology Forward Plan, to ensure the resources, expertise and capacity within services is available. This will be monitored and continuously reviewed via TGB. Digital & ICT should be consulted and feed into the enabling plans, where applicable.

#### **RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS**

31. There are no specific risks associated with this report. However the ability to implement the strategy could be constrained by the ability of partners to effectively listen and coproduce solutions with people with lived experience and the ability of partners to align resources to the ambitions and joint commitments.

#### **CONSULTATION**

32. Consultation happened across South Yorkshire as described in paragraph 4.

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

33. South Yorkshire Integrated Care Strategy.

#### **GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

- 34.

## **REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS**

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## City of Doncaster Council

Date: 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023

### To the Mayor and Members of Cabinet 2023-25 Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Framework and Protected Characteristics

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision?
Cllr Rachael Blake	All	Yes

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Most people in Doncaster want to live in a community where they know their neighbour, feel safe and have the opportunities to achieve their potential, regardless of their background, their circumstances, or where they live.
2. Our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Framework, sets out in one place our EDI objectives and arrangements for embedding equality into everything we do. It outlines our commitment to EDI, and links directly to the strategic ambitions set out in the Borough Strategy and Corporate Plan. It focuses on key objectives for 2023 – 25.
3. The EDI Framework has been reviewed by the EDI Board and is attached as Appendix A
4. Following a motion presented to Full Council on 27<sup>th</sup> we are proposing the introduction of a new local protected characteristic – Young People’s Care Experience.

#### EXEMPT REPORT

5. This report is not exempt

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

6. The Mayor and Members of Cabinet are asked to agree the EDI Framework and the introduction of a new local protected characteristic ‘Young People’s Care Experience’.

## BACKGROUND

7. The EDI framework presented today represent several years journey towards a better understanding of the life of residents and the communities in which they live. We have, along with our partners, agreed our borough strategy to 2030 – Doncaster Delivering Together<sup>1</sup>. This strategy sets out the type of city we want to be more like in the future and at the heart of this strategy is Fairness and Inclusion and a set of Well-being Essentials that set out some of the key things we would expect for people in Doncaster.
  
8. The Council, along with its partners, have tried to get closer to communities in order to understand the reality of life in Doncaster or the ‘lived experience’ of people. In doing so we can use this experience to shape our policies and services to make them better more generally, but we can ensure that our services work differently so that all groups of people can access and benefit from them equally. There have been several examples to draw upon;
  - Children and Young Peoples Plan – co-produced by young people for young people
  - Making It Real – Co-production of adult social care policy
  - Domestic Abuse Strategy – co-produced by survivors
  - Setting up the Ethnic Culture Fusion Network – a staff forum to shape internal workforce policies
  - Be Kind Campaign – drawing up proposals to draw upon peoples positive experiences in the borough to bring greater integration, pride and a kinder and compassionate city
  
9. We have also set up a Fairness and Well-being Commission to look at inequalities and at the lived experience of people across the borough. This commission has commenced in 2023 and will report back later this year with specific areas of focus for the Council and partners to consider.
  
10. Furthermore, the Council has been successful in achieving a number of awards that recognise the approach and way we work to be inclusive to all across the city, these include;
  - Inclusive Employer Bronze Standard- An evidence-based workplace accreditation tool for inclusion and diversity covering all the protected characteristics and wider I&D themes.
  - Fair Train Gold Award recognising the standards of the work experience provisions
  - Armed Forces Employer Recognition Scheme Gold Award – recognises employers who support defence and inspire others to do the same

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.teamdoncaster.org.uk/doncaster-delivering-together>

- Disability Confident Employer – recognising employers to think differently about disability and take action to improve how they recruit, retain and develop disabled people.
- Mindful Employer - recognising employers who are positive about mental health
- Public Service People Management Association (PPMA): Best apprenticeship of the year award, Gold Award and Best Health and Wellbeing Category
- Winner of global diversity award for work on gender pay
- Doncaster Council has been awarded Trailblazer status by Race Equality Matters. The Trailblazer series spotlights forward-thinking organisations that are implementing impactful solutions to drive race equality. Trailblazer status recognises the council's commitment and achievements to becoming a more equal, diverse and inclusive organisation.

## OUR EDI FRAMEWORK

11. We have used the engagement and lived experience to review and revise the key elements that make up the Council's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Framework. The Framework comprises of 5 key elements:

- **Our Statement** underpins all of the Council's equality, diversity and inclusion work. In conjunction with other key Council policies and strategies our framework will help the Council to realise its purpose 'that all people in Doncaster thrive'. We pledge a commitment to celebrating equality, inclusion and diversity whilst promoting good relations between our diverse communities to ensure that our services are appropriate and accessible for everyone.
- Our **EDI Vision & Values** outlines our vision, guiding principles and our aspiration for Doncaster to be an open, diverse and inclusive borough that respects and values differences. It outlines our roles and responsibilities as a council under 3 specific areas:
  - **Community Leader** - We have an important role in securing economic prosperity, achieving the right outcomes for all, empowering communities and creating sustainable and cohesive communities.
  - **Services** – We have an important role in ensuring services are customer focused, inclusive, accessible and meet individual needs irrespective of how services are delivered.
  - **Employer** - We have a responsibility to meet the diverse needs of our employees and to ensure they are promoting equality, diversity and inclusion.
- **Our EDI Objectives** are a legal requirement under the Public Sector Equality Duty and must publish at least every four years. The objectives were developed in conjunction with a review of our Borough Strategy (Doncaster Delivering Together) and our Corporate Plan, using this

engagement with residents to bring forward objectives that are based on actual experience of people in our Borough.

We reviewed these objectives with relevant colleagues to ensure they were fit for purpose and appropriate for our focus over the next four years, with reviews built into that period. Our EDI Objectives for 2023/24 are shown below:

1. Support older adults to remain independent in their own homes
  2. Support victims of domestic abuse and work with partners to reduce the levels of abuse in the Borough
  3. Improve engagement with our most deprived communities to increase access to jobs and skills
  4. Improve the mental health of our children and young people
  5. Support those Children and Young people within our care to have a good start to life and have the same life chances as everyone else living in the Borough
- Our Governance is an account of how progress made against the improvement and delivery of the EDI objectives will be managed, monitored, evaluated and reviewed and reported.
  - Our Lived Experience is a mechanism where case studies will be developed to offer services the opportunity to tell their stories. These case studies will be published on the Council's internet page

## **PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS**

12. The Equality Act 2010 is concerned with discrimination and harassment in respect of nine protected characteristics: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation.
13. Doncaster Council is continually striving to ensure people are not discriminated against and have currently 3 adopted local protected characteristics: socio economic status (poverty), Veterans and homeless and rough sleepers and these are included in our 'due regard' process.
14. From 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022, councils, NHS Trusts and other local bodies across the UK providing services to the armed forces community are required to adhere to a new legal duty which puts legal responsibility on services to embody the Armed Forces Covenant. The Covenant is a promise to treat members of the armed forces community fairly. The duty means that authorities must now consider how their decision-making impacts upon members of the armed forces community. As the Council is in front of the curve and already includes veterans as an

additional characteristics and the impacts of veteran and their families is well embedded into the decision making process.

15. The Independent Review of Children in Social Care May 2022 by Josh MacAlister contained the following recommendation: *Government should make care experience a protected characteristic, following consultation with care experienced people and the Devolved Administrations.*
16. In light of the aforementioned review the Hear Me Out voice group for care experienced young people in Doncaster have been considering how making care experience a protected characteristic will affect them and wholeheartedly believe that this would be beneficial to them in the long term.
17. The November Corporate Parenting Board heard from the Hear Me Out group about the work they had started to do on championing care experience being a protected characteristic and more importantly the reasons why based on their own experience. As corporate parents we have the opportunity to change things for the better in Doncaster. As part of our annual EDI Framework review Cllr Blake, the EDI Portfolio Holder therefore made a request to add Young People's Care Experience as a protected characteristic. In doing so we will be one of the first local authorities to adopt this into our local protected characteristics set and the first to receive this directly from young people with that living experience in a Council decision making setting.
18. Over 50% of young people in custody are from care and one quarter of the homeless population is from care. Every care experienced person cost during their short lives, £1.2m and those that need a social worker cost £610,000 each.
19. Young people from the Hear Me Out group posed a question to Full Council on 27<sup>th</sup> February asking if "the local Authority who are our Corporate Parents, support the national campaign in making care experience a protected characteristic here in Doncaster?" During her response, the Mayor commented, "they represent a key part of the Doncaster population and it is simply not fair that you or anyone in care or from care should have to tackle stigma or discrimination. You are a resident of Doncaster just like anyone else".
20. A motion was proposed to full council on February 27<sup>th</sup> 2023 to adopt young people's 'care experience' as a local protected characteristic, attached as Appendix B. A number of councillors verbally expressed their full support for the motion with meaningful and heartfelt comments. For the first time in full council history all present stood and applauded in support of the motion and to show that young people's care experience matters
21. The results of the vote was unanimous with 44 votes for, none against and no abstentions Cllr Blake commented that "this motion extends beyond City of Doncaster Council and that we will be formally calling upon Team Doncaster to adopt the same approach. Only by continuing to work with Hear me Out will we know if we have made the difference everyone in this chamber wants to make and

I look forward to the group holding us to account, challenging us and making us all the best corporate parents we can possibly be”

**MONITORING AND DUE REGARD**

- 22. Equality, diversity and Inclusion analysis and due regard is a process used to ensure that when the council takes a decision, it knows who is affected and has taken reasonable mitigating action to ensure its impact is as equitable as possible.
- 23. The Council’s due regard process is reviewed annually as part of the Performance Management Framework to ensure it remains fit for purpose and due regard statements are monitored for quality.

**OPTIONS CONSIDERED**






- 24. Not applicable




**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION**

- 25. Not applicable

**IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL’S KEY OUTCOMES**

- 26.

Great 8 Priority	Positive Overall	Mix of Positive & Negative	Trade-offs to consider – Negative overall	Neutral or No implications
 <b>Tackling Climate Change</b>	✓			
Comments: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion impacts across all priorities.				
 <b>Developing the skills to thrive in life and in work</b>	✓			
Comments: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion impacts across all priorities.				
 <b>Making Doncaster the best place to do business and create good jobs</b>	✓			
Comments: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion impacts across all priorities.				
 <b>Building opportunities for healthier, happier and longer lives for all</b>	✓			
Comments: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion impacts across all priorities.				
 <b>Creating safer, stronger, greener and cleaner communities where everyone belongs</b>	✓			
Comments: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion impacts across all priorities.				

 <b>Nurturing a child and family-friendly borough</b>	✓			
Comments: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion impacts across all priorities.				
 <b>Building Transport and digital connections fit for the future</b>	✓			
Comments: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion impacts across all priorities.				
 <b>Promoting the borough and its cultural, sporting, and heritage opportunities</b>	✓			
Comments: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion impacts across all priorities.				
<b>Fair &amp; Inclusive</b>	✓			
In line with the corporate approach for compliance against Equality Duty 2010 due regard must be shown across all activity within the Council. The EDI Frameworks outlines the mechanism by which the Council ensures this is embedded in everything we do.				

### Legal Implications [Officer Initials: NC Date: 08/03/2023 ]

27. Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 places a duty (the Public Sector Equality Duty) on the Council, which obliges it, when exercising its functions, to have 'due regard' to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct which the Act prohibits;
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share relevant protected characteristics and those who do not; and
- foster good relations between people who share relevant protected characteristics and those who do not.

28. Protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, race, sex, sexual orientation, religion or belief and pregnancy and maternity. Only the first aim of the Public Sector Equality Duty set out in paragraph (a) above applies to a further protected characteristic of marriage and civil partnership.

29. Having due regard to advancing equality involves: -

- Removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by people due to their protected characteristic;
- taking steps to meet the needs of people from protected groups where they are different to the needs of other people; and
- encouraging people from protected groups to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low.

30. In addition to the statutory protected characteristics referred to above, the Council has chosen to adopt further non-statutory local protected characteristics.

31. The Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017, require the Council to publish annual information to demonstrate compliance with the Public Sector Duty. Regulation 5 also requires the Council to publish equality objectives at four-yearly intervals.
32. With effect from the 22nd November 2022, the Armed Forces Act 2006 was amended and now places a duty on the Council to have due regard to the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant when exercising specific functions set out in the Act.
33. The proposals set out in this report will assist the Council in meeting the duties set out above.

**Financial Implications [Officer Initials: AG Date 07/03/2023:]**

34. There are no specific financial implications arising from this report.

**Human Resources Implications [Officer Initials: CB Date: 03/02/2023]**

35. The Council aims to be an inclusive employer and complies with the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010 as well other relevant legislation. The proposed change is consistent with the aim of being an inclusive employer, eliminating unlawful discrimination, and will support improvements in children's services.

**Technology Implications [Officer Initials: PW Date: 03/03/2023]**

36. There are no technology implications in relation to this report.

**RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS**

37. There is a risk that if the Councils does not have a 'fit for purpose' EDI Framework that we do not fully comply with our duties outlined in the Public Sector quality Duty.

**CONSULTATION**

38. Consultation on the EDI Framework has taken place EDI Working Group; EDI Portfolio Board; Executive Leadership Team; Executive Board; Full Council

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

39. Public Sector Equality Duty; The Independent Review of Children in Social Care May 2022;

**GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

40. EDI – Equality, Diversity & Inclusion



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**Director of Corporate Resources**



# Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Framework

Doncaster Council's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Framework supports and underpins our Corporate Equality Objectives, which are linked to the wider outcomes included in Doncaster's Borough Strategy. It provides a clear statement of principles in relation to the Council's vision for promoting high-quality, customer focused services to people living, working or visiting our borough.

Doncaster Council has developed an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Framework, consisting of 5 key elements:

# 1

## **Our Statement:**

A high level statement of intent outlining the Council's ethos And commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

# 2

## **Our EDI Vision & Principles:**

Shows who we are, our destination and what we want to achieve.

# 3

## **Our EDI Objectives:**

The corporate EDI objectives highlights the key EDI challenges Doncaster Councils seeking to address.

# 4

## **Our Governance:**

An account of how progress made against the improvement and delivery of the EDI objectives will be managed, monitored, evaluated, reviewed and reported;

# 5

## **Our Lived Experience:**

Case studies will be developed to offer services the opportunity to tell their stories.



# 1 Our Equality, Diversity & Inclusion STATEMENT

Doncaster Council is committed ensuring high-quality, customer focused services to people living, working or visiting our borough. We recognise and value the benefits of diversity and inclusiveness in our communities where we strive to improve the quality of life for all.

We pledge a commitment to celebrating equality, inclusion and diversity whilst promoting good relations between our diverse communities to ensure that our services are appropriate and accessible for everyone. Our aspiration is for Doncaster to be an open, diverse and inclusive borough which is receptive to new ideas, creativity and innovation.

We will adhere to the general duty on public authorities contained in the Equality Act 2010. Due regard will be applied and legitimately considered when carrying out public functions to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations with regards to the nine protected characteristics. These nine detailed characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. For Marriage and Civil Partnerships the duty is to eliminate unlawful discrimination only. We are also striving to ensure people are not discriminated against due to their socio economic status (poverty), the homeless and rough sleepers or armed forces veterans. This applies to the Council as an employer, service provider and in relation to any ongoing partnership work or through our public duties.

**Equality** focuses on improving outcomes for all by responding to individuals or groups differently in order to meet their needs to address differing levels of disadvantage and discrimination.

**Diversity** recognises respect and value differences to contribute and realise potential by promoting inclusive culture for individuals, communities and employees.

**Inclusion** is a sense of belonging and making all groups and individuals feel respected and valued.

This Statement is part of Doncaster Council's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Framework which underpins all of the Council's equality, diversity and inclusion work. In conjunction with other key Council policies and strategies our framework will help the Council to realise its purpose

**“that all people in Doncaster thrive”**

Damian Allen  
Chief Executive

Ros Jones  
Mayor

April 2023

# 2

## Our Equality, Diversity & Inclusion VISION & VALUES



### OUR VISION

Our aspiration is for Doncaster to be an open, diverse and inclusive borough that respects and values differences. A place where people from different backgrounds and with different views work together to create opportunity for everyone to thrive and succeed.



### OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- We believe that everyone should have the opportunity to flourish in a fair and inclusive society.
- We will take a proactive approach to developing a culture that values and celebrates diversity.
- We will seek to understand the challenges and barriers in order to eliminate discrimination, promote inclusion and create an environment where differences are valued.
- We will promote a culture of inclusion, recognising and celebrating difference and acknowledging the benefits achieved by diversity of thought and experience.
- We will continue to embed equality, diversity and inclusion across the council and in everything that we do.
- We will ensure our commitments are understood by our communities raising awareness in areas relating to equality, diversity and inclusion.
- We will recognise that individual's lives are shaped by intersecting social diversity categories and that these do not exist in isolation of each other but may create multiple barriers to opportunity.



### OUR ROLES AND PRIORITIES

**Community Leader** - We have an important role in securing economic prosperity, achieving the right outcomes for all, empowering communities and creating sustainable and cohesive communities. We will

- Demonstrate visible leadership and accountability at all levels
- Build good relationships with and between different communities so everyone is able to participate, contribute and achieve.
- Achieve measurable increases in the extent to which those facing inequality and exclusion can contribute and share in Doncaster's success,

**Services** – We have an important role in ensuring services are customer focused, inclusive, accessible and meet individual needs irrespective of how services are delivered. We will.

- Develop, commission and deliver inclusive and responsive services which actively address disadvantage and enable people to achieve and succeed.
- Actively listen and empower our clients, customers and communities, enabling them to take ownership of decisions that affect them
- Address gaps in knowledge or evidence.

**Employer** - We have a responsibility to meet the diverse needs of our employees and to ensure they are promoting equality, diversity and inclusion. We will:

- Strive to be an inclusive employer, creating a culture where diversity is valued and celebrated.
- Ensure staff have a good understanding of EDI and are equipped to design and deliver inclusive services.
- Embed EDI to build a positive reputation internally and externally, through policies and practices.



### PERFORMANCE ENABLERS

**Leadership and Governance** - Strong visible leadership and effective governance

**Engagement** - Support through an effective communication and engagement plan

**Relevant and Reliable Data**- The ability to monitor progress and identify areas of disadvantage

**Cycle of Continuous Improvement**- Striving to continuously improve how we develop and deliver EDI

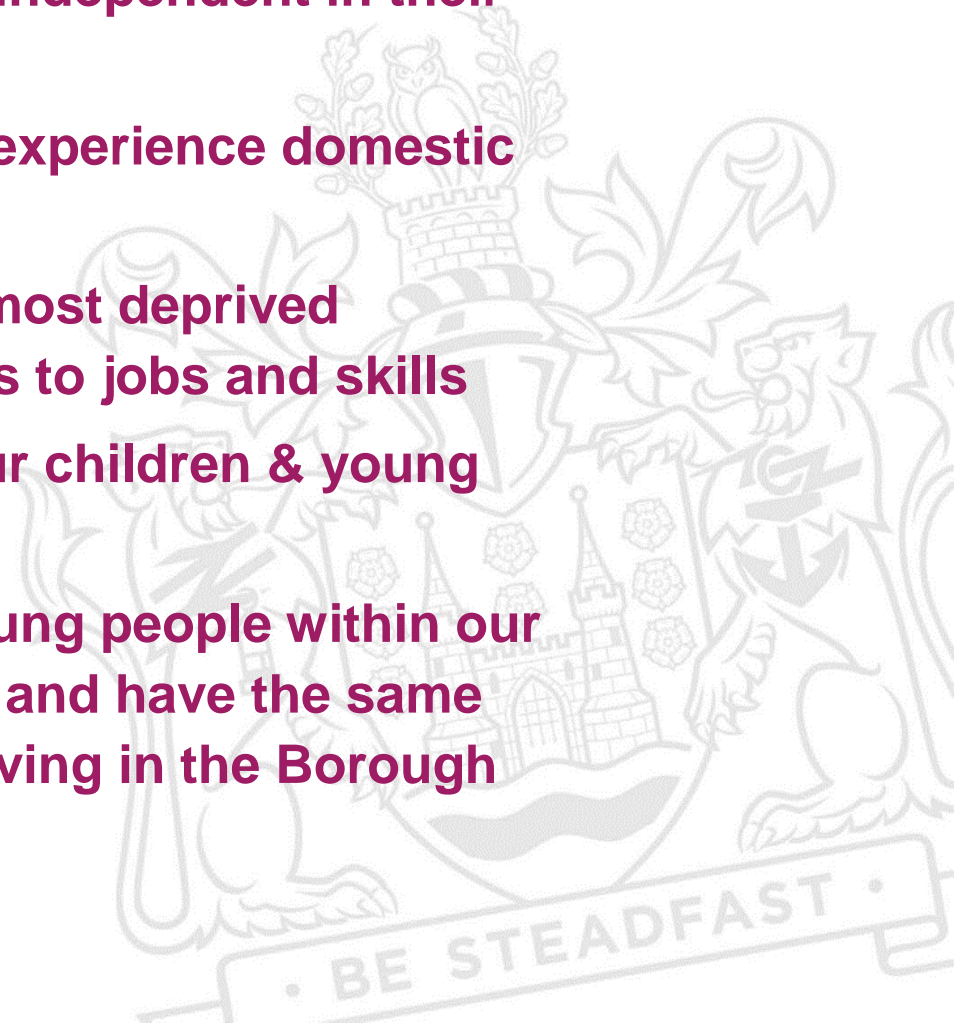
**Capacity and Capability** - Building competence and understanding of EDI

**Empowerment** - Ensuring ideas and concerns are heard and progressed



# 3 Our Equality, Diversity & Inclusion OBJECTIVES PROFILE

- Objective 1: Support older adults to remain independent in their own home**
- Objective 2: People in Doncaster no longer experience domestic abuse**
- Objective 3: Improve engagement with our most deprived communities to increase access to jobs and skills**
- Objective 4: Improve the mental health of our children & young people**
- Objective 5: Support those Children and Young people within our care to have a good start to life and have the same life chances as everyone else living in the Borough**





# 4

## Our Equality, Diversity & Inclusion GOVERNANCE

### The Law & Legal Duties

Doncaster Council recognises its obligations under The Equality Act of 2010 to show 'due regard' to the three main aims of the Equality Duty, and the need to

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not;
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic, and those who do not.

The Public Sector Equality Duty requires public bodies to consider how the decisions that they make, and the services they deliver affect people who share different protected characteristics and publish information to demonstrate how they have done this. In addition the Council is also required to set specific, measureable equality objectives and publish these, along with their Equality Framework.

The Equality Act reminds us that there can be no fair society if some groups and communities remain disadvantaged because of their legally protected characteristics. These characteristics are:

- Age
- Disability
- Sexual Orientation
- Race/Ethnicity
- Religion and Belief
- Sex
- Gender Reassignment
- Marriage and Civil Partnership
- Pregnancy and Maternity

Doncaster Council is also striving to ensure people are not discriminated against due to their socio economic status (poverty), or because they are homeless or rough sleepers therefore they are included within our considerations when paying due regard.

From 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022, councils, NHS Trusts and other local bodies across the UK providing services to the armed forces community are required to adhere to a new legal duty which puts legal responsibility on services to embody the Armed Forces Covenant. The Covenant is a promise to treat members of the armed forces community fairly.

The duty means that authorities must now consider how their decision-making impacts upon members of the armed forces community. The Councils already includes veterans as an additional characteristics and as a result the impacts of veteran and their families is well embedded into the decision making process.

The Hear Me Out voice group for care experienced young people in Doncaster considered how making care experience a protected characteristic will affect them and wholeheartedly believe that this would be beneficial to them in the long term. A motion was presented at Full Council on 27<sup>th</sup> February to adopt the 'care experience' as a local protected characteristic. Our Due Regard process now includes young people's care experience.

## Management of Our Framework

The **Corporate Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Working Group** consists of representatives from the Policy, Insight & Change Team, Human Resources and Organisational Development and Public Health.

This group is responsible for the strategic overview of the Council's obligations for promoting and embedding Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) across the organisation and includes the production, management and monitoring of the EDI Framework. The EDI Working Group also facilitates the development of the EDI Annual Report and co-ordinates the quarterly performance reports that form part of the Corporate Finance and Performance reporting process.

The **Corporate Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Portfolio Board** is chaired by the Portfolio Holder with responsibility for EDI, and consists of the membership of the Corporate Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Working Group.

The key roles of this Board are to co-ordinate EDI work across the Council and monitor, review and reflect on the progress made against the improvement and delivery of the EDI objectives. The Board will review issues escalated from the EDI Working Group and advice on mitigating actions. The EDI Board may also request additional information from service areas or partners, as and when required, to ensure the Council continues to effectively manage EDI.

At any one time there are a number of programmes and initiatives that directly impact on EDI. Updates may be requested from the EDI Board to ensure an informed, consistent approach.

## Roles & Responsibilities

Everyone within Doncaster Council has a responsibility to ensure that the policies, procedures, services and programmes we deliver reflect our commitment to EDI, as articulated within our EDI Policy Statement.

The Council recognises that in order to embed EDI across all levels of the authority there needs to be strong leadership and effective governance structures in place. A complete responsibility grid is attached as Appendix A.

## Reporting

The Corporate EDI Board will meet on a monthly basis to receive reports and/or updates on the progress made against the improvement and delivery of the EDI objectives, outlined within the EDI Objective summary. Alongside this, the Board will also receive quarterly updates on the progress made against the performance indicators which underpin the delivery of the EDI objectives, via the Council's existing quarterly performance arrangements.

The EDI Board will also have the ability to request and receive updates from initiatives and programmes that impact upon EDI. Issues relating to EDI that have been highlighted through other mechanisms, i.e. the Senior Management Team and Team Doncaster will also be received by the EDI Board.



## EDI Responsibility Grid

	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Key Activity</b>
<b>EDI Portfolio Holder</b>	Provide leadership support and promotion of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion throughout the Council and champion the EDI Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To lead in the delivery and improvement of the Council's Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion agenda</li> <li>• To keep other Councillors up to date with EDI activities;</li> <li>• To have an understanding of the corporate 'due regard' process and the implications it has the decision making process;</li> <li>• To promote inclusive community engagement and empower communities to create sustainable cohesive communities;</li> <li>• To identify training for Member champions to enhance understanding of the EDI agenda;</li> </ul>
<b>Elected Members</b>	Champion EDI in all elements of their areas of responsibility and promote EDI both internally and externally of the Council.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have an understanding of the corporate 'due regard' process and the implications it has the decision making process;</li> <li>• Promote inclusive community engagement and empower communities to create sustainable cohesive communities.</li> </ul>
<b>Corporate Management Team</b>	Ultimately responsible for developing the Council's strategy for Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion, and ensuring that the Council is able to deliver its Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agree the Council's EDI Framework for consideration by Executive Board &amp; Cabinet;</li> <li>• Provide leadership in the implementation of the EDI Framework;</li> <li>• Receive quarterly updates on progress against the Equality objectives.</li> </ul>
<b>Heads of Service &amp; Service Managers</b>	Lead their service in the delivery of a positive EDI environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement the Council's 'due regard' process in their respective service areas;</li> <li>• Ensure the corporate 'due regard' process is represented in all key decision reports;</li> <li>• Support staff and enable them to contribute towards the delivery of key EDI objectives;</li> </ul>
<b>AD HR, Comms &amp; Exec Office</b>	Co-ordinate the corporate approach, creating a workplace culture where diversity is valued and celebrated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a diverse and inclusive workplace</li> <li>• Ensure EDI is embedded into the Council's Workforce Strategy</li> <li>• Ensure the council's employment policy framework complies with equality legislation and inclusive practice.</li> <li>• Develop the workforce approach to EDI in line with best practice</li> <li>• Ensure the employers obligation to provide employees with a safe work environment free from discrimination, harassment and intimidation are met</li> </ul>
<b>AD Policy, Insight &amp; Change</b>	Co-ordinate the corporate approach to developing, monitoring and reviewing EDI to ensure the Council's approach reflects current legislation and takes account of relevant performance indicators and action plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To facilitates the production of the EDI Framework;</li> <li>• To facilitate the gathering of evidence/data to feed into the quarterly challenge process and Annual Report;</li> <li>• Undertake horizon scanning to learn from examples of best practice to assist in the journey to becoming 'excellent';</li> <li>• Provide data intelligence to inform decision making.</li> </ul>
<b>Director Public Health</b>	Independent advocate for the health of the population and system leadership for its improvement and protection. Chief advisor to elected members and senior officers on a range of public health issues, from outbreaks of disease and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve population health by understanding the factors that determine health and ill health, how to change behaviour and promote both health and wellbeing in ways that also reduce inequalities in health</li> </ul>

	Emergency preparedness through to improving local people's health and access to health services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide the public with expert, objective advice on health matters</li> <li>• To promote action across the life course</li> <li>• To contribute to and influence the work of NHS commissioners, helping to lead a whole system approach to public health across the public sector. i.e. providing challenge to screening and immunisation programmes, so that sufficient emphasis is placed upon reducing health inequalities and improving access in underserved groups</li> <li>• work with wider civil society to engage local partners in fostering improved health and wellbeing</li> </ul>
<b>Staff</b>	Assist in the delivery and improvement of the Council's EDI agenda and promote EDI both internally and externally of the Council.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Familiarise themselves, and act in accordance with, the EDI Framework, the Code of Conduct and the Team Doncaster Charter;</li> <li>• To meet the relevant standards of behaviour in the workplace by acting as a positive role model for others;</li> <li>• To volunteer as Network champions to assist in the promotion of EDI across the authority.</li> </ul>
<b>Self-Managing Staff Networks</b>	<p>Ethnic Culture Fusion Network</p> <p>Women's Health Network</p> <p>Neurodiversity Network(under development)</p>	<p>Encouraging conversations about race and ethnicity amongst all employees to promote understanding and take joint responsibility for the wider aspiration for Doncaster to be an open, diverse and inclusive borough.</p> <p>A support network for members of staff on a range of topics from mental health and wellbeing, menopause, and healthy aging.</p> <p>TBD</p>

**QUESTION TO FULL COUNCIL**

“As care experienced young people in Doncaster, we should be able to thrive, grow and reach our full potential without the fear of prejudice. In order to tackle the stigma and discrimination that care experienced people face every day, would you as the Mayor and Lead Member of the local Authority who are our Corporate Parents, support the national campaign in making care experience a protected characteristic here in Doncaster?”

**MOTION TO FULL COUNCIL**

“The City of Doncaster Council notes the campaign to make care experienced a protected characteristic and that Cumberland, Westmorland and Furness, Redcar and Cleveland, Ashfield, Wigan, Manchester, Edinburgh, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, Sefton and Lambeth councils have already done this already.

The City of Doncaster Council notes that Cara, Rebecca, Kanisha, Courtney, Chelsea and Fay from the Doncaster ‘Hear me out’ group have championed this motion in Doncaster and they have asked us as their corporate parents to back them in creating a better future for all care experienced people no matter where they are from.

The City of Doncaster Council believes that Care experienced people face significant barriers that impact them throughout their lives:-

- Despite the resilience of many care experienced people, society too often does not take their needs into account;
- Care experienced people often face discrimination and stigma across housing, health, education, relationships, employment and in the criminal justice system;
- Care experienced people often face a postcode lottery of support;
- As corporate parents, councillors have a collective responsibility for providing the best possible care and safeguarding for the children who are looked after by us as an authority;
- All corporate parents should commit to acting as mentors, hearing the voices of looked after children and young people and to consider their needs in any aspect of council work;
- Councillors should be champions of our looked after children and challenge the negative attitudes and prejudice that exists in all aspects of society; and
- The Public Sector Equality Duty requires public bodies, such as councils, to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation of people with protected characteristics.

The City of Doncaster Council therefore RESOLVES:-

1. When making any decisions in relation to its policies or formulating its Council Plan that it recognises that Care Experienced people are an vulnerable group who face discrimination;
2. That it recognises that Councils have a duty to put the needs of vulnerable people at the heart of decision-making through co-production and collaboration;
3. That in the delivery of the Public Sector Equality Duty the Council includes care experience in the publication and review of Equality Objectives and the annual publication of information relating to people who share a Protected Characteristic in services and employment;
4. That this council will treat care experience as if it were a Protected Characteristic so that future services and policies made and adopted by the Council should be assessed through Equality Impact Assessments to determine the impact of changes on people with care experience, alongside those who formally share a Protected Characteristic;
5. To formally call upon all other bodies including 'Team Doncaster' to treat care experience as a Protected Characteristic until such time as it may be introduced by legislation;
6. To formally call upon all other bodies including 'Team Doncaster' to adopt corporate parenting for children in care and care experienced people until such time as it may be introduced by legislation; and
7. For the Council to proactively seek out and listen to the voices of care experienced people when developing new policies based on their views."



Date: 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023

To: The Mayor and members of Cabinet

Report Title: Delivering Better Value in Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Grant

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Councillor Lani-Mae Ball Councillor Rachel Blake	All	Yes

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The local Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Strategy has been devised by a full range of stakeholders and aims to improve local systems for children and young people aged 0-25.
2. The SEND Strategy was approved by Cabinet in November 2022, with delivery beginning in January 2023. Consultation with the wider system took place during September- November 2022.
3. The previous Cabinet report set out the local and national challenges around high needs funding and how Doncaster will aim to re-shape the local system so that young people can have their needs met earlier, thereby ensuring stronger efficiencies in local high needs spending.
4. Doncaster has volunteered to be part of a DfE (Department for Education) project called 'Delivering Better Value in SEND' which seeks to understand the key drivers behind local high needs spending and then bid for financial support to local authorities in order to plan changes that will relieve pressure in the longer term.
5. Through this project, Doncaster has participated in an in-depth study of the patterns and trends within our high needs system. This analysis led to a costed implementation plan which will enable long term changes to the local system which produce greater efficiencies. This plan then formed part of a submission for a grant award of £1 million pounds from the Department for Education.

These funds will support the delivery of our SEND strategy, as we deliver changes to the SEND system in Doncaster.

6. The DfE have now approved our grant application and will release the above sum by March 31<sup>st</sup>, which will enable us to proceed with our planned work.
7. The service is keen to accept this grant as quickly as possible in order to allow us to expedite delivery of the plan over the coming months.

## **EXEMPT REPORT**

8. This is not an exempt report.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

9. To accept this grant award of £1 million subject to the terms and conditions of the grant and delegate further decision making regarding spend, in line with our agreed implementation plan and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant to the Director of Children, Young People and Families, in consultation with Portfolio Holder for Education, Skills and Young People.

## **REASON FOR URGENCY:**

10. This grant has recently been awarded, but funds will need to be released this financial year. As this award has been made very recently, we have been unable to provide the usual 28 days notice on the Forward Plan, therefore this decision is being taken in accordance with Access to Information Rule 15 General Exception provisions. If we are to ensure that we can deliver our actions as per the agreed plan it is important that we can accept the grant award so that we can ensure the timely delivery of the SEND implementation plan.

## **WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?**

11. The 'Delivering Better Value' plan and grant will enable us to deliver a stronger range of provisions and interventions to ensure that children and young people with special needs and disabilities are happy and successful in their lives. It will also aim to ensure a much stronger landscape of training and employment activities.
12. The plan will improve workforce knowledge and resilience and enable us to recruit and retain workers in key roles, working with children.
13. Our work will enhance co-production both with our partners but importantly with children, young people and their families, ensuring lived experience and local intelligence influences the decisions we make. The grant will help us to deliver changes that our families are keen to see in the local system.
14. Through this plan we will invest in local provision and services and enable a more sustainable delivery model.

## **BACKGROUND**

15. In 2018/19 councils faced a High Needs funding gap of almost £500 million, by 2019/20 this was £806million and £1.2 billion by 2020/21, with a forecast for this to be over £3 billion by the end of 2022/23 (Local Government Association). The DfE have continued to work with local authorities to try and identify ways of managing or controlling local deficits through the 'Safety Valve' and 'Delivering Better Value' projects.
16. In Doncaster we have seen significant challenges in our high needs system. The number of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) have increased from 1898 in 2019 to 2489, a 31% increase. In the year 2016/17 there were 238 referrals for statutory assessment and in 2022 this had increased to 600 for the year in total. This has created pressure on schools and council teams as we try to ensure that plans are delivered in a timely and impactful way.
17. This surge in need has led to an increase in the number of young people educated outside of the borough in Independent Special schools. Currently 161 young people with EHCPs are educated in out of area provision for their Post 16 education. This has increased from 111 in 2019. Similarly, 199 children and young people who are under 16, are educated in out of area provision. This has grown from just 70 in 2019.

### **'Delivering Better Value in SEND' in Doncaster:**

18. The DfE 'Delivering Better Value in SEND' project began in October 2022. This supports local areas to analyse trends in their local areas and supports the production of an implementation plan and a grant for each of the 55 L.A.s involved. The DfE will also collect overarching themes from this research to inform national policy.
19. Doncaster volunteered to take part in this programme and began this work in October. We have undertaken a 'deep dive' into the local data, trends and projections around the local SEND system alongside working with a range of partners and stakeholders. The key findings of this analysis were:
  - High needs block trajectory is projected to increase in the coming years, unless action is taken to mitigate the costs of independent special school placements.
  - Recent reduction in the proportion of young people with EHCPs educated in mainstream and increase in pre-16 out of area placements.
  - Recent shift in proportion of young people moving out of mainstream via EHCP process, particularly at transition points.
  - One key factor driving spend is parental confidence in mainstream settings, especially at transition points, and particularly at secondary.
  - Support services vary in operating practices and do not always get involved early enough to prevent young people requiring expensive provision later.

20. The 'Delivering Better Value' project findings corresponded clearly to the priorities within our SEND Strategy'. They set out key actions required now to improve the system. These are included within the implementation plan and fall into 3 main categories:

- Improve local processes
- Develop mainstream culture and practice.
- Workforce transformation.

21. The specific areas identified to lead improvements include:

- A need for stronger advice and guidance for schools so that they are more equipped to meet need at an early point.
- Improvement EHCP processes and quality assurance of plans.
- Developing a funding model that will enable schools to meet need without needing an EHCP.
- A clear sufficiency plan that outlines how future specialist provision will meet emerging needs.
- Ensuring that specialist services are more coherent and intervene at the correct point.
- Further developing workforce skills and understanding across a range of stakeholders in order to ensure that children, young people and families get support at the correct point.

22. The implementation plan sets out the steps needed to do this, including:

- Developing:
  - A multi-agency handbook, toolkit and professional development framework to support practitioners in managing young people's needs.
  - A new assessment framework and funding model, to support schools in making effective provision at the right time.
  - A sufficiency strategy that outlines the future of specialist provision in the borough.
  - An online tool for Education, Health and Care Plans so that processes are more efficient and easily accessed by parents and professionals.
- Improving the operating model for support services.
- Establishing a mainstream inclusivity team who to increase accountability and direct support and guidance for schools.
- Ensuring an effective single data point for all SEND information and improve the Local Offer site so that it is more accessible for parents, children and young people.
- Setting out our local parent and young people co-production arrangements through a local charter.

23. In order to make these changes, we have developed a costed implementation plan, supported by a grant application for £1m to show how we are going to make these changes. This application has been supported by the DfE and has been successful, with work beginning on the related actions in April 2023. In



order to follow this plan through, we are keen to accept this grant and begin the delivery of this work.



## OPTIONS CONSIDERED






24. To accept the 'Delivering Better Value' grant or to not accept the 'Delivering Better Value' grant.


## REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

25. Accepting the grant will allow Doncaster to rapidly develop its local system for meeting the needs of children and young people. This award will enable us to improve practice amongst professionals and improve the experience and outcomes of our young people. Not accepting the award will significantly slow down the delivery of our plan and will lead to growing costs and will adversely impair outcomes for our children and young people.

## 26. IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

Great 8 Priority	Positive Overall	Mix of Positive & Negative	Trade-offs to consider – Negative overall	Neutral or No implications
 Tackling Climate Change	✓			
<b>Comments:</b> Improving the range of local Special Needs provision will ensure that less young people will have to travel out of borough for school. This will, in turn, limit the amount of transport that is provided by the council, thereby limiting ecological impacts.				
 Developing the skills to thrive in life and in work	✓			
<b>Comments:</b> The work planned through this grant will ensure that educational provision is more effective in developing the skills of our children and young people. It will also create a new landscape of employment and training for young people when they leave school.				

 <p><b>Making Doncaster the best place to do business and create good jobs</b></p>	✓			
<p><b>Comments:</b></p> <p>Using this grant, we will work with training providers and employers to ensure that young people with special needs or disabilities are able to access meaningful and successful employment in later life.</p>				
 <p><b>Building opportunities for healthier, happier and longer lives for all</b></p>	✓			
<p><b>Comments:</b></p> <p>The planned work undertaken through our implementation plan will improve joint planning and commissioning arrangements in order to ensure that health provision is timely and appropriate for children and young people.</p>				
 <p><b>Creating safer, stronger, greener and cleaner communities where everyone belongs</b></p>				✓
<p><b>Comments:</b></p> <p>Not directly relevant</p>				
 <p><b>Nurturing a child and family-friendly borough</b></p>	✓			
<p><b>Comments:</b></p> <p>The application of this grant will support schools to deliver improved practices to work with families to meet the needs of young people at an earlier point. We will focus on a joined up, family- focused approach and seek to ensure that services are delivered so that the needs of our children are met earlier and more effectively by all services.</p>				
 <p><b>Building Transport and digital</b></p>				✓

<b>connections fit for the future</b>				
<b>Comments:</b> <b>Not directly relevant</b>				
 <b>Promoting the borough and its cultural, sporting, and heritage opportunities</b>	✓			
<b>Comments:</b> <b>Not directly relevant</b>				
<b>Fair &amp; Inclusive</b>	✓			
<b>Comments:</b> <b>Fairness and inclusivity underpin the core principles of our implementation plan. Young people have a right to a high quality education and to employment, regardless of their needs. This strategy aims to build the skills and awareness across Doncaster that will deliver enhanced inclusion so that young people with special needs or disabilities can access education, close to home, with their peers.</b>				

**27. Legal Implications [Officer Initials: NC, Date: 14/3/23]**

28. Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 gives the Council a general power of competence to do anything that individuals may generally do. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 gives the Council the power to purchase goods and services.

29. The Council must comply with all laws and regulatory requirements when delivering the scheme (including, without limitation compliance with all laws and regulatory requirements relating to public procurement and subsidies) when administering the funding. Failure to comply with such terms may lead to claw back. The Legal department will work with the report author to ensure the Council understands these obligations.

30. As set out in the report, there is a requirement to accept this additional funding by the end of the financial year. This means that it would not be practical to provide the 28 days' notice normally required for a key decision. This decision is therefore being taken in accordance with the Council's Access to Information Rule 15 General Exception Provisions.

31. The 'Delivering Better Value' plan and grant will assist the Authority in meeting its various legal duties regarding children with special educational needs. It has a duty to identify and assess the special educational needs of children and young people for whom they are responsible. Under the Children and Families Act 2014, the Authority must consider how the child or young person can be supported to facilitate their development and to help them achieve their educational and other outcomes. The statutory guidance 'SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years' provides further details on the duties.
32. If a child or young person needs, or may need, more support than their school or other setting can give them, then the Authority must carry out an Education, Health and Care needs assessment, which may lead to an Education, Health and Care plan being produced for them.
33. The Authority must publish a Local Offer containing information about all the services and support it expects to be available for children and young people with SEN and/or disabilities for whom they are responsible.

#### **34. Financial Implications [Officer Initials: SB | Date: 15/03/2023]**

35. Doncaster Council has been successful in a £1m grant application to the Department for Education's (DfE) Delivering Better Value in SEND Programme and as such sufficient budget exists for this decision.
36. The grant funding is expected to be paid by the DfE in March 2023 with expenditure estimated to start in April 23. The grant terms and conditions for this grant are still awaited.
37. The aim of the this grant programme is to help local authorities provide effective SEND services, provide affordable SEND provisions and achieve a sustainable in-year financial position against the Dedicated Schools Grant High Needs Block.
38. This grant in line with the approved application is to be spent against the headings below across the 2023-24 and 2024-25 financial years with the spend areas listed still to be developed and confirmed in line with the grant terms and conditions.

<b>Workstream &amp; Area</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Total Financial Cost</b>	<b>Spend 2023/24 (Financial Year)</b>	<b>Spend 2024/25 (Financial Year)</b>
<b>Mainstream Process</b>	To ensure that mainstream schools are optimised to support CYP by defining the mainstream offer, improving processes (£35k for writing and £10k for training) and ensuring that SEND Funding is targeted at the earliest point (£40k). SENCo support & EHCP digital tool (£98k)	<b>£ 183,000</b>	£ 147,000	£36,000
<b>Mainstream Culture &amp; Practice</b>	To develop more inclusive mainstream cultures through the re-shaping of specialist support services (£10k), the introduction of a Mainstream Inclusivity Team (£480k - £240k per	<b>£ 532,000</b>	£ 286,000	£ 246,000

	year for 2 years) which will oversee and develop standards of inclusion and parental relationships (£20k) across the borough. Appoint 48 SEND Data lead for 5 days per month over 2 years (£12k)			
<b>Workforce Transformation</b>	To deliver workforce training to ensure that the graduated approach is followed accurately and to improve the capacity of front line services to deliver inclusive services. Appoint workforce development team to deliver awareness and specialist training (£250k over two years plus £5k for SENCO conference and training) and development worker to ensure that Local Offer is accurate, accessible and promoted to parents (£30k)	<b>£ 285,000</b>	£ 160,000	£ 125,000
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ 1.00 M</b>	£ 593,000	£ 407,000

39. The Dedicated School Grant High Needs Block funding is currently forecast to overspend in 2022-23 by £7.6m to bring the overall overspend position to £21.2m when added to existing deficits. The overall High Needs Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) currently forecasts an overspend position of £32.2m by 2025-26 (as set out in the table below).

Description	2022/23 £m	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m
DSG High Needs Grant (after deductions)	41,173	47,761	49,422	51,131
Expenditure	48,758	51,198	53,560	55,179
In Year Variance	7,585	3,437	4,138	4,047
<b>Overall DSG Balance</b>	<b>21,211</b>	<b>24,648</b>	<b>28,786</b>	<b>32,833</b>

40. The data modelling produced by Newton's Europe and the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy in collaboration with the DfE indicates that cumulative savings over 5 years are between £4.2m and £9.6m. This is dependent upon the confidence level attributed to the tasks with a potential of £15.5m cumulative savings overall. These figures were on the general basis of lower demand being created within the system and therefore fewer placements made in out of area placements.

41. Further work will be needed to model where further savings may be generated against specific lines of the High Needs Block and to factor those into future years projection for the High Needs DSG to revise the table above. The grant work and outcomes achieved will be reviewed and monitored as the plans progress.

## 42. Human Resources Implications [Officer Initials: JC | Date: 14/03/2023]

There are no direct HR implications associated with this report.

### 43. Technology Implications [Officer Initials: NR | Date: 14/03/2023]

44. There are no specific technology implications relating to this report. However, early engagement with Digital and ICT will be needed in relation to any arising technology requirements to support the delivery of the implementation plan.
45. In relation to point 23 of the plan 'to develop an online tool for Education, Health and Care Plans', Digital and ICT will need to be involved in all aspects of any such development to maintain understanding of the various requirements and options that may emerge. Where possible, Digital and ICT will prefer to use existing technology. If this is not possible, Digital and ICT would need the opportunity to be able to evaluate the security, functionality and feasibility of any potential new technical solutions.

### 46. RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

47. **Risk:** Not delivering our priorities in a timely fashion and in line with agreed spending and implementation plan.
48. **Mitigation:** We are mitigating this by requesting acceptance of this grant and also having robust governance arrangements around the delivery of our SEND Strategy and implementation plan, with overall oversight to the Education and Skills Portfolio Board and operational oversight at the Local Area Send Partnership Board as it's a partnership action. We are held to account by the Regional and National DfE SEND team to ensure that the programme is delivered in accordance with our plan.

### CONSULTATION

49. The SEND Strategy was devised with a range of partners and consulted upon during autumn 2022. There was clear support and no objections to the priorities above. Further suggestions offered by the system have been incorporated into the Implementation Plan. The grant submission was predicated upon the findings of this consultation, and particularly the experiences of our children, young people and families.

50.

### BACKGROUND PAPERS

November 2022: Cabinet report. Doncaster SEND Strategy:

<https://doncaster.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s39633/CYP%20OS%20SEND%20Final%20Update%20160323.pdf>

[High needs budgets: effective management in local authorities](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/107444/high-needs-budgets-effective-management-in-local-authorities.pdf)  
(publishing.service.gov.uk)

[Doncaster SEND Implementation Plan](#)

51.

## **GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs)

Social emotional and mental health (SEMH)

Department for Education (DFE)

Office for Standards in Education (OFSTED)

Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP)

Mental Health Support Teams (MHST)

General Developmental Assessment (GDA)

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)

52.

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