



Agenda

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, 26th April, 2023

Time: 10.00 am

BROADCASTING NOTICE

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**Damian Allen
Chief Executive**

Issued on: Tuesday, 18 April 2023

Governance Services Officer for this meeting:

Amber Torrington
01302 737462

City of Doncaster Council

www.doncaster.gov.uk

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 5.00pm on Friday, 21st April 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).

4. Declarations of Interest, if any.
5. Decision Record Forms from the meeting held on 12th April 2023 for noting (previously circulated).

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

Key Decisions

- | | |
|---|---------|
| 6. Doncaster Delivering Together Investment Plan (DDTIP) 2023-24. | 1 - 26 |
| 7. Household Support Fund 4. | 27 - 36 |

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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City of Doncaster Council

Report

Date: Wednesday 26th April 2023

To the Chair and Members of Cabinet

Report Title: Doncaster Delivering Together Investment Plan (DDTIP)

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected
Mayor Ros Jones	All

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report seeks approval for the Doncaster Delivering Together Investment Plan (DDTIP), the borough's annual plan outlining the key investment priorities to help deliver the Borough Strategy 'Doncaster Delivering Together' (DDT).
2. DDTIP aims to support the delivery of DDT, by outlining our place-based approach to investment, in particular outlining Doncaster's Investment Programme 2030, the priority capital and revenue projects for external funding opportunities. The requirement for a place-based investment plan was agreed by South Yorkshire leaders to help present prioritised investment as part of monies in association with devolution 'Gainshare'.
3. DDTIP does this, but takes a wider view of investment to ensure that the document is self-serving for numerous investment streams, and takes a truly place-based and regenerative approach. DDTIP can be found at **Annex A**.
4. Gainshare will not be enough to deliver our full Investment Programme 2030 and with resources being finite this will require tough decisions on prioritisation. To deliver further investment there may have to be borrowing considerations, as well as Investment Partnerships with National Government, the Private Sector and other Public Sector agencies. In some cases, our finite resources may mean some projects identified can't be delivered.
5. To support DDTIP, a Doncaster Delivering Together Investment Plan Map is in production, to be launched in May 2023, that will present key investments within the borough in a user-friendly way.

EXEMPT REPORT

6. This report is not exempt.

RECOMMENDATIONS

7. Recommendations:

- Considers and approves DDT Investment Plan, Annex A, for 2023-24

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

8. DDTIP is a key document in delivering DDT which aims to create thriving people, places and planet, balancing the wellbeing of all of these to create the kind of borough we want in the future. This plan will allow us to:

- Be more place-based and strategic with our investment development and propositions to ensure that we are putting forward the right proposals, in the right places, to fulfil the mission outlined in DDT;
- Build on and help deliver our Localities approach, allowing a golden thread between key priorities from residents to investment happening within their place;
- Provide a greater accountability of prioritised projects and investment to the people and places of Doncaster.

BACKGROUND

9. Doncaster Delivering Together Investment Plan (DDTIP) demonstrates how we will deliver the ambitions of Doncaster Delivering Together (DDT) by setting out the capital and revenue place-based initiatives. DDTIP will allow us to prioritise activity, through an annual process, enabling greater visibility, transparency and oversight for Team Doncaster, residents and executive members. DDTIP will also be used to identify priorities for accessing gainshare from the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA).

10. DDTIP is a mind-set that will allow Doncaster Council and Team Doncaster partners to be more coordinated with the investment propositions we are prioritising for funding, submitting for funding and currently delivering. To maximise the investment potential of the plan, DDTIP not only aligns with the priorities of the SYMCA but also those nationally and locally.

11. As the second iteration of DDTIP, we are building on last year's plan to create an annual product that follows the development path set by other annual products, such as the Corporate Plan and the Council Budget. As a trio of products, these help demonstrate our priorities for the upcoming financial year, including our investment propositions. This will be supported by the right governance and process to ensure future iterations reflect the priorities of people and their places, and the wider Team Doncaster partnership.

12. The Investment Plan has been developed using current intelligence and understanding following consultation with key groups. The engagement

undertaken through the development of DDT, Locality Plans, and Community Investment Masterplans, for example, can be used to not only shape the content of the Investment Plan, but also to inform funding bids, such as levelling up bids. This shows the DDTIP concept in action and allows for spending to be linked to a coherent place-based model that delivers better outcomes and improved scrutiny over spending.

13. The 2023 – 2024 DDTIP outlines Doncaster’s five spatial priorities: Sub-regionally significant Strategic Innovation Sites, Priority Neighbourhoods, 7 Main Towns & 10 Service Towns and Villages, Employment Sites, and Regenerative Investments. These priorities represent an strategic led approach to place-based investments. Each priorities already has investment examples that are currently being delivered:

Spatial Priority	Example Investments / Opportunities
Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Sites	£21.6m Stainforth Town Deal £24.8m City Centre Town Deal £18.6m City Centre Levelling Up Fund
Priority Neighbourhoods	Edlington Regenerative Neighbourhood Pilot Edlington will form the basis for Doncaster’s Levelling Up Round 3 application in 2023
7 Main Towns & 10 Service Towns and Villages	Mexborough City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement Application Thorne Leisure Centre improvements Askern Country Park and Pool improvements Community Investment Masterplans for Rossington, Thorne & Moorends and Mexborough
Employment Sites	Doncaster North Inward Investment
Regenerative Investments	Thorne and Hatfield Moors Wheatley Youth Hub

14. As one of the SYMCA local authorities, Doncaster has been allocated £83m in Capital Funding (CAP) and £55m in Revenue Funding (REV) between 2024-2050, through ‘Gainshare’. As a flat profile, this equates to £3.1 CAP and £2.1m REV annually. This will not be enough to deliver our full Investment Programme 2030 and with resources being finite this will require tough decisions on prioritisations. To deliver further investment there may have to be borrowing considerations, as well as Investment Partnerships with National Government, the Private Sector and other Public Sector agencies. In some cases, our finite resources may mean some projects identified below can’t be delivered.
15. Doncaster’s spatial priorities have ben derived from key policy drivers and help deliver against Doncaster’s Localities Plans.

Spatial Priority	Policy Driver	Locality	Potential Funding
Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Sites	SYMCA Strategic Economic Plan Doncaster Economic Strategy 2030 Education and Skills 2030	Central Locality East Locality	SYMCA Gainshare Private Sector City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement Investment Zones
Priority Neighbourhoods	Doncaster Delivering Together Community Investment Masterplans (for Edlington)	Central Locality North Locality East Locality	Levelling Up Fund SYMCA Gainshare City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement s106
7 Main Towns & 10 Service Towns and Villages	Doncaster Local Plan 2015-2035 Community Investment Masterplans (for Rossington, Thorne & Moorends, and Mexborough) Neighbourhood Plans	All Localities	City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement SYMCA Gainshare s106
Employment Sites	Doncaster Local Plan 2015-2030	All Localities	UK Shared Prosperity Fund Private Sector SYMCA Gainshare
Regenerative Investments	Doncaster Delivering Together and Supporting Strategies	All Localities	SYMCA Gainshare Youth Investment Fund Arts Council England UK Shared Prosperity Fund Rural England Prosperity Fund

16. Projects have been identified across these Spatial Priorities that are key for our 2030 Investment Programme. With Gainshare a core source of funding, our 2030 Investment Programme identifies the schemes we will work more closely with SYMCA on. Examples of projects on the 2030 Investment Programme includes:

- South Yorkshire Airport City
- Doncaster's Higher Education Development
- Community Investment Masterplans
- One Million Trees Scheme
- Unlocking the Waterfront

17. Part of the development of this year's plan has been the creation of an interactive DDTIP map which presents key investments within the borough in a user-friendly way. It will allow officers, ward members and the public to view our current and

planned investment activity across the borough in one place. Projects can be filtered by phase, locality, ward, portfolio and Great 8 priority. This is an iterative product that will be continuously updated throughout the year to properly reflect the progress of investments in the borough. It will be accessible on the Team Doncaster website from May 2023.

18. To support the development of the DDTIP map, engagement has been undertaken to gather feedback on functionalities and content. Feedback gathered has been positive, with slight suggestions wrapped around asks on content and usability. More detail on the feedback is listed below. Further development will be made to the product as more feedback is provided.

Usability

- Found the visualisation of projects helpful
- The product was easy to navigate and the various ways to filter the data were clearly visible
- There were suggestions for additions including a search bar to find a particular project quickly, some changes to make the map more accessible for the public facing version, and officer contacts and hyperlinks for relevant projects

Content

- Broadly happy with the content available, finding it useful to drill down into ward or portfolio to look at the activity there
- There were a few changes requested around existing projects being added to or removed from particular portfolios which have already been actioned
- There were suggestions for data to be brought into the map going forward, such as tree planting, road improvement schemes, safer streets funding, holidays activity funding and future parks funding

Strategic links

- Useful that the map provides the opportunity look at investment activity around the Great 8 priorities and to see investments around our spatial priorities and identify where gaps may be.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED




19. The two options considered for DDTIP were:
- Develop a place-based investment plan that supports strategic investment planning that will be produced annually (**recommended option**);
 - To not develop a place-based investment plan.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION


20. The recommended option is required to support strategic investment planning locally as well as demonstrate the gainshare investments we are seeking support for, so that SYMCA, Government and other potential investors understand our local ambitions that will help deliver DDT.

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES


21. The impact of the DDTIP on the key outcomes is set out below:

Great 8 Priority	Positive Overall	Mix of Positive & Negative	Trade-offs to consider – negative overall	Neutral or No implications
 Tackling Climate Change	✓			
<p>The development of a DDTIP allows for the first time to showcase in one place capital and revenue priorities that help strategically deliver the Great 8, including Tackling Climate Change. Governance processes will be put in place to ensure that only strategic priorities are considered for prioritisation. Individual projects will have different impacts on Tackling Climate Change, some may require trade-offs and mitigations but these will be presented during the appropriate time of the decision making process.</p>				
 Developing the skills to thrive in life and in work	✓			
<p>The development of a DDTIP allows for the first time to showcase in one place capital and revenue priorities that help strategically deliver the Great 8, including Developing the skills to thrive in life and in work. Governance processes will be put in place to ensure that only strategic priorities are considered for prioritisation. Individual projects will have different impacts on Developing the skills to thrive in life and in work, some may require trade-offs and mitigations but these will be presented during the appropriate time of the decision making process.</p>				
 Making Doncaster the best place to do business and create good jobs	✓			
<p>The development of a DDTIP allows for the first time to showcase in one place capital and revenue priorities that help strategically deliver the Great 8, including Making Doncaster the best place to do business and create good jobs. Governance processes will be put in place to ensure that only strategic priorities are considered</p>				

for prioritisation. Individual projects will have different impacts on Making Doncaster the best place to do business and create good jobs, some may require trade-offs and mitigations but these will be presented during the appropriate time of the decision making process.

 <p>Building opportunities for healthier, happier and longer lives for all</p>	✓			
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The development of a DDTIP allows for the first time to showcase in one place capital and revenue priorities that help strategically deliver the Great 8, including Building opportunities for healthier, happier and longer lives for all. Governance processes will be put in place to ensure that only strategic priorities are considered for prioritisation. Individual projects will have different impacts on Building opportunities for healthier, happier and longer lives for all, some may require trade-offs and mitigations but these will be presented during the appropriate time of the decision making process.


 <p>Creating safer, stronger, greener and cleaner communities where everyone belongs</p>	✓			
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The development of a DDTIP allows for the first time to showcase in one place capital and revenue priorities that help strategically deliver the Great 8, including creating safer, stronger, greener and cleaner communities where everyone belongs. Governance processes will be put in place to ensure that only strategic priorities are considered for prioritisation. Individual projects will have different impacts on Creating safer, stronger, greener and cleaner communities where everyone belongs, some may require trade-offs and mitigations but these will be presented during the appropriate time of the decision making process.

 <p>Nurturing a child and family-friendly borough</p>	✓			
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The development of a DDTIP allows for the first time to showcase in one place capital and revenue priorities that help strategically deliver the Great 8, including Nurturing a child and family-friendly borough. Governance processes will be put in place to ensure that only strategic priorities are considered for prioritisation. Individual projects will have different impacts on Nurturing a child and family-friendly borough, some may require trade-offs and mitigations but these will be presented during the appropriate time of the decision making process.

 <p>Building Transport and digital connections fit for the future</p>	✓			
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<p>The development of a DDTIP allows for the first time to showcase in one place capital and revenue priorities that help strategically deliver the Great 8, including Building transport and digital connections fit for the future. Governance processes will be put in place to ensure that only strategic priorities are considered for prioritisation. Individual projects will have different impacts on Building transport and digital connections fit for the future, some may require trade-offs and mitigations but these will be presented during the appropriate time of the decision making process.</p>				
 <p>Promoting the borough and its cultural, sporting, and heritage opportunities</p>	<p>✓</p>			
<p>The development of a DDTIP allows for the first time to showcase in one place capital and revenue priorities that help strategically deliver the Great 8, including Promoting the borough and its cultural, sporting and heritage opportunities. Governance processes will be put in place to ensure that only strategic priorities are considered for prioritisation. Individual projects will have different impacts on Promoting the borough and its cultural, sporting and heritage opportunities, some may require trade-offs and mitigations but these will be presented during the appropriate time of the decision making process.</p>				
<p>Fair & Inclusive</p>	<p>✓</p>			
<p>Central to the approach in DDTIP is ensuring that we take an equitable, place-based approach to levelling up within Doncaster to help reduce inequalities for people and places in Doncaster. The scalability of interventions has been designed to use inequality data and intelligence to target specific places for priority interventions, for example trailing a Regenerative Neighbourhood approach in Edlington.</p> <p>Due regards and equality statements will be developed for individual projects as they are developed.</p>				

Legal Implications [Officer Initials: SRF | Date: 09.03.23]

22. In accordance with S1 Localism Act 2011 a local authority has power to do anything that individuals generally may do. In accordance with S111 Local Government Act 1972 a local authority shall have power to do anything (whether or not involving the expenditure, borrowing or lending of money or the acquisition or disposal of any property or rights) which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of their functions.
23. Individual schemes within the delivery programme will be subject to separate future approvals in line with the requirements of the Councils Constitution. Further separate and bespoke legal advice will be required in respect of each delivery programme.

Financial Implications [Officer Initials: MS | Date: 20.03.23]

24. The DDTIP sits alongside the Corporate Plan and capital and revenue budgets (approved at Council on 27 February 2023). The plan will aid the prioritisation of resources in future budget rounds.
25. As stated in the attached plan an initial £3.54m has been approved by SYMCA to support capacity for delivery in Doncaster.

Human Resources Implications [Officer Initials: SH | Date: 09.03.23]

26. There are no immediate human resources implications at this stage. However, it will require Human Resources engagement at the appropriate time.

Technology Implications [Officer Initials: PW | Date: 10.03.23]

27. 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 Doncaster Delivering Together Investment Plan.

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

28. Individual projects submitted for investment will be accompanied with their own risk log which will be monitored and mitigated where required by the appropriate project team for each individual project. If no Investment Plan is developed and submitted to SYMCA, then Doncaster will not be able to access its gainshare allocation.

CONSULTATION

29. Consultation that has taken place and helped shape the content and structure of DDTIP is summarised below:
 - Ongoing engagement with the SYMCA
 - Directorate Leadership Teams and Officer Discussions – February/March 2023
 - 1:1s with Cabinet members over DDTIP Map during March
 - 8th March 2023: Cllr Andrea Robinson, Porfolio Holder for Adult Social Care
 - 13th March 2023: Mayor Ros Jones and Cllr Glyn Jones, Porfolio Holder for Housing and Regeneration
 - 14th March 2023: Cllr Jane Nightingale, Porfolio Holder for Corporate Resources
 - 15th March 2023: Cllr Rachael Blake, Porfolio Holder for Children's Social Care, Communities and Equalities
 - 22nd March 2023: Cllr Phil Cole, Porfolio Holder for Finance and Trading Services, Cllr Lani-Mae Ball, Porfolio Holder for Education

- Skills and Young People, Cllr Nigel Ball, Portfolio Holder for Public Health, Leisure, Culture and Planning
- Cllr Mark Houlbrook, Portfolio Holder for Sustainability and Waste and Cllr Joe Blackham, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Infrastructure and Enforcement could not attend their scheduled 1:1s but have been offered to reschedule or provide written feedback
- Capital and Major Projects Board – 21st March 2023
- Executive Leadership Team – 27th March 2023
- Executive Board – 12th April 2023
- OSMC – 17th April 2023

BACKGROUND PAPERS

30. Background papers in support of this report are:

- [Doncaster Delivering Together](#)

31. Annexes submitted alongside this report are:

- Annex A – Doncaster Delivering Together Investment Plan 2023 – 2024

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

32. Below are the acronyms used in this report:

- DDT – Doncaster Delivering Together
- DDTIP – Doncaster Delivering Together Investment Plan
- SYMCA – South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority

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Doncaster
Delivering Together

Investment Plan
2023 - 2024

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Foreword from Mayor Ros Jones

In 2021, Team Doncaster launched the Borough Strategy; Doncaster Delivering Together. At its core is the mission of Thriving People, Places and Planet. Our ambition is to improve the wellbeing of all the people and communities of our city, while embedding regenerative and sustainable approaches to ensure future generations have the tools to build upon this.



Our ambition is one thing, but more crucial is the roadmap to deliver on this. As a place of places, with 88 communities that make up the fabric of our city, we need to ensure that investment is shared and that our approach is strategically driven and coherent, recognising and building on the strengths and diversity of our different places.

Since introducing the first Doncaster Delivering Together Investment Plan in Summer last year, there has been significant progress as we move forward in our commitment to the *decade of delivery* that was set out in Doncaster Delivering Together. Following the success of Levelling Up Fund Round 1, £18.6m worth of investment is being used to redevelop the Civic Quarter, Waterfront, Markets and Corn Exchange. In addition, we have set out our plans for the £8.96m of UK Shared Prosperity Fund and projects totalling £2.86m from the Community Renewal Fund have been successfully delivered.

There has, however, been significant challenges, most notably the decision by Peel to close Doncaster Sheffield Airport in November of last year, however the fight is not over! I have been immensely proud by the way in which the people of Doncaster have collectively stood tall on this issue. We remain committed to securing the future of our airport, identifying a new operator and seeing aviation return to Doncaster. This airport has the potential to be the jewel in the crown of the Doncaster and South Yorkshire economy. It is an investment in the future of this great city and the region.

Of course, our commitment to a successful operational airport has significant implications on our investment priorities going forward, but only goes to highlight more clearly than ever the need for a strategically driven approach to investment. This way, we can be proactive and place-based in our investments, ensuring that the right projects get put forward for the right funding opportunities.

This approach is vital as we look to secure both present and future investments that will shape our city and the prospects of all our residents. In the government budget of March this year, Doncaster was announced as one of twenty new Levelling Up Partnerships and invited, as part of South Yorkshire, to bring forward a proposal for an investment zone. Our strategic focus will allow us to maximise the impact of these and future investment opportunities for Doncaster.

Doncaster Delivering Together Investment Plan is a mindset, one that means the investments we make will directly contribute to the delivery of our ambitions for thriving people, places and planet.

I am keen to deliver for Doncaster, and this plan sets out the opportunities for investment that can help all of Doncaster to reach their potential.

Strategic Context

To ensure our plan meets the needs for people, places and the planet, it is crucial that the investments set out in this plan meet our strategic objectives. This is not just about achieving our ambitions locally, but also to ensure that we meet regional and national strategic objectives, to reflect the wider eco-systems Doncaster operates in. These strategic led priorities are key to help tackle our wellbeing challenges and maximise our opportunities.

Local – Doncaster Delivering Together

In September 2021, Team Doncaster launched [Doncaster Delivering Together](#) (DDT), our 10 year Borough Strategy, that marks a significant change of gear in the collective effort to improve the wellbeing of everyone in the borough. It has one central mission **thriving people, places and planet**, supported by our **Wellbeing Wheel** that shows our six long-term goals and our ‘Great 8’ priorities that will drive our work and actions.



Figure 1: Doncaster Delivering Together's Great 8 Priorities

These are supported by other Tier 1 policies and [strategies](#). To ensure high-level strategies meet the needs of local people through 'local solutions for local people', [Locality Plans](#) have been developed, and are updated annually to reflect new and updated priorities. These priorities are critical to informing the investments within this plan.

Regenerative Investment

Key to our place-based approach to investment, and the delivery of Doncaster Delivering Together, is the notion of being **regenerative**.

Regeneration, when used in its fullest sense, marks a fundamental shift in thinking and action in the arenas of environmental, economic and social change. It is grounded in a living systems view of the world and recognises the interdependence of the challenges we are facing today, across climate change and bio-diversity loss, social and economic inequality.

It aims to take a holistic approach to addressing the difficult problems we currently face by focusing thinking on the **whole**, and recognises the need to determine which aspects of this living system to work on, in order to realise the greatest **potential**. This potential is key to frame around the people, places and planet of DDT. It requires systems and thinking that moves from siloed and static, to interdependent and evolving.

Regenerative Investment Principles

Regenerative thinking, and therefore regenerative investment has some key components, as outlined in DDT. This is about having purposeful, mission-orientated innovation to improve wellbeing.

- New ways of doing things
- Shared responsibilities
- Regenerative development
- Working closer with communities
- Whole life, whole system integration
- Intelligence led interventions

Regional – South Yorkshire

The South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA) is formal partnership of councils that shapes policy and has direct powers over themes such as transport, economic development and regeneration. Operating regionally across South Yorkshire, and formed in 2014, the constituent members represent the four South Yorkshire local authorities, including Doncaster.

Key to the success of the SYMCA is delivery of the [Strategic Economic Plan 2021-2041 \(SEP\)](#). All four South Yorkshire local authorities will develop Investment Plans which will have strong alignment with the SEP.

Integrated Care Systems (ICS) are partnerships or organisations that come together to plan and deliver joined up health and care services, and to improve the lives of people who live and work in the area.

The purpose of ICSs is to bring partner organisations together to:

- improve outcomes in population health and healthcare
- tackle inequalities in outcomes, experience and access
- enhance productivity and value for money
- help the NHS support broader social and economic development

Key to the delivery of place-based interventions and investments will be the work of the ICS, including the [South Yorkshire Integrated Care Partnership Strategy](#) currently in development.

National – Levelling Up

On 2 February 2022 Government published its long-awaited policy paper [Levelling Up the United Kingdom](#). Central to the Government's plan for 'Levelling Up' was the establishment of 12 new missions across four broad areas:

- Boosting productivity and living standards by growing the private sector, especially those places where they are lagging;
- Spreading opportunities and improving public services, especially in those areas where they are weakest;
- Restoring a sense of community, local pride and belonging, especially in those places where they have been lost; and,
- Empowering local leaders and communities, especially in those places lacking local agency.

Doncaster has been categorised as Level 1 under the UK Government's [Levelling Up prioritisation of places model](#).

In the 2023 Budget, Doncaster was both identified as a Levelling Up Partnership, which will provide resources for bespoke place-based regeneration and, as part of South Yorkshire, also shortlisted for an Investment Zone, providing a further opportunity for Doncaster to level up and maximise investment opportunities. Unfortunately, Doncaster was unsuccessful in its attempt to become the home of Great British Railways, finishing second in the Government competition.

Our approach to investment therefore needs to reflect these opportunities at our disposal, at a regional and national level, in a way that meets our borough-wide strategic objectives and matches the distinct needs of our communities in our 'Place of Places'.

Investment Opportunities

To help deliver many of the investments that will be presented in this plan, there are numerous investment opportunities currently available and known.

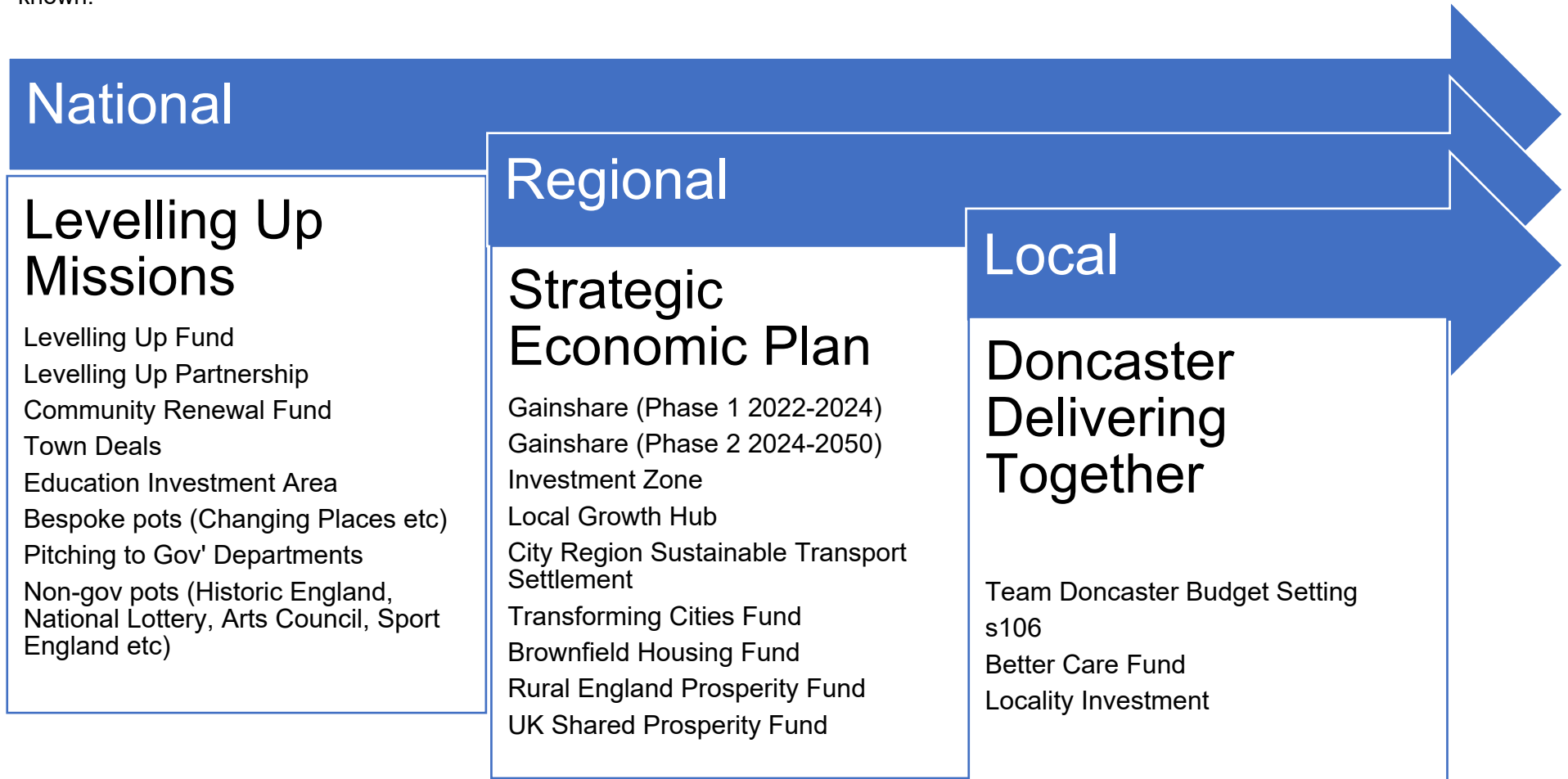


Figure 2 Investment Opportunities Golden Thread

Theory of Change

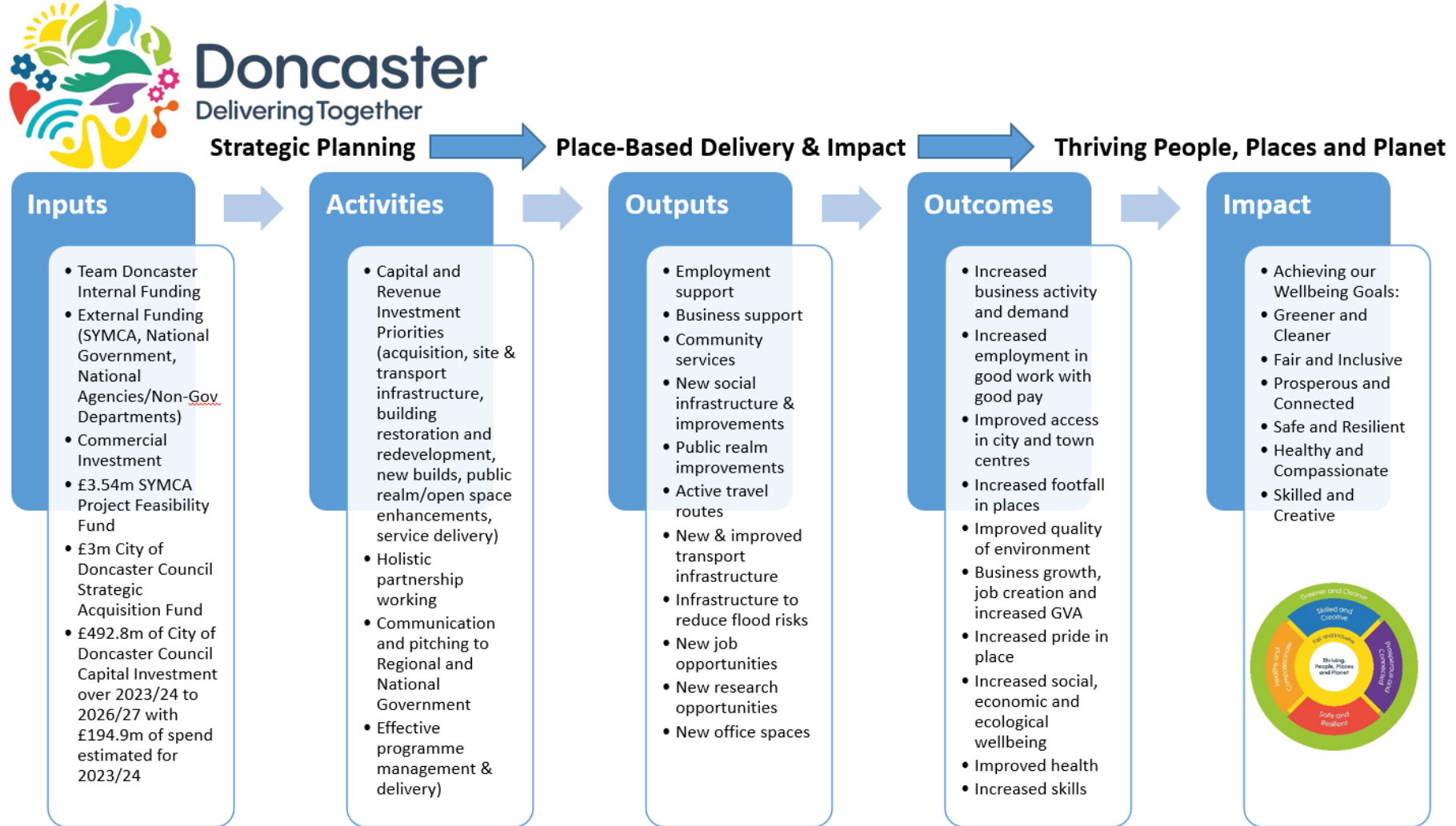


Figure 3: Theory of Change Diagram

Doncaster's Place-based Approach to Investment

With a diverse spatial geography, reflected in our distinct communities, town centres, villages, green spaces and more, it is critical that **our approach to regenerative investment in Doncaster is firmly rooted in our understanding of our place**. The Investment Plan outlines projects across Doncaster, but central to this are **five spatial priorities** which help define the nature of investment across the borough.

Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Sites: The sub-regional Strategic Economic Plan and Doncaster Delivering Together outline three Strategic Innovation and Growth Sites across Doncaster which have the potential to create change at scale and bring benefits to the wider region.

- **Unity** at J5, M18 – delivering 7,000 new jobs through a wide range of employment opportunities and creating a new community for Doncaster. Our [Stainforth Town Investment Plan](#) is bringing **£21.6m** worth of capital investment to the area
- **South Yorkshire Airport City** – central to the Airport City Vision is an operational and thriving Doncaster Sheffield Airport, this is a key investment priority for 2023 – 2024 and beyond.
- **Doncaster City Centre** – supported by our [Urban Centre Masterplan](#), £24.8m [Doncaster Town Investment Plan](#) in the City Gateway and £18.6m [Levelling Up Fund](#)

Priority Neighbourhoods: Wellbeing and the ability to thrive is felt differently across every community in Doncaster. Our Priority Neighbourhoods aims to provide a co-ordinated approach to change, leading to better value for money and improved outcomes. Having started with Edlington, the principle will provisionally move to Highfields and Hexthorpe also:

- **Edlington** – a pilot is currently underway in the community of Edlington, with the local primary Multi Academy Trust as the lead anchor organisation. A [Community Investment Masterplan](#) has been developed outlining critical capital investments that funding will be explored and hopefully resourced to help deliver. Depending on the Government's eligibility criteria, **Edlington will form the basis for Doncaster's Levelling Up Round 3 application in 2023**, including a New Multi-Use Leisure Centre.
- **Highfields** – the development of this Priority Neighbourhood will occur between September 2023 and March 2024
- **Hexthorpe** – the development of this Priority Neighbourhood will occur between September 2023 and March 2024

7 Main Towns & 10 Service Towns and Villages: [Doncaster's Local Plan 2015-2035](#) was adopted in September 2021. It defines Doncaster's Settlement Hierarchy (Policy 1) which informs decisions on the location and scale of development. It outlines **7 Main Towns:** Adwick – Woodlands; Armthorpe; Conisbrough & Denaby; Duncroft, Dunville, Hatfield & Stainforth; Mexborough; Rossington; and Thorne & Moorends. It also outlines **10 Service Towns and Villages:** Askern; Auckley – Hayfield Green; Barnburgh – Harlington; Barnby Dun; Bawtry; Carcroft – Skellow; Edlington; Finningley; Sprotbrough; and Tickhill.

- **7 Main Towns** – Community Investment Masterplans have been developed for three of our Main Towns, [Rossington](#), [Thorne & Moorends](#), and **Mexborough**, outlining critical capital investments. Funding will be explored and hopefully resourced to help deliver these, such as City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement funding for Mexborough, leisure improvement programme investment in Thorne leisure centre.
- **10 Service Towns and Villages** – example investment includes **Askern** Country Park and Pool

Employment Sites: Doncaster is an ambitious city, named as one of Europe’s best places for investment in the FDI European Cities and Region of the future competition. Key to this is our [Employment Sites](#), including:

- **iPort**
- **Doncaster North (Thorne)**
- **Lakeside**
- **West Moor Park**
- **St. Modwen Park**
- **Carcroft Common**

Regenerative Investments: Spatial investment will look to see regenerative growth and social infrastructure in culture, bio-diversity, community and skills assets, and business development as well as thinking about Doncaster’s place regionally, nationally and globally, such as:

- [Yorkshire Wildlife Park](#)
- Natural Capital – including **Thorne** and **Hatfield Moors** and Humberhead Peatlands
- A Youth Hub in Wheatley

These spatial priorities have been derived from key policy drivers and help deliver against our Locality Plans.

Spatial Priority	Policy Driver	Locality	Potential Funding
Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Sites	SYMCA Strategic Economic Plan Doncaster Economic Strategy 2030 Education and Skills 2030	Central Locality East Locality	SYMCA Gainshare Private Sector City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement Investment Zones
Priority Neighbourhoods	Doncaster Delivering Together Community Investment Masterplans (for Edlington)	Central Locality North Locality East Locality	Levelling Up Fund SYMCA Gainshare City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement s106
7 Main Towns & 10 Service Towns and Villages	Doncaster Local Plan 2015-2035 Community Investment Masterplans (for Rossington, Thorne & Moorends, and Mexborough) Neighbourhood Plans	All Localities	City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement SYMCA Gainshare s106
Employment Sites	Doncaster Local Plan 2015-2030	All Localities	UK Shared Prosperity Fund Private Sector SYMCA Gainshare
Regenerative Investments	Doncaster Delivering Together and Supporting Strategies	All Localities	SYMCA Gainshare Youth Investment Fund Arts Council England UK Shared Prosperity Fund Rural England Prosperity Fund

Doncaster Delivering Together Investment Plan Map

Doncaster Delivering Together Investment Plan Map is a new product which maps and presents key investments within the borough in a user-friendly way. It will allow officers, ward members and the public to view our current and planned investment activity across the borough. It includes both capital and revenue investments that are currently being delivered, being pitched for, or are pipeline interventions. The Investment Plan Map replaces the Doncaster Place-Based Investments tables from the 2022/23. This is an iterative product that will be continuously updated throughout the year to properly reflect the progress of investments in the borough. Once live, the day and time of the most recent update is visible in the top left corner of the map.

The DDTIP Map will be accessible on the Team Doncaster website at the following location from May 2023: [Doncaster Delivering Together Investment Plan - Team Doncaster](#).

INSERT SCREEN SHOT OF MAP ONCE USER FRIENDLY VERSION AVAILABLE

Investment Programme 2030 – Collaborating Regionally and Nationally



As one of the SYMCA local authorities, Doncaster has been allocated £83m in Capital Funding (CAP) and £55m in Revenue Funding (REV) between 2024-2050, through 'Gainshare'. As a flat profile, this equates to £3.1 CAP and £2.1m REV annually.

This will not be enough to deliver our full Investment Programme 2030. In some cases, our finite resources may mean some projects identified below cannot be delivered and there may need to be borrowing considerations, as well as Investment Partnerships.

Projects have been identified across our Spatial Priorities that are key for our **2030 Investment Programme**. These projects are key to help deliver on our local strategies, including the priorities within our Locality Plans and regional SYMCA ambitions. With Gainshare a core source of funding, our 2030 Investment Programme identifies the schemes we will work more closely with SYMCA on. These are identified in **bold**.

This programme may change over time as projects get funded and priorities develop.

Project Name	Spatial Priority
South Yorkshire Airport City (CAP / REV)	Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Site
Unlocking the Waterfront (CAP)	Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Site
Hybrid Air Vehicles Production Facility (CAP)	Employment Sites
AMRC Doncaster (CAP / REV)	Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Site
Doncaster Film Studios (CAP)	Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Site
International Conservation Exchange, Yorkshire Wildlife Park (CAP / REV)	Regenerative Investment
New Teaching and Research Hospital (CAP)	Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Site
Grand Theatre Regeneration (CAP)	Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Site
Enterprise Spaces (CAP)	Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Site
Edlington Community Investment Masterplan (CAP)	Priority Neighbourhoods
New Edlington Leisure Centre (CAP)	Priority Neighbourhoods
Edlington Royal Estate Regeneration (CAP)	Priority Neighbourhoods
Rossington Community Investment Masterplan (CAP)	7 Main Towns & 10 Service Towns and Villages
Thorne and Moorends Community Investment Masterplan (CAP)	7 Main Towns & 10 Service Towns and Villages
Mexborough Community Investment Masterplan (CAP)	7 Main Towns & 10 Service Towns and Villages
Askern Rail Station (CAP)	7 Main Towns & 10 Service Towns and Villages
Sector of Opportunity Employment Hubs (CAP / REV)	Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Site
UTC 2 with a focus on Creative & Digital (CAP / REV)	Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Site
NCATI Centre of Excellence for Advanced Manufacturing, Engineering, and Rail (CAP / REV)	Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Site
Talent and Innovation Ecosystem – <i>Innovative Learning Environments, Learner Profiles, Micro-credentialing</i> (REV)	Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Site

Talent and Innovation Ecosystem – <i>Doncaster’s Higher Education Development</i> (CAP / REV)	Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Site
One Million Trees Scheme (CAP)	Priority Neighbourhoods, 7 Main Towns & 10 Service Towns and Villages, Regenerative Investment
Tiny Forest Scheme (CAP)	Priority Neighbourhoods, 7 Main Towns & 10 Service Towns and Villages, Regenerative Investment
Electric Vehicle Charging Installation (CAP)	Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Sites, Priority Neighbourhoods, 7 Main Towns & 10 Service Towns and Villages, Employment Sites
Decarbonising Doncaster (CAP)	Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Sites, Priority Neighbourhoods, 7 Main Towns & 10 Service Towns and Villages, Employment Sites
Housing Retrofit Programme (CAP)	Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Sites, Priority Neighbourhoods, 7 Main Towns & 10 Service Towns and Villages
Improving Doncaster’s Hydrogen Sector (CAP)	Employment Sites
Stainforth Wider Town Deal Objectives (CAP)	Priority Neighbourhoods
Transforming Cities Fund Continuation Programme (CAP)	Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Sites, Priority Neighbourhoods, 7 Main Towns & 10 Service Towns and Villages, Employment Sites
Masterplan Active Travel and Transport Improvements (CAP)	Priority Neighbourhoods, 7 Main Towns & 10 Service Towns and Villages

Investment Partnership Examples – key factors for 2023 - 2024:

Levelling Up Partnerships – In the Spring 2023 Budget, Doncaster was confirmed as one of 20 Levelling Up Partnership. These partnerships will explore a ‘deep dive’ to help unblock regeneration and provide access to a share of £400m+ worth of investment. More information will be released during this iteration of DDTIP.

Investment Zones – In the Spring 2023 Budget, South Yorkshire, via the SYMCA, was invited to co-develop a proposal for an [Investment Zone](#) with Government to help unlock innovation, ecosystems development and research capabilities. Doncaster’s Sub-regional Strategic Innovation Sites are prime locations for Investment Zones and collaboration will be undertaken to pitch for Doncaster’s inclusion to help drive innovation in one of our Sectors of Opportunity. Securing an Investment Zone in Doncaster will be a key focus for 2023 – 2024 and beyond to support our ambitions, such as securing the long-term future of Doncaster Sheffield Airport.

Gainshare – Through devolved Gainshare monies, Doncaster has already secured in-principle approval of £6.178m to further Unlock the Waterfront and approval of £7m for the Hybrid Air Vehicles Production Facility.

Industry and Skills Ecosystems – Across Team Doncaster partners and beyond place-based ecosystems wrapped around industry and skills progression in key sectors, such as Engineering and Manufacturing, Creative and Digital, Health and Care, Culture – including further specific focuses on Green Technology and Rail, will shape joined up investment asks to help create the conditions for regenerative investment.

Delivery

Key to the success of this plan is ensuring that we are in the best position to deliver and be accountable for our delivery.

Developing Our Plan

DDTIP, outlines the priorities for investment, in particular our 2030 Investment Programme. This programme will develop and change over time as projects are funded and emerging priorities take shape locally, regionally and nationally.

Investment needs to be flexible, as demonstrated over the past few years, circumstances at a national level can bleed down to create situations regionally and locally that are hard to foresee or plan for. As such, this plan will be **updated annually**, similarly to the Council’s Corporate Plan and Budget Setting, to ensure that the projects fit for investment reflect the nature of what is needed borough-wide, but also within our spatial place of places.

This flexibility will also allow the plan to meet political changes. Whilst our approach and principles will be long-term, supported by some of our major projects, we must be able to scale up or down priorities depending on elected democratic mandates.

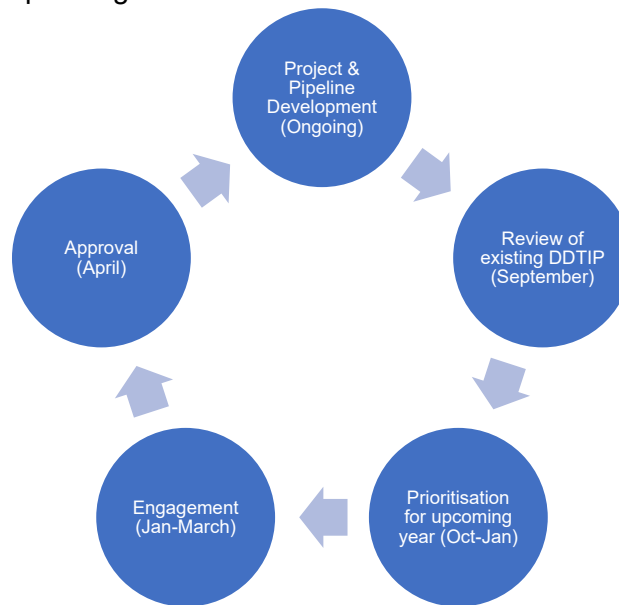


Figure 4: Doncaster Delivering Together Investment Plan - Update Timeline Process

Governance

Team Doncaster is formally recognised as the strategic partnership of organisations and individuals that spans the public, private, voluntary and community sectors. This partnership oversees the delivery and achievements of Doncaster Delivering Together and will play a vital role in the delivery of this investment plan.

Underneath the Team Doncaster umbrella there are numerous boards and partnerships that help progress our Wellbeing Goals and the delivery of the Great 8. The Team Doncaster Coordinating Group (TDCG) supports the Team Doncaster Partnership Executive by having an overview of all groups and focusing in on threats, issues and actions to ensure effective delivery. TDCG will have Team Doncaster oversight of this investment plan to ensure it delivers on Doncaster Delivering Together and partnership working.

Within City of Doncaster Council, the Capital and Major Projects (CAMP) Board has officer oversight of the development of capital major projects, including monitoring and the

prioritisation of the capital pipeline. As we have developed ecosystems thinking over the coming months, to ensure the right governance is in place for both pipelines, the CAMP will be reviewed and future governance proposed.

Capacity to Deliver

City of Doncaster Council and Team Doncaster partners have an excellent track record of delivering major capital and revenue projects, including those funded from external investment.

To support capacity for delivery, the SYMCA developed a Project Feasibility Fund (PFF) to:

- Relieve capacity constraints and improve capability;
- Reduce reliance on external expertise;
- Develop plans into a pipeline or programmes and projects and ensure project lifecycle funding is available, particularly for revenue-based schemes.

Doncaster has been allocated an initial £3.54m PFF, providing support across:

- Commercial Project Delivery
- Strategic Asset Management
- Policy and Investment
- Monitoring and Compliance
- Major Projects Delivery
- Business Doncaster
- Masterplanning
- Legal, Procurement and Finance
- External Resource

Capacity to deliver has to also reflect the circumstances in which the delivery takes place. As inflationary pressures increase, and the cost and time to deliver investment projects, especially capital projects, increases, how we deliver investment has to become flexible. Our annual approach to DDTIP will allow for us to reconsider asks alongside delivery pressures. Potential funding must reflect this.

Delivery to Date

Key to DDTIP is being accountable for the investments within the plan that are funded. As this plan develops, future iterations will give an overview into the delivery of our plan to date. This will be linked to the Doncaster Quarterly Finance and Performance Report. On the ground delivery of where investments are taking place can be viewed utilising the Doncaster Delivering Together Investment Plan Map.

Measuring Success

Team Doncaster's plans and Doncaster Delivering Together will only be a success if we start to turn the curves on key metrics across the wellbeing goals.

To support this a Doncaster Delivering Together Dashboard has been launched that provides public access to a range of performance indicators for each of the six wellbeing goals. The Dashboard presents Tier 1 'core' indicators as well as a more detailed Tier 2 set. The dashboard can be accessed on the [Team Doncaster website](#).

The purpose of the Dashboard is not to describe all things across the borough in great detail, as its value is to bring a high level assessment to enable us to see the whole borough picture. It will prompt discussion and potentially further research and analyses into Doncaster's key challenges and opportunities, including for investment. This plan will do this through the investment principles and priorities outlined in this plan.

Success can also be tracked using the [South Yorkshire Data and Intelligence Hub](#) which aligns to the UK Government's Levelling Up White Paper and provides further indication into how positive change is being achieved in Doncaster

Glossary

AMRC – Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre

CAMP – Capital and Major Projects

CAP – Capital Funding

DDT – Doncaster Delivering Together

DDTIP – Doncaster Delivering Together Investment Plan

GVA – Gross Value Added

ICS – Integrated Care Systems

PFF – Project Feasibility Fund

REV – Revenue Funding

SEP – Strategic Economic Plan

SYMCA – South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority

TDCG – Team Doncaster Coordinating Group

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Report

Date: 26th April 2023

To: The Mayor and Cabinet

Report Title: Household Support Fund 4

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision?
Mayor Ros Jones	All	Yes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

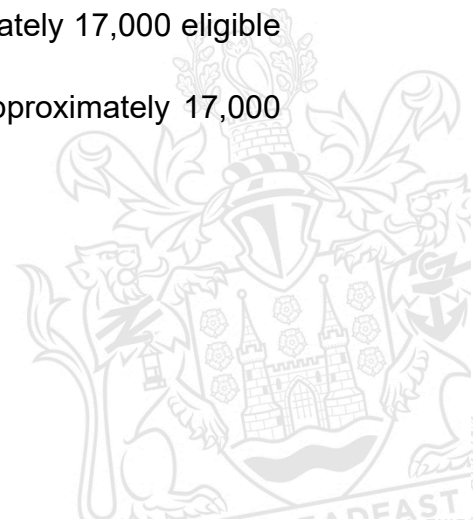
- The government has made a further Household Support Fund (to be known as HSF 4) available to Authorities in England to support those most in need during the cost-of-living crisis from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024. The share of this fund for Doncaster Council is £5,978,546.15. The main purpose of the fund is once again to provide financial support to assist those most in need with higher cost energy and food. The Council has already agreed to urgently spend £510,000 of the Fund to provide a £15 a week payment for food over the school Easter Holiday break for an estimated 17,000 eligible children from a household currently in receipt of housing benefit, council tax reduction, universal credit (housing element) or means tested free school meals. This report now provides the recommended allocation of the remaining funds to be awarded throughout the 23/24 financial year in line with the government criteria.

EXEMPT REPORT

- Not applicable.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- For the Mayor and Cabinet to agree acceptance of the £5,978,546.15 funding with delivery of the following initiatives at the discretion of the Council to be funded by Household Support 4 in line with the government criteria:
 - May School Holiday £15 a week for 1 week to approximately 17,000 eligible children totalling £255,000.
 - Summer School Holiday £15 a week for 6 weeks to approximately 17,000 eligible children totalling £1,530,000.



- 38 Food Banks to receive funding through the 23/24 financial year from a total allocation of £190,000 based on take-up levels by referral for those in crisis. This will be held by the Council and paid upon the evidence provided.
- £25,000 to the national Hygiene Bank charity to provide hygiene products to those in need across their network of Doncaster's food banks, charities, schools and other organisations.
- £300,000 to top-up the over-subscribed Local Assistance Scheme for use throughout the year for emergency financial support relating to food, energy costs and housing support.
- A payment of £150 to 17,250 working age households in January 24 or 2 payments of £75 in Nov 23 and Feb 24 totalling £2,587,500.

In addition:

- Utilise the remaining £581,046 for new food and energy applications that arise throughout the year due to new benefit entitlements, moving into the borough or to those who have not identified themselves previously.
- The Director of Corporate Resources to decide how any remaining funds are spent in consultation with the Mayor.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

4. This will mean over 17,250 low income working age households in Doncaster on housing benefit, council tax reduction, universal credit (housing element) or means tested free school meals and therefore on the lowest incomes, will receive direct additional financial support towards the cost of food and energy. Extra food will be available via Doncaster's food banks and extra hygiene, baby and feminine products will also be available via the food banks and other organisations such as schools, for those in crisis. Additional emergency financial support will also be available via the Local Assistance Scheme for those that require emergency assistance and meet the criteria.

BACKGROUND

5. Household Support Fund 4 has been made available to Councils in England to support those most in need to help with the continuing global inflationary challenges and the significantly higher cost of living. This further round of funding covers the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 inclusive and Doncaster Council's allocation is £5,978,546.15.
6. Councils have discretion on how this funding is used within the scope set out in the government grant determination and guidance which covers financial assistance with energy costs, food, water, housing support etc. The objective is to provide support to the most vulnerable households in most need of support and where possible to support those who are not already receiving the government's cost of living payments.
7. The main differences from the previous scheme and to be noted are:
 - Authorities must make sure that the mandatory element of application-based support delivered through the scheme is available throughout most of the fund period, either continuously or in regular intervals over the course of the scheme. This will be made available throughout the year.

- Details of the scheme must also be publicised on a dedicated website page with specific requirements set out in the guidance. This will be ensured.
 - Funding for supplementary advice services, including debt and benefit advice, is now considered eligible spend within the HSF scheme. As the primary focus of this grant is on practical support, expenditure on such services is expected to be limited and linked to the provision of practical support. (The Council is already funding the Doncaster Citizen Advice Bureau through various other sources of funding.)
8. For round one of the Household Support Fund for 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022, at least 50% of the total funding had to be spent on families with children. In terms of type of support, the expectation was that the Household Support Fund should primarily be used to support households in the most need with food, energy and water bills. Therefore, the Council provided the following in line with the set government criteria:
- £15 a week school holiday food provision through to 31st March 2022 (October, December and February) to children currently in receipt of means - tested free school meals and to non-school age and other children where the household was in receipt of a council tax reduction or housing benefit due to low income.
 - A winter £142 fuel payment to the same families and to working age households who did not have children but were in receipt of a council tax reduction or housing benefit due to low income.
 - £5,000 food for each of the 21 food banks; and
 - £15,000 to the Hygiene Bank.
9. For round two of the Household Support Fund for 1 April 2022 to 30 September 2022, there were differences to the government criteria. The first was that at least one third of the allocation must be paid to pensioners. The second, at least one third of the allocation must be spent on vulnerable households with children. Therefore, the Council provided the following in line with the set government criteria:
- For Easter and May school holidays, the provision of £15 a week school holiday food vouchers to children currently in school and in receipt of means-tested free school meals or from a family in receipt of housing benefit or council tax reduction.
 - For Easter and May school holidays, a £15 a week payment for the same period to non-school age children where the household was in receipt of a council tax reduction or housing benefit due to low income.
 - A £100 payment to all Doncaster pensioners on housing benefit or council tax reduction.
 - A £70 payment to all working age households on housing benefit or council tax reduction.
 - £5,000 food for each of the 21 food banks; and
 - £15,000 to the Hygiene Bank.
10. For round three of the Household Support Fund for 1 October 2022 to 31 March 2023, the criteria were less specific, and the Council agreed to award a single payment for food and energy to all households on housing benefit, council tax reduction, universal credit (housing element), free school meals and/or pension credit based on household composition which equated to the following one-off payments:

1. £70 payment to single households.
2. £90 payment to couples.
3. £130 payment to households with 1 dependent child.
4. £190 payment to households with 2 dependent children.
5. £250 payment to households with 3 dependent children; and a
6. £310 payment to households with more than 3 dependent children.

In addition, £5,000 was awarded to each of Doncaster's 21 Food Banks and £15,000 to the Hygiene Bank.

School Holiday Food

11. The Council has already agreed to fund school holiday food for approximately 17,000 eligible children (school and non-school age) on either means tested free school meals, universal Credit (housing element), housing benefit or a council tax reduction as it did last year for the Easter holidays and has also committed to do the same for the May Half Term in its Medium-Term Financial Plan. The estimated cost of this at £15 per week is £765,000 (£510,000 for Easter and £255,000 for May Half Term). This is being paid direct to the household by the Council for each eligible child due to the required information already being held and so it is more efficient to administrate. However, an on-line digital form will also be available for new applications.
12. There are a further 10 weeks school holidays in the 23/24 financial year and if the Council continues to fund for the entire year the estimated further cost would be £2,550,000. This is a total cost of £3,315,000 and equates to 55% of the total allocation. However, this would not leave enough of the fund for energy payments, therefore it is proposed that only the summer holidays are included in addition to Easter and May due to the length of the holiday and therefore the extent of extra cost incurred by families at this time.

Energy Costs

13. Using data from Household Support Fund 3, approximately 26,250 households in Doncaster on either means tested free school meals, universal Credit (housing element), housing benefit or a council tax reduction are entitled to support with their energy costs if we use the same criteria. This was made up of 17,250 working age households and 9,000 pensioner households. Dependent upon circumstances, a household may receive any or all the below from the government in 23/24:
 - Cost of Living Payments for those on eligible low-income benefits – Eligible people will receive £900 in 23/24 paid as follows, £301 in Spring 23, £300 in Autumn 23 and £299 in Spring 24. To be eligible the household must be in receipt of one of the following benefits.
 - Universal Credit
 - Jobseekers Allowance (Income Based)
 - Employment Support Allowance
 - Income Support
 - Pension Credit
 - Child Tax Credit
 - Working Tax Credit

- Disability Cost of Living Payment – Eligible people will receive a lump sum payment of £150. To be eligible a person must be receiving one of the following benefits.
 - Attendance Allowance
 - Constant Attendance Allowance
 - Disability Living Allowance (Adult)
 - Disability Living Allowance (Child)
 - Personal Independence Payment
 - Armed Forces Independence Payment
 - War Pension Mobility Supplement

- Pensioner Cost of Living Payment – Eligible pensioners entitled to a Winter Fuel Payment for winter 2023 to 2024 will get an extra £150 or £300 paid from this.

14. It is proposed that the Council provides one payment of £150 to the 17,250 working age households in January 24 or 2 payments of £75 in Nov 23 and Feb 24 which totals £2,587,500. The rationale being that there is not enough funding to cover support towards food and energy throughout the whole year and energy costs are obviously higher in the winter months. There are also not enough funds to cover the pensioners unless the payment is much lower to all. The pensioner households will receive either £150 or £300 more from the government than the working age households. An on-line digital application will also be available for new applications throughout winter 23/24.

Food Banks & Hygiene Bank

15. In previous rounds we have allocated £105,000 to share across 21 food banks at £5,000 each and £15,000 for the Hygiene Bank. In the last round, the number of food banks rose to 26, so the fund was shared across those. There are now 38 food banks, so the same amount would increase the funding requirement to £190,000. Given this funding is for a whole year and limited, the Council will allocate to food banks on a quarterly basis based on take-up levels and referred recipients based on information provided. This will ensure the funding is being utilised where it is most required. This will be a standard monitoring process across all so funding is not allocated if not required, the reason for the crisis resulting in use of the food bank can be identified and the right further referrals occur such as debt advice, cook and eat sessions etc. It is proposed that the Hygiene Bank has an increased allocation of £25,000. This is a national charity that has a distribution network across Doncaster organisations, charities and schools etc. and provides hygiene, baby and feminine products to those that cannot afford them.

Local Assistance Scheme

16. The Local Assistance Scheme has been providing extra emergency financial support for individuals towards food and energy using various sources of extra funding since 2020 because of an increased need caused by the pandemic followed by the cost-of-living crisis. These extra sources of funding have now ceased; however, the scheme is still oversubscribed, therefore it is proposed that some of this fund is used for 23/24. In particular, for those individuals who are on a low income but just miss out qualifying for the current emergency assistance

available. It is not possible to quantify the number of households this would include so the sum allocated using data from previous years is £300,000.

New Applications & Surplus

17. This leaves £581,046 to cover the cost of any new unknown applicants throughout 23/24 for all the elements above due to them being new residents to Doncaster or new claimants of any benefits that bring them into the required criteria. If there are any funds remaining after those, this would also allow for a further allocation as decided for either food banks, the hygiene bank, the Local Assistance Scheme or any other initiatives. It is proposed that the agreement of this is delegated to the Director of Corporate Resources in consultation with the Mayor to ensure all the fund is spent by 31st March 2024.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

18. Option 1

To agree acceptance of the £5,978,546.15 funding with delivery of the following initiatives at the discretion of the Council to be funded by Household Support 4 in line with the government criteria:

- May School Holiday £15 a week for 1 week to approximately 17,000 eligible children totalling £255,000.
- Summer School Holiday £15 a week for 6 weeks to approximately 17,000 eligible children totalling £1,530,000.
- 38 Food Banks to receive funding through the 23/24 financial year from a total allocation of £190,000 based on take-up levels by referral for those in crisis. This will be held by the Council and paid upon the evidence provided.
- £25,000 to the national Hygiene Bank charity to provide hygiene products to those in need across their network of Doncaster's organisations, charities and schools.
- £300,000 to top-up the over-subscribed Local Assistance Scheme for use throughout the year for emergency financial support relating to food, energy costs and housing support.
- A payment of £150 to 17,250 working age households in January 24 or 2 payments of £75 in Nov 23 and Feb 24 totalling £2,587,500.

In addition:

- Utilise the remaining £581,046 for new food and energy applications that arise throughout the year due to new benefit entitlements, moving into the borough or to those who have not identified themselves previously.
- The Director of Corporate Resources to decide how any remaining funds are spent in consultation with the Mayor.

19. Option 2




The other option considered was to fund food for all the school holidays in 23/24 and only provide an energy payment to approximately 3,500 households on housing benefit or council tax reduction only, who are not receiving the £900 government cost of living payment.






REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

20. Option 1 is recommended after considering the needs and feedback from Doncaster residents. Families having to buy extra food in the school holidays especially for those usually in receipt of means tested free school meals is a big financial pressure with the long summer holidays being especially difficult. The extra cost of fuel is a particular issue in the winter months and the fund allocation is not enough to cover both food and energy throughout the whole year. The increasing number of food banks and their use is another issue for the borough, but the Council wants to take care that the food and hygiene products are going to those most in need, not just provided to anyone. Those in need of emergency support throughout the pandemic followed by the cost-of-living crisis, has remained at a high level with about £900,000 per annum required from a scheme that only has a permanent budget of £300,000 per annum. Overall, this option will ensure additional support for all these circumstances to the level possible within the amount of funding provided.

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

21.

Great 8 Priority	Positive Overall	Mix of Positive & Negative	Trade-offs to consider – Negative overall	Neutral or No implications
 Tackling Climate Change				✓
Comments:				
 Developing the skills to thrive in life and in work				✓
Comments:				
 Making Doncaster the best place to do business and create good jobs				✓
Comments:				

 Building opportunities for healthier, happier and longer lives for all	✓			
Comments: This initiative will provide direct financial assistance to pay for food and energy via various sources therefore positively contributing to the health and happiness of households in a financial environment where food and energy prices have increased at an unprecedented level due to global events.				
 Creating safer, stronger, greener and cleaner communities where everyone belongs				✓
Comments:				
 Nurturing a child and family-friendly borough	✓			
Comments: This package of financial assistance includes families with children who are on low incomes at the forefront to assist them to thrive and get through the current cost of living crisis.				
 Building Transport and digital connections fit for the future				✓
Comments:				
 Promoting the borough and its cultural, sporting, and heritage opportunities				✓
Comments:				
Fair & Inclusive	✓			
Comments: This financial support package has been designed based on financial circumstances only meaning inclusivity and fairness to all within the funding envelope provided.				

22. Legal Implications [Officer Initials: SRF | Date: 27.03.23]

Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 gives the local authority the power to do anything that individuals may generally do. The funding must be spent in accordance with any guidance provided by Government.

23. Financial Implications [Officer Initials: CC | Date: 28.03.23]

As indicated in the body of the report, Doncaster Council has been allocated £5,978,546.15 Household Support Fund (HSF 4) grant to cover the period from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024. The cost of these proposals to fully utilise the HSF 4 grant are detailed in the body of the report (final cost dependent upon eligibility). HSF 4 is a one-off ring-fenced grant that will be payable in arrears following the submission of quarterly returns outlining activity and spend. Spend must have been incurred in the period up to and including 31st March 2024 to be eligible to be funded from the HSF 4 grant.

The general principle applies that Local Authorities are responsible and accountable for the lawful use of funds under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972. The Section 151 Officer within the Local Authority is required to exercise their duties in line with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) guidance, ensuring their oversight of the proper administration of financial affairs within the Local Authority including these grants

24. Human Resources Implications [Officer Initials: SH | Date: 24.03.23]

There are no specific HR implications associated with this decision as it is anticipated that the administration will be managed within existing resources.

25. Technology Implications [Officer Initials: PW | Date: 27.03.23]

No new technology is required to deliver this proposal. Digital application forms will be developed to make it as easy and swift as possible for any people who need to apply that are not in our records from previous payments.

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

26. The Council already holds the information to award these payments. However, there is always the risk that households have not applied for the relevant benefits and therefore not made themselves known either because they do not know they are entitled to them or due to the fact their circumstances have changed. They could also be new to the borough. To mitigate against this risk, application forms will be available throughout the year for new applicants and records will be continuously checked. Communications will also be issued on a regular basis.

CONSULTATION

27. Colleagues have been consulted with regard to food banks and the hygiene bank. The needs of Doncaster residents and feedback from previous schemes has also been considered by portfolio holders.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

28. Not applicable.

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

29. Not applicable.

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