



Doncaster Council

Would you please note that a Group Meeting will be held at 5.00 p.m. in the Civic Office.

Agenda

To all Members of the

COUNCIL

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

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

Date: Thursday, 14th July, 2022

Time: 6.00 pm

PLEASE NOTE:

The wearing of face coverings within the Civic Building is encouraged however, it is a personal choice and no longer a mandatory requirement. For those who have any concerns about their safety or wish to take additional precautions during the meeting, face masks, hand sanitiser and anti-bacterial wipes are available should you require them.

BROADCASTING NOTICE

This meeting is being filmed for subsequent broadcast via the Council's site. The Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act and images collected during this recording will be retained in accordance with the Council's published policy. Please be aware that by entering the meeting, you accept that you may be filmed and the images used for the purposes set out above.

**Damian Allen
Chief Executive**

Issued on: Wednesday, 6 July 2022

Governance Officer for this meeting

David Taylor
01302 736712

**Doncaster Metropolitan Borough 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. Declarations of Interest, if any.
4. Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 20th May, 2022. 1 - 36
5. To receive any announcements from the Chair of Council, the Mayor, Members of the Cabinet or the Head of Paid Service.
6. In accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme, to receive the presentation of a Petition relating to the Stopping of the sale of Rose Hill Field to Developers.

(The Council has received a petition from, Mr Chris Owen, the petition organiser on behalf of the Rose Hill Residents' Association, requesting Doncaster Council to stop its plans to sell Rose Hill to a developer to build houses on the Green Space.)

7. Questions from the public in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13:-
None received for this meeting.

A. Items where the Public and Press may not be excluded.

For Decision

8. Youth Justice Plan 2022/23. 37 - 102
9. Doncaster Council Peer Review 2022. 103 - 152
10. Health and Wellbeing Board First Health Annual Report 2021/22. 153 - 172
11. Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2021/22. 173 - 204
12. To consider the following Motion, written notice of which has been given by Councillor John Healy and Seconded by Councillor David Nevett, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16.1:-

“This Council is concerned at the impact over 12 years of the Tory Governments Austerity measures on local Councils.

The loss to Doncaster is over £100 million per year and continuing, this has led to serious reductions in vital services.

The cost of living increases including fuel and food have led to massive rises in cost of living expenses for those with the least.

This Council requests the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State to ask them to reverse the Austerity cuts and fund local government properly.”

13. Questions by Elected Members in accordance with Council Procedure Rules 15.2 and 15.3:-

(i) Questions on Notice to the Executive:-

None received for this meeting.

(ii) Questions without Notice to the Executive and the Chairs of Committees.

For Information and Not Endorsement

14. To receive the minutes of the following Joint Authorities.

205 - 338

A. South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority Board held on 4th March, 21st March and 6th June, 2022.

B. South Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership Board held on 10th March and 12th May, 2022.

C. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority held on 24th January, 21st February and 11th April, 2022.

D. South Yorkshire Pensions Authority held on 10th February and 17th March, 2022.

E. South Yorkshire Pensions Authority Local Pension Board held on 27th January and 28th April, 2022.

F. South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel held on 4th February and 25th April, 2022.

This page is intentionally left blank

Public Document Pack Agenda Item 4

DONCASTER METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

FRIDAY, 20TH MAY, 2022

A MEETING of the COUNCIL was held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICE, WATERDALE, DONCASTER, on FRIDAY, 20TH MAY, 2022, at 11.30 am.

PRESENT:

Chair - Councillor Richard A Jones
Vice-Chair - Councillor Ian Pearson
Mayor - Ros Jones
Deputy Mayor - Councillor Glyn Jones

PRESENT FOR AGENDA ITEMS 1 TO 5 (PART 1)

Councillors Nick Allen, Bob Anderson, Duncan Anderson, Lani-Mae Ball, Joe Blackham, Rachael Blake, Laura Bluff, Nigel Cannings, James Church, Gemma Cobby, Phil Cole, Jane Cox, Steve Cox, Linda Curran, Susan Durant, Yetunde Elebuibon, Sue Farmer, Julie Grace, Martin Greenhalgh, John Healy, Leanne Hempshall, Charlie Hogarth, Mark Houlbrook, Debbie Hutchinson, Jake Kearsley, Majid Khan, Jane Kidd, Sue Knowles, Sophie Liu, Tracey Moran, John Mounsey, Emma Muddiman-Rawlins, Tim Needham, David Nevett, Jane Nightingale, Thomas Noon, Andy Pickering, Cynthia Ransome, Andrea Robinson, Dave Shaw, Glynis Smith, Sarah Smith, Gary Stapleton and Austen White.

APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Nigel Ball, Iris Beech, Glenn Bluff, Bev Chapman, Aimee Dickson, Sean Gibbons, Barry Johnson and Rob Reid.

PRESENT FOR AGENDA ITEMS 6 TO 19 (PART 2)

Councillors Nick Allen, Bob Anderson, Duncan Anderson, Lani-Mae Ball, Joe Blackham, Rachael Blake, Glenn Bluff, Laura Bluff, Nigel Cannings, James Church, Gemma Cobby, Phil Cole, Jane Cox, Steve Cox, Linda Curran, Susan Durant, Yetunde Elebuibon, Sue Farmer, Sean Gibbons, Julie Grace, Martin Greenhalgh, John Healy, Leanne Hempshall, Charlie Hogarth, Mark Houlbrook, Debbie Hutchinson, Jake Kearsley, Jane Kidd, Sue Knowles, Sophie Liu, Tracey Moran, John Mounsey, Emma Muddiman-Rawlins, Tim Needham, David Nevett, Jane Nightingale, Thomas Noon, Andy Pickering, Cynthia Ransome, Andrea Robinson, Glynis Smith, Sarah Smith, Gary Stapleton and Austen White.

APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Nigel Ball, Iris Beech, Bev Chapman, Aimee Dickson, Barry Johnson, Majid Khan, Rob Reid and Dave Shaw.

1 Prayers

The Chair, Councillor Richard Allan Jones, welcomed Elected Members, Officers and members of the public to the meeting and asked that they remain standing whilst they were led in prayer by the Civic Chaplain, Canon Reverend David Stevens.

2 Election of Chair of Council

It was MOVED by Councillor Lani-Mae Ball and SECONDED by Councillor Dave Shaw that Councillor Ian Pearson be elected as Chair of Council of Doncaster Metropolitan Borough for the 2022/23 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED that Councillor Ian Pearson be hereby elected as Chair of Council of Doncaster Metropolitan Borough for the 2022/23 Municipal Year.

3 Election of Vice-Chair of Council

It was MOVED by Councillor Glynis Smith and SECONDED by Councillor Linda Curran that Councillor Duncan Anderson be elected as Vice-Chair of Council of Doncaster Metropolitan Borough for the 2022/23 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED that Councillor Duncan Anderson be hereby elected as Vice-Chair of Council of Doncaster Metropolitan Borough for the 2022/23 Municipal Year.

4 Presentation of badges to the retiring Chair of Council and Consort

On behalf of the Council, Damian Allen, the Chief Executive, presented a Commemorative Badge to the retiring Chair of Council. Flowers were presented to the outgoing Mayoress and the new Mayoress.

5 Chair of Council's Inaugural Speech

The Chair of Council, Councillor Ian Pearson, delivered his inaugural speech.

“Thank you to all who have bestowed this honour upon me. I thought I would be elected as Civic Mayor of a Metropolitan Borough Council, but now it appears it will be Doncaster City Council.

This is an auspicious and important day and I would like to thank Team Doncaster, Ros and all Members and Officers who have taken part in the achievement of City Status. It is a great honour and we achieved this on our fourth attempt; to achieve this it cost us less than £30,000.

This will bring great benefits to Doncaster and in years to come, we will see growth of the economy by 13 to 14%. It is the start of a long journey and we should all be proud to be residents.

My wife Sue will be acting as my Consort for the year and we have chosen to support two charities in the coming year:-

- Be Safe - this is a charity that supports children and young people seeking refuge and support; and
- The Mansion House - I would love to see the profile raised further and raise money for it with more events held there over the coming years. It was the only Mansion House in the Country of a Metropolitan Borough Council, and is only one of three overall across the country.

I would like to say thank you to Councillors Lani-Mae Ball and Dave Shaw for the wonderful things they have said. Listening to them, I felt like I wanted to cry. Thank you.

All of you who know me will know I am straight talking, a bit blunt but if you talk to me, and we discuss things, we can always find some common ground to move forward.

I am here to promote the industry, business and community of Doncaster, and we have to work hard to get out of this financial crisis, fight to overcome the environmental crisis, and be warned, I will be expecting you all to come up with initiatives to do this.

Finally, I would just like to thank everyone for getting me here.”

6 Vote of thanks to the retiring Chair of Council and Consort

It was MOVED by Councillor Cynthia Ransome and SECONDED by Councillor Steve Cox that the Council place on record its thanks and appreciation to Councillor Richard Allan Jones for the manner in which he had fulfilled his role as Chair of Council for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

Councillor Richard Allan Jones responded as follows:-

“Being chosen to serve as Civic Mayor in May last year was one of the proudest moments of my life.

It has been another difficult year. The shadow of the Covid pandemic still hangs over us and although restrictions have been eased, many of the traditional events were unable to take place. However, I do not want this to detract from my year in office. It has been an interesting and rewarding year and my wife, Elizabeth and I, have been very honoured to represent Doncaster at many varied engagements over the past 12 months.

An obvious highlight was the visit of HRH Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, when he visited our wonderful new Gallery, Library and Museum, but equally rewarding has been meeting the people of Doncaster. I have met many inspiring people who work tirelessly within their communities, giving their time freely, with little recognition or reward, to improve the lives of others.

On a personal note, I would like to say a big thank you to my wife, Elizabeth, who has given me tremendous support throughout the year. I could not have fulfilled my duties without you.

I would also like to record my thanks to my fellow Ward Councillors for Finningley, Jane and Steve Cox. They have been a great support, taking on additional work to allow me to carry out my role as Civic Mayor; a huge thank you to both of you.

Thank you also to Dave the Civic Chauffeur and Attendant, and Mandy for their advice and guidance, and for making sure I am at the right place at the right time.

I would like to finish by wishing my successor, Councillor Ian Pearson, all the very best during his time as Civic Mayor. I hope that you have an enjoyable and memorable year.”

The Chair then announced a short recess and determined that the meeting would reconvene at 2.00 pm.

7 Declarations of Interest, if any

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

8 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 28th February, 2022

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday, 28th February, 2022, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, be approved as a correct record, and signed by the Chair.

9 To receive any announcements from the Chair of Council, the Mayor, Members of the Cabinet or the Head of Paid Service

The Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones, made the following announcements:-

“I am sure most of you are already aware, but Doncaster is to be granted City Status as part of the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee.

To become one of the UK’s newest Cities underlines our firmly held belief that we think, act and feel like a City. I have said for a long time that we are a City in all but name and now we can proudly say that Doncaster has achieved City status.

We are one of eight recipients to win the Royal honour, the furthest North, in England, and the only one in Yorkshire.

This Royal Seal of approval will mean we can continue with our vision to drive our Borough forward and realise our aspirations. Being a City will help boost the profile of Doncaster on many different levels from attracting new and growing business, underlining Doncaster as a tourist destination, upping our role on the national stage and giving us a stronger voice.

I would like to personally thank Dan Fell, the Chief Executive of Doncaster Chamber, for his leadership of this bid, and all our Team Doncaster partners for their passion and promotion of our City Status bid. Being granted City Status is proof of what we can achieve when we work together across the Team Doncaster partnership.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our bid across Doncaster and who, like us in Team Doncaster, want Doncaster to be recognised for how far we have come and our exciting future ahead. Congratulations too from Doncaster to all of the other City Status winners. I hope you are as delighted as I am. We will be celebrating as part of our already planned Jubilee events and will make the occasion even more special.

As many of you will already be aware, this week we welcomed a team of experienced Officers and members from other Local Authorities to the Council, to carry out an LGA Corporate Peer Challenge. A Peer Challenge is an opportunity to take stock and reflect on how to further improve outcomes for local residents.

During their four day visit to the Council, the Peer Challenge Team gathered information and views from more than 35 meetings and spoke to around 120 people, including a range of Council staff together with Members and external stakeholders, in addition to carrying out further research.

We have now received the initial feedback from the Peer Challenge Team and I am delighted to report that this is very positive indeed with one of the overall observations being 'Doncaster is on a journey of continuous improvement with many good features and if continued, will be an exemplar Council'.

They also observed that the Council has a compelling vision and clear priorities to deliver its ambitions for Doncaster, and that there is pride and a strong sense of place and identity amongst Members and staff. The team highlighted the strong leadership and partner relationships too, with partners well engaged and aligned to the Council's ambitions and priorities.

There was also recognition that Doncaster is a 'Place of Places' consisting of areas with different needs which increasingly the Council is focused on as well. The Team also highlighted our Localities journey and the opportunities arising from this, and acknowledged that we are focusing on delivering across the Borough. They also highlighted that there is an excellent record of attracting external funding and civic entrepreneurship for example Town Deal, Levelling Up funding and private sector investments.

In terms of governance and culture, they recognised us as a well-run Council with strong, robust and transparent governance and decision making arrangements in place, and Member and Officer relationships being strong, supportive and productive.

There was further acknowledgement that the Council is financially secure and has largely delivered its efficiency savings with a proactive and anticipatory approach to financial planning that is backed up with good governance arrangements.

I would like to say a huge thank you to those of you who took part in the Peer Challenge which is very much appreciated. The full report will be available in the next few weeks so we will share this with you when it is available.

So that is two brilliant pieces of news that I have shared with you today. All we need now is for Doncaster to become the home of Great British Railways and we will have the hat-trick."

10 Results of the Local Borough By-Election held on 31st March, 2022

The Council considered a report which advised Members of the outcome of the Wheatley Hills and Intake Ward By-Election held on Thursday, 31st March, 2022.

Members noted that the eligible Electorate was 12,933 electors of which 2,879 were issued with Postal Votes and 1,264 (43.90%) were returned. As well as those Postal Votes issued, there were ten polling stations on polling day which 536 (5.33%) electors visited to cast their vote. In total, 1,800 electors cast their vote, of which 3 were rejected marking a turnout of 13.92%.

RESOLVED that the result of the Wheatley Hills and Intake Ward By-Election held on Thursday, 31st March, 2022, be noted.

11 Notification by the Elected Mayor of the Composition of the Executive and the Elected Mayor's Scheme of Delegations

The Council received a report, presented by the Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones, with regard to the composition and constitution of the Executive for the 2022/23 Municipal Year, and announced that the Cabinet would be comprised as follows:-

Councillor Glyn Jones
Deputy Mayor and lead on Housing and Business

Councillor Lani-Mae Ball
Cabinet Member for Education, Skills & Young People

Councillor Nigel Ball
Cabinet Member for Public Health, Leisure, Culture and Planning

Councillor Joe Blackham
Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Enforcement

Councillor Rachel Blake
Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care, Communities and Equalities

Councillor Phil Cole
Cabinet Member for Finance and Trading Services

Councillor Mark Houlbrook
Cabinet Member for Sustainability and Waste

Councillor Jane Nightingale
Cabinet Member for Corporate Resources

Councillor Andrea Robinson
Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care

A copy of the current Scheme of Delegations, dated 12th October 2021, was attached at Appendix A to the report.

RESOLVED that the report on the composition of the Executive, be noted.

12 Council appointed Committees and Sub-Committees Terms of Reference for 2022/23

The Council considered a report which sought approval for a number of proposed revisions to the Terms of Reference for Council appointed Committees and Sub-Committees.

The Terms of Reference were approved at Council each year and ensured that the highest standards of governance were met, and allowed for the proper discharge of functions.

The Council noted that changes had been proposed to the Terms of Reference to the Audit Committee, the Doncaster Covid-19 Oversight Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board, which had been appended to the report at Appendix A, with proposed deletions shown as crossed through, and additions in bold italics.

RESOLVED that

- (1) the proposed revisions to the Terms of Reference, as set out in paragraphs 8 to 10 and in Appendix A of the report, be approved;
- (2) the existing Terms of Reference for all other Committees and Sub-Committees of the Council, as set out within Part 3 of the Constitution, remain unchanged; and
- (3) the Constitution be updated to reflect the revisions to the Terms of Reference as agreed.

13 Local Government and Housing Act 1989 - Review of the allocation of seats on Committees and Sub-Committees

The Council considered a report which proposed the allocation of seats on Committees and Sub-Committees of the Council, having regard to political balance in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act, 1989.

The Council was also advised of adjustments necessary to reflect a best proportionate fit in accordance with the principles of proportionality, as set out within paragraph 25 of the report.

It was reported that following the dispatch of the agenda papers, a list of Political Group nominations for the appointment of Members to serve on Committees, Sub-Committees and Scrutiny Panels, had been circulated to Members and tabled at the meeting, which outlined nominations received from Group Leaders.

The Council was also requested to make appointments and co-options to other Committees of the Council, not subject to the requirement for proportional balance.

Members noted that the proposed allocation of seats set out in the report, was based on:-

- (i) Proportionality being applied to the Committees/Sub-Committees shown in the table below based on the membership indicated:-

Committee/Sub-Committee	Size
Planning Committee	11
Elections & Democratic Structures Committee	11
Chief Officers Appointments Committee	11
Awards, Grants and Transport (Appeals) Committee	7
Audit Committee	5
Chief Officer Appeals Committee	5
Employee Relations Disputes Resolution Committee	5
Chief Officers Investigatory Sub-Committee	5
Total	60

- (ii) Proportionality would not apply to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, or the four Overview & Scrutiny Standing Panels, in order to maximise cross-party representation;
- (iii) The Licensing Committee, set up under the Licensing Act 2003, need not be politically proportionate. However, in seeking nominations from Group Leaders onto these 14 seats, these had been sought in proportion to the overall composition on the Council. The appointment of Licensing Sub-Committees to conduct hearings under Section 10 of the Licensing Act 2003, was a statutory function reserved by the Act to the statutory Licensing Committee. Accordingly, it was a matter for the Licensing Committee to appoint these Sub-Committees and to schedule any required meetings; and
- (iv) Proportionality would not apply to the Health and Wellbeing Board in accordance with legislative requirements.

RESOLVED that

- (1) seats on Committees and Sub-Committees be allocated as set out in the table at paragraph 25 of the report, subject to the Labour Group losing 1 seat on the Chief Officers Appeals Committee and the Mexborough First Group losing 1 on the Awards, Grants and Transport (Appeals) Committee;
- (2) as a consequence of the loss of the 2 seats detailed at (1) above, the two seats, 1 seat to be allocated to the Conservative Group and 1 seat be allocated to the Independent Member, Councillor Rob Reid, as follows:-
- (a) Conservative Group
- Awards, Grants and Transport (Appeals) Committee (Councillor Martin Greenhalgh)
- (b) Councillor Rob Reid
- Chief Officers Appeals Committees

- (3) the membership of Committees and Sub-Committees for 2022/23 including substitute provision in respect of the Chief Officers Appointments Committee, the Chief Officers Appeals Committee and the Employee Relations Disputes Resolution Committee, be as set out in the schedule attached to these minutes at Appendix A in accordance with the wishes of Political Groups;
- (4) it be noted that in appointing Members to the Audit Committee, in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy guidance, any Member appointed to Cabinet should not be a member of the Audit Committee;
- (5) the requirement to include an Executive Member on the Chief Officers Appointments Committee, be noted;
- (6) for the reasons referred to in paragraph 8(iii) of the report, the rules of proportionality do not apply to the Licensing Committee;
- (7) the membership of the Licensing Committee be as set out in the schedule attached to these minutes at Appendix A;
- (8) the membership of the Parish Councils' Joint Consultative Committee and the Member Development Working Group, be as set out in the schedule attached to these minutes at Appendix A;
- (9) the appointments of Antoinette Drinkhill, as the Church of England representative, and Bernadette Nesbit, as the Roman Catholic representative, on the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel and on the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee where this is considering issues relating to education matters, be endorsed;
- (10) any appointments to the 2 outstanding Overview and Scrutiny Parent Governor Representative vacancies be determined by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee during the course of the year;
- (11) future appointments made during the course of the year to any of the Overview and Scrutiny Co-opted Member vacancies be determined by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee;
- (12) the appointment of workforce representatives as non-voting invitees onto the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee and the Standing Panels, as detailed at paragraph 51 of the report and as set out in the schedule attached to these minutes at Appendix A, be approved;
- (13) the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee appoint, as necessary, any further non-voting invitees to its membership or the membership of the Standing Panels during the course of the year, should it deem necessary;

- (14) the revision to the membership of the Health & Wellbeing Board, as detailed at paragraph 60 of the report, be approved and the membership of the Board be as set out within paragraphs 58 and 59 of the report and the schedule attached to these minutes at Appendix A;
- (15) the Council reaffirms that future reviews on the proportional allocation of seats on Committees and Sub-Committees, be limited to the Annual Meeting, and if appropriate, a mid-point in the year.

14 Appointment of Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Committees and Sub-Committees

The Council considered a list of political nominations for the appointment of Members to serve as Chairs and Vice-Chairs on Committees, Sub-Committees and Scrutiny Panels, for the 2022/23 Municipal Year. The list of nominations had been circulated to Members and tabled at the meeting, following the dispatch of agenda papers.

It was noted that in accordance with Rule 3 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, Council looked to ensure that not all Chairs and Vice-Chairs were drawn from the same Political Party.

RESOLVED that the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Committees and Sub-Committees for the 2022/23 Municipal Year, be as follows:-

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Vice-Chair</u>
Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee	Councillor Jane Kidd	Councillor Jake Kearsley
Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Leanne Hempshall	Councillor Tim Needham
Communities and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Gemma Cobby	Councillor Nigel Cannings
Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Sarah Smith	Councillor Martin Greenhalgh
Regeneration and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Majid Khan	Councillor Sue Farmer
Planning Committee	Councillor Susan Durant	Councillor Duncan Anderson
Elections and Democratic Structures Committee	Councillor Julie Grace	Councillor Nick Allen
Chief Officers' Appointments Committee	Councillor Glyn Jones	Mayor Ros Jones

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Vice-Chair</u>
Awards, Grants and Transport (Appeals) Committee	Councillor Sue Knowles	Councillor James Church
Audit Committee	Councillor Austen White	Councillor Glenn Bluff
Chief Officers' Appeals Committee	Councillor Jane Kidd	Councillor Austen White
Employee Relations Disputes Resolution Committee	Councillor Linda Curran	Councillor Charlie Hogarth
Chief Officers' Investigatory Sub-Committee	Councillor Gemma Cobby	Councillor Aimee Dickson
Licensing Committee	Councillor Dave Shaw	Councillor Linda Curran
Health and Wellbeing Board	Councillor Rachael Blake	To be appointed at the first Meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board

15 Diary of Meetings 2022/24

Members considered the Diary of Meetings for 2022/24, which detailed the dates of all meetings and scheduled events for the 2022/23 and 2023/24 Municipal Years.

The draft diary had previously been considered at the Council Meeting on 20th January, 2022, and had allowed Members the opportunity to make any changes, if necessary.

RESOLVED that

- (1) the proposed Diary of Meetings for the 2022/23 and 2023/24 Municipal Years, as attached at Appendix A to the report, be approved; and
- (2) the schedule of Cabinet Meetings as determined by the Mayor of Doncaster, be noted.

16 Council Appointments to Outside Bodies 2022/23

The Council considered a report which sought the appointment of representatives to the schedule of Council Appointments to Outside Bodies for the 2022/23 Municipal Year. The list of nominations had been circulated to Members and tabled at the meeting, following the dispatch of agenda papers.

RESOLVED that the Council appointments to Outside Bodies, as set out in the schedule attached to these minutes at Appendix B, be approved.

17 Appointment of Independent Member to the Audit Committee

The Council considered a report which sought approval to appoint Dr Stuart Green for a 4 year term as the Council's Co-opted, non-voting, Independent Member to sit on the Audit Committee.

It was reported that at the Annual Council Meeting on 13th June, 2014 Council agreed to appoint one Co-opted, non-voting, Independent Member to sit on the Audit Committee. Kathryn Smart was appointed following interviews to this position and served a second term which would expire on 31st May, 2022. As Kathryn Smart did not wish to serve a third term, the position was advertised and interviews were held on 1st April, 2022.

Members were informed that Dr Stuart Green was an Assistant Professor in Accounting in the Business School of Durham University and was Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales qualified, in addition to Doctorates and Higher Doctorates in Accounting. He also held independent non-executive Director positions on the Audit, Remuneration and Standards Committees of several large public sector organisations.

It was noted that the appointment of a Co-opted Member to the Audit Committee was not a statutory requirement, but it was CIPFA best practice to have an independent person with a financial background and expertise in some areas of the roles and responsibilities of an Audit Committee. The person appointed would provide external robust challenge to the work of the Committee which added value to the Council operations in managing its risks and achieving its key priorities of improving services provided to the citizens of the Borough. The work undertaken by the Audit Committee also improved and strengthened governance arrangements within the Council and its partners.

RESOLVED that

- (1) Dr Stuart Green be appointed as the Co-opted, non-voting, Independent Member to sit on the Audit Committee for a 4 year term to 31st May; 2026; and
- (2) the Council's gratitude be expressed to Kathryn Smart as its outgoing Independent Member, for the eight years of highly valued guidance and support she has given the Audit Committee.

18 Member Development Programme 2022/23

The Council considered a report presented by Councillor Jane Nightingale, Cabinet Member for Customer and Corporate Services, which outlined 2022/23 Member Training and Development Programme, and training undertaken during 2021/22. The provisional Training and Development Programme for 2022/23, was attached at Appendix A and that Officers were currently working to confirm dates and times of some of the sessions, and Members would be advised of these in due course.

It was reported that following the Election in May 2021, the priority was to ensure all Members were able to understand their roles and responsibilities. There had been a focus on induction and mandatory training and that opportunities would be provided for those Members who had not completed their mandatory training. Members who had taken up new positions on Committees such as Licensing, Planning and Charing, would be able to undertake their training shortly after the Annual Council Meeting.

It was noted that the cross-party Member Development Working Group would continue to review Member development and training, and which would also identify further training and development needs, and opportunities during the course of the year. In particular, the Working Group would be reviewing feedback from the Member's questionnaire and looking at how some key skills could be developed to support Members in their community leadership role, enhance digital skills and provide more support to Overview and Scrutiny Members.

RESOLVED that

- (1) the Member training and development undertaken during 2021/22, be noted;
- (2) the programme of Member Development activities and Seminars scheduled for 2022/23, as detailed within Appendix A to the report, including the list of training deemed to be mandatory for all Members and for specific groups of Members, be approved; and
- (3) the programme Member Development be further updated over the course of the year, in consultation with the Member Development Working Group.

19 Adoption of the Rossington Neighbourhood Development Plan

The Council considered a report, presented by the Mayor of Doncaster, Ros Jones, which proposed the adoption of the Rossington Neighbourhood Development Plan, as part of the Statutory Development Plan for the Borough following a successful Referendum result.

It was reported that Rossington Parish Council had produced a Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Parish boundary which was known as the Designated Boundary. The Parish Council and the Planning Policy and Environment Team at Doncaster Council, had worked collaboratively to ensure that the Local Plan and the Rossington Neighbourhood Plan, did not conflict with each other.

The final stage of the Neighbourhood Plan process was the Referendum whereby anyone living in the designated Neighbourhood Plan area had right to vote on whether they wanted the Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area.

Members were informed that the total electorate in Rossington was 10,840 and that the turnout for the Referendum was 10.97%. 1189 papers had been issued with 1058 voted in favour, 124 voted against, with 7 papers being rejected. Subsequently, in accordance with Section 38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, as amended, Full Council was required to adopt the Rossington Neighbourhood Plan.

Following the presentation of the report, Members of the Council were afforded the opportunity to comment on the report.

RESOLVED that the Rossington Neighbourhood Development Plan be adopted as part of the Statutory Development Plan for the Borough.

CHAIR: _____

DATE: _____

Appendix

Appendix A

PLANNING COMMITTEE - 11

	<u>COUNCILLOR</u>
Labour	Councillor Bob Anderson
	Councillor Duncan Anderson
	Councillor Iris Beech
	Councillor Aimee Dickson
	Councillor Susan Durant
	Councillor Sue Farmer
	Councillor Charlie Hogarth
	Councillor Sophie Liu
Conservative	Councillor Steve Cox
	Councillor Gary Stapleton
Mexborough First	Councillor Andy Pickering

ELECTIONS AND DEMOCRATIC STRUCTURES COMMITTEE - 11

	<u>COUNCILLOR</u>
Labour	Councillor Duncan Anderson
	Councillor James Church
	Councillor Gemma Cobby
	Councillor Julie Grace
	Councillor Deborah Hutchinson
	Councillor Jake Kearsley
	Councillor Majid Khan
	Councillor Emma Muddiman-Rawlins
Conservative	Councillor Nick Allen
	Councillor Thomas Noon
Mexborough First	Councillor Andy Pickering

CHIEF OFFICERS APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE - 11

	<u>COUNCILLOR</u>	<u>SUBSTITUTES</u>
Labour	Councillor Joe Blackham	Councillor Lani-Mae Ball
	Councillor Mark Houlbrook	Councillor James Church
	Councillor Glyn Jones	Councillor Susan Durant
	Mayor Ros Jones	Councillor Sue Farmer
	Councillor Jake Kearsley	Councillor Deborah Hutchinson
	Councillor Jane Kidd	Councillor Tim Needham
	Councillor Jane Nightingale	Councillor Ian Pearson
	Councillor Andrea Robinson	Councillor Glynis Smith
Conservative	Councillor Cynthia Ransome	Councillor Nick Allen
	Councillor Thomas Noon	Councillor Steve Cox
Mexborough First	Councillor Andy Pickering	Councillor Bev Chapman

* **Substitutes to be called from the pool listed above for each respective Political Group.**

AWARDS, GRANTS AND TRANSPORT (APPEALS) COMMITTEE - 7

	<u>COUNCILLOR</u>
Labour	Councillor James Church
	Councillor Yetunde Elebuibon
	Councillor Sue Knowles
	Councillor Tracey Moran
	Councillor Sarah Smith
Conservative	Councillor Steve Cox
	Councillor Martin Greenhalgh

AUDIT COMMITTEE - 5

	<u>COUNCILLOR</u>
Labour	Councillor John Healy
	Councillor Barry Johnson
	Councillor Dave Shaw
	Councillor Austen White
Conservative	Councillor Glenn Bluff

CHIEF OFFICERS APPEALS COMMITTEE - 5

	<u>COUNCILLOR</u>	<u>SUBSTITUTE</u>
Labour	Councillor Phil Cole	Councillor Majid Khan
	Councillor Jane Kidd	Councillor Jane Nightingale
	Councillor Austen White	Councillor Sarah Smith
Conservative	Councillor Jane Cox	Councillor Nick Allen
Independent	Councillor Rob Reid	-

- * **Substitutes to be called from the pool listed above for each respective Political Group.**

CHIEF OFFICERS INVESTIGATORY SUB-COMMITTEE - 5

	<u>COUNCILLOR</u>
Labour	Councillor Gemma Cobby
	Councillor Aimee Dickson
	Councillor Majid Khan
	Councillor Austen White
Conservative	Councillor Nigel Cannings

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS DISPUTES RESOLUTION COMMITTEE - 5

	<u>COUNCILLOR</u>	<u>SUBSTITUTE</u>
Labour	Councillor Gemma Cobby	Councillor Duncan Anderson
	Councillor Linda Curran	Councillor Leanne Hempshall
	Councillor Susan Durant	Councillor John Mounsey
	Councillor Charlie Hogarth	Councillor Emma Muddiman-Rawlins
Conservative	Councillor Jane Cox	Councillor Nick Allen

* **Substitutes to be called from the pool listed above for each respective Political Group.**

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - 8

	<u>COUNCILLOR</u>
Labour	Councillor Gemma Cobby
	Councillor Jake Kearsley
	Councillor Leanne Hempshall
	Councillor Jane Kidd
	Councillor Majid Khan
	Councillor Sarah Smith
Conservative	Councillor Richard Allan Jones
	Councillor Gary Stapleton
Invitee	(Awaiting nomination)

COMMUNITIES & ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL - 9

	<u>COUNCILLOR</u>
Labour	Councillor James Church
	Councillor Gemma Cobby
	Councillor Julie Grace
	Councillor Deborah Hutchinson
	Councillor Barry Johnson
	Councillor Tracey Moran
	Councillor Emma Muddiman-Rawlins
Conservative	Councillor Nigel Cannings
	Councillor Gary Stapleton
Invitees	Jim Board (Unison)

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL - 9

	<u>COUNCILLOR</u>
Labour	Councillor Bob Anderson
	Councillor Susan Durant
	Councillor Leanne Hempshall
	Councillor Charlie Hogarth
	Councillor Tim Needham
	Councillor David Nevett
Conservative	Councillor Laura Bluff
	Councillor Steve Cox
Independent	Councillor Rob Reid
Co-optees	Nomination to be sought (Parent Governor)
	Nomination to be sought (Parent Governor)
	Antoinette Drinkhill (Diocese of Sheffield Church of England)
	Bernadette Nesbit (Diocese of Hallam Roman Catholic Church)
Invitees	Georgina Lightfoot (Unison)

HEALTH & ADULT SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL - 9

	<u>COUNCILLOR</u>
Labour	Councillor Linda Curran
	Councillor Yetunde Elebuibon
	Councillor Jake Kearsley
	Councillor Sue Knowles
	Councillor Glynis Smith
	Councillor Sarah Smith
Conservative	Councillor Laura Bluff
	Councillor Martin Greenhalgh
Mexborough First	Councillor Sean Gibbons
Invitee	Jim Board (Unison)

REGENERATION & HOUSING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL - 9

	<u>COUNCILLOR</u>
Labour	Councillor Duncan Anderson
	Councillor Iris Beech
	Councillor Aimee Dickson
	Councillor Sue Farmer
	Councillor Majid Khan
	Councillor Sophie Liu
	Councillor John Mounsey
Conservative	Councillor Steve Cox
	Councillor Gary Stapleton
Invitees	Mark Whitehouse (Unite)

LICENSING COMMITTEE - 14

	<u>COUNCILLOR</u>
Labour	Councillor Iris Beech
	Councillor Linda Curran
	Councillor John Healy
	Councillor Charlie Hogarth
	Councillor Barry Johnson
	Councillor Sophie Liu
	Councillor Emma Muddiman-Rawlins
	Councillor David Nevett
	Councillor Ian Pearson
	Councillor Dave Shaw
Conservative	Councillor Nick Allen
	Councillor Martin Greenhalgh
	Councillor Thomas Noon
Mexborough First	Councillor Bev Chapman

HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

	<u>COUNCILLOR</u>
Labour	Councillor Nigel Ball
	Councillor Rachael Blake
	Councillor Andrea Robinson
Conservative	Councillor Cynthia Ransome

PARISH COUNCILS' JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE - 8

	<u>COUNCILLOR</u>
Labour	Councillor Bob Anderson
	Councillor Linda Curran
	Councillor Leanne Hempshall
	Councillor Sue Knowles
	Councillor David Nevett
Conservative	Councillor Steve Cox
Executive Members	Councillor Phil Cole
	Councillor Mark Houlbrook

MEMBER DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP - 4

	<u>COUNCILLOR</u>
Labour	Councillor Jane Nightingale
	Councillor Dave Shaw
Conservative	Councillor Jane Cox
Mexborough First	Councillor Andy Pickering

This page is intentionally left blank

OUTSIDE BODIES FOR APPOINTMENT 2022/23 (COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS)

***Denotes where appointment is for longer than a one year term**

Organisation	Notes	No of Reps	2021/22 Representatives	2022/23 Nominations
Adwick Charities	*4 Year Term of Office (term ends in 2025) Trustees with voting rights Ward Members for area	3	Cllr J. Mounsey* Cllr S. Smith* Cllr D. Hutchinson*	Cllr J. Mounsey* Cllr S. Smith* Cllr D. Hutchinson*
Bentley with Arksey Doles Charity	*4 Year Term of Office (term ends in 2025) Trustees with voting rights Ward Members for area	4	Cllr J. Church* Cllr D. Hutchinson* Cllr C. Hogarth* Cllr J. Nightingale*	Cllr J. Church* Cllr D. Hutchinson* Cllr C. Hogarth* Cllr J. Nightingale*
Cantley Poor's Land Trust	*4 Year Term of Office (term ends in 2025) Trustee – role requires regular attendance at monthly meetings and visits to clients (people skills desirable). Knowledge of Cantley, Bessacarr & Branton is helpful as this is the area covered by the Trust.	2	Cllr M. Khan* Mrs S. Rogerson*	Cllr M. Khan* Mrs S. Rogerson*

Organisation	Notes	No of Reprs	2021/22 Nominations	2022/23 Nominations
Citizens Advice Doncaster Borough	1 Year Term of Office Voting Member Knowledge of, and interest in, Citizens Advice service is desirable.	1 + 1 sub	Cllr P. Cole Cllr. L. Curran (Sub)	Cllr P. Cole Cllr. L. Curran (Sub)
Cooke Almshouse Charity	*4 Year Term of Office (term ends in 2025) Trustee with voting rights No specific requirements	1	Cllr C. Hogarth*	Cllr C. Hogarth*
Dementia Partnership	Relevant Cabinet Member attends because of their Portfolio responsibilities.	1	Cllr N. Ball	Cllr N. Ball
Doncaster and District Deaf Society	1 Year Term of Office Advisory/Observer No specific requirements	2	Cllr J. Kidd Cllr D. Nevett	Cllr J. Kidd Cllr D. Nevett
Doncaster Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board	Relevant Cabinet Member attends because of their Portfolio responsibilities.	1	Cllr A. Robinson	Cllr A. Robinson
Doncaster Safeguarding Children's Board	Relevant Cabinet Member attends because of their Portfolio responsibilities.	1	Cllr R. Blake	Cllr R. Blake
Doncaster Schools' Forum	Relevant Cabinet Member attends as an observer because of their Portfolio responsibilities.	1	Cllr L. Ball	Cllr L. Ball

Organisation	Notes	No of Reprs	2021/22 Representatives	2022/23 Nominations
Humberhead Levels Partnership (Executive Board)	Open-ended Term of Office	1	Melissa Massarella (DMBC Officer)	Melissa Massarella (DMBC Officer)
Health and Social Care Joint Commissioning Management Board	<p>The JCMB plays a vital role in the development, implementation and oversight of joint commissioning arrangements between the NHS Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group and Doncaster Council.</p> <p>Chaired alternately by the Council's Chief Executive and the Chief Officer of the Doncaster CCG.</p> <p>The JCMB is responsible to DMBC Cabinet and DCCG Governing Body.</p>	7 + 1 sub	Cllr A. Robinson Cllr N. Ball (Sub) Damian Allen Phil Holmes Riana Nelson Faye Tyas Rupert Suckling Leanne Hornsby Lee Golze	Cllr A. Robinson Cllr N. Ball (Sub) Damian Allen Phil Holmes Riana Nelson Faye Tyas Rupert Suckling Leanne Hornsby Lee Golze
Industrial Communities Alliance (formerly The Alliance)	1 Year Term of Office Voting Members Knowledge of regeneration is desirable	2	Cllr G. Jones Cllr J. Blackham	Cllr N. Ball Cllr J. Blackham
Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee - Yorkshire & Humber Councils	1 Year Term of Office Voting Members Representative should be a Scrutiny Member (not a Member of the Executive) – preferably the Chair or Vice-Chair of DMBC's Health Scrutiny Panel.	1	Cllr S. Smith	Cllr S. Smith

Organisation	Notes	No of Reprs	2021/22 Representatives	2022/23 Nominations
Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee - Commissioners Working Together	1 Year Term of Office Voting Members Representative and sub should be a Scrutiny Member (not a Member of the Executive) – preferably the Chair and Vice-Chair of DMBC’s Health Scrutiny Panel.	1 + 1 sub	Cllr S. Smith C. Ransome (Sub)	Cllr S. Smith C. Ransome (Sub)
Learning Disability Partnership Board	Open-ended term of office Joint meetings are co-chaired by a Council representative (Assistant Director for Adult Social Care) and a member of the learning disability community.	1	Carolyn Nice (DMBC Officer)	Carolyn Nice (DMBC Officer)
Mexborough Charity Trust	*4 Year Term of Office (term ends in 2025) Voting/Trustee Members No specific requirements	2	Cllr A. Pickering* Cllr B. Chapman*	Cllr A. Pickering* Cllr B. Chapman*

Organisation	Notes	No of Reprs	2021/22 Representatives	2022/23 Nominations
<p>Doncaster Sheffield Airport Consultative Committee</p> <p>^ Strategic Aviation Special Interest Group (SASIG) Member - appointment made by the Executive</p>	<p>1 Year Term of Office</p> <p>Voting Members</p> <p>5 seats to be filled comprising:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Cabinet Member for Transport 2) SASIG Member 3) Finningley Ward Member 4) Rossington & Bawtry Member 5) Tickhill & Wadworth Member <p>Knowledge/interest of aviation and the future developments at Doncaster Sheffield Airport is desirable.</p>	5	<p>Cllr J. Blackham Cllr G. Jones Cllr S. Cox Cllr B. Johnson Cllr M. Greenhalgh</p> <p>Note: Cllr J. Blackham to be rep. for DSA Consultative Cttee. and Councillor G. Jones to be rep. for SASIG.</p>	<p>Cllr J. Blackham Cllr G. Jones Cllr S. Cox Cllr B. Johnson Cllr M. Greenhalgh</p> <p>Note: Cllr J. Blackham to be rep. for DSA Consultative Cttee. and Councillor G. Jones to be rep. for SASIG.</p>
<p>Doncaster Sheffield Airport – Noise Monitoring and Environmental Sub-Committee</p>	<p>1 Year Term of Office</p> <p>Voting Members</p> <p>5 representatives – 1 drawn from each ward of Armthorpe, Finningley, Hatfield, Rossington & Bawtry and Tickhill & Wadworth</p> <p>Knowledge/interest of aviation, the environment and the future developments at Doncaster Sheffield Airport is desirable.</p>	5	<p>Cllr S. Cox Cllr L. Curran Cllr B. Johnson Cllr M. Greenhalgh Cllr S. Knowles</p>	<p>Cllr S. Cox Cllr L. Curran Cllr B. Johnson Cllr M. Greenhalgh Cllr S. Knowles</p>

Organisation	Notes	No of Reprs	2021/22 Representatives	2022/23 Nominations
South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA)	<p>Terms of Office:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leader (i.e. Elected Mayor) – In perpetuity • Substitute and rotational member – 1 year <p>Voting Members</p> <p>1 representative + 1 substitute</p> <p>^1 second rotational member</p> <p>No specific requirements</p>	2 + 1 sub	Mayor Ros Jones Cllr G. Jones (Sub)	Mayor Ros Jones Cllr G. Jones (Sub)
South Yorkshire MCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee	<p>1 Year Term of Office</p> <p>Voting Members</p> <p>Scrutiny experience preferable</p> <p>Proportional appointments</p> <p>1 x Labour + 1 Sub</p> <p>1 x Conservative + 1 Sub</p> <p>Note: SYMCA's preferred arrangement is to have same reps sitting on both the O&S Committee and the Audit Committee)</p> <p>Both the SYMCA Audit & Standards Ctte and the SYMCA Overview & Scrutiny Ctte ordinarily meet on a Thursday morning and afternoon respectively on a quarterly basis at present. Consideration should be given to the nominee's capacity to attend meetings on a regular basis (as substitute Scrutiny Members should only be called upon to attend on an ad hoc basis rather than as 'the norm').</p>	2 + 2 subs	Cllr A. White Cllr R.A. Jones Cllr B. Johnson (Sub) Cllr M. Greenhalgh (Sub)	Cllr J. Kidd Cllr R.A. Jones Cllr B. Johnson (Sub) Cllr M. Greenhalgh (Sub)

Organisation	Notes	No of Reps	2021/22 Representatives	2022/23 Nominations
South Yorkshire MCA Audit, Standards & Risk Committee	<p>1 Year Term of Office</p> <p>Voting Member</p> <p>Proportional appointments</p> <p>1 x Labour + Sub</p> <p>1 x Conservative + Sub</p> <p>Note: Representation must include the holder of the position of Chair of DMBC's Audit Committee (Council 25/09/14) and see note above regarding SYMCA O&S Committee.</p> <p>Both the SYMCA Audit & Standards Ctte and the SYMCA Overview & Scrutiny Ctte ordinarily meet on a Thursday morning and afternoon respectively on a quarterly basis at present. Consideration should be given to the nominee's capacity to attend meetings on a regular basis.</p>	2 + 2 Subs	<p>Cllr A. White</p> <p>Cllr R.A. Jones</p> <p>Cllr B. Johnson (Sub)</p> <p>Cllr G. Bluff (Sub)</p>	<p>Cllr A. White</p> <p>Cllr R.A. Jones</p> <p>Cllr B. Johnson (Sub)</p> <p>Cllr G. Bluff (Sub)</p> <p><i>*Note: Subsequent to the meeting, the SYMCA advised that the size of the Audit, Standards & Risk Committee was being reduced to 4 Members, plus subs, and therefore only 1 x Lab + sub nominee was required from Doncaster Council (i.e. Cllrs A White & B Johnson)</i></p>
South Yorkshire MCA Business, Recovery and Growth Board	<p>1 Year Term of Office</p> <p>Thematic Boards routinely meet on an eight-weekly cycle.</p>	1 + 1 sub	<p>Cllr G. Jones</p> <p>Mayor Ros Jones</p>	<p>Cllr G. Jones</p> <p>Mayor Ros Jones (Sub)</p>
South Yorkshire MCA Housing and Infrastructure Board	<p>1 Year Term of Office</p> <p>Thematic Boards routinely meet on an eight-weekly cycle.</p>	1 + 1 sub	<p>Cllr G. Jones</p> <p>Mayor Ros Jones (Sub)</p>	<p>Cllr G. Jones</p> <p>Mayor Ros Jones (Sub)</p>
South Yorkshire MCA Education, Skills & Employability Board	<p>1 Year Term of Office</p> <p>Thematic Boards routinely meet on an eight-weekly cycle.</p>	1 + 1 sub	<p>Cllr L. Ball</p> <p>Cllr R. Blake (Sub)</p>	<p>Cllr L. Ball</p> <p>Cllr N. Ball (Sub)</p>

Organisation	Notes	No of Reps	2021/22 Representatives	2022/23 Nominations
South Yorkshire MCA Transport and the Environment Board	1 Year Term of Office Thematic Boards routinely meet on an eight-weekly cycle.	1 + 1 sub	Cllr J. Blackham Mayor Ros Jones (Sub)	Cllr J. Blackham Cllr M. Houlbrook (Sub)
South Yorkshire MCA Local Enterprise Partnership	Elected Mayor represents the Council by virtue of being deemed the Council 'Leader'.	1 + 1 sub	Mayor Ros Jones Cllr G. Jones (Sub)	Mayor Ros Jones Cllr G. Jones (Sub)
Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)	1 Year Term of Office Voting Members Proportional appointments: 1 x Conservative 3 x Labour Skills/Knowledge/Attributes – An understanding of school improvement and general educational issues and a firm commitment to help improve the quality of provision for all students.	4	Cllr G. Smith Cllr T. Moran Cllr S. Knowles Cllr J. Cox	Cllr G. Smith Cllr T. Moran Cllr S. Knowles Cllr J. Cox
Team Doncaster	Elected Mayor chairs the partnership by virtue of being deemed the Council 'Leader'.	1	Mayor Ros Jones	Mayor Ros Jones
Travis Educational Foundation	1 Year Term of Office Voting Members Skills/knowledge/attributes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of Thorne and Hatfield communities • Financial/management skills • Debate and decision making • Confidentiality/sensitivity 	2	Cllr L. Curran Cllr G. Smith	Cllr L. Curran Cllr G. Smith

Joint Authorities – Politically Proportional		No of Reps	2021/22 Representatives	2022/23 Nominations
South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority	<p>1 Year Term of Office</p> <p>Voting Members</p> <p>Political Requirements</p> <p>3 x Labour</p> <p>^Note: One representative to be designated as the Section 41 Member (i.e. Council spokesperson on issues relating to the Fire & Rescue Authority). Cllr C Hogarth is the current S41 Member.</p>	3	<p>Cllr C. Hogarth (S41 Member)</p> <p>Cllr B. Johnson</p> <p>Cllr D. Hutchinson</p>	<p>Cllr C. Hogarth (S41 Member)</p> <p>Cllr B. Johnson</p> <p>Cllr D. Hutchinson</p>
South Yorkshire Pensions Authority	<p>1 Year Term of Office</p> <p>Voting Members</p> <p>Political Requirements</p> <p>2 x Labour</p> <p>1 x Conservative</p> <p>Skills/Knowledge/Attributes – on appointment, in accordance with the Authority’s policy, Members are required to attend the LGPS Trustees fundamental training. CIPFA have issued a code of practice relating to Member knowledge and skills. The Authority is minded to adopt this Code.</p> <p>^Note: One representative to be designated as the Section 41 Member (i.e. Council spokesperson on issues relating to the Pensions Authority) and one representative as the S41 Member substitute.</p>	3	<p>Cllr J. Mounsey (Chair)</p> <p>Cllr D. Nevett (S41 Member)</p> <p>Cllr S. Cox</p>	<p>Cllr J. Mounsey (Chair)</p> <p>Cllr D. Nevett (S41 Member)</p> <p>Cllr S. Cox</p>
Police and Crime Panel	<p>1 Year Term of Office</p> <p>Voting Members</p> <p>Political Requirements</p> <p>1 x Labour</p> <p>1 x Conservative</p> <p>Political Proportionality across South Yorkshire indicated by host Authority.</p>	2	<p>Cllr S. Knowles</p> <p>Cllr C. Ransome</p> <p>Subs not required.</p>	<p>Cllr S. Knowles</p> <p>Cllr C. Ransome</p> <p>Subs not required.</p>

This page is intentionally left blank

Report

To the Chair and Members of Full Council

Youth Justice Plan 2022/23

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Councillor Lani-Mae Ball Lead Member for Education, Skills and Young People	All	Yes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this report is to present the statutory Youth Justice Plan for 2022/23, covering the work of the Youth Offending Service (YOS) in Doncaster, where responsibility for the discharge of the Plan lies. The Plan is a requirement of the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act and is to be submitted to the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales annually.
2. The Plan sets out the resourcing and value for money, performance against last year's plan, structure, governance and partnership arrangements and risks to future delivery for the service. Actions and timescales are set to develop the service and ensure the best provision for the children and young people of Doncaster.
3. In addition to the statutory plan, we will produce a Young People's Youth Justice Plan which is designed to be accessible and understandable for our young people and families. Historically the Young People's Youth Justice Plan has been identified by the Youth Justice Board as a national example of good practice and has been adopted by other areas throughout the country. We have also consulted young people in relation to their experiences of the ongoing pandemic and the service they have received from the YOS. Their comments are populated throughout the plan and available in full in Appendix 3.
4. The plan shows some good performance against the targets set in last year's plan particularly in relation to re-offending.

EXEMPT REPORT

5. This is not an exempt report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

6. Full Council approves the Youth Justice Plan 2022/23.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

7. The citizens of Doncaster will be protected from youth offending, re-offending and the fear of youth crime. The successful implementation of the Youth Justice Plan will contribute to an overall reduction in youth offending.
8. This has significant and far-reaching positive consequences in terms of raising aspirations with young people and their families, making communities safer and more inclusive. Crucially, the targeted work of Team EPIC will continue to assist those communities experiencing anti-social behaviour, by intervening earlier with young people at risk of Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE).

BACKGROUND

9. This strategic plan impacts upon the delivery of Youth Justice in all wards of Doncaster. It involves expenditure of £1.9 million in 2022/23 (estimated, some contributions to be confirmed) of which £833,541 comes from Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council (DMBC) as part of its contractual arrangements with Doncaster Children's Services Trust (DCST).
10. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 sets the statutory functions for Youth Offending Teams. The relevant provisions dealing with the Youth Justice System are set out in Part III of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 ("the 1998 Act"). Section 37(1) of the 1998 Act states that it shall be the principle aim of the Youth Justice System to prevent offending by children and young persons.
11. Section 38 places a duty on Local Authorities, acting in co-operation with the agencies listed below, to secure that, to such extent as is appropriate for their area, all "Youth Justice Services" are available there. Those agencies are:
 - Chief Officer of Police or Police authority, any part of whose Police area lies within the Local Authorities area.
 - The Secretary of State in relation to his functions under sections 2 and 3 of the Offender Management Act 2007.
 - Every provider of Probation services that is required by arrangements under section 3(2) of the Offender Management Act 2007 to carry out the duty under this subsection in relation to the Local Authority.
 - Every local Probation Board, Strategic Health Authority, Local Health Board or Primary Care Trust, any part of whose area lies within that area.
12. Section 40 of the 1998 Act sets out the duty of each Local Authority to formulate and implement an annual Youth Justice Plan, setting out how Youth Justice Services in their area are to be provided and funded, and their functions and composition. Youth Offending Teams must co-ordinate the provision of Youth Justice Services for all those in the authority's area that need them and carry out the functions described in the Youth Justice Plan.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

13. The Youth Justice Plan is a statutory Plan, the option is to approve in its current format or return the plan to the Assistant Director for Practice Improvement for further consideration and review.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

14. The only options are to approve the plan or request amendments.

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

Outcomes	Implications
<p>Doncaster Working: Our vision is for more people to be able to pursue their ambitions through work that gives them and Doncaster a brighter and more prosperous future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better access to good fulfilling work • Doncaster businesses are supported to flourish • Inward Investment 	<p>Reducing First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System significantly reduces the financial burden on other statutory services, and therefore protects against services being overwhelmed and placed under budgetary pressure when earlier intervention could have been undertaken successfully. Creating an aspirational culture amongst young people involved in anti-social behaviour and offending will lead to greater engagement with education, training and employment opportunities.</p>
<p>Doncaster Living: Our vision is for Doncaster's people to live in a borough that is vibrant and full of opportunity, where people enjoy spending time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The town centres are the beating heart of Doncaster • More people can live in a good quality, affordable home • Healthy and Vibrant Communities through Physical Activity and Sport • Everyone takes responsibility for keeping Doncaster clean • Building on our cultural, artistic and sporting heritage 	<p>Doncaster YOS is committed to ensuring that all young people have access to a Speech and Language Therapist, Systemic Family Psychotherapist and Forensic Psychologist. In addition, as part of the prevention offer, Doncaster YOS will continue to engage young people on the cusp of offending and anti-social behaviour. Through the work of Team EPIC we will engage young people in a range of diversionary activities which includes sports and fitness.</p>
<p>Doncaster Learning: Our vision is for learning that prepares all children, young people and adults for a life that is fulfilling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every child has life-changing learning experiences within and beyond school • Many more great teachers work in Doncaster Schools that are good or better • Learning in Doncaster prepares young people for the world of work 	<p>A successful implementation of the Youth Justice Plan will divert young people on the cusp of offending, but crucially will also prevent recidivism in those who do offend. A reduction in offending will lead to safe communities, in which its young citizens are more invested and consequently are actively engaged in the development of those communities.</p>

<p>Doncaster Caring: Our vision is for a Borough that cares together for its most vulnerable residents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children have the best start in life • Vulnerable families and individuals have support from someone they trust • Older people can live well and independently in their own homes 	<p>The Youth Justice Plan will support families who have presenting issues, through ongoing contribution to the Stronger Families initiative, the outcome of which will be that more families are helped to reach their full potential.</p>
<p>Connected Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A modern, efficient and flexible workforce • Modern, accessible customer interactions • Operating within our resources and delivering value for money • A co-ordinated, whole person, whole life focus on the needs and aspirations of residents • Building community resilience and self-reliance by connecting community assets and strengths • Working with our partners and residents to provide effective leadership and governance 	<p>Doncaster YOS has always strived to deliver value for money by tracking best national practice and amending service provision to meet identified needs. All posts are reviewed when they become vacant to assess the need for the post or provision in the future. In 2022/23 the YOS will continue its campaign of recruiting volunteer mentors to supplement the full time staffing resource.</p>

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

15. The risk factors are outlined in the Youth Justice Plan itself. The most significant risks relate to young people at risk of CCE and an increase in the custody rates. These issues are explored within the plan itself with appropriate mitigations in place where possible.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials RM Date 11/05/2022]

16. The only legal implications for the report arise from the sensitivity of information which maybe shared with partner agencies. The YOS has Information Sharing Agreements (ISA) in place with all relevant partner agencies, but occasionally information is required to be shared with organisations outside of the youth justice partnership, including schools. This is always undertaken for the purposes of safeguarding a child or family is always compliant with relevant legislation.

As the YOS becomes more involved at a locality level with Local Solutions Groups it is important that where necessary new ISA's are developed to ensure that information is shared in line with the Data Protection Act 2018.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials: AB Date: 13/06/2022]

17. In 2022/23 DCST have set out they will use £762k of the funding they receive via the contract payments between DMBC and DCST to fund the Youth Offending Service. In addition, DMBC receive income from partner organisations that is then paid over to DCST as part of the contract payments. The confirmed income that DMBC is to receive in 2022/23 is £60k from Doncaster CCG via a Section 256 agreement, and £152k from South Yorkshire Police & Crime Commissioner.

DMBC are still awaiting confirmation of the income to be received in 2022/23 that is to be paid over to DCST from the Ministry of Justice (was £119k in 2021/22) and from the Youth Justice Board (was £665k in 2021/22). There are also “in kind” contributions from partner organisations totalling £211k. Overall the funding is expected to be similar to 2021/22, and DCST will manage the Youth Justice Plan within the funding allocated.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials LE Date 25/04/2022]

18. There are no Human Resources implications associated with this report

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials RM Date 25/04/2022]

19. There are no technological implications associated with this report.

HEALTH IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials LE Date 25/04/2022]

20. There are no health implications associated with this report.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials LE Date 25/04/2022]

21. There are no equality implications associated with this report. The YOS undertakes an annual analysis to ensure that there is no over representation of specific groups within the criminal justice system in Doncaster. This continues to demonstrate that no group is over represented within the borough

CONSULTATION

22. As a statutory plan, consultation occurs with the relevant boards, notably YOS Management Board, Safer, Stronger Doncaster Partnership (SSDP), Doncaster Children’s Services Trust Executive management Team, DMBC Executive Management Team and young people and families who are in receipt of services from the YOS.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

23. Youth Justice Plan 2022/23 (attached).

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

DMBC	Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council
YOS	Youth Offending Service
DCST	Doncaster Children’s Services Trust
EPIC	Encouraging Potential Inspiring Change
SSDP	Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership
CCE	Child Criminal Exploitation

REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS

NAME: Andy Hood
TITLE: Assistant Director for Practice Improvement
Tel: 01302 736100
e-Mail: andy.hood@dcstrust.co.uk

LEAD OFFICER

NAME: Rebecca Wilshire/Riana Nelson

**TITLE: Director of Children's Social Care, Doncaster Children's Services
Trust/Director of Children's Services, DMBC**

Youth Justice Plan

Service	Doncaster Youth Offending Service
Service Manager/ Lead	Andy Hood, Assistant Director of Practice Improvement
Chair of YJS Board	Superintendent Neil Thomas, South Yorkshire Police

Contents

1. [Introduction, vision and strategy](#)
2. [Local context](#)
3. [Child First](#)
4. [Voice of the child](#)
5. [Governance, leadership and partnership arrangements](#)
6. [Resources and services](#)
7. [Progress on previous plan](#)
8. [Performance and priorities](#)
9. [National standards](#)
10. [Challenges, risks and issues](#)
11. [Service improvement plan](#)
12. [Evidence-based practice and innovation](#)
13. [Looking forward](#)
14. [Sign off, submission and approval](#)

15. [Appendix 1](#) - Full board membership; linked to Governance, leadership and partnership arrangements
16. Appendix 2 – Service Structure Chart
17. Appendix 3 – Young people’s feedback

1. Introduction, vision and strategy

Introduction from the Chair

Like everywhere else in the UK, the past 12 months have been a difficult time for children, young people and their families. The disruption that the pandemic has caused in terms of children’s education and their emotional health and wellbeing cannot be understated.

Here in Doncaster we have seen significant increases in the number of children with complex mental health needs, more children in need of help and support from children’s social care teams and more children entering the care system. In this context it becomes more important than ever that children receive the help and support they need when they come into contact with the Criminal Justice System to ensure that they can lead happy, safe and aspirational lives in the future.

We have always been focused on preventable offending from children who are Looked After to ensure that their care status does not negatively impact on offending. This year, for the first time, the partnership will seek to ensure that the rate of children in the Criminal Justice System who are looked after is not greater than that of the general population. This becomes ever more important as the number of children entering care increases.

The YOS remains committed to ensuring that we constantly review our therapeutic offer to ensure that we have the right specialisms to meet the needs of our young people. This year we have added a young person’s Counsellor to our existing compliment of therapeutic specialists including; Forensic Psychologist, Systemic Family Psychotherapist, Speech and Language Therapist and Substance Misuse Worker. We are confident that working alongside our highly skilled and experienced Youth Justice Officers, we will be equipped to meet the needs of Doncaster’s children and young people.

As ever we have been focused on new opportunities to engage young people in new and creative ways. To that end, this year saw the opening of the EPIC young person’s Hub in the Frenchgate Shopping Centre. As a space to promote creativity and education whilst reducing anti-social behaviour and offending, the Hub has regularly attracted between 50 and 60 young people every day. We are looking forward to welcoming Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking children to utilise this space for their ESOL (English for Speaks of Other Languages) lessons in the new year and hope that it becomes utilised for different groups across the borough as a safe space.

This year has also been noteworthy as the YOS participated in an HMIP Thematic Inspection focused on Education, Training and Employment (ETE). This external scrutiny has enforced my belief that the structure, offer and approach of Doncaster YOS as a

child first, therapeutically informed organisation is the right one and is well equipped to meet whatever challenges may arise in the future. It was also highly encouraging to hear HMIP's views about Doncaster's alternative learning provision offer and its efficacy in ensuring children return to mainstream settings in a timely way. As we all know, good education, training and employment opportunities and outcomes are pivotal in supporting children to live offence free lifestyles.

As we focus on the future, we are again facing a period of substantial change, 7 years since its inception, the Trust will cease to exist and all the functions it currently undertakes will return to the control of the Council. This represents an exciting time for both organisations, Children's Trusts themselves are created when there is a need for rapid improvement and our return to the Council indicates that the issues that required the Trust to be formed have now been resolved.

Addressing issues relating to young people and offending requires a multi-agency, strategic response that cannot be achieved by the YOS alone. I therefore welcome the opportunity to work more closely once again with Doncaster Council and look forward to seeing the synergies that will occur by the YOS being aligned to a larger organisation.

As the Chair, I am focused on the wellbeing of all our employees, I will periodically review this in the following areas:

Leadership – do the service leaders understand and utilise wellbeing within their management processes

Environment – does the working environment within the YOS support good wellbeing

Access to services – what services does the YOS have to support wellbeing and how easily can they be accessed

Mental Health – what Mental Health support is in place

Personal Resilience - how do we monitor and improve this

As with any new year, there will be challenges and opportunities, but I am confident that the offer we have created will be effective in reducing re-offending, reducing First Time Entrants and reducing the custody rates. All of which is obviously important, however, it is more important to me and the Board that children feel safe in the places that they live, that they have access to opportunities to improve their lives and where they need help, they receive it in a timely way.

Vision

First and foremost, we are an organisation for children, shaped by their experiences and informed by research into what works when supporting children in the Criminal Justice System. We believe every child has a right to define their identity, be safe, thrive and to achieve their full potential.

We operate a multi-agency, relationship based, trauma informed practice model designed to help children address the underlying issues which brought them into contact with the Criminal Justice System.

We believe that communities should be safe and inclusive and residents should be safe and free from the fear of crime. Where it is needed we apply robust risk management processes to keep children and communities safe from harm or offending.

We recognise the impact that crime can have on victims and work collaboratively with victims of crime to ensure their voice is part of the work we do with children and families

We believe that children should have access to evidence based, clinical and therapeutic services when they need them, as well as high quality careers information, advice and guidance.

We value our staff and promote training and development opportunities. We operate a flat hierarchy management approach and encourage positive and constructive challenge at all levels of the organisation.

2. Local context

Doncaster's population total is 310,542 and ranks 41 in the ranking for deprivation.

66,918 children and young people under the age of 18 years live in Doncaster (based on ONS Mid-Year Estimates). This is 21% of the total population in the area.

Approximately 22% of the Local Authority's children aged under 16 years are living in low-income families.

The proportion of children entitled to free school meals:

- in primary schools is 20.5% (the national average is 17.7%)
- in secondary schools is 19.5% (the national average is 15.9%)

Children and young people from minority ethnic groups account for 11% of all children living in the area, compared with 27% in the country as a whole.

The largest minority ethnic groups of children and young people in the area are White Eastern European, including Gypsy/Roma communities.

The proportion of children and young people with English as an additional language:

- in primary schools is 12.0% (the national average is 21.3%)
- in secondary schools is 8.9% (the national average is 17.1%)

Children In Need (CIN): the total number of open CIN cases is 2,216.

Doncaster has 409 children with a Child Protection Plan, 577 children are in care and there are 306 Care Leavers.

Team Doncaster Charter

Our purpose – Doncaster Council’s purpose is to ensure that Doncaster and its people thrive. We will ensure that value for money is at the heart of everything we do.

PEOPLE - Putting people first and helping them to help themselves.

PLACE - Creating, regenerating and supporting communities.

PRIDE - Proud of Doncaster and our contribution to it.

PROGRESS - Taking advantage of opportunities and aiming to be the best we can.

Doncaster Children Services Trust Values

Excellent

We’ll constantly strive to provide the best service for our children, young people and families, by ensuring their voices are at the heart of everything we do.

Respectful

We’ll always treat everyone as equal, be reliable, fair and honest. Above all we will take pride in our work and take ownership of our actions.

Make a difference

We’ll always be child focussed;

We’ll take the time to listen;

It’s a two way conversation;

We’ll support families to help their children and young people have a good start in life.

And above all we will help our children and young people achieve their hopes and dreams.

3. **Child First** (Page 9 of the Guidance)

Doncaster is fully committed to the four tenants of Child First practice principles. This section will outline Doncaster’s response to the tenants.

Prioritise the best interests of children and recognising their particular needs, capacities, rights and potential. All work is child-focused, developmentally informed, acknowledges structural barriers and meets responsibilities towards children.

Doncaster YOS obtains regular feedback from children about their lived experience within the Criminal Justice System. We also undertake an annual survey to understand more broadly what life is like for children living in the Borough. Strategically, we undertake an annual analysis of offending patterns for young people, their assessed individual needs, the preponderance of individual service uptake and Doncaster YOS structures its services based upon this information.

Collated together this information allows us to plan and deliver services that are responsive to the changing needs of children and families.

Our work to prevent children entering the Criminal Justice System always begins with the starting point that, where possible, children should not be criminalised, but should in fact receive help support and intervention to lead safe and aspirational lives. Our low

First Time Entrants rate coupled with our low binary re-offending rate indicates that the majority of the time our assessment of risk and need for these children is accurate.

More importantly, the feedback we receive from children, young people and families indicates that the services they receive are helpful to them, inclusive and ultimately help them to address the underlying issues which brought them into contact with the Criminal Justice System.

Promote children's individual strengths and capacities to develop their pro-social identity for sustainable desistance, leading to safer communities and fewer victims. All work is constructive and future-focused, built on supportive relationships that empower children to fulfil their potential and make positive contributions to society.

The work of both the YOS and EPIC is informed by desistance theory and a commitment to create and develop opportunities for young people to thrive. Many young people who come into contact with EPIC may have otherwise become involved in the Criminal Justice System, but through engagement with pro-social and evidence based interventions, they go on to achieve their full potential. Our alternative learning provision for children who may have become involved in difficulties at school is a good example of how we are looking holistically at the issues which bring children into contact with statutory services and intervene in their lives before this escalates to formal outcomes.

Encourage children's active participation, engagement and wider social inclusion. All work is a meaningful collaboration with children and their carers.

The YOS has always been committed to concepts of social justice, participation and engagement. Young people's feedback is consistently sought (and provided in appendix 3). We know that some young people have felt unsafe in the Town Centre and as a result of this, in partnership with the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), we have opened a Town Centre Hub. The Hub is a safe space for young people to congregate and access opportunities around education, training and positive activities.

Our relationship based practice approach extends to families as well as children we work with and we consistently receive good feedback from parents regarding the efficacy of our interventions and the support their family receives from us.

We are always mindful to be proportionate in the level of intervention offered to families, a child's Youth Justice Order is not a determining factor in what interventions they can access. Simply put, if an intervention is needed by a child or family, we will provide it.

Promote a childhood removed from the justice system, using pre-emptive prevention, diversion and minimal intervention. All work minimises criminogenic stigma from contact with the system

The YOS has operated a youth crime diversion programme, EPIC, for over 6 years. This means that many children that may have come into contact with the Criminal Justice System have been prevented from doing so. Over time, this approach has extended from

community based delivery to engagement with schools, the development of awareness raising around Child Exploitation and a Virtual Reality (VR) programme to highlight the dangers of Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE).

Where a child is Looked After, the YOS's starting point is always to ensure they are not unduly criminalised by the fact that they do not live in a traditional family setting. Our close partnership with South Yorkshire Police (SYP) has allowed us to take a proportionate approach to all children that come into contact with the Criminal Justice System. Our first priority is always ensuring that a child can achieve their full potential, even when they may be subject to robust risk management procedures.

We know that successful education, training and employment destinations are one of the greatest factors in supporting desistance. Because of this, we operate a dedicated Careers, Information, Advice and Guidance service (Pathways to Progression) and if a child ends their order without appropriate ETE in place, we will continue working with them for as long as it takes (up to the age of 19) to ensure they achieve their potential.

4. Voice of the child

Doncaster's ambition is to be the most child-friendly borough in the country. In order to establish the views of young people, the YOS routinely asks young people for their views in order to ensure the offer they receive is appropriate for them and for young people who access the service in the future. The YOS's relationship based practice supports this as young people get to know their Case Managers as well as relevant Interventions Team members and members of the Youth Justice Management Team who are active in supporting young people's cases.

Doncaster also utilises young people on their interview panels for operational staff in order to ensure that staff recruited are able to build a positive relationship with young people

In respect of this year's Youth Justice Plan, the views of **42** young people have been provided in terms of the feedback about their experience of the YOS and what life is like in Doncaster now, **27** of which are included in Appendix 3.

Several of these are included below and throughout the Youth Justice Plan. The YOS consistently collects young people's feedback throughout the year, however specifically for the Youth Justice Plan, young people were consulted. The total number of young people who responded to these questions was **15 (we are expecting more feedback as the plan enters its iterative process and this section will be updated in May).**

Young people have been consulted on the below questions:

1. Do you feel safe in the area where you live?
2. Do you think there are enough things to do in Doncaster?
3. Do you think you can achieve all your hopes and goals for your life here in Doncaster?

4. What do you like most about living in Doncaster?
5. What's one thing you would change about Doncaster?
6. What things make you feel worried?
7. Do you know where to go to get help with your mental health or if you are unwell/hurt?
8. Do you know where to get help if you need more support with anything?
9. Is there anything else you think the YOS should help you with?

Think about the things that you have been doing at YOT. What is helping you sort out problems in your life? **I get to talk about things with Emma**

What things in your life have got better? **I've got a job now and earning money. I'm gonna try and push it more, maybe rent a flat for myself.**

Think about the things that you have been doing at YOT. What is helping you sort out problems in your life? **I am looking at my emotions and ways to help me**

What things in your life have got better? **Me and mum are getting on good most of the time**

What things in your life have got better? **Having an education place**

What's been bad about coming to the YOT? **Litter picking, having to get up at 8am, waiting in for meetings**

What's been bad about coming to the YOT so far? Why has it been bad? **Loads of earache (*just in jest*)**

Who will help you with any problems after you leave here? **6 months voluntary support (YOS)**

What's been good about coming to the YOT? **Learning how to deal with emotions and how to deal with situations**

What's been bad about coming to the YOT? **On your case all time**

5. Governance, leadership and partnership arrangements

Doncaster Youth Offending Service is housed within the wider Young People's Services. This includes a range of specialist and therapeutic provisions which are provided to all tiers of young people from universal provision to Children Looked After (CLA). Young People's Services are overseen by the Assistant Director for Practice Improvement and 2 Service Managers. One Service Manager with discreet responsibility for statutory aspects of provision including therapeutic services and one Service Manager aligned to Prevention services.

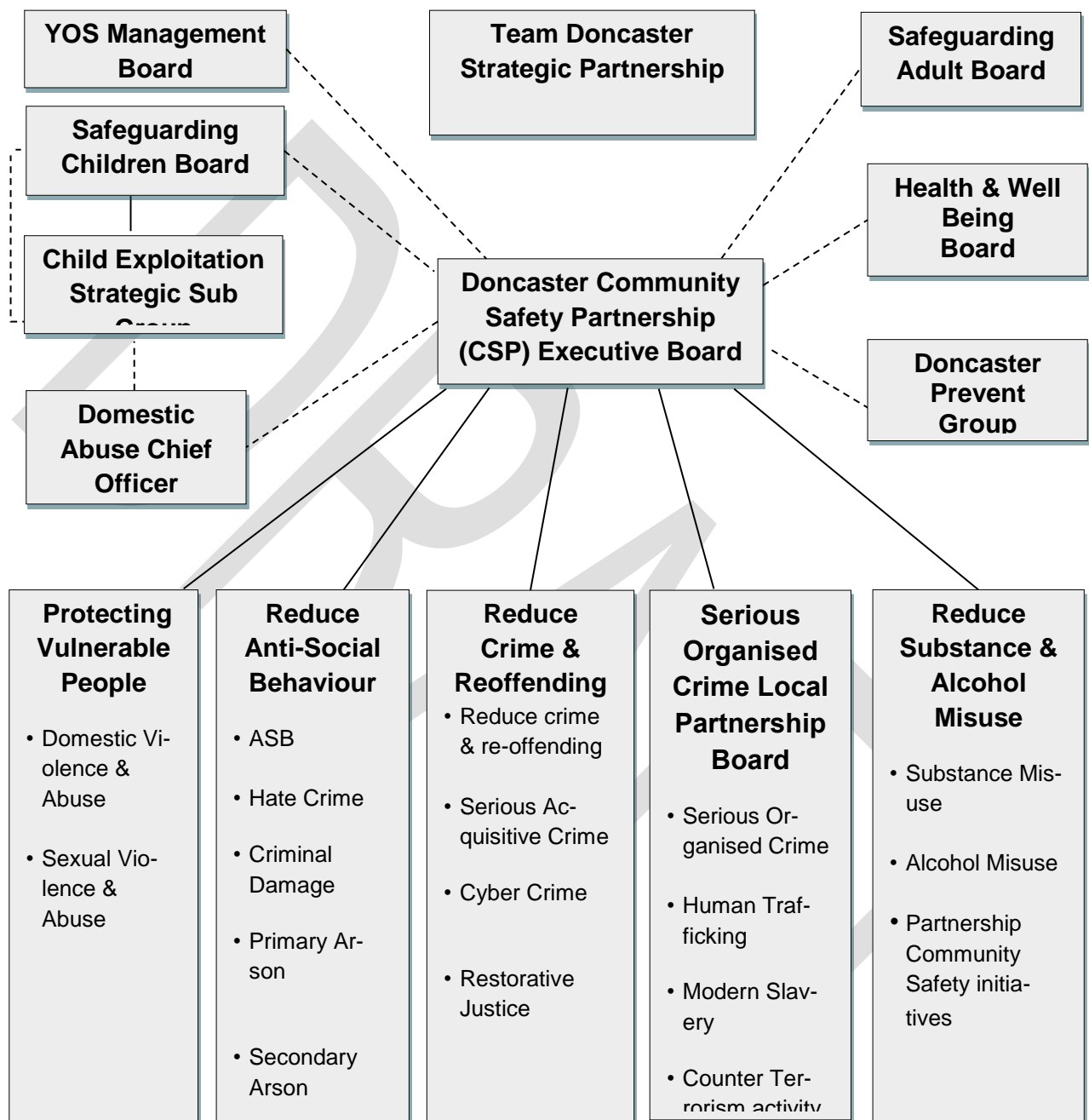
The YOS is overseen by a multi-agency Management Board comprised of the key partners as listed in Appendix 1.

The Board meets regularly to review all issues pertaining to prevention, diversion, statutory activity as well as broader issues which impact on children's lives including education, training and employment, therapeutic support, locality specific issues and child exploitation.

The Board benefits from a consistent chair who has been in post for over 3 years, and was the Deputy Chair for 4 years preceding this, as such the Board benefits from consistent and rigorous leadership which holds the work of the YOS to account. The YOS itself provides robust performance information including full copies of the re-offending toolkit which allows Management Board members to interrogate a range of performance indicators. In addition, at every Board meeting operational staff attend to present case studies which highlights both the success and the challenges that the YOS faces.

The current Board Chair is due to retire from SYP in November 2022 and the YOS Board has taken the view to retain an Independent Chair from this date.

The YOS forms part of the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership (SSDP) and the HOS is both a member of SSDP Executive Board and the Organised Crime Board and also the Vice Chair of Prevent. As such, the work of the YOS is well integrated into the borough's overall response to issues relating to crime and disorder. A diagrammatical representation of the structure of this is below:



In respect of operational partnership arrangements, the YOS has benefited from secondments of 2 Police Officers, 0.5 FTE Probation Officer and 1 Speech and Language Therapist. In respect of other services, financial contributions from partners have allowed for the development of in-house therapeutic and clinical provisions including Forensic Psychologist, Systemic Family Psychotherapist and Substance Misuse specialist. The YOS also benefits from a dedicated Careers Information, Advice and Guidance service. An organogram of all YOS staff can be found in Appendix 2.

6. Resources and services

Partner contributions to the youth offending partnership pooled budget 2022/23 and variance from 2021/22:

The figures below are indicative until final confirmation of funding is received, however, most organisations have committed to a static position. The core Youth Justice grant is not yet known but is not expected to be substantially different from last year:

Agency	Cash (£)	Payments in kind – (Including staffing) (£)	TOTAL (£)	Variance from 2021/22 (£)
Youth Justice Board for England & Wales (YJB)	£664,523	£0	£664,523	£0
Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council	£833,541	£0	£833,541	£0
National Probation Service	£0	£54,609	£54,609	£0
South Yorkshire Police & Crime Commissioner	£152,000	£0	£152,000	£0
Doncaster CCG	£57,348	£67,832	£125,180	£0
South Yorkshire Police	£0	£88,524	£88,524	£0
Youth Custody Service	(YCS grant not yet received, to update following receipt).	(YCS grant not yet received, to update following receipt).	(YCS grant not yet received, to update following receipt).	(YCS grant not yet received, to update following receipt).
Total	£1,707,412	£210,965	£1,918,377	£0

The YOS is committed to ensuring that it constantly reviews its performance and strategic offer to ensure that it meets the needs of young people. This has never been more important than now following the Covid-19 pandemic. Doncaster YOS has benefited from its core partners maintaining or increasing funding allowing the YOS to maintain high levels of individualised service for children and young people.

Grant Funded Activities

The grant from the YJB is used exclusively for delivery of Youth Justice Services, the largest proportion being allocated to fund the staffing establishment. However, it should be recognised that the majority of the contribution from partners is an “In Kind” resource in terms of the provision of staff as listed in the table above.

The totality of the Youth Justice Board grant is aligned to the YOS staffing budgets and operational running costs. Partner contributions are either in kind in relation to seconded staff or include cash sums to support seconded staffs activity within the organisation. The largest single contributor to the YOS budget remains DMBC and these funds are also allocated against staffing, but include commissioned services in the following areas:

- Appropriate Adult Services (Change, Grow, Live), are commissioned on a regional basis by the 4 south Yorkshire YOT’s. Change, Grow, Live (formerly SOVA) have delivered this contract in excess of 10 years. This has included 2 re-tendering opportunities for which Change, Grow, Live have been the preferred candidate. Performance in relation to Appropriate Adults attending interviews within 1 hour of a request is consistently over 95% across the region
- Sexually harmful behaviour services provided by The Junction Project

Provision	Cost for 21/22
The Junction Project 2022-23	£45,828
Appropriate Adult – Change, Grow, Live (formerly SOVA)	£18,118

In addition, some staff require clinical supervision in respect of their professional disciplines and this is also maintained through the overall budget.

The budget also is designed to provide specialist reports as required by the Court.

2021/22 was highly challenging in respect of remand costs, which significantly exceeded the grant allocation. (YCS grant not yet received, to update following receipt).

7. Progress on previous plan (Page 10 of the Guidance)

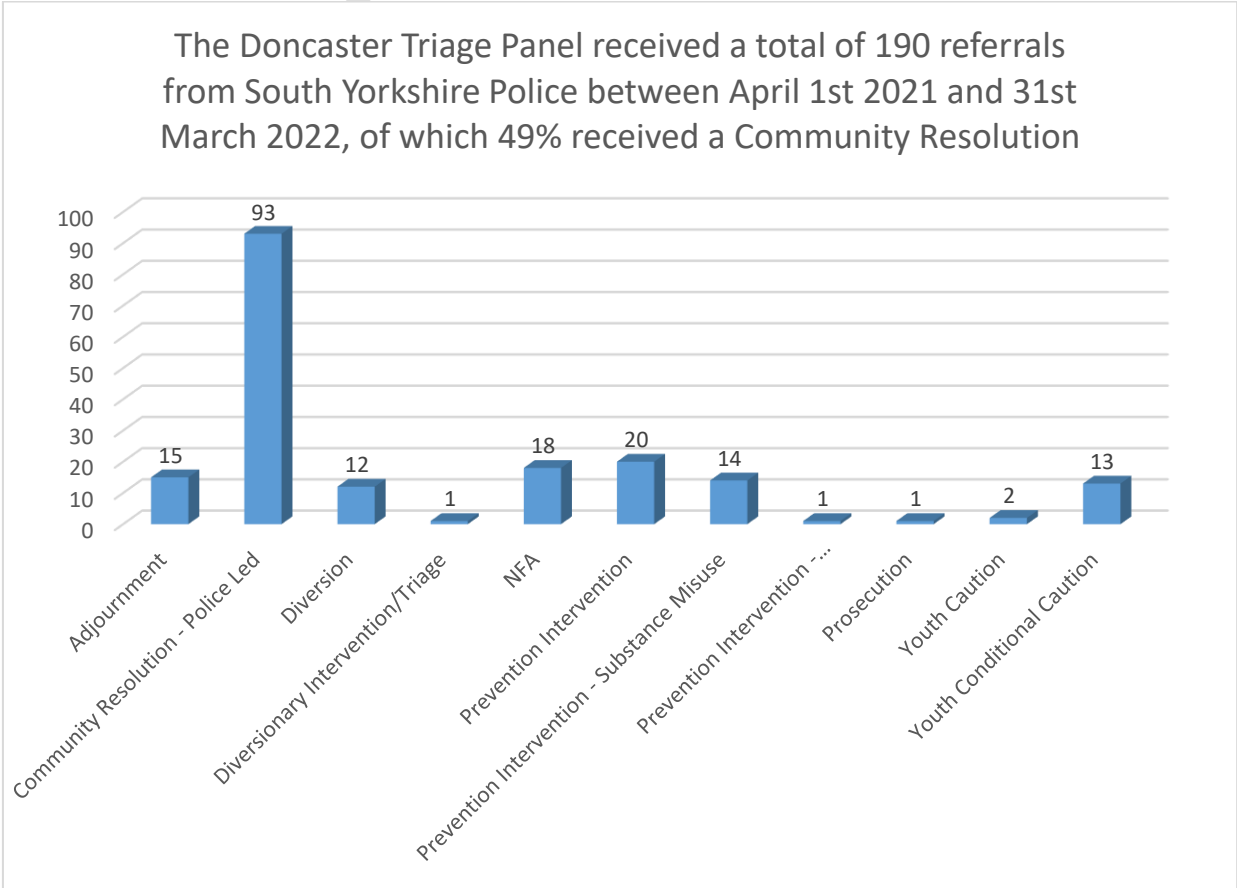
The last year was challenging due to the ongoing covid-19 pandemic and this is reflected in some aspects of the YOS’s performance. In other areas, the YOS has performed well despite these challenges. The following section will detail how the YOS has achieved its results against these targets in the past year.

First Time Entrants

Young people who enter the Youth Justice System for the first time are known as First Time Entrants (FTE’s). Entering the Youth Justice System can have a severe impact on young people’s career prospects as they acquire a criminal record which may have to be disclosed to prospective employers. There is also a risk that bringing young people into the Youth Justice System prematurely can “criminalise” them, such that they start to see themselves as “offenders” and begin to adopt pro-criminal associates and lifestyle.

Therefore, bringing young people into the Youth Justice System should be a last resort, taken only when all other viable options for diversion have been exhausted.

Where children have come into contact with Criminal Justice agencies, the multi-agency triage process has continued as normal. This has meant that wherever possible, children have been diverted to the lowest possible disposal in line with an assessment of their risks, needs and vulnerabilities.



Despite the ongoing covid-19 pandemic, Team EPIC continue to be actively engaged in communities where there are higher instances of youth crime and anti-social behaviour with the purpose of reducing young people coming into contact with Criminal Justice agencies through the offer of positive and aspirational activities.

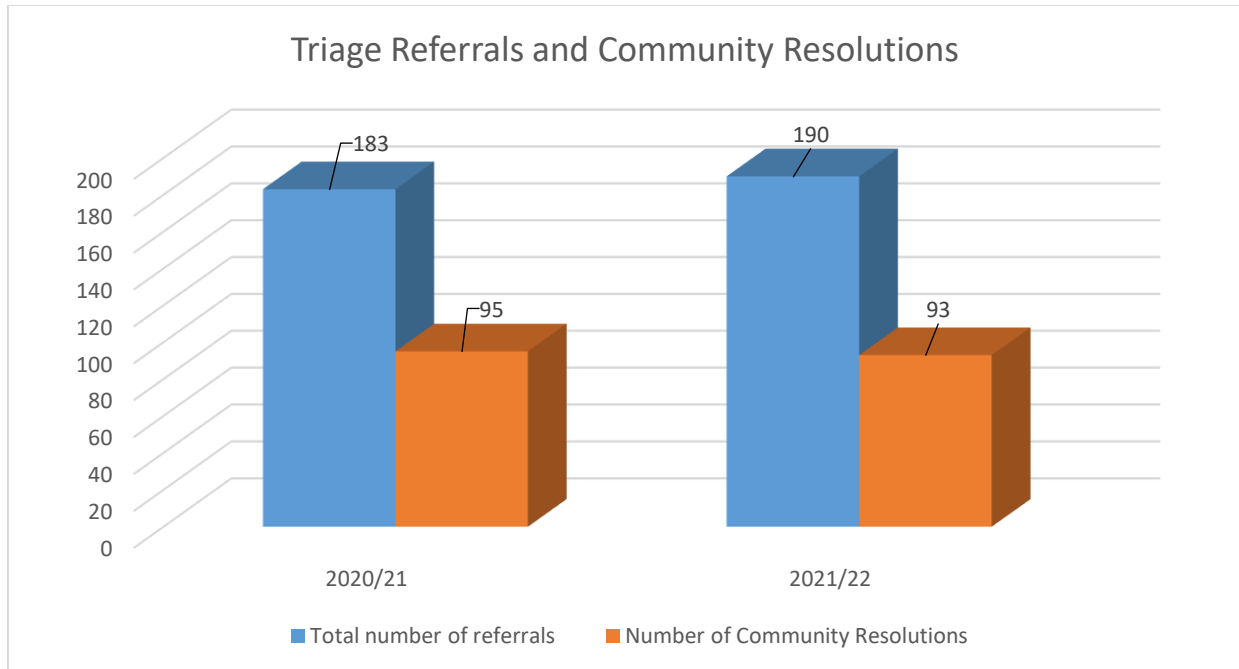
Doncaster had a significant decrease in the FTE rate from 2019 to 2020. It was taken into account the impact of lockdown restrictions, due to Covid, during this time. However, this decrease was maintained in 2021.

This is due to:

- Innovative work by the EPIC Team
- The Triage panel looking at each individual young person and tailoring interventions and support to meet their needs following assessment
- Multi-professional approach

- Engagement and support from partners

Comparing the published data for all YOTs in England and Wales, Doncaster is just outside the top quartile for performance reducing FTE's.



The above chart shows a marginal increase in the number of referrals into Triage with a small reduction in the number of Community Resolutions issued.

In Doncaster, making a young person an FTE is only done so when it is appropriate. The Youth Justice Triage Panel can use a number of different disposals to ensure that a young person doesn't become an FTE whilst ensuring that the victims views are considered alongside the needs of each individual young person. Doncaster has a locally devised assessment tool which is used to identify the most appropriate disposal for each young person as well as informing any interventions that will be completed with the young person and their family to try and prevent further offending.

The Restorative Practitioner is a permanent member of the Youth Justice Triage Panel, representing the victims views and, where appropriate, carrying out restorative interventions.

The target set for FTE's in 21/22 was **57** young people equating to a rate of **194** per **100,000 of 10-17 year olds** with a 15% variance to mitigate the additional challenges arising from the covid-19 pandemic.

Performance indicator	Outturn year ending Sept	Target year ending Sept

	2020	2021
First Time Entrant (FTE) PNC rate per 100,000 of 10-17 population YJB data. This comprises young people who receive a Police Caution or a Sentence.	124 (37 young people)	194 (57 young people)

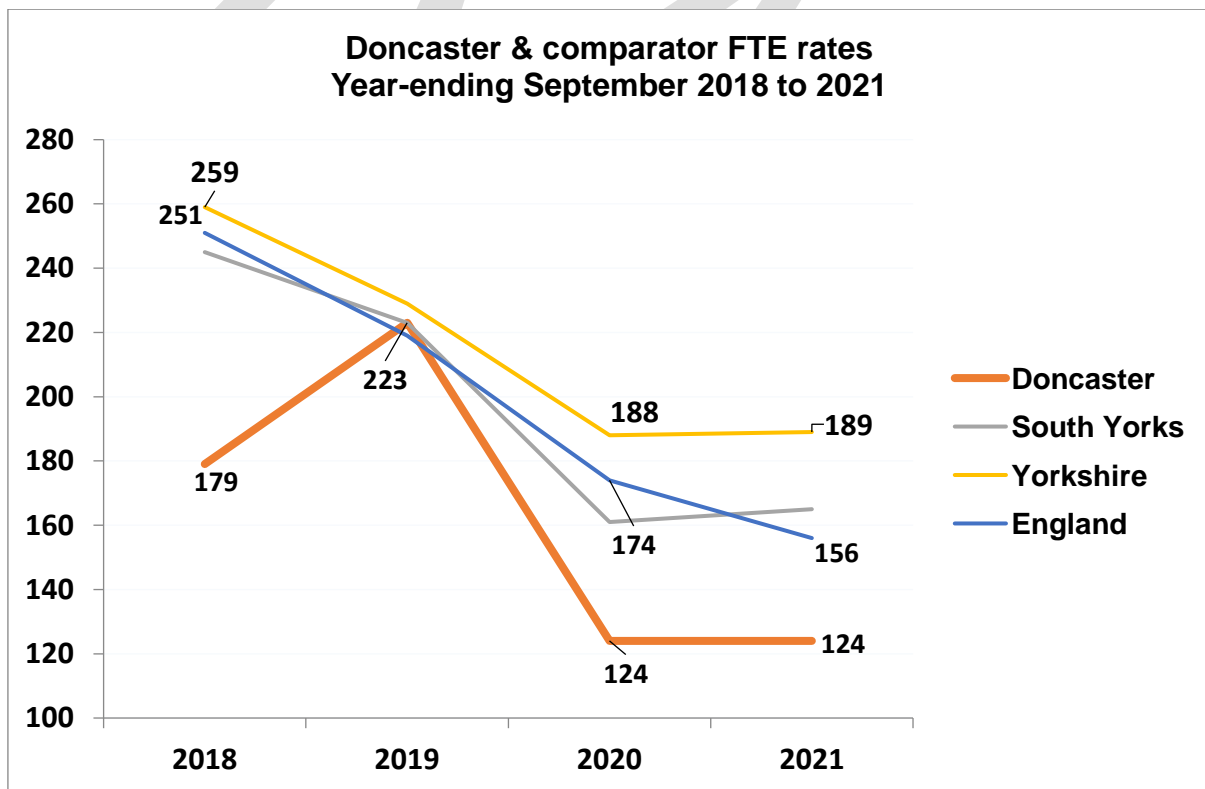
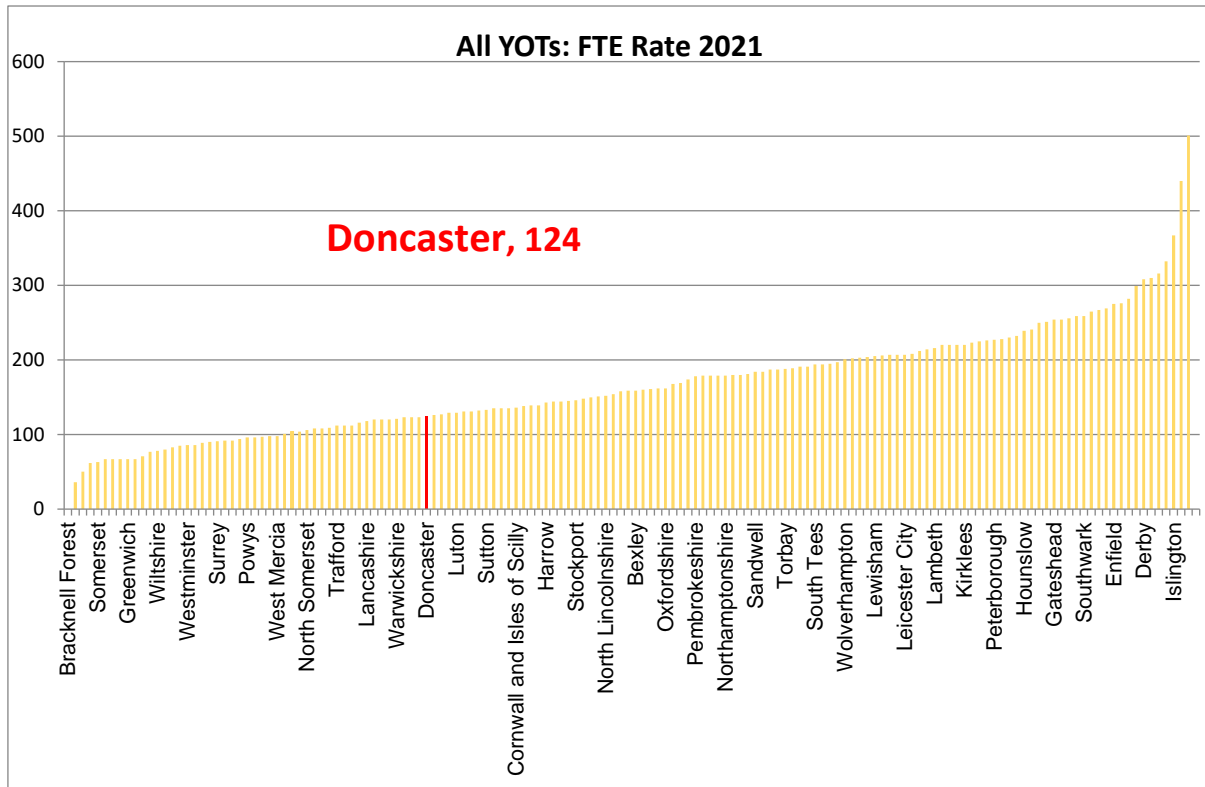
The data shows a significant decrease in the number of young people entering the Youth Justice System for the first time. The following chart represents the most recently published full year cohort.

	Doncaster	Yorkshire	PCC Area	YJS Family	England
Oct 20 – Sept 21	124	189	165	160	156
Oct 19 – Sept 20	124	188	161	141	174
% change from selected baseline	0.1%	0.9%	2.5%	13.6%	-10.4%

As such, the target set in the Youth Justice Plan 21/22 has been significantly surpassed, although in reality performance has remained static.

It is worth noting that when the target was set there had been a delay in the publication of PNC data and the YOS was entirely reliant upon data held within the re-offending toolkit. At that time, it was expected that the lifting of restrictions would lead to young people becoming more involved in risk taking behaviours, bringing them to the attention of Criminal Justice agencies and potentially becoming a First Time Entrant. However, the efficacy of the Youth Justice Triage Panel continues to ensure young people receive the right outcome and offers young people support in order to avoid them being unduly criminalised.

We continue to regularly review the outcomes from the Triage panel and are assured that young people are receiving the right level of intervention which prevents them from escalating to a formal outcome at a later time.



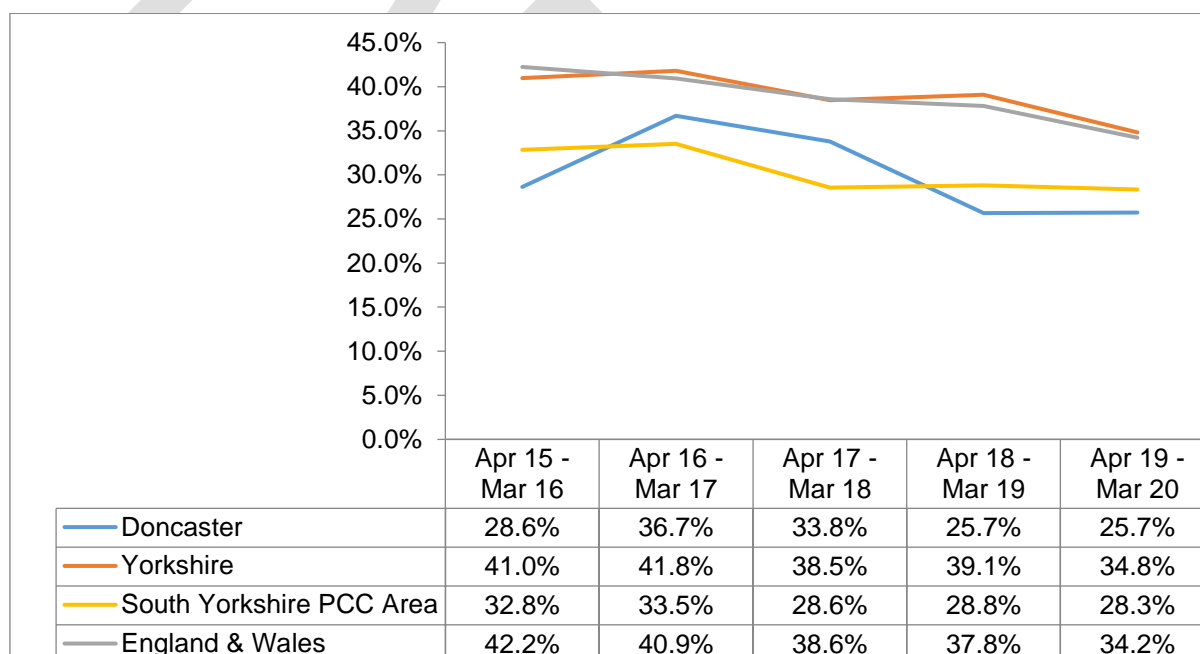
Re-offending

The target for 2021/22 was a **25%** binary re-offending rate and based on the official PNC data, the rate has been marginally missed with a nationally reported rate of **25.7%**. There

is a marginal difference with the live tracked local data which reports a rate of **25.4%**, this demonstrates the overall efficacy of the live tracked data.

Performance Indicator	Outturn Mar-Apr 2019 cohort	Target Mar-Apr 2020 cohort	Target Mar-Apr 2021 cohort
Proven binary re-offending rate for cohort members. This is the percentage of young people who re-offended in the identified cohort	25.7%	37%	25%

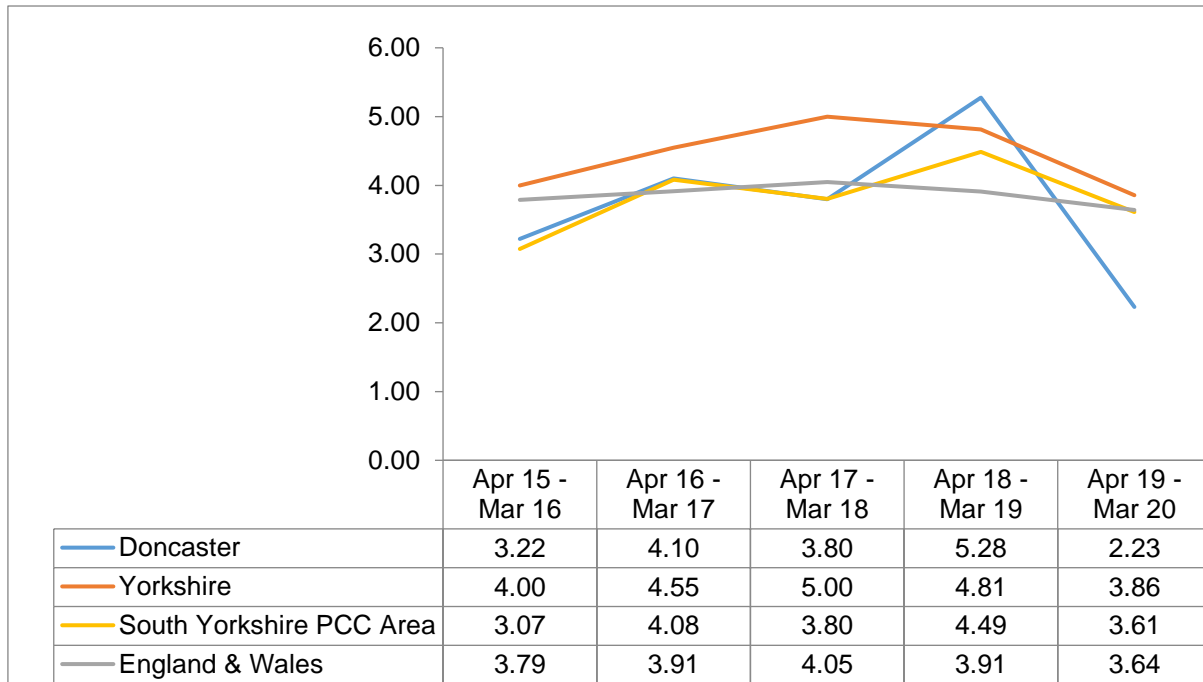
Annualised Binary Re-offending data



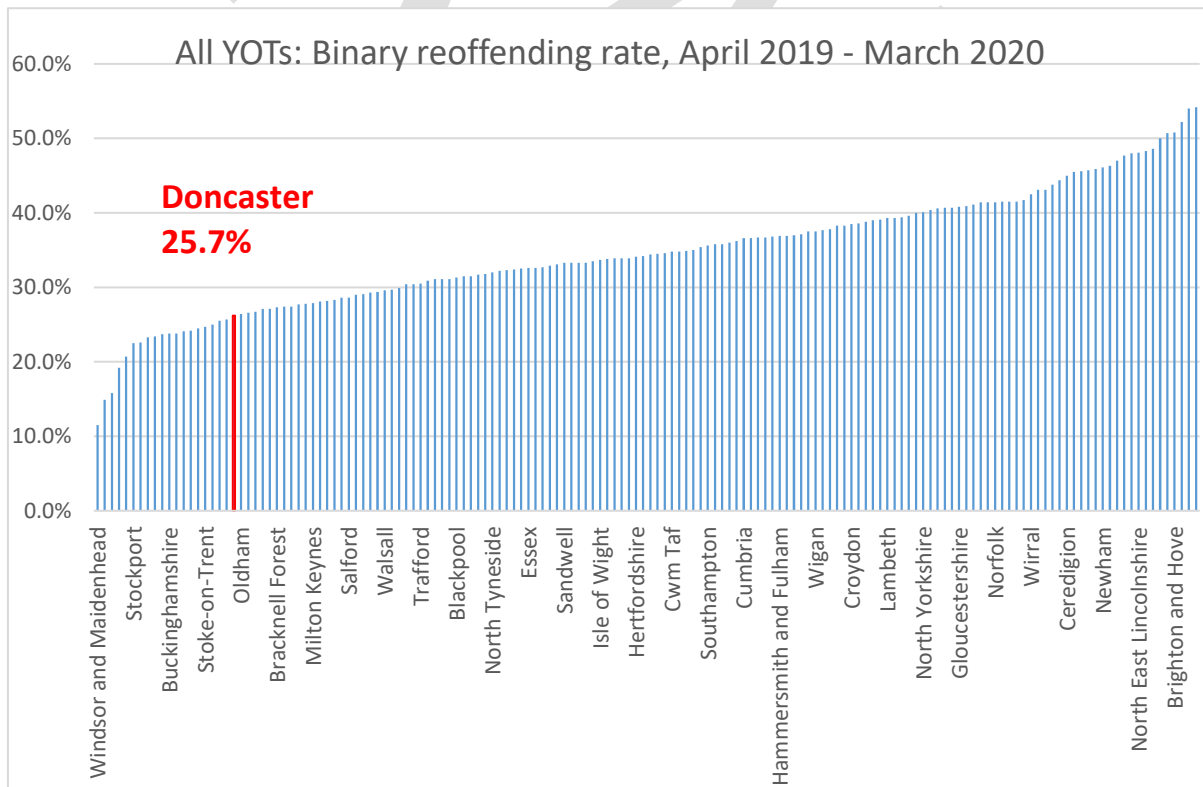
The annualised PNC information indicates that Doncaster has a binary rate of **25.7%**. Consequently, the target has been marginally missed by 0.7%, the positive performance and the rate is substantially below both the English and Yorkshire averages although it is worth noting that both Doncaster and the South Yorkshire PCC area are significantly lower than the Yorkshire and England and Wales rates.

Annualised Frequency Re-offending

Doncaster has seen a significant reduction in the frequency of re-offences by those young people re-offending. This is in contrast to a relatively static performance by those we measure against.



Doncaster has seen a reduction from **5.28** re-offences per young person to **2.23** which shows that young people are committing significantly less re-offences where they go on to offend again.



Doncaster's rate is **25.7%** which places us in the top quartile for performance. This is an impressive performance in terms of Doncaster's efficacy in preventing re-offending and it is noteworthy that Doncaster has been below the England average for the last 4 years.

Re-offending – Local Data

Doncaster utilises the YJB re-offending toolkit in order to monitor and measure the live re-offending data as it happens due to the delay in nationally published figures. The live tracked data is reported to the Management Board quarterly to support collaborative working with partners in reducing re-offending. This also provides the YOS Management Team with strategic oversight of the data as it is happening rather than being reliant on waiting for official data to be published. The MoJ uses PNC data which does not facilitate interrogation of data i.e. we do not have access to the details of the young people in the MoJ cohort to determine factors leading to re-offending.

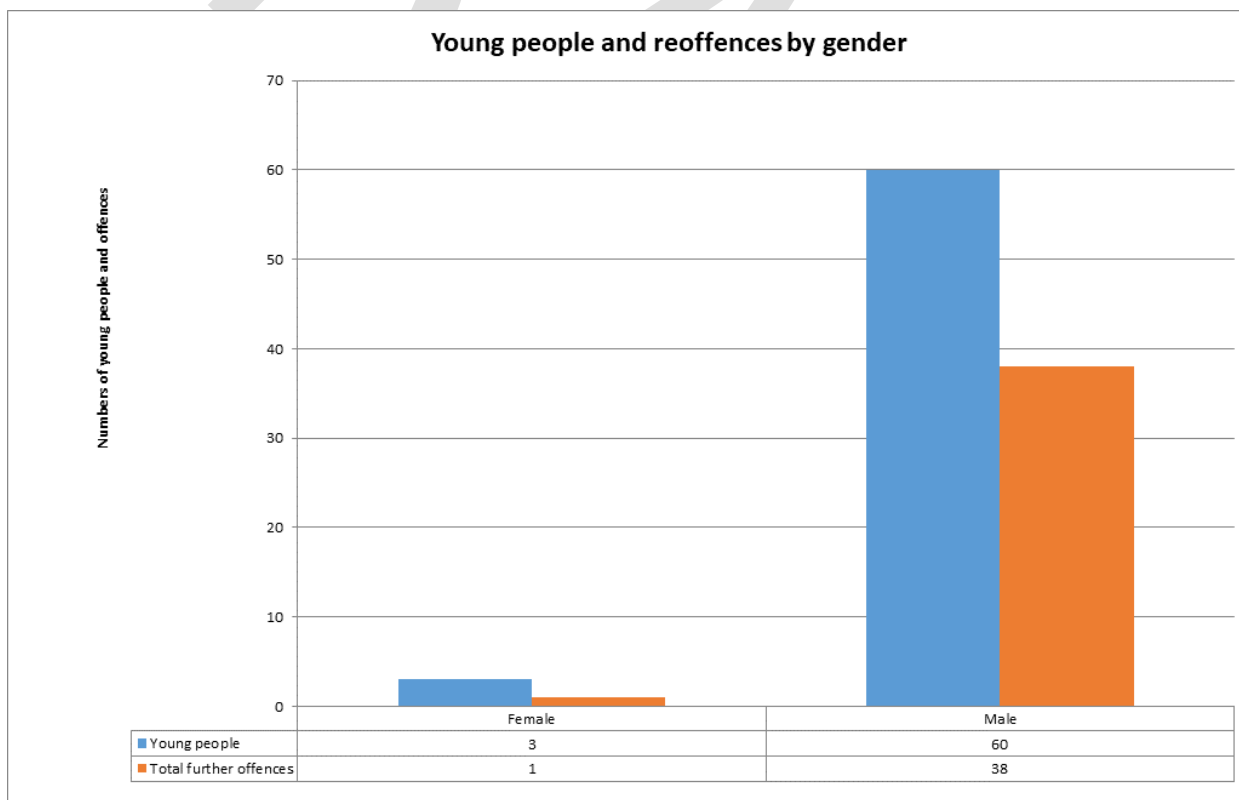
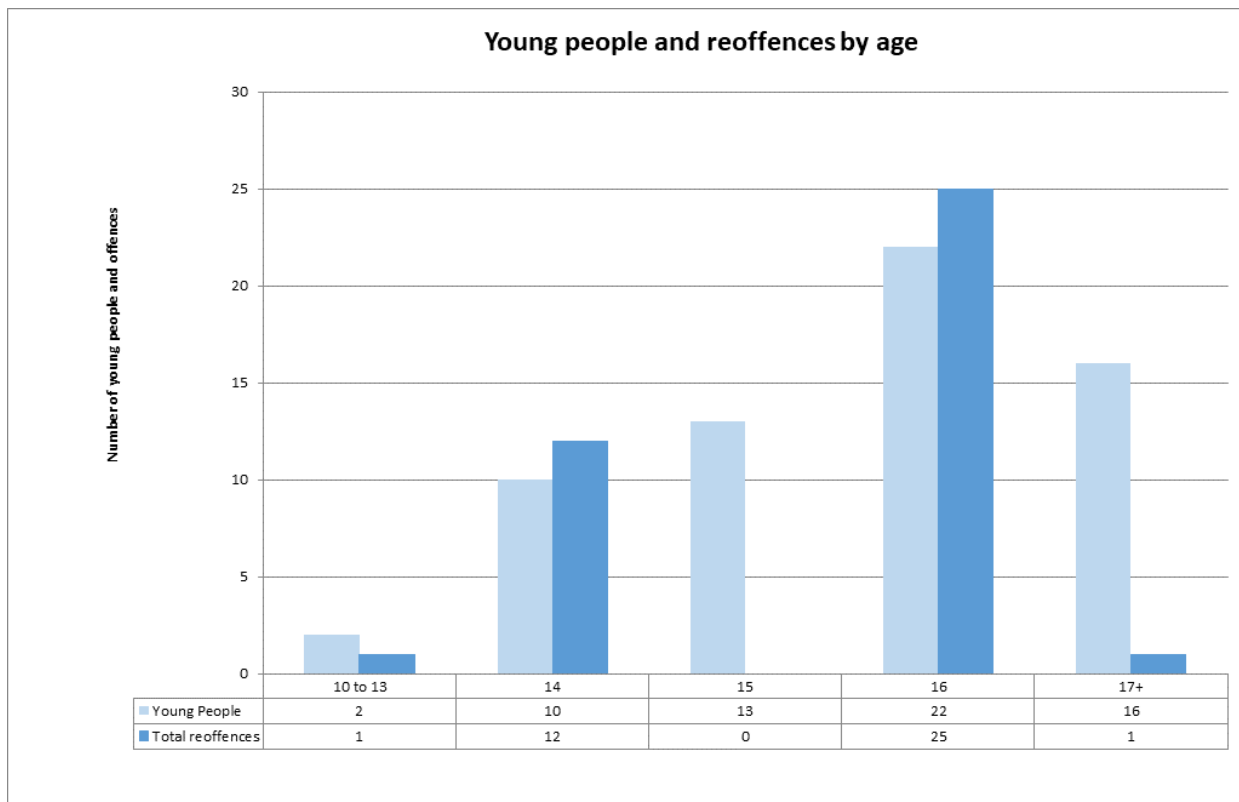
It is worth noting that there is only a **0.3%** variance between the nationally published PNC data and the data from the re-offending toolkit, this shows the overall efficacy of the live tracked data which provides assurance to both the Management Board and the YOS Management Team.

A cohort of young people with a substantive outcome, 1st January 2020 – 31 December tracked for re-offending up 11 March 2022

Summary headline data from the cohort:

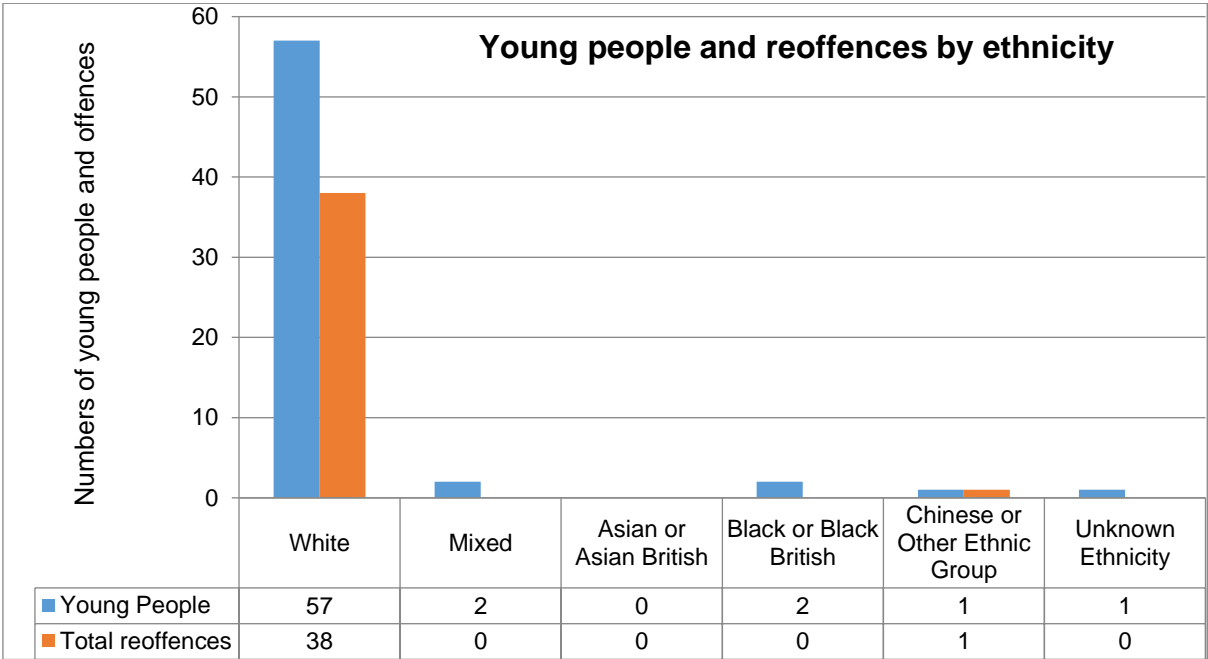
Overall binary rate for the cohort is **25.4**

Number of young people in cohort:	63
Number of young people reoffending:	16
Number of further offences committed by cohort members:	39
Number of further offences	
% of young people committing only 1 further offence:	11.1%
% of young people committing 5+ further offences:	3.2%
% of all further offending committed by those committing 5+:	38.5%

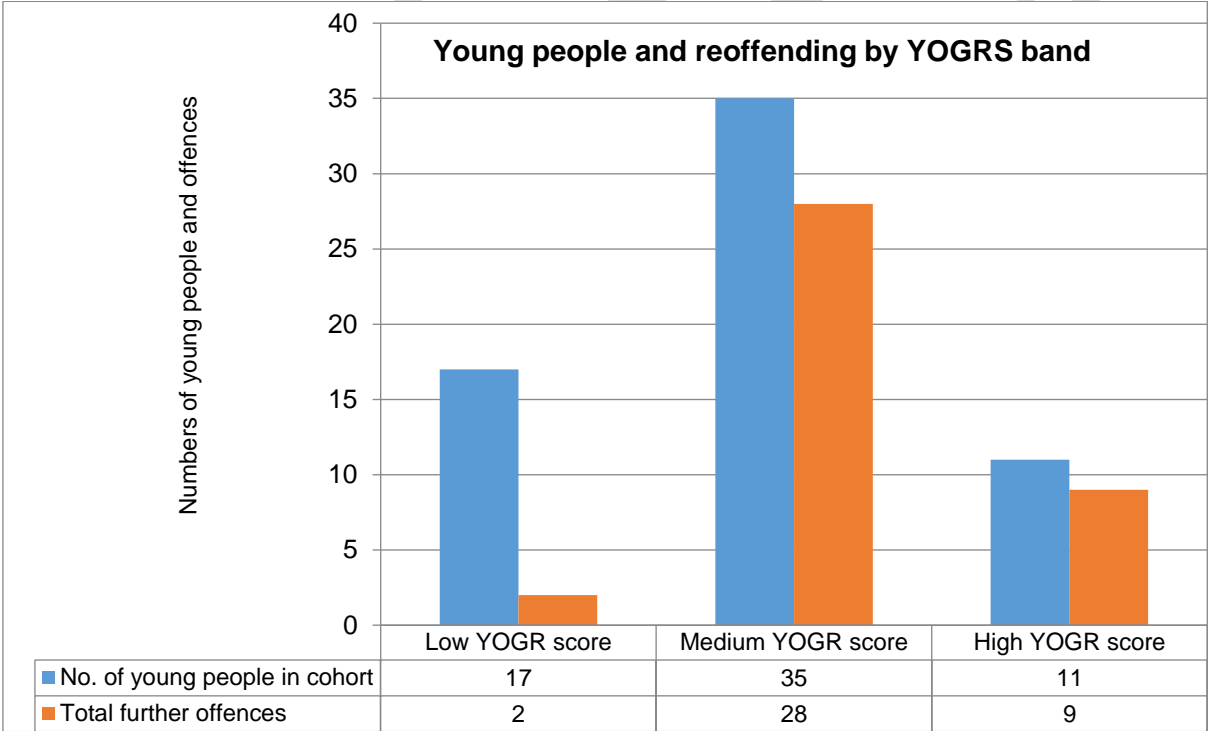


The above demonstrates both the age difference and gender split of the cohort in terms of re-offending.

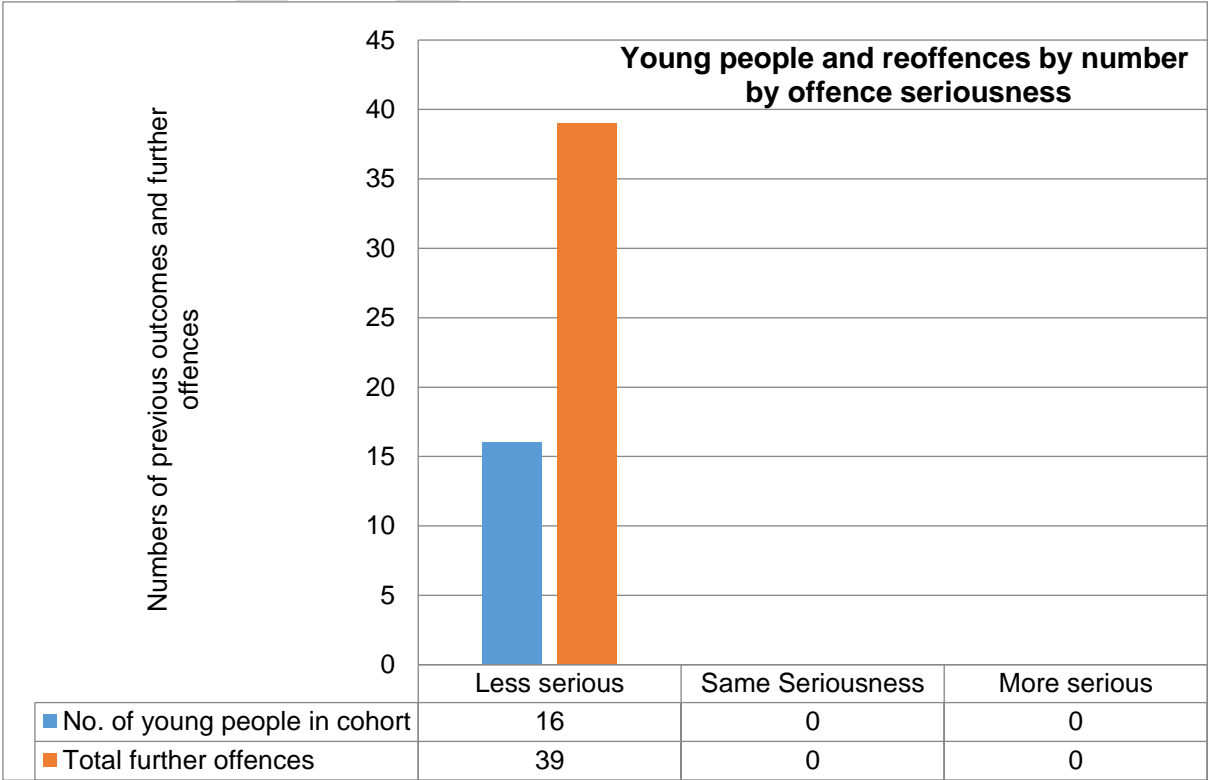
The age profile of young people within the Criminal Justice System in Doncaster has remained broadly consistent for the last 5 years. Young people aged between 16 and 17 continue to constitute the majority of the cohort.



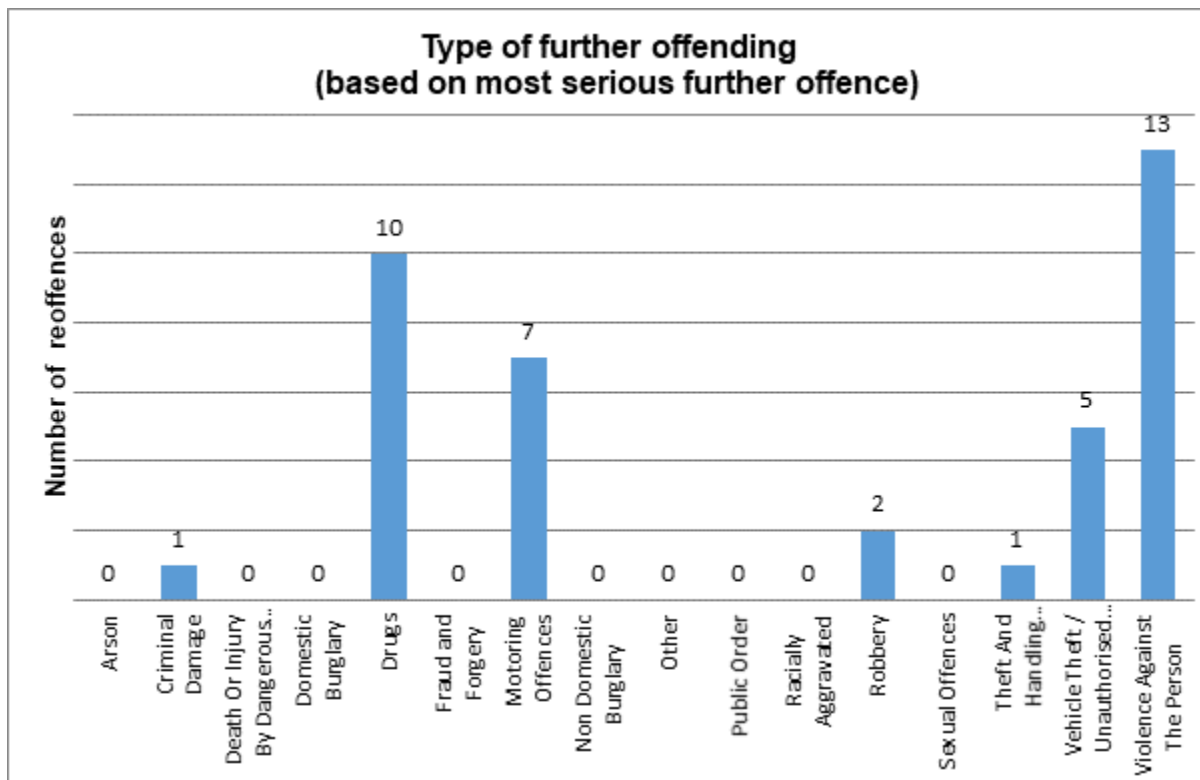
The above chart is reflective of Doncaster’s 10-17 demographic which is mostly made up of White British young people. Doncaster currently has no disproportionality issues. In the Youth Justice System in Doncaster there is no over-representation of any ethnic groups.



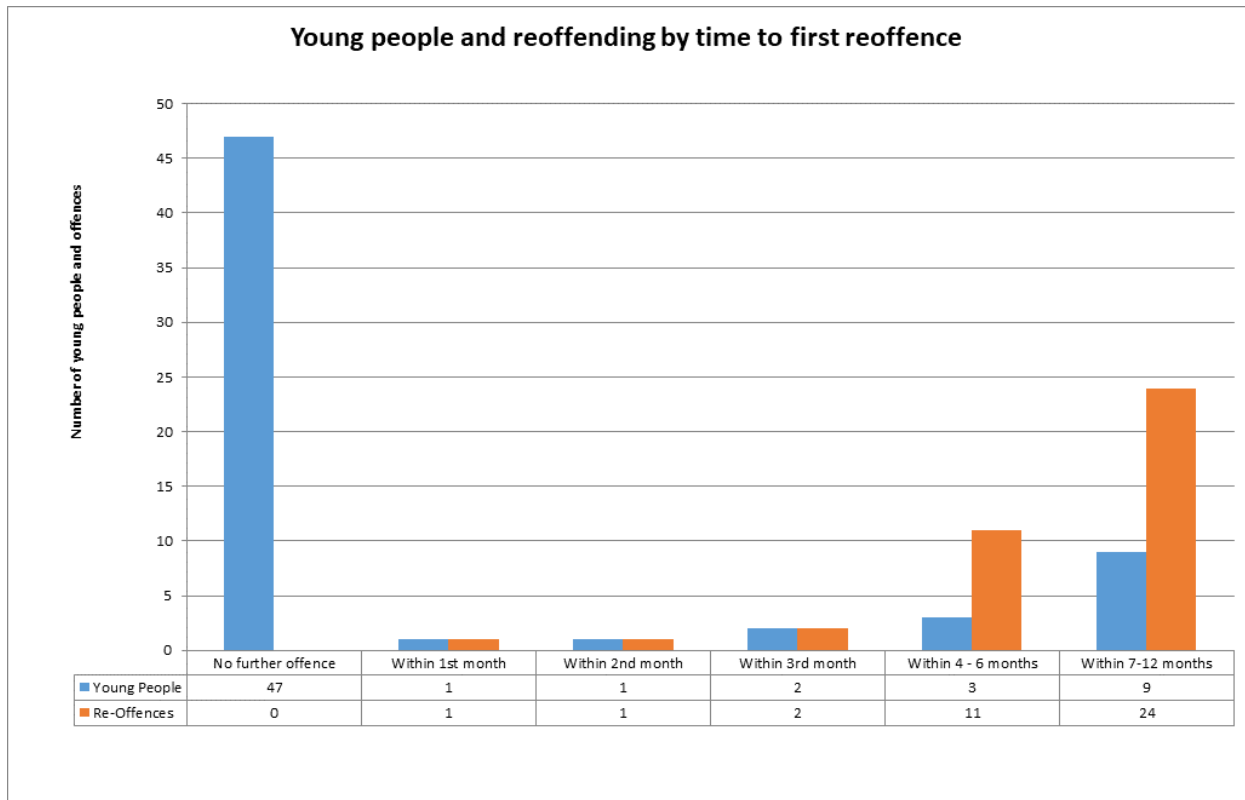
The above chart demonstrates the effectiveness of the congruence between the assessed likelihood of a child re-offending and actual re-offending episodes. In most cases, the YOS is accurate in its assessed level of re-offending risk in that, the number of re-offences in each of the domains is broadly what you would expect to see in relation to the assessed risk level. As part of AssetPlus methodology, a Youth Justice Officer can apply a manual override of the YOGRS score if there are exceptional circumstances relating to a child’s offending episode. It is estimated that override judgements are applied in between **10 – 20%** of cases per year and therefore the above should be considered within that context. Even with the variances described, the congruence levels are still strong.



The above chart is highly encouraging and indicates that in the past 12 months no child has gone on to commit an offence which is more serious than the offence which brought them into the Criminal Justice System. This is a good indication of the efficacy of the intervention offered by the YOS. That said, for some young people, although they may be offending at a less serious level, the frequency of their offending at a lower level will still have a demonstrable impact on their lives and the communities they live in.



The above chart represents re-offending by the original offence type. Whilst most young people do not go on to re-offend, the greatest risk is aligned to offences relating to violence. This, as previously indicated, relates to issues around emotional regulation and our analysis of the time from receiving an order to a child's first re-offence indicates that the majority of these episodes occur towards the end of the child's order. Previously, the highest risk time was in the first 2 months following an outcome, this was because it took a longer period of time for practitioners to build the relationships which support children not to re-offend. However, our change of practice model during the pandemic where all our work is carried out in children's homes or locality settings, has led to practitioners building meaningful relationships quicker than when they were required to attend a centralised office. Now the greatest period of risk is aligned to when contact reduces and/or the order ends. Consequently, the YOS will continue to review its practice model to examine if anything else can be done towards the end of a child's order to ensure that the risk of recidivism is reduced.



Custody

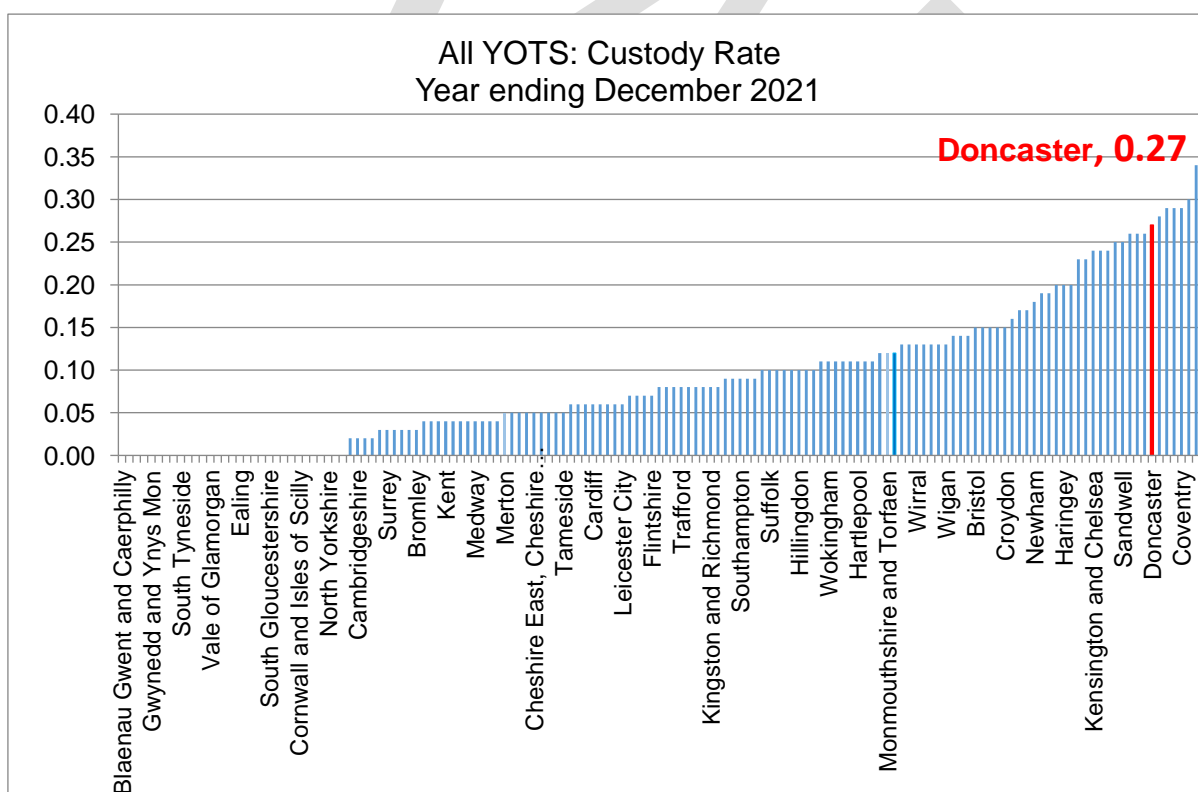
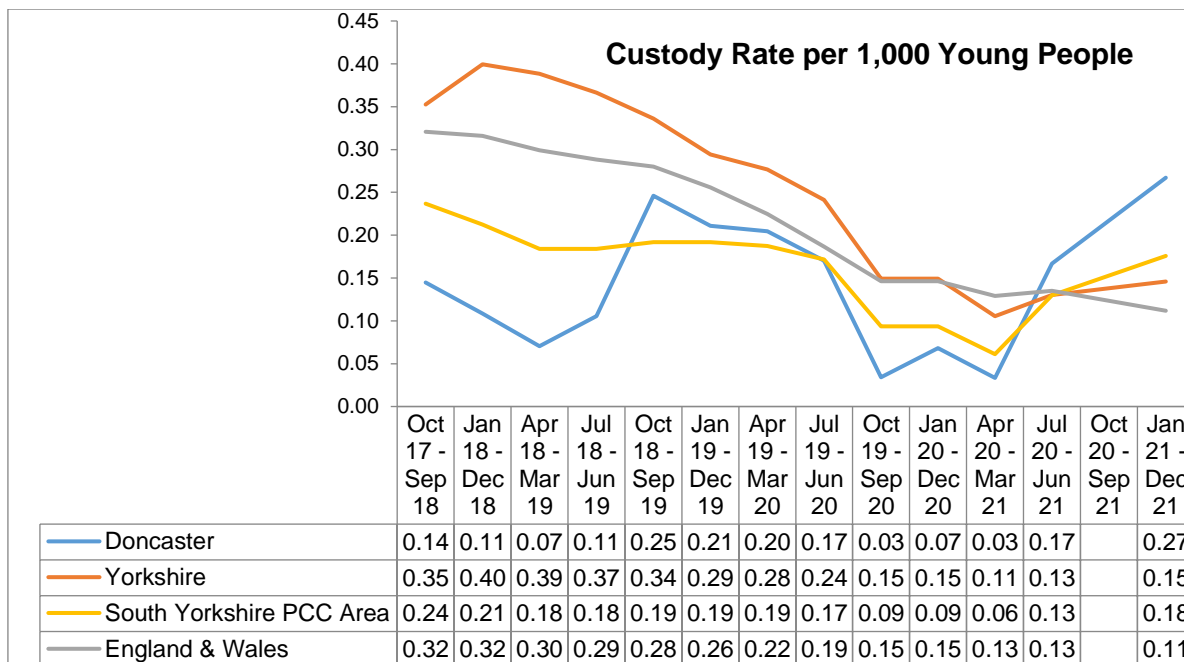
The following demonstrates the total use of custody in the period ending December 2021, which is the most current published data. Doncaster has experienced a significant increase in its custody rate during this period owing to a number of young people being sentenced for serious offences following a period of remand. This is an anomalous rate that could not have been predicted as the young people who committed these offences were not known to services prior to them committing these offences. In real terms this equates to an increase from 1 young person in 2020/21 to 7 young people in 2021/22.

It is noteworthy that 4 of these young people were not known to the YOS prior to receiving a custodial sentence and were all linked to 2 serious offences. Consequently, whilst the YOS will continue to report on the overall usage of custody, the target this year will focus upon custodial episodes for young people known to the YOS at the point of receiving sentence, as this will provide greater analysis in the efficacy of YOS intervention once children are known.

Use of custody rate per 1,000 of 10-17 population - Ministry of Justice published data. It should be noted that there was no published data between October 2020 and September 2021.

	Doncaster	Yorkshire	PCC Area	YJS Family	England
Jan – Dec 2021	0.27	0.15	0.18	0.08	0.11

Jan – Dec 2020	0.07	0.15	0.09	0.17	0.15
change from selected baseline	0.20	0	0.08	-0.09	0.04



The above chart contextualises Doncaster’s performance on a national level in terms of use of custody. Doncaster finds itself in the bottom quartile in performance, however this

can be contextualised in terms of young people committing very serious offences linked to organised crime activity and exploitation who were not known to services at the time they committed the offences. The YOS Management Board has analysed and discussed this performance when setting next years target owing to this anomalous performance.

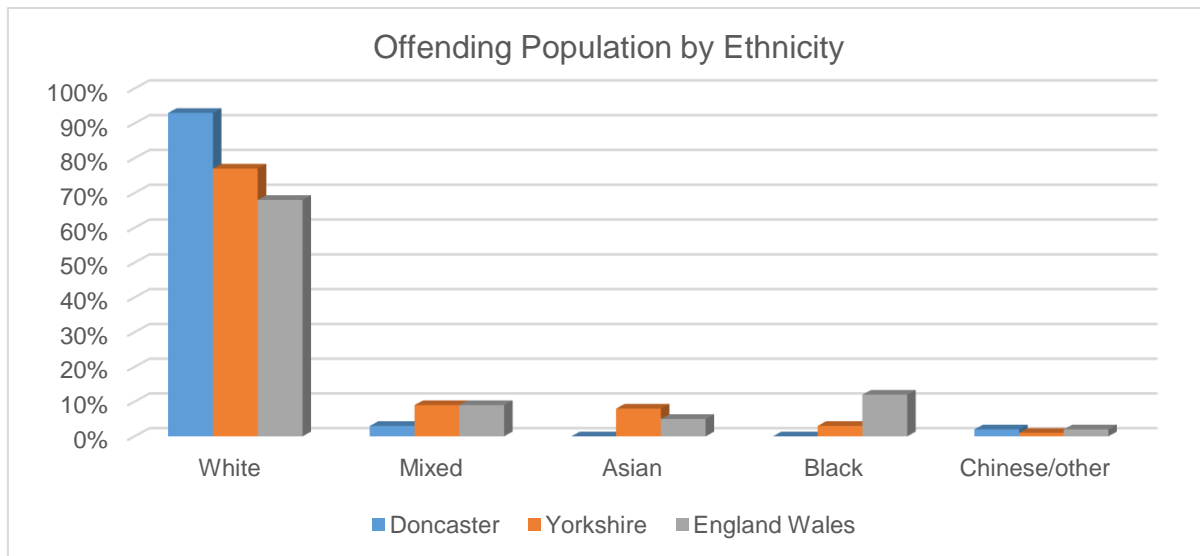
Disproportionality

Over-representation of particular ethnic groups in the Youth Justice System is a national problem. Each Youth Offending Team should undertake an annual analysis of disproportionality within the local Youth Justice System at a summary level. If the summary analysis indicates a significant over-representation of a particular ethnic group then a case-level analysis should be carried out to gain an understanding of how, when, where and why this arises in order to tackle the problem.

April – December 2021 - Offending Population by Ethnicity						
	White	Mixed	Asian	Black	Chinese or Other	Ethnic minorities (excluding White minorities)
Doncaster	93%	3%	0	0	2%	5%
Yorkshire	77%	9%	8%	3%	1%	20%
England & Wales	68%	9%	5%	12%	2%	28%

The summary analysis for Doncaster is shown below.

The latest figures available are for the year ending December 2021. The chart below is taken from the Youth Justice Board’s published data and shows the extent to which each ethnic group has been over or under-represented in Doncaster’s Youth Justice System over the last 7 years.



Reducing the offending of Children Looked After

In Doncaster we are particularly concerned to reduce the number of Children Looked After within the Youth Justice System. We undertake an annual audit of the number and proportion of Children Looked After 10-17 who are in the system.

We are also mindful that children who are looked after are at greater risk of exploitation than other children. This also has the potential to bring them into contact with Criminal Justice organisations. In order to mitigate this, EPIC staff have been working on a one to one basis with children who may be at risk from Exploitation and offending to ensure that they do not become First Time Entrants or their offending escalates to more serious disposals.

For the first time, Doncaster has decided to set a target in relation to the reduction of Children Looked After entering the Criminal Justice System to ensure that the rate of children looked after entering the Criminal Justice System is not greater than the rate of the wider population.

What things in your life have got better? I've got a job now and earning money. I'm gonna try and push it more, maybe rent a flat for myself.

8. Performance and priorities

In this section the YOS will outline its statutory performance targets for 22/23, however we will also outline our intervention priorities to ensure that children are protected, supported and have the opportunity to thrive.

FTE

Doncaster has seen static performance over the past 2 years after some turbulence in the preceding 2 years in relation to its FTE's. Consequently rather than using an arbitrary target based on 1 years performance, the Management Board has elected to set a target based on the average FTE rate for the past 4 years with a 20% reduction against the average.

The average FTE rate over the past 4 years is **162.5** per 100,000 of the 10-17 population. A 20% reduction against the average does provide a rate target of **130** per 100,000 of the 10-17 population. This will broadly represent a stand-still position on the previous 2 years performance if achieved.

Re-offending target

Doncaster's re-offending performance has been strong for a number of years and this did not change during the pandemic. Currently the YOS is **8.5%** below the national average. This should be considered as extremely strong performance in relation to Doncaster's deprivation indices. It is also strong evidence that the child first, relationship based practice approach is effective. The re-offending toolkit utilising live data indicates that the binary rate is **25.4%** and the nationally reported data is **25.7%**. A highly aspirational target is being set at **22%** for the binary re-offending rate and if this is achieved it will represent Doncaster's best ever performance against this indicator.

Custody

The custody target has been more challenging to set. Last year, we were realistic in our target knowing that we had a number of young people remanded for serious offences who were likely to receive custodial sentences. These young people were not known to the Youth Offending Service at the time they committed these offences which means there had been no opportunity to utilise the YOS's trauma informed, relationship based methodology to prevent these offences.

Considering the above, the Board agreed to set an aspirational target of **2** young people who were currently on an order when they committed the offence that they were sentenced to a custodial sentence for. The YOS will continue to track and report on young people who are sentenced to custody, however these anomalous offences will not be counted towards the target. Our target of **2** young people equates to a rate of **0.07** young people per 1,000 of the 10-17 population.

EET

Last year we set a target of **90%** which was a highly aspirational target, regrettably this was not achieved with the final annualised rate being **73.1%**. Although this is significantly higher than the national average for children in the Criminal Justice System, it is not good enough for the children and young people of Doncaster and therefore the Board will again aim for a **90%** target.

Suitable Accommodation

The YOS continues to be highly aspirational and aims for **100%** of young people to be in suitable accommodation at the end of their order. Doncaster has always achieved this target and expects this to continue.

CLA

The total number of diversionary and statutory outcomes for young people during the period was **240** of which **25** were Children Looked After. It is noteworthy, however, that **5** became Looked After by virtue of their time spent on remand under LASPO (Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders) Act 2012. This indicates that **10.4%** of the total number of outcomes were attributed to Children Looked After. This equates to **4.2%** of Doncaster's total Looked After population. The target therefore will be measured against the general population rate which is **0.6%** of the 10-18 population in Doncaster. This will be incredibly challenging to achieve, however the YOS is committed to ensuring that outcomes for Children Looked After are not disproportionately different to those children living in more traditional settings.

Whats been good about coming to the YOT? 'helps me get stuff off my chest, if I didn't have you to speak to things would build up and I would probably be stressed and depressed, but its like a relief getting it off my chest'

9. National standards

The YOS is required to annually measure its compliance with National Standards and to submit this audit to the YJB.

The standards the YOS are evaluated against are as follows:

- Out of Court Disposals
- At Court
- In the Community (Court Disposals)
- In Secure settings
- On Transitions and Resettlement

The process for undertaking the audit is determined by the Youth Justice Board, it requests that 20 actual cases are reviewed across the 5 standards between the period of Sep 19 and March 2020. This was then allocated to a member of the YOS Management Team to undertake a qualitative review of each person against the standard.

Executive Summary of Results

In the vast majority of the standards, the YOS has been successful in meeting, and in some cases exceeding the standards expected. Part of this success is linked to the fact that the YOS operates local standards that means that cases are reviewed with greater frequency than National Standards mandate.

For example Asset Plus assessments and cases reviews are undertaken on a four monthly basis rather than a six monthly basis. This means that even when local standards were not met (one case, for example, was reviewed in 10 weeks rather than 8 weeks) the National Standard was still met as it was reviewed significantly before the 24 week national expectation.

In respect of the first four standards, there is good evidence of management, partnership working, robust assessment practices and managerial oversight. In respect of transition planning there are some issues which require further attention, although that said, compliance overall was broadly good.

Standard 1: Out of Court Disposals

In relation to this standard, the YOS has again met the National Standards in every case reviewed. There is a robust multi-agency triage panel in place in Doncaster which assesses young people using a local assessment (the Short Assessment Form) which primarily focuses on desistance, public protection and the safety and wellbeing of young people.

Young people receiving an Out of Court Disposal have all been subject to proportionate intervention plans which focus on key risk indicators whilst promoting strengths which exist for the young person and their families. The YOS benefits from the input of a Forensic Psychologist and, where appropriate, there is good evidence of young people receiving a Cognitive Functioning test (WISC) to ensure that the YOS is in the best possible position to impose interventions which are meaningful to the young people receiving them. There is good evidence of parental involvement in both assessment and planning, and the cases highlight that staff are able to form positive professional relationships with children that allow for the effective implementation and delivery of Out of Court Disposals.

Standard 2: At Court

In relation to this standard, there is substantial evidence of the YOS consistently meeting all but one of the National Standards.

The YOS provides a court duty service, which is clearly in-line with the expectations clearly outlined within the standard, Pre-Sentence Reports, and Asset Plus usage is evident in all cases and there is timely and accurate recording of Court outcomes in every case.

There is clear evidence of compliance with the youth custody service requirements relating to remand and parents are always informed of the outcome a child has received in a timely way.

There is one significant area of improvement, however, relating to an administrative point. The custodial warrant issued by the court when a young person is remanded or sentenced to youth detention accommodation, should be issued to the YOS, however, it is apparent that the current process generates an electronic warrant which is sent directly from the Court to the secure transport provider. It is not routinely shared with the YOS at the point at which it is issued. It is important to note that this does not impact on outcomes for the young person or the timely transfer of a young person to a secure establishment following a period of remand.

Consequently, in the vast majority of standards relating to work undertaken within the court arena, the YOS is meeting all National Standards bar the aforementioned point.

Action: Operational Manager Youth Justice Team to establish a protocol relating to the YOS receiving a copy of the custodial warrant upon its issue at Court.

Standard 3: In the Community (Court disposals)

In relation to this standard, the YOS has met all standards in every case. There is strong evidence of engagement and the YOS's policies of relationship based practice with children and families being undertaken throughout the body of the casework. In respect of desistance work, the YOS is able to demonstrate clear activity in supporting young people to develop pro-social identities and even in cases where the relationship has been difficult due to a young persons diagnosis (for example, ASD). There is evidence of creative practice in relation to the use of Systemic Family Psychotherapy for example. All cases were assessed using Asset Plus and there is clear evidence of plans which focus on desistance, public protection, safety and wellbeing and protective factors.

At a local level, the YOS has determined that all assessments are reviewed on 4 monthly rather than 6 monthly basis and, of course, where there is a substantial change in the child's circumstances. This means that in practice, even when a local standard wasn't met, which was only 1 case, the assessment was still reviewed significantly prior to the 6 month national expectation.

Interventions for young people were well co-ordinated with other agencies where it was applicable and there is clear evidence of liaison with relevant partner organisations. In addition, one of the young people benefited from accessing Dialectical Behaviour Therapy which supported his improved presentation in the community, evidenced by his interactions with DMBC's estate based community staff.

In summary, the YOS has met all of the standards relating to practice undertaken with court disposals in a community setting, it facilitates a range of interventions and therapeutic approaches which directly benefit young people and their families, and support the desistance, public protection and safety and wellbeing of young people within the Criminal Justice System.

Standard 4: In Secure settings

In the main, the National Standards in each case have been met, although there are some areas where complications in individual cases resulted in some difficulties with re-settlement. For example, in one case the young person was due to return to the care of their parent and two days prior to their release, the parent determined they were no longer able to care for their child, resulting in Social Care having to secure placement at short notice. This delayed the sentence planning, although not the child's ultimate release who still achieved his early release despite these challenges. We would highlight that there was little that could be done to prevent this given that the parent had clearly indicated up to that point that he intended for the young person to return to his care.

There is clear evidence throughout that appropriate safeguarding procedures have been undertaken in the custodial setting and it is clearly recorded through the assessments and plans.

There is an issue at a national level relating to the electronic transfer of assessments between the youth custodial estate and Youth Offending Service's. The original functionality which was anticipated has not been achieved and, in reality, YOS staff have to access a national portal to view a copy of the assessment undertaken in custody and then use that assessment to update the relevant sections of AssetPlus for the release planning of a young person. Whilst in none of the cases reviewed this presented a significant issue, the reliance on the individual practitioner judgement to incorporate relevant aspects of the AssetPlus assessment as it pertains to risk does present an organisational risk and a recommendation arising from the audit is that all custodial assets will be created on the system by business support colleagues to ensure all information pertaining to a young person is fully and accurately recorded. I would again highlight that this is a national issue and not a local issue. In relation to sentence planning, there is clear evidence of timely reviews in custody in all cases and a clear focus on young people developing meaningful education opportunities and, where appropriate, having access to specialist services. This was particularly evident in one case where a Speech and Language assessment undertaken whilst in custody directly informed how the YOS communicated with the young person on release. There is clear evidence that consideration for Release On Temporary Licence (ROTL) is considered and in one case the young person utilised a ROTL to view their residential placement upon release thus minimising the anxieties that that young person was experiencing.

There is clear evidence throughout that risk management in all three domains is considered at all stages in the sentence and that the progress with interventions in custody is continued (where appropriate) in a community setting.

Overall, the quality of work undertaken in custody is good and keeps young people safe. There is good evidence of engagement with therapeutic interventions where required and sentence planning is timely throughout. In addition, there is clear evidence of interaction and engagement between youth custodial estate staff and Youth Justice Officers including where there is a potential for a recall on licence to occur, the YOS ensuring that the custodial estate are kept abreast of progress for a young person so that in the event of recall, the impact of interventions is not lost.

Action: The YOS to ensure that in every case where an AssetPlus assessment is completed by the youth custodial estate, that this is manually copied and recorded on the young person's file

Standard 5: On Transition and Resettlement

In relation to this standard, there are some areas of good practice and some areas for improvement. In all cases, young people had an up to date and representative plan which was cognisant of issues relating to desistance, safety and wellbeing and public protection, however, where transitions were a feature, i.e. between the YOS and NPS, explicit risks relating to transition were not always fully articulated, whilst there is substantial evidence of transition work evidenced through case notes and managerial supervisions on the electronic case file, this did not always translate directly into the transition plan itself. In one case where a young person transferred from a regulated children's home to a semi-independent living provider, the plan did not accurately reflect this significant change. Although, that said, the assessment was reviewed appropriately in line with this change. Overall, whilst there is good evidence across the body of the case work, in relation to transition activity, whether that be liaison with NPS, a different authority or the secure estate, it is not always expressed as clearly as it could be within the actual plan itself. To be clear, this has not impacted on the outcomes or safety of young people, but more work is required within the YOS to ensure the totality of the practice around transitions is effectively represented in the plans of the young people it supports.

Action: In all cases relating to transition, the Operational Manager of the Youth Justice Team will be required to directly quality assure the transition plan for that young person. In addition, a further audit focusing on transitions will be undertaken by 01/09/20 to ascertain that this practice has been successfully implemented.

10. Challenges, risks and issues

The ongoing pandemic continues to be a concern and although currently there are no restrictions in place, a new strain of Covid-19 could cause restrictions to be reintroduced and potentially even further lockdowns. Doncaster managed the pandemic well and continued to meet with young people safely throughout, however we remain cognisant

of the issues that further lockdowns may have on young people's wellbeing and our ability to meet their needs.

It is acknowledged that the various Covid-19 restrictions that have been in place over the last 2 years will have impacted on young people's emotional wellbeing, this poses a challenge for all agencies to ensure appropriate support is in place for young people.

The remand grant continues to be a challenge, in the year 2021/22 the YOS overspent on remands by over 100% owing to the way the remand budget is allocated and the number of young people remanded for serious offences related to criminal exploitation. Currently the YOS has 2 young people on remand, one of these is due to be sentenced at the end of April, the other has a Trial date set for May so these are not expected to be extended periods of remand that would cause challenges to the budget.

In December 2021 the YOS was subject to an HMIP Thematic Inspection focusing on ETE. The feedback was highly complimentary of the YOS's work and aspects of work were highlighted as national examples of best practice. However, EET continues to be a concern because of how the rate is measured. The rate is counted on whether young people were in any form of education, training or employment on the final day of their order, particularly as the YOS continues to offer support up to the age of 19 for children whether they are subject to an order or not. Consequently, the rate on the final date of the order may not accurately reflect the EET performance of the organisation as a whole.

Child Criminal Exploitation continues to be an issue for all areas of the UK and this is no different in Doncaster. We have developed sophisticated mapping, intervention and disruption models to counter this risk. However, we remain cognisant of the risk this poses to children and the new approaches that organised crime groups develop to exploit children.

11. Service improvement plan

Arising from the last National Standards Audit and the recommendations from the most recent HMIP Thematic EET Inspection, the YOS will be focused on developing its practicing systems in the following areas:

Standard 1: Out of Court Disposals

No specific improvement actions identified

Standard 2: At Court

Action: Operational Manager Youth Justice Team to establish a process relating to the YOS receiving a copy of the custodial warrant upon its issue at Court by 30/06/2022.

Standard 3: In the Community (Court disposals)

No specific improvement actions identified

Standard 4: In Secure settings

Action: The YOS to ensure that in every case where an AssetPlus assessment is completed by the youth custodial estate, that this is manually copied and recorded on the young person's file by 30/06/2022.

Standard 5: On Transition and Resettlement

Action: In all cases relating to transition, the Operational Manager of the Youth Justice Team will be required to directly quality assure the transition plan for that young person by 01/09/2022.

In addition to the very specific actions above, the YOS regularly reviews the outcome of audits and we are aware that whilst practice is generally to high standards there are some areas where improvement is still required. These include:

- The consistent recording of young people's voice in Risk Management Meeting minutes
- Ensuring that appropriate plan B for accommodation is in place for all children, when released from custody (on 2 occasions a parent declined to provide care for an older child within days of release leading to uncertainty for the child while new accommodation was sourced)
- The consistent provision of PACE beds continues to be a challenge and the YOS will be focused on a sub-regional solution to this challenge in 2022/23

12. Evidence-based practice and innovation

Multi Agency Child Exploitation Mapping Meetings

The purpose of the meeting is to bring partner-agencies together to share information regarding young people and their connections to one another or known adults/groups of concern. The meeting works in conjunction with the Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) meetings to identify those at risk or involved in Child Exploitation (CE). Young people will be RAG rated using the criteria employed at MACE to highlight concerns. The meeting explores particular areas of Doncaster in each meeting, linked to Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) that are known to operate in those areas. The groups' activity will be explored using police information and then any links to young people with these groups will be examined. In addition to this, information received from Return Home Interviews highlighting any missing episodes from these areas will be examined and cross-referenced.

Mapping meetings help to safeguard the young people of Doncaster in a number of ways. Typical actions that result from the meeting will be as follows:

- Intelligence reports to be submitted to police where there is information held by other agencies that hasn't been shared prior.

- Where information is shared that raises concerns regarding a young person's safety and they are not open to services, a referral into the Front Door will be requested.
- Additional monitoring will be requested from involved agencies and information sharing pathways created outside of the meeting
- Similarly where there are concerns regarding exploitation specifically but they are open to an Area Team with the Trust, an action will be taken for them to be referred into the MACE process.
- When an adult is open to Probation actions may be taken to consider specific licence conditions such as Non-Contact or Exclusion Zones
- In a recent meeting (March 2022) a previous victim of CSE was returning to the area where he was previously groomed and where the perpetrator still lived. An action was taken for an urgent meeting to take place between YP Social Worker and the perpetrator's Probation Officer/Social Worker to safety plan this situation.

EET

The information below relates to young people finishing a Youth Rehabilitation Order (YRO), Referral Order (RO) or Detention and Training Order (DTO) in the quarters 1-4.

Over the year there were 52 young people closing to the service.

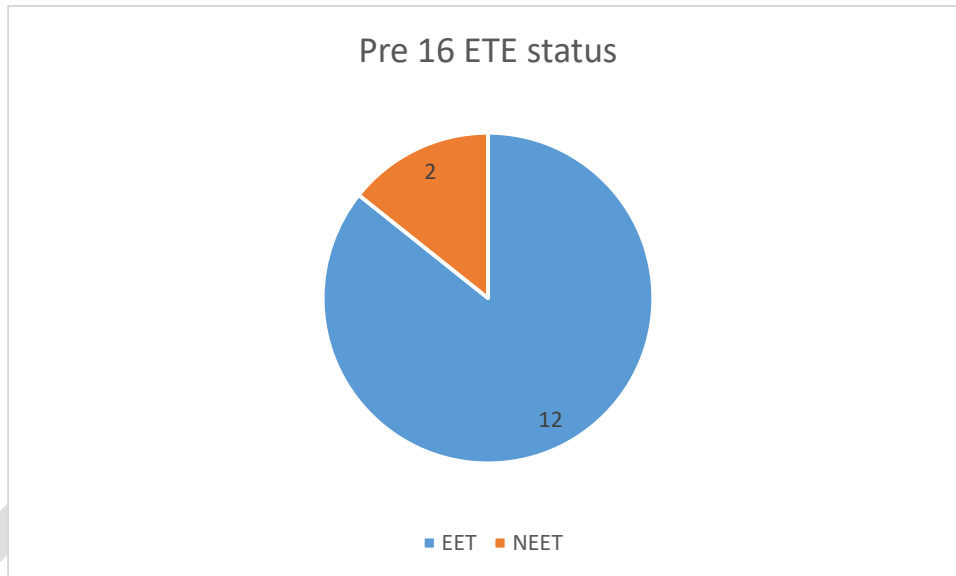
38 young people were in EET at the end of their order and 14 were NEET. The EET figure for the year was **73.1%** with an improvement in post 16 figures following Quarter 1 when a tracking and monitoring plan was instigated for education and the ESF Ambition Programme ensuring the effective targeting of the Careers Adviser's ETE support.

The split between Pre and Post 16 is as follows:

Pre 16		Post 16	
EET	12	EET	26
NEET	2	NEET	12
Total YP	14	Total YP	38

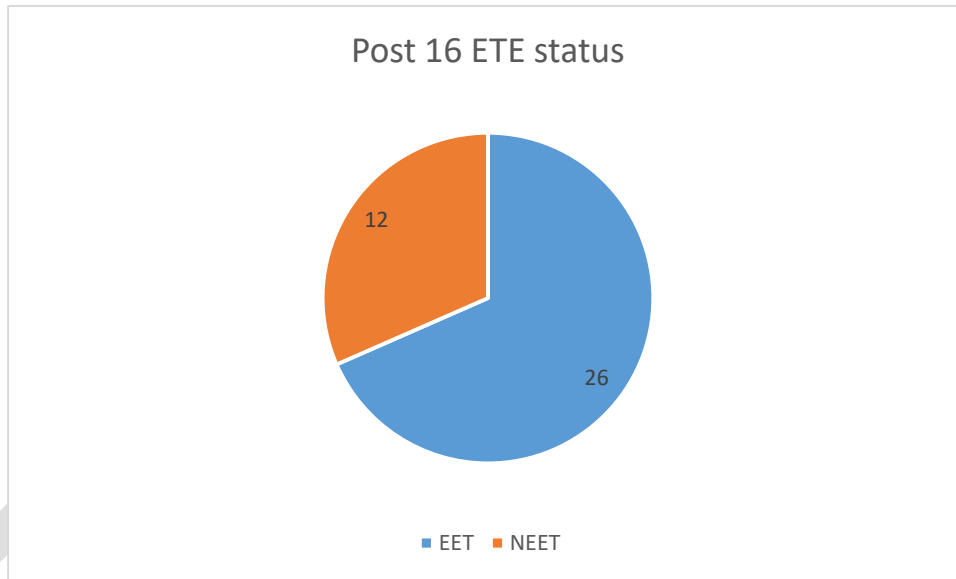
Summary

The number of disposals closing over the year varied widely from a low of 7 in Quarter 1 to a high of 21 in Quarter 2. In the smaller cohorts, each young person not in ETE made a big difference to the percentage engaged and the strongest performance was in Q2 with the larger cohort. The less entrenched offenders on YCC's are often more likely to be engaged in ETE and there was a pattern of low numbers closing over the year along with low numbers of DTO's. The majority of closures were Referral Orders and Youth Rehabilitation Orders. The Covid 19 pandemic was still having some effect on this year from lockdowns and reducing engagement by delaying ETE starts and having long term effects on vulnerable young people where ETE has been fragmented by it.



A lot of good work is being done to target the ETE at the end of a client's order and this was strengthened following Quarter 1 when a tracking and monitoring plan was instigated for ETE ensuring the effective targeting of ETE support. We were however unable to re-engage 14 young people as outlined above. Themes affecting engagement in ETE include complex SEN needs, the breakdown of family relationships and limited positive parental influence, mental health and accommodation instability. Some of the young people were content to wait for benefits or work and turned down the education/training opportunities offered with the young people not willing to take the advice about the longer term gains of further education. We were unfortunate with the timings of some young people who secured employment but didn't start until after their orders ended. Combined, these themes had a significant impact, reducing the ETE engagement figure.

This was a year with some disappointment with the team working hard but not achieving the challenging aspirational target of 90%, but at 73.1% we were significantly above the national ETE figure of 34% and we achieved many positive results where young people were re-engaged with ETE through our support. We continue to aspire to achieve the positive results and 90% target.



Over the year **16.7%** of young people with a YCC/Order ending had an EHCP, greater than the overall population.

We rarely get EHE clients which is positive as the best place for the majority of young people to learn effectively is in school. Over the year **1.2%** of young people with a YCC/Order ending were EHE.

Speech and Language Therapy

There is a considerable evidence base which highlights that young people with undiagnosed speech, language and communication difficulties are more likely to enter the Criminal Justice System than a comparator group.

The YOS is committed to ensuring that where children enter the system, they receive the offer of a Speech and Language assessment and support which may also include screening for dyslexia where appropriate. Children subject to Diversion outcomes who go through the Triage Panel also receive the offer of SLCN assessment and support.

In addition, the Speech and Language Therapist supports the YOS to ensure that its outward facing materials, particularly those for young people, are written in such a way that they are easily accessible and understood.

The following information details the total number of young people who have received a speech and language assessment and/or intervention in 2021/22.

1st April 2021 – 31st March 2022

Number of Young People on Court Orders who have received/are receiving an assessment	25
Number of Young People on Court Orders who were offered but declined/would not engage	5
(Number of Young People on Court Orders who have previously had SALT assessment meaning it was not offered)	(3)

Number of Young People on Diversion Outcomes who have received/are receiving an assessment	23
Number of Young People on Diversion Outcomes who were offered but declined/would not engage	7
Number of assessments of Young People who attended/attending EPIC Learning	11

As can be seen from the figures above the take up rate for this offer is extremely positive. The YOS SALT works in collaboration with Youth Justice Team case workers to promote the offer and works flexibly and creatively to ensure accessing this meets the needs of our young people.

Systemic Family Psychotherapy

Multi-Systemic Family Psychotherapy (MSFP) is utilised to improve familial functioning in cases where the family dynamics have a direct correlation to the issues which brought a child into the Criminal Justice System.

The average length of a therapeutic intervention with a family is 6 months. Although in some cases, this is extended if progress is demonstrable but all outcomes have not yet been achieved. Quite often, this means that the MSFP Therapist continues to work with families after the Youth Justice element of the order has been completed.

The provision utilises a dedicated assessment to understand familial issues and utilises the Score 15 evaluation tool which families complete at the start and end of intervention to understand the efficacy of the intervention.

The number of families worked with this period is **22**. These families are often incredibly complex with multiple and extended numbers of family members and households that need to be worked with. Often significant amounts of time need to be spent several times a week with families and this can increase to daily if they are in crisis.

Of the families worked with all apart from **8** have made progress according to the Score 15. The **8** as yet have not had a second Score 15 due to them being new cases.

Substance Misuse

The YOS offers discreet Substance Misuse services to young people who have either committed an offence involving the possession or supply of substances, or for young people for whom substance misuse is a secondary issue to their offending. For the vast majority of cases where the index offence did not include possession of substances, the young person's offending profile is predominantly acquisitive and associated to their substance misuse.

The substance misuse provision offers 2 predominant intervention activities, the first is singular awareness sessions for young people subject to out of court disposals. The second is direct intervention which can take place over a period of between 3 and 9 months.

The approach to supporting young people is based around relationship based practice incorporating elements of auricular and talking therapies. The service also offers voluntary urine screening to young people and non-invasive STI (Sexually Transmitted Infection) screening (within the confines of Covid restrictions).

	Total client numbers						
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Total
Existing							
New	3	7	4	4	0	5	23
Closed							

	Total client numbers						
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	
Existing							
New	3	2	2	5	3	4	19
Closed							

The total number of referrals from April 2021 to March 2022 is **42**, this includes young people subject to Court Orders, Diversion cases from Triage Panel and interventions delivered at EPIC learning.

Forensic Psychology

Doncaster YOS recognises that some young people have complex needs which require specialist assessments in order to fully understand the underlying issues which bring young people into contact with the Criminal Justice System.

As part of this offer, the Psychological Service works across the Trust with children who present various levels of risk, some of whom have not yet come into contact with Criminal Justice agencies, but whose behaviours and needs are indicative of children who are on the periphery of offending. Consequently, the Psychological Service is considered as part of both the prevention offer and the statutory offer.

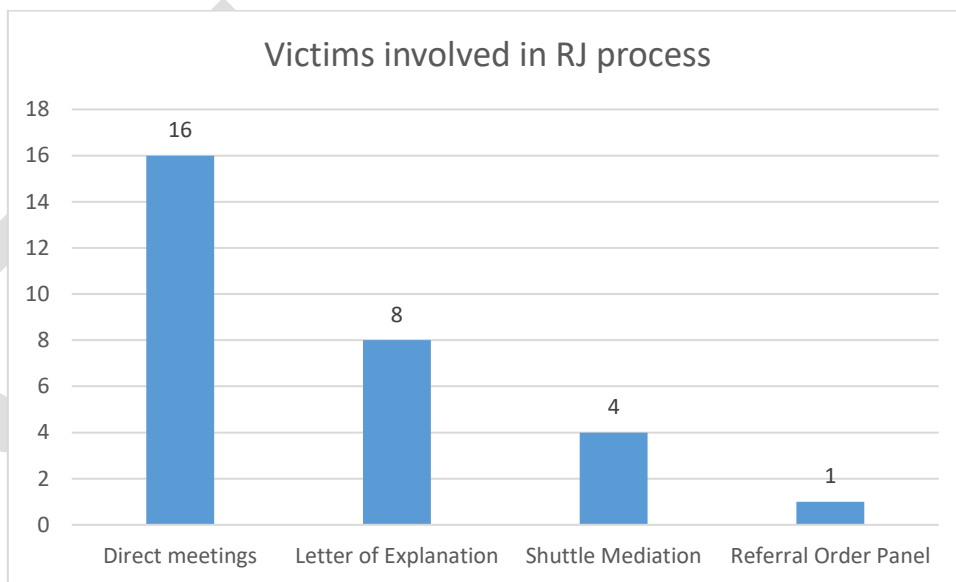
The Psychology Service also offers training to the YOS and broader children's services teams in the areas of:

- Emotional awareness and regulation
- Attachment and trauma
- DBT awareness
- Personality Disorder awareness

In the past year, the Psychological Service has worked with **20** young people open to the YOS or EPIC with varying degrees of risk and need.

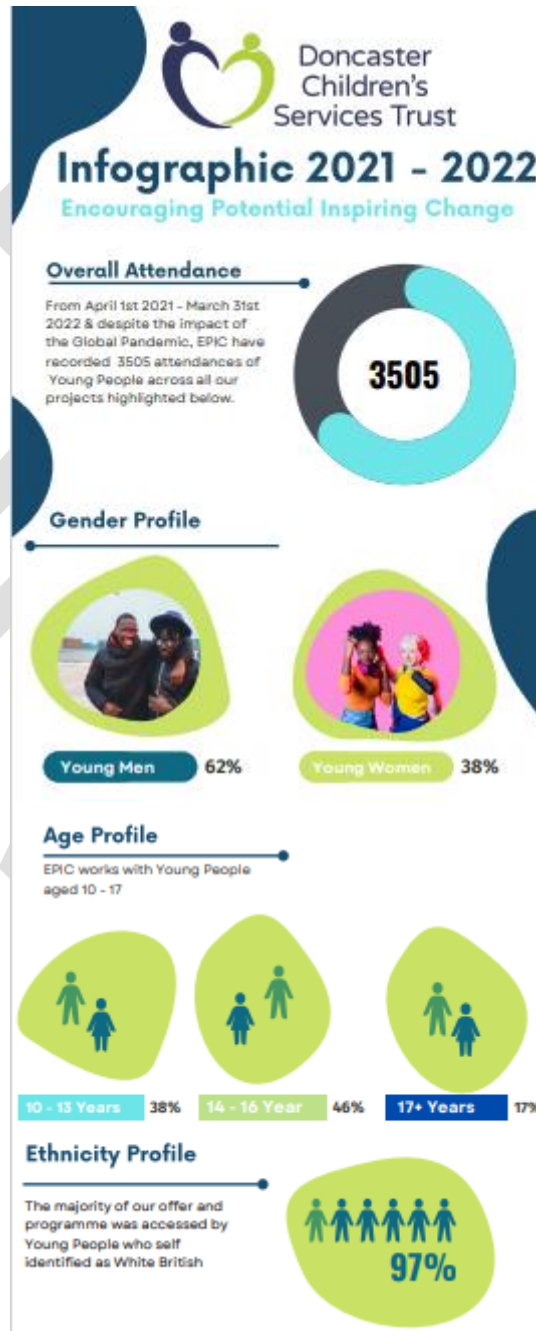
Restorative Practice/Victim work

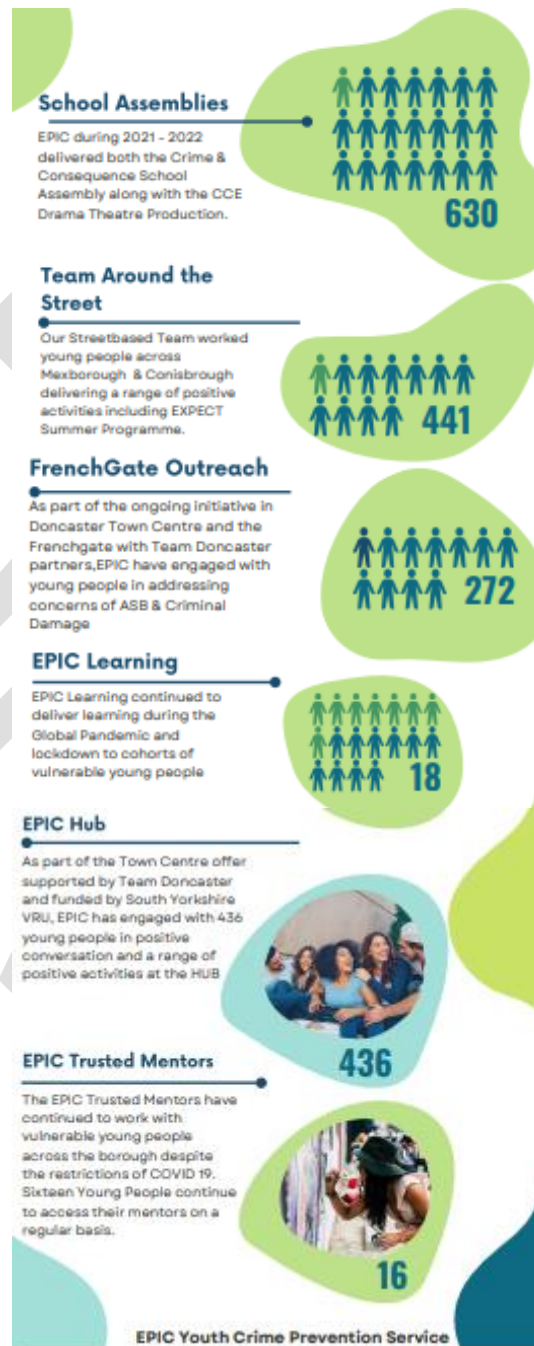
The Restorative Practitioner works in accordance with the Victims Code (updated 2015) which sets out the minimum level of service that victims of crime should receive. In all cases where consent to contact is given the Restorative Practitioner makes contact with victims and supports them to make informed choices about participation in Restorative Justice.



From April 2021 to March 2022 **91** victims were consulted, **54** accepted an initial meeting/discussion with the Restorative Practitioner, following this **8** declined further involvement and **17** young people chose not to participate in RJ. The breakdown is as follows for the **29** victims that went on to participate in an RJ process: **16** had a face to face meeting with the young person who caused the harm, **8** received letters of explanation from the young person, **4** participated in shuttle mediation and **1** attended a Referral Order panel meeting.







The EPIC Youth Crime Prevention Service continues to expand and in the last year has added the EPIC Hub to its portfolio. The EPIC Hub, funded by the South Yorkshire VRU, is based in the Frenchgate Shopping Centre and is a safe space for young people to attend. Opened in December 2021, the Hub has already engaged **436** young people in positive conversations and a range of positive activities. The Hub's aim is to divert young people from anti-social behaviour in the Town Centre and through the use of positive activities, support young people into accessing pro-social and aspirational activities.

EPIC now has responsibility for the EPIC Trusted Mentors. This was established as part of DfE funding and has now been incorporated into the EPIC portfolio. The Trusted

Mentors initiative has 1 Mentoring Co-Ordinator who oversees 16 volunteer Mentors that are currently Mentoring 16 young people.

EPIC Learning aims to provide an alternative learning provision for students aged 11-16 years who find mainstream school difficult to engage with and who are at risk of exclusion or have been excluded as a result of anti-social behaviour. To date, we have worked with 26 young people across a 12-week programme, delivering a blended learning programme supported by a multi-disciplinary team of practitioners.

EPIC has recently developed an innovative Virtual Reality programme funded by the Home Office focused on engaging and informing young people on how to tackle the inherent risks associated with Criminal Exploitation and 'County Lines'. We have now utilised this technology to enhance professional learning and understanding of child exploitation. Launched in January 2022 EPIC has delivered the CCE Virtual Reality Training to colleagues from DWP, DCST Social Work Teams and Hungerhill Academy with a total of 41 delegates attending the CCE Virtual Reality workshops.

13. Looking forward

Due to some YOS Court Orders being much shorter than the existing Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT) programme being run in Doncaster YOS, we have discovered that DBT has not been accessible for all young people. Therefore it is planned to produce a shorter DBT based awareness package which is 8-10 weeks long. This will cover aspects of DBT including mindfulness, distress tolerance, emotional regulation, walking the middle path and interpersonal effectiveness. This will allow young people open to YOS to have access to some therapeutic intervention, which is short enough to be completed whilst on their order, yet provide them with a basic overview of skills to help them manage in times of difficulties.

It is envisaged that this will be an add on to the more in-depth emotional regulation work that is covered by Case Managers.

14. Sign off, submission and approval

Chair of YJS Board - name	Superintendent Neil Thomas
Signature	
Date	

15. Appendix 1

The operational work of Doncaster YOS is overseen by its strategic Management Board which is composed of Senior Managers and leaders from partner organisations who have the operational and strategic expertise to challenge and develop the offer from Doncaster YOS.

The Management Board composition is as follows:

Neil Thomas	Superintendent - South Yorkshire Police - Chair
Rebecca Wilshire	Director of Children's Social Care, Doncaster Children's Services Trust
Claire Scott	Head of Service, Communities and Wellbeing - DMBC
Luke Shepherd	National Probation Service
Cllr Lani-Mae Ball	Lead Members for Education, Skills and Young People, DMBC
Jane Cresswell	Virtual Head - DMBC
Carrie Wardle	Public Health Specialist – DMBC
Emma Price	Head of Strategy and Delivery – CCG
Alex Heeley	Commissioning Officer – OPCC
Kathryn West	Operational Manager - YOS

In addition to the core members, several other organisations who are involved in the commissioning of services which impact on the work of the YOS also attend on occasion as required and receive copies of the minutes These include:

- The Youth Justice Board
- St Leger Homes
- Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Services (HMCTS)

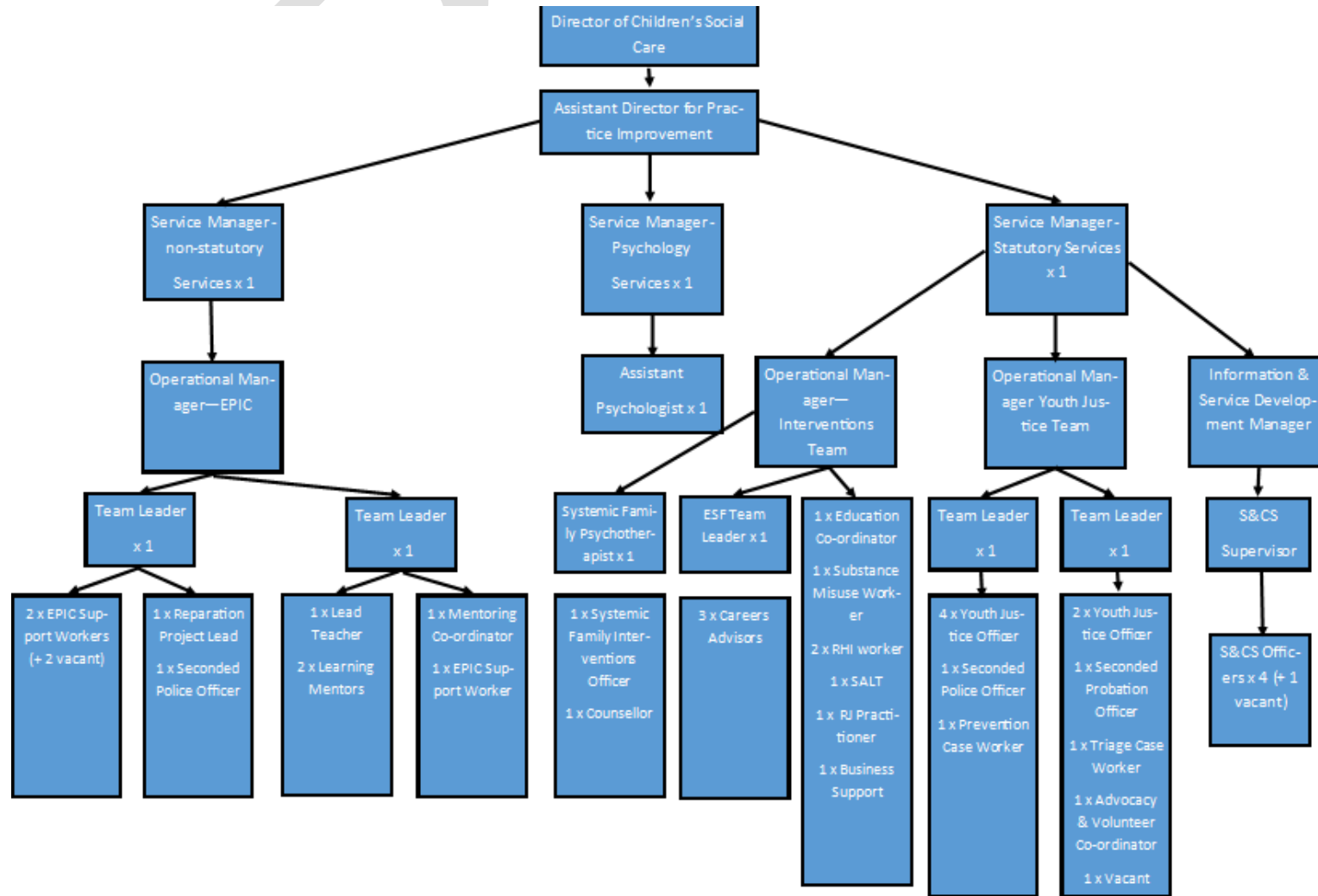
YOS Management Board meetings are held quarterly and in order to be quorate there must be senior representation from DMBC, South Yorkshire Police and Doncaster Children's Services Trust. A comprehensive performance report is presented to each Board meeting and the Head of Service is held to account for performance, casework quality, safeguarding, staffing/secondment arrangements, commissioning of services and other key strategic issues affecting the development of the service.

	8th April 2021		13th May 2021		22nd July 2021		7th October 2021		13th January 2022	
	Name	Agency	Name	Agency	Name	Agency	Name	Agency	Name	Agency
Attendees	Neil Thomas (Chair)	SYP	Neil Thomas (Chair)	SYP	James Thomas (Chair)	DCST	Neil Thomas (Chair)	SYP	Neil Thomas (Chair)	SYP
	Andy Hood	YOS	Andy Hood	YOS	Andy Hood	YOS	Andy Hood	YOS	Andy Hood	YOS
	James Thomas	DCST	James Thomas	DCST	Councillor Ball	DMBC	James Thomas	DCST	Rebecca Wilshire	DCST
	Caroline James	NPS	Caroline James	NPS	Caroline James	NPS	Claire Scott	DMBC	Claire Scott	DMBC
	Carrie Wardle	Public Health	Carrie Wardle	Public Health	Joanne Evans	DMBC	Councillor Ball	DMBC	Councillor Ball	DMBC
	Councillor McGuinness	DMBC	Emma Price	CCG	Linda Mayhew	OPCC	Luke Shepherd	NPS	Amy Holden	NPS
	Claire Scott	DMBC	Kathryn West	YOS	Kathryn West	YOS	Linda Mayhew	OPCC	Kathryn West	YOS
	Kathryn West	YOS	Alex Heeley	OPCC	Martin Clayton	SYP	Kathryn West	YOS	Jane Cresswell	DMBC
	Alex Heeley	OPCC	Carol Harris	YOS	Carol Harris	YOS	Jane Cresswell	DMBC	Alex Heeley	OPCC
	Carol Harris	YOS	Andy Bowling	DMBC	Kate Wood	SALT	Amy Hughes (Minute taker)	YOS	Carrie Wardle	Public Health
	Andy Bowling	DMBC	Linda Mayhew	OPCC	Amy Hughes (Minute taker)	YOS			Rachel Reynolds	CCG
	Amy Hughes (Minute taker)	YOS	Amy Hughes (Minute taker)	YOS					Carol Harris	YOS
								Amy Hughes (Minute taker)	YOS	
Apologies	Mark Steward	St Leger	Mark Steward	St Leger	Neil Thomas	SYP	Alex Heeley	OPCC	Luke Shepherd	NPS
	Richard Cherry	Court	Richard Cherry	Court	Claire Scott	DMBC	Andy Bowling	DMBC	Linda Mayhew	OPCC
	Cate Barnett	YJB	Cate Barnett	YJB	Alex Heeley	OPCC	Carrie Wardle	Public Health	Mark Steward	St Leger
	Martyn Owen	DMBC	Martyn Owen	DMBC	Andy Bowling	DMBC	Mark Steward	St Leger	Richard Cherry	Court
	Marie Carroll	OPCC	Marie Carroll	OPCC	Carrie Wardle	Public Health	Richard Cherry	Court	Marie Carroll	OPCC
	Emma Price	CCG	Claire Scott	DMBC	Mark Steward	St Leger	Cate Barnett	YJB	Emma Price	CCG
	Jane Cresswell	DMBC	Councillor McGuinness	DMBC	Richard Cherry	Court	Martyn Owen	DMBC		
				Cate Barnett	YJB	Marie Carroll	OPCC			

				Martyn Owen	DMBC	Emma Price	CCG		
				Marie Carroll	OPCC	Carol Harris	YOS		
				Emma Price	CCG				
				Jane Cresswell	DMBC				

BRAND

16. Appendix 2 – Service Structure Chart



Type of Contract	Strategic Manager (PT)	Strategic Manager (FT)	Operational Manager (PT)	Operational Manager (FT)	Practitioners (PT)	Practitioners (FT)	Administration (PT)	Administration (FT)	Sessional	Students/trainees	Referral Order Panel Volunteer	Other Volunteer	Total
Permanent	0	1	0.8	2	2.5	26	0.8	8	0	0	0	0	41.1
Fixed-term	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Outsourced	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Seconded Children's Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seconded Probation	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Seconded Police	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Seconded Health (Substance misuse)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seconded Health (Mental health)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seconded Health (Physical health)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seconded Health (Speech/language)	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Other/Unspecified Seconded Health	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seconded Education	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seconded Connexions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seconded Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	1	0.8	2	5.5	29	0.8	9	0	0	0	0	48.1
Disabled (self-classified)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Ethnicity	Managers Strategic		Managers Operational		Practitioners		Administrative		Sessional		Student		Referral Order Panel Volunteer		Other Volunteer		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Asian	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Black	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Mixed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
White	1	0	0	2	15	22	0	8	0	0	0	0	4	9	0	1	20	42
Any other ethnic group	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not known	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1	0	1	2	16	22	0	9	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	22	43

17. Appendix 3 – Young People's Feedback

DC

What things in your life have got better? **Live back with my mum**

Whats been good about coming to the YOT? **'helps me get stuff off my chest, if I didn't have you to speak to things would build up and I would probably be stressed and depressed, but its like a relief getting it off my chest'**

Whats been bad about coming to the YOT? **its not been bad - no reasons**

Think about the things you have been doing at the YOT. What helped you to sort out any problems in your life? **none of my problems have been fixed yet but that's not their fault**

I worry about what might happen after I finish at the YOT? **Yes**

I know where to get help in the future? **Yes**

Who will help you with any problems you have after you leave here? **Emma and Margaret still can, Mum**

What other help do you think you will need? How can the YOT help you get it? **For Margaret to still help me with a job**

EM

What things in your life have got better? **I have started to understand my emotions a bit more and how to express them**

Have any things in your life got worse? **Not really I can speak to people about my emotions and express them more**

Whats been good about coming to the YOT? **Emma has made me understand more about emotions and Claire came to talk to me and helped me a bit more**

Whats been bad about coming to the YOT? Why has it been bad? **Nothing has been bad Claire and Emma have helped me so much**

Think about the things you have been doing at the YOT. What helped you to sort out any problems in your life? **About my emotions and how to express them a bit more than usual**

I worry about what might happen after I finish at the YOT? **No**

I know where to get help in the future? **Yes**

Who will help you with any problems you have after you leave here? **My mum, grandma, best friend**

What other help do you think you will need? How can the YOT help you get it? **I don't think I need anymore help**

BH

What things in your life have got better? **Behaviour and mates**

Have any things in your life got worse? **No**

Whats been good about coming to the YOT? **It kept me out of trouble**

Think about the things you have been doing at the YOT. What helped you to sort out any problems in your life? **Talking to John, taking advice**

I worry about what might happen after I finish at the YOT? **sometimes**

What other help do you think you will need? How can the YOT help you get it? **Don't need help**

LP

What things in your life have got better? **Anger**

Have any things in your life got worse? **No**

Whats been good about coming to the YOT? **Its helped the relationship**

Think about the things you have been doing at the YOT. What helped you to sort out any problems in your life? **House rules**

I worry about what might happen after I finish at the YOT? **No**

What other help do you think you will need? How can the YOT help you get it? **none**

JA

What things in your life have got better? **Relationships with family and friends**

Have any things in your life got worse? **I lost my job**

What things would you like to change? **Employment status obviously and independent living**

What's been good about coming to YOT so far? **Someone to speak to**

What's been bad about coming to the YOT so far? **Not much really. Like I say its helped me because yous have spoke with my social worker because I don't see her much, I know you more**

Think about the things you have been doing at the YOT. What is helping you sort out problems in your life? **Like I said you get my point across to the social worker, you know what I mean?**

Is there anything else you would like YOT to help you with? **No**

RJ

What things have got better in your life? **Don't know**

Have any things in your life got worse? **No**

What been good about coming to the YOT? **Don't know**

What's been bad about coming to the YOT? **'Nothing'**

Think about the things you have been doing at the YOT. What helped you sort out any problems in your life? **Don't know**

I worry about what might happen after I finish YOT? **No**

I know where to get help if I need it in the future? **Yes**

Who will help you with any problems when you leave here? **Family**

What other help do you think you think you will need? How can YOT help you get this? **Don't know**

CQF

What things have got better in your life? **Education – Vega good better than school**

Have any things in your life got worse? **No**

What been good about coming to the YOT? **Kate Wood assessment and support re new placement**

What's been bad about coming to the YOT? **'Nothing'**

Think about the things you have been doing at the YOT. What helped you sort out any problems in your life? **New placement re education Vaga, Kate Wood assessment, John did consequences of actions**

I worry about what might happen after I finish YOT? **No**

I know where to get help if I need it in the future? **Yes**

Who will help you with any problems when you leave here? **Dad, Mam, Step-Mother**

What other help do you think you think you will need? How can YOT help you get this? **Careers, YOT's closing case but careers going to contact close to 16th birthday**

DL

What things in your life have got better? **I've got a job now and earning money. I'm gonna try and push it more, maybe rent a flat for myself.**

Have any things in your life got worse? **No, things have got better.**

What things would you still like to change? **I'm happy at the moment, just a different job.**

What's been good about coming to the YOT so far? **Helping me with Court issues, helping with College you and John (Jackson).**

What's been bad about coming to the YOT so far? Why has it been bad? **I couldn't see you (Emma) all the time because sometimes I forgot, now I have a job.**

Think about the things that you have been doing at YOT. What is helping you sort out problems in your life? **Helping me with the Court case in Sheffield Magistrates.**

Is there anything else you would like the YOT to help you with? **At the moment no, I'm happy.**

RC

What things in your life have got better? **Stayed the same**

Have any things in your life got worse? **No**

What things would you still like to change? **My criminal record**

What's been good about coming to the YOT so far? **Not too sure**

What's been bad about coming to the YOT so far? Why has it been bad? **Nothing**

Think about the things that you have been doing at YOT. What is helping you sort out problems in your life? **I get to talk about things with Emma**

Is there anything else you would like the YOT to help you with? **No**

TC

What things in your life have got better? **Me and mum are getting on good most of the time**

Have any things in your life got worse? **Not really**

What things would you still like to change? **I would like to get my provisional licence and maybe get a scooter**

What's been good about coming to the YOT so far? **I can talk with Steve**

What's been bad about coming to the YOT so far? Why has it been bad? **Nothing**

Think about the things that you have been doing at YOT. What is helping you sort out problems in your life? **I am looking at my emotions and ways to help me**

Is there anything else you would like the YOT to help you with? **No**

AA

What things in your life have got better? **Having an education place**

Have any things in your life got worse? **Nothing**

What things would you still like to change? **No**

What's been good about coming to the YOT so far? **Nothing**

What's been bad about coming to the YOT so far? Why has it been bad? **My meetings**

Think about the things that you have been doing at YOT. What is helping you sort out problems in your life? **No**

Is there anything else you would like the YOT to help you with? **No**

SM

What things in your life have got better? **I don't know not be causing commotion on the streets**

Have any things in your life got worse? **No**

What's been good about coming to the YOT? **Someone to talk to**

What's been bad about coming to the YOT? **On your case all time**

Think about the things that you have been doing at YOT. What helped you sort out problems in your life? **Not really cos not got any**

I worry about what might happen after I finish at the YOT? **'No'**

I know where to get help if I need it in the future? **'Yes'**
Who will help you with any problems you have after you leave here? **My mum**
What other help do you think you will need? How can this YOT help you get this? **None**

DJ

What things in your life have got better? **Back living with mum, got a nice boyfriend**
Have any things in your life got worse? **No except smoking weed**
What's been good about coming to the YOT? **McDonalds**
What's been bad about coming to the YOT? **Litter picking, having to get up at 8am, waiting in for meetings**
Think about the things that you have been doing at YOT. What helped you sort out problems in your life? **Taking me to camhs appointments**
I worry about what might happen after I finish at the YOT? **'No'**
I know where to get help if I need it in the future? **'Yes'**
Who will help you with any problems you have after you leave here? **Mum and dad, will sort it out myself.**
What other help do you think you will need? How can this YOT help you get this? **Project 3, take to camhs, hair and beauty and course**

DJ

Did someone tell you in a way you could understand, why you were working with YOS? **Yes**
Did you understand what would happen if you didn't come to appointments or work with YOS? **Yes but I can't remember everything that was said it was ages ago and it's all behind me now**
How did you find Youth Court? **It was ok but I can't really remember now**
Which people did you see from YOS? **Hayley and then some others but I only saw them a once or twice, I can't remember their names**
Did you understand what their jobs were? **No**
How did people from YOS treat you? **Ok**
Were you told that you could read the assessment YOS had written about you? **Probably like I said I can't remember**
Do you feel you had a say in what went into your Contract/Plan? **Don't know**
Did the YOS do what they said they would in your Contract/Plan? **Yes**
Was there anything else that could have helped you? This could be an activity or help with something specific. **No , helped me with everything**
What did YOS do well? **Hayley was good she helped me**
What could YOS do better? **Nothing**

What things in your life have got better? **'Split up with my boyfriend, cos we were bad' 'Staying in more – use to cause trouble when out' 'Getting on with mum more' 'Cirque is alright' 'don't hang around with little b****ds anymore'**
Have any things in your life got worse? If yes, what? **No**
What's been good about coming to the YOT? **I don't know**
What's been bad about coming to the YOT? Why has it been bad? **No**
Think about the things you have been doing at the YOT. What helped you sort out any problems in your life? **'Going to Cirque'**
Who will help you with any problems you have after you leave here? **My sister**
What other help do you think you will need? How can the YOT help you get this? **None**

BB

What things in your life have got better? **Only using cannabis, nearly got cscs card**

Have any things in your life got worse? **My head**

What's been good about coming to the YOT so far? **The support**

What's been bad about coming to the YOT so far? Why has it been bad? **Loads of earache (just in jest)**

Think about the things that you have been doing at YOT. What is helping you sort out problems in your life? **Fiona - black box - feels like youre walking on air, jenny - helped get cscs card, kate - cant remember, hayley - gives me support. trys and helps sort things out. support me to see mum**

I worry about what might happen after I finish YOT? **No**

I know where to get help if I need it in the future? **yes**

Who will help you with any problems after you leave here? **6 months voluntary support (YOS)**

What other help do you think you will need? How can YOT help you get this? **Nothing**

KG

What things in your life have got better? **Don't fight as much**

Have any things in your life got worse? **No**

What's been good about coming to the YOT so far? **I didn't get sent to Wetherby**

What's been bad about coming to the YOT so far? Why has it been bad? **nothing**

Think about the things that you have been doing at YOT. What is helping you sort out problems in your life? **Nothing**

I worry about what might happen after I finish YOT? **No**

I know where to get help if I need it in the future? **yes**

Who will help you with any problems after you leave here? **Myself**

What other help do you think you will need? How can YOT help you get this? **Nothing**

HT

What things in your life have got better? **Learning how to deal with my emotions**

Have any things in your life got worse? **Nothing has gotten worse for me**

What's been good about coming to the YOT? **Learning how to deal with emotions and how to deal with situations**

What's been bad about coming to the YOT? **Nothing has been bad**

Think about the things that you have been doing at the YOT. What helped you sort out any problems in your life? **How to deal with emotions**

I worry about what might happen after I finish at the YOT? **No**

I know where I can get help in the future? **Yes**

Who will help you with any problems when you leave here? **Friends, family**

HT – Parent

Has the support given to you or your child helped you as a parent? **Yes, Emma has supported XXXX with care and compassion and has explained everything to us and how it effects XXXX's future**

Has there been a change in your childs behaviour? **Yes, XXXX has been more open with feelings and ready to discuss things**

What do you feel has helped your child the most during their time with YOT? **Emmas support and making him understand how his emotions affect his behaviour and vice versa**

Do you think the YOT has provided your child with the help and services he/she needed? **Most definitely. Emma is to be commended on bringing XXXX out of himself and working with him on understanding his emotions.**

JF

What things in your life have got better? **I now have a full time job**

Have any things in your life got worse? **No**

What's been good about coming to the YOT? **I haven't reoffended. Learnt some new facts about substance**

What's been bad about coming to the YOT? **Nothing**

Think about the things that you have been doing at the YOT. What helped you sort out any problems in your life? **More advice on substances, learnt facts about justice system**

I worry about what might happen after I finish at the YOT? **No**

I know where I can get help in the future? **Yes**

Who will help you with any problems when you leave here? **Peers**

What other help do you think you will need? How can the YOT help you get this? **None**

JA

Did your case manager tell you in a way you could understand, why you were working with Youth Offending Service (YOS)? **Yes**

Did you understand what would happen if you didn't come to appointments or work with YOS? **Yes**

Which people did you see from YOS? **Just Danny**

Did you understand what their jobs were? **Yes**

How did people from YOS treat you? (mum) **Absolutely Fabulous, Danny is a really nice man**

Were you told that you could read the assessment YOS had written about you? **Yes**

Do you feel you had a say in what went into your Plan? **Yes**

Did the YOS do what they said they would in your Plan? **Yes**

What did YOS do well? **Danny did everything well**

What could YOS do better? **Nothing**

Was there anything else that could have helped you? This could be an activity or help with something specific. **No**

CC

What things in your life have got better? **Things are better at home. No big arguments or owt**

Have any things in your life got worse? **No**

What things would you still like to change? **Nothing. Just want to leave school and get a job**

Whats been good about coming to the YOT so far? **Nothing good but nothing bad I just have to do it**

What's been bad about coming to the YOT so far? **Same as before**

Think about the things you have been doing at the YOT. What is helping you sort out problems in your life? **I am better at keeping calm. I now avoid getting into big fights**

Is there anything else you would like YOT to help with? **No**

RC

There are things I find difficult telling a worker about? **No**

Have you been to this or another YOT before? **No**

What things did you like about being at the YOT? **Seeing Emma**

What problems did the YOT help you with? **Keeping out of trouble**

What things at the YOT didn't you like doing? **Nothing**

Did you find it easy to attend your appointments? **Yes** Why? **Mostly home visits then my dad has taken me**

CW

What things in your life have got better? **Applied to college, had an interview with careers**

Have any things in your life got worse? **No**

What's been good about coming to the YOT? **Explained court and out of court disposals, no further reoffending – could put my future ambition at risk**

What's been bad about coming to the YOT? **Nothing**

Think about the things that you have been doing at the YOT. What helped you sort out any problems in your life? **I know the risk of reoffending and how it can affect career prospects**

I worry about what might happen after I finish at the YOT? **No**

I know where I can get help in the future? **Yes**

Who will help you with any problems when you leave here? **Mum, dad, career worker**

JS

What things did you like about being at the YOT? **Liked having someone to help me with things**

What problems did the YOT help you with? **I'm calmer, helped me think differently about things, everything was helpful, get support with my mental health now, glad I got housing sorted**

What things at the YOT didn't you like doing? **Meetings all the time**

Did you find it easy to attend appointments? **Yes, reminded by Emma (case manager)**

RD

What things in your life have got better? **Got back in touch with my best mate**

Have any things in your life got worse? **Nothing pretty much**

What's been good about coming to the YOT? **Not sure not thought about it**

What's been bad about coming to the YOT? **Nothing**

Think about the things that you have been doing at the YOT. What helped you sort out any problems in your life? **Talking to people**

I worry about what might happen after I finish at the YOT? **No**

I know where I can get help in the future? **Yes**

Who will help you with any problems when you leave here? **Mum, Dad, sisters**

MF

What things in your life have got better? **Nobody not bullying me**

Have any things in your life got worse? **No**

What's been good about coming to the YOT? **Helping me out**

What's been bad about coming to the YOT? **It has not been bad**

Think about the things that you have been doing at the YOT. What helped you sort out any problems in your life? **Don't know**

I worry about what might happen after I finish at the YOT? **No**

I know where I can get help in the future? **Yes**

Who will help you with any problems when you leave here? **Mum, Dad, Teacher**

Common youth justice terms, please add any locally used terminology

ACE	Adverse childhood experience. Events in the child's life that can have negative, long lasting impact on the child's health, and life choices
AIM 2 and 3	Assessment, intervention and moving on, an assessment tool and framework for children who have instigated harmful sexual behaviour
ASB	Antisocial behaviour
AssetPlus	Assessment tool to be used for children who have been involved in offending behaviour
CAMHS	Child and adolescent mental health services
CCE	Child Criminal exploitation, where a child is forced, through threats of violence, or manipulated to take part in criminal activity
Children	We define a child as anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday. This is in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and civil legislation in England and Wales. The fact that a child has reached 16 years of age, is living independently or is in further education, is a member of the armed forces, is in hospital or in custody in the secure estate, does not change their status or entitlements to services or protection.
Child First	A system wide approach to working with children in the youth justice system. There are four tenants to this approach, it should be: developmentally informed, strength based, promote participation, and encourage diversion
Child looked-after	Child looked-after, where a child is looked after by the local authority
CME	Child Missing Education
Constructive resettlement	The principle of encouraging and supporting a child's positive identity development from pro-offending to pro-social
Contextual safeguarding	An approach to safeguarding children which considers the wider community and peer influences on a child's safety
Community resolution	Community resolution, an informal disposal, administered by the police, for low level offending where there has been an admission of guilt

EHCP	Education and health care plan, a plan outlining the education, health and social care needs of a child with additional needs
ETE	Education, training or employment
EHE	Electively home educated, children who are formally recorded as being educated at home and do not attend school
EOTAS	Education other than at school, children who receive their education away from a mainstream school setting
FTE	First Time Entrant. A child who receives a statutory criminal justice outcome for the first time (youth caution, youth conditional caution, or court disposal
HMIP	Her Majesty Inspectorate of Probation. An independent arms-length body who inspect Youth Justice services and probation services
HSB	Harmful sexual behaviour, developmentally inappropriate sexual behaviour by children, which is harmful to another child or adult, or themselves
JAC	Junior Attendance Centre
MAPPA	Multi agency public protection arrangements
MFH	Missing from Home
NRM	National Referral Mechanism. The national framework for identifying and referring potential victims of modern slavery in order to gain help to support and protect them
OOCD	Out-of-court disposal. All recorded disposals where a crime is recorded, an outcome delivered but the matter is not sent to court
Outcome 22/21	An informal disposal, available where the child does not admit the offence, but they undertake intervention to build strengths to minimise the possibility of further offending
Over-represented children	Appearing in higher numbers than the local or national average
RHI	Return home Interviews. These are interviews completed after a child has been reported missing
SLCN	Speech, Language and communication needs
STC	Secure training centre

SCH	Secure children's home
Young adult	We define a young adult as someone who is 18 or over. For example, when a young adult is transferring to the adult probation service.
YJS	Youth justice service. This is now the preferred title for services working with children in the youth justice system. This reflects the move to a Child First approach
YOI	Young offender institution

DRAFT



Doncaster Council

Report: Doncaster Council Peer Review 2022

Date: 14th July 2022

To the Chair and Members of Full Council

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Mayor Ros Jones	All	No

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Council invited the Local Government Association (LGA) to support our journey of improvement via a peer review. This report outlines the process, feedback and our response to date. Overall we welcome the recommendations suggested to us by the peer review and the positive feedback, which recognises our **'journey to an exemplar council'** and we fully acknowledge the hard work of officers and elected members over a considerable period of time to bring the positive elements of the report into a reality for Doncaster.

EXEMPT REPORT

2. This report is not exempt

RECOMMENDATIONS

3. It is recommended that Council notes and comments on the Peer Review report and our initial response to the recommendations.

BACKGROUND & PROCESS

4. The Local Government Association (LGA) provides a range of practical support, on a free of charge and/or subsidised basis, to enable local authorities to exploit the opportunities that this approach to improvement provides. This includes support of a corporate nature such as leadership programmes, peer challenge and programmes tailored to specific service areas such as children's, adults', health, care, financial, culture, tourism, sport and planning services.
5. Doncaster last had a peer challenge in 2014 - one was scheduled for 2020 but postponed due to Covid. The Mayor and Chief Executive felt that now was the right time as we continue to manage the legacy of the pandemic, deal with the cost of living crisis and have recently agreed a new Borough Strategy to invite the LGA into Doncaster to provide independent feedback that will guide our next steps as an organisation.

6. The Peer review process is conducted in two parts, an initial recovery and renewal panel followed by a full peer review visit. The LGA Recovery and Renewal (R&R) Panel was a small and brief review acting as a sounding board for the council embarking on post pandemic recovery and to help to understand the area prior to the full peer review onsite visit.
7. The peer team provide feedback as critical friends, not as assessors, consultants or inspectors.
8. The Peer Review Team all conducted the full peer review and the ones marked with an * were also on the initial Recovery and Renewal Panel:

*Steve Broomhead	Lead Peer & CEO Warrington Council
*Shabir Pandoor	Member Peer & Leader Kirklees Council
*Steven Young	Economic Peer & Chief Executive Halton Council
Christina Thompson	(S151) – Senior Officer Peer & Director of Finance & Property - London Borough of Lambeth)
*Satvinder Rana	LGA Project Manager
Helen Reeves	LGA Project Manager

Recovery & Renewal Panel

9. On 7th and 8th December 2021 Doncaster Council undertook an LGA Recovery & Renewal Panel. The Panel focussed on the robustness of the Council's post pandemic recovery and renewal plans and how well prepared it is in delivering its new Borough strategy. The council provided a position statement prior to the R&R panel based on the five broad areas of focus;
 - How robust and deliverable are the Council's regeneration and economic growth plans post Covid?
 - How will the Council balance the needs of economic recovery and potential financial challenges with its climate change objectives? What are the opportunities around, for example, green recovery?
 - How will the Council work with strategic partners and develop community capacity to deliver priority outcomes? e.g. collaboration, empowerment, co-production. What is the learning from the Council's response phase?
 - Does the Council's financial plan look at the medium and longer-term challenges as well as the immediate? What are the capacity gaps and requirements in light of changing priorities?
 - What are the short and medium terms actions the Council needs to take to deliver against its recovery and renewal ambitions and priorities?
10. A short brief was composed by the LGA which would act as an initial view from the sessions but more importantly set the scene and inform the wider peer review visit and final report

Corporate Peer Review Visit

11. The LGA use a general assessment framework, but the approach is flexible and tailored to the needs of the participating council. Doncaster had several sessions with partners, elected members and staff to set out a position statement and

identified local areas in which we would like the Peers to focus on their visit. These two sets of questions are set out below;

General Assessment Focus (LGA Framework)

- **Local priorities and outcomes:** Are the council's priorities clear and informed by the local context? Is the council delivering effectively on its priorities and achieving improved outcomes for all of its communities?
- **Organisational and place leadership:** Does the council provide effective local leadership? Are there good relationships with partner organisations and local communities?
- **Governance and culture:** Are there clear and robust governance arrangements? Is there a culture of respect, challenge and scrutiny?
- **Financial planning and management:** Does the council have a good understanding of its current financial position? Does the council have a strategy and a clear plan to address its financial challenges?
- **Capacity for improvement:** Is the organisation able to support delivery of local priorities? Does the council have the capacity to improve?

Additional Local Focus

- What more needs to be done to build leadership, management and workforce capacity to deliver Doncaster Delivering Together (DDT)?
- What more needs to be done to communicate and embed the DDT priorities – in the Council, across Team Doncaster and in communities?
- What more can be done to strengthen the Council's approach to securing additional investment, developing delivery plans and implementing them?
- What further critical success factors, risks and opportunities need to be considered in rolling out localities working?
- How the Council's risk management culture and arrangements need to evolve to deliver the DDT priorities?

12. The Peers reviewed the Position Statement and document profile before coming on site from 16th – 19th May 2022. They attended 35 meetings and spoke to around 120 people including a range of council staff together with Members, residents and external stakeholders

FEEDBACK AND RECOMMENDATIONS

13. The Peer team provided a set of initial slides on the final day of their visit (appendix a) and they have also written up a final report of their findings (appendix b).
14. Firstly the Council would like to welcome the report and recommendations which recognises that Doncaster Council is on a journey to being an exemplar council.
15. However we know that significant challenges and opportunities remain and that this a journey of improvement and the Council must continue to learn and adapt to ensure we are effectively meeting the demand now as well being ready for the opportunities of the future.

16. The appendices give the main detail and context to the wider findings but the main recommendations arising from the peer review are set out below;
 1. Pause and reflect on the Council's strategies to address organisational overload and fatigue; and address capacity issues
 2. Condense the key priorities for the Council for the next three years and set annual delivery targets
 3. Simplify and communicate key messages in a more tailored manner, particularly internally
 4. Reassess the Council's corporate risk appetite
 5. Continue to plan for the impact of the cost of living crisis on local communities and the delivery of council services
 6. Celebrate the Council's achievements and consider sharing learning and good practice with the wider local government sector

DONCASTER COUNCIL RESPONSE

17. Doncaster Council will commit to reflect on these recommendations and **implement them in full with an agreed and public action plan** linked to the recommendations to be published in September 2022.
18. Doncaster Council will ensure that we **build our actions and response into our annual improvement cycle** and delivery through our quarterly performance monitoring and our emerging Regenerative council programme (our internal improvement programme). This will ensure that our effective performance routines help to drive accountability and delivery of our peer review action plan.
19. Doncaster Council will **deliver a staff engagement programme** in autumn 2022 to communicate and share the Action plan but also use this engagement to set out a new set of values for the organisation that are owned and recognised by staff
20. Doncaster Council, along with partners, will be bringing forward a **Doncaster Delivering Together Investment plan** which will set out our investment priorities for the year and we plan to align this to our annual budgetary and policy delivery cycles.
21. Doncaster Council will be **reviewing our risk appetite** through active examples and taking a 'learning by doing' approach to support greater investment and the role the Council can have in achieving that investment.
22. Doncaster Council will look to **celebrate success more often and on a wider scale**, sharing good practice both internally and across the local government community. This can be achieved via specific networks and national publications, for example the Municipal Journal, as well as via local media – the peer review process shows some of the excellent things we are doing but we need to tell more people about it.

23. However all of this is set against a backdrop of a ‘**Cost of living Crisis**’ that is impacting on residents, families, businesses and the cost of delivering Council services. Doncaster Council has identified and provided an additional £4 million into our support for people and will need to do even more over time to ensure our people have those essentials to live a good life. A partnership group is co-ordinating our approach to ensure we can prevent people from falling into poverty, provide relief for those in poverty and how we can support more people to exit poverty. This work is particularly crucial over the next 12-18 months.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

24. Not applicable

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

25. Not applicable

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL’S KEY OUTCOMES

Outcomes	Implications
<p>Connected Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A modern, efficient and flexible workforce • Modern, accessible customer interactions • Operating within our resources and delivering value for money • A co-ordinated, whole person, whole life focus on the needs and aspirations of residents • Building community resilience and self-reliance by connecting community assets and strengths • Working with our partners and residents to provide effective leadership and governance 	<p>Corporate Peer Review so impacts on all outcomes</p>

RISKS & ASSUMPTIONS

26. The peer review process was intense but triangulated several pieces of evidence to arrive at the recommendations presented to the Council. These recommendations should have a clear action plan to ensure we respond effectively to those areas where currently improvements have been identified.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

27. No legal Implication sought.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

28. No Financial implications sought

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

29. No Human Resources implications sought

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS

30. No Technology implications sought

HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

31. No Health implications sought

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initial: SWr Date: 17/06/22]

32. In line with the corporate approach for compliance against the Equality Act 2011 due regard must be shown across all activity within the Council. As the Peer Review was an internal process with no impact on staff or residents a due regard statement was not required.

CONSULTATION

33. In preparation of the Peer Review visit the Council produced a position statement which was sent to the Peers prior to their arrival in Doncaster. To produce the Position Statement and conduct the onsite elements of the Peer Review consultation has taken place with;

- Elected Members (two workshops)
- Directors and Senior Managers
- Team Doncaster Partners
- Parish and Town Councils

BACKGROUND PAPERS

34. Appendix A – Peer Review Slides presented on Final Day of Inspection

35. Appendix B – Peer Review Final Report

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

36. LGA – Local Government Association

37. R&R Panel – Recovery and Renewal Panel

38. DDT – Doncaster Delivering Together

39. CEO – Chief Executive Officer

REPORT AUTHORS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Allan Wiltshire, Head of Policy, Performance & Intelligence
Tel: 01302 862307, E-mail: allan.wiltshire@doncaster.gov.uk

Sennette Wroot, Senior Policy & Insight Manager
Tel: 01302 737006, E-mail: sennette.wroot@doncaster.gov.uk

Debbie Hogg
Director of Corporate Resources

Doncaster Council Corporate Peer Challenge

16th May – 19th May 2022

Feedback from the peer challenge team

Date of presentation: 19th May 2022

The peer challenge team

- **Professor Steven Broomhead, MBE** (Chief Executive - Warrington Borough Council)
- **Councillor Shabir Pandor** (Leader - Kirklees Council)
- **Stephen Young** (Chief Executive - Halton Borough Council)
- **Christina Thompson** (Director of Finance and Property - London Borough of Lambeth)
- **Helen Reeves** (Programme Manager - LGA)
- **Satvinder Rana** (Programme Manager - LGA)



The purpose of peer challenge

Peer challenges are improvement-focussed and tailored to meet a council's needs.

They are designed to complement and add value to a council's own performance and improvement focus.

The peers used their experience and knowledge of local government to reflect on the information presented to them by people they met, things they saw and material that they read.

The team provide feedback as critical friends, not as assessors, consultants or inspectors.



The process of peer challenge

- Peers reviewed a range of information to ensure we were familiar with the council, the challenges it is facing and its plans for the future
- The peer team gathered information and views from more than 35 meetings, in addition to further research
- We spoke to around 120 people including a range of council staff together with Members and external stakeholders

Scope and brief for the peer challenge

We have considered the core components looked at by all corporate peer challenges, namely:

1. Local priorities and outcomes
2. Organisational and place leadership
3. Governance and culture
4. Financial planning and management
5. Capacity for improvement

Scope and brief for the peer challenge

Also considered the following area of focus:

- i. What more needs to be done to build leadership, management and workforce capacity to deliver Doncaster Delivering Together (DDT)?*
- ii. What more needs to be done to communicate and embed the DDT priorities – in the Council, across Team Doncaster and in communities?*
- iii. What more can be done to strengthen the Council's approach to securing additional investment, developing delivery plans and implementing them?*
- iv. What further critical success factors, risks and opportunities need to be considered in rolling out localities working?*
- v. How the Council's risk management culture and arrangements need to evolve to deliver the DDT priorities?*

Overall messages and observations

- Doncaster is on a journey of continuous improvement with many good features, and if continued will be an exemplar council
- The Council is enterprising, seeks opportunities and delivers well for place with a developing focus on people
- Staff and partners are hugely committed to delivering for Doncaster. However there is a need to pause and reflect on the Council's strategies to address organisational overload and fatigue
- Simplify and communicate key messages in a more tailored manner
- There is an opportunity to slightly increase the corporate risk appetite and to be bolder in a managed way

Overall messages and observations

- The impact of the cost of living crisis on local communities and the delivery of council services will be a major issue for the Council to think about and respond to
- With the developing localities working there may be an opportunity to further devolve budgets and decision making to localities

Local priorities and outcomes

- The Council has a compelling vision and clear priorities to deliver its ambitions for Doncaster
- There is high level of understanding and buy-in to the Council's ambitions and priorities within the organisation and among strategic partners
- There is pride and a strong sense of place and identity among Members and staff; and they understand their role and responsibilities in place-shaping and improving the lives of local people
- There is also recognition that Doncaster is a 'Place of Places' consisting of areas with different needs which increasingly the Council is focused on
- The Council has made a strong start to delivering on its ambitions and will need to prioritise to maximise opportunities, particularly regeneration of local areas e.g. Stainforth, Edlington and Mexborough

Local priorities and outcomes

- Address the perception that regeneration opportunities and delivery are Doncaster town centre focused. Communicate the ripple effect of this investments to other areas
- Whilst the strategic planning is informed by good external thinking, it is important to decipher some of the key messages into simplified language and communicate in a more tailored manner
- Work needs to be done to ensure that staff and partners at all levels understand the vision and priorities as they apply to them

Organisational and place leadership

- Very strong political and managerial leadership provided by the Mayor and Chief Executive, who are very well regarded and valued both internally and externally
- The balance between political and external leadership provided by the Mayor and the managerial and organisational leadership provided by the Chief Executive are major strengths
- There are very strong partner relationships in place. Partners are well engaged and aligned to the Council's ambitions and priorities
- Partnerships are driven by shared values and pragmatism
- There is an excellent record of attracting external funding and civic entrepreneurship e.g. Town Deal, Levelling Up funding, private sector investments, etc.

Organisational and place leadership

- There is very visible commitment to collaborative leadership in Doncaster and this is being demonstrated through stakeholder engagement in developing and delivering the Council's priorities
- Strong foundations for ICS/ICP change agenda have been built on good relations with NHS/CCG/Health Providers
- There is an opportunity to re-evaluate the relationship with Parish and Town Councils and bring them on-board through a co-designed and co-produced framework for future engagement to align with the new localities strategy
- There is an opportunity to further engage frontline Members and strengthen cross-party working at local levels through the localities working approach.

Organisational and place leadership

- The Councillor casework system could benefit from further embedding so all Members are utilising it productively
- Public Health is well embedded and aligned to the community regeneration planning and delivery framework and is starting to make a positive difference to the challenges of health inequalities post pandemic

Governance and culture

- Doncaster Council is a well run Council with strong, robust and transparent governance and decision making arrangements in place
- Overview and Scrutiny works well and is supported within the Council. Organisational challenge on specific policy areas is provided through scrutiny panels
- Audit Committee works well and is effective. It provides the appropriate challenge and assurance
- Further develop a culture of continuous reflection and realistic organisational critique
- Clear strategic risk management arrangements are in place and the time is right to reassess, with Members, the organisation's risk appetite
- Member and officer relationships are strong, supportive and productive

Governance and culture

- There is an abundance of energy and enthusiasm in the organisation and this is supported by a strong and positive ‘can-do and will deliver’ organisational culture
- People have a strong affinity to the ‘Place of Places’ and they want to do the best they can for the Borough and local communities
- Good Member and staff training and development is in place and this is supported by a Member Development Programme and a Leadership and Management Development Framework

Financial planning and management

- The Council is financially secure and has largely delivered its efficiency savings
- There is a proactive and anticipatory approach to financial planning that is backed up with good governance arrangements
- Care Funding, increased academisation of schools, the Fair Funding Review, Business Rates reset and rapid inflation will present future financial challenges/risks to the Council, but these are acknowledged and are being planned for
- The transfer of Children's Trust into the Council and its associated risks are understood and will require continued detailed attention

Financial planning and management

- Ward budgets are in place, they are hugely valued by frontline Members and are starting to have positive impacts on localities
- The Council has a good record of attracting external funding and investing on its priorities. Going forward, the Council should consider how best it can use this external funding to leverage additional private sector investments
- This may mean taking a degree of risk to seed fund future council investment proposals by weighing up social value returns as well as financial returns – the culture and practice of the Council should allow this to happen

Capacity to deliver and improve

- The Council has made a good start to delivering its ambitions. However, it has been disrupted by floods, wildfire, COVID, and now by the energy and cost of living crises
- This, together with a renewed emphasis on the concept of the ‘Regenerative Council’, is giving rise to organisational fatigue and overload resulting in a strain on capacity. Clear mitigation measures need to be developed
- The Council should pause and reflect on the development of strategies and consolidate what it already has in place to achieve the outcomes through clear implementation plans and annual delivery targets that are understood by all staff and partners
- Part of the journey of continuous improvement will be about identifying services and projects that can be concluded

Capacity to deliver and improve

- The Council's hybrid-working plans need to be supported by clear management and staff guidance on how this will work in practice for the whole workforce
- There are widespread issues with recruitment and retention, especially around key skills, and these need to be recognised through renewed workforce planning
- In view of national pay negotiations, recruitment and retention, and other HR issues it will require the Council to reset its relationship, consultation and communication arrangements with the Trade Unions

Additional areas of focus

- ***What more needs to be done to build leadership, management and workforce capacity to deliver Doncaster Delivering Together (DDT)?***

Invest in training, development and effective team working at senior officer levels; develop workforce resilience including consideration of organisational fatigue and recruitment challenges

- ***What more needs to be done to communicate and embed the DDT priorities – in the Council, across Team Doncaster and in communities?***

Simplification of the language in communicating and the targeting of key messages. Recognition of digital exclusion for some members of communities

Additional areas of focus

- ***What more can be done to strengthen the Council's approach to securing additional investment, developing delivery plans and implementing them?***

Managed increase in risk appetite and the development of clear and focused delivery plans

- ***What further critical success factors, risks and opportunities need to be considered in rolling out localities working?***

Simple evidence that shows what positive difference localities working is making to local communities; communities and Ward Councillors will need to see tangible impact



Additional areas of focus

- ***How the Council's risk management culture and arrangements need to evolve to deliver the DDT priorities?***

Take the opportunity to reassess corporate risk appetite



Recommendations

1. Pause and reflect on the Council's strategies to address organisational overload and fatigue; and address capacity issues
2. Condense the key priorities for the Council for the next three years and set annual delivery targets
3. Simplify and communicate key messages in a more tailored manner, particularly internally
4. Reassess the Council's corporate risk appetite
5. Continue to plan for the impact of the cost of living crisis on local communities and the delivery of council services
6. Celebrate the Council's achievements and consider sharing learning and good practice with the wider local government sector

Next steps

- Opportunity for questions and discussion now
- Public feedback report to follow shortly
- Council to publish an action plan in response within eight weeks of the CPC report's publication
- 6-month check-in to be scheduled – an opportunity to discuss progress and next steps


LGA Corporate Peer Challenge

Doncaster Council

16th – 19th May 2022

Feedback report





1. Executive summary	3
2. Key recommendations	5
3. Summary of the peer challenge approach	6
4. Feedback	8
5. Next steps	19

1. Executive summary

Doncaster Council is on a journey of continuous improvement with many good features, and if continued it will become an exemplar council. It has overcome some challenging times in its recent past and is now emerging as a strong organisation that is on a positive and upward trajectory.

The Council comes across as an energetic and focused organisation that has thought through what it wants to achieve and how it will go about it. It has a clear strategic focus, strong political and managerial leadership, and good governance and decision-making arrangements. It is financially stable and has committed partners who are aligned to make a real difference to Doncaster as a 'place of places'. It is an enterprising organisation that seeks opportunities and delivers well for place, with a developing focus on people. It is now seizing opportunities to improve the quality of life of its residents and businesses.

There is huge commitment, dedication and affinity to the place among Members, staff and partners to delivering for Doncaster. This shared commitment, dedication and affinity to Doncaster drives the organisation's ambitions and is demonstrated by the tangible examples of the work being done on the ground whilst dealing with several emergency situations in the recent past. The last few years called for, and was met with, strong leadership, organisational ability, resourcefulness and resilience by the Council.

These challenging times have stretched organisational capacity and now may be the time to pause on developing more strategies and instead reflect on the progress made so far and plan the journey ahead so that organisational overload and fatigue can be addressed. This will mean taking the time out to think through in detail its existing plans and priorities and work out clearly how they are to be delivered. It will also mean addressing some of the organisational capacity issues such as recruitment and retention in some of the core service areas as well as embedding new ways of working across the organisation.

The Council has a compelling strategic and policy framework that is based on academic and evidence-based thinking which gives it professional credence and high stakeholder buy-in. It clearly sets out the direction the Council wants to go in and has

prioritised its ambitions going forward. Nevertheless, to ensure that everybody understands their place and role in delivering the ambitions, the peer team would recommend the Council now simplify and communicate key messages in a more tailored and targeted manner to help strengthen the relationship between strategy and delivery and between strategy and benefits to local communities across the Borough.

The Council has a good recent record of financial management and reporting, and it is currently a financially stable organisation. Nevertheless, the impact of the cost-of-living crisis on local communities and the delivery of council services will be a major issue for the Council to think about and respond to. This is because the impact could lead to a reduction in income and an increased demand for services as people struggle to pay bills and are compelled to seek help and support from public services.

As the Council leans into the cost-of-living pressures there will be an opportunity and scope to recalibrate its risk appetite and think about how it can invest in more innovative/entrepreneurial activity that gives it the best chance of future sustainability. This may mean the Council starting to consider investing its own resources in some of its flagship projects to provide seed funding to get them off the ground and to inject greater confidence and commitment among its delivery partners to help attract further private and public sector investments.

To ensure that the Council and its partners can get closer to communities to understand their strengths and different needs, the Council has developed a Localities Strategy which is being backed with Locality Plans and Ward budgets to financially support specific local issues and priorities. This dedicated and flexible resource is hugely valued by frontline Members to encourage resident-led activities and is starting to have positive impacts on localities; and with the developing localities working there may be an opportunity to further devolve budgets and decision making to localities. This will help to further engage and empower Ward Members, locality partners and local communities in delivering the ambitions for Doncaster at local levels.

The Council has made huge improvements and has an interesting story to tell. It should now begin the process of celebrating its successes and sharing learning and good practice with the wider local government sector.

2. Key recommendations

There are a number of observations and suggestions within the main section of the report. The following are the peer team's key recommendations to the council:

2.1. Recommendation 1

Pause and reflect on the Council's strategies to address organisational overload and fatigue, and address capacity issues.

This will mean taking the time out to think through in detail its existing plans and priorities and work out clearly how they are to be delivered. It will also mean addressing some of the organisational capacity issues such as recruitment and retention in some of the core service areas as well as embedding new ways of working across the organisation.

2.2. Recommendation 2

Condense the key priorities for the Council for the next three years and set annual delivery targets.

This will help to better communicate the priorities to all parts of the organisation and clarify how and by whom the priorities will be delivered. It will also help to engage communities in the planned programme of work, address organisational capacity issues in a targeted way, and allow investments to be made in the right areas.

2.3. Recommendation 3

Simplify and communicate key messages in a more tailored manner, particularly internally.

This will provide clearer direction to key stakeholders on their roles and responsibilities in delivery, and at the same time strengthen the relationship between strategy and benefits to local communities by promoting a consistent yet simplified message which clearly spells out the benefits of actions being taken for people across the Borough.

2.4. Recommendation 4

Continue to plan for the impact of the cost-of-living crisis on local communities and the delivery of council services.

The cost-of-living crises will impact on the Council's resources and financial capacity as income through Council Tax collections and other collections could decrease, whilst at the same time demand for services and Council support to residents may increase as people start feeling the impact of the rising cost-of-living on their household budgets and lives.

2.5. Recommendation 5

Reassess the Council's corporate risk appetite.

This will enable the Council to consider investing its own resources in some of its flagship projects; provide seed funding to get them off the ground; inject greater confidence and commitment among its delivery partners; and help attract further private and public sector investments because of the increased confidence in the schemes being supported.

2.6. Recommendation 6

Celebrate the Council's achievements and consider sharing learning and good practice with the wider local government sector.

The peer team thinks the Council has come a long way and is now in a good place with its transformation and improvement agenda. It would therefore encourage the Council to promote its achievements across the local government sector so that others can learn and benefit from these achievements. There is much to celebrate, and the Council should take every opportunity to do so.

3. Summary of the peer challenge approach

3.1. The peer team

Peer challenges are delivered by experienced elected Member and officer peers. The make-up of the peer team reflected the focus of the peer challenge and peers were selected on the basis of their relevant expertise. The peers were:

- **Professor Steven Broomhead, MBE** (Chief Executive - Warrington Borough Council)
- **Councillor Shabir Pandor** - (Leader - Kirklees Council)
- **Stephen Young** - (Chief Executive - Halton Borough Council)
- **Christina Thompson** - (Director of Finance and Property - London Borough of Lambeth)
- **Helen Reeves** - (Programme Manager - LGA)
- **Satvinder Rana** - (Programme Manager - LGA)

3.2. Scope and focus

The peer team considered the following five themes which form the core components of all Corporate Peer Challenges. These areas are critical to councils' performance and improvement.

1. **Local priorities and outcomes** - Are the Council's priorities clear and informed by the local context? Is the Council delivering effectively on its priorities?
2. **Organisational and place leadership** - Does the Council provide effective local leadership? Are there good relationships with partner organisations and local communities?
3. **Governance and culture** - Are there clear and robust governance arrangements? Is there a culture of challenge and scrutiny?
4. **Financial planning and management** - Does the Council have a grip on its current financial position? Does the Council have a strategy and a plan to address its financial challenges?
5. **Capacity for improvement** - Is the organisation able to support delivery of local priorities? Does the Council have the capacity to improve?

In addition to these questions, the Council specifically asked the peer team to provide feedback on the following:

- i. What more needs to be done to build leadership, management and workforce capacity to deliver Doncaster Delivering Together (DDT)?

- ii. What more needs to be done to communicate and embed the DDT priorities – in the Council, across Team Doncaster and in communities?
- iii. What more can be done to strengthen the Council's approach to securing additional investment, developing delivery plans and implementing them?
- iv. What further critical success factors, risks and opportunities need to be considered in rolling out localities working?
- v. How the Council's risk management culture and arrangements need to evolve to deliver the DDT priorities?

3.3. The peer challenge process

Peer challenges are improvement focused; it is important to stress that this was not an inspection. The process is not designed to provide an in-depth or technical assessment of plans and proposals. The peer team used their experience and knowledge of local government to reflect on the information presented to them by people they met, things they saw and material that they read.

The peer team prepared by reviewing a range of documents and information in order to ensure they were familiar with the council and the challenges it is facing. The team then spent three days onsite at Doncaster Council, during which they:

- Gathered information and views from around 35 meetings, in addition to further research and reading.
- Spoke to around 120 people including a range of council staff together with Members and external stakeholders.

This report provides a summary of the peer team's findings. In presenting feedback, they have done so as fellow local government officers and Members.

4. Feedback

4.1. Local priorities and outcomes

The Council is now firmly focused on creating a more prosperous, skilled, creative, healthy and resilient Borough. It has developed strong, honest and trustworthy relationships with its partners through 'Team Doncaster' - and with its local

communities - and has developed a new Borough strategy called 'Doncaster Delivering Together' which sets out both long terms ambitions as well as what needs to be done 'here and now'.

Its mission 'Thriving People, Places and Planet' is driven by six well-being goals covering a fair and inclusive economy with a greener and cleaner environment, a skilled and creative local workforce taking up opportunities in a prosperous and connected Borough that provides a safe home to healthy and resilient citizens who are members of compassionate communities.

The Borough strategy is backed up with Doncaster Council's Corporate Plan for 2022-23 which details the Council's response to becoming a regenerative Council and borough, delivering multiple wellbeing goals whilst tackling the climate change emergency and reducing inequalities during 2022-23. This plan is designed to help deliver the new Borough strategy.

These documents provide a compelling vision and clear priorities to deliver the Council's ambitions for Doncaster. The policy and strategic framework to deliver these ambitions for the Borough is strong and impressive and is designed to transform the place, its people, its prospects and its potential. The desire to pursue an inclusive and regenerative wellbeing economy that strikes a balance between people and place as well as between development and protection of the environment is clear and commendable.

There is high level of understanding and buy-in to the Council's ambitions and priorities within the organisation and among strategic partners. Many of the essential structures to help deliver the Borough strategy are in place and maturing into collaborative and high performing delivery mechanisms. For example, there is stability in the political and managerial leadership of the Council with shared ownership of the strategy. This is backed up with strong relationships with partners and key stakeholders who are aligned with the vision for the Borough. There are also good links into regional and sub-regional structures such as the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA) to help bring in investment and financial resources.

Whilst the strategic planning is informed by good external and evidence-based thinking, it is important to decipher some of the key messages into simplified

language and communicate in a more tailored and targeted manner to ensure that everybody understands their place and role in delivering the vision and priorities.

Therefore, further work needs to be done to ensure that staff and partners at all levels understand the vision and priorities as they apply to them. This can be done by breaking down the strategy into actual delivery plans with clear priorities so people can see exactly what economic growth plans are being pursued, where regeneration and development will take place, and what outcomes people are likely to see in terms of inclusive growth.

Progress is being made on this through the service delivery plans, and once they get cascaded down to team plans and into employee work plans the 'golden thread' will be strengthened.

There is wide recognition that Doncaster is a 'place of places' consisting of localities with different needs which the Council is increasingly focusing on. This is being reflected in the Council's new Localities Strategy that aims to steer a more focused approach to working with and delivering services in the different localities. Locality Plans and Ward budgets to support specific local issues and priorities financially are now in place. This dedicated and flexible resource is hugely valued by frontline Members to encourage resident-led activities and is starting to have positive impacts on localities. As this approach matures, there could be further opportunities to devolve more powers to localities.

The Council has made a strong start to delivering on its ambitions. It has already delivered some impressive initiatives such as the Complex Lives Programme, Get Doncaster Moving, a New University Technical College, 1,900 new homes, a new Library and Museum, the new railway station forecourt and entrance to the Urban Core, and many others. It has also improved education attainments levels and employment rates among the local population. The Council is prioritising activity across the Borough particularly in Stainforth, Edlington and Mexborough and going forward it will need to continue to maximise opportunities to regenerate communities across the Borough to complement the work that is taking place in the town centre.

In talking to key stakeholders, including residents, the peer team picked up a level of perception amongst them that regeneration opportunities and delivery are too town centre focused. Whilst this may not be wholly true, the perception should be

corrected. This can be done by highlighting future plans, actual delivery and outcomes achieved in localities, as well as communicating the ripple effect investment in the town centre is likely to have on other areas. Going forward, the Council will need to ensure that service delivery performance and its messaging clearly demonstrates the link from the vision to the impact being made in local areas and communities.

There is pride and a strong sense of place and identity among Members, staff and partners; and they understand their role and responsibilities in place-shaping and improving the lives of local people. This means the Council has very good ambassadors in its workforce which can be used even more effectively to send positive messages out into local communities and can start making that link between what is being delivered against the priorities and the opportunities this presents to local communities.

Elected Members also have a major part to play in communicating the plans and holding officers and partners to account for their delivery. This will call for two-way communication to be strengthened. The Council has been very good in transmitting messages to residents and has used a variety of mechanisms to do this, its next challenge is to amplify the routes through which residents can communicate back and receive feedback on their suggestions and areas of concern.

4.2. Organisational and place leadership

Doncaster Council has very strong political and managerial leadership provided by the elected Mayor and her Cabinet and by the Chief Executive and his senior management team, respectively. The balance between political and external leadership and the managerial and organisational leadership provided by the elected Mayor and Chief Executive are major strengths. They are both very well regarded and valued internally and externally. People speak highly of them and of their vision and commitment to transforming Doncaster and Doncaster Council.

There is very visible commitment to shared, collaborative and distributive leadership in Doncaster and this is being demonstrated through stakeholder engagement in developing and delivering the Council's priorities. There are very strong, honest and trustworthy partner relationships in place which are driven by shared values and pragmatism. Partners all spoke highly of the Council and felt informed, engaged and

supported. There is ownership and buy-in among all strategic partners to the ambitions and strategy as outlined in ‘Doncaster Delivering Together’ and this is a major strength. The ‘Team Doncaster’ concept is particularly valued by partners as it has enabled the co-design and co-shaping of the Borough strategy.

There is now an opportunity to re-evaluate and re-set the relationship with Parish and Town Councils and bring them on-board through a co-designed and co-produced framework for future engagement to align with the new Localities Strategy. This will help to strengthen the relationship with Town and Parish Councils, facilitate better engagement and promote shared ownership of ambitions for Doncaster so that they become key strategic partners for delivery in localities.

Doncaster Council has an excellent record of attracting external funding and demonstrating civic entrepreneurship. For example, it has secured two ‘Town Deals’ – one for the town centre and one for Stainforth in the East of the Borough. It has also secured resources for priority projects through the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS), a successful round 1 Levelling Up Fund bid (LUF) as well as receiving most of its Community Renewal Fund (CRF) ask.

In addition, the Council, together with its partners, made a successful bid for ‘City Status’ for Doncaster and this was awarded as part of this year’s Queen’s Platinum Jubilee celebrations. This award could provide an opportunity for economic growth, development and creating an even more positive profile for the Borough that will help to attract inward investment and maintain more balanced local demographics by retaining young people in the area through quality jobs.

There are strong foundations in place for moving forward with the Integrated Care System (ICS) and the Integrated Care Provider (ICP) change agenda and bring commissioners and providers together to oversee and manage improvements in services and health outcomes for local people. These foundations have been built on good relations with NHS, Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Health Providers. Public Health is well embedded and aligned to the community regeneration planning and delivery framework and is starting to make a positive difference to the challenges of health inequalities post pandemic.

The Council has also taken care to ensure its workforce has been supported as evidenced through its success in winning the ‘Best Health and Wellbeing Initiative’

award at the Excellence in People Management Awards 2022.

The Council still has challenges to overcome in its Children's Services. The OFSTED inspection of Children's Services in February 2022 determined that overall effectiveness requires improvement to be good. This comprised of judgements on the experiences and progress of children who need help and protection that requires improvement to be good; the experiences and progress of children in care and care leavers that requires improvement to be good; and the impact of leaders on social work practice with children and families that was Inadequate. It also stated that "senior leaders in Doncaster Council and Doncaster Children's Services Trust have together overseen a decline in the quality and impact of services for children, young people and their families since the last inspection in 2017".

In advance of the inspection the Council intervened to address this decline, which was acknowledged in the Ofsted Inspection report. During this period the Council and Children's Services Trust acknowledged the need to transfer services back into the Council so that it can bring positive changes by having a clear line of sight to practice quality, performance, and children's progress and experiences. The implications of this decision and its associated risks are understood but will require continued detailed attention until positive outcomes for Children are being achieved and get embedded into the organisation in a sustainable way.

4.3. Governance and culture

Doncaster Council is a well-run council with strong, robust and transparent governance and decision-making arrangements in place. Overview and Scrutiny works well and is supported within the Council. It is complemented by scrutiny panels that can deep-dive into organisational challenges on specific policy themes. The Audit Committee also works well, is effective and provides the appropriate challenge and assurance; and there are clear strategic risk management arrangements in place.

In view of all these positives, the peer team thinks the time might be right to reassess, with Members, the organisation's risk appetite and be bolder in a managed way. This is particularly the case in pushing forward with some of its regeneration ambitions by investing the Council's resources in its flagship projects to provide seed funding and to help attract further private and public sector investments by

demonstrating greater confidence and commitment in these schemes.

There is an abundance of energy, enthusiasm in the organisation, and this is supported by a strong and positive 'can-do and will deliver' organisational culture. The peer team found the Council to be welcoming, passionate and engaging and people are working together to get things done and solve problems for their local communities. Staff seemed committed, motivated, resilient, empowered, and adaptive with a strong sense of pride in the organisation. People have a strong affinity to the 'place of places' and are working together to get things done and solve problems for their local communities - they want to do the best they can for the Borough and its residents.

The Council is refreshing its core values and once agreed it would be good to see these communicated throughout the organisation and senior leaders demonstrating these through their behaviours and actions.

Member and officer relationships are strong, supportive and productive with a clear focus on collective outcomes. Members use advice from officers to make quality decisions. There is good Member and staff training and development in place and this is supported by a Member Development Programme and a Leadership and Management Development Framework.

There is an opportunity to further engage frontline Members in delivering the Council's ambitions and strengthen cross-party working at local levels through the localities working approach. Similarly, there is an opportunity to further embed the Councillor casework system, so all Members are utilising it productively and not bypassing the system.

The Council has an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Framework in place, and this sets out its EDI objectives, arrangements and commitment for embedding equality, diversity and inclusion into everything it does. The EDI Framework links directly to the strategic ambitions set out in the Borough Strategy and the Corporate Plan and focuses on key social objectives for 2022-26 which have been based on an analysis of risks, resident feedback and current performance challenges with the aim of improving specific outcomes for different demographic groups. These objectives include better connecting the boroughs most deprived communities to jobs, skills and economic opportunity, tackling domestic abuse, and improving the life chances of

children in care.

Several EDI activities have been delivered and further activities are planned. The council should build on these foundations, and it does recognise there is more to do to ensure that all groups benefit from not just investments in services but also the economy and access to education, training and good quality jobs – including those within the Council. The recent additional £750,000 investment in apprenticeships will support these aims. These activities are complemented by other routine EDI activities which includes staff training and an events calendar that celebrates a diverse range of events throughout the year.

Going forward, the peer team would recommend that the Council further develops a culture of continuous reflection and realistic organisational critique in all areas so that it remains on a continuous journey of improvement.

4.4. Financial planning and management

Doncaster Council has had a good record of financial management over the last few years with a positive outturn position being achieved for the last four financial years, including for 2021/22. It is financially stable and has largely delivered its efficiency savings. There is a proactive and anticipatory approach to financial planning that is backed up with good governance arrangements. It has a comprehensive budget monitoring approach alongside performance management against objectives, giving a sound basis for financial decision making. Members are presented with a comprehensive set of reports setting out the Revenue Budget, Capital Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy.

Managing budgets for social care continues to be a challenge as a consequence of demand. Increased academisation of schools, the Fair Funding Review, Business Rates reset, and rapid inflation will present future financial challenges and risks to the Council. However, these are acknowledged and are being planned for.

The Council has an established Medium-Term Financial Strategy up to 2024/25 and is successfully delivering savings targets to deliver a balanced budget. It appears to be sighted on the future service pressures and funding uncertainty and is planning accordingly. Inflation assumptions for pay and prices are clear and quantified and set out in comparison with inflation indices. Grant payments to third sector bodies are

also separately projected over the next three years. There is a clear explanation of the approach to fees and charges, along with details of proposals for above inflation rises in charges and for newly proposed fees and charges. A comprehensive list of reserves is provided which distinguishes between restricted reserves, specifically allocated reserves and the general fund reserve designed to cover overall risks.

A risk assessment of the Council's level of reserves is carried out each financial year, when setting the budget and updating the financial plan. It is updated regularly during the financial year as part of the formal financial management reporting process. The risk assessment is based on the following key factors: -

- a) a review of known provisions and contingent liabilities
- b) the likelihood of overspend for either revenue or capital
- c) the likelihood of any additional income that would be credited to reserves; d) the robustness of the Council's revenue budget proposals
- d) the adequacy of funding for the Capital Programme
- e) any potential significant expenditure items for which explicit funding has not yet been identified.

To deliver the Borough strategy, the Council has been shifting its focus from being a financially led council to becoming a "financially considerate policy-led council". It is currently putting money into its street-scene work, net zero carbon ambitions, capitalising its investments to attract further investments, and adopting a rationalised mixed approach to programme development.

The Council is making every pound count and is making a very challenging financial position work for itself. It has a good record of attracting external funding and investing on its priorities. Going forward, the Council should consider how best it can use this external funding to leverage additional private sector investments. This may mean taking a degree of risk to seed fund future council investment proposals by weighing up social value returns as well as financial returns – the culture and practice of the Council should allow this to happen.

4.5. Capacity for improvement and delivery

There is an incredible sense of purpose and public service among Members and

officers at all levels in Doncaster Council. This is helping to harness and deploy capacity to deliver against a very ambitious agenda. The Council made a good start to delivering its ambitions, however it has been disrupted by floods, wildfire, COVID, and now by the energy and cost-of-living crises

These emergency situations, together with the strategic agenda and the renewed emphasis on the concept of the 'Regenerative Borough/Council' is beginning to give rise to organisational fatigue and overload that is resulting in a strain on capacity. If left unaddressed this strain on capacity will sap up a lot of organisational energy and slow down progress.

The peer team would therefore encourage the Council to develop clear mitigation measures to ease the strain and would recommend the following actions:

- i. The Council should pause and reflect on the development of strategies and consolidate what it already has in place
- ii. To achieve the outcomes, it should make sure there are clear implementation plans and annual delivery targets in place that are understood by staff and partners across all service areas
- iii. It should recognise the widespread issues in recruitment and retention, especially around key skills, and address these through renewed workforce planning
- iv. It should identify services and projects that can be concluded and stop doing things that are no longer necessary
- v. Bring clarity through management and staff guidance on how agile and flexible working and the collaborative usage of buildings will work in practice for the whole workforce.

In addition to this and in view of national pay negotiations, recruitment and retention, and other HR issues, it will require the Council to reset its relationship, consultation and communication arrangements with the Trade Unions.

ADDITIONAL AREAS OF FOCUS

What more needs to be done to build leadership, management and workforce capacity to deliver Doncaster Delivering Together (DDT)?

Invest in training, development and effective team working at senior officer levels; develop workforce resilience including consideration of organisational fatigue and recruitment challenges; and stop doing things that are no longer part of the strategic agenda or its priorities.

What more needs to be done to communicate and embed the DDT priorities – in the Council, across Team Doncaster and in communities?

Simplifying the language used in communicating and the targeting of key messages; recognising digital exclusion for some members of communities; addressing the perception that regeneration is town centre focused by highlighting future plans, actual delivery and outcomes achieved in localities; clearly communicating the expected benefits to localities and their communities of the Council's actions; demonstrating achievements and impacts being made in localities and among communities; and amplify the routes through which residents can communicate back and receive feedback on their suggestions and areas of concern. Review the relationships with Parish Councils as they clearly have a role to play in the Council's locality aspirations.

What more can be done to strengthen the Council's approach to securing additional investment, developing delivery plans and implementing them?

Taking a degree of risk to seed fund future council investment proposals by weighing up social value returns as well as financial returns; ensuring the culture and practice of the Council allows this to happen in a managed way; injecting greater confidence among external investors by demonstrating clear political commitment to projects; and developing clear and focused delivery plans in all service areas.

What further critical success factors, risks and opportunities need to be considered in rolling out localities working?

Simple evidence that shows what positive difference localities working is making to local communities. Communities and Ward Councillors will need to see tangible

impact.

How the Council's risk management culture and arrangements need to evolve to deliver the DDT priorities?

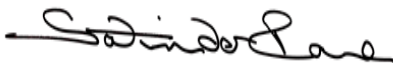
Take the opportunity to reassess corporate risk appetite and ensure robust governance, decision-making and risk assessment arrangements remain in place to enable Members to make the right decisions based on evidence and timely information.

5. Next steps

It is recognised that senior political and managerial leadership will want to consider, discuss and reflect on these findings.

Both the peer team and LGA are keen to build on the relationships formed through the peer challenge. The CPC process includes a six-month check-in meeting. This will be a short, facilitated session which creates space for the council's senior leadership to update peers on its progress against the action plan and discuss next steps.

In the meantime, Mark Edgell, Principal Adviser for East Midlands, Yorkshire & Humber and North-East, is the main contact between Doncaster Council and the Local Government Association. Mark is available to discuss any further support the Council requires. His contact details are: Email: mark.edgell@local.gov.uk Tel: 07747 636 910.



Satvinder Rana
Programme Manager

(On behalf of the peer team)

This page is intentionally left blank



Doncaster Council

Health and Wellbeing Board First Health Annual Report 2021/22

Date: 14th July, 2022

To the Chair and Members of the Council

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Cllr Rachael Blake	All	No

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The 2021/22 Health and Wellbeing report Annual Report is the first annual report compiled by Louise Robson on behalf of Health and Wellbeing Board members.
2. This report provides an overview of the work received by the Health and Wellbeing Board and provides a flavour of the work undertaken between June 2021 and June 2022.
3. The report includes the roles and responsibilities of the Health and Wellbeing Board and its statutory duties: understanding Doncaster – the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment and an update on the Health and Wellbeing Board as a system sponsor for research. Attendance at the Board has been challenging in 2020/21 as virtual meetings were replaced by statutory face to face meetings. Where individual Board members are unable to attend, they are allowed to send deputies. This may be difficult at short notice.
4. The report also provides an update on the course of the global COVID-19 pandemic in Doncaster in 2021 and a number of updates using the three life course approaches, Starting Well, Living Well and Ageing Well. The report also demonstrates ways of working including Get Doncaster Moving, compassionate approaches to weight, arts and health and the Well Doncaster area of work. Finally, the report points to the need to implement the new borough strategy Doncaster Delivering Together.
5. There are several key areas that were highlighted in the report including lessons to be learnt from the COVID -19 pandemic including
 - Doncaster people, families, communities, businesses, groups and institutions have all still pulled together really well. In the second year

of the pandemic, the numbers of people able to volunteer has reduced as people return to work, although many have found ways of continuing.

- The importance of 'Key workers' was reinforced during the first national lockdown, but abuse and aggression to key workers has increased as the pandemic as continued.
- Not everyone was impacted equally or is still being impacted equally. Existing inequalities, poverty and social exclusion were highlighted, and the following impacts were felt differently locally
 - Impacts directly from COVID-19
 - Long term physical and mental health impacts of COVID-19 infection (long COVID)
 - Impacts of overwhelmed health services and delays to treatment
 - Impacts of changes to health services
 - Impacts of lockdown and other measures
 - Impacts on particular communities and groups including women, people from ethnic minorities and carers
 - Ongoing impacts on accessing health and care services due to the initial disruption and now increased demand on health and care services (especially people with diabetes, or suffering with poor mental health, self-harm or depression).
- Many of the working practices that the health and care system developed at the start of the pandemic have continued, but workforce shortages and staff 'burnout' are bigger challenges for the system now than money.
- National decision makers are still too remote and lack the local knowledge needed for many decisions including the implementation and relaxation of lockdowns, supporting local schools and the return of elite sporting events.
- Pandemic preparation should still not be neglected. This includes better understanding of how local people live their lives, investment in health protection, establishing clear, agile, system leadership and supporting better data to aid management as well as increasing transparency. Local surveillance, responding to new threats (or variants), communication that avoids polarisation and politicisation, and planning on how to support people through 'infodemics' of overwhelming amounts of information all need review. This could involve health and media literacy, fact checking websites, critically looking at media sources and reviewing the role of the curriculum.
- Health and the economy are still intrinsically linked and the best way to address the pandemic is good for both health and the economy.

6. Other key areas highlighted in the report :
7. Starting Well – the importance of looking at mental health in children and young people is highlighted more so with the impact of covid-19; the children and young people’s strategy was presented at the board and the mental health in schools strategy. The importance of 1001 days has been a thread throughout and the vulnerable adolescents pilot the Child Death Overview Panel report with future recommendations and the endorsement of the annual safeguarding report for children and young people are also key areas for the Starting Well theme.
8. Living Well – many areas are covered in this section including the mental health transformation agenda (adults), the learning disability and autism strategy; substance misuse developments in the past and future years; homelessness and rough sleeping strategy and delivery plans; the carers charter including young carers; problem gambling and the endorsement of the annual safeguarding reports (adults).
9. Ageing Well – a number of areas are highlighted in the report including updates on the urgent community response, enhanced health care in care homes and anticipatory care. The report provides an update on the Dementia services and the Dementia Collaborative (which provides a voice for those with dementia and their carers); the Social Isolation Alliance with over fifty five members and age friendly Doncaster - a compassionate and positive approach to ageing across the borough.
10. Ways of Working – the report provides updates on different ways of working including the arts and health agenda and examples of creative work with a wide range of groups and a ten year vision for Doncaster, the compassionate approach to weight including development of resources and two public consultations; Physical activity and Get Doncaster Moving ; Well Doncaster including community centred approaches, community wealth builder; Be Well Doncaster; Appreciative Inquiry and Local Solutions Community Investment fund and finally the latest updates on the Better Care Fund.
11. The report concludes with seven next steps/recommendations for Doncaster Health and Wellbeing Board and partners:
 - (1) Address health inequalities, reviewing access to services including primary care, health outcomes by population groups and establish a Fairness and Wellness commission
 - (2) Continue to use the life course approach to coordinate activity and track progress. Agree a set of ‘Deep Dives’ within the life course approaches (e.g. children and young people’s mental health, homelessness, substance misuse and dementia)
 - (3) Increase the voice of local residents in the Health and Wellbeing Board and refresh the Health and Wellbeing strategy
 - (4) Develop effective working arrangements with the new health system structures and local Voluntary, Community and Faith groups

(5) Agree delivery responsibilities for Doncaster Delivery Together with the new Team Doncaster partnership structures

(6) Continue to build on the compassionate and community centred approaches seen in Get Doncaster Moving, Well Doncaster and the compassionate approach to weight and develop joint investment approaches to health and wellbeing.

(7) Continue to receive Children Safeguarding, Adult Safeguarding and Child Death Overview Panel Annual Reports.

EXEMPT REPORT

12. No

RECOMMENDATIONS

13. Council is asked to NOTE and PUBLISH the report.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

14. The publication of this report demonstrates the council's commitment to its leadership duties with regard to health improvement, health protection and health and social care quality.

BACKGROUND

15. The Health and Wellbeing Board has a statutory duty to improve the health and wellbeing for the residents of Doncaster and reduce inequalities in outcomes; promote integration and partnership working between the local authority, NHS and other local services and to improve the local democratic accountability of health. This first annual report provides a flavour of that work and shows the range of partnership work already taking place.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

16. No other options considered.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

17. The recommendation fulfils the Health and Wellbeing Board's updated Terms of Reference to publish an annual report.

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

18.

	Outcomes	Implications
	Doncaster Working: Our vision is for more people to be able to pursue their ambitions through work that gives them and Doncaster a brighter and	Good health and wellbeing is a contributor to increased productivity. Equally good quality work contributes to

	<p>prosperous future;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better access to good fulfilling work • Doncaster businesses are supported to flourish • Inward Investment 	<p>good health and wellbeing.</p>
	<p>Doncaster Living: Our vision is for Doncaster's people to live in a borough that is vibrant and full of opportunity, where people enjoy spending time;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The town centres are the beating heart of Doncaster • More people can live in a good quality, affordable home • Healthy and Vibrant Communities through Physical Activity and Sport • Everyone takes responsibility for keeping Doncaster Clean • Building on our cultural, artistic and sporting heritage 	<p>All these wider determinants of health improve health and wellbeing. Combining universal and targeted investment could reduce health inequalities.</p>
	<p>Doncaster Learning: Our vision is for learning that prepares all children, young people and adults for a life that is fulfilling;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every child has life-changing learning experiences within and beyond school • Many more great teachers work in Doncaster Schools that are good or better • Learning in Doncaster prepares young people for the world of work 	<p>Good health and wellbeing is a contributor to improved learning outcomes. Equally good learning outcomes contribute to good health and wellbeing.</p>
	<p>Doncaster Caring: Our vision is for a borough that cares together for its most vulnerable residents;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children have the best start in life • Vulnerable families and individuals have support from someone they trust • Older people can live well and independently in their own homes 	<p>Universal and targeted prevention approaches can improve health and reduce burdens on health and care services.</p>
	<p>Connected Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A modern, efficient and flexible workforce • Modern, accessible customer 	<p>A more connected council could support better health and wellbeing in Doncaster people and improved health and</p>

	<p>interactions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating within our resources and delivering value for money • A co-ordinated, whole person, whole life focus on the needs and aspirations of residents • Building community resilience and self-reliance by connecting community assets and strengths • Working with our partners and residents to provide effective leadership and governance 	<p>wellbeing in the workforce could increase the effectiveness of the council.</p>
--	---	--

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

19. There are no specific risks associated with this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials SRF Date 20.06.22]

20. Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWBs) were established under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 to act as a forum in which key leaders from the local health and care system could work together to improve the health and wellbeing of their local population.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials: HR Date: 20/06/22]

21. There are no specific financial implications arising as a result of this report.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials EL Date: 22/06/22]

22. There are no specific human resource implications with this report.

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials PW Date 16/06/22]

23. There are no specific technology implications with this report.

HEALTH IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials LR Date 21/06/2022]

24. There are no additional health implications in this report.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials LR Date 21/06/2022.]

25. This report continues to identify reducing health inequalities and addressing fairness as one of five building blocks for health and wellbeing. Health varies across the Borough and is associated with deprivation, with those living in the most affluent parts of the Borough perceiving, experiencing and having better health than those living in the less affluent parts of the Borough.

CONSULTATION

26. The report has been shared with members of the Health and Wellbeing Board on 9th June 2022. No other formal consultation has been undertaken with this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

27. Doncaster Health and Wellbeing Board First Annual Report June 2021 – June 2022.

REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS

Louise Robson Public Health Theme Lead
01302 735014 louise.robson@doncaster.gov.uk

Dr Rupert Suckling
Director of Public Health

This page is intentionally left blank



—

STARTING WELL
LIVING WELL
AGEING WELL

—

—

Doncaster Health and
Wellbeing Board

First Annual Report

June 2021- June 2022

Contents

- 02 Acknowledgements
- 03 Welcome
- 04 The Doncaster Health and Wellbeing Board
- 05 Covid-19 update
- 06 Understanding Doncaster
- 06 Health and Wellbeing across the Life Course
 - Starting Well
 - Living Well
 - Ageing Well
- 15 Ways of Working
- 19 Next steps for 22/23
- 20 Contacts

Acknowledgements

Thank you to the following people for their contributions to the development of the first Health and Wellbeing Board annual report:

Doncaster Council
Councillor Rachael Blake
Dr Rupert Suckling
Jon Gleek
Allan Wiltshire
Lee Golze
Mark Wakefield
Susan Hampshaw
Julia King
Helen Conroy
Carrie Wardle
Angela Harrington
Angelique Choppin
Andy Maddox
Jodie Bridger
Vanessa Powell-Hoyland and Well Doncaster team
Jonathan Goodrum
Emma Nicholas-Hernandez
Claire Hewitt
Lois Murtuja/Gemma Parkinson/
communications team
Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group
Dr David Crichton
Jo Forrestall
Voluntary and Community sector
Lucy Robertshaw (Darts)
*Report compiled by Louise Robson/Claire Hewitt on behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Board



Welcome



"I am delighted to welcome you to the Health and Wellbeing Board's first annual report which provides you with an opportunity to understand the challenges and achievements of the Board in 2021-2022. I would like to thank the members of the Board and their organisations for the incredible work they do day in and day out improving health and wellbeing for residents of all ages. Our work is diverse and we have constantly challenged how we currently work, what we can do differently and how can we work better together to make sure we deliver better health and wellbeing outcomes with and for our residents. Our thinking and what we do is driven by our residents, their experience and their aspirations. Our meetings are held in public and at every meeting we have a public session and I would encourage residents to take part, highlight their concerns and help the Board to understand even more what matters to your community or your group. As we move into the new Integrated Care System (ICS) the role of Health and Well Being boards will become even more important, ensuring that in the place, here in Doncaster we continue to champion and deliver what matters to Doncaster residents and our work influences the work of the ICS.

Please do get involved and contact PHEnquiries@doncaster.gov.uk for more information

Cllr Rachael Blake
Chair of Doncaster's Health and Well-being Board Portfolio holder for Childrens Social Care, Communities and Equalities



"We know that there has been considerable impact on the wellbeing of local people and our staff over the past 12 months, this has resulted in an increase in people coming forward for mental health support. The way in which services were provided had to adapt and respond to immediate needs as further waves of the coronavirus pandemic hit. I am glad to have been part of a collective Doncaster response to the challenges that we faced. One success has been the ongoing COVID-19 vaccination programme; this has provided an evergreen offer of 1st and 2nd doses, utilised pop up sites for our underserved communities, expanded further to younger age groups, offering eligible 3rd booster jabs and even 4th doses to immunosuppressed patients. Over 628,000 dose have been administered to Doncaster people! Thank you to all the local volunteers and staff who have made this happen. Looking ahead we acknowledge that there is now a need to focus on recovering the backlog of unmet need from the past two years.

Dr David Crichton
Vice Chair of Doncaster Health and Wellbeing Board

The Doncaster Health and Wellbeing Board

The Doncaster Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) is a strategic partnership which sets the vision and direction for health and wellbeing for the Borough. Its aims are to:

- Improve the health and wellbeing for the residents of Doncaster and to reduce inequalities in outcomes;
- Promote integration and partnership working between the local authority, NHS and other local services and to improve the local democratic accountability of health.

The key responsibilities/duties of the Board are:

- Assessing the health and wellbeing needs of the population.
- To oversee the development of and monitoring the implementation of a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) ensuring that issues highlighted in the strategy are taken forward by commissioners;
- Promote integrated working and partnership working between health and social care, through joined up commissioning plans.
- Take a strategic approach and promote integration across health and adult social care, children's services, including safeguarding and the wider determinants of health;
- Produce and maintain a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA).
- To receive the Doncaster Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) Annual Report.

The current membership of the Health and Wellbeing Board is:

Cllr Rachael Blake (Chair)

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

Meetings (4/5)

(Vice-Chair), Chair of Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group

Meetings (3/5)

Cllr Nigel Ball

Portfolio Holder for Public Health, Leisure, Culture and Planning

Meetings (5/5)

Director of Public Health, Doncaster Council

Meetings (5/5)

Chief Executive RDaSH

• Meetings (1/5)

Chair of Healthwatch Doncaster

Meetings (1/5)

Head of Co-Commissioning, NHS England (Yorkshire & Humber)

Meetings (0/5)

Chief Executive of Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

• Meetings (4/5)

Chief Officer DCCG

Meetings (2/5)

Director of Adults, Health & Wellbeing, Doncaster Council

Meetings (4/5)

Director of Learning, Opportunities & Skills, Doncaster Council

• Meetings (4/5)

Cllr Andrea Robinson

Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care

Meetings (4/5)

Cllr Cynthia Ransome

Conservative Group Representative

Meetings (3/5)

District Commander for Doncaster, South Yorkshire Police

• * Meetings (1/5)

Group Manager, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue

^ Meetings (2/5)

Deputy Chief Executive of Doncaster Children's Services Trust

Meetings (2/5)

Director of Economy & Environment, Doncaster Council

Meetings (0/5)

Chief Executive, St Leger Homes

Meetings (2/5)

Chief Executive, Primary Care Doncaster

Meetings (0/5)

Health and Social Care Forum Representative

Meetings (4/5)

Chief Executive, Voluntary Action Doncaster

Meetings (4/5)

* New post holder joined the Board in Jan 2022

^ New post holder joined the Board in Sept 2021

• This member has had a substitute for at least one meeting

Note: Board Members can nominate substitutes from their respective organisations to attend in their absence, so in some instances the figures in the table may include attendance by substitutes. Details of substitutes attending meetings are recorded in the formal minutes of the Board meetings, which can be viewed on the Council's website.

COVID-19 Update

In 2021/22 the COVID-19 pandemic continued to have a significant impact on the health of Doncaster people. At the start of 2021 the country went into a national lockdown in response to the Alpha variant of COVID-19. A Delta variant followed in the summer of 2021 and then as we moved into 2022 the Omicron variant arrived and by March it was the BA.2 variant of Omicron that was dominant.

The direct impacts of COVID are still felt, as people are still catching COVID-19 and despite a successful vaccine programme there are still too many avoidable infections, hospitalisations and deaths. The thoughts of the Board are with all those who lost loved ones or have been impacted by the pandemic in other ways. The disruption to people's lives, livelihoods, the services and institutions we rely on has been profound. The pandemic has unearthed and exacerbated long standing inequalities experienced by older residents, those in key worker roles, those in poverty and those from ethnic minorities. Women have borne the brunt of the pandemic as formal caring, informal caring, childcare and home schooling roles all needed to be fulfilled, at the same time as working shifts or working remotely.

In 2021 the Health and Wellbeing Board was supported by a COVID oversight board, chaired by Mayor Ros Jones, a COVID control board and a daily incident management team. In 2022 the Health and Wellbeing Board will be supported by a revamped Health Protection Board and initially a twice weekly incident management team.

Some of the lessons learnt from the first 2 years of the pandemic were highlighted in the Director of Public Health annual report 2021. These included:

- Doncaster people, families, communities, businesses, groups and institutions have all still pulled together really well. In the second year of the pandemic, the numbers of people able to volunteer has reduced as people return to work, although many have found ways of continuing.
- The importance of 'Key workers' was reinforced during the first national lockdown, but abuse and aggression to key workers has increased as the pandemic has continued.
- Not everyone was impacted equally, and many individuals and communities will continue to be impacted by the wider effects of the pandemic.

- 1 Impacts directly from COVID-19
- 2 Long term physical and mental health impacts of COVID-19 infection (long COVID)
- 3 Impacts of overwhelmed health services and delays to treatment
- 4 Impacts of changes to health services
- 5 Impacts of lockdown and other measures
- 6 Impacts on particular communities and groups including women, people from ethnic minorities and carers
- 7 Ongoing impacts on accessing health and care services due to the initial disruption and now increased demand on health and care services (especially people with diabetes, or suffering with poor mental health, self-harm or depression).

- Many of the working practices that the health and care system developed at the start of the pandemic have continued, but workforce shortages and staff 'burnout' are bigger challenges for the system now than money.
- National decision makers are still too remote and lack the local knowledge needed for many decisions including the implementation and relaxation of lockdowns, supporting local schools and the return of elite sporting events.
- Pandemic preparedness should still continue. This includes better understanding of how local people live their lives, investment in health protection, establishing clear, agile, system leadership and supporting better data to aid management as well as increasing transparency. Local surveillance, responding to new threats (or variants). Communication that is based on behavioural insights avoids polarisation in key, including a focus on supporting people to access and understand large amounts of new guidance and information. This could involve health and media literacy, fact checking websites, critically looking at media sources and reviewing the role of the curriculum.
- Health and the economy are still intrinsically linked and the best way to address the pandemic is good for both health and the economy.

Understanding Doncaster

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) developments in 2021/22

In 2018, the Board agreed a new approach to move away from lengthy and static snapshot documents to reflect the collaboration between health and care analytics teams and the growth in new Business Intelligence tools. In 2021, following the immediate impacts of the Covid-19 response, the Board agreed a refresh to this policy reflecting the impact of the pandemic but also the extent by which health inequalities had both been exposed and exacerbated by Covid-19.

Since that refreshed plan was agreed, a new suite of information has been published for the Doncaster JSNA. A new website has been set up to host a range of information – both a public facing dashboard showcasing Outcomes data profiling the Doncaster population and a growing suite of other demographic and population information.

This site can be found here:

<https://www.teamdoncaster.org.uk/jsna>

As well as these developments, the teams have been following the plan agreed at the Board and have been working together on “operations” over winter on understanding pressures and flow across the health and care system. There is also a focus on inequalities with a testbed project between the Council and Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (RDASH) looking at mental health inequalities, initially focussing on analysing data from the Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) services that support people with anxiety and depression. With the release of the 2021 Census later this calendar year, a wealth of new demographic data will become available, allowing us to understand more about our communities.

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA)

Section 128A of the National Health Service Act 2006 (NHS Act 2006) requires each health and wellbeing board to assess the need for pharmaceutical services in its area and to publish a statement of its assessment. Termed a ‘pharmaceutical needs assessment’, the NHS (Pharmaceutical Services and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013, as amended (the 2013 regulations) set out the minimum information that

must be contained within a pharmaceutical needs assessment and outline the process that must be followed in its development.

(Pharmaceutical needs assessments Information pack for local authorities: Department Health and Social care, October 2021).

The Health and Wellbeing Board has a mandatory duty to produce a Pharmaceutical Needs assessment every three years. Due to the covid-19 pandemic a decision was made nationally to defer the development and publication of PNA's until 1st October 2022. The current PNA refresh is underway and will be published on the council web site by October 2022.

Research and the Health and Wellbeing Board

The Health and Well Being Board is the system sponsor for research. During 2021/22, Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust and Doncaster Council have worked together on the Born and Bred in Doncaster (BaBi-D) research programme (<https://www.dbth.nhs.uk/babi-d/>).

Expert research support is provided by our partner universities – the University of Sheffield and Sheffield Hallam University – and the programme aims to help improve the health and wellbeing of children and families across Doncaster maintaining a strong focus on health inequalities and inclusion. In the next few months, the BaBi D project will begin to invite pregnant women to join the project and allow health researchers to join together routinely collected data about them and their baby. The data provided from this cohort study will help us to gain a better understanding of what local families want and need from healthcare services across the borough. We are part of the Born and Bred in (BaBi) network of local electronic birth cohort studies which includes Wakefield, Leeds and Bradford. This network is supported through the Born in Bradford for All (BiB4All) centre.

Health and Wellbeing across the Life Course

The Board has adopted three overarching periods of life, starting well, living well and ageing well to organise its work.



Starting Well

The health and wellbeing of children, young people and their families was severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures taken to 'protect the NHS'.

Service delivery, in response to mental health concerns due to the pandemic were accelerated throughout the past year and in response to an increase in the number of young people presenting at A&E with mental health needs a Social Emotional and Mental Health proactive monitoring group was established. This ensures appropriate services are involved in planning support around the young person including a Mental Health in schools strategy and further support for young people with eating disorders. The children and young people's Mental Health Strategy has been to the Board with an initial one year action plan for change. As a partnership, we have adopted three key principles: 'Reflective, Resilient, Responsive' as the traits we are aiming to embed across all of our service areas in order to achieve the best possible outcomes for children and young people across Doncaster. The application of these three principles will enable us make evidence informed commissioning decisions and build a robust system in which each-and-every Doncaster resident can have complete confidence.

Two areas of the Doncaster Place Plan continue to be delivered the 1001 days and Vulnerable adolescents pilot. The first year of the pilot for the first '1001 days' of life has been embedded. Evaluation of the impact of an integrated offer for parents and families is underway. General feedback from families is that they value the service and are finding input from the professional useful and timely.

The Vulnerable Adolescents pilot has now moved into the implementation phase there is an immediate need, exacerbated by the pandemic, to develop system wide practice to support adolescents as they enter the more uncertain, more complex and more risk taking world of independence.

Work is on track for the majority of areas including the development of the service specification for the post diagnostic offer for Neuro-developmental pathways. Sub-contracting has also begun with Healios (online provider) to reduce the time waiting for assessment on the Children's Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder pathway. The 5-19 Healthy Child Programme has been recommissioned.

The Early Help offer continues to embed co-ordinated support and evidence-based interventions, through a practice framework across agencies. Young Carers remains a priority service area.

A couple of areas were delayed due to capacity issues and restrictions caused by the pandemic including the service specification for Children's Community Nursing and Children's Therapies. Elements of the Future Placements strategy relating to short breaks overnight provision and the development of in house care homes were delayed due to a buoyant property market following lockdown and social care focus on delivery of front line service and practice over the last year.

Plans are in place to accelerate these areas in next year's plan.

Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

Every Local Authority and their partners have a process to immediately respond to any child death in their place. Places also have a responsibility to conduct a review of the death, in Doncaster this is carried out by the CDOP and from September 2020 now reports to the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Doncaster CDOP operates as one of four CDOPs in South Yorkshire and its primary focus is to confirm the cause of death and whether there were any modifiable factors that could have been addressed.

In January 2022 the 2020/21 SY CDOP report was presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board. Areas of focus for 2021/22 included improving bereavement to family members and siblings following the death of a child, continually improving data capture as the electronic National Child Mortality Database develops, to review how factors relating to social deprivation are captured. Rotherham MBC has hosted the South Yorkshire CDOP in 2021/22.

Safeguarding

In 2021 the Board noted the Doncaster Safeguarding Children Partnership's Annual Report.



Living Well

Mental Health

A mapping exercise of community based assets through the lens of mental health support has been completed and will inform the developing delivery plans linked to the national mental health transformation agenda of which two key areas of focus will be i) Housing and Support especially for those in transitions and Complex Rehabilitation and Recovery pathways and ii) the development and coordination of the mapped mental health community assets and resources as part of the prevention and recovery pathway work.

Learning Disability and Autism

Delivery of Doncaster's All Age Learning Disability and Autism Strategy (2021-2024) has continued during 2021/22 across a range of work streams including:

- Diagnosis of Autism
- Education and Inclusion
- Employment
- Carers and Short Breaks
- Housing & Support

A further work stream focussed on Preparing for Adulthood will commence during 2022.

Substance Misuse

A full substance misuse update will be presented at the June 2022 Health and Wellbeing Board.

Over the past year multiple short term funded pilots have been progressing:

- Aspire/Riverside substance misuse integrated supported housing pilot; to July 2022
- Universal Criminal Justice allocation; to July 2022
- Regional Inpatient detoxification allocation; to July 2022, £853K for Yorkshire & Humber regionally, with Doncaster as lead local authority for consortium of 11 Local Authorities
- Families intervention work: to April 2023, funded by local Public Health Allocation
- Rough Sleeping Drug and Alcohol Treatment Grant; to April 2023

Following the Dame Carol Black review, a 10 year national drug strategy has been published, and Doncaster has received notification that there will be an additional three year funding settlement for substance misuse to 2024/25.

The priorities and proposed operational plans to utilise the additional funds will be worked up via the Substance Misuse Theme Group, endorsed by the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership and also presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board for endorsement in June 2022.

Homelessness and Rough Sleeping

Work has progressed under each of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy delivery plans – Prevention, Accommodation and Care and Support. This includes convening of a range of multi-agency forums to drive forward delivery including:

- Convening of a Housing First (HF) Steering Group focussed on the expansion of Doncaster's HF offer to reduce the numbers of rough sleepers in Doncaster
- Homelessness Prevention Working Group (including a Private Rented Sector sub group) to focus on initiatives to prevent rough sleeping and homelessness in the first instance e.g. averting tenancy breakdowns/evictions

Doncaster has secured a range of Office of Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID, formerly Public Health England) funding linked to homelessness and rough sleeping totalling £1.5m in 21/22, which has supported delivery of local plans. During recent months, Doncaster has seen a reduction in numbers of people rough sleeping, which mirrors the national trend. However, there is further work to do to ensure that repeat and/or entrenched rough sleepers have a more appropriate accommodation and support offer. To this end, a multi-agency assessment hub is being introduced as an 'off the street offer' for this cohort during 2022/23.

Carers charter

Since the Health and Wellbeing Board agreed to sign the Carers Charter, the Carer's Service, Carers Lead and Carers have completed the Mind the Gap project around improving ethnic minority carers access to GPs surgeries; this has led to improved training for primary care staff, reduced health inequalities through improved access and raised carer awareness.

The young carers and adult carer services' have improved support available for young adult carers through a short term initiative, funded through NHS England which has led to an improved young adult carer pathway and protocol and more active support to help with transition from children to adult services.

Carers have co-produced an improved carers wellbeing service and, through tender, have identified the successful provider – the new service which offers preventative support, carers assessments and Carers Direct Payments will go live in April 2022.

Carers, alongside the Carers Strategic Lead are currently in the process of finalising the All Age Carers Strategy for 2022-2025 this will be launched in April 2022.

Harmful/Problem Gambling

Gambling harms don't just affect the person gambling, they affect families, friends and communities. Gambling can lead to debt, unemployment, mental illness, relationship and family problems, homelessness and crime.

This list is not exhaustive, problem gambling can ruin lives with some individuals feeling the only way out is to end their lives.

There are 58 registered betting premises in Doncaster. This includes betting shops, bingo halls, tracks and adult gaming centres. This is the total number of currently licenced premises (as at January 2022) and includes those that are vacant and not currently in use. The majority of which are located in areas of deprivation.

In October 2021 Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID), formerly PHE published their 'Gambling-related harms: evidence review' noting that in 2018, 24.5 million people in England gambled (54% of the adult population). It found that men are more likely to gamble than women and this difference is most obvious for online gambling where 15% of men participate, compared to 4% of women. They estimated that, based on 2018 figures, 0.5% of the population reached the threshold to be considered problem gamblers, and that 3.8% of the population are classified as at-risk gamblers.

Based on ONS population projections for 2021 in Doncaster (age 15+) this means we are likely to have 1294 problem gamblers and 9832 at risk gamblers in Doncaster.

In order to focus in on the potential issue in Doncaster, Public Health facilitates a Gambling and Financial Inclusion working group whose purpose is to bring together partners to work collectively to raise awareness of problem/harmful gambling across the borough.

The group is in the process of updating its Action Plan for the forthcoming year, which will focus on:

- Leadership and partnership
- Influencing the regulatory environment
- Reducing exposure of vulnerable people to gambling products
- Improving identification and recognition of problem gambling
- Protecting children & young people from gambling related harm
- Workplace health and wellbeing
- Building and sharing the evidence base

Safeguarding

In 2021 the Board noted the Doncaster Safeguarding Adults Board's Annual Report.



Ageing Well

In 2021-22, we continued to work in partnership with our colleagues across health and social care to further develop services so everyone has the opportunity to age well, have a good quality of life and to be able to live as long and as independently as possible. A good quality of older life has been described as one of "well-being" where people are satisfied by having control over their lives and a sense of purpose. Well-being is not just about health and social care services, it also includes housing, transport, income, energy, education, support to stay in employment, having a social life and interaction with the community. It's about how people live the life they choose. The Pandemic has made it harder for older people to look after their physical health, they have had reduced opportunities to be physically active but also access to care and treatment has been delayed. Older people have told us that they feel that they have "aged, lost some independence and have reduced ability to do things that they enjoy doing."

The ongoing vision for Doncaster residents is that they will receive their health and social care in a cohesive, integrated, coordinated way, eliminating inefficiency and waste by providing a model that supports people remaining safely at home, wherever possible, with an increase in strength based preventative activity. This will be achieved by changing:

- From fragmented services to integrated locally based services.
- From multiple, single focused assessments to one holistic assessment.
- From multiple (sometimes conflicting care plans to one co-ordinated care plan).

The national NHS Ageing Well programme focuses on how we care for our population in the community. It's part of the NHS Long Term plan which was published in 2019 but more recently the national Covid-19 response and ongoing recovery has also highlighted the importance of providing crisis care within the community to prevent avoidable hospital admissions and accelerate the treatment of people's urgent care needs closer to home. Preventing avoidable hospital admissions is not just about bed management and managing increasing demand, as important as these are. But research is clear that even a short stay in hospital leads to physical and mental deconditioning, particularly for older people. Deconditioning refers to changes in the body that occur after a period of inactivity, such as bedrest or a sedentary lifestyle.

It can lead to people finding it difficult to accomplish normal daily activities and remain independent.

There are three elements to the programme:

- Urgent Community Response (UCR) is about ensuring that rapid crisis response care and reablement is available to all people within their homes or usual place of residence, including care homes. A two-hour crisis response is available across Doncaster. This service will continue to develop over the next 12 months to increase referrals directly from 111 and 999 as well as local health and care front line staff.
- Enhanced Health in Care Homes (EHCH) which is focused on improving the health care provision of care home residents. The EHCH model has three principle aims: 1. Delivering high-quality personalised care within care homes. 2. Providing, wherever possible, for individuals who (temporarily or permanently), live in a care home access to the right care and the right health services in the place of their choosing. 3. Enabling effective use of resources by reducing unnecessary conveyances to hospitals, hospital admissions, and bed days whilst ensuring the best care for people living in care homes. Integration and co design remained during 2021-22 bringing together partners providing care across the care home sector, moving away from traditional reactive models of care delivery towards proactive care that is centred on the needs of individual residents in a whole-system, collaborative approach. Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTs) were co-produced across multi-agencies providing physical, mental and social aspects of care ensuring that the care discussions take place in a joined-up way, as well as conducting structured medicine reviews and completing Respect and Advanced care plans.
- Anticipatory care which is about supporting people to proactively manage their health conditions and avoid a health crisis. This work has not yet commenced in Doncaster due to the pandemic, but is included within the Ageing Well delivery plan for 22/23.

Underpinning all of this is a focus on health promotion and prevention. The NHS Long Term Plan includes priority commitments to support people keeping healthier for longer, maximising the opportunities that patient contact brings to not only treat people but prevent them from getting ill in the first place.

Focus on Dementia

Progress was delayed in implementing the actions and recommendations from the Dementia Deep Dive which was undertaken during 2019-20, due to Covid-19. However the findings of the deep dive have been revisited and are still valid including prevention and awareness, early identification opportunities, elimination of variance across Doncaster, supporting patients and carers, referral, assessment and diagnosis and in post diagnostic and care planning areas. A recovery plan for dementia diagnosis is being implemented to address the decline in diagnostic rates during Covid-19.

Post Diagnostic Support - The Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Doncaster Council jointly continued to commission a dementia post and a diagnostic service across Doncaster under an Alliance Agreement. A number of organisations are involved in the Alliance including Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (RDaSH), Making Space, Alzheimer's Society, Age UK, Royal Voluntary Service and Choices 4 Doncaster. During the pandemic they have continued to support people with dementia and carers and families through the pandemic and have adapted the traditional service offer by supporting them via regular telephone contacts, Zoom group meetings which involved cookery classes, quizzes, reminiscence sessions, conversation cafés and many other activities to reduce isolation and ensure people still felt connected and supported. We are also working with the Alliance to develop a service offer to support patients' and their carer's needs whilst awaiting assessment for dementia along with improved identification and referral to ensure appropriate referrals are made for diagnosis. This will support individuals through their journey from first noticing signs and symptoms, GP referral and throughout the assessment process and will also signpost to other services to support their mental wellbeing throughout the assessment process.

A new dementia collaborative was formed in late 2021 and consists of members of organisations providing dementia services, Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group (DCCG), Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (DBTHFT) and allied health professionals, DMBC officers including Public Health and Ageing well commissioning, third sector representatives, Alzheimers Society and Donmentia.

The collaborative provides a voice for dementia patients and their carers a mechanism for further engagement around a local dementia strategy and a one stop portal for information, guidance and support.

Social Isolation Alliance (SIA)

55 organisations are members of the Social Isolation Alliance.

The Voluntary Community and Faith Sector (VCFS) Humanitarian Fund closed on the 13th October 2021. The SIA successfully devolved £325,123.04 to 50 VCFS organisations (collaboration on projects allowed 59 organisations to receive funding in total), with an estimated 25,000 residents being assisted with the funding. Each organisation had 12 months to spend the money, and we are starting to receive reports from some of the first projects that were funded in 2021.

On the 1st November, the Winter Support Fund (assisting people identified as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) with getting back to together safely over the winter period) opened and to date £24,641 has been devolved to 8 organisations. This funding has now been extended from March 2022 to March 2023.

£45,000 from the Emergency Winter Support Fund was devolved to six organisations to assist with Doncaster's Winter Plan (transport, befriending (in-person and digital), winter wellbeing packs, hygiene products, and digital, community, employment, and transport support for those with drug and alcohol problems, and complex needs). The funding runs until the end of March, and it has allowed organisations to increase their capacity to meet the increase in demand during the winter period.

The SIA is currently involved in the following:

- SIA is chair of the Central Social Isolation and Low-Level Mental Health Subgroup – focusing on ensuring that within communities there are varied and available activities to help ease social isolation / low level mental health (including identifying gaps) and identifying those that require support for social isolation / low level MH but have not yet self-referred.
- The Accelerated Evidence Based Co-Design (AEBCD) research project with Manchester Metropolitan University, the Universities of York and Aberdeen, and DMBC – this is in the 2nd phase (the co-design phase) and the groups are looking at 2 priorities: groups/support and transport.

Age Friendly Doncaster

In autumn 2021 the first age friendly festival took place across localities in Doncaster, the aim being to promote positive ageing and to start a conversation about becoming an age friendly borough. Over 18 organisations supported the event providing information and resources which included a touring bus across six locations and a series of 25 social and wellbeing activities and events at multiple locations across Doncaster. Over 330 responses during the week's events will be captured to develop a 12 month plan going forward and further links will be made across the localities.

Safeguarding

In 2021 the Board noted the Doncaster Safeguarding Adults Board's Annual Report.

Ways of Working

Doncaster Delivering Together

The Doncaster Delivering Together Strategy was agreed in September 2021 and sets out the strategic ambitions for Doncaster up to 2030. It sets out a bold ambition for Doncaster's future with a central mission for Thriving People, Places and Planet which balances the well-being of people and places with the planet.

It proposes new ways of working that respond to local needs and opportunities, seeks to reduce inequalities and improve people's well-being. There are six well-being goals that set out the vision for our future:

- Greener and Cleaner Doncaster
- Skilled and Creative Doncaster
- Prosperous and Connected Doncaster

- Safe and Resilient Doncaster
- Healthy and Compassionate Doncaster
- Fair and Inclusive Doncaster

In order to deliver this longer-term vision, eight cross-cutting priorities (the 'Great 8') will drive the delivery of the work. Behind each of these priorities will be an action plan that sets out some high level deliverables that can be monitored and reported upon via partnership performance management mechanisms. We will be bringing forward key products forward in 2022 to ensure we are best placed to deliver this strategy including;

- Reviewing the way the Partnership operates
- Making public a Doncaster Delivering Together Outcomes Dashboard
- Exploring a Fairness and Well-being Commission
- Aligning the Council's decision making reports to Doncaster Delivering Together.
- Refreshing the Health and Wellbeing Board strategy



Physical Activity and Get Doncaster Moving

Over the last 5 years Doncaster has been working resolutely on addressing physical inactivity through Get Doncaster Moving (GDM), our 10 year strategy to increase levels of physical activity and sport across the borough. A recent review of the GDM strategy was shared at the Health and Wellbeing Board in January 2022; highlighting that significant progress and learning has taken place. It identified that there is a requirement to refresh the GDM strategy for the next 5 years in light of our progress, learning and the development of local and national policy.

Network of Partners includes:

- Active Communities, in partnership with Well Doncaster – recruitment of four Community Connectors, hosted by Community Anchor Organisations, who support residents to access opportunities close to where they live. Over 50 Active Communities Grants awarded to individuals and groups to increase support, access and opportunity for inactive people.
- Doncaster Future Parks – Community engagement on the first phase of sites has begun. A Green Space Network Coordinator has been appointed, to support the huge network of people involved in maintaining and developing green space in Doncaster.
- Leisure Facilities, in partnership with DCLT - work continues to deliver investment into our leisure facility stock, phase one of work at Askern is complete, decarbonising the building from coal fired boilers to air source heat pumps. Phase two works have commenced to develop the offer and connect the centre with the country park. In addition survey work has been undertaken at Thorne and Edlington to enable concept design for their refurbishments be developed."
- Communications Campaigns – Partnership with Doncaster Mumbler, to deliver a series of adventure trails in a number of parks.
- Dance, in Partnership with darts – a growing network of 'Dance On' activities are taking place across the Borough.
- Walking – 55 new Walk Leaders trained, to support existing and set up new community walking groups
- Children and Young People – Set-up Doncaster PE & Active Schools Network, engaging with over 30 primary school teachers in development opportunities for their schools.
- Sport – Preparation for the Rugby League World Cup taking place in 2022, including partnership with Leeds Beckett University to measure the social impact of RLWC2021. Successful Expression of Interest with Football Foundation Local Authority Grass Pitch Programme, which aims to support the improvement of grass pitches.

Arts and Health

The Board established a subgroup to focus on Arts and Health. This Board is chaired by local charity darts and membership includes senior leaders from the council, social prescribing, health partners and other key culture, health and social care representatives. Our joint ambition is to embed arts and culture into health and social care pathways, so that all residents can access sustainably funded arts and health programmes in their communities.

In the last six months we have focused on developing creative activity for cognitive stimulation with adults living with dementia; improving mental health and wellbeing for adults; and increasing physical activity for inactive adults. Recognising the impact the pandemic has had on children and young peoples' mental health, we have expanded to include them as a priority in our Arts and Health Board development work.

In November 2021 the Arts and Health Board delivered a consultative Think Tank exploring a 10 year vision for Doncaster, which has fed into the development of the new Cultural Strategy. University of Leeds published their research on Dance On (delivered by darts in Doncaster) which demonstrated how dance has increased and sustained participants physical activity.

From January -March 2022 darts have been developing 'Breathe and Connect' - an approach for adults with Long Covid using gentle movement, breath work and song to improve breathing, reduce anxiety and increase sense of connection with others. The pandemic has significantly impacted learning of young children, particularly personal, social and emotional development and part of our 'Breathe and Connect' work has focused on working with Early Years pupils to use creative activity to develop communication and language, social skills and gross physical development.

Compassionate approach to weight

Development of compassionate approach resources for frontline health & wellbeing staff is our priority for the next 3 months. Conversations have begun with registered dieticians to support this work. We have prepared an application for the NIHR Public Health Research programme for research and evaluation support on our frontline resources and broader anti-stigma work.

We are working with colleagues in Policy, Insight and Change to ensure the Healthy and Compassionate goal is considered in decision-making processes in a meaningful way.

In partnership with our colleagues at the University of Leeds, two public consultations on health behaviours and perceptions of weight have received approx. 1000 responses overall. A third survey went out to health professionals. Results and analysis will be available shortly and will drive the focus of work going forward.

Application of compassionate approach principles into weight management programmes continues, including most recently the pilot Tier 2 Be Well, Feel Good service, and the SHINE Health Academy programme. An evaluation has been designed and will be undertaken to assess the effectiveness of the principles in these programmes.

Our relationship with Get Doncaster Moving, Well Doncaster, and Be Well continues. We are holding a refresher workshop with Well Doncaster Officers and Be Well Coaches in the New Year, and we will be involved in the Get Doncaster Moving strategy redevelopment to ensure the compassionate approach is embedded throughout.

A compassionate approach to health and wellbeing is embedded in the 10 year Borough Strategy.

Well Doncaster

Community Centred Approaches

Since 2015 Well Doncaster has added to the existing evidence base that investing in supporting, working with, and empowering communities facilitates healthy communities.

Some of our defining characteristics include; a continued commitment to utilising community centred approaches in creating a community led Health and Wealth approach, encouraging and facilitating asset based discussions with our

residents and ensuring communities are involved in decision-making about where they live, work and play.

We have been the leader in using Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) as the starting point in approaching local challenges and opportunities and feel embedding assets-based approaches in the way we work with individuals, families and communities is crucial to the achievement Team Doncaster's overall vision.

Utilising the Public Health England framework for Community Centred Approaches for health and wellbeing, we have developed an evidenced base outcomes framework to shape and drive our work in reducing health inequalities and building stronger, more resilient communities.

The framework focuses on three key areas: Individual, Community and Organisational

Individual: Promote increased health literacy, behaviour change, self-management and self-efficacy leading to improved health and wellbeing.

Community: Build resilience, social capital and strengthen community resources and leadership
Organisational: Embed evidence-based community centred approaches across Team Doncaster, utilise VCFS intelligence and collaboration in shaping locality commissioning and redesigning services.

By focusing community centred approaches at an individual, community and organisational level, we have the best chance of closing the health gaps that have only widened through the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Community Wealth Builder

Community Wealth Builder (CWB) continues to provide a wide variety of workshops and sessions to the organisation we are working with and the support they are telling us they need. Favourite sessions include our business start-up workshop, fundraising opportunities and the five fundamentals of social media, as well as new titles including strengthening resilience during change and Effective Time management. CWB attended the Business Doncaster Awards 2021 where they presented the Third Sector of the Year Award. All six finalists are part of the CWB project with Active Fusion taking the award and People Focused Group taking the runners up spot.

Be Well Doncaster

Health and Wellbeing Coaches provide one to one support to residents using evidenced based behaviour change techniques to understand and address the root drivers of health behaviours. This approach enables the identification of gaps in both commissioned and community services leading to better understanding of where needs are not being met and inform the design and development of hyper local solutions through locality commissioning.

Be Well Doncaster has been working with community organisations and set up community-based peer groups for Wellbeing, Fibromyalgia, Diabetes and COPD across each locality and an online Hidden Conditions peer group. The peer groups provide education, information, and an opportunity for peer support to enable better self-management. The peer groups were adapted where necessary to be in line with Covid-19 guidance.

A range of communication and marketing material including videos and flyers have been developed to launch the text self-referral service in February. This allows residents to text a free number to request to meet with a Coach. It is hoped this approach will raise the profile of Be Well Doncaster across partners and with residents to increase referrals from outside the Primary Care Networks, widening the reach of Be Well Doncaster.

Community

Voluntary Community Faith Sector Capacity Building and Support (VCFS)

Well Doncaster team have continued to support the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector (VCFS) using community centred approaches and offering support in accessing funding, public health guidance updates and building community resilience as groups continue to make a return to their communities.

Local Solutions Community Investment Fund

The Local Solutions Community Investment Fund was launched in September 2021 and was a test and learn approach to locality working, embedding Community Centred Approaches in its design. The Local Solutions Community Investment Fund has two grants: the Local Solutions Community Hub Grant and the Community Investment Fund.

The Community Investment Fund aimed to support up to thirty community organisations with up to £25,000 grant funding in the delivery of existing services that are addressing health, economic, social, and environmental challenges identified in their communities. In the first round of the Community Investment Fund, fifteen organisations were awarded a total of £344,450.39.

Due to and underspend a second round of the Community Investment Fund was announced in which twenty organisations were awarded a total of £310,644.89. Due to the strengths of the applications in meeting community priorities the 10 highest scoring organisations were awarded the full amount applied for, and the next 10 all received 50% of their application. The total funding awarded through the Community Investment Fund was £655,095.28.

Initially the Local Solutions Community Hub Grant was to support up to ten community anchor organisations with up to £60,000 grant funding with a minimum 10% match funding to support established community anchor organisations in the delivery of existing services addressing economic, social, and environmental challenges identified in their communities. However, due to the quality of applications, funding was made available to support a total of fifteen community anchor organisations with up to £60,000 of grant funding. This additional funding of £257,746 was made available through the Covid Outbreak Management Fund. The total funding awarded through the Local Solutions Community Hub Grant was £887,746.28.

In total £1,542,841.56 was distributed between 50 organisations, the breakdown of this across localities is displayed in the chart below.

Appreciative Inquiry

Appreciative Inquiry is an evidenced based approach to gathering positive community insight and working with communities and stakeholders to co-design and co-produce community action plans. The four-stage approach outlined below will be carried out across twenty communities:

Discovery:

Strength based conversations with residents focusing on gathering positive insight about their community which undergoes a thematic analysis to find key themes for each community.

Dream:

Community workshops where residents and stakeholder's sense check and develop the themes identified through the Discovery into how they would like their community to look, feel and be.

Design:

Community workshops where residents and stakeholder priorities ideas and aspirations developed in the Dream stage and co-design actions plans with short, medium and long term goals.

Deliver:

Ongoing delivery of the co-produced community action plans by residents and partners.

A two week Discovery period was completed in twenty communities throughout July and August 2021 whereby community explorers had targeted conversations with residents in the community. Over 600 responses from across twenty communities were thematic analysed and provided the basis of the dream and design workshops in quarter three.

By February 2022, dream and design workshops had taken place where the thematic analysis of Discovery responses were shared with community members and discussions centred around community priorities leading to the co-production of community action plans. These action plans and highlighted priorities for each community will shape Well Doncaster's work and the Locality plans moving forward.

Organisational

A Community of Practice has been developed consisting of members of the Voluntary Community and Faith Sector (VCFS) which is shaping and influencing locality commissioning and fostering collaboration and capacity building within the Sector. The Local Solutions Community Investment Fund and Community Booster Fund was designed and delivered as a test and learn approach to locality commissioning and participatory budgeting.

To further increase the understanding of community centred approaches and embed the approach and thinking into the Council, Well Doncaster delivered training to sixty council staff members. The Well Doncaster team play leading role in the Localities Silver Workshops for each locality where the team presented about Community Centred Approaches and the themes and assets in communities based on the Appreciative Inquiry insight.

For further information about Well Doncaster – please see www.welldoncaster.uk

Better Care Fund (BCF)

Following approval of the Better Care Fund Plan (BCF Plan) 12th January 2022 by NHS England, current BCF spend is in line with the approved plan spend set out to the Health and Wellbeing Board via a corporate report 11th November 2021. We are currently awaiting confirmation of future funding, and do not anticipate significant changes in the funding allocation for the new financial year.

Next Steps: Our Plan for 2022-2023

- Address health inequalities, reviewing access to services including primary care, health outcomes by population groups and establish a Fairness and Wellness commission:
- Continue to use the life course approach to coordinate activity and track progress. Agree a set of 'Deep Dives' within the life course approaches (e.g. children and young people's mental health, homelessness, substance misuse and dementia)
- Increase the voice of local residents in the Health and Wellbeing Board and refresh the Health and Wellbeing strategy.
- Develop effective working arrangements with the new health system structures and local Voluntary, Community and Faith groups
- Agree delivery responsibilities for Doncaster Delivery Together with the new Team Doncaster partnership structures.
- Continue to build on the compassionate and community centred approaches seen in Get Doncaster Moving, Well Doncaster and the compassionate approach to weight and develop joint investment approaches to health and wellbeing.
- Continue to receive Children Safeguarding, Adult Safeguarding and Child Death Overview Panel Annual Reports.



Contacts

For further information regarding the
Health and Wellbeing Board please email:
PHEnquiries@doncaster.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank



Doncaster Council

To The Chair & Members of Full Council

14th July, 2022

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Annual Report highlights the progress of Doncaster Council's Overview and Scrutiny function during the period 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022, includes a summary of the work undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC), and its four Standing Panels and identifies priorities for Overview and Scrutiny for 2021/22.

EXEMPT REPORT

2. The report is not exempt.

RECOMMENDATIONS

3. Full Council is asked to receive and note the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2021/22.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

4. The Overview and Scrutiny function has the potential to impact on all of the council's key objectives through its role as a critical friend providing appropriate challenge, reviewing performance and developing policy. This is achieved through making recommendations, monitoring performance arrangements and reviewing issues outside the remit of the Council that have an impact on the residents of the borough. This Annual Report highlights the progress, impacts and achievements of the Overview and Scrutiny function during 2021/22 and identifies priorities for 2022/23. The accountability of Overview and Scrutiny is improved by reporting its activities to Council.

BACKGROUND

5. Overview and Scrutiny provides an important role for non-Executive Councillors to provide checks and balances within the decision making process as it enables them to:-

- **Monitor the quality of service delivery** – by receiving performance and finance information and examining service outcomes.
 - **Review policy and contribute to its development** – by reviewing existing policies or investigating issues of concern and putting forward proposals for improvement.
 - **Consider issues of wider public concern** – by considering issues that impact on residents of the area but that may not necessarily be activities carried out by the Council, for example emergency services, the NHS and external companies and partners.
 - **Provide a critical friend and challenge role** – by providing Elected Members the opportunity to examine and question decisions taken by the Executive (Mayor and Cabinet) and to make recommendations.
6. During 2021/22, Overview and Scrutiny in Doncaster operated through an overarching Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC), and four Standing Panels, namely:
- Regeneration and Housing Panel;
 - Community and Environment Panel;
 - Health and Adult Social Care Panel; and
 - Children and Young People Panel.
7. They have considered a wide range of issues and this information is detailed in the attached report and also identifies priorities for 2022/23. In accordance with the Constitution this is required to be reported annually to Full Council.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8. There are no alternative options; the Constitution requires Overview and Scrutiny to provide an Annual Report to Full Council.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

9. The Annual Report enhances the accountability of Overview and Scrutiny by allowing Council to review the work undertaken during the previous year. The Council's Constitution requires OSMC to take an annual report to Full Council.

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

10. The Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report will contribute to raising the profile of an effective Overview and Scrutiny function, which will, in turn contribute to achieving greater democratic renewal and increasing involvement in the decision-making process. It is essential that Overview and Scrutiny regularly review the extent to which its work has impacted on the delivery of services. In this way Overview and Scrutiny has the potential to impact on all of the Council's key priorities.

	Outcomes	Implications
	<p>Doncaster Working: Our vision is for more people to be able to pursue their ambitions through work that gives them and Doncaster a brighter and prosperous future;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better access to good fulfilling work • Doncaster businesses are supported to flourish • Inward Investment 	<p>The Overview and Scrutiny function has the potential to impact upon all of the Council's key objectives by holding decision makers to account, reviewing performance and policy development through robust recommendations, monitoring performance of the Council and external partners, services and reviewing issues outside the remit of the Council that have an impact on the residents of the Borough.</p>
	<p>Doncaster Living: Our vision is for Doncaster's people to live in a borough that is vibrant and full of opportunity, where people enjoy spending time;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The town centres are the beating heart of Doncaster • More people can live in a good quality, affordable home • Healthy and Vibrant Communities through Physical Activity and Sport • Everyone takes responsibility for keeping Doncaster Clean • Building on our cultural, artistic and sporting heritage 	
	<p>Doncaster Learning: Our vision is for learning that prepares all children, young people and adults for a life that is fulfilling;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every child has life-changing learning experiences within and beyond school • Many more great teachers work in Doncaster Schools that are good or better • Learning in Doncaster prepares young people for the world of work 	

	<p>Doncaster Caring: Our vision is for a borough that cares together for its most vulnerable residents;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children have the best start in life • Vulnerable families and individuals have support from someone they trust • Older people can live well and independently in their own homes 	
	<p>Connected Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A modern, efficient and flexible workforce • Modern, accessible customer interactions • Operating within our resources and delivering value for money • A co-ordinated, whole person, whole life focus on the needs and aspirations of residents • Building community resilience and self-reliance by connecting community assets and strengths • Working with our partners and residents to provide effective leadership and governance 	

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

11. There are no risks and assumptions relevant to this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (NC 23/6/22)

12. Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 23(a) requires OSMC to take an Annual Report to Full Council and the Executive, giving such details of their work and proposed work as the Committee believes would assist the Full Council or the Executive. This report fulfills that obligation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (CR 8/6/22)

13. There are no specific financial implications associated with this report.

HUMAN RESOURCES (KM 8/6/22)

14. There are no specific HR implications arising from the contents of this report.

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS (ET 7/6/22)

15. There are no specific technology implications in relation to this report.

HEALTH IMPLICATIONS (RS 7/6/22)

16. The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee can perform a key role in the council's adoption of a health in all policies approach. All areas of the Overview and Scrutiny work plan can impact on health and it is important that the health implications of each item are considered separately given that 20% of what contributes to health is from clinical care, 30% from healthy behaviours, 40% from socio-economic factors and 10% from the built environment.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS (CDR 7/6/22)

17. This report is a factual account of some of the key work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny during 2021/22. There are no significant equality implications associated with this report. Within its programme of work Overview and Scrutiny gives due consideration to the extent to which the Council has complied with its public equality duty and given due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different communities.

CONSULTATION

18. Overview and Scrutiny is in regular consultation with stakeholders (including Members, the public, officers and external bodies and partner organisations such as the NHS, in respect of its activities.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

19. Agendas and minutes of Overview and Scrutiny meetings 2021/22 have been used to assist the Annual Report.

REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS

Caroline Martin
Senior Governance Officer
01302 734941
caroline.martin@doncaster.gov.uk

Christine Rothwell
Senior Governance Officer
01302 735682
christine.rothwell@doncaster.gov.uk

Andrew Sercombe,
Governance Manager
01302 734354,
andrew.sercombe@doncaster.gov.uk

Scott Fawcus
Assistant Director Legal & Democratic Services

Doncaster Council

Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2021/2022

Contents

Introduction	3
Purpose and Structure of Overview and Scrutiny	4-5
Overview and Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs 2021/22	6
Overview and Scrutiny Membership 2021/22	7
Impacts and Added Value 2021/22	8
The Public and our Partners	9
Giving the Public a voice through Overview and Scrutiny	10
Highlights and Achievements 2021/22	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) 	11-12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel (H&ASC O&S) 	13-15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Panel (CYP O&S) 	16-17
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regeneration and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Panel (R&H O&S) 	18-19
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communities and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel (C&E O&S) 	20-22
Overview and Scrutiny Priorities 2022/23	23-24
Contacting Overview and Scrutiny	25

Introduction

I am delighted to present this report on the work of Overview and Scrutiny for the period 1st April 2021 to April 2022

I would particularly like to thank Andrew Sercombe and his team for their continuing excellent support for the Scrutiny process. I would also like to thank all partners, Officers and members that contributed to our work and particularly residents with lived experience of issues that we have scrutinised. This includes survivors of alcohol and substance misuse, carers, Youth Council Representatives and Young Advisors and representatives from schools who shared their experiences of the Children's Social Care front door.

Scrutiny contributes to a sound Council culture by holding Officers, Executive Councillors and the Mayor to account. It also contributes to the delivery of Doncaster's Priorities by taking evidence from a wide range of partners including the voluntary and community sector, the police, Health and the Academies to inform our recommendations.

Councillor Jane Kidd
Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.



**Councillor
Jane Kidd**

**Chair of the
Overview and
Scrutiny
Management
Committee
2021/2022**



**Councillor
John Healy**

**Vice Chair of the
Overview and
Scrutiny
Management
Committee
2021/2022**

Purpose and Structure of Overview and Scrutiny

Purpose - The activities of Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) and the standing Panels include holding decision makers to account, reviewing performance arrangements, policy review and external scrutiny. Work plans are agreed early in the municipal year and reviewed at each meeting, to track progress and ensure they take account of emerging issues and decisions. The work plans and OSMC/Panel remits for 2022/2023 will reflect the six wellbeing goals and the Great '8' priorities outlined in Doncaster's Corporate Plan and Doncaster Delivering Together, however, for the purpose of this Annual Report the work of the Panels for 2021/22 is in line with Doncaster Growing Together (DGT) Themes.

Structure - The structure and remit of OSMC and the Panels are detailed below.

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) - The membership of OSMC includes the Chairs of standing Panels and other Members. This ensures cross party representation, greater co-ordination of Overview and Scrutiny activity and alignment to the corporate goals. The Committee meets approximately once a month to consider performance, pre-decision scrutiny, reviews undertaken by the panels and areas of strategic importance.

- Key wellbeing goal: Focusing on the Regenerative Council, cross cutting all wellbeing goals and outcomes and Great 8 priorities.

Health and Adult Social Panel (H&ASC O&S) – considers issues that fall within the remit of Public Health, adult social care and health services. The Chair also represents the Authority on Regional Health Scrutiny bodies.

- Wellbeing goals and Outcomes: Healthy and Compassionate.
- Great 8:
 - No. 4 Building opportunities for healthier, happier and longer lives for all.

Children and Young People's Panel (CYP O&S) – considers improved outcomes for Children and Young People including Learning and Opportunities, services provided by Doncaster Children's Services Trust and other relevant partners.

- Wellbeing goals and Outcomes: Skilled and Creative and Healthy and Compassionate
- Great 8:
 - No. 2 Developing the skills to thrive in life and work.
 - No. 6 Nurturing a child and family-friendly borough.

Regeneration and Housing Panel (R&H O&S) – considers issues relating to regeneration, economic development, strategic transport and housing.

- Wellbeing Goals and Outcomes: Skilled and Creative and Prosperous and Connected.

- Great 8:
 - No. 2 Developing the skills to thrive in life and work.
 - No. 3 Making Doncaster the best place to do business and create good jobs.
 - No. 7 Building transport and digital connections fit for the future.

Communities and Environment Panel (C&E O&S) – considers neighbourhood issues, street scene and highways, community safety as well as environmental issues.

Wellbeing Goals and Outcomes: Greener and Cleaner and Safe and Resilient.

- Great 8:
 - No. 1 Tackling Climate Change.
 - No. 5 Creating safer, stronger, greener and cleaner communities where everyone belongs.
 - No. 8 Promoting the borough and its cultural, sporting and heritage opportunities.

Overview and Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs 2021/22



Councillor Jane Kidd
Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee



Councillor John Healy
Vice Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee



Councillor Leanne Hempshall
Chair of Children and Young People



Councillor Tim Needham
Vice Chair of Children and Young People



Councillor Gemma Cobby
Chair of Community and Environment



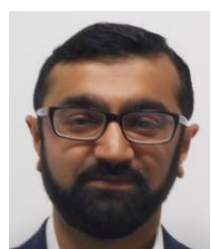
Councillor Nigel Cannings
Vice Chair of Community and Environment



Councillor Sarah Smith
Chair of Health and Adult Social Care



Councillor Martin Greenhalgh
Vice Chair of Health and Adult Social Care



Councillor Majid Khan
Chair of Regeneration and Housing



Councillor David Nevett
Vice Chair of Regeneration and Housing

Overview and Scrutiny Membership 2021/22

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Chair – Councillor Jane Kidd	Vice-Chair - Councillor John Healy
Councillor Sarah Smith	Councillor Bev Chapman
Councillor Majid Khan	Councillor Gemma Cobby
Councillor Richard A Jones	Councillor Leanne Hempshall
Invitee – Paul O'Brien (GMB)	

Health and Adults Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Chair – Councillor Sarah Smith	Vice-Chair – Councillor Martin Greenhalgh
Councillor Linda Curran	Councillor Jake Kearsley
Councillor Sue Knowles	Councillor Tracey Moran
Councillor Austen White	Councillor Laura Bluff
Councillor Sean Gibbons	Invitee: Jim Board (UNISON)

Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Chair – Councillor Leanne Hempshall	Vice Chair – Tim Needham
Councillor Bob Anderson	Councillor Aimee Dickson
Councillor Susan Durant	Councillor Charlie Hogarth
Councillor Laura Bluff	Councillor Steve Cox
Councillor Rob Reid	Invitee: Georgina Lightfoot (UNISON)

Regeneration and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Chair – Councillor Majid Khan	Vice-Chair – Councillor David Nevett
Councillor Duncan Anderson	Councillor Iris Beech
Councillor Sue Farmer	Councillor Sophie Lui
Councillor John Mounsey	Councillor Steve Cox
Councillor Gary Stapleton	Invitee: Steve Whitehouse (UNITE)

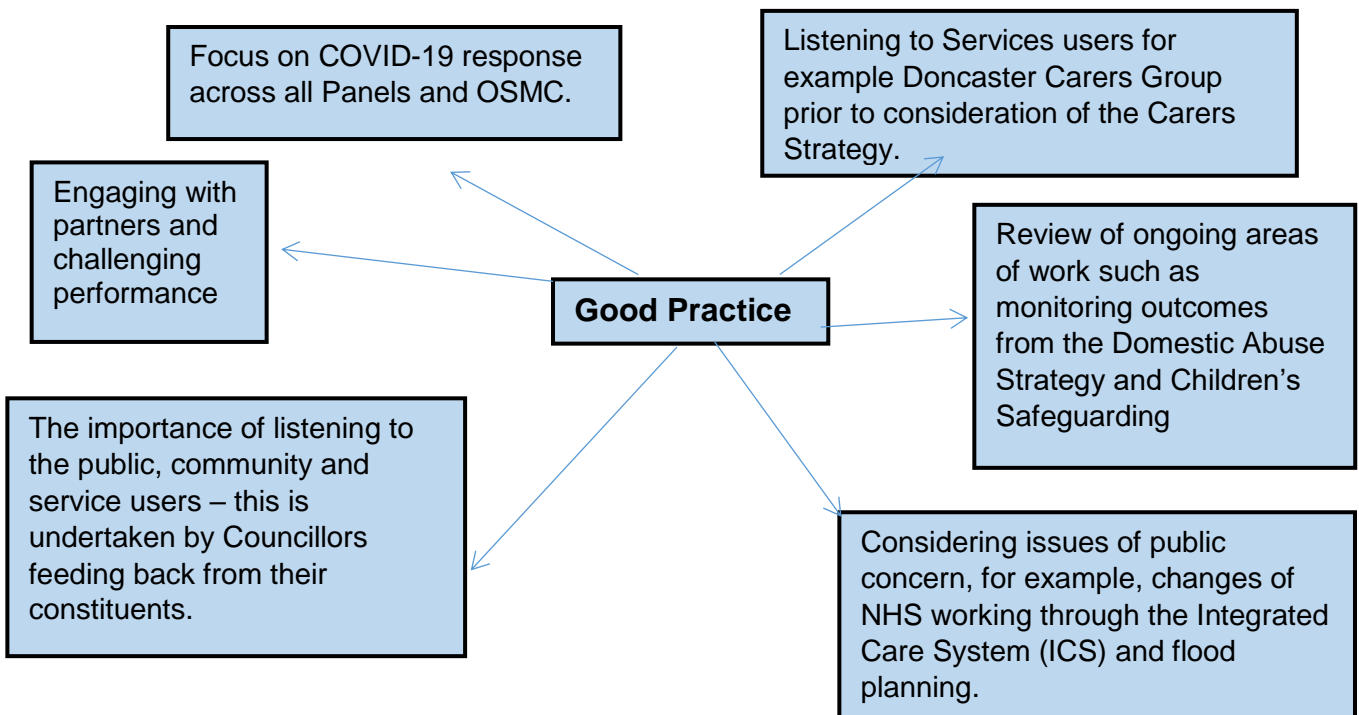
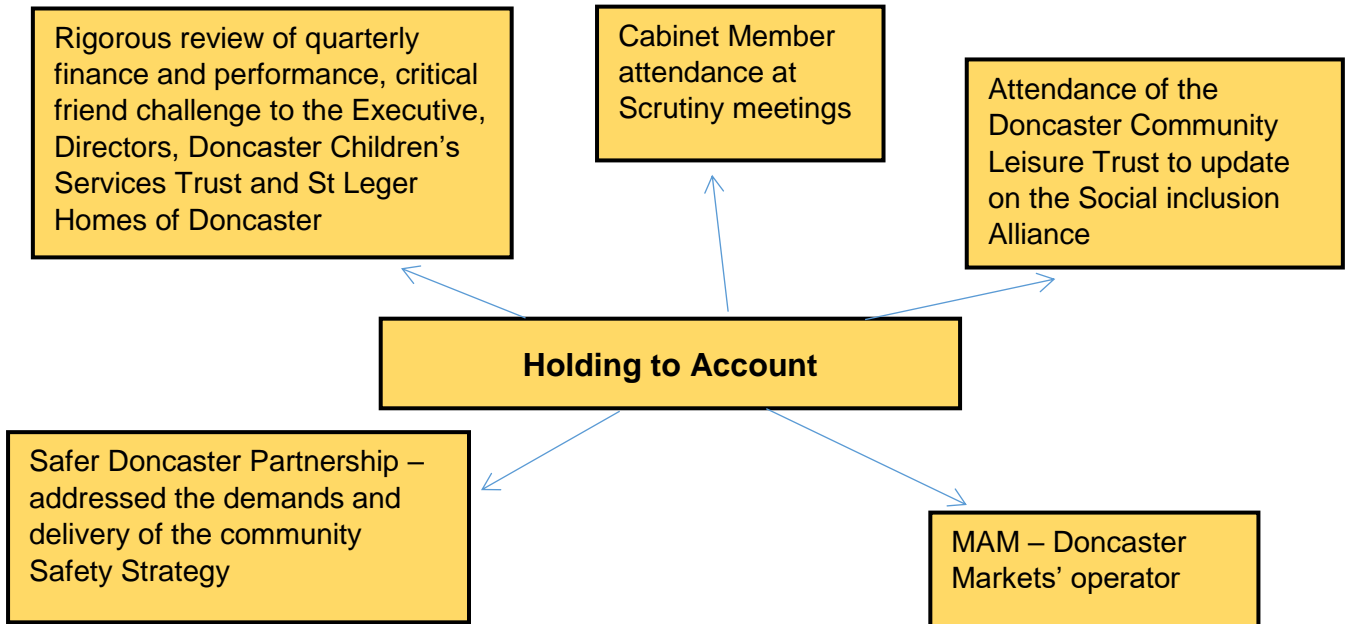
Communities and Environment (Crime and Disorder) Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Chair – Councillor Gemma Cobby	Vice-Chair – Councillor Nigel Cannings
Councillor James Church	Councillor Debbie Hutchinson
Councillor Emma Muddiman-Rawlins	Councillor Glynis Smith
Councillor Julie Grace	Invitee: Jim Board (UNISON)
Councillor Gary Stapleton	

Education Co-optees: Bernadette Nesbitt (Diocese of Hallam Roman Catholic Church) and Antoinette Drinkhill (Diocese of Sheffield Church of England) are entitled to attend meetings of OSMC and CYP O&S and vote on any education matters, which are the responsibility of the Authority's Executive. They may also participate in panel discussions relating to children's issues (although not able to vote on non-educational matters).

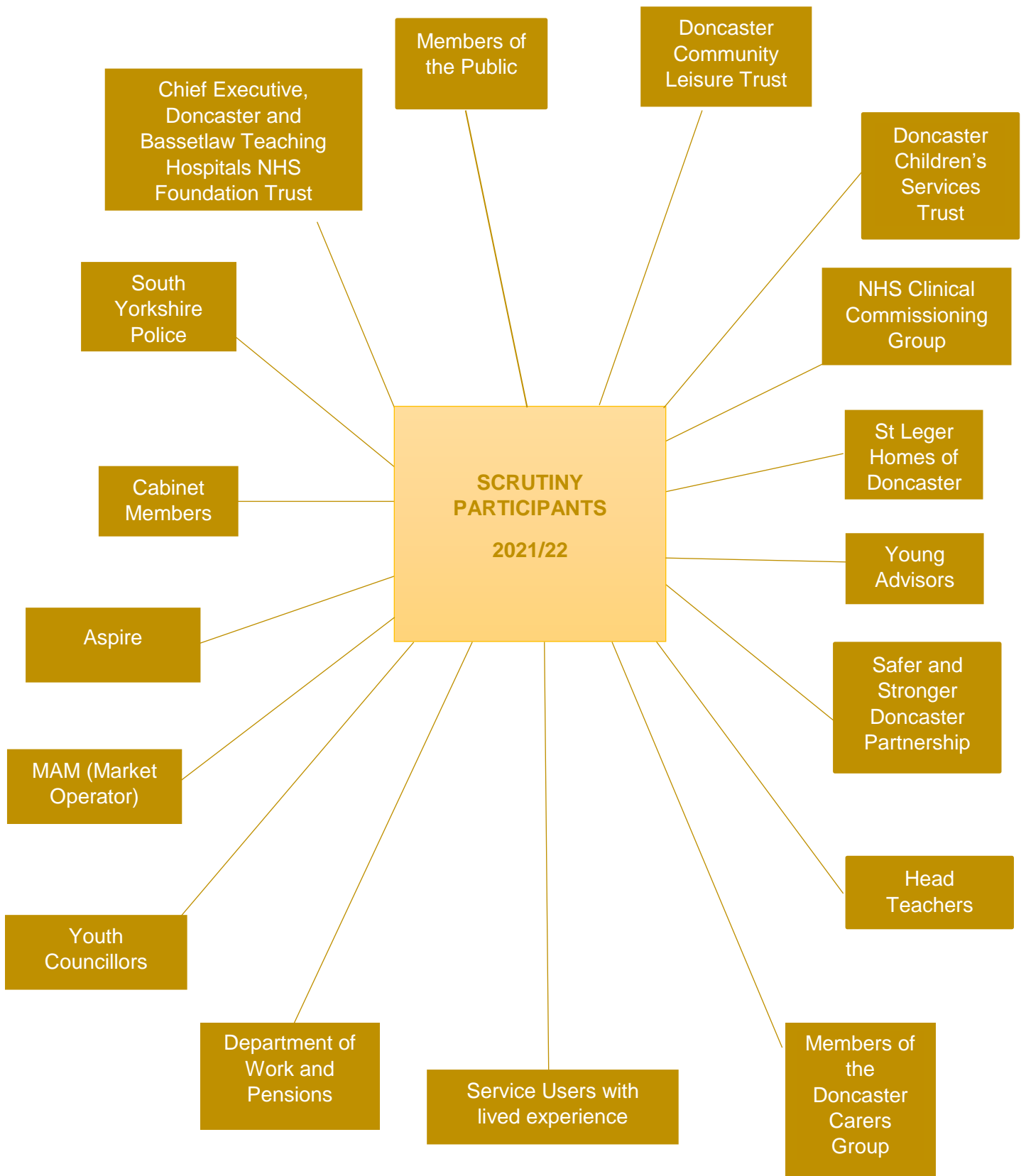
Impacts and Added Value 2021/22

Detailed below are some examples where Scrutiny has added value to decision-making and supported good governance. Further information is provided later in the report within each of the individual OSMC or Panel sections:



Public and Partners 2021/22

For the purposes of gathering evidence and holding to account, the following public and partners have taken part in scrutiny meetings:



Giving the Public a Voice through Overview and Scrutiny

Overview and Scrutiny has a key role in giving a voice to and engaging with the public and service users. This is a challenge nationally, although during 2021/22, Overview and Scrutiny started to hold formal meetings face to face following the Pandemic. However, where possible the Panel also held meetings remotely, providing additional opportunities for individuals to attend and engage with Overview and Scrutiny.

The following examples highlight ways in which Overview and Scrutiny has engaged with the public during the last year.

Service Users – during the year meetings were held with service users and service commissioners, to consider good practice and service gaps relating to services for people who suffer with drug and alcohol abuse. The service users provided a massive insight into the lived experience, difficulties individuals faced but more importantly the positive outcomes through support they had received.

Doncaster Carers – Prior to considering The All Age Carer's Strategy for Doncaster (2022 - 2025), Members of the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel met with carers who had lived experiences to hear their views on the strategy. These views helped inform the debate around the strategy and the Panel's recommendations.

Young Advisors - are aged between 16 and 24, who bring their experiences, unique expertise and knowledge to a number of areas and work within the Council and Doncaster Children's Trust Services. They regularly attend Scrutiny Panel meetings and provide a valuable young person's perspective on issues under consideration.

For example, Young Advisors attended a virtual meeting of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel, and delivered a series of presentations and findings of progress across the following areas;

- Make your Mark Results & Drug Awareness - Presentation – by representatives of the Youth Parliament & Youth Council
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Local Offer for Care Leavers (through work undertaken with Children in Care Voice Group)

Members of the Panel welcomed the views and contributions from young people on issues relevant to them.

Highlights and Achievements – Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Topic Area	Added Value/Impact	DDT Areas
Policy Framework	Providing assurance, contributing to policy decisions - A number of Statutory Plans and policies were considered prior to their adoption by Full Council, this provides a check and balance, allowing Members an early opportunity to comment on any proposals, such as the Corporate Plan. Regular reviews of the Council's quarterly performance and finance reports and contribution to the budget setting process enabled Members to draw on their knowledge and understanding of the challenges, pressures and opportunities facing the Borough and the Council. The Committee also considered and supported the adoption of the Youth Justice Plan, Local Plan and Doncaster Delivering Together (Borough Strategy) and Statement of Licensing Policy.	All DDT Areas
Quarterly Performance and Finance Management	OSMC continued to review quarterly performance and financial management of the Council, St Leger Homes of Doncaster (SLHD) and Doncaster Children's Services Trust (DCST). This is a key role for the Committee and supports the Council's performance management arrangements by reviewing the extent to which the Council and its key partners are operating within resources and delivering value for money. It is also used as a means of identifying future work plan issues and understanding key service issues. In particular the Committee has focused on the impact of Covid on service delivery and the long-term performance implications this has had on front line services, including domestic violence, waste collection and fly-tipping.	All DDT Areas
Budget Review	Providing assurance and commentary on future resources - OSMC undertook a holistic view of the 2022/23 budget proposals ensuring they were evidence based and supported corporate and borough wide priorities. In addition, the Committee considered the capacity and risks around deliverability and implementation of the proposals. The work being undertaken to propose a balanced budget in line with Doncaster Delivering Together, Central Government policy and a challenging programme of service transformation and savings targets, was addressed during the process.	All DDT Areas

Council Compliments and Complaints	The Committee considered a report summarising the Annual Complaints and Compliments Report for 2020/21 for Doncaster Council and its partners . This is an important document for raising awareness of the types and volumes of complaints, identifying trends, communicating lessons learned and service improvements. The report also enables Councillors to understand the extent to which service complaints impact on performance detailed within the quarterly performance and finance meeting.	All DDT Areas
Commissioning	The Committee was provided with an overview of and subsequently agreed to focus on commissioning services for people who suffered with drug and alcohol abuse . As part of the Committee's consideration, a meeting was held with service users, where good practice and service gaps were considered. The service users provided a massive insight into the lived experience, difficulties they faced but more importantly the positive outcomes through support they had received. To further the Committees work, Members met with partners to address key questions highlighted from discussion with service users. The review is to conclude with a final meeting to address support provided by the South Yorkshire Police Integrated Offender Management Team, Services provided by Aspire on how they assist people at the end of their prison sentence. This will provide a basis for the Committee to consider any recommendations it may wish to forward onto the Executive.	Safe and Resilient
Locality Working	OSMC received a general update on the proposals for the Localities Model and the associated governance arrangements. The Committee has considered the role of the Councillor within the governance structure and the role of Directors as leads for geographical areas (North, South, East and West), how communication will work between the different 'tiers' within each locality, funding streams to support the work and areas of best practice. There was a further opportunity to consider progress at a meeting of the Committee in March 2022 prior to the Locality Plans being presented to Cabinet, when the discussion included health inequalities, effective communication and engagement with other organisations within the localities. The Committee requested a further update as part of their 2022/2023 work plan.	All DDT areas
LGA Peer Review Governance	The Committee held two sessions prior to the LGA Peer Review (Governance) in May 2022 and invited all Members of the Council to attend. The session provided the forum for Members to articulate their thoughts and opinions through a strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats exercise which ultimately contributed to Doncaster's Self-Assessment.	All DDT areas

Highlights and Achievements – Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel

Topic Area	Added Value/Impact	DGT Themes
Asset Based Community Development and Well Doncaster	Members addressed European funding, learning from the past and the success of working with the third sector, locality working and communication with communities. The Panel noted the information provided would help inform areas of the Scrutiny Work plan throughout the year.	Safe and Resilient
Changes to the NHS working (Integrated Care System (ICS) White Paper) and potential impacts	An outline was presented to the Panel of the changes to how the NHS operated in England and how the CCG's (Clinical Commissioning Groups) would become part of the Integrated Care System (ICS) and possible impacts on local provision. One area of concern was the focus on equality, but with the absence of a national target, it was the responsibility of "the place" to set ambitions to meet this. The proposals created a greater opportunity to place more emphasis on prevention work than it would through commissioning or contracting models. It was agreed that Scrutiny would continue to closely monitor this issue.	Healthy and Compassionate
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)	The Panel received the Annual Report providing intelligence on the health and wellbeing of Doncaster and its communities. The report highlighted key areas of work delivered and future actions. The information provided has been helpful in shaping the Scrutiny work Plan.	Healthy and Compassionate
Winter Strategy	An overview on the Winter Planning Context and Approach to Winter Planning/Managing Winter was presented to the Panel. It was reported that there was a well-established system in Doncaster through joint planning undertaken across health and social care involving partners from both the public and private sector. The following issues were raised during consideration; support/care package for supporting social care staff, catch-up work/waiting times reassessments, financial assessments, bed and care capacity, prevention, accessibility/take-up of Covid booster vaccines and communication.	Healthy and Compassionate

Update from Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals	An annual update from the Chief Executive of Doncaster Royal Infirmary on a range of strategic issues was presented including future aspirations, challenges and impacts. Members considered a number of topics including staff welfare and sickness, mandatory Covid vaccinations for staff, meeting cancer targets, waiting times for the provision of assessments, ambulance care, Emergency Departments, mental health care and finally, suicides amongst young men. It was recommended that as part of the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel Work plan 2020/21 that there be a future update on mental health and suicide.	Healthy and Compassionate
All Age Carers' Strategy for Doncaster	The Panel supported the draft priorities of the Strategy. Prior to the formal meeting where the Panel discussed the draft priorities of the Strategy, Members met with carers to discuss their main areas of concern and identify good practice. The Panel's findings from this meeting were then used to support their discussions, including financial support, identifying invisible carers and ensuring the system could co-ordinate the right support for them. The Panel also addressed issues including support for young carers, the person centred approach, support and advice, achievements and next steps. The Panel supported the draft priorities of the Strategy and recommended the Action plan be considered within its 2022/23 work plan to review progress made.	Healthy and Compassionate
Health Protection Assurance Annual report 2021/22	The Panel gave consideration to the Annual Report on Health Protection Assurance in Doncaster covering 2021/22. It was acknowledged that the Covid 19 pandemic continued to remain a major health protection threat and there had been a co-ordinated and sustained response. Members considered a number of duties and functions that ensured the health protection assurance system in Doncaster was robust, safe and effective, meeting the statutory duty placed on local government to protect the health of the people of Doncaster.	Healthy and Compassionate Safe and Resilient
Quality of Adult Social Care services including Covid response	Members received an overview of registered care provision, Covid response and quality of provision including Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection outcomes. The Panel noted that the Omicron Covid strain had felt much different to previous strains with much higher sickness rates. The Panel acknowledged staff commitment and the strong partnership working which had ensured continued delivery of services at all times.	Healthy and Compassionate

<p>Care Quality Commission NHS settings</p>	<p>The Panel sought reassurance that systems and processes were in place to monitor the quality of care and patient safety within NHS commissioned services bearing in mind the transition from the CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group) to the ICS (Integrated Care System) scheduled for July 2022. The Panel considered a number of issues which included ensuring good outcomes for residents of Doncaster and ensuring their support was not lost within the South Yorkshire organisation. Members noted the complex position and requested an update be provided in the 2022/23 work plan.</p>	<p>Healthy and Compassionate Safe and Resilient</p>
---	--	---

Highlights and Achievements – Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel

Topic Area	Added Value/Impact	DGT Theme
Children's Social Care	The Panel focused on early help as part of its Safeguarding themed report, particularly impacts during lock down. Some of the areas addressed included the number of referrals, partners refilling their substantive roles following easing of Covid restrictions, family support during lockdown and communication following early help referrals. It was recommended that the Panel discuss social care front door referrals with Headteachers, the findings of which were forwarded to the Director for Learning, Opportunities and Skills.	Healthy and Compassionate
Doncaster Children's Trust and Care Leavers (DCST)	<p>The Panel was able to meet the representatives from DCST, to gain an understanding of how the service operated. Presentations addressed priorities, work undertaken and the Local Offer for Care Leavers. This positive engagement assisted the Panel moving forward in capturing the views of young people and developing their understanding of how they are impacted by the delivery of services.</p> <p>The Panel also received an overview of upcoming policies that would require Members' input.</p>	Healthy and Compassionate
Youth Council representatives	<p>Members have had the opportunity to meet with Youth Councillors on 3 occasions both informally and at a formal meeting of the Panel. The informal discussions were used to get to know each other, look at what a Scrutiny Councillor's role was, why the young people nominated themselves to be a representative of the Youth Council or a Young Advisor and what their areas of interests were. The formal session received presentations on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Council Elections • Make your Mark Results • Drug Awareness; • Anti-Social Behaviour • Reduce Domestic Abuse campaign 	Healthy and Compassionate

	As a result of discussions, the Panel offered to share the #ReduceDomesticAbuse on their own social media pages to help spread support available for children and young people.	
Young Advisors	Doncaster's Young Advisors are invited to attend most scrutiny panel meetings, where they aid discussion and bring unique insight and knowledge about a number of areas including service delivery and evaluation. The Panel is extremely grateful for their time and contribution.	Healthy and Compassionate
Education and Skills in Doncaster, Mental Health and Speech and Language Therapy	The Panel considered developments in Education and Skills during the academic year 2020-2021 and further developments during the Autumn Term 2021. This included the Education and Skills Strategy 2030 and the development of a Talent and Innovation Eco-system, school attendance, developments in Speech and Language Therapy and finally, the continuing work to further develop good inclusion practices within schools and reduce exclusions (including developments in alternative provision). The Panel supported the work being undertaken and the development of the Talent and Innovation Eco-system. In terms of children's health issues including mental health and Speech and Language Therapy, the Panel requested that a joint meeting with the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel be held to focus on those areas. Following this meeting the Panel requested updates on these areas as part of its 2022/2023 workplans.	Skilled and Creative
SEND (Special Educational Needs and Development)	A presentation was delivered outlining the refreshed Special Education Needs Strategy, the six priorities that underpin the Strategy alongside the progress made over the last two years in its implementation. The areas Members addressed included Early Help, children with social emotional and mental health, literacy and development during Covid, Education, Health and Care plans and General Development Assessments. The comments made by the Panel will be taken on board to inform the SEND Strategy.	Healthy and Compassionate Skilled and Creative

Highlights and Achievements – Regeneration and Housing Scrutiny Panel

Topic Area	Added Value/Impact	DGT Theme
Doncaster Town Centre Markets (Market Operator)	Following a decision to provide temporary financial assistance to the Market Operator. Overview and Scrutiny requested an update on the performance of the markets. As part of the holding to account role, a representative from MAM (market operator) was in attendance at the meeting and Members were given the opportunity to seek information on footfall, communications, upcoming events and further developments as well as identifying any specific concerns. The Panel was updated on developments and performance which ensured Members were better informed and had a better understanding of the market management arrangements.	Prosperous and Connected
Town Centre economy	The Panel has continued to undertake a watching brief around town centre issues, particularly the impact of Covid-19 and changing socio-economic demands on the town centre.	Safe and Resilient
Social housing post Covid easing restrictions	Members were presented with a report relating to homelessness, which outlined the duty to provide temporary accommodation to certain prescribed groups, namely those with dependent children or deemed to be vulnerable. The position following the Covid lockdown was recognised and the Panel wished to highlight the good practice in Doncaster, achieved through partnership working. It was recognised that the Complex Lives Alliance, pre-Covid, had made a positive impact that had continued throughout the pandemic.	Safe and Resilient
Regeneration	Members reviewed the broader context of the Urban Masterplan, how it had been developed and delivered and new proposals moving forward. The immediate challenges faced were recognised with the importance of focusing on the urgent needs of the Town Centre and its businesses. Discussion also focused on Doncaster's Town Deal, the	Safer and Resilient

	Waterdale area and Levelling up fund. The Panel will continue to review and spotlight these issues as part of its ongoing work plan.	
Employment programme opportunities	Following the impact of Covid, the Panel sought views of the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) and the Business Doncaster Team relating to this issue. The Panel was satisfied with the direction being taken and effective partnership working and engagement with local businesses. The discussion also considered challenges around youth employment, barriers to employment and availability of high skilled jobs in Doncaster (as well as skilled individuals to meet that demand).	Prosperous and Connected Skilled and Creative

Highlights and Achievements – Community and Environment Scrutiny Panel

Topic Area	Added Value/Impact	
Flood Planning Preparation	Over recent years the Panel has undertaken reviews into the effects of flooding across the Borough. As part of its overview role, Members were provided with an update on the work carried out by the Council's Flood Risk Team, the Local Authority's winter readiness arrangements and the borough's overall flood risk. The challenges faced in delivering flood alleviation schemes, including funding projects, was also addressed. The Panel will continue to monitor the position moving forward.	Safe and Resilient
Domestic Abuse Strategy	As part of its pre-decision role, the Panel looked at the new 2021-2024 Domestic Abuse Strategy. Members questioned how the Strategy will provide a coordinated community response as well as whole family response that details clear objectives. The Panel supported the Strategy but requested an update when it met as the Crime and Disorder Committee to scrutinise the Safer Doncaster Partnerships performance and hold them to account.	Safe and Resilient
Community Safety Strategy	Prior to the Strategy being presented to Full Council for decision, the Panel gave consideration to and supported the Community Safety Strategy. Members of Doncaster's Community Safety Partnership were in attendance to answer Members questions, look at the robustness of the consultation undertaken and understand the alternative engagement methods used (arising from the Covid pandemic), confidence to report crime, substance misuse reduction and the Clear, Hold and Build Strategy.	Safe and Resilient
Sustainability / Environmental Strategy	The Panel discussed communication and engagement of the strategy, the Council's transport fleet, biodiversity lost as part of new developments, tree planting targets and energy co-operatives. The Panel acknowledged the 111	Safe and Resilient

	environmental actions, which helped reinforce the enormity and complexity of the issue. To focus its efforts more effectively, the Panel will continue to focus on a small number of key areas over the forthcoming year.	
Social Inclusion Alliance	The Panel received an update on the Alliance, noting that it comprised of around 60 organisations, raising awareness of the scale of social isolation and loneliness and providing community support within Doncaster. Following the Panel's initial consideration in early 2019, Members were informed that based on the measure of sustainability and support from local voluntary groups, communities and faith groups, that the work had been deemed a success, particularly during the lockdown. It was recognised that more work was required in relation to raising awareness about the positive work undertaken.	Safe and Resilient
Crime and Disorder Committee - Reflection on COVID Period	<p>The Panel discharges the Council's Crime and Disorder Committee functions, annually reviewing the work of the local partnership responsible for Crime and Disorder Reduction. This year, the Panel considered the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership's performance enabling it to hold key partnership arrangements to account by questioning South Yorkshire Police and Local Authority representatives on each priority undertaken including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackling Domestic and Sexual Abuse • Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour • Tackling Serious and Organised Crime • Reducing Crime and Re-offending • Reducing substance and alcohol misuse • Reducing Violence and Violent Crime <p>The Panel also received presentations on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police Resources and demands; and • Anticipate funding update and results. 	Safe and Resilient

	<p>As part of the discussions, and as detailed earlier, an update was provided on the Domestic Abuse and Community Safety strategies. The Panel's work plan for 2022/23 will propose the Panel undertake further work on reviewing how the partnership can contribute to reducing violence against women.</p>	
--	---	--

Overview and Scrutiny Priorities for 2022/23

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee will consider:

- Receive and monitor reviews undertaken by Panels and consider their effectiveness and impact;
- Receive quarterly finance and performance monitoring reports;
- Contribute to the Budget Process 2022/23 and beyond;
- Undertake pre-decision scrutiny of key policy issues such as Youth Justice Plan and Culture Strategy
- Poverty
- Commissioning Review (Alcohol and Substance Misuse)
- Borough Strategy (Delivering Doncaster Together (DDT))/Corporate Plan
- Compliments and Complaints
- Local Plan
- Localities
- Fairness and Wellbeing Commission

Children and Young People's Panel will consider;

- Children's Social Care Front Door Referrals
- Home to School Transport Policy
- Elective Home Education (EHE)/missing from education.
- Post Covid - Impact on Children to include Children's Mental Health (Strategy Update)/0-3 Year Olds
- Schools Education Results
- Youth Council Priorities (and for information Children and Young Peoples Plan)
- Youth Offer
- SEND Strategy Update/The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Green Paper
- Early Help Strategy/Children and Young Peoples Plan
- Transfer of Doncaster Children's Services Trust to the Council
- Looked After Children (LAC)

Regeneration and Housing Panel will consider;

- S106 and Planning Reform Legislation
- Regeneration - Major schemes, Emerging projects and Airport regeneration sites
- Employment - Support into employment including the provision and effectiveness of programs that help people with various barriers
- Housing - Housing Allocations Policy 2022/23 and Improving Council housing stock;
- Local Plan – update including delivery of key housing projects and connectivity

Communities and Environment Panel will consider

- Community Assets/Community Asset Transfer
- Environmental Issues including;
 - Environmental & Sustainability Strategy Action Plan 22/23 Update
 - Recycling and Collection of Fly-tipping – what has been successful in other areas

- Flooding/winter planning
- As Crime and Disorder Committee (CDC) to consider areas including;
 - Domestic Abuse
 - Safety for women and girls in Doncaster
 - Community Safety Strategy update
 - Safer Doncaster Partnership Priorities

Health and Adult Social Care Panel will consider;

- Adults Mental Health
- Speech and Language Update
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and plans to address health inequalities
- Primary Care Update/ Adult Social Care/Access to primary care (CQC)
- Carers Strategy (Action Plan) Update
- Update from Doncaster & Bassetlaw Hospital Trust
- Winter Planning
- Integration Care System Update
- Links with Social Care and Housing.
- Local Account Adult Social Care perspective (for 2024)
- Public Health Protection Update (including long covid).
- Care Quality Commission (CQC) Access to Primary Care (including GP Services)
- Ambulance Times
- Integration White Paper
- Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC)

Contacting Overview and Scrutiny

For further information about this Annual Report or any aspect of Overview and Scrutiny work in Doncaster, please contact any of the following:-

Andrew Sercombe - Governance and Member Services Manager
Telephone: (01302) 734354/ Email: andrew.sercombe@doncaster.gov.uk

Christine Rothwell - Senior Governance Officer
Telephone: (01302) 735682/Email: christine.rothwell@doncaster.gov.uk

Caroline Martin - Senior Governance Officer
Telephone: (01302) 734941/Email: caroline.martin@doncaster.gov.uk

Doncaster Council
Governance Services
Corporate Resources
Civic Office
Waterdale
Doncaster
DN1 3BU

Email: scrutiny@doncaster.gov.uk or visit the website at www.doncaster.gov.uk

All reports considered at Overview and Scrutiny Panel meetings (unless exempt items) are available to the public and are published on Doncaster Council's Website.

The Governance Services Team is happy to respond to any enquiries about the work of Overview and Scrutiny. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you would like to find out more about the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee and the Panels' work programmes for the forthcoming year, or if you have any comments that you would like to make.

This page is intentionally left blank

MCA - MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:

FRIDAY, 4 MARCH 2022 AT 3.30 PM

SOUTH YORKSHIRE MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY, 11
BROAD STREET WEST, SHEFFIELD S1 2BQ



Present:

Mayor Dan Jarvis MBE (Chair)	SCR Mayoral Combined Authority
Councillor Chris Read (Vice-Chair)	Rotherham MBC
Councillor Terry Fox	Sheffield City Council
Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE	Barnsley MBC
Mayor Ros Jones CBE	Doncaster MBC

In Attendance:

Dr Ruth Adams	Deputy Chief Executive	SYMCA Executive Team
Stephen Edwards	Executive Director	SYPTe
Dr Dave Smith	Chief Executive	SYMCA Executive Team
Martin Swales	Interim Director of Transport, Housing, Infrastructure and Planning	SYMCA Executive Team
Steve Davenport	Principal Solicitor & Monitoring Officer	SYMCA Executive Team
Gareth Sutton	Chief Finance Officer/S73 Officer	SYMCA Executive Team
Melanie Bray	Minute Taker	JAGU

Apologies:

Councillor Alex Dale	NE Derbyshire DC
Councillor Steve Fritchley	Bolsover DC
Councillor Tricia Gilby	Chesterfield BC
Councillor Simon Greaves	Bassetlaw DC
Damian Allen	Doncaster BMC
Eugene Walker	Sheffield City Council
Huw Bowen	Chesterfield BC
Karen Hanson	Bolsover and North East Derbyshire Councils
Kate Josephs	Sheffield City Council
Sharon Kemp	Rotherham MBC
Sarah Norman	Barnsley MBC
Jim Dillon	SYMCA Executive Team
Sarah Want	Sheffield University

1 Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the additional meeting of the Mayoral Combined Authority Board.

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

Announcements

Mayor Jarvis MBE commented that the additional meeting of the Mayoral Combined Authority Board had been convened to determine whether to trigger a formal investigation of bus franchising as an option to deliver the best bus service for South Yorkshire. A formal investigation on the merits of bus franchising was an essential legal and practical requirement, should the SYMCA wish to move to franchising.

The SYMCA had pledged to do everything possible to fundamentally improve the bus service within South Yorkshire, and at a minimum, the case that franchising would assist to enable that consideration.

Members were referred to the terrible and needless violence that was currently being encountered within the Ukraine. Mayor Jarvis MBE considered that everyone would be inspired by the resolve, determination and spirit shown by the Ukrainians in response to President Putin's unjustified aggression. South Yorkshire stood united against President Putin's illegal invasion, and sent its solidarity to the Ukrainians both in the United Kingdom and those resisting his barbaric regime.

Following the lifting of the COVID-19 restrictions by the Government, Mayor Jarvis MBE's team continued to support him in the close liaison with the public health and other health authorities and the Local Resilience Forum as the data continued to be monitored and reviewed.

A South Yorkshire Economic Summit would be held on 9 March 2022, which would focus upon four main growth drivers of skills and talent, access to finance, clustering growth and the stimulating of innovation ecosystems. The event would bring together the brightest thinkers and best businesses from across the country with entrepreneurs, research institutes and anchor institutions from across the region.

Members noted the work undertaken to develop and finalise the proposals for the new enhanced partnership arrangements with the bus operators which had been undertaken as part of the Government's request to secure sustained funding. At the next SYMCA meeting scheduled to be held on 21 March 2022, the results of the statutory public consultation process would be considered, which would inform the decision on whether to proceed to the implementation of an enhanced partnership.

Mayor Jarvis MBE had recently met with the senior teams of First Bus and Stagecoach, who had agreed to delay possible network and service reductions whilst awaiting an announcement from the DfT regarding the recovery funding. The delay to the possible network and service reductions would enable the SYMCA to undertake an options appraisal process, which would run through to the summer period and would seek to manage, minimise and mitigate service impacts. On 1 March 2022, the DfT had announced a total of £150m for bus and light rail services, which represented the final tranche of their pandemic support for public transport; the local allocation was awaited.

3 **Urgent Items**

None.

4 **Items to be Considered in the Absence of Public and Press**

None.

5 **Voting Rights for Non-constituent Members**

It was noted that Non-Constituent Members were welcome to participate in the discussion of every item on the agenda.

6 **Declarations of Interest by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the agenda**

None.

7 **Reports from and questions by members**

None.

8 **Receipt of Petitions**

None.

9 **Public Questions**

None.

10 **Minutes of the meeting**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2022 be agreed as a true record.

11 **Approval to proceed with issuing the notice of intention to prepare an assessment of a proposed franchising scheme**

A report was presented which recommended the SYMCA to take the decision to formally assess bus franchising as an option for the whole of South Yorkshire to deliver the Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) and therefore issue, in accordance with S.123C of the Transport Act 2000, the notice of intention to prepare an assessment of a proposed franchising scheme and subsequently commence the assessment.

On 29 October 2021, the SYMCA had submitted an ambitious BSIP to the Government. At the SYMCA meeting held on 15 November 2021, the Board had approved issuing of a notice to operators on the proposal to make an Enhanced Partnership Plan and Scheme, and to enter into a period of statutory consultation with operators of qualifying local bus services, followed by a period of public consultation.

Mayor Jarvis MBE considered that without funding, an enhanced partnership may not deliver the required transformation in bus service provision. He highlighted the need to deliver on the BSIP to ensure that buses would continue into the future. He was conscious that franchising on its own would not replace the need for greater resources for buses, and he fully appreciated the concerns raised by a number of Members. There was a good case that needed testing that greater public control would be helpful and critical to the required transformation, and he was strongly supportive of the report presented. He expressed his thanks to the officers for work undertaken in preparation of the report.

Councillor Read welcomed and supported the report. He referred to the three structural challenges that were faced by the bus network in relation to a lack of regulation, to which he welcomed the opportunity for the franchising option to be assessed to understand if it delivered efficiencies, maintained standards and would correct market failures. Cllr Read recognised the revenue funding challenge of the day-to-day cost of running the bus services, which had been made increasingly difficult over the last 12 years with the reduction in local authority budgets, and the longer term challenge around transport investment. He considered that a franchising system was the same as publicly owned public transport. He acknowledged the huge amount of work to be undertaken.

Councillor Fox also welcomed and supported the report, noting the risk related to the expectation of what would be delivered for the region. Public transport was crucial within the vision and plan of Sheffield City Council to become net zero by 2030.

Councillor Sir Houghton CBE supported the recommendations highlighted within the report. He referred to the observations made over the last 20 year period together with the de-regulation of public transport, which had been unsuccessful. Within South Yorkshire, problems had been encountered with the services prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic had increased those problems which had resulted in a significant reduction in patronage across the region. He considered that the SYMCA was correct to build and maintain constructive relationships with the operators, however he did not consider that franchising would present a solution to all of the problems within the region. He considered that the proposals highlighted within the report would not achieve a quick fix solution to the problems, but agreed that the option needed assessing.

Members were referred to the unfortunate comparisons that were made of South Yorkshire to London. The public transport system in London was funded per head at a level seven times greater than in South Yorkshire. South Yorkshire was also compared with Greater Manchester, to which their devolution deal contained an element for public transport which supported the cost of franchising and its implications, together with a mayoral tax which was imposed upon its residents. Councillor Sir Houghton CBE referred to the references that had previously been made to taking profits from the operators, to which he would be willing to consider as part of a public service, noting however that he believed Stagecoach's profit in 2021 had been in the region of £28m across 17 domains, which would not cover the problems faced within South Yorkshire alone. He considered that franchising was a method to

increase SYMCA's control over what would happen, but that it would not enable a return to publicly owned public transport, which would be very difficult to achieve without further support from the Government.

In terms of supporting the recommendations, from a BMBC perspective, Councillor Sir Houghton CBE made the following points:

- i) In the event that it was considered that the bus franchising was too expensive and/or that it was unable to be funded by the SYMCA, that there needed to be an opportunity for the SYMCA to withdraw, and BMBC would withdraw at any stage of the process if that was the case.
- ii) That the four local authorities would be involved in shaping and calculating the assessment and required to sign off the assessment.
- iii) BMBC did not believe that bus franchising should be funded in part or wholly through the new taxes on the South Yorkshire residents.
- iv) That gainshare should not be utilised to support the on-going cost of franchising bus operations. However, in the event that it had not been possible to find a solution to the immediate bus problem, that an alternative solution would be considered in the short term, and to make the case to the Government to support the bus franchising.

Mayor Jones CBE commented that she had the full support of DMBC to continue with the process of assessing the bus franchising scheme. She added that the four caveats as outlined above by Councillor Sir Houghton CBE, applied equally to DMBC's position.

RESOLVED – That the Board:

- i) Approved issuing, in accordance with S.123C Transport Act 2000, a notice of intention to prepare an assessment of a proposed franchising scheme.
- ii) Approved the preparation of the assessment and associated costs of a proposed franchising scheme following issuing of the notice.

12 **Any other business**

None.

I, the undersigned, confirm that this is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed

Name

Position

Date

This page is intentionally left blank

MCA - MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:

MONDAY, 21 MARCH 2022 AT 10.00 AM

11 BROAD STREET WEST, SHEFFIELD S1 2BQ



Present:

Mayor Dan Jarvis MBE (Chair)	South Yorkshire MCA
Councillor Chris Read (Vice-Chair)	Rotherham MBC
Mayor Ros Jones CBE	Doncaster MBC
Councillor Jim Andrews BEM (Substitute)	Barnsley MBC
Councillor Julie Grocutt (Substitute)	Sheffield City Council

Dr Dave Smith	Chief Executive / Head of Paid Service	SYMCA Executive Team
Stephen Edwards	Executive Director of SYPTE	SYMCA Executive Team
Sharon Kemp	Chief Executive, Rotherham MBC	Rotherham MBC
Martin Swales	Interim Director of Transport, Housing, Infrastructure and Planning	SYMCA Executive Team
Steve Davenport	Principal Solicitor & Monitoring Officer	SYMCA Executive Team
Gareth Sutton	Chief Finance Officer/S73 Officer	SYMCA Executive Team
Felix Kumi-Ampofo	Assistant Director Policy and Assurance	SYMCA Executive Team

Apologies:

Councillor Terry Fox	Sheffield City Council
Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE	Barnsley MBC
Councillor Alex Dale	NE Derbyshire DC
Councillor Steve Fritchley	Bolsover DC
Councillor Tricia Gilby	Chesterfield BC
Councillor Simon Greaves	Bassetlaw DC

1 Welcome and Apologies

Mayor Jarvis MBE welcomed everyone to the meeting, which would be the last SYMCA meeting of his Mayoral term. He was pleased to observe the key projects and programmes on the agenda for the meeting.

Members were referred to the promise made by Mayor Jarvis MBE four years ago, to work closely with the four Local Council Leaders to make devolution work, to ensure that South Yorkshire received its fair share of powers and resources. Four years on, he considered that South Yorkshire was now on stronger and firmer foundations.

Mayor Jarvis MBE considered that the agenda was testament to the work undertaken in unlocking the devolution deal, in securing more resources and in making sure that those resources were put to good work. He added that it had been a privilege to serve as Mayor over the period. Over the past decade of

austerity there had been the transition of Brexit and the COVID-19 pandemic, which had piled almost intolerable pressure on the businesses, public services and communities within South Yorkshire. This had been weathered through the resilience, tenacity, creative and entrepreneurial sparks that exist within South Yorkshire. To which, the Mayoralty, the SYMCA, the four local councils, the business community and civic organisations within the region had all played their part.

Members were referred to the ongoing situation in the Ukraine, which was an unjust and illegal invasion that was creating one of the largest refugee crises in Europe since the Second World War. On behalf of the SYMCA, Mayor Jarvis MBE wished to extend the solidarity with the people of Ukraine, and he expressed his thanks to the South Yorkshire community groups which were responding to the call for humanitarian assistance, and those who were willing to open up their own homes to assist individuals from the Ukraine.

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2 **Announcements**

On 9 March 2022, the first ever South Yorkshire Economic Summit had been held which had brought together leading figures from industry, Government, academia, and finance in order to explore what was required to grow the region's economy and to attract new investment and opportunity. Mayor Jarvis MBE considered that the summit had proved that beyond doubt, that there should be optimism about the future. The partnerships, plans and purpose that exist would transform South Yorkshire.

Mayor Jarvis MBE had launched the South Yorkshire Sustainability Centre. There was an intention to launch a new Employee Ownership investment programme, which would be sponsored entirely by the private sector.

Members noted that the Government had now confirmed the emergency funding to maintain bus and tram services during the COVID-19 pandemic, which had prevented 50% of buses running across South Yorkshire having to be scaled back or cut out completely. However, this had highlighted the challenges faced and the Government support that was required to deliver a bus system that worked for South Yorkshire. Confirmation was awaited from the DfT regarding how the allocation had been calculated, together with the proportion for bus and light rail.

Mayor Jarvis MBE had met with the senior teams of First Bus and Stagecoach to impress upon them the importance of working with the SYMCA, of keeping services going and to give the SYMCA the time to appraise and manage any proposed network and service reductions. He considered that it was apparent that the current system was not delivering as it should within South Yorkshire, and that all methods should continue to be explored.

3 **Urgent Items**

None.

4 **Items to be Considered in the Absence of Public and Press**

None.

5 **Voting Rights for Non-constituent Members**

It was noted that Non-Constituent Members were welcome to participate in the discussion of every item on the agenda.

6 **Declarations of Interest by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the agenda**

Mayor Jarvis MBE declared an interest in respect of Item 17 entitled 'Annual Budget and Treasury Management Strategy 2022/23, which proposed allocations of the £12m Mayor's Sustainable Transport Fund, £2m of which was for schemes in Barnsley. He also declared an interest in relation to Item 18 entitled 'Programme Approvals' relating to the Barnsley Central Constituency.

Mayor Jones CBE declared an interest in relation to any programmes that related to DMBC.

Councillor Andrews declared an interest in relation to any programmes that related to BMBC.

Councillor Read declared an interest in relation to any programmes that related to RMBC.

Councillor Grocutt declared an interest in relation to any programmes that related to SCC.

7 **Reports from and questions by members**

None.

8 **Receipt of Petitions**

None.

9 **Public Questions**

It was noted that three public questions had been received.

The following question was received from Jenny Carpenter, Better Buses for South Yorkshire:

"Will the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority get behind the We Own It campaign calling on the Government to review the ban on public ownership of bus transport?"

In response, Mayor Jarvis MBE expressed his thanks to J Carpenter and the We Own It campaign for the work undertaken and for keeping up the pressure. He considered that Local Government should be empowered to do whatever

was appropriate to improve the bus system. South Yorkshire needed its own solution, which reflected its particular urban-rural geography, reflected the needs of its communities and integrated with the other transport modes within the region. He believed that the ownership issue should form part of that debate, and the issue had been addressed within the SYMCA's independent Bus Review. Members noted the multitude of tasks that were being undertaken at once, which included propping up a system that was on the verge of collapse whilst putting in place the Enhanced Partnership model which sought short- and medium-term improvements, and as with franchising, exploring the different models of managing the bus network.

The following question was received from Fran Postlethwaite from Better Buses for South Yorkshire:

“My question concerns Item 11C Enhanced Partnership Scheme components, section 5 ‘improvements to passenger engagement’. This states ‘a new forum for passenger representation to include bus user groups, representatives of disabled people and local business groups’ will be established by 30 June 2022. We also note that this section promises a new Customer Charter, also by 30 June 2022. Can we be assured that the Better Buses for South Yorkshire group, which brings together a large number of bus users and would-be bus users from across the region, will be recognised as a passenger group and invited to be represented on the forum?”

In response, Mayor Jarvis MBE thanked F Postlethwaite for her question and the work undertaken. He commented that the DfT guidance suggested that the Forum should include representatives of bus passengers, local businesses, disability groups, similar in nature to those that were involved in the development of the BSIP. There was a suggestion within the DfT guidance that the Partnership Forum would be the most appropriate means of involving neighbouring authorities, particularly those involved in the BSIP. The role of the Enhanced Partnership Board was to establish the Passenger Forum, which they would envisage to do by 30 June 2022, including representatives of the organisations suggested in the guidance.

The following questions were received from Gordon Dabinett, Steering Group Member of Sheffield for Democracy, which focussed on, but not exclusively addressed the devolution proposals contained within the Government's recently published Levelling Up White Paper:

“i) The White Paper proposes new relationships between the Mayoral Combined Authorities and the Police and Crime Commissioners and the Fire and Rescue Services in their areas. What new relationships will be set up in South Yorkshire in the future?

ii) The White Paper also calls for further integration of LEP Boards with the SYMCA Boards. What changes in the relationship between the South

Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority Board and the LEP Board will result from this?

iii) One of the many broad aspirations expressed in the White Paper is to see a

streamlining of the current 'funding landscape'. What specific changes would the SYMCA Board wish to see implemented?

iv) In what ways will the proposed greater SYMCA control of Local Transport and Adult Education budgets be put to use in South Yorkshire?

v) Are there any intentions to use a Mayoral Development Corporation by the South Yorkshire MCA in the near future?"

In response, Mayor Jarvis MBE thanked G Dabinett for his questions which were all important issues, to be considered fully by the SYMCA. A summary of the White Paper would be discussed during the course of the meeting. The White Paper was not yet legislation and was reliant upon further information from the Government. The White Paper referenced a number of powers, such as transport and adult education, that the SYMCA already used to the betterment of the South Yorkshire communities. At the recent South Yorkshire Economic Summit, Mayor Jarvis MBE had highlighted the importance of streamlining the current funding landscape to A Haldane, in his role of Head of the Government's Levelling Up Taskforce. The DfT had proved with their approach to the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement that it could be done.

Mayor Jarvis MBE confirmed that there was no intention to establish a Mayoral Development Corporation within this Mayoral term. However, the new Mayor and Leaders would reserve the right to bring forward a Mayoral Development Corporation if the case was there to help unlock jobs and growth.

In relation to the Police and Crime Commissioner role, Mayor Jarvis MBE believed that there was a strong and positive case to be made for this. The issue would be resolved in the new Mayoral term.

10 **Minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2022**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2022 be agreed as a true record.

11 **Delivering the South Yorkshire Enhanced Partnership**

A report was presented which set out the result of the public and statutory consultation on the Enhanced Partnership Plan and Scheme for South Yorkshire and the recommended next steps. The report sought approval to 'make' the Enhanced Partnership Plan and Scheme and outlined the principles of supporting governance arrangements for the Enhanced Partnership Board, who would have responsibility for delivering the Enhanced Partnership Scheme.

Mayor Jarvis MBE was pleased to observe that the Enhanced Partnership Plan had been brought forward to ensure that improvements could start to be made on the bus services from 1 April 2022, when the Enhanced Partnership Plan and Scheme would commence. In order to ensure that the public transport in South Yorkshire recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic, it would be crucial to

strengthen the relationship with the operators, which would create a more effective system for passengers.

In relation to the governance of the Enhanced Partnership, Councillor Grocutt highlighted the importance that each local authority should have an opportunity to provide input. She added that in relation to funding of the Enhanced Partnership Scheme, that the operators were dependent upon the external funding and the associated risk that this presented. There was a need to ensure that any initial objectives were reached given that the commitments to funding were uncertain at this time.

In response, S Edwards referred a number of other structures that would be developed together with the Enhanced Partnership Board, which included the Enhanced Partnership Forum and a mechanism for engaging with the other stakeholders, which included the local authorities. Members would be provided with the detail moving forwards.

RESOLVED – That the Board considered the results of the public and statutory consultation relating to the proposed Enhanced Partnership Plan and Enhanced Partnership Scheme for South Yorkshire, considered the findings of the Equality Impact Assessment and Competition Test and gave approval to ‘make’ the Enhanced Partnership Plan and Enhanced Partnership Scheme on 1 April 2022.

12 **South Yorkshire Renewal Fund Investment Strategy**

A report was submitted which provided an update on the progress made in developing the South Yorkshire Renewal Fund Investment Strategy. The report built upon that received by the Board in January 2022. The report together with its recommendations, represented an interim staging post in the development pathway, whilst recognising the strong collaboration that had enabled core principles to be developed, and the need for an interim step.

Councillor Read referred to the revenue pressures and the challenges that had been faced by the local authorities in bringing forward schemes over the previous few years. He highlighted the importance for the pipeline projects to be agreed on a South Yorkshire basis, and he welcomed the report. He welcomed further reports to be presented to the Board, which would enable Members to ensure that the money clearly linked back to the political priorities and the SEP.

Councillor Grocutt commented that it would be helpful to keep the matter under review, in order to ensure that the objectives were being met.

RESOLVED – That the Board:

- i) Noted the progress made in the development of the Renewal Fund Investment Strategy and the collaboration through the officer group.
- ii) Approved the proposed allocations of interim revenue resource through the Project Feasibility Fund to the SYMCA and LAs.

- iii) Approved the proposed allocation of capital resource to support delivery ready investment opportunities.
- iv) Approved the development of Place Based Investment Plans and the South Yorkshire Transformational Impact Investment Plan.
- v) Approved the proposed allocations of longer-term gainshare funding to support the delivery of the Plans in recommendation four (iv) above.

13

Housing Retrofit

A report was presented which advised the Board of current progress towards the net zero target of 2040 and highlighted the priority areas of impact, namely Domestic, Transport, Industry and Nature. Addressed at scale, these areas would give further impetus to SYMCA led decarbonisation commitments within the region. The report recommended the next steps towards a Housing retrofit study, which if implemented, would contribute to the reduction of emissions within the domestic sector.

Mayor Jarvis MBE considered that the report was particularly timely, given the flood risk that had been faced by the region once again following the storms at the end of February 2022. It was key to tackle South Yorkshire's carbon emissions which were largely made up of domestic energy consumption. He referred to the potential for retrofits to help to create well paid jobs and to reduce fuel poverty. He hoped that this would be the first part of a process which would lead to greater benefits for both the environment and for the communities within the region.

M Swales took Members through the report, which covered the progress made towards the net zero target by 2040, the four priority areas of impact being Domestic, Transport, Industry and Nature. In 2019, the SYMCA had declared a Climate and Environmental Emergency. The Climate Response Framework had been approved by the SYMCA Board in January 2020. Since that time, the SYMCA's net zero work programme had been both comprehensive and cross-cutting, which had been delivered through all policy themes. The programmes had been progressed with a beneficial effect, and the impacts had been relatively modest to date. It was proposed for officers to examine the interventions with view to addressing the further carbon omissions for the region across the four priority areas. The first of which, to examine housing retrofit and associated decarbonisation.

RESOLVED – That Board:

- i) Noted the progress made on delivering the net zero target and to support the development of programmes within priority areas of impact – namely Domestic, Transport, Industry and Nature – that would also directly contribute towards the Net Zero target whilst delivering additional social and/or economic benefits.
- ii) Supported the commissioning of a Housing Retrofit Study that identifies actions to be undertaken to support the delivery of housing retrofit programmes across South Yorkshire.

Levelling Up White Paper

A report was submitted which summarised the Government's Levelling Up White Paper and highlighted the implications for the SYMCA.

Mayor Jarvis MBE commented that the Government had made a strong intellectual and policy case for levelling up, which had a much greater local control and influence over the way in which it was tried to be achieved. The SYMCA, local councils and partners across South Yorkshire would have an opportunity within the White Paper to help deliver growth for the communities within the region.

Members noted that the policies adopted within the White Paper were in accordance with the SYMCA SEP and the key priorities relating to devolution.

Further guidance was awaited on the formalised arrangements for the LEPs to become part of MCAs. SYMCA largely complied with the requirements within the current arrangements. The report outlined the headlines around innovation, housing and culture, skills, and the UK Shared Prosperity Funding and how it was anticipated to be allocated to the combined authorities.

Councillor Grocutt highlighted the importance for the SYMCA to be in a position to bid for any funding that became available, and to ensure that the local authorities were included as part of the process.

Mayor Jones CBE considered that the bidding process was a waste of energy for local authorities and the mayoral combined authorities. She considered that the Government should provide the full set of required monies to enable it to be placed appropriately.

Mayor Jarvis MBE agreed with the points raised by Mayor Jones CBE. He had raised the issue with A Haldane during the South Yorkshire Economic Summit, and he would continue to make the points forcibly to the Government.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the summary of the White Paper and considered the implications for the SYMCA.

Progressive Procurement

A report was presented which set out the new draft 'Progressive Procurement Policy' for the SYMCA that aimed to use the SYMCA's spending power to achieve greater 'social value'. By developing a more progressive procurement policy, which aimed to go beyond value for money in a traditional sense, the SYMCA could achieve greater social, ethical and environmental outcomes and realise greater added value for the economy and for society. In 2021/22 there had been a total SYMCA spend on procurement of £49m. The SYMCA's spend on investment totalled £390m. It was proposed to undertake a pilot during the first year, with the findings to be reported back the Board.

Mayor Jarvis MBE referred to the major and growing spending power of the SYMCA which should be harnessed to achieve greater social value for the region.

Members considered the following options:

Option 1:

To do nothing and to continue with the existing approach. This would limit the reach of SYMCA spending and would impact on what could be reported. There was a risk of significant reputational damage as the SYMCA was already lagging behind its peers in the policy space.

Option 2:

To agree a new progressive procurement policy which better reflected the ambitions for social value in the SEP. Work was underway to explore how the policy, if approved, could be implemented and how the SYMCA could work with anchor partners to agree and implement a consistent South Yorkshire-wide progressive procurement policy and approach.

Councillor Grocutt suggested that it would be helpful, from a SCC perspective, for the opportunity for the individual local authorities to respond to the points highlighted within the report. This would enable a clear understanding of the position of the other local authorities, with a view to establishing how to move and develop further.

Councillor Read welcomed the paper and the subsequential paper presented to the Board. He expressed his thanks for the work undertaken in production of the report.

RESOLVED – That Members considered the draft progressive procurement policy and approved Option 2, which was endorsed by the LEP Board on 10 March 2022.

16 **Social Value Eligibility Criteria**

A report was submitted to inform Members of the work that had been undertaken over the last few months to develop a set of eligibility conditions for accessing SYMCA funding and finance. Members noted the ten commitments that had been produced, which were designed to ensure that funding and finance from the SYMCA supported organisations with a similar desired ethos and with whom the SYMCA could work to generate greater social value through all of the actions, interventions and relationships. The policy had been endorsed by the LEP Board at its meeting held on 10 March 2022.

RESOLVED – That the Board reviewed and adopted the eligibility conditions, which had been endorsed by the LEP at its March 2022 meeting, noting the need to pilot its implementation in the first year.

17 **Annual Budget and Treasury Management Strategy 2022/23**

A report was presented which proposed a budget and accompanying financial strategies for the financial year 2022/23. The proposed budget provided

resource totalling c. £472m to enable the activity required to deliver upon the objectives that were set in the SYMCA's Corporate Plan.

G Sutton highlighted a number of key points within the report. The budget proposal at c. £472m would enable record in-year levels of investment. This would provide significant opportunities; however this reflected the significant amount of slippage from the current year into the next year. There were concerns around the bus and tram network within the region, with the ability to operate on a commercial basis; the funding details were awaited. Significant pay and price inflation, together with the labour market constraints continued to impact upon the delivery programmes. An uncertainty remained around the core funding streams. Longer term concerns were being raised around the use of reserves to support the transport levy, and material concerns in the medium-term environment regarding the tram network and how it would be funded post 2024.

Mayor Jones CBE welcomed a balanced budget. However, she considered that what was lacking was the funding and knowledge from the Government, instead of receiving piecemeal sums of money to be spent within a short time frame, which created the carry over position from one year to the next. She suggested that the SYMCA should continue to press for a proper system of funding, which would enable the SYMCA to prioritise those schemes that were considered the most beneficial.

Mayor Jarvis MBE commented that he would continue to make the point with the Secretary of State.

RESOLVED – That the Board:

- i) Approved the adoption of the revenue and capital budget estimates for the year.
- ii) Approved the Reserve Strategy.
- iii) Approved the Treasury Management Strategy.
- iv) Approved the award of CRSTS Revenue Grant.
- v) Approved the award of capital grant from the Mayor's Sustainable Transport Fund.
- vi) Delegated authority to the Section 73 Officer to accept a number of grant awards.

18 **Programme Approvals**

A report was submitted which requested progression of eight schemes and approval of two project change requests subject to the conditions to be set out in the Assurance Summaries. The report sought approval to progress business cases and enter into a contract for a number of investment proposals which would support the SYMCA's aspirations. The total value of the schemes was £43.93m and would be resourced from previously committed grant funding.

Mayor Jarvis MBE expressed his thanks to all of the officers for the work undertaken in bringing the programme approvals forward to the meeting.

RESOLVED – That the Board considered and approved:

- i) Progression of “Rotherham Parkgate” project to full approval and award of £11.55m grant to South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (SYPTE) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix A1.
- ii) Progression of “Park Hill 4” to full approval and award of £5.61m to Urban Splash (Park Hill) Limited subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix A2.
- iii) Progression of “Attercliffe Waterside” scheme to full approval and award of £4.08m to Sheffield City Council (SCC) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix A3.
- iv) Progression of “Sheffield Heart of the City 2 – Block A” to full approval and award of £3m to Sheffield City Council (SCC) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix A4.
- v) Progression of “Unity Active Travel” to full approval and award of £4.40m to Doncaster Borough Council (DBC) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix A5.
- vi) Progression of “A61 Wakefield Road Bus Corridor” to full approval and award of £13.29m to SYPTE subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix A6.
- vii) Progression of “Rotherham to Kilnhurst Flood Alleviation” Scheme to full approval and award of £2m to Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary at Appendix A7.
- viii) Progression of “Sheffield Future High Streets Fund (Front Door Scheme)” from outline business case (OBC) to full business case (FBC) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix B1.
- ix) Approval of Change requests detail in Appendix C
- x) Delegated authority be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreements for the schemes covered above subject to funding being available.

19

MCA Levelling Up Fund Round 2 Bid

A report was presented which provided updated information on the Government’s Levelling Up Fund (LUF) and sought approval to submit a bid to the next round of the fund. The Government’s LUF had originally been published with the Budget on 3 March 2021, with a total of £4.8 billion

committed for the LUF for England over a four-year period up to 2024-25. There were two bidding rounds, with submission dates of June 2021 and in the Spring 2022. The SYMCA had made a submission in June 2021, together with all other MCAs; only one MCA had been successful at that time. However, the South Yorkshire local authorities did have some success. The submission to be made in Spring 2022 would be public transport related to address the current challenges within the region.

RESOLVED – That the Board approved the submission of an SYMCA Levelling Up Fund bid to Government and agreed delegated authority to the SYMCA Chief Executive and Statutory Officers in consultation with the Mayor, Council Leaders and Co-Chairs of the Transport and Environment Board to agree the final content of the bid.

20 **Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) 'Responsible Authority'**

A report was submitted which provided the Board with an update on the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) 'Responsible Authority'.

Members noted that within the SEP, the SYMCA had committed to sustainability as a key policy objective. Within the Environment Act 2021, the Government had stated that they wished to assign a 'Responsible Authority' for each area to develop a Local Nature Recovery Strategy; to which the SYMCA was the preferred authority. Through DEFRA, the Government had made it clear that there would be additional 'burden payments' to ensure that resources were available.

RESOLVED – That the Board agreed that SYMCA should be 'Responsible Authority' for a South Yorkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy, subject to the cost of the responsibility being met by Government funds.

21 **Midland Road Disposal**

A report was presented which sought delegated authority for the statutory officers of the Authority to enter into arrangements for the disposal of the former bus depot site at Midland Road, Rotherham.

The SYMCA owned a former bus depot at Midland Road, Rotherham, following the liquidation of the former SYITA Properties Ltd company. The site consisted of aged office accommodation and bus sheds which were constructed over 40 years ago.

RESOLVED – That the Board:

- i) Delegated authority to the statutory officers to make arrangements for the disposal of the Midland Road site in the most efficient manner possible.
- ii) Note the proposal to give due consideration to the regeneration plans of Rotherham MBC.

Assurance and Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks

A report was submitted which summarised the amendments that had been incorporated into the two frameworks following an initial review by the Government and presented them for endorsement and adoption by Members, ahead of their publication in draft form on 31 March 2022, pending Government approval.

The SYMCA and LEP were required by the Government to update and publish its Assurance Framework by 31 March each year. The Assurance Framework set out how the SYMCA and LEP would use public money responsibly, make robust decisions, achieve best value for money and act in an open and transparent manner.

RESOLVED – That:

- i) SYMCA Members noted, at section 2.2, the key amendments that had been made to the Assurance and Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks following the initial review by Government.
- ii) SYMCA Members considered and endorsed and adopted the updated Assurance and Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks set out at Appendices 1 and 2.
- iii) Delegated to the Head of Paid Service, the agreement of any final changes required by Government for them to approve and sign-off both Frameworks.

Delegated Authority Report

A report was presented which provided an update on the decisions and delegations made by the SYMCA and the decisions and delegations made by the Thematic Boards.

Members were referred to Appendix A to report, which provided details of the delegations agreed by the SYMCA, which were in addition to those made under the Scheme of Delegation. Appendix B to the report provided details of the decisions taken under the delegation made to the Thematic Boards and the subsequent delegations made to officers where appropriate.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the decisions and delegations made.

Mayor Jarvis MBE wished to place on record his profound thanks to Sir Steve Houghton CBE, Mayor Jones CBE, Councillor Read, Councillor Fox and their deputies for their support, hard work and the huge dedication and commitment to support him in his role of Mayor over the last 4 years. He added that creating the stronger, greener and fairer South Yorkshire, that was wished to be observed by all, would only be possible by partners coming together across the region to deliver it. He considered that the SYMCA was better placed than ever before to make this happen. He expressed his thanks to the officers at the local authorities, and in particular to his officer team within the SYMCA.

I, the undersigned, confirm that this is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed

Name

Position

Date

MCA - MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:

MONDAY, 6 JUNE 2022 AT 10.00 AM

**SOUTH YORKSHIRE MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY, 11
BROAD STREET WEST, SHEFFIELD S1 2BQ**



Present:

Mayor Oliver Coppard (Chair)	South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority
Councillor Chris Read (Vice-Chair)	Rotherham MBC
Councillor Terry Fox	Sheffield City Council
Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE	Barnsley MBC
Mayor Ros Jones CBE	Doncaster MBC

In Attendance:

Dr Dave Smith	Chief Executive / Head of Paid Service	SYMCA Executive Team
Dr Ruth Adams	Deputy Chief Executive	SYMCA Executive Team
Stephen Edwards	Corporate Director of Public Transport	South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive
Damian Allen	Interim Chief Executive, Doncaster MBC	Doncaster BMC
Sharon Kemp	Chief Executive, Rotherham MBC	Rotherham MBC
Sarah Norman	Chief Executive, Barnsley MBC	Barnsley MBC
Martin Swales	Interim Director of Transport, Housing, Infrastructure and Planning	SYMCA Executive Team
Steve Davenport	Chief Legal & Monitoring Officer	SYMCA Executive Team
Gareth Sutton	Chief Finance Officer/S73 Officer	SYMCA Executive Team
Felix Kumi-Ampofo	Director of Corporate Policy	SYMCA Executive Team

Apologies:

Councillor Alex Dale	NE Derbyshire DC
Councillor Steve Fritchley	Bolsover DC
Councillor Tricia Gilby	Chesterfield BC
Councillor Simon Greaves	Bassetlaw DC
Kate Josephs	Sheffield City Council
Huw Bowen	Chesterfield BC
Karen Hanson	Bolsover and North East Derbyshire Councils

Jim Dillon
Mike Thomas
Stephen Batey
Gill Callingham
Paul Wilson

SYMCA Executive Team
SYMCA Executive Team
SYMCA Executive Team
NE Derbyshire District Council
Derbyshire Dales DC

1 **Welcome and Apologies**

The Mayor welcomed everyone to his first meeting as South Yorkshire Mayor and hoped everyone enjoyed the long bank holiday weekend.

Members noted that there were no apologies.

2 **Announcements**

Members noted that there were no formal announcements.

The Mayor noted that it would be the last MCA Board meeting with Dr Smith as Chief Executive of South Yorkshire MCA. He thanked Dr Smith for his service and for leading the organisation on behalf of SYMCA and the people of South Yorkshire.

The Mayor stated that he was humbled to have been elected by the people of South Yorkshire last month and will do everything in his power to make South Yorkshire healthier, wealthier, happier, and more confident.

3 **Urgent Items**

None.

4 **Items to be Considered in the Absence of Public and Press**

None.

5 **Voting Rights for Non-constituent Members**

The Mayor asked the Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer to explain and advise.

The Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer noted that there were no non-constituent members present at the meeting and stated that by convention they do not have voting rights unless specifically allowed as an exception which is not an issue for today's meeting.

6 **Declarations of Interest by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the agenda**

Cllr Houghton declared an interest in programme approvals relating to Barnsley.

Cllr Fox declared an interest in programme approvals relating to Sheffield.

M Swales declared an interest to the item entitled 'appointment of an interim Chief Executive/Head of Paid Service'. He advised that he would step out of the meeting for this item.

7 Reports from and questions by members

None.

8 Receipt of Petitions

None.

9 Public Questions

Q1. G Henshaw (South Yorkshire Free from Fossils) introduced himself, asked his question and supporting statement.

'Is the mayor going to make contact with the members of the South Yorkshire Pensions Authority (SYPA) to explore how the £10.5billion of SYPA funds could be better invested to support South Yorkshire businesses and link with the policies promoted by the Mayor?'

He added that the group (South Yorkshire Free from Fossils) is disappointed that despite the climate emergency declared a few years ago and stated that they have £200million invested in fossil fuels, including Shell. He continued that the group has looked at what SYPA have invested in, they believe that less than 1% of it is invested in South Yorkshire and it is his belief that the workers in SY should have their pensions invested in SY. His finished by stating that he believes that across the political spectrum there has been support for the items he proposes and that there are plenty of investment opportunities within the 'green' arena that are based in South Yorkshire.

The Mayor began by stating that he thinks it's a great question and he agrees with the sentiment behind it. He stated that there had already been some initial conversations about this, and he will continue to build on these with a number of pension funds and institutional investors in the coming weeks and months. He will be happy to update Gordon and the public on these when he is able to.

Q.2 G Arthur (South Yorkshire Freedom Riders) introduced himself, asked his question and supporting statement.

'Will the mayor investigate returning the elderly travel concessions that elderly travel pass holders had before April 2014?'

Those concessions for the elderly were free train travel in South and West Yorkshire between 9am and 11pm and an extension of free travel on buses from 9am instead of the national condition of 9.30am. The cost of the free train travel for the year 2014 was budgeted at £329,000.

The return of free train travel would bring us back into line with Liverpool and

West Midlands. An interim measure would be to investigate a £10 annual charge as used in Manchester?'

He added that the passes alleviate stress on the NHS and social care as people aren't deteriorating in their own homes but are encouraged to get out and engage in their wider community, with some even volunteering across the region. He asked if the pass could include train travel and stressed that this is particularly important as they have a toilet on board and are a lot warmer than other forms of travel, as well as linking across South and West Yorkshire and questioned whether it was necessary for there to be a curfew by 11pm. He added that he believed there was not an adequate amount of public consultation about the changes. He concluded by stating he believes there needs to be a more generalised view about how saving money in one area, for example within the MCA, may increase spending in another area, such as social care.

The Mayor responded by stating that the Freedom Riders were one of the first groups he came and spoke to when he announced his candidacy, and he would be happy to do so again. He added that he wants our public transport network to be fit for purpose, accessible and affordable for everyone and that the MCA has previously considered the reinstatement of free rail travel for elderly concession pass holders but unfortunately it is unaffordable in the current financial state, but we do want to consider other options including those he has mentioned such as an annual payment.

He added that there has been market research conducted and the results of this will be brought forward to a future MCA Board meeting, but he will discuss the issues raised by G Arthur with colleagues.

ACTION: The Mayor to discuss the market research that was conducted by MCA with colleagues and have a conversation with G Arthur following this.

He stated that on the issue of allowing elderly concession pass holders to travel before 9.30am during weekdays, this restriction to off peak times during the working week is specified nationally in the Transport Act. He added that the additional funds required are not currently possible with the MCAs current funding, but this option remains on our list of possible policy options that is constantly under review.

Q.3 F Postlethwaite (Better Buses) introduced herself, asked her question and gave her supporting statement.

'Can the mayor please report on progress made on the investigation into franchising of bus services which was agreed on 4th March? In particular, is there a timetable for when data will be requested from bus operators, and a deadline for them to respond with the information?'

She added that she is very pleased that the mayor agreed to meet with the group two weeks after his election and they had a fruitful conversation. She is also pleased he came out to speak to the group outside the MCA in the morning prior to the MCA Board meeting and signed a pledge board.

F Postlethwaithe went onto explain that when she met the Mayor, she handed over a dossier of complaints the group have received from members of the public and went on to read a similar complaint she received via email the day prior to the meeting. She believes this demonstrates the importance that the buses are improved so we have a bus service to be proud of and that works for everybody.

The Mayor thanked F Postlethwaithe and her colleague M Potham for taking the time to come into the MCA and talk to him and colleagues. He agreed with her sentiments and stressed that this was why in his second week in office he chose to focus on public transport. He stated that he took one of the first formal steps in the franchising assessment by requesting regional bus operators share six years of their patronage, performance, and financial data which will allow the MCA to get on with the work required to assess the benefits and risks of franchising in SY and added that a Bus Franchising Manager has been appointed. A letter was also issued to all Bus Operators in SY advising them of the MCA's intention to take forward franchising assessment work and he will be able to advise on specific timelines once the external advisors are on board.

Q.4 N Slack introduced himself, asked his questions and gave supporting statements. The questions were in reference to the Mayoral Priorities paper, item 11 on the agenda.

'Currently questions like this have to be provided in writing 7 days in advance of the meeting, this usually means just a day or so after the agenda is published. Even well-resourced organisations might struggle to read and digest the reports presented for the meeting, let alone solo activists like myself. I believe this to be detrimental to democracy within the SYMCA, a point of priority during the mayors electoral campaign. Can I therefore propose that the mayor look into the way questions and petitions are handled with a view to shortening the deadline for submission before any meeting?'

The Mayor responded that the turnaround time for public questions have been organised in such a way so we are able to respond to the questions during the meeting. If the deadline was extended, we may not be able to get an appropriate response to the question for the meeting thus leading to a response in writing, so there are trade-offs for both options.

'The last bullet point in the paragraph, "developing our collective thinking on what the region can do to grow it's Arts, Culture and Heritage offer." Does this comment presage a return to the commitment given by the previous mayor to appointing an arts, culture and heritage commissioner?'

The Mayor commented on how SY's cultural and creative sectors are among the most valuable assets to the region and the Art, Culture and Heritage Project Direct is currently working on this agenda. He added that he is leading a spotlight week on art and culture at the end of the month and is working with the Project Director at all possible options for maximising existing and developing new opportunities for our cultural sector.

Q.5 Dr M Thompson (Green New Deal South Yorkshire) introduced himself, asked his question and gave a supporting statement.

'To address the current energy crisis and the longer-term climate crisis we need a massive upswing in renewable energy which can wean us off fossil fuels and create energy security and independence. Solar and wind are cheapest and the least risky options, well-developed and with very few side effects. But central government energy plans are currently mainly focused on continuing support for fossil fuels or on high-tech solutions which are expensive and risky, such as nuclear power and so-called blue hydrogen. What plans does SYMCA have to promote and support the expansion of both wind and solar in the region?'

He continued that he understands that what the MCA can do is limited but that there are some things, such as aiding with commissioning training so that the current 1 to 2-year delay in solar panel installations can be decreased and it would provide local jobs. He added that the UK currently imports turbine blades, and this is something that could be done here in SY, at facilities such as the AMRC.

He mentioned an opportunity to create a Green South Yorkshire Bond which would provide the financing to allow the MCA and local councils to undertake more work to ensure a green new deal in SY and to ensure there is green and immediately available energy in SY. He noted that there are some good projects already undertaken in SY including Sheffield Renewables and Barnsley supporting renewable energy in its social housing.

The Mayor summarised with his own personal view. He agrees that SY needs a green energy strategy and that there are lots of good projects being undertaken across the region already that we could draw on and replicate, and that there is the opportunity for new skills and jobs to be created. He assured Dr Thompson that he would be writing out to him with a detailed response.

ACTION: The MCA to write to Dr Thompson in more detail.

10 **Minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2022**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on the 21 March 2022 be agreed to be a true and accurate record.

11 **Mayoral Priorities**

The Chief Executive introduced and summarised the paper. He commented that the South Yorkshire Mayor has hit the ground running since his election success, particularly in his engagement with local communities.

The Mayor is grateful for the paper being brought together by officers and the work already being undertaken and offered his thanks to leaders for their support when creating the manifesto.

Cllr Fox welcomed the new Mayor. He questioned the role of the Active Travel Commissioner and added that in Sheffield are they keen on bringing communities with them on their implemented green travel agenda rather than enforcing it upon them. He asked the Mayor what he believes the Commissioner will bring to the region. The Mayor agreed that this needs to be

done with the communities, not to the communities. He has spoken to many people who are in the sector and work on these projects daily, is that the Active Travel Commissioners did a lot for the region and moved the projects forward and so he is keen to get a replacement for that role.

RESOLVED: That the Board noted the content of the report.

12 **UK Shared Prosperity Fund**

The Director of Corporate Policy introduced the paper and explained the fund to the meeting.

He stated that a 3-year allocation has been announced but the fund itself is expected to continue long after that and has given £46 million to South Yorkshire. Around £7million of this will be going to 'Multiply', an adult numeracy programme. The remaining £39million will go to three investment priorities- communities and place, local business, and people and skills.

MCA is the lead authority and must organise a response investment plan and submit a plan to national government by early August. This plan has to set out how we intent to manage the funding for each area and how we will assess and approval any applications, whilst reporting to central government. The interventions are set out very broadly in the Government documents, the MCA has to identify which ones we intend to us and what outcomes we expect to get.

The paper proposes that the South Yorkshire Mayor and MCA Chief Executive have conversations with each local authority leader and Chief Executive to arrive at a consensus in terms of what will be prioritised and how they will be weighted in the investment plan submitted. The Director of Corporate Policy noted that there is a large role the MCA has to play in terms of engagement with local communities, business and group and their views need to be taken into account.

Cllr Houghton noted that the funding is welcome however it is not the level of funding we would have got if we were still in Europe. He mentioned his disappointed that it is just a 3-year plan compared to the 7-year plan offered with European funding. He added that there needs to be pressure kept on central government in regard to all the funding offered and ensuring it continues for longer than the 3-years.

RESOLVED: That the Board:

- i) Note the guidance and actions required in its capacity as lead authority.
- ii) Will have further discussions to discuss and agree the Government priorities for the SPF ad additional principles to be applied locally.
- iii) Agree that the Chief Executives should oversee an including process to develop an investment plan to be presented in draft to the MCA Board in July, following agreement to the framework and set of principles and priorities.

- iv) Endorses the submission of a plan for the Multiply programme into Government and delegate leadership of this plan to the Education, Skills and Employability Board.

13 **Supporting At-Risk Bus Services**

The Corporate Director of Public Transport introduced the paper and summarised the key issues.

He noted that whilst the restrictions introduced as a response to the Covid-19 pandemic have ended, passenger numbers on public transport are still only at three-quarters of those prior to the pandemic. Despite an extension to recovery funding to October, there remain a number of services in SY that are commercially unsustainable.

The Mayor opened it up to questions from members.

Cllr Read commented that it is vital that we do this until October but that it is not a sustainable solution forever. He added that it was vital that all parties – central government and bus operators – are committed to creating a good bus service for SY and ensuring it is funded properly. The Corporate Director of Public Transport agreed.

Cllr Houghton added his agreement to the report and noted that currently we are looking at a cliff-edge in October unless central government come up with a solution between now and then. He added that it is vital we get the message out to the people of South Yorkshire about the challenges we are facing and continue to pressure government for the solution.

The Mayor stated his commitment to making bus services better and that this is not possible with the current financial situation with government so much of the work he will be doing over the next few months will be related to this.

Mayor Jones stressed that we would see social exclusion if there were a reduction in bus services and this is not an option. She stated that this is not levelling up but driving down.

RESOLVED: That the board:

- i) Approves a policy decision to prevent near-term reductions in bus services in SY by intervening with additional financial support.
- ii) Approves the variation to the operational bus services budget by up to £1.9 million
- iii) Approves the delegation to the Director of Public Transport in consultation with the Mayor and Chair of TEB to enter into arrangements to secure services.

14 **Extension to Zoom Beyond Concession**

The Corporate Director of Public Transport introduced the paper and summarised it and the asks of it.

The Zoom Beyond Concession was brought in last year to support the extending the benefits of young persons travel to under 18-year-olds to those under 21. This will end on the 20th June and this paper seeks to extend the scheme.

Cllr Read noted that he was pleased that we can continue this and offered his support to the scheme. Mayor Coppard echoed Cllr Read's comments.

RESOLVED: That the Board:

- i) Approves a policy decision to extend the Zoom Beyond concession.
- ii) Approves the variation to the budget to accommodate costs incurred in 2022/23.
- iii) Approves the production of replacement cards to be issued to currently eligible participants.
- iv) Delegates the negotiation of revised rates of reimbursement with bus and tram operators to the Corporate Director of Public Transport.

15 **LEP Review**

The Deputy Chief Executive summarised the report and the recommendations within it.

The Deputy Chief Executive explained the requirements for the MCA to set out an Integration plan with the LEP Board and submit this to government by the end of July, or at the latest the end of January 2023.

The Mayor offered it out to questions and comments. He added that it is his belief that a strong relationship between the MCA and private sector is vital to the working of the MCA.

RESOLVED: That the Board:

- i) Has considered and agrees the process to be undertaken to complete the integration plan, including considering an option for business engagement to be put forward to Members by the LEP.
- ii) Considered and agreed the timeline and engagement plan for development
- iii) Considered and agreed any further work members would like to commission officers to undertake prior to receipt of a draft plan.

16 **Programme Approvals**

The Chief Financial Officer briefly introduced the report and the recommendations within it.

The Mayor welcomed the programme approvals and noted that we are having a spotlight this week on Net Zero and this heavily relates to that work.

RESOLVED: That the Board has considered and approved:

- i) The progression of "Sheaf Valley Cycling Route" project to full approval and award of £2.3m grant to Sheffield City Council (SCC) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary.
- ii) The progression of "A630 Bus Improvements" project to full approval

- and award of £1.6m grant to Doncaster Borough Council (DBC) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary.
- iii) The progression of “Goldthorpe Station Access” project to full approval and award of £0.55m grant to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (BMBC) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary.
 - iv) The progression of “Elsecar Active Travel Scheme” project to full approval and award of £0.57m grant to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (BMBC) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary.
 - v) The progression of “D0037” project to full approval and in-principle approval for an investment of £3m to a Sheffield based business subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary.
 - vi) The progression of “Housing Retrofit” project from Outline Business Case (OBC) to Full Business Case (FBC) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary.
 - vii) The Local Transport Fund Grant (£5.66m); the award of grant to South Yorkshire Supertram Ltd for the tram element of funding (£4m); and the earmarking of the bus element to the protection of priority services (£1.66m).
 - viii) The approval of 12 Project Change requests
 - ix) That delegated authority be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreements for the schemes covered at 1-4 above.
 - x) The delegated authority to be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer and the Mayor and Chair of the Business Growth Board to enter into legal agreements for the scheme covered in point five, subject to the satisfactory conclusion of due-diligence and negotiation of an appropriate investment method.

17 **Nominations and Appointments**

The Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer introduced this report and the recommendations within it.

He added that the MCA Audit, Standards and Risk Committee had problems achieving quorum and the MCA was being asked to approve a reduction to the number of members from ten to four. This has come out of a recent effectiveness review and in consultation with the Chair of that committee.

The Mayor offered it out to questions or comments from members.

Cllr Read is happy to support the recommendation for the membership on ASRC to decrease from 10 to 4 but has asked for this to be a year trial.

The Mayor offered his thanks to the people on those committee and the work that they do.

RESOLVED: That the Board :

- i) Noted the appointment of second rotational Member appointments, required to ensure the Authority has a majority of constituent Members.

- ii) Approved the elected member nominations for the Audit and Standards Committee and approved a 12 month trial of a 4 elected Member committee.
- iii) Approved the continuing appointment of the existing two independent members for the Audit and Standards Committee pending a new recruitment process.
- iv) Approved the elected member nominations to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- v) Approved the appointment of Mayor Oliver Coppard to the Transport for the North Board.
- vi) Approved Cllr Read as substitute member for the Transport for the North Board.
- vii) Endorsed seeking two Transport for the North Scrutiny Committee members from Sheffield, Barnsley or Doncaster.

18 **Revised Financial Regulations and Contract Procedure Rules**

The Chief Financial Officer briefly introduced the paper and recommendations.

The report recommends the adoption of revised Financial Regulations and Contract Procedure Rules for the MCA Group and ensures that these core Constitutional documents reflect the latest changes in the regulatory environment whilst also supporting the integration process.

The Mayor offered it out to questions or comments from members.

Members agreed to the recommendations in the report.

19 **Appointment of an Interim Chief Executive/Head of Paid Service**

M Swales left the meeting for this item.

The Deputy Chief Executive introduced this paper and the recommendations within it.

The paper seeks approval to appoint M Swales as Interim Chief Executive Officer and Head of Paid Service and Combined Authority Returning Officer with effect from the 1st July 2022.

The Mayor offered it out to questions or comments from members.

RESOLVED: That the Board:

- i) Approved the appointment of M Swales on an interim basis from 1st July 2022.
- ii) Delegate to the Deputy Chief Executive on discussion with the Monitoring Officer and S73 Finance Officer the arrangements for this appointment.

Mayor Coppard noted that he looked forward to working with M Swales.

20 **Delegated Authority Report**

RESOLVED: That members noted the decisions and delegations made.

I, the undersigned, confirm that this is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed

Name

Position

Date

MCA - LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:

THURSDAY, 10 MARCH 2022 AT 11.00 AM

HYBRID MEETING

SOUTH YORKSHIRE
BUSINESS



LOCAL
ENTERPRISE
PARTNERSHIP

Present:

Lucy Nickson (Chair)	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Neil MacDonald (Vice-Chair)	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Joe Chetcuti	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Michael Faulks	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Dan Fell	Doncaster Chamber
Councillor Terry Fox	Sheffield City Council
Alexa Greaves	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Peter Kennan	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Mayor Dan Jarvis MBE	South Yorkshire MCA
Mayor Ros Jones CBE	Doncaster MBC
Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE	Barnsley MBC
Gemma Smith	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Cathy Travers	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Bill Adams	TUC Representative
Sarah Norman	Barnsley MBC
Martin Swales	SYMCA Executive Team

Officers in Attendance:

Dr Dave Smith	Chief Executive / Head of Paid Service	SYMCA Executive Team
Dr Ruth Adams	Deputy Chief Executive	SYMCA Executive Team
Gareth Sutton	Chief Finance Officer/S73 Officer	SYMCA Executive Team
Nici Pickering	MCA Executive Team	SYMCA Executive Team
Sharon Kemp	Chief Executive, Rotherham MBC	Rotherham MBC
Jim Dillon	Interim Director of Business and Skills	SYMCA Executive Team
Jonathan Guest	Senior Economic Policy Manager	SYMCA Executive Team
Paul Johnson	Senior Policy Manager	SYMCA Executive Team
Felix Kumi-Ampofo	Assistant Director Policy and Assurance	SYMCA Executive Team
Andrew Shirt	Minute Taker	Joint Authorities Governance Unit

Apologies:

Angela Foulkes	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Councillor Chris Read	Rotherham MBC
Richard Stubbs	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Professor Dave Petley	University of Sheffield
Kate Josephs	Sheffield City Council
Damian Allen	Doncaster MBC
Sarah Want	Sheffield University

10 **Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

11 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest in relation to the agenda items for discussion at the meeting.

There were no declarations of interest in relation to any activity since the last formal Board meeting.

There were no declarations of interest in relation to any forthcoming activity.

12 **Notes of Last Meeting - 13 January 2022**

RESOLVED – That the notes of the previous meeting held on 13 January 2022 were agreed to be an accurate record.

13 **Mayoral Update**

Members noted that today would mark the last LEP Board meeting attended by Mayor Jarvis MBE before the end of his mayoral term in May 2022. On behalf of the Board, L Nickson expressed her thanks to Mayor Jarvis MBE for his engagement with the LEP during the last 4 years, which had been key in ensuring that the public and private partnership between the MCA and the LEP Board had gone from strength to strength. Through the joint working and vision, Mayor Jarvis MBE had granted the opportunity to build a stronger, greener and fairer region, which had created opportunities and prosperity for all. Members recalled that in 2018, when Mayor Jarvis MBE had first been elected, South Yorkshire had no devolved powers or resources. The Board noted the transformative change that had been achieved through Mayor Jarvis MBE's tireless negotiations with the Government to get the best deals for South Yorkshire.

In response, Mayor Jarvis MBE expressed his thanks to L Nickson for her comments. He was extremely grateful to the efforts and dedication of the Members of the LEP Board, both on an individual and collective basis, which had added a huge amount of value to the process over the years.

The South Yorkshire Economic Summit held on 9 March 2022 had been an important milestone for the MCA, which had demonstrated the progress that had been made over the last few years. Mayor Jarvis MBE would continue to support the position as a Member of Parliament to champion South Yorkshire. He was pleased to observe the attendance of the LEP Board Members at the event.

Mayor Jarvis MBE had recently spoken to the Rt Hon Michael Gove MP in relation to the Shared Prosperity Fund, who had assured him that clarity would be provided within the Spring 2022 Statement. Mayor Jarvis MBE would liaise further with the Government between now and the Spring 2022 Statement in relation to extending the arrangement that was contained within the

Comprehensive Spending Review, to unlock the additional resources for South Yorkshire.

A report was presented which provided Members with an update on key Mayoral activity relating to the economic agenda.

Updates were provided on:

- i) Fighting for South Yorkshire's bus and tram services.
- ii) Connected by Water.
- iii) Continuing to strengthen relationships with India.
- iv) Levelling Up White Paper and Levelling Up South Yorkshire.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the update.

14 **Levelling Up White Paper**

A report was presented which summarised the Government's Levelling Up White Paper and highlighted the implications for the region, MCA and LEP. The quality of life and growth opportunities of residents, businesses and places in South Yorkshire could be profoundly impacted upon by how the White Paper was implemented.

Dr Smith thanked those Members that had attended the South Yorkshire Economic Summit that had been held on 9 March 2022, particularly to those Members that had made contributions during the panels and workshops. The feedback that had been received to date had been extremely positive. The workshop sessions had also been favourably received and the feedback from debates will shape our policy and action over the coming years. The remit of the new Innovation Board (which will soon be constituted and announced) will ensure that some of the thinking and approaches are taken forward. He was pleased to observe the amount of coverage the summit had received, especially via social media. He considered that the way in which the summit had been set out by Mayor Jarvis MBE and L Nickson, together with the response received from A Haldane, had been helpful in exposing the opportunities and challenges brought through the White Paper.

Members noted that Mayor Jarvis MBE had agreed to write to Andy Haldane to thank him for his contributions made to the summit and to seek his support, especially regarding unlocking access to private finance. Consideration would also be given regarding how to continue the conversation with those that had attended the summit and those who had showed interest but had been unable to attend.

Professor Sir Husbands had chaired the skills session at the summit, which had received positive feedback. He did not consider that the summit had fully addressed the next course of action. He noted that he would welcome a discussion at a future LEP Board meeting regarding the next steps and choices that could be undertaken by the Board and others in relation to the themes of skills/finance.

P Kennan had been unable to attend the summit. He requested Dr Smith to inform Members on the announcement of the South Yorkshire Sustainability Centre.

In response, Dr Smith referred to the ongoing work with the University of Sheffield to seek to develop a holistic and workable approach. The Centre will be driven by a desire to achieve impact, backed by the evidence, while being sensitive to the potential consequences of the transition.

In relation to the plenary session on finance at the summit, M Faulks referred to the suggestion that the best approach for any South Yorkshire based company that sought finance, was to open a branch office in London, and that the evaluation of the equivalent company would be twice higher than that in South Yorkshire. He referred to the innovation centres within South Yorkshire, and he considered that the messaging and promotion of which should be a key activity. He considered that the summit had been very positive.

Councillor Sir Houghton CBE commented that a draft Skills Strategy will be ready in early Summer 2022. He noted the need to maximise opportunities over the next 5 years for the existing workforce and business, and to ascertain what could be undertaken over the longer term to transform the performance of South Yorkshire.

D Fell referred to the positive feedback that had been received following the summit. He was pleased to observe the different parts of South Yorkshire that had celebrated each other. However, he considered that there had been a lack of diversity within the panels and time keeping. For future years' summits, he suggested that they should strive for greater interaction.

L Nickson referred to the need for greater diversity on future panels and access to the finance session. She had observed the huge enthusiasm for the summit which had presented the opportunity to bring everyone together. She considered that the summit had addressed the collective leadership and visibility of the LEP in terms of the role which was required, and she hoped that the summit could be built upon moving forwards.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the summary of the White Paper and considered implications for the LEP and for South Yorkshire.

15 **(Social Value) Eligibility Conditions for accessing MCA funding & finance**

A report was submitted which provided Members with an update on the social value eligibility conditions for accessing MCA funding and finance. The paper sought endorsement of the work to be taken to the MCA Board for final approval. Members noted the ten commitments that had been produced, which were designed to ensure that funding and finance from the MCA supported organisations with a similar desired ethos and with whom the MCA could work to generate social value through all the actions, interventions and relationships.

F Kumi-Ampofo referred to the engagement that had been undertaken with the key stakeholders across South Yorkshire, businesses, anchor partners, third sectors and LEP Board Members. It was acknowledged that small

organisations may require additional support to engage fully. It was proposed to undertake a pilot during the first year, and for the findings to be reported back the LEP Board.

B Adams expressed his thanks to F Kumi-Ampofo and his team for the work undertaken, and he acknowledged the amount of input that had been provided by the Trade Unions and the Sheffield University Management School. In relation to the condition about employees being informed about the business and involved on the decision making, as highlighted within the report, he considered that this could be achieved by providing adequate facilities and communication channels for employee representation ie trade unions. He considered that, if employees were willing, they should be free to make a decision regarding whether to join a trade union. Members noted that within the region and at other regions, access to the trade unions into the workplace was increasingly patchy.

C Travers considered that trade unions were not necessarily the only answer, due to there being many other methods to engage with employees, and that this policy could create a very marginal impact due to the size of funding available, which was relative to the number of businesses within the region. She added that further consideration should be given to the broader engagement with businesses across the region to drive better practice around the key issues.

Professor Husbands commented that several companies that had exploited their staff by paying below the living wage. The ten conditions were essentially to inform a framework that allowed companies to access funds. In relation to condition 9, he considered that it would be extremely difficult for any company to achieve net zero, and that it would be necessary to plot a realistic route towards achieving net zero. He highlighted the need to work with companies who had a degree of flexibility and autonomy in the way in which they achieved desirable outcomes.

In summary, L Nickson noted that the Board broadly supported the recommendations, whilst recognising the progress that was being made, and she acknowledged the differing views which would be reflected upon by the executive team during the implementation phase.

RESOLVED – That the Board endorsed the policy and the Eligibility Conditions and recommended the same to the MCA Board for adoption.

16 **Progressive Procurement Policy**

A report was submitted which set out the new draft 'Progressive Procurement Policy' for the LEP and MCA that aimed to use the MCA's spending power to achieve greater 'social value'. By developing a more progressive procurement policy, which aimed to go beyond value for money in a traditional sense, the LEP and MCA could achieve greater social, ethical and environmental outcomes and realise greater added value for the economy and for society.

P Kennan queried whether there would be consistency within the policy, and whether the same level of proportionality and flexibility would be applied as in

the social value eligibility conditions for accessing MCA funding and finance. He could not see a commitment to spending within the local supply chains as a driver to social value locally.

In response, F Kumi-Ampofo commented that the work would be undertaken by the same team, and the policy would be implemented with the same level of sensitivity and reason, with consistent technical issues across the piece. He added that procurement was a key variable for consideration.

Members considered the following options:

Option 1

To do nothing and to continue with the existing approach. This would limit the reach of MCA spending and would impact on what could be reported. There was a risk of significant reputational damage as the MCA was already lagging its peers in the policy space.

Option 2

To agree a new progressive procurement policy which better reflected the ambitions for social value in the SEP. Work was underway to explore how the policy, if approved, could be implemented and how the LEP and MCA could work with anchor partners to agree and implement a consistent South Yorkshire-wide progressive procurement policy and approach.

RESOLVED – That the Board considered the draft progressive procurement policy and endorsed Option 2 and recommended to the MCA Board for approval.

17 Cost of Living Crisis

A report was presented which summarised key elements of the emerging cost of living crisis, and highlighted the implications and potential areas of focus for the region, MCA and LEP. The Bank of England had warned the population to prepare for the steepest drop in living standards for 30 years, as the cost-of-living crisis set in.

Members were referred to the high proportion of businesses within the region which were energy intensive and used fossil fuels. Supply chain of inflation would affect different groups, particularly businesses and those in low-income households. Currently, inflationary pressure was encountered across the labour market with record vacancies levels, and businesses struggling to recruit which was driving up the wages. The National Insurance contributions would increase by 1.25% from April 2022, and it was anticipated that the Council Tax bills across the UK were also expected to rise from April 2022. In April 2022, the Government would uprate benefits by 3.1% when the inflation was forecast to hit 7%.

P Kennan suggested that the thematic boards could consider whether investment programmes could be adapted to respond where feasible. He

queried whether Members should meet to consider whether there were other actions that could make a difference.

L Nickson suggested that the matter should also be discussed at the Business Advisory Group meeting to be held on 14 March 2022. She endorsed the suggestion for further discussions to be undertaken.

C Travers expressed her concern at the situation together with the prospect of moving into a recession and potentially job losses.

RESOLVED – That the Board Members reviewed the emerging evidence, noting the impact on the MCA investment programme and considered potential responses.

18 **LEP Review**

A report was submitted which set out the latest developments in the Government's ongoing review of Local Enterprise Partnerships and highlighted the potential impact on the work of the LEP in South Yorkshire.

Dr Adams referred to the discussion on the Levelling Up White Paper. The Government had indicated that where LEPs were in MCA areas, that they would be folded into the MCA structures. Further information was awaited imminently from the Government.

L Nickson referred to the aforementioned summit which had reiterated that business had to be at the heart of the discussions within the MCA. She invited colleagues to give serious consideration on the matter.

N McDonald commented that the LEP had a good working relationship with the MCA and the thematic boards. The summit had shown a diversity of individuals from the private, public and third sectors which should be built upon.

RESOLVED – That the Board noted the implications of the review and discussed what the future role of the LEP should be.

19 **Chief Executive's Update**

A report was submitted which provided Members with a general update on activity being undertaken by the LEP outside of the agenda items under discussion.

Updates were provided on:

- i) India trade and investment opportunities.
- ii) Doncaster's to bid for Great British Railways headquarters.
- iii) South Yorkshire to be home to pioneering gene therapy centre.
- iv) Arts Council funding.
- v) SY Quarterly Economic Survey.
- vi) Welcome to Yorkshire.

Dr Smith requested Members to support the bid for the Great British Railways headquarters, and to encourage others to support it also.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the update.

I, the undersigned, confirm that this is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed

Name

Position

Date

MCA - LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:

THURSDAY, 12 MAY 2022 AT 11.00 AM

MEETING ROOM G3/4, 11 BROAD STREET WEST,
SHEFFIELD, S1 2BQ

SOUTH YORKSHIRE
BUSINESS



LOCAL
ENTERPRISE
PARTNERSHIP

Present:

Lucy Nickson (Chair)	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Neil MacDonald (Vice-Chair)	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Michael Faulks	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Dan Fell	Doncaster Chamber
Peter Kennan	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Richard Stubbs	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Mayor Oliver Coppard	South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority
Councillor Chris Read	Rotherham MBC
Professor Chris Husbands	University Representative LEP Board Member
Professor Dave Petley	University of Sheffield

In Attendance

Joe Chetcuti	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Angela Foulkes	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Alexa Greaves	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Mayor Ros Jones	Doncaster MBC
Bill Adams	TUC Representative

Officers in Attendance:

Dr Dave Smith	Chief Executive / Head of Paid Service	SYMCA Executive Team
Dr Ruth Adams	Deputy Chief Executive	SYMCA Executive Team
Martin Swales	Interim Director of Transport, Housing, Infrastructure and Planning	SYMCA Executive Team
Nici Pickering	MCA Executive Team	SYMCA Executive Team

Guests in Attendance

Justin Homer	BEIS	
Damian Allen	Interim Chief Executive, Doncaster MBC	Doncaster MBC
Sharon Kemp	Chief Executive, Rotherham MBC	Rotherham MBC

Apologies:

Gemma Smith	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Cathy Travers	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Councillor Terry Fox	Sheffield City Council
Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE	Barnsley MBC
Sarah Norman	Barnsley MBC
Steve Davenport	SYMCA Executive Team
Gareth Sutton	SYMCA Executive Team
Kate Josephs	Sheffield City Council
Eugene Walker	Sheffield City Council
Sarah Want	Sheffield University

20 **Welcome and Apologies**

L Nickson acknowledged Dave Smith is resigning at the end of June and gave thanks for his contributions in a range of areas.

Mayoral Update

Mayor Coppard was welcomed to the meeting; he gave thanks for his welcome and discussed working for the LEP some 7-8 years ago and that it is wonderful to be back. After 7 months of campaigning, he was looking forward to delivering on commitments and is looking forward to working with everyone.

21 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest in relation to the agenda items for discussion at the meeting.

There were no declarations of interest in relation to any activity since the last formal Board meeting.

There were no declarations of interest in relation to any forthcoming activity.

22 **Notes of Last Meeting from 10 March 2022**

RESOLVED – That the notes of the previous meeting held on 10 March 2022 were agreed to be an accurate record.

23 **South Yorkshire Innovation Board**

A report was presented which summarised the South Yorkshire Innovation Board paper. Good progress has been made following the meeting in January. During the summit, the intention of establishing the board was made public and Lynda Shillaw, Chief Executive of Harworth, has been appointed as interim chair. Lynda brings with her a wealth of financial experience. The paper highlighted the general approach in getting the board up and running and the timeline for approaching board members with an intention for it to go live in July.

Members queried resources for the Innovation Board and were assured access to resources to support innovation would be available.

Clarity was sought in regard to the relationship between the Innovation Board and other structures, eg academia and FE, for example, to ensure the best possible opportunity to succeed in its purpose. It was acknowledged that this is incredibly important and work to set relationships out will continue to be progressed.

Members commented that The Innovation Board needs to be seen as the place where wisdom is developed and therefore needs freedom to explore opportunities. Board Members confirmed that the Innovation Board should concentrate on doing a fewer things well, and not be spread too thinly.

There was a discussion on the representation and relationship between local academia and the Home Win team, with further work to be done to clarify relationships.

L Nickson acknowledged that reflection and discussions will continue.

Dr Dave Smith stated that now Mayor Coppard was in post, conversations with several key people to collate and refashion thinking is essential. Once this has been explored, it will be helpful to report back to the board, with the possibility of propagating the results through mini summits to engage the public and private sector.

24 **Integrated Rail Plan: Strategic Positioning Response and Actions**

Martin Swales and Jonathan Spruce presented the Integrated Rail Plan and sought views on the outcome of the IRP published in November and the subsequent evaluation work with local authority colleagues.

The plan identified a number of positive elements, challenges and opportunities to influence, and noted that it is important to determine their position to give South Yorkshire the strongest stance in the forum.

The IRP for South Yorkshire details a single set of actions to strengthen South Yorkshire's position.

The immediate actions and priorities are:

- Serving Leeds by HS2
- Getting HS2 to Sheffield
- Midland Mainline Electrification
- East Coast Mainline Upgrade

Short term quick wins:

- Secure the second fastest train to Leeds via Dearne Valley
- Secure the third fast train to Manchester
- Enhance capacity at Sheffield Midland Station
- Develop and deliver
- City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement rail schemes
- Secure shorter-term infrastructure, service and station enhancements
- Progress Restoring your Railway Schemes

Ongoing Work Programme – Addressing IRP gaps:

- New station at Rotherham Mainline
- Electrification and line speed improvements between Sheffield and South Kirkby junction/Doncaster
- Four fast services to Leeds
- Four fast services to Manchester
- Two fast services to Hull

Other schemes – Non-IRP enhancements:

- Line Speed improvements Hallam Line & Doncaster Humberside Lines
- Second train per hour on Penistone Line

- Further station service enhancements
- Develop rail freight needs

M Swales concluded this is a complex fast-moving environment and to ensure that priorities are sharpened, we are positioning and representing ourselves in the right places. The Principal of the Leeds Area Network Review Group would represent South Yorkshire alongside Martin with additional links being established with the Principal at Network Rail. The timeframes for implementation are long, but decisions are quite short and by December the plan for Sheffield to Leeds should be agreed.

Members reminded the room that rail is not just important for connectivity but also for freight and, by having this on our front door, will enable us to influence national decision making.

The paper was welcomed, and members raised the issue of ticketing being a big barrier for people.

It was confirmed The Mayor had written to the Prime Minister to raise issues regarding South Yorkshire and promises not being met.

25

State of the South Yorkshire Economy

Felix Kumi-Ampofo provided a presentation which included an overview of the national economy and a more detailed report on the South Yorkshire economy, which included the following areas:

- Transport
- Employment
- Unemployment
- Health
- Poverty in work
- Salary
- Universal Credit
- Child Poverty
- Business Density
- Inflation
- Fall in disposable income
- Fuel Poverty
- Energy Intensive Businesses
- Cost of Living Vulnerability
- Interest rises

It went on to discuss the launch of a new Data Intelligence Hub showcasing data across several areas with a proposed launch date of July 2022.

L Nickson requested a Working Win update. Dr Ruth Adams confirmed that she would provide information at a later date, but that the evaluation indicated there had been a significant number of referrals from Primary and Critical Health Care. An additional £3 million has been awarded to continue a similar model but concentrating on those already in work having difficulties, as the initial trial had indicated 70% of referrals had come from this cohort.

Members highlighted that there is a large north-south divide and provided statistics regarding health and how it relates to several areas, including housing and relationships and that this requires addressing in all policies. This was supported in the presentation due to participation rates, age, and ill health.

L Nickson queried whether the skill strategy and the issues it identifies gives us confidence in the pace we are moving at. F Kumi-Ampofo responded that things are moving as quickly as possible but explained there will be developments over the coming months. The plan is to pull a draft together over the summer and come back with a provisional timeline.

Dr Dave Smith noted that collectively the pace is not aligned and there is a need to adapt to circumstances with new solutions with all involved. During the pandemic, abilities were collectively demonstrated and this level of motivation needs finding again with a particular focus on certain areas. Members discussed the issues around unemployment and low wages have been problematic in South Yorkshire for several years.

26 **South Yorkshire Economic Summit - Next Steps**

A Gates gave an update on the economic summit which was attended by approximately 130 people which included a more diverse cohort than normal. It was recognised that the board would need to take ownership of diversity.

The update went on to explore:

- Financial development
- Land and Property
- Innovation Ecosystems
- Skills and Talent
- Showcase South Yorkshire

L Nickson noted that there are issues the board is going to face in terms of engagement and that this is something which requires further work. Members confirmed the mini summit ideas are positive, however, the board needs to mobilise to get different voices into the room.

27 **LEP Review Integration Plan Process**

Dr Ruth Adams outlined the guidance and government requirements and the proposal to further engage the private sector in defining a purpose through a workshop, currently being organised.

28 **Chief Executive's Update**

Dr Dave Smith informed the board of the following:

- The government is set to announce later this month the short list for Headquarter of the Great British Railways.
- South Yorkshire Business Advisory Group continue to meet regularly, the Shared Prosperity Fund allocation will be further considered in terms of investment by the beginning of August.

Questions were raised regarding the Levelling Up bid, and it was clarified that a delegate authority had been received from the MCA and further conversations would take place at the next LEP Board meeting.

I, the undersigned, confirm that this is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed

Name

Position

Date

SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING

24 JANUARY 2022

PRESENT: Councillor T Damms (Chair)
Councillor C Hogarth (Vice-Chair)
Councillors: T Smith, S Ball, J Paszek, D Hutchinson, S Ayris, R Frost
and C Ross

CFO A Johnson, S Slater and S Kelsey
(South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service)

M McCarthy, G Kirk, D Nuttall, S Loach, L Noble and M Bray
(Barnsley MBC)

In attendance remotely: M Buttery
(Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime
Commissioner)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor S Sansome,
Councillor P Garbutt, Councillor B Johnson, Dr A Billings, N Copley and
M Potter

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

3 URGENT ITEMS

None.

4 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That agenda item 9 entitled ‘McCloud/Sargeant Immediate Detriment Update’ be considered in the absence of the public and press.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IN RELATION TO ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

None.

6 REPORTS BY MEMBERS

None.

7 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

None.

8 TO RECEIVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC, OR COMMUNICATIONS SUBMITTED BY THE CHAIR OR THE CLERK AND TO PASS SUCH RESOLUTIONS THEREON AS THE STANDING ORDERS PERMIT AND AS MAY BE DEEMED EXPEDIENT

None.

9 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and the public interest not to disclose information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

10 MC CLOUD/SARGEANT IMMEDIATE DETRIMENT UPDATE

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was submitted to provide Members with an update following the 2018 Court of Appeal judgement in Sargeant.

The Monitoring Officer provided Members with an update on the latest position. The Courts had determined, under the lead cases of McCloud/Sargeant, the merits of the 'immediate detriment' pension claims. The Courts had confirmed that Fire Authorities were liable for the age discrimination and its impact caused by the Government's tapering provisions of the Firefighter's Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. The Courts had also confirmed that the Fire Authorities had a statutory duty under S61 and S62 of the Equality Act 2010, to operate a non-discriminatory pension scheme which overrides the 2014 Regulations tapering provisions

RESOLVED – That Members agreed to adopt the approach specified at Option a) i. of the recommendations within the report.

CHAIR

Please follow the link below for further information on the updates of the actions arising from the Fire and Rescue Authority meetings:-

<https://meetings.southyorks.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD1250&ID=1250&RPID=402996&sch=doc&cat=13039&path=13039&zTS=D>

SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

21 FEBRUARY 2022

PRESENT: Councillor T Damms (Chair)
Councillor C Hogarth (Vice-Chair)
Councillors: S Sansome, S Ball, J Paszek, D Hutchinson, S Ayris,
R Frost, C Ross and Dr A Billings

CFO A Johnson, ACO T Carlin, T/AM M Gillatt, S Slater, AM Strelczenie
and AMB S Dunker
(South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service)

M McCarthy, J Field, S Loach and M Bray
(Barnsley MBC)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor P Garbutt,
Councillor T Smith, Councillor B Johnson, N Copley, M Potter, L Noble,
S Norman, DCFO C Kirby and M Buttery

1 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

3 **URGENT ITEMS**

None.

4 **ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

None.

5 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IN RELATION TO
ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA**

None.

6 **REPORTS BY MEMBERS**

None.

7 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

None.

8 TO RECEIVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC, OR COMMUNICATIONS SUBMITTED BY THE CHAIR OR THE CLERK AND TO PASS SUCH RESOLUTIONS THEREON AS THE STANDING ORDERS PERMIT AND AS MAY BE DEEMED EXPEDIENT

None.

9 MINUTES OF THE AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 10 JANUARY 2022

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Authority meeting held on 10 January 2022 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

10 MINUTES OF THE EXTRA ORDINARY AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 24 JANUARY 2022

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Authority meeting held on 24 January 2022 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

11 APPOINTMENT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER TO THE AUTHORITY

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was presented regarding the appointment of the Monitoring Officer to the Authority.

Members noted that the Monitoring Officer to the Authority, Garry Kirk, who was the Service Director (Legal) Barnsley MBC, had left the organisation at the end of January 2022. Members were recommended to appoint the new Monitoring Officer, Jason Field, who is the Head of Legal Services at Barnsley MBC, with effect from 1 February 2022.

RESOLVED – That Members agreed to appoint Jason Field, Head of Legal Services, as the Monitoring Officer to the Authority.

12 COVID-19 UPDATE

Members were provided with an update on SYFR's response and recovery to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Service continued to encounter COVID-19 related sickness absences, however a reduction in the number of sickness absences overall was now starting to be observed.

Following the Government's decision to remove the Plan B restrictions, the Service had continued to keep those restrictions in place i.e. to continue with the recommended social distancing, wearing of face masks at fire stations and when travelling in brigade vehicles. The Service's Senior Leadership Team would continue to review the measures.

An announcement was expected imminently from the Government in relation to self-isolation and other COVID-19 control measures, which would be considered by the Service's COVID-19 Recovery Group.

The Service's office based staff had been requested to return back into the workplace on a rota basis.

The Service continued to support the South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum.

AM Dunker suggested that the COVID-19 update should no longer be a standing agenda item, but should instead be reported to the Authority by exception.

Councillor Damms agreed to the suggestion.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the update.
- ii) Agreed that the COVID-19 update should no longer be a standing agenda item, but should instead be reported to the Authority by exception.

13 2022/23 ANNUAL REVENUE BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX SETTING

A report of the Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive and Clerk and Treasurer was submitted to approve the 2022/23 revenue budget and to set the council tax and precept by the legislative deadline. The report set out the implications of the Local Government Finance Settlement, the proposed 2022/23 revenue budget and an updated Capital Programme, including new 2022/23 capital investment schemes for approval by Members.

The budget was in balance for 2022/23, which included a transfer of approximately £1m into reserves that reflected the one-off Services grant to be received in 2022/23. The budget was based on a proposed council tax increase for 2022/23 of 1.99%, which subject to approval by Members, would equate to £77.58, which was an increase of £1.51 per annum.

Councillor Ross queried whether the 2% provision of pay awards and the contractual inflation that was assumed at 3% each year were optimistic projections.

Members noted that most of the other fire and rescue services nationally were looking at a 2% pay rise and around 3% – 4% for contractual inflation; the Service would continue to monitor the position. The National Fire Chiefs Council was discussing the pay issue. The new reserve in terms of the Emerging Risk Reserve, was an area whereby any further increase would seek to be funded from.

In response to a question raised by Councillor Hogarth as to whether there was any scope for the arrears to be paid for the 2021/22 pay award prior to the end of the current tax year, to prevent individuals from being hit by the increase in national insurance contributions, S Slater commented that this was provided for as part of the budget for the year. The outcome of the trade union meetings were awaited.

Councillor Sansome expressed concern at the ask of £1m from the residents of South Yorkshire, and how those individuals on the lowest possible incomes would be able to manage with the increase.

S Loach commented that in the event that the Members did not agree to the 1.99% Council Tax increase, then it would result in an impact of approximately £400-£500k during the year which would reduce the reserve down, and the rise would be annually effective. The Services grant was on a one-off basis, and therefore there was already a deficit for 2022/23.

In response to a query raised by Dr Billings regarding the external borrowing requirement and the assumptions on the percentage interest rates, S Loach stated that the majority of borrowing was fixed rate borrowing. He would provide Members with the information regarding interest rates in terms of what had been built into the Treasury Management Strategy.

Councillor Ball referred to the savings that had been made on transport and hybrid meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic, together with the COVID-19 grant. He therefore suggested that the council tax increase of £1.51 per household should not be made this year, as it would hit the residents of South Yorkshire with a further cost, when the Service would be making savings moving along.

CFO Johnson considered that the Service would face a challenging couple of years, in terms of the awaited Government White Paper, inflation issues and staff salaries. In the event that the council tax was not increased, this would ultimately result in a reduction of the number of firefighter roles within the Service, which would impact upon the number of fire appliances that were made available.

S Loach commented that the majority of the properties within South Yorkshire were Bands A and B, which equated to a council tax increase of £1.00 per household per annum.

In response to a request made by Councillor Damms for Members to be provided with regular updates on the reserves, S Slater commented that the information was provided within the financial quarterly report that was presented to the Authority.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Approved the Authority's 2022/23 Revenue Budget at Appendix A to the report.
- ii) Noted the Treasurer's Section 25 Statement (Section H) in support of the budget.

- iii) Approved the Capital Investment Strategy (Appendix B) including the updated Capital Programme and new approvals as set out in Section E of the report.
- iv) Endorsed the proposed approach for managing reserves as set out in Section D to the report, noting the increase in reserves as a result of the receipt of the one-off Services grant in 2022/23.
- v) Approved the Treasury Management and Investment Strategy at Section G.
- vi) Approved the fees and charges schedule for 2022/23 at Appendix D.
- vii) Approved a Council Tax Increase of 1.99% for 2022/23 at Section C of the report.

All Members voted in favour of a Council Tax increase of 1.99% for 2022/23, with the exception of Councillor Ball who voted against the decision.

14 SERVICE IMPROVEMENT BOARD UPDATE

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted which provided an update on progress against the actions on the Service Improvement Plan. The plan was monitored by the Service Improvement Board, which met on a monthly basis, to ensure that the objectives within the plan were being progressed and delivered in good time. The plan included actions relating to the Service, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) Inspection Report, Grenfell Tower Inquiry, State of Fire and Rescue Reports and published Fire Standards.

Members noted that the percentage of completion for each action was now recorded onto the plan, as per the request of the Authority. Members were referred to Appendix A of the report, which detailed the 17 Areas for Improvement (AFI) which had been identified within the HMICFRS inspection report for SYFR. The HMICFRS fieldwork inspection of SYFR was scheduled for w/c 11 April 2022. The Service's document request and self-assessment had recently been returned to the HMICFRS.

In response to a question raised by Councillor Ross regarding how those items that were behind schedule would impact upon the upcoming HMICFRS inspection, AM Strelczenie commented that the matter would be discussed further at the Service Improvement Board meeting scheduled for 28 February 2022. A great deal of work had been undertaken to complete the outstanding areas for improvement. There were now only 2 – 3 outstanding areas for improvement, which AM Strelczenie anticipated would be completed when the matter was next reported to the Authority.

In relation to the actions that were behind schedule and the shortage of staff within the Fire Safety Team, Members noted the recent advertisement for recruitment. Recruitment had been successful to appoint an E-learning co-ordinator and an ICT software developer to commence work on the 'Hazard Alert' software.

The Service liaised with the residents and the responsible persons in relation to the evacuation of high-rise buildings. However, the evacuation strategy of those buildings was the responsibility of the respective local authority or responsible persons and not the Service.

In response to a series of questions raised by Dr Billings, AM Strelczenie commented that the pilot on the provision of out of hours work had been successful. The trial would conclude at the end of March 2022, at which point it was anticipated that it would become embedded within the Service.

The timeline for the work to adopt a national operational guidance and for a plan to be put in place had been extended by around 8 months due to the COVID-19 pandemic, as a number of staff had been redeployed to provide assistance. AM Strelczenie would provide Members with an update on the new timeframes for the implementation of the new national operational guidance to the next Authority Meeting scheduled to be held in April 2011.

With regard to the AFI to ensure that the Service's operational staff had good access to relevant and up-to-date risk information, which should include cross-border risk information, Members noted that the Service did have access to over the boarder risk information. The AFI had been left open, as it had not yet been determined how far a radius outside of the Service's boarder that it would travel. Consideration was being given to a radius scheme based upon inherent risk. The Service would always attend those incidents with the cohort fire and rescue service, who would have access to the risk information.

Nationally, the fire and rescue sector continued to experience issues in the recruitment and retention of women and BAME individuals. The matter had been raised following the recent HMICFRS inspections that had been carried out at 13 fire and rescue services. Members were referred to the work that continued to be undertaken by the Service to address the issue. During 2022, the number of female recruits onto the current course had increased to 14% with 5 female members of staff and 3% from BAME. Two female middle managers had been appointed over the last 6 month period. The Service continued to encourage individuals from the under-represented groups to join the establishment through a variety of means. DCFO Kirby would attend an upcoming meeting with the Somalia community, to discuss employment opportunities within the Service.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the contents of the report and provided further scrutiny and support to enable continual service improvement.

15 STATE OF FIRE AND RESCUE REPORT 2021

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was presented which provided an overview of the publication of the State of Fire and Rescue 2021, by Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Fire and Rescue Services, Sir Thomas Winsor, which had been released on 15 December 2021.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the contents of the report and provided further scrutiny and support to enable continual service improvement.

16 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 3 2021/22

A report of the Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive and Clerk and Treasurer was presented as the third in a series of reports that Members would receive throughout the financial year, to inform them as to the likely financial performance for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The report detailed the estimated revenue outturn position in comparison to the annual budget that had been set on 22 February 2021, it also provided an updated reserves position statement together with an update on the Capital Programme.

The approved operating budget for 2021/22 totalled £55.400m, and funding totalled £55.872m which resulted in a planned contribution to reserves of £0.472m. The Authority projected a net operating spend of £54.761m, with funding of £55.872m resulting in an overall forecast operating underspend of £1.111m or 2% of the budget.

The approved Capital Programme for 2021/22 totalled £7.704m, and the programme had been adjusted to £9.487m following approval of the 2020/21 Outturn Report on 21 June 2021.

Councillor Sansome queried where the money would go, in the event that the Service did not recruit the planned number of fire officers within the budget that had recently been set.

S Slater highlighted that any underspends that were generated through the revenue budget would go into general reserves for the Authority to then choose where this would go. In such an event, it was anticipated that the Treasurer would suggest that the money should go into emerging risk due to the issues with the comprehensive spending review, future inflationary price increases, pay awards etc. It was envisaged that the Service would reach its full establishment by the end of the next financial year.

Dr Billings queried whether the potential support staff pay award of 1.75% that had yet to be agreed and implemented was for the current financial year.

S Slater referred to a statement made by the Chancellor, at the time when the Service's budget had been set for the current financial year, that there would be no pay awards across the public sector due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Service had received a pay award during the year for operational staff.

A negotiated pay award was ongoing for the Service's support staff. In the event that this was paid from April 2022 onwards, there would be an impact on the pay award, which included the national insurance levy to which the Service and staff would observe an extra 1.25% deduction.

In response to a query raised by Councillor Ball regarding the £1.1m savings that had been achieved last year and the public to be asked to provide a further £600k, S Loach referred to the budget which had been approved by Members at today's meeting of a 1.99% increase which generated approximately £450k that was already built into the budget. This was a one-off underspend, which was mainly attributable to recruitment and was a national ongoing issue.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing measures, the Service had cut the number of attendees on the recruits courses by half. This had prevented the Service from reaching full establishment at an earlier point. The Service had re-established the 2-2-4 system across the establishment and had removed Close Proximity Crewing. In November 2021, the last fire station had been moved back onto the 2-2-4 system. The Service aimed to reach the full establishment of 608 by the end of the financial year, together with the recruitment of a more diverse workforce.

Members noted that within the current financial year, that some of the underspend related to non-pay. The changes in the expenditure and the reduction due to agile working had been reviewed into the Medium Term Financial Plan. The reduction was a one-off underspend and adjustments had been made to the budget for 2022/2023 with further savings to be made in 2023/2024.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the emerging underlying estimated revenue performance which was showing a potential operating underspend of £1.111m for the financial year ended 31 March 2022.
- ii) Noted the underlying and significant financial risks and uncertainties facing the Service and Sector during the remainder of this financial year and into 2022/2023 and beyond.
- iii) Noted the latest estimated change in General and Earmarked Reserves as set out in Section C of the report.
- iv) Noted the current position of the capital programme for the financial year ending 2021/22, which was in line with expectations.

17 SYFR COLLABORATION STRATEGY REVIEW

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was presented which provided Members with an updated Collaboration Strategy and accompanying Equality Impact Assessment for approval. The refreshed strategy had been taken through two consultation processes, with key collaboration colleagues in late 2021

and via the normal Corporate Management Board consultation process in January 2022.

RESOLVED – That Members approved the refreshed Collaboration Strategy.

18 REVIEW OF FRA MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME

A report of the Clerk to the Authority was submitted in relation to a review of the Authority's Members' allowances scheme. It was recommended that a review of the scheme should be undertaken every four years, and that the element that allows indexation to only run for four years after approval. The scheme had last been reviewed in 2018, where the Members allowances had not been increased, but the indexation had been approved.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Considered whether a full review of the FRA Members' Allowances Scheme was necessary.
- ii) Approved an independent review of the indexation, which was required after a term of four years.

19 UPDATE OF THE LOCAL PENSION BOARD KEY ISSUES AND DRAFT MINUTES OF 20 JANUARY 2022

M McCarthy referred to the excellent work that was undertaken by the Local Pension Board on behalf of the Authority. The Local Pension Board was deemed exemplar within the fire sector, in terms of the work undertaken and how it interacted with the Authority. This was attributable to A Bosmans, Chair of the Board, Members of the Board and L Noble's interaction with the Board.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes and the key issues arising from the Local Pension Board Meeting held on 20 January 2022.

20 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION HELD ON 13 JANUARY 2022

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Yorkshire and Humber Employers' Association held on 13 January 2022.

21 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 10 JANUARY 2022

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 10 January 2022.

22 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE APPEALS AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE HELD ON 24 JANUARY 2022

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Appeals and Standards Committee held on 24 January 2022.

23 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE HELD ON 28 JANUARY 2022

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Appointments Committee held on 28 January 2022.

Actions Table

No.	Action	Timescale	Officer(s)	Status/ Update
1	To provide Members with the information regarding interest rates, in terms of what had been built into the Treasury Management Strategy.	ASAP	S Loach	<u>Update 07.03.22</u> Please see the information appended to the minutes. ACTION DISCHARGED
2	To provide Members with an update on the new timeframes for the implementation of the new national operational guidance.	Fire Authority Meeting on 11.04.21	AM Strelczenie	

CHAIR

Please follow the link below for further information on the updates of the actions arising from the Fire and Rescue Authority meetings:-

<https://meetings.southyorks.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD1250&ID=1250&RPID=402996&sch=doc&cat=13039&path=13039&zTS=D>

Action 1 - To provide Members with the information regarding interest rates, in terms of what had been built into the Treasury Management Strategy

The forecast for interest rates at the time of writing the 22/23 TMSS was:

	Mar-22	Jun-22	Sep-22	Dec-22	Mar-23	Jun-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25
7.2.22	0.75	1.00	1.00	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25
20.12.21	0.25	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.25
change	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.75	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00

Since the 2022/23 Treasury Management Strategy was prepared, the Monetary Policy Committee decided to raise the Bank Rate from 0.25% to 0.50% at the February 2022 BoE meeting.

The Authority's treasury advisors have updated their interest rate forecast, which now has bank rate climbing to 1.25% by December 2023 (previously 0.50% per the strategy). It should be noted that since the revised forecasts were issued there is further uncertainty in financial markets due to the situation with the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and there is likely to be further revisions to the forecasts depending on how the crisis unfolds.

In order to limit the impact of interest rate rises in a volatile financial environment, the strategy is to maintain a minimum proportion of fixed rate borrowing of 70% of the Authority's total requirement. To achieve this target the Authority is likely to require around **£15.9M** of **fixed** rate borrowing over the period to 2024/25. The remaining 30% could be funded through a combination of temporary borrowing or utilising internal cash resources to minimise financing costs. The breakdown of the total borrowing requirement is shown below:

	2021/22 (£M)	2022/23 (£M)	2023/24 (£M)	2024/25 (£M)
Closing CFR	31.592	39.188	47.533	54.451
Gross Borrowing	(23.248)	(23.168)	(23.168)	(22.168)
Under-Borrowed Position	8.344	16.020	24.365	32.283
Support from Usable Reserves	(8.344)	(14.398)	(14.065)	(13.623)
External Borrowing Requirement	-	1.622	10.300	18.660

	2021/22 (£M)	2022/23 (£M)	2023/24 (£M)	2024/25 (£M)
Fixed Rate Borrowing	-	4.264	10.105	15.948
Temporary / Variable Rate Borrowing	-	-	0.195	2.712
Total Requirement (Cumulative)	-	4.264	10.300	18.660

Officers continue to closely monitor interest rates and consider the options available for borrowing which represent the best value for the Authority. Note that the above indicative borrowing figures may be subject to change in line with fluctuations in the financial markets or should there be revisions to the Authority's Capital spending plans.

As highlighted in the 2022/23 Strategy, there are a number of potential borrowing options available, including deferred loans, PWLB borrowing at the Certainty Rate and borrowing from other local authorities. Officers will continue to assess the rates and terms available within the market and ensure that the Authority's level of debt is prudent, affordable and sustainable over the longer term.

SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

11 APRIL 2022

PRESENT: Councillor C Hogarth (Chair)
Councillors: S Sansome, P Garbutt, T Smith, S Ball, J Paszek,
D Hutchinson, S Ayris, R Frost, C Ross and Dr A Billings

Councillor T Damms – In attendance remotely

CFO A Johnson, CFO C Kirby, DCFO T Carlin, S Locking and
A Strelczenie
(South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service)

M McCarthy, J Field, N Copley, M Bray and P Quinn
(Barnsley MBC)

L Noble
(Barnsley MBC) – In attendance remotely

M Buttery
(Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

Apologies for absence were received from
Councillor B Johnson, M Potter, S Norman and S Slater

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members noted that today was the final FRA meeting for CFO Johnson, who would shortly retire from SYFR. CFO Johnson had commenced in the role of Assistant Chief Fire Officer at SYFR in December 2017. She had progressed onto the role of Deputy Chief Fire Officer from March 2019 and she had been the Chief Fire Officer since January 2020.

Councillor Hogarth expressed his thanks to CFO Johnson for all her assistance and contributions provided to the Authority. On behalf of Members, he wished her a healthy and happy retirement.

The meeting also marked the final meeting for L Noble, who would shortly retire from BMBC. L Noble had commenced with BMBC in August 1979 and she had undertaken various roles during her 42 year career in Local Government.

Councillor Hogarth expressed his thanks for all the support that L Noble had provided to Members over the years. On behalf of Members, he wished her a healthy and happy retirement.

The meeting also marked the final meeting for M McCarthy, who would shortly take up the position of Director of Corporate Services at West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service. M McCarthy had commenced with BMBC in March 1987 working for the South Yorkshire Joint Secretariat. He had been the Service Director covering Corporate Governance, Joint Authorities Governance, Mayoral and Civic, Business Support etc. since 2019.

Councillor Hogarth expressed his thanks for all the support that M McCarthy had provided to Members over the years. On behalf of Members, he wished him the very best for the future.

3 URGENT ITEMS

None.

4 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That agenda item 23 entitled ‘Appointment of Independent Member – Audit and Governance Committee’ be considered in the absence of the public and press.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IN RELATION TO ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

None.

6 REPORTS BY MEMBERS

On 15 March 2022, Councillor Frost had attended a Safe and Well Referral training session, which had been very informative. He wished to express his thanks to P Jones who had facilitated the session. He recommended other Members to attend future sessions.

On 8 April 2022, Dr Billings had attended a South Yorkshire Police training day that had been arranged with the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and other partners. He had been pleased to observe the attendance of SYFR firefighters.

7 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

None.

8 TO RECEIVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC, OR COMMUNICATIONS SUBMITTED BY THE CHAIR OR THE CLERK AND TO PASS SUCH RESOLUTIONS THEREON AS THE STANDING ORDERS PERMIT AND AS MAY BE DEEMED EXPEDIENT

None.

9 MINUTES OF THE AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 21 FEBRUARY 2022

In response to a number of queries raised by Councillor Ayris regarding the National Operational Guidance (NOG) Implementation and Delivery Plan, that was appended to the minutes of the last Authority meeting held on 21 February 2022, AM Strelczenie commented that the basic principle of the NOG was for the Service to either to adopt, adapt or reject it.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Authority meeting held on 21 February 2022 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

10 2021/22 ANNUAL PLAN UPDATE

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted which provided an overview of the purpose of the Service's Annual Plan 2021/22, whilst Appendix A to the report provided an update against this progress.

At the Authority meeting held on 10 January 2022, Members had approved the Service's Annual Service Plan for 2022/23, which had effectively commenced from 1 April 2022. The Service's first Annual Plan 2021/22 had included specific strategic priorities for the organisation to focus upon, in and amongst its requirements to produce a Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP). The Authority had been provided with six monthly updates on the Annual Plan, which had last been presented at the Authority meeting held in October 2021.

Councillor Sansome queried whether any Independent or Elected Members sat on the CRMP Board.

In response, DCFO Kirby confirmed that no Independent or Elected Members currently sat on the CRMP Board but consideration would be given to the suggestion. The CRMP had replaced the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) which Members had approved in 2021, and which was a 3 year forward looking plan. In order to provide Members with assurance in relation to the independent validation of the work undertaken within the Service, DCFO Kirby commented that, in the event of any significant proposed changes to service delivery or the way in which the services were delivered into the communities of South Yorkshire, an external validation would be undertaken on the proposals together with external consultation with members of the public.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the progress against the Annual Plan 2021/22.
- ii) Approved the closure of the Annual Plan 2021/22 in readiness for the approved Annual Plan 2022/23, due to go live in April 2022.

11 BENEFITS REALISATION UPDATE

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was presented on the benefits realisation update. In June 2020, the Service had launched a Benefits Realisation Approach. Benefits Management was a key activity in project and programme management, which assisted the Service in understanding whether the changes made resulted in improvements in the service delivered. A dedicated Governance, Projects and Collaboration Team was now in place to support all of the Service's projects and large scale programmes. A vacancy remained for a Projects and Evaluation Officer within the team. Members were referred to the benefits realisation roadmap at Appendix A to the report. The HMICFRS Inspection undertaken in 2019 had identified that, whilst the Service delivered a great deal of good work, there was a need for better evaluation and understanding of the benefits of the work.

Councillor Garbutt referred to some of the vacancies which had yet to be filled to enable the programmes to be delivered. He queried whether the posts were dedicated solely to that Service area, or whether they were capable of being taken on in addition to other duties.

DCFO Kirby commented that the vacancy for a dedicated Projects and Evaluation Officer was a support role. The Service had encountered challenges in the recruitment of specific niche posts, which was due to the current labour market in terms of individuals seeking employment.

Dr Billings referred to the benefits that were sought to be realised, and he queried how these would be captured and reported.

In response, DCFO Kirby referred to the specific gateway reviews that were undertaken on projects. In the event that it was considered that there was an element of deviation, and the potential for more benefits to be realised by adding extra elements, or that it was unlikely to realise those benefits that had originally been envisaged, then a project review would be undertaken which would be prompted by the board responsible for the project or the Project Team. At which point, the original benefits would be reviewed to determine the progress made against those benefits.

Councillor Sansome sought assurance that the three amber projects/programmes would have progressed to a green status when the report was next presented to the Authority.

DCFO Kirby considered that the Barnsley Phase 2 Project and the Telematics Project were likely to progress to a green status. Further work would be undertaken with SYP to ensure that all three amber projects/programmes were progressed to a green status.

In reply to a query raised by Councillor Frost as to how the representative bodies were involved in the process, DCFO Kirby commented that a high proportion of the large scale projects, prior to becoming projects, would go out for consultation. This would be undertaken through the internal Joint Consultation Forum, at which all of the representative bodies across the organisation would be involved. Any

significant change to approach would be discussed within the Joint Negotiation Meetings which involved the Fire Brigades' Union, Fire Officers' Association and Corporate Support representative bodies.

A recent appointment had been made to a new Sustainability Officer post, and the postholder would draft the new Sustainability Green Plan. It was envisaged that this would also focus upon measures to reduce the CO² footprint of the Service.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the progress against the projects and programmes.
- ii) Noted the training and engagement delivered.
- iii) FRA to support the benefits realisation progress and tracker.

12 COMMUNITY RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2021 TO 2024

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted which presented the annual review of the Service's current Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2021 to 2024. The revised title was Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP), which had arisen from the outcome of national work undertaken by the National Fire Chiefs' Council. There was a new fire standard surrounding how fire and rescue services delivered CRMP activity. Many fire and rescue services had now renamed their IRMPs to CRMPs.

The report presented was the first annual update of the 3 year plan, which would be reviewed annually. The first draft of the CRMP had been presented to the Authority meeting held on 10 January 2022, where a number of questions had been raised by Members. DCFO Kirby considered that those questions in relation to changes to the CRMP had now been addressed.

Councillor Ayris commented that the document had not been amended following his request made at the Authority Meeting held on 10 January 2022, under the Heritage Risk section, to amend Oakes Park at Heeley to Oakes Park at Norton, Sheffield.

DCFO Kirby commented that the amendment would be made to the CRMP which was a 'live' online document.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the contents and approved the revised CRMP 2021 to 2024.

13 GENDER PAY GAP 2021

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted which provided details on salaries and bonuses paid to male and female employees within South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue (SYFR) on the snapshot date of 31 March 2021. As a public sector employer with over 250 staff, SYFR was required by law to carry out Gender Pay Reporting under the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities Regulations 2017). The Regulations came into force on 31 March 2017.

The mean (average) pay gap for full pay relevant employees was 13.53% and the median pay gap for full pay relevant employees was 7.34% across the SYFR workforce. Hourly rates of pay and any bonuses staff may receive by gender were compared as part of the gender pay reporting, to seek to expose any imbalance. The impending retirement of CFO Johnson had a negative impact on the average hourly rate for females this year, as she was unable to be counted as a Full Pay Relevant Employee due to not receiving the normal full salary in the period.

Councillor Paszek queried when looking at flexible and on call working for female members of staff, whether the flexibility should also be promoted to males to undertake those working options as a means to improve the way in which those roles were viewed throughout the Service.

In response, DCFO Kirby commented that the flexible working options were made available for all members of staff within the operational and corporate support roles across the Service. However, this was more challenging in terms of operational staff, who would need to be within the workplace to respond to an emergency, maintain operational competence and training.

Councillor Ayris welcomed the detail provided within the report which was very informative and useful. In relation to the additional positive action initiatives that were being considered by the Service, he queried how the progress on the development of those additional initiatives would be reported to Members.

Members noted the work undertaken by the Service to attract unrepresented groups to join the organisation, which was termed broadly as positive action. Work continued to educate the workforce around the meaning of positive action. Statistics and updates in relation to HR metrics were provided within the reports that were presented to the Authority.

ACO Carlin referred to a detailed presentation which had been provided at a recent Performance and Scrutiny Board meeting. The Service currently had more female managers in post, which were developing at each level, in comparison to previously. The recent recruits course had highlighted the quality of the diverse individuals coming into the Service.

In response to a question raised by Councillor Garbutt regarding whether the Service retained female firefighters and other posts, DCFO Kirby commented that the Service's retention of females in the operational roles was usually very good. Development and career progression opportunities were made available to all individuals. At present, there were a number of female temporary rank holders in senior and middle manager posts, which act as role models for the female firefighters who aspired to progress through the organisation.

Dr Billings referred to the gender pay gap which was due to a gender employment gap, and the work undertaken by the Service to resolve the issue. He queried whether Members could be provided with a report on the progress made at a future Authority meeting.

DCFO Kirby commented that the information would be included within the workforce profile reports which were provided to the Authority.

Councillor Garbutt queried whether the pay gaps for other under-represented groups could also be reported on in the future.

RESOLVED – That Members noted and approved the content of the report prior to publication.

14 HMICFRS INSPECTION TIMETABLE - PRESENTATION/VERBAL REPORT

Members were provided with the latest HMICFRS Inspection Timetable.

AM Strelczenie commented that the HMICFRS Inspection within the Service would be protracted and take place over the duration of 6 – 8 weeks, due to the Easter holiday period and the Queen's Jubilee. It was anticipated that the HMICFRS Inspection Team would arrive at the Service on 11 April 2022, with a view to commencing on 12 April 2022. No subsequent changes were envisaged to the Inspection Timetable.

A number of briefing sessions had been arranged for the Members. AM Strelczenie requested Members to contact him via email if they required an update on the progress of the inspection.

Councillor Hogarth requested that Members be provided with regular updates via email on the developments of the inspection.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the update.

15 DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME - PHASE 3

A report of the Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive was presented to provide Members with information on the latest phase of the Digital and ICT Development Programme 2022 – 2023, as a key enabler to modernising and facilitating improvements in the efficiency and effectiveness of SYFR functions and services.

The Service had developed its first Digital and ICT Development Plan and Programme in 2019, following which, an annual update and incremental development plan had been put in place and delivered.

Councillor Ayris referred to Appendix A to the report. He queried whether all of the project sponsors and leads had been identified in relation to Phase 3.

In response, S Locking commented that the table at Appendix A to the report had would be updated accordingly as matters progressed.

RESOLVED – That Members endorsed the latest phase of the Digital and ICT Development Programme 2022 – 2023 as a key enabler to modernising and facilitating improvements in the efficiency and effectiveness of SYFR functions and services.

16 FIRE MEMBER ALLOWANCES - INDEXATION REVIEW

A report of the Clerk to the Authority was submitted to inform Members of the findings of the Fire Member Allowances indexation review, that had been undertaken by Dr Declan Hall Ph.D. Members had received a report at the Authority meeting held on 21 February 2022 in respect of the FRA Members Allowances. The last full review had been undertaken in 2018, and the recommendation was that the reviews were conducted every four years. Members had agreed not to engage Dr Hall to conduct a full Member Allowances review, but a 'light touch' review of the Indexation element. If approved, Indexation would commence (formally) from the Annual Meeting in June.

Dr Billings wished to place on record that he did not claim any Fire Authority Member allowances.

RESOLVED – That Members noted and approved the report.

17 LGA FIRE CONFERENCE UPDATE - PRESENTATION

AM Strelczenie provided Members with a presentation on the LGA Annual Fire Conference and Exhibition which had been held on 15 to 16 March 2022 at the Hilton Hotel, Newcastle Gateshead.

Councillors Damms, Hogarth, Sansome, Ball and Smith had attended the event.

At the conference, Lord Greenhalgh had stated that the publication of the Fire Reform White Paper had been delayed due to the events in the Ukraine.

Councillor Smith expressed his thanks to the Authority for the opportunity to attend the conference and exhibition, which he considered had been very well attended and organised.

In relation to the Fire Reform White Paper from the Government, DCFO Kirby referred to a recent National Fire Chiefs' Council (NFCC) telephone call, where the Chair of the NFCC had alluded to the Home Office's 'Fire Day' on 12 May 2022. It was anticipated that on 12 May 2022, the Fire Reform White Paper would be published together with the Fire Safety Act, the regulations around Grenfell and a consultation response from Government in relation to Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans. Indications had been given that a Ministerial launch and event would be held on 12 May 2022 for Chief Fire Officers and Chairs of fire and rescue authorities. DCFO Kirby would liaise with the Chair on the arrangements.

Councillor Hogarth commented that the conference had highlighted that SYFR utilised the best possible equipment.

Councillor Garbutt queried whether it was anticipated that any of the changes to be introduced, through the publication of the Fire Reform White Paper, would badly/seriously affect the current arrangements within SYFR.

DCFO Kirby commented that it would be necessary to read and digest the Fire Reform White Paper upon publication. Members would be informed of the contents as soon as possible after receipt. There had been no indication of the changes to be made, other than in relation to the three elements of the Reform - governance, professionalism and people. The paper would likely allude to the fact that many fire and rescue services were not representative of communities. Whilst SYFR was not representative of communities, it was undertaking measures to make incremental improvements.

Members were provided with the presentation slides.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the update.

18 KEY ISSUES ARISING FROM THE PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY BOARD HELD ON 24 MARCH 2022

Councillor Hogarth suggested that a Service annual sickness absence report should be provided to the Authority.

In response, Councillor Ross commented that Members had access to the sickness absence data through Power-Bi, which was a 'live' system that could be monitored by Members on a regular basis, rather than waiting for reports to be presented to the Authority. The Performance and Scrutiny Board had previously noted the sickness absences levels within the Service, and had requested an in-depth report which had been provided to the last Board meeting held on 24 March 2022. The report had indicated that the change in sickness absence levels had been impacted by the Omicron variant of COVID-19. The Performance and Scrutiny Board would continue to monitor the position.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the key issues arising from the Performance and Scrutiny Board Meeting held on 24 March 2022.

19 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE HELD ON 30 MARCH 2022

On behalf of the Authority, Councillor Hogarth congratulated ACO Carlin on his appointment to the position of Deputy Chief Fire Officer.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Appointments Committee held on 30 March 2022.

20 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14 MARCH 2022

Dr Billings referred to an action arising on the minutes of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 14 March 2022, which stated that M McCarthy would ascertain with the Treasurer whether there would be any implications for the Authority, as a result of missing the deadline date of 11 March 2022, to formally opt into the sector led procurement scheme for External Audit services.

In response, N Copley confirmed that the deadline date of 11 March 2022 had not been missed. The issue had been resolved via an extra-ordinary meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee, where the Chair of the Committee had approved to formally opt into the sector led procurement scheme of External Audit services.

M McCarthy added that approval had also been sought from the Chair and Vice Chair of the Authority.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 14 March 2022.

21 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE POLICE AND FIRE COLLABORATION BOARD HELD ON 27 JANUARY 2022

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Police and Fire Collaboration Board held on 27 January 2022.

22 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and the public interest not to disclose information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

23 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER - AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

A report of the Service Director, Legal and Governance was presented to request that Members endorse the recommendation of the Evaluation Panel to appoint an individual to the vacant role of Independent Member, Audit and Governance Committee, with effect from 11 April 2022.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the action to date to recruit an Independent Member of the Audit and Governance Committee.
- ii) Agreed the recommendation of the Evaluation Panel to appoint an individual to the vacant role of Independent Member of the Audit and Governance Committee subject to satisfactory references.
- iii) Agreed to an appraisal process after the first four year term of appointment (April 2026).

Actions Table

No.	Action	Timescale	Officer(s)	Status/Update
1	To amend the CRMP document, within the Heritage Risk section, to indicate Oakes Park at Norton, Sheffield.	ASAP	DCFO Kirby	The CRMP document has been amended. ACTION DISCHARGED
2	To provide Members with regular updates via email on the developments of the HMICFRS Inspection	Ongoing	AM Strelczenie	<u>Update 26.05.22</u> Update provided to Members. ACTION DISCHARGED

CHAIR

Please follow the link below for further information on the updates of the actions arising from the Fire and Rescue Authority meetings:-

<https://meetings.southyorks.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD1250&ID=1250&RPID=402996&sch=doc&cat=13039&path=13039&zTS=D>

This page is intentionally left blank

SOUTH YORKSHIRE PENSIONS AUTHORITY

10 FEBRUARY 2022

PRESENT: Councillor J Mounsey (Chair)

Councillors: F Belbin, M Havard, D Nevett, C Rosling-Josephs,
A Sangar, M Stowe and G Weatherall

Trade Unions: N Doolan-Hamer (Unison) and D Patterson (Unite)

Officers: G Graham (Director), M McCarthy (Deputy Clerk),
G Richards (Senior Democratic Services Officer) and G Taberner
(Head of Finance and Corporate Services)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor S Clement-
Jones, Councillor S Cox, Councillor D Fisher, Councillor N Wright and
G Warwick

1 **APOLOGIES**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the Director for the tour of the new office which he thought was very impressive.

Apologies were noted as above.

2 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

G Graham informed members that the recently published Levelling Up White Paper had included reference to LGPS funds investing 5% of their value locally although it was not clear what type of assets this would apply to. The consultation planned for 'over the summer' would cover this issue along with climate change reporting regulations and pooling guidance.

3 **URGENT ITEMS**

None.

4 **ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

RESOLVED – That item 12 – Border to Coast Strategic Plan and Budget 2022-25 and item 13 – Project Chip Update be considered in the absence of the public and press.

5 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

6 **SECTION 41 FEEDBACK FROM DISTRICT COUNCILS**

There were no specific issues from the s41 members but they thanked the Director for his assistance in supplying replies to various emails councillors had received regarding climate change and investment issues.

7 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2021

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 9th December 2021 be agreed as a true record.

8 CORPORATE PLANNING FRAMEWORK

A report was considered which provided the opportunity to approve the 3-yearly detailed update of the various elements of the corporate planning framework.

Members were reminded that whilst elements of the framework were updated annually the whole framework was subject to an in-depth review every three years.

Attached as appendices to the report were updated versions of the:

- Medium Term Financial Strategy
- Human Resources Strategy
- ICT Strategy
- Equality and Diversity Scheme
- Risk Register

It was noted that the key focus for the next three years set out in the proposed corporate strategy was:

- Data – focussing on a range of data related projects including the valuation and a number of statutory exercises .
- Process Improvement – this focused on getting the most out of the investment in technology including automating processes and improving reporting.
- Investment – focused on activity to develop and refine the investment strategy to support the overall funding of the pensions scheme, including the delivery of the Net Zero Goal.
- Organisational Infrastructure – which focused on all the things that made the business work.

G Graham commented that over the last three years work to progress the Equality and Diversity Scheme had not achieved as much as planned. Members discussed this at length including ways to promote the benefits of the scheme to BAME communities..

Members also discussed the recruitment and retention of staff, noting that the labour market was not favourable to the public sector at the moment. It was intended to provide a clear career progression path for employees along with adopting an attractive agile and hybrid working system. There would be a review of the broader pay and benefits package which was intended to be completed by December 2022.

Succession planning was also discussed, with members noting the likely retirement of key members of the Senior Management Team in future year which would be likely to present recruitment challenges.

The Chair thanked the Director for a very comprehensive report.

RESOLVED – That Members:

- i) Approve the updated Corporate Strategy covering 2022-2025 at Appendix A.
- ii) Approve the updates supporting strategies at Appendices B-E.

9 PENSIONS AUTHORITY BUDGET 2022/23

A report was submitted to present the Authority budget proposals for 2022/23 for approval.

Members were informed that the overall aim of the budget process was to ensure that the organisation's financial resources and allocations were determined on the basis of supporting the achievement of the corporate aims and objectives set out in the Authority's Corporate Strategy.

The budget for the year ahead reflected continued emphasis on equipping the organisation for meeting the challenges expected in the next three years as detailed in the Corporate Strategy which was elsewhere on the agenda. Additional resources were included for four new posts to be established to support various specific areas of the planned work. The budget also included the impact of some significant savings that had been achieved following the completion of previous corporate objectives in respect of business systems and procurement of a new contract for actuarial services.

The report showed the proposed budget for 2022/23 and the main changes within it compared to the original budget for the 2021/22 year (prior to the one-off virements relating to the capital budget and financing for the Oakwell House office refurbishment).

Members were informed that the budget requirement was for a total of £5,830,000 representing an increase of £384,400 (7%) on the previous annual budget of £5,445,600 which had been held in cash terms since 2019/20

The report gave details of:

- Transfers Between Budgets
- Salaries Budget Movement
- Workforce and Pay Policy
- Other Budget Movements
- Reserves
- Local Pension Board

Members were informed that the budget proposals outlined in the report were based on a continued approach of comprehensively reviewing the resource needs in the context of the Authority's current and future requirements. The areas suggested for additional investment had been carefully identified to link to and support the achievement of the Corporate Strategy objectives.

RESOLVED – That Members approve the 2022/23 budget for the Authority at a total of £5,830,000.

10 APPOINTMENT OF MONITORING OFFICER

A report was submitted which sought the Authority's approval to appoint Jason Field as Monitoring Officer to the Authority.

Members were informed that the Authority's Monitoring Officer, Garry Kirk, had left BMBC at the end of January 2022. The Council had appointed Jason Field, Head of Legal Services, as its Monitoring Officer and was recommending that he assumed the same responsibilities in relation to the Pensions Authority.

The Authority was therefore recommended to formally appoint Jason Field as Monitoring Officer to the Authority.

RESOLVED – That Members approve the appointment of Jason Field (Head of Legal Services, Barnsley MBC) as the Authority's Monitoring Officer with effect from 1st February 2022.

11 INVESTMENT ADVISORS

Members were reminded that the current Independent Investment Advisors were appointed in September 2019 for a period of 3 years ending in September 2022. Given the time required to make an appointment it was now appropriate to consider the options and actions to be taken in relation to the contracts.

The Advisor's contracts limit the total duration of an advisor's service to 10 years. By September 2022 Mr Robb would have served more than 10 years which meant that his contract could not be renewed. Ms Devitt would have served for three years and it was possible to renew her contract for a further period if members wished to do so.

Members had two specific choices:

1. Whether to continue with two advisors or move to one advisor.
2. Whether or not to renew Ms Devitt's contract.

Members agreed that having two advisors with different backgrounds and experiences provided a better range of challenge and input for the Authority and the Investment Panel.

Members welcomed the proposition to renew Ms Devitt's contract and agreed to the suggestion that the appointment should be for four years to ensure that the advisor's contracts did not come to an end at the same time.

Cllr Sangar commented that Mr Robb had done an excellent job over the last 10 years and this should be recognised.

Cllr Stowe agreed commenting that Mr Robb had seen the Authority through some difficult times.

Members noted the process required to appoint a new Investment Advisor.

RESOLVED – That Members:

- i) Approve the extension of Ms Devitt’s contract for a further four years from September 2022.
- ii) Agree to undertake an appointment process for an advisor to succeed Mr Robb for three years with effect from September 2022 as outlined in paragraph 5.5 of the report.

Exclusion of the Public and Press

RESOLVED – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and the public interest not to disclose information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

12 BORDER TO COAST STRATEGIC PLAN AND BUDGET 2022-25

A report was submitted to determine how the Authority’s vote should be cast in relation to shareholder resolutions associated with the Strategic Plan and Budget for the Border to Coast operating company.

RESOLVED – That Members:

- i) Note the Strategic Plan and Budget for the period 2022-2025 proposed by the Board of Border to Coast operating company at Appendix B.
- ii) Authorise the casting of the Authority’s vote in favour of the shareholder resolutions required to approve the Strategic Plan and Budget.

13 PROJECT CHIP UPDATE

A report was considered which updated members of the Authority on the progress of discussions related to Project Chip.

RESOLVED – That Members:

- i) Note the progress being made in discussions over Project Chip.
- ii) Endorse continued discussions.

CHAIR

This page is intentionally left blank

SOUTH YORKSHIRE PENSIONS AUTHORITY

17 MARCH 2022

PRESENT: Councillor J Mounsey (Chair)

Councillors: F Belbin, S Clement-Jones, S Cox, D Fisher, M Havard, D Nevett, C Rosling-Josephs, A Sangar, G Weatherall and N Wright

Trade Unions: N Doolan-Hamer (Unison) and G Warwick (GMB)

Investment Advisors: A Devitt and L Robb

Officers: J Bailey (Head of Pensions Administration), G Graham (Director), M McCarthy (Deputy Clerk), G Richards (Governance Officer), S Smith (Head of Investments Strategy), G Taberner (Head of Finance and Corporate Services) and W Goddard (Financial Services Manager)

M Lyon (Border to Coast Pensions Partnership Ltd)

D Green

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M Stowe

1 APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Director announced that this was Martin McCarthy's last Authority meeting as he was leaving BMBC at the end of May.

Martin had worked for the Authority since it was created in 1988 and before that for South Yorkshire County Council. From a personal level the Director commented that Martin had been an enormous support of his role and that of the Pensions teams. He had provided wise counsel over many years and it was only right that Martin's service to the Authority was properly recognised.

The Chair commented that he had known Martin for 22 years, formerly as a member of the Fire and Rescue Authority, and held him in great respect for all his knowledge and assistance. He was proud to present Martin with a token for all work for the Authority over the years.

M McCarthy thanked Members and officers for the gift, stating that it had been an honour and a privilege to work for the Authority. He wished SYPA all the best for the future.

3 URGENT ITEMS

None.

4 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That item 16, Debt Write-Offs and item 17, Director’s Appraisal, be considered in the absence of the public and press.

It was stated that item 17 would only be considered by voting members, the Director and the Deputy Clerk.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

6 SECTION 41 FEEDBACK FROM DISTRICT COUNCILS

There were no specific issues from the s41 members but they again thanked the Director for supplying replies to numerous emails that councillors had received regarding climate change and investment issues.

7 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 FEBRUARY 2022

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 10th February 2022 be agreed as a true record.

8 CORPORATE PERFORMANCE REPORT Q3 2021/22

G Taberner presented the Corporate Performance Report for Quarter 3 2021/22.

Highlights for the Quarter were noted as:

- Reduction in sickness levels.
- Fund value at a record £10.8 billion.
- Improvements in pension administration performance measures.
- Delays occurring on a small number of corporate objectives.
- Underspends forecast against the budget – particularly staffing budgets due to 9% vacancy rate.

Section 3 of the report provided information on the progress being made on delivering the various strategies which formed the corporate planning framework. A table provided updates in respect of developments during the quarter in delivering the programmes of work as well as updates in respect of activity that had taken place to deliver the ICT, HR and Equality strategies.

The key performance indicators for Pensions Administration were presented within the report. It was noted that performance on priority cases had returned to previous levels as long-term sickness absence had reduced. A more detailed report on performance of Pensions Administration was provided for each meeting of the Local Pension Board.

Members noted the quarter 3 financial performance and forecast outturn. The forecast underspend for the year was £182k at quarter 3; the majority of this related to employee costs. Detailed variances against budget for each of the service areas were contained within the report.

Members were reminded that the Authority had three earmarked reserves, The Corporate Strategy reserve, the ICT reserve and the Capital projects reserve.

A table within the report showed details of planned transfers from the reserves in 2021/22 which resulted in a total of £1,404k being transferred during the current financial year.

As there continued to be a need to ensure the balance of reserves was kept to an adequate level to meet resourcing requirements for specific corporate strategy objectives and for managing risk, it was proposed to transfer the remaining forecast underspend for 2021/22 into the reserves.

The report gave details and the rationale behind the proposal to recruit 1.0 FTE Senior Finance Officer. The cost of adding this post would be £35k per annum. At the budget had already been set for 2022/23, this would be finance in the first year by using some of the carried forward on the 2021/22 salaries budget. From 2023/24 the cost would be included in the budget.

The Risk Register, was attached at Appendix A. Further details and full commentary regarding the review of all the risks in February was provided.

In answer to a question from Cllr Nevett, J Bailey confirmed that a project team had been set up as planned with the aim of clearing backlog cases and he would be able to produce statistics at the next meeting to give assurance that the backlog was decreasing.

Members discussed the risk around adequate member training and development. The results from the recent self-assessment would be used to develop a comprehensive training programme over the next 12 months, including actuarial training during the valuation year. Members were invited to inform officers of any specific training requirements they may have.

Members also discussed the risk around climate change and that the likelihood that it would remain red for the foreseeable future. It was noted that the Authority's goal to reach net Zero by 2030 was extremely challenging. There were ways of making the goal more achievable but these could challenge some of the Authority's long-held beliefs. These would be discussed during the next 12-15 months whilst reviewing the Authority's Investment Strategy.

RESOLVED – That members:

- i) Approve the transfers to and from earmarked reserves as set out in the table in paragraph 4.53; currently forecast to amount to a net total transfer from reserves of £1,185,160.
- ii) Approve the addition of 1.0 FTE Senior Finance Officer to the staffing establishment in Finance & Corporate Services.

9 ADVISORS COMMENTARY

A Devitt gave a market commentary on recent events.

- There was sharp stock market volatility early in the year which had not yet subsided.
- There were inflation concerns globally, with levels not seen in decades.
- Interest rates were raised, with two back-to back rises by the Bank of England and up to five rises being forecast in the US during 2022.
- Gilt yields fell sharply in February suggesting that the rise of inflation (and interest rates) may be short-lived.
- Stock markets had been disappointing year to date, with the UK FTSE being a notable exception.
- Markets remained on a geo-political knife-edge with scandal round the Beijing winter Olympics while Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February sparked unprecedented economic sanctions – the situation had worsened since the report was written.
- Supply chain issues and labour shortages were persisting.

Members discussed geo-political risks, the likelihood of further Covid related lockdowns, local investments as required in the levelling-up agenda, a renewed focus on governance and renewable energy as a way of reducing reliance on Russia.

L Robb introduced a note of caution regarding the situation even when the events in Ukraine were resolved. There was a risk of shortages, wage pressures and there could be a phase of persistent high inflation which could be challenging for markets.

The Chair thanked A Devitt for an interesting and informative update.

10 QUARTERLY REPORT TO 31 DECEMBER 2021

S Smith presented the quarterly Investment Performance report to 31st December 2021.

It was noted that the value of the Fund at 31st December 2021 was £10.8bn.

Since the conflict in the Ukraine which affected all valuations and stock markets, the value at its lowest point was £10.3m and was currently £10.4bn.

During the quarter there had been several significant asset allocation decisions.

As equity markets continued to be strong, £9.9m was raised from the legacy holdings and these were used to fund the drawdowns into the alternative funds.

The largest transaction in the quarter was the transition of high yield and emerging market bonds to the new Border to Coast Multi Asset Credit fund in October. Cash proceeds of £47.5m was also added to take SYPAs weighting towards a neutral weighting.

Within property four sale transactions were completed during the quarter. These were detailed within the report and had been reported earlier in the 2021 Strategic Plan.

As reported last quarter, there was a significant drawdown of £105m into infrastructure funds which had taken the weighting within the permitted ranges for the asset class. There was only one category outside of its tactical range which was private equity.

It was noted that for the quarter to the end of December 2021, the Fund returned 4.1% against the expected benchmark return of 3.7% and for the year to date the Fund had now returned 10.7% against an expected return of 9.3%.

The report contained details of the performance of Border to Coast funds and a chart showed quarterly returns and also the longer term position of each of the Border to Coast Funds held by SYPA.

Regarding the Net Zero target, SYPA would consider a range of alternative investments approaches to enable the management of risks and opportunities related to climate change.

SYPA already had exposure to a range of low carbon investments through its existing strategy in areas such as infrastructure and private equity, and would look at increasing these further in the forthcoming strategy review.

Members were informed that Border to Coast were currently exploring the possibility of launching a Climate Opportunities which SYPA was supportive of. All of this portfolio would be climate and carbon aware supporting SYPA's commitment to decarbonise and would help meet the net zero target. Full details were contained within the report – SYPA's commitment would be £245m.

S Smith commented that the outlook was positive at the moment due to the diversity of asset allocation within the Fund. The Fund at its worst point only fell by 4½%, another positive was that the Fund held assets that benefitted from inflation.

The Federal Bank had raised interest rates and announced six further rises but also stated that they did not think that this would impinge the growth of the US economy. China had also stated that they would ensure that there was stability in their capital markets.

The Chair thanked S Smith for the update.

M Lyon gave a presentation on the performance of SYPA's assets and future opportunities within Border to Coast Pensions Partnership.

Areas covered included:

- Valuation and Commitment
- UK Listed Equity Fund
- Overseas Developed Markets Fund
- Emerging Markets Equity
- Multi-Asset Credit
- Sterling Investment Grade Credit
- Sterling Index Linked Bonds
- Climate Opportunities

M Lyon explained the positioning of and logic behind Border to Coast's Russian investments where they were underweight credit and overweight equities, although overall they were slightly underweight.

The current position was that the assets had zero value and couldn't be traded. The situation would be continually monitored and a decision on future exposure to Russia would be made in the future when there was more clarity and taking into account Partner Funds' views.

Regarding the proposed Climate Opportunities fund:

- Deliver 8% target investment return through income and capital growth.
- Invest in opportunities focused on reducing carbon emissions and support the transition to a low carbon economy.
- Managers must clearly demonstrate and report carbon/transition impact.
- Avoid "greenwashing" through assessment of manager and funds alignment with net zero and a lower carbon economy.

Members discussed the improvement of the levels of disclosure, greenwashing, divestment and engagement and the understanding of the pathway to net zero.

The Chair thanked M Lyon for a very informative presentation.

11 SYPA RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT POLICIES - ANNUAL REVIEW

A report was presented for members' approval of the annual review of the Authority's own policies in relation to responsible investment.

The Responsible Investment Policy, at Appendix A to the report, generally remained unchanged but there had been some development of its presentation to include the Authority's responsible Investment beliefs which had been agreed last year and also amendments to ensure that some of the emphasis from the Stewardship Code on priority setting and focus was properly reflected within the policy.

The proposed revised Climate Change Policy (at Appendix B) was focused on bringing the policy in line with the Net Zero Goal and Action Plan. The Policy also reflected the intention of the government to make regulations to mandate reporting in line with the requirements of the Task Force on Climate Related Financial Disclosure.

RESOLVED – That Members approve the following update policy documents:

- i) The Authority's Responsible Investment Policy (Appendix A).
- ii) The Authority's Climate Change Policy (Appendix B).

12 NET ZERO ACTION PLAN UPDATE

A report was submitted which sought to secure agreement to the first annual update to the Net Zero Action Plan.

Members were reminded that the Authority had approved its first Net Zero Action Plan in March 2021 following the agreement in 2020 of a goal to make the investment portfolios Net Zero in terms of carbon emissions by 2030,

The updated Net Zero Action Plan set out in the Appendix reflected the progress that had been made in the last 12 months and set out the further steps required in this stage of the Authority's journey.

Members were informed that, while the last 12 months had seen significant progress on climate issues in a number of areas, including the setting of a Net Zero target by Border to Coast, the 2030 goal remained extremely challenging and there was a high risk that it would not be achieved.

The Fund Director commented that it was clear that the reduction of emissions from some of the core portfolios would have to be speeded up and there needed to be a discussion of what that meant in terms of the Authority's investment beliefs alongside the Investment Strategy review. There would be an informal session later in the year to develop policy and thinking in this area.

There were clear resource implications in terms of a significant input of officer time and the need for an external resource to meet the additional more prescriptive reporting requirements. Border to Coast had already secured a contract for data provision and it was hoped the Authority could piggyback on that.

The Action Plan also identified key risks; it was noted that additional risks had been identified since the report was written due to the situation in Ukraine and some countries plans to reduce their reliance on Russian fossil fuels which could prove unhelpful

Cllr Cox commented that it was important to remember that SYPA's main responsibility was to pay Scheme members' pensions.

Cllr Sangar welcomed the report and commended the progress made. He also expressed frustration that there was still a lack of data whilst acknowledging that travel was in the right direction.

RESOLVED – That Members approve the updated Net Zero Action Plan.

13 UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT OF OUR INVESTMENTS

A report was submitted which allowed members to consider the Authority's first attempt to assess the impact of its investments and the Authority's review of its adoption of the Impacting Investment Principles of Pension Funds.

Members were reminded that they had agreed to undertake work to gain a more complete understanding of the impact of all of its investments on people and the planet using the UN Sustainable Development Goals as a framework for analysis.

This was a very significant piece of work and Minerva were commissioned using the LGPS National Framework for Stewardship to undertake it. The contract awarded was to produce reports over three years with an increasing amount of activity being undertaken in house each year.

Minerva's first report was attached as an Appendix to the report. A summary of the conclusions was noted as:

- Impact – The Authority's investments were impacting the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Contributors – Some investments already positively helped towards the delivery of SDGs.
- Alignment – The potential existed to build SDG delivery actions into existing RI approach
- Data Gaps – Some managers (particularly for unlisted assets) did not provide data.
- Focused – Five sectors accounted for 2/3rds of the Authority's exposure to the SDGs.
- Detractors - Some investments also had the potential to negatively impact the SDGs.

It was noted that one of the member learning sessions in the next municipal year would be dedicated to the report and what could be learned from it as part of shaping future policy.

Members were reminded that in March 2021, the Authority agreed to adopt the Impact Investing Principles for Pension Funds. Appendix B set out a review of what had been done in complying with the principles and intentions for the future in relation to each of the principles.

RESOLVED – That Members:

- i) Note the Authority's first Impact report.
- ii) Note the review of the Authority's first year of adoption of the Impact Investing Principles for Pension Funds.

14 RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT QUARTERLY UPDATE Q3 2021/22

Members considered the Responsible Investment Update for Quarter 3.

Highlights included:

- A continued high level of engagement activity.
- The agreement of the annual update to Border to Coast's voting guidelines.
- Equity portfolios continued to demonstrate strong ESG performance relative to benchmark.
- Progress towards Net Zero of the equity portfolios.
- A continued high level of collaborative and policy development activity.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

15 VALUATION 2022 - INITIAL ASSUMPTIONS AND DELIVERY PLAN

A report was submitted which sought to gain agreement to the initial assumptions to be used in the valuation process and to provide an update on the planned process for the valuation.

Members were reminded that the triennial valuation of the pension fund which would set employer contributions would take place this year and was based on the value of the fund's assets and liabilities as at 31st March 2022.

The Director informed members that, whilst there remained significant uncertainty in financial markets, the valuation would be conducted from a more favourable starting point than in previous years. Therefore, it was appropriate to consider the Authority's overall objective in the valuation process. Given the risk environment the Fund faced and the pressure on employers it was suggested that the overall objective should be framed as follows:

The objective of the Authority is to achieve medium to longer term stability in employer contribution rates taking into account the different starting points and membership profiles of individual employers.

G Graham introduced Douglas Green from Hymans Robertson who would be undertaking the valuation for the first time as the Fund's actuary.

D Green gave a presentation which explained how the assumptions used worked when applied to members benefits, investment returns and employer contributions.

The Chair thanked D Green for an interesting and informative presentation.

RESOLVED – That members:

- i) Approve the valuation assumptions set out in the body of the report.
- ii) Note the plan for the valuation process.

Exclusion of the Public and Press

RESOLVED – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and the public interest not to disclose information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

16 DEBT WRITE-OFFS

A report was submitted which requested the Authority's approval to write off irrecoverable debts relating to the Pension Fund's commercial property portfolio and Pension Member overpayments.

RESOLVED – That Members approve the writing off of the debts detailed within the report.

17 DIRECTOR'S APPRAISAL

A report was submitted which allowed members to consider the annual appraisal of the Director's performance.

RESOLVED: That members:

- i) Note the review of the Director's performance over the year.
- ii) Approve the objectives for the coming year set out in the body of the report.

CHAIR

SOUTH YORKSHIRE PENSIONS AUTHORITY

LOCAL PENSION BOARD

27 JANUARY 2022

PRESENT: G Warwick (GMB) (Chair)

Councillor M Chaplin (Sheffield CC), N Doolan-Hamer (Unison), R Fennessy (South Yorkshire Police), D Gawthorpe (Scheme Member Representative), A Gregory (Scheme Member Representative), N Gregory (Academy Representative) and D Webster (Scheme Member Representative)

Officers: J Bailey (Head of Pensions Administration), G Graham (Director), M McCarthy and G Richards

C Scott (Independent Advisor to the Board)

Apologies for absence were received from S Loach

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

3 URGENT ITEMS

None.

4 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

None.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

6 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 OCTOBER 2021 AND ACTIONS AND MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Chaplin asked if there had been any progress in appointing a councillor representative to the vacant position on the Board.

M McCarthy replied that unfortunately there had not been any progress as yet. He would chase the matter up again.

C Scott asked for an update on the office move.

G Graham replied that staff would begin returning to the office working in the new hybrid arrangement from early February. Staff induction had been delivered recently and the feedback had been positive.

The new office space would benefit the organisation in a large number of ways, there was a variety of types of working space allowing for the interaction that had been lost during working from home.

It was confirmed that there was webcasting facilities available and also the option to hold hybrid meetings.

The next meeting of the Board would be held in person at Oakwell House; there was sufficient car parking spaces available with an overflow arrangement in place with Barnsley Football Club if required.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 14th October 2021 be agreed as a true record.

7 PROGRAMME OF BOARD MEETINGS 2022/23

A report was submitted to enable the Board to consider its schedule of meetings during 2022/23.

It was noted that the January 2023 meeting date was not suitable for the Board's independent advisor. It was agreed to change the date.

Several members also had problems with some dates. Members were requested to email G Richards with any problematic dates with a view to adjusting the schedule.

J Bailey commented that it would be better to hold Board meetings after the end of each quarter to allow the Quarterly Administration report to be fully up to date.

It was also noted that a date needed to be scheduled in March for the Board's effectiveness review.

RESOLVED – That:

- i) The meeting scheduled for 26th January 2023 to be rescheduled.
- ii) Meeting dates to be scheduled to enable up to date Quarterly Administration reports to be submitted.
- iii) Board members to be canvassed for a suitable date in March for the Effectiveness Review.

8 REVIEW OF THE CORPORATE RISK REGISTER

The Board considered the updated Corporate Risk Register.

It was noted that the latest management review had resulted in several changes to the Risk Register:

- I3 – Effective oversight of Border to Coast – risk removed.
- I6 – Affordability of contributions due to business disruption – score reduced.
- P1 – Maintenance of a suitability qualified and experienced workforce – score increased.

Details of the reasons for the changes were contained within the report.

G Graham informed the Board that this was the second last iteration of this Risk Register. The Risk Register would be considered in the 3-yearly review of the Corporate Strategy. It was intended that the basis for examining risks from April 2022 would go back to the first principle of what was preventing the Authority reaching the objectives of the Corporate Strategy.

A Gregory questioned the reasoning behind removing risks when they had reached their target score as the risk would still be there.

G Graham replied that there was a valid case for leaving risks on the register that had been fully mitigated but it was not a practice that the Authority had up to now. The issue would be considered as part of the wider review.

In response to a question from D Webster, the Director confirmed that the Senior Management Team looked at the Risk Register monthly and every risk was reviewed quarterly.

The Board discussed inconsistencies in the Risk Register, for example some risks had been removed on reaching their target score while others remained when they were below the target score. D Webster noted that some target scores were higher than current.

G Graham commented that officers were learning and building in terms of risk management. Risk was everyone's responsibility and work was ongoing to make staff more aware of risk whilst trying not to make risk management an industry.

RESOLVED – That the Board:

- i) Requests the Authority to look at the policy of removing risks from the Risk Register and to ensure the Risk Register reflects live risks.
- ii) Note the updated Risk Register.

9 PROCUREMENT OF ACTUARIAL SERVICES

A report was submitted to update the Board on the conclusion of the procurement process for actuarial services.

The Board was reminded that the Authority had agreed to undertake a procurement process for actuarial services using the new national framework agreement covering those services.

An invitation was issued to four qualified actuarial firms in September 2021. Having reviewed the Authority's requirements one provider chose not to participate further in the process. The three submitted bids were analysed and interviews held with the bidding firms before a decision was made.

It was noted that, while there were some differences in the quality scores, all three providers would have provided access to technological innovations which would present a step forward for the Authority. The successful provider was differentiated by the fact that they could provide a number of the new tools from day one and had a very clear development path supporting a movement to employer and client self-service for a range of tasks.

Members were informed that the successful provider was Hymans Robertson LLP who had been appointed for an initial period of five years. The transition process to the new provider had nearly concluded.

N Gregory commented that it would have been useful to have sight of the actual scoring rather than just the ranking in each category.

J Bailey replied there was an element of commercial sensitivity in the scoring. Scoring was done on 50% cost and 50% quality; the firm in second place was close to the firm appointed with the third firm much further away.

D Webster queried whether the Board would receive progress updates in advance of the valuation.

G Graham replied that the actuaries would produce a timetable up to the completion of the process at the end of January 2023. It was also planned to engage a wider range of employers and a meeting with the large employers would be arranged for late February/early March.

J Bailey commented that the actuary would be present at the seminar for the Authority and Board in September which would be a specific session on the early outcomes of the valuation.

The Board requested details on what changes employers might see.

J Bailey explained that certain employer costs would be lower and the process for providing accounting information would be streamlined by direct liaison with the actuary rather than the Authority.

RESOLVED – That the Board note the outcome of the procurement process for actuarial services.

10 QUARTERLY ADMINISTRATION REPORT

J Bailey presented the Quarterly Administration Update covering the period 1st October 2021 to 31st December 2021.

Staffing

The report contained a summary of joiners and leavers during the period. There was one joiner, the Support and Engagement Team Manager which meant that all management vacancies had now been filled. The two Pensions Officers who left had both been offered better paid roles in the private sector.

The Board discussed the difficulties in recruiting to public sector posts due to the constraints of the national public sector pay scales.

G Graham commented that work was planned during the next 12 months to try and address this issue.

It was noted that overall sickness absence had reduced during the quarter though the incidence of short-term absence had increased. One third of the short-term absence was directly related to Covid.

Casework Performance

J Bailey informed members that the reporting of performance had been updated to enable easier comparison of like-for-like periods.

Overall case volumes completed during the quarter had increased compared to the previous quarter. This was mainly due to :

- The reduced level of long-term sickness absence.
- Increased focus on casework as resources were not diverted to assist with the Annual Benefit Statements exercise.

It was noted that the improvement in performance may also have been influenced by the fact that staff were able to return to the office for part of their working week for some of Quarter 3, although this was short-lived as further restrictions were imposed.

J Bailey informed the Board that some resource was being focused on aggregations and it was expected that the backlog would be reduced.

Statutory Disclosure Reporting

Appendix A showed the Quarter 3 report for the areas covered under the various disclosure regulations and provided some levels of assurance that statutory targets were generally being met in the main areas.

J Bailey confirmed that not all Pensions Savings Statements had been issued on time due to a number of operational issues. An update would be provided at the next meeting as to the final position and any necessity to report to The Pensions Regulator.

G Warwick commented that SYPA staff should be praised for maintaining the service to Scheme members during the pandemic.

Employer Performance

Members were reminded that employers submitted individual data on a monthly basis. A table within the report showed the current position of monthly returns received in respect of the last three months.

It was noted that the two employers yet to submit returns were in respect of recent admission agreements. These were being pursued with the relevant provider and interest would be charged if appropriate, but the amounts were minimal.

Individual Query Employer Reporting

Appendix B showed the performance in recent quarters for the employers or payroll providers with the highest volume of queries. Since the last meeting, the report had been refined to remove duplications therefore representing a more accurate summary of cases outstanding.

It was noted that trend analysis indicated that some progress had been made with the volumes of outstanding queries from Rotherham and Doncaster Councils (both administered by Rotherham payroll services). Monitoring meetings had continued to be held fortnightly with Rotherham payroll services and they had allocated additional resources to continue their commitment to reducing the outstanding volumes.

Contribution Payments

A table within the report showed the status of payments in respect of contributions due as well as details of outstanding payments, There were no areas of particular concern.

Scheme Member Engagement – Customer Satisfaction

A table within the report showed the overall satisfaction levels from respondents who had recently retired. The percentage of members in the green category remained over 90%. There were eleven dissatisfied members. One member wanted the portal to be more user friendly and provide more assistance with navigation. This would be further developed over the next few months as the ability to retire online was introduced.

Scheme Member Engagement – Customer Centre

The Board was informed that an electronic survey had been issued to 3,534 members who had contacted the Customer Centre by phone over August, September and October 2021 to ask about their experience of service delivery and ideas for service improvements.

Again, over 90% of the respondents were in the green category. The 13% who were dissatisfied was an increase of 7 % from the previous quarter. Appendix C showed the comments that were made.

N Doolan-Hamer commented on the remarks of the person who had phoned on behalf of her husband who was dyslexic who had said that there were not enough options available to those not able to use the internet.

J Bailey replied there was a danger that there was too much focus on the online facilities and there was a need to ensure that there were alternatives available.

The report also gave details on uptake of the online portal, the employer satisfaction survey and annual benefits statements and triennial valuation for 2023.

Pensions Administration System

Members were informed that the gap analysis which had been carried out internally to identify shortfalls in the administration system functionality ahead of the commitment to enter into a new contract in February 2022 had been passed to Civica.

Civica had agreed in principle that a commitment to resolving the issues identified would form part of the requirements under the new service contract. The improvement plan would be shared with the Board when it was available.

In answer to a question from a member, J Bailey confirmed that there wasn't a penalty clause in the contract if Civica failed to deliver but the contract did have an exit clause.

G Warwick thanked J Bailey for a very comprehensive report.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

11 REVIEW OF BREACHES, COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS

The Board considered a report which provided an update on the latest available record of reported breaches and provided details of complaints and appeals for the period 1st October 2021 to 31st December 2021.

It was noted that there had been three data breaches and six complaints during the period. Details of these and any follow up actions were contained at Appendices A and B to the report. The report also gave details of two Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure appeals one which was not upheld and the other was partially upheld.

RESOLVED – That the Board:

- i) Note the Breaches summary.
- ii) Note the outcome of complaints received.

12 DATA QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

J Bailey presented a report which updated members on the latest iteration of the Data Quality Improvement Plan and the data scoring provided to the Pensions Regulator.

Members were reminded that the Pensions Regulator advises that schemes should have a data quality improvement plan in place. SYPA had shared previous iterations of the Plan with the Board but this had been revised on a number of occasions to reflect changing guidance and priorities. The current Data Improvement Plan was maintained by the Pensions Technical Advisor and Appendices A (common data) and B (conditional data) were provided as a summary extract of the current plan which highlighted where individual teams had ownership of specific areas.

The key areas of focus for the next few months were highlighted on the summary plan and the Board had previously agreed this should be presented twice a year.

A Board member observed that the reference to risk within the report referred to data security rather than data quality. The Board agreed that more informed statements about risk and/or reference to specific risks in board reports would be helpful.

RESOLVED – That the Board:

- i) Note the updated Quality Improvement Plan.
- ii) Request that the Authority make clearer references to the Risk Register in future reports.

13 DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE AUTHORITY

A report was submitted which updated the Board on decisions taken by the Authority at its December meeting.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

14 UPDATE ON MEMBERS' KNOWLEDGE PROGRESS ASSESSMENTS

A report was submitted to update the progress made in undertaking the Knowledge Process Assessment.

Members were reminded that in order to support the development of a comprehensive learning and development plan for members of the Authority and Board, officers had signed up to the national Knowledge Progress Assessment tool

provided by Hymans Robertson. The assessment was delivered through an online tool and was promoted to members over the autumn through the Director's monthly update. The date for submission of data closed before Christmas and received a disappointing response from just 5 members out of a possible total of 23. The 'window' for submission would now be reopened and members were encouraged to complete the assessment which would only take approximately 20 minutes.

C Scott, the Board's Independent Advisor, suggested a final submission date of 28th February followed by an informal Board session in March to discuss the results and look for common areas of knowledge gaps. She offered assistance to members in completing the assessment if required.

RESOLVED – That the Board:

- i) Note the report.
- ii) Agree to the reopening of the Knowledge Progress Assessment with submissions due by 28th February 2022.
- iii) Agree to an informal Board meeting to discuss the effectiveness review to be arranged for March 2022 on a date to be determined.

15 TRAINING FEEDBACK

None.

16 LOCAL PENSION BOARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Board considered the Work Programme.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

17 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

G Graham informed the Board that the new website was now live at <https://www.sypensions.org.uk/> with all information now being in one place. Any suggestions or comments from Board members would be welcomed.

CHAIR

This page is intentionally left blank

SOUTH YORKSHIRE PENSIONS AUTHORITY

LOCAL PENSION BOARD

28 APRIL 2022

PRESENT: G Warwick (GMB) (Chair)

Councillor M Chaplin (Sheffield CC), N Doolan-Hamer (Unison), R Fennessy (South Yorkshire Police), A Gregory (Scheme Member Representative), N Gregory (Academy Representative) and D Webster (Scheme Member Representative)

Officers: J Bailey (Head of Pensions Administration), G Graham (Director) and G Richards (Governance Officer)

C Scott (Independent Advisor to the Board)

Apologies for absence were received from D Gawthorpe

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

There were no apologies.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

3 URGENT ITEMS

None.

4 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

None.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

6 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27 JANUARY 2022 AND ACTIONS AND MATTERS ARISING

G Graham informed the Board that Steve Loach, the local authority senior manager member of the Board, had ceased to be a member due to a lack of attendance, therefore there was a need to seek a replacement.

Members discussed the structure of the Board and the importance of members having a variety of specialities which was difficult to achieve in practice, especially when taking into account the general pressures facing senior LA managers.

The Chair asked whether there was any flexibility in who to appoint also bearing in mind the councillor vacancy on the Board. The Director suggested a preference for a HR manager.

The Director replied that this would need approval from the Authority to change the Constitution, but this would be possible if Board members so wished. He commented that one significant employer group – higher and further education institutions – was not represented on the Board and suggested this as an alternative.

The Board agreed that the Authority should be asked to amend the constitution to allow more flexibility for Board member appointments.

C Scott also reminded the Board that it had been agreed to request a change to the Constitution extend the term of local authority councillor appointments.

It was noted that Barnsley MBC had been requested to appoint a councillor to fill the current vacancy on the Board, but it was acknowledged that this would not be until the council's annual meeting at the end of May.

In answer to a question from C Scott, G Graham announced that Jo Garrison, formerly the Director of Governance at DN Colleges Group had been appointed as Corporate Manager – Governance and would be joining the Authority on Tuesday 3rd May. Her first priority would be member learning and development and communications for members of the Board and Authority.

RESOLVED – That:

- i) That the Authority be asked to amend the Board's Constitution to allow more flexibility for Board member appointments.
- ii) The minutes of the meeting held on 27th January 2022 be agreed as a true record.

7 RISK REGISTER UPDATE

A report was submitted which provided the Board with the opportunity to review the updated Risk Register which supported the new Corporate Strategy.

Members were reminded that as part of the process of creating the new Corporate Strategy, a fundamental rebasing of the Corporate Risk Register had been undertaken. This was attached at Appendix A to the report.

It was noted that many of the risks in the "new" register were either identical or similar to those included previously. However, the scores attached to the risks had changed – there had broadly been an upward drift reflecting changes in the

external environment (e.g. instability caused by the war in Ukraine and the higher base level of inflation) rather than any weakening in mitigation or the broader control environment within the organisation.

The Director pointed out that there were now four red risks as opposed to one on the previous version of the Risk Register, including one around project management delivery, it had been found that the current review did not highlight issues early enough and it was intended to recruit resources to assist with this.

J Bailey commented on the cyber security risk informing the Board that a recent cyber security audit had provided a 'substantial' opinion with just two low risk recommendations. The Authority had re-applied for the Cyber Essentials + accreditation and penetration testing was planned in the near future.

The Chair commented that he found the Risk Register difficult to follow and asked if there could be a simplified format with larger text. Other members of the Board agreed.

The Director took the point commenting that the Corporate Strategy and Annual Report contained a heat map but this contained less detail. It was difficult to find another format which would give enough detail but would be looked at to see if improvements could be made; the new Risk and Performance Management system may allow presentation in a different way when implemented, although this was some way into the future.

The Chair queried how the risk of underperformance from investments managed by Border to Coast was being managed. The Director agreed to add specific wording to risk I1 to address this aspect of the risk.

C Scott queried whether it was still the policy to remove risks from the register once they had reached their target score.

G Graham replied that risks were removed once they were viewed as having been sufficiently mitigated as they then ceased to be an area of focus. There could be a case for a separate list for these risks but in his view they should not remain on the Risk Register.

RESOLVED – That the Risk Register be noted.

8 ADMINISTRATION QUARTERLY REPORT

J Bailey presented the Quarterly Administration update for the period 1st January 2022 to 31st March 2022.

Staffing

The report contained a summary of joiners and leavers for the administration service during the period. It was noted that the Benefits Team (the largest administration team) now had a full complement of Pensions Officers, but in Quarter four two long standing and experienced officers had left for better paid and

more senior positions externally. The role profiles for these vacancies had been refreshed after consultation and were being advertised in April 2022.

It was noted that overall sickness absence had increased during the quarter, though the incidence of short-term absence had decreased slightly as had the number of staff contracting Covid.

Case Work Performance

It was noted that overall case volumes completed during the Quarter had dropped slightly compared with the previous quarter, this was likely due to a loss of processing time in March whilst the running of the 2022 pensions increase was undertaken.

Staff had returned to the office for part of the working week during Quarter 4, but it was too early to see whether this would have a positive impact on case processing productivity.

Statutory Disclosure Reporting

Appendix A showed the Quarter 4 report for the areas covered under the various disclosure regulations and provided some assurance that statutory targets were generally being met in the main areas.

Employer Performance

A table within the report showed the current position of employer monthly data returns and indicated that the vast majority of employers were continuing to provide the monthly returns, with no reported concerns.

Following a question from the Board, J Bailey confirmed that future reporting on performance of payroll providers would also be provided to the employers which was important for employers who had outsourced payroll services.

Individual Query Employer Reporting

The Board was reminded that the performance of employers in respect of responding to individual queries raised by SYPA had been monitored since last year.

Appendix B showed the performance in recent quarters for the employers with the highest volume of queries. This now also included two payroll providers (Capita and EPM) who had both recently undergone a number of personnel changes which had caused operational difficulties. The Head of Pensions Administration and members of the Engagement team were liaising with the new contacts to ensure they understood their statutory responsibilities and to provide any support/training required.

The Board noted that the trend analysis clearly indicated some good progress had been made with the volumes of outstanding queries for Doncaster MBC

(administered by Rotherham payroll service) although outstanding numbers remained high for Rotherham MBC. Monitoring meetings had been held regularly with Rotherham payroll and additional resources had been allocated to reduce the outstanding volumes. Sheffield CC had also devoted significant resources to resolve the volumes of outstanding queries and the Board noted their continued positive progress in this area.

The Board felt that although RMBC had made some progress, the outstanding figures were still high and not reducing sufficiently quickly. The Board requested that RMBC be asked to prepare (and potentially deliver) a report outlining the steps they were taking to improve performance and the intended timescales to resolve the issues.

N Doolan-Hamer queried the figures for Sheffield College which had gone from zero in the first two quarters followed by a sudden jump. J Bailey would look into this and report back.

The report contained details of scheme member engagement in the areas of customer satisfaction, the Customer Centre and email responses all which remained positive.

The Board was reminded that a satisfaction survey had been issued to employers before Christmas. A total of 42 responses were received with an overall satisfaction level of 94%. The feedback from the survey was presented at the virtual Employers Forum in March, a copy of which was at Appendix D.

The Board noted that preparations continued to ensure all scheme members received their Annual Benefit Statement (ABS) ahead of the statutory deadline of 31st August 2022. The ABS project team remained on target with the current plan to produce the ABS's over a two-month period between 1st May 2022 and 20th June 2022.

With regard to the Pensions Administration system, it was confirmed that the new software contract with Civica had been completed. Civica had committed to resolving all significant outstanding issues by September 2022 as per the Improvement Plan which was summarised at Appendix E.

In answer to a question from D Webster, J Bailey commented that there were no financial sanctions if Civica did not resolve the issues within the stated time as the contract was signed under a national framework. There were other options including the option to terminate the contract early.

The report also gave details of the Life Certificate Exercise, Appendix F summarised the outcomes of the exercise.

The Chair thanked J Bailey for the report.

RESOLVED – That the Board:

- i) Note the report.

- ii) Request a report from Rotherham Borough Council outlining the steps that they intended to take to improve their performance with regard to individual query employer reporting including the timescale to resolve the issue.

9 BREACHES, COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS

A report was considered which provided an update on the latest available record of reported breaches and provided details of complaints and appeals for the period 1st January 2022 to 31st March 2022.

Members noted that, in regard to a separate matter, one of the AVC providers, Prudential, had reported at the end of March that they had been unable to meet the statutory deadline for issuing member AVC statements for the 2020-21 year. It was noted that the administration problems with Prudential had been well documented and Prudential had already reported themselves to The Pensions Regulator (TPR).

Prudential had not shared details of their correspondence with TPR so, as a precautionary measure, SYPA had prepared a report to TPR to ensure they were aware of the breach specifically in relation to the SYPA Fund.

It was agreed that the report to TPR would be shared with the Board.

The breach report also included reference to the late issue of the Pensions Savings Statements for 2020/21.

It was noted that there had been one data breach during the period, one cyber security incident and five complaints, details of which were contained within the appendices. No formal appeals had been determined during the quarter.

RESOLVED – That members note the breaches summary and the outcomes of t complaints.

10 BENCHMARKING INVESTMENT COSTS & PERFORMANCE

A report was submitted which provided an update on the results of benchmarking work undertaken on the Authority's investment performance and costs.

The Board was informed that, as part of efforts to establish the success of the pooling process in improving both the cost efficiency and performance of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), the government encouraged LGPS funds to participate in investment benchmarking exercises. SYPA, along with most other LGPS funds and pools had, for the last seven years, participated in a benchmarking exercise undertaken by CEM, a global provider of such services.

The report gave details of:

- Cost Comparison
 - Impact of investment choices on costs
 - Price impact on costs

- Change in costs over time
- Performance Comparison
 - Comparative return over time
 - Development of risk over time
 - Comparative risk appetite

CEM's overall conclusion was that the Fund was delivering positive value add at low (tending towards median) cost. This was what was wanted but an eye would have to be kept on whether the continuing changes to the asset mix were delivering both the required performance and risk at reasonable cost.

RESOLVED – That the Board note the results of the investment benchmarking exercise.

11 ANNUAL ALLOWANCE 2021 - LESSONS LEARNED EXERCISE

A report was considered which provided an update on the results of the 2020/21 Pensions Savings Statements exercise and also set out the actions being taken to ensure the success of the 2021/22 exercise.

J Bailey explained the Annual Allowance, which was introduced by HMRC in April 2006, and the subsequent need to provide scheme members who had exceeded the AA limit for a specific tax year with a Pension Savings statement.

The Board was informed that for the year 2020/21 a total of 105 Pension Savings statements were issued where members had exceeded the £40,000 limit, but only five of these were issued within six months of the end of the tax year.

Appendix A to the report provided a high-level summary of the issues that led to the late production of the Pension Savings statements and also summarised the Action (Improvement) Plan which had been put together to rectify the issues experienced in 2020/21 and to ensure successful and timely completion of the 2021/22 and future exercises. It was noted that the status column on the Action Plan highlighted that the exercise was currently on target; a further update would be provided to the Board at its next meeting to provide assurance that the statements would be issued on time for 2021/22.

As this appeared to be a one-off issue affecting a relatively small number of members and there was a comprehensive list of actions and mitigations in place, the Board agreed with the Authority's position that the breach should not be reported to The Pensions Regulator.

RESOLVED – That members:

- i) Note the actions taken to address the late delivery of the 2020/21 Pension Savings Statement exercise and ensure successful completion for 2021/22.

- ii) Agree that the breach was not material enough to report to The Pensions Regulator.

12 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LOCAL PENSION BOARD

The Board considered its Annual Report for 2021/22 which was submitted for approval subject to the inclusion of attendance at today's meeting. It was noted that, when approved, the Annual Report would be published on the Authority's website and included in SYPA's Annual Report.

Members felt that, in general, the content of the report was good. It was suggested that individual terms of office be included in the membership table.

C Scott commented that, as it was an individual's obligation to undertake training, the training events should be listed to show which individual had attended each event.

RESOLVED – That, subject to the amendments above and the inclusion of attendance at today's meeting, the Board approve its Annual Report for 2021/22.

13 BOARD EFFECTIVENESS REVIEW

The Board considered its Review of Effectiveness for 2022 which had been determined by a survey completed in March 2022 followed by a workshop to discuss the results of the survey and agree potential changes in the way the Board worked to improve its effectiveness. The report summarised improvements discussed at the workshop.

Discussions at the workshop and the survey included questions on the way Board meetings were conducted and knowledge, skills and capacity. The survey was completed by four of the nine members of the Board.

The results from the survey were broadly positive, and the report contained proposed actions for improvement.

With regard to further training, the Director commented that the results of the Knowledge Assessment would influence the Training Programme over the next 12 months which would also be driven by events such as the Actuarial Valuation and the investment strategy review. It was intended to run more Local Pension Board specific sessions and use more external resources. Because issues covered by the Authority were wide-ranging it would be impossible to cover everything and therefore self-learning would be important. He encouraged members to make use of the Hymans Robertson Online Learning Academy and attend the webinars offered when possible.

The Director agreed with all the suggestions and actions to improve effectiveness with the exception of the request to receive up-to-date documents irrespective of whether they had been considered by the Authority beforehand. This would be constitutionally inappropriate for the Board to consider a report before the Authority as the decision-making body.

With regard to the request for a glossary of terms, it was noted that the Online Learning Academy had a 'Jargon Buster' and a glossary from Border to Coast used by their Joint Committee could be shared with the Board.

RESOLVED – That the Board agree to all the actions and suggestions arising from the Review of Effectiveness and survey results as detailed in the report.

14 UPDATE ON AUTHORITY DECISIONS

A report was considered which updated the Board on decisions taken by the Authority at its February and March meetings.

RESOVLED – That members note the various decisions taken by the Authority.

CHAIR

This page is intentionally left blank



SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

4 FEBRUARY 2022

PRESENT: Councillor R Haleem (Rotherham MBC) (Chair)

Councillor A Cherryholme (Barnsley MBC) (Vice-Chair)

Councillors: T Baum-Dixon (Rotherham MBC), P Garbutt (Sheffield City Council), S Knowles (Doncaster MBC), B Lodge (Sheffield City Council), R Milsom (Sheffield City Council), C Pickering (Barnsley MBC) and C Ransome (Doncaster MBC)

Independent Co-opted Members: W Carratt and Professor A James

M McCarthy, J Field, L Noble and A Shirt
(Barnsley MBC)

Dr A Billings (South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

M Buttery, G Hyland, S Parkin and F Topliss
(Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

In attendance remotely:

D Carrington (South Yorkshire Police) and E Eruero (Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

Apologies for absence were received from
Councillor R Davison (Sheffield City Council), S Abbott and K Wright

1 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Panel's first meeting of 2022 and reported that today's Panel meeting would be webcast live to the public.

An extended welcome went to Gemma Hyland, Senior Communications Officer, OPCC.

2 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

3 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

4 **URGENT ITEMS**

None.

5 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

None.

6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IN RELATION TO ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

None.

7 PUBLIC QUESTIONS:-

7A TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

There were no public questions to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

7B TO THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

There were no public questions to the Police and Crime Panel.

8 MINUTES OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETING HELD ON 13 DECEMBER 2021

The Panel discussed and noted progress in respect of agreed actions captured on the Panel's Action Log set out in Appendix A to the minutes.

RESOLVED –

- i) That the minutes of the Police and Crime Panel meeting held on 13 December 2021 be agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.
- ii) Noted that the Panel's Action Log would be updated following discussion and agreement at today's meeting.

9 THE PCC'S POLICE AND CRIME PLAN FOR 2022-2025

A report was submitted which provided Members with the Commissioner's draft Police and Crime Plan (Plan) – '*Safer Streets More Police*' for 2022-2025.

It was reported that the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 made provision for a new or returning PCC to draft and issue a new Plan, in consultation with the Chief Constable, to set the policing objectives for the local area. The 2011 Act also provides for the Plan to be kept under review and variations issued, where necessary.

The Commissioner reported that, as in previous years, the draft Plan was based on information and consultation from a range of sources, and reflected the same three priorities – Protecting Vulnerable People, Tackling Crime and Anti-social Behaviour and Treating people Fairly. In addition, there were also some particular areas of focus in the coming year, such as: Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG);

Drugs – and the gangs and serious violence associated with them; Better representation of the communities of South Yorkshire – male/female, ethnic minorities; and Road Safety and speeding.

In addition to local priorities, the Commissioner said that he needed to ensure that the Government's National Crime and Policing Measures were taken into account in the Plan.

The Panel noted that the section on Child Sexual Exploitation may be further amended slightly, depending on additional information sought from South Yorkshire Police.

The Commissioner provided the Panel with a detailed overview of his draft Plan. The Panel were made aware that, during 2022/23 there would be more new police officers in South Yorkshire funded from both national and local uplift.

During the 2022/23 financial year, there would be 43.5 additional officer posts in the Barnsley district, 100 additional officer posts in the Doncaster district, 49 additional officer posts in Rotherham and 105.5 posts in the Sheffield district. Overall, there would be more neighbourhood and responses officers in South Yorkshire to deal with crimes.

The Commissioner invited the Panel to comment on the Plan's contents in the form of a report, and make any recommendations by 18 February 2022, to enable the Plan to be published in a timely manner.

The Panel raised the following key points:

- Mr Carratt asked the Commissioner to consider rephrasing 'Priority 1 – Protecting Vulnerable People' to 'Working in Partnership to Protect Vulnerable People' and to split this into children and adults.
- Mr Carratt asked the Commissioner to consider strengthening wording in the Plan with regards to commissioning work undertaken by the PCC to support victims and include details of the work undertaken by the Force to support victims of crime.
- Mr Carratt also asked the Commissioner to consider the inclusion of high-level impact statements which could sit alongside some of the priorities.
- Councillor Garbutt referred to the 'Introduction' section of the Plan under the heading 'Aim'. He asked the Commissioner to consider the inclusion of the word 'travel' in the 'Aim' section. This was due to the Commissioner including road safety in the Plan as a priority.
- Councillor Garbutt referred to the commissioning/co-commissioning of support services listed on page 7 of the Plan. He queried how the Commissioner measured their effectiveness.

- Councillor Garbutt highlighted that there was a certain amount of domestic abuse that was female and male. He asked if this was measured and handled by the Force.
- Referring to the areas of focus within 'Priority 2 – Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour'. Councillor Garbutt asked if the Violence Reduction Unit could be better served if a different legal framework was taken towards drugs. He asked if the Commissioner was considering how this could improve matters, and if he would be asking the Home Office to consider this.
- Councillor Garbutt asked if there were plans, targets and reduction measures in place to reduce speeding and improve road safety. In addition, he asked if performance measures in relation to speeding and road safety could be included in future quarterly performance reports presented at Panel meetings.
- Councillor Baum-Dixon referred to page 11 of the Plan 'Child Sexual Exploitation'. He commented that, in his opinion, there needed to be more focus on victims being taken seriously. Furthermore, assurances needed to be provided that serious complaints are dealt with properly by the Force. In addition, he felt that there needed to be more accountability, particularly by local authorities.
- Councillor Baum-Dixon asked if there were any future plans to establish smaller Rural and Wildlife Crime specialist teams in other South Yorkshire districts. In addition, he asked if the Force were working with other local police forces to share best practice in relation to rural and wildlife crime.
- Councillor Baum-Dixon referred to Community Speed Watch. He commented that, enforcement action could only be undertaken when a warranted officer was onsite to issue a penalty.
- Councillor Pickering referred to the area of focus in relation to domestic abuse. He made the Panel aware that some support services used a screening tool when working with male victims of domestic abuse. He highlighted that, domestic abuse was not a gendered crime, and that a gender inclusive approach to domestic abuse should be referenced in the Plan.
- Councillor Pickering referred to 'Priority 1 – Protecting Vulnerable People'. He said that the supply of drugs was now often undertaken from people's homes. He highlighted that this had produced a new series of vulnerable people in the community (often elderly people) who felt intimidated by the individuals living around them and this could stop them from reporting incidents to the Force. Councillor Pickering said that the Force needed to identify vulnerable people living near drug users and be more proactive to assure people that action would be taken.
- Councillor Milsom referred to 'Priority 2 – Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour'. She felt that the Plan omitted to set out goals in relation to how anti-social behaviour has particular effects on individuals and communities. In addition, she said that crime and anti-social behaviour needed to be tackled in a

multi-agency approach. She also queried how the public could be reassured that crime and anti-social behaviour is being tackled by the Force.

- Councillor Ransome said that she disagreed with the three priorities outlined in the Plan. She asked the Commissioner to consider strengthening the priorities to make it more explicit that the police have a role as enforcers.

The Commissioner thanked the Panel for their comments and provided detailed responses to the questions raised above.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the contents of the PCC's new draft Plan.
- ii) Agreed to provide comments on the draft Plan in a report to the Commissioner by 18 February 2022.

10 PROPOSED COUNCIL TAX PRECEPT AND REVENUE BUDGET FOR 2022/23

A report of the Chief Finance Officer, OPCC was submitted to notify the Panel of the Commissioner's proposed Council Tax precept for 2022/23.

The Commissioner referred the Panel to the proposal in the report at paragraph 2 (a). He recommended that the Panel support a proposed annual increase in the policing element of the Council Tax (the precept) of £10.00 on a Band D property, which was levied to support:

- The investment in the required infrastructure to ensure all officers are fully supported in their journey into the Force with further planned investment in both accommodation, Central Assessment and Practice Education (CAPE) assessment and tutoring support.
- Enhancement of the operating model and investment in SYP priorities:
 - Maintaining the current levels of PCSO numbers at 126, and
 - Improving the assets e.g. technology and estates.

The Commissioner provided the Panel with context to his proposal. The Home Office police funding settlement for 2022/23 had announced additional funding of £795.8m, for policing areas, with 31% of this expected to come from increased Council Tax (£246m).

The settlement gave Police and Crime Commissioners in England flexibility to increase the policing element of Council Tax precept locally up to a limit of £10 on a Band D property. Government allocation calculations had assumed the maximum precept increase.

The Panel noted that the core grant for South Yorkshire amounted to £233.8m, a cash increase of 5.8%, which covered the current cost of additional police officer uplift, national insurance increase, and contribution towards pay inflation.

The Commissioner said that, based on the latest tax base estimates from the four Local Authorities in South Yorkshire, after a £10 increase, the Medium Term Resource Strategy (MTRS) included planned savings of £1.7m in 2022/23, with continued savings plans for the whole of the MTRS period. Despite these savings, the use of £2.3m of reserves in 2022/23 would be required to balance the budget.

The Commissioner highlighted that South Yorkshire Police also have a number of legacy costs to budget for, which were currently estimated to reach £121m by 2026/27, of which £18m would have to be paid by the Force.

During 2022/23, the use of £0.2m would be required from reserves to balance the budget, and a combination of savings and use of reserves amounting to £11.3m throughout the CSR MTRS period.

Referring to the Reserves Movement graph at Appendix B of the report, the Commissioner said that, looking ahead over coming years, there would remain a deficit over those years which would have to be funded from reserves unless the Government grant was more generous. If no action was taken by the Savings Team, then the Force would run out of reserves by 2026/27.

An online survey had been undertaken with the public in relation to policing priorities and the Council Tax precept. A total of 1,042 responses had been received and the results showed that, 46% of respondents (479) were supportive of up to a £10 (Band D property) increase. 54% (563) were not supportive of an increase.

The Medium Term Resource Strategy (MTRS) was presented at Appendix A to the report. The overall budget proposal was £310.7m, including investment to support the further increase in police officer posts. Also included was investment into prioritised growth areas relating to essential core and uplift delivery, enhancement of the operating model and Force priorities.

The report set out a number of key risks and uncertainties, which were noted by Members.

Councillor Garbutt asked if the prudential reserves level took into account the assumed levels of inflation.

D Carrington confirmed that the prudential reserves level was currently set at 5% of the net revenue budget until the end of 2024/25, and did take account of inflation.

Councillor Milsom asked if there was an increase in the number of individuals claiming Council Tax relief, would this affect the effectiveness of the policing element of the precept.

E Eruero replied that an assumption had been built into the Local Authorities council tax base that not all individuals in a Council Tax band would pay their full Council Tax bill. It was also confirmed that individuals applying for Council Tax relief would be doing so for the whole of their Council Tax bill.

Councillor Milsom asked if there had been any indication from Government as to how officer salaries would be adequately covered for in future years, especially when considering that the uplift in officer numbers was producing a relatively young workforce who would become more experienced in future years and progress through pay increments.

The Commissioner replied that Ministers would probably claim that they had taken this into account for future settlements. However, he suspected that funding would not be adequate. He was aware that there would be financial implications as officers rose to more senior positions within the Force, together with them receiving future pay increments.

Councillor Milsom asked if rising fuel costs had been accounted for either in the one-year funding settlement or the three year Spending Review. She also asked if there was an expectation that Commissioners would have to accommodate higher fuel costs within their budgets. Additionally, Councillor Milsom asked if the Commissioner was concerned about this. Furthermore, had there had been any suggestion that there might be emergency Government funding available should fuel costs begin to impinge on other budgetary commitments.

The Commissioner replied that the Policing Minister had made it very clear that there would be no in-year funding changes or additions to police funding, other than, the possibility of funding around the McCloud and Sargeant pensions issue, which was yet to be resolved.

The Commissioner confirmed that an assumption had been made in the budget for rising fuel costs.

Councillor Baum-Dixon referred to the current level of reserves. He asked if the Commissioner could consider granting relief to those individuals in South Yorkshire who were struggling to pay their Council Tax bill.

The Commissioner replied that he did recognise that there were people in South Yorkshire who were financially struggling, and these are most likely to be the ones who would receive discounts on their Council Tax bill. Despite the precept increase, the Force would have to use reserves to balance the budget.

Councillor Lodge asked if the Commissioner was confident that legacy costs would continue to be covered by Government Special Grant funding and if there was any indication that the level of Special Grant funding would increase in future to cover legacy costs.

In response, the Commissioner said that Special Grant funding was discretionary. However, along with the Chief Constable, he had written to the Home Secretary to request her to consider and reconsider South Yorkshire's Special Grant funding.

The Chair, Councillor Haleem referred to the recommendation in the report which asked the Police and Crime Panel to consider and support a proposed annual increase in the policing element of the Council Tax (the precept) for 2022/23 of £10.00 for a Band D property, which would be an increase of 4.69%. The Panel noted that most properties in South Yorkshire are in Bands A (57%) and B (17%)

and C (12%) where the increase would be A 13p per week, B 15p per week, and C 17p per week.

A recorded vote was taken and recorded as follows:-

For accepting the proposed increase in the policing element of the Council Tax precept for 2022/23 – (9) Councillors Haleem, Cherryholme, Garbutt, Knowles, Lodge, Milsom, Pickering, Mr W Carratt and Professor A James.

Against the proposed increase (2) Councillors Baum-Dixon and Ransome.

Abstained (0).

The proposal was approved.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime:-

- i) Voted to accept the proposed annual increase in the policing element of the Council Tax (the precept) for 2022/23 of £10 for a Band D property, which would be an increase of 4.69%.
- ii) Noted that most properties in South Yorkshire are in Bands A (57%) and B (17%) and C (12%) where the increase would be A 13p per week, B 15p per week, and C 17p per week.

11 POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE (INCLUDING DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING)

A report of the Commissioner was presented to inform Members that the Commissioner is supported by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) in delivering his Police and Crime Plan, and in effectively discharging his wide range of legal responsibilities. The OPCC has a Delivery Plan which outlines how this is undertaken each year.

The report provided Members with an update on key PCC and OPCC activities against the new Delivery Plan since the Panel's last meeting held on 13 December 2021.

The report also provided Members with information on the decisions taken by the PCC since the Panel's last meeting.

The key activities reported for the period under the headings within the OPCC's new Delivery Plan were detailed in the report and noted by Members.

Councillor Garbutt referred to two recent reports in the media in relation to various aspects of policing, including Child Sexual Exploitation. He sought assurances from the Commissioner that South Yorkshire Police was not one of the forces who had been listed as not having learned any lessons.

M Buttery replied that Child Sexual Exploitation remained a specific area of focus for the Commissioner and was included in the new Police and Crime Plan. Child

Sexual Exploitation would be discussed at the March meeting of the Public Accountability Board, where the Commissioner rigorously holds the Force to account in this area.

In addition, the Commissioner was awaiting the receipt of the National Crime Agency's (NCA) independent investigation around non-recent CSE in the UK and Rotherham, together with the Independent Police Complaints' Commission's investigations in relation to the behaviour of officers working at the time.

M Buttery provided assurances that there was no part of the Commissioner's holding to account arrangements where CSE was not a high priority. In addition, CSE was also considered at both public and private Force and OPCC meetings.

The Commissioner reminded Members that Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) had rated South Yorkshire Police outstanding in the area of ethical leadership.

In response to a question from Councillor Baum-Dixon, the Commissioner provided assurances that any recommendations arising from the two reports would be taken very seriously by himself and the Force.

The Commissioner invited Councillor Baum-Dixon to meet with staff at the Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP) Unit in Rotherham to obtain an overview of the work they undertake.

Councillor Baum-Dixon welcomed the invitation.

Councillor Milsom asked if the joint PCC and South Yorkshire Police Sustainability Strategy Action Plan could be included in the Update reports at future Panel meetings.

M Buttery acknowledged the request and agreed to include information in future PCC Update reports.

Professor James referred to the update in relation to Violence Against Women and Girls. He raised concerns that, only one of the four Community Safety Partnerships had any reference to Violence Against Women and Girls in their planning and reporting.

In addition, Professor James said that he had made an observation on previous occasions that many female offenders are also victims of domestic abuse and were vulnerable in their own way. He asked that silos be broken down to allow female offenders to be factored into deliberations around Violence Against Women and Girls.

The Commissioner acknowledged Professor James' observation.

M Buttery said that the publication of the Force's Female Offenders' Strategy had been delayed. The OPCC had requested a date when the Strategy would be made available. The LCJB Business Manager was heavily involved in the work around

Violence Against Women and Girls and had already highlighted the perspective around female offenders.

In relation to the Community Safety Partnerships, M Buttery said that Violence Against Women and Girls featured in the PCC's new Police and Crime Plan and was not considered in isolation. The Community Safety Partnerships would be held to account from a funding perspective around the Actions Plans they have in place around serious violence, domestic abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls.

Professor James referred to the work being undertaken in relation to disproportionality in the Criminal Justice System. He asked if the report on progress from the Task and Finish Group could be circulated to Panel Members. He also asked if the Task and Finish Group would be linking in with the work of the PCC's Independent Ethics Panel on disproportionality in stop and search data, and the Force's efforts to improve workforce diversity.

M Buttery replied that the reports considered at the Criminal Justice Board were not discussed in public; she agreed to seek the Board's agreement to ascertain what information could be shared with the Panel.

In relation to the overlap of work being undertaken between the Independent Ethics Panel and the Criminal Justice Board, M Buttery said that the OPCC was aware of this and would be seeking to address any common themes arising.

Professor James asked if the Panel could receive further details in relation to the grants awarded and activity underway.

M Buttery replied that arrangements were being made for a Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) presentation to be given to Panel Members, which would focus on the funding that is made available through both the VRU and the OPCC's Commissioning Team. In addition, a small amount of Commissioning Services information was also included in the quarterly Performance report.

M Buttery said that she would make arrangements to include further details around Commissioning Services in future quarterly Performance reports.

Professor James noted that the OPCC's Partnerships and Commissioning Manager was a member of the Partnership's Commissioning Sub-Group. He asked how success was measured in relation to the partnership work being undertaken to support successful rehabilitation across Yorkshire and the Humber. In addition, he also asked how much effort was being taken to look at the issue of diverting offenders from custody, rather than rehabilitating them.

M Buttery replied that she would make arrangements for Linda Mayhew to contact Professor James following today's meeting to provide a response to his question.

M Buttery understood that work was ongoing with regards to performance management. She added that the results in relation to how effective rehabilitation activity is could be provided after today's meeting.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.
- ii) Asked questions on the matters contained in within the report, given that it explained how the PCC has over the period delivered his Police and Crime Plan, and discharged the wide range of his legal responsibilities.
- iii) Noted that the Commissioner would invite Councillor Baum-Dixon to meet with staff at the Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP) Unit in Rotherham to obtain an overview of the work they undertake.
- iv) Noted that updates on the Joint PCC and SYP Sustainability Strategy Action Plan would be included in future PCC Update reports.
- v) Noted that M Buttery had agreed to ascertain with the Local Criminal Justice Board if the update report in relation to the work being undertaken by the Task and Finish Group around disproportionality could be shared with the Panel.
- vi) Noted that arrangements would be made by the OPCC to include further details around Commissioning Services in future quarterly Performance Reports presented to the Panel.
- vii) Noted that M Buttery would make arrangements for Linda Mayhew to contact Professor James following today's meeting to provide him with a response to his question in relation to the Partnership's Commissioning Sub-Group.
- viii) Noted that M Buttery had agreed to provide Professor James with information in relation to how effective rehabilitation activity is across Yorkshire and the Humber.

12 REPORT BACK FROM DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP - MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES

Councillor Knowles provided the Panel with a detailed update on the key issues and work currently being undertaken by the Safer and Stronger Doncaster Partnership Board. It was noted that the Doncaster Community Safety Strategy had been signed-off by full Council ready for publication.

Councillor Milsom reported that the Safer Sheffield Partnership had been restructured over the last year. A relaunch of the Partnership was awaited with a new online presence and new ways of working between the various bodies. A number of Community Safety Wardens had also been recruited.

Due to the timings of the Barnsley and Rotherham Community Safety Partnership meetings, no updates were available for today's meeting.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel noted the feedback.

13 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANELS - SURVEY RESULTS: FOR INFORMATION

The Panel noted the contents of a report of the National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels which presented the findings of a survey of Police, Fire and Crime Panels in England and Wales. The report also collated other relevant information to foster good practice amongst Panels.

The results showed a very diverse range of approaches in respect of Panel size, independent co-opted membership, AGM dates, meeting balanced appointment objectives and Panel allowances.

In response to a question from Professor James in relation to the appointment of a Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, the Commissioner reported that recruitment had been delayed due to internal Labour Party issues.

M Buttery added that the Commissioner had received correspondence from the Home Office in relation to South Yorkshire's resilience plans in the absence of a Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner. The Commissioner had been encouraged by the Home Office to involve the Panel. A discussion would take place with L Noble after today's meeting.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the contents of the National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels survey results report.
- ii) Noted that a discussion would take place after today's meeting between M Buttery and L Noble in relation to the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner appointment.

14 LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

A report was submitted to update Members on current events – national, regional and local, together with future plans in respect of learning and development for the Panel.

Suggestions for any other learning and development opportunities Members may have to support the Panel's learning and development were welcomed.

A summary of the events which had taken place since the last meeting together with details of proposed future events were set out within the report for Members' information.

The Panel was reminded that a virtual session with the Violence Reduction Unit had been fixed for Friday 25 February at 10:00 am.

It was noted that arrangements would be made with the OPCC for Members to visit the Sexual Abuse and Referral Centre (SARC).

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the update.

- ii) Agreed to provide suggestions for future learning and development.

15 POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETING DATES 2022-23

A report was submitted to set out a schedule of meeting dates for the Police and Crime Panel in 2022/23.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Considered and approved the 2022/23 meeting dates set out below:-

- Monday 25 April 2022
- Monday 6 June 2022 – Annual Meeting
- Monday 18 July 2022
- Monday 19 September 2022
- Monday 5 December 2022
- Friday 3 February 2023
- Monday 24 April 2023

All meetings will take place at 1:00 pm with a pre-meeting for Members at 12:30 pm and be held in Barnsley Town Hall, unless stated otherwise.

- ii) Agreed to hold additional / extraordinary meetings / training events as and when appropriate / necessary.

16 WORK PROGRAMME / PAB DATES

Members considered the 2022/23 Work Programme and were reminded that they could submit issues for the Work Programme that fall within the Panel's Statutory role in supporting and scrutinising the Commissioner.

All issues would be given full consideration by the Chair, Vice-Chair and Commissioner at the pre-agenda planning meetings.

Additionally, Members were encouraged to attend the meetings of the Commissioner's Public Accountability Board (PAB) to increase their operational knowledge. These were currently being held virtually and Members could obtain details to 'dial in' to the meeting from L Noble or A Shirt.

Members were reminded that they could also submit questions for PAB through the OPCC, with 5 working days notice prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel noted the contents of the 2022/23 Work Programme.

17 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED - That the next meeting of the Police and Crime Panel be held on Monday 25 April 2022 at 1:00 pm in Barnsley Town Hall.

CHAIR



SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

25 APRIL 2022

PRESENT: Councillor A Cherryholme (Barnsley MBC) (Vice-Chair)

Councillor R Haleem (Rotherham MBC) (Chair)

Councillors: R Davison (Sheffield City Council), T Baum-Dixon (Rotherham MBC), P Garbutt (Sheffield City Council), S Knowles (Doncaster MBC), R Milsom (Sheffield City Council), C Ransome (Doncaster MBC) and Professor A James (Independent Co-opted Member of the Police and Crime Panel)

Dr A Billings (South Yorkshire Police & Crime Commissioner)
(South Yorkshire Police)

S Abbott, M Buttery, K Dearnley, S Parkin, F Topliss and K Wright
(Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

J Field, M McCarthy, L Noble and A Shirt
(Barnsley MBC)

Apologies for absence were received from:
Councillor B Lodge (Sheffield City Council), Councillor C Pickering (Barnsley MBC) and W Carratt (Independent Co-opted Member of the Police and Crime Panel)

1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Vice-Chair, Councillor Cherryholme took the Chair for today's meeting and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Panel noted that today would be L Noble's and M McCarthy's last Panel meeting.

On behalf of the Panel, Councillor Cherryholme said that it had been an honour to have had the opportunity to work alongside two extremely knowledgeable and committed officers, who had guided Panel Members, the Chair and Vice-Chair extremely well.

The Panel thanked L Noble and M McCarthy for their support and dedication to the Panel and wished them both every happiness for the future.

4. URGENT ITEMS

None.

5. ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

None.

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IN RELATION TO ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

None.

7. PUBLIC QUESTIONS:-

A) TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

There were no public questions to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

B) TO THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

There were no public questions to the Police and Crime Panel.

8. MINUTES OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETING HELD ON 4 FEBRUARY 2022

The Panel discussed and noted progress in respect of agreed actions captured on the Panel's Action Log set out in Appendix A to the minutes.

RESOLVED –

- i) That the minutes of the Police and Crime Panel meeting held on 4 February 2022 be agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.
- ii) Noted that the Panel's Action Log would be updated following discussion and agreement at today's meeting.

9. QUARTER 3 - CONSOLIDATED BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2021/22

A report of the Chief Finance Officer, OPCC was presented setting out the consolidated financial position for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 December 2021. The report also set out forecasts of the year end position as at 31 December 2021.

Members noted that the PCC had approved a revenue budget of £296.0m for 2021/22. Based on current assumptions, the forecast outturn position for the revenue budget was an underspend of £1.267m as at 31 December 2021.

The following key points were noted:

- As at 31 December 2021, the total year to date COVID-19 spend was £1.0m.

- The Force was required to underspend by £1.2m to repay the amount paid out last year from reserves to South Yorkshire Pensions Authority for staff pension lump sum prepayment.
- There were underspends in staff pay due to vacancies, particularly within growth areas and the Force Control Room.
- As at 31 December 2021, the projected year end outturn position was a £266k underspend on the Chief Constable's budget, net of external funding. Full details were outlined in the Chief Constable's budget monitoring paper, attached at Appendix A to the report.

The PCC and OPCC budget forecast year end position was an underspend of £322k, based on information as at 31 December 2021.

Additional in year funding of £5.330m (including £1.6m for the VRU) had also been received since the budget was set.

The main reasons for the underspend and variances from the budget were presented within the report.

Members noted that the PCC had approved a revised capital programme of £19.63m in July 2021. Expenditure to date amounted to £10.76m, and the programme was currently projected to spend in full.

As at 31 March 2021, the overall level of revenue reserves available was £64.96m. This included general reserves of £42.2m, earmarked, and insurance reserves of £10.6m and £12.1m respectively. The expected movement in year, based on projections at the end of December 2021, were detailed in a table at paragraph 6 of the report.

Hillsborough, the Stovewood enquiry, and CSE civil claims were currently showing a combined underspend of £0.175m.

Paragraph 7 of the report set out a number of risks and uncertainties in the reported financial position, which had been previously reported and largely remained unchanged.

Councillor Davison referred to the Chief Constable's budget. He asked what the difference was between 'Specific Grant Funding' and 'Grant Expenditure'.

S Abbott replied that, to her knowledge, 'Specific Grant Funding' related to grant income received. Whereas 'Grant Expenditure' related to specific grant under / overspend. S Abbott agreed to ascertain with the Force and provide a response to Councillor Davison after today's meeting.

The Commissioner wished to place on record his thanks to S Abbott, D Carrington and M Carroll, together with officers working in both the OPCC and Force Finance Teams. He paid tribute to all their hard work undertaken during the last year around finances, additional grants, and meeting very strict deadlines.

RESOLVED – That the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.
- ii) Noted that S Abbott had agreed to ascertain with the Force the difference between 'Specific Grant Funding' and 'Grant Expenditure' contained in the Chief Constable's budget and provide Councillor Davison with a response after today's meeting.

10. MONITORING DELIVERY OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN - QUARTERLY REPORT (OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2021)

The Commissioner reported that there were currently several national and international issues which were concerning him. Furthermore, they should also concern all Panel Members, due to it leading to unpredictability and uncertainty about the future of crime and policing.

Firstly, as a result of the Ukraine war, there were thousands of refugees moving across Europe and entering the UK. A large number of the refugees would be very vulnerable as a result of the war. In particular, women and children who had been uprooted from their homes.

The Commissioner said that organised crime gangs would see this as an opportunity. He highlighted that everyone needed to be very sensitive to the fact that there would be vulnerable people who would be open to criminal exploitation by gangs trying to traffic people.

The Commissioner said that this was something that the Police here in the UK and across Europe had to keep on top of and keep a close eye on.

Secondly, the Commissioner said that he would never have thought in his lifetime he would have to say that the UK has a Prime Minister who now has a criminal record. He considered that this was a very difficult place to be in, especially when the police were trying to encourage everyone to abide by the law.

The Commissioner said that this situation was unsettling and unnerving. Furthermore, he did not like the way in which Fixed Penalty Notices had been issued against those attending Downing Street and Cabinet Office parties intermittently through the system. He considered that this method should be ended as soon as possible, due to everyone wanting to have trust and confidence in political leadership, and trust and confidence in the police.

Referring to the report on today's agenda, K Wright provided the Panel with a high-level overview of the Quarterly Performance Report for the period October to December 2021 (Quarter 3 2021/22), as set out in Appendix A to the report.

Councillor Ransome commented that, although local residents did value the Force's call back option, they had found that they were waiting much longer than 10 minutes for their 101 calls to be answered. Residents had tended not to use the 101 service because it was taking too long for their calls to be answered.

The Commissioner replied that the vast majority of callers would have had their call answered within 10 minutes. He said that it would be helpful if residents could

report the date and time when they had experienced a problem when calling the 101 service to enable him to investigate fully.

Professor James referred to Cyber-crime and Fraud. He reported that figures for fraud were not included in local crime data due to them being collated centrally. He asked if a solution could be found to enable the Panel to understand how many vulnerable people are victims of cyber-crime and fraud.

K Wright replied that referrals of fraud go via National Action Fraud, and are then fed back to local police forces to deal with. South Yorkshire Police have a mechanism whereby referrals from Action Fraud are looked at from a vulnerability perspective and then resources allocated accordingly. He agreed to include further narrative in the next quarterly report in relation to how the Force tackles vulnerability within fraud referrals from Action Fraud.

Professor James said that he was concerned to see that residential burglaries are still on the rise, in spite of the Force's focus on this. He asked if the Commissioner was satisfied that everything possible was being done by the Force to address this issue.

The Commissioner replied that he was also very concerned about the high level of domestic burglaries in South Yorkshire. He said that he had asked the Force to investigate why this should be the case for South Yorkshire.

The Commissioner provided assurances to the Panel that domestic burglary was being prioritised by each district, as well as by the Force across South Yorkshire. In addition, a new burglary Lead for the Force was now in place and each District had a single point of contact for burglary.

Councillor Baum-Dixon referred to a news article published in the Daily Mirror on 16 April 2022, regarding the use of Community Resolution Orders. He noted that South Yorkshire Police had used the scheme to deal with the most sex crimes in the UK of 78.

Councillor Baum-Dixon asked the Commissioner if the Force were recording the use of Community Resolution Orders for each crime. Furthermore, he asked if this was kept under review to make sure that the Orders were being used correctly and measured in relation to the victims of these crimes. He asked if the Commissioner would be requesting a review of the Force's use of Community Resolution Orders.

The Commissioner replied that he would investigate and provide further information after today's meeting.

Councillor Milsom asked the Commissioner to what extent are the Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour figures for the period, either expected, or unexpected, and if there had been any surprises in levels of anti-social behaviour and crime in the reporting period.

The Commissioner replied that the figures showed consistently that reported incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour had reduced during the period. He

said he was surprised that anti-social behaviour levels had fallen after the period of the lockdowns i.e. as we return to normal.

K Wright added that the report only contained anti-social behaviour incidents reported to the Force. In addition, incidents of anti-social behaviour were also reported to local authorities and discussed at the District Community Safety Partnership meetings.

Councillor Milsom asked if it would be possible to combine anti-social behaviour incidents reported to both the Force and to the local authorities in the next quarterly report.

K Wright acknowledged the request and agreed to investigate if it would be feasible to include the data in future Performance reports.

In response to a question from Councillor Milsom regarding re-offending rates, the Commissioner said that he would be disappointed if the trend of re-offending was not reducing.

Councillor Milsom asked if levels of re-offending were similar to other Force areas.

K Wright replied that he would attempt to include comparative data in future reports.

Councillor Milsom noted that the percentage of vulnerable victims satisfied with their overall experience with the Police had statistically significantly fallen from very high satisfaction in the same quarter last year. She asked what the reasons were for the fall in satisfaction over the previous 12 months.

K Wright replied that it was difficult to pinpoint a particular reason. However, victim satisfaction was lower around the Force's following-up of crime, and actions taken.

The Commissioner added that he consistently reminded the Force that they needed to improve their following-up of crime, and actions taken with victims.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.
- ii) Noted that K Wright had agreed to include further narrative in the next quarterly Performance report in relation to how the Force had tackled vulnerability within fraud referrals from Action Fraud.
- iii) Noted that the Commissioner had agreed to investigate the Force's use of Community Resolution Orders and provide further information to Panel Members after today's meeting.
- iv) Noted that K Wright had agreed to investigate if it would be feasible to include the number of anti-social behaviour incidents reported to both the Force and to the local authorities in future quarterly Performance reports.

- v) Noted that K Wright would attempt to include comparative data in future quarterly Performance reports in relation to levels of re-offending.

11. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE (INCLUDING DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING)

A report of the Commissioner was presented to inform Members that the Commissioner is supported by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) in delivering his Police and Crime Plan, and in effectively discharging his wide range of legal responsibilities. The OPCC has a Delivery Plan which outlines how this is undertaken each year.

The report provided Members with an update on key PCC and OPCC activities against the new Delivery Plan since the Panel's last meeting held on 4 February 2022.

The report also provided Members with information on the decisions taken by the PCC since the Panel's last meeting.

The key activities reported for the period under the headings within the OPCC's new Delivery Plan were detailed in the report and noted by Members.

In response to a request from Professor James, M Buttery agreed to provide him with a copy of a template which posed a series of questions to help Members of the Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel determine whether Stop and Searches had been conducted properly.

In response to a question from Professor James, M Buttery confirmed that the Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel would be able to review the grounds of suspicion used by officers for making the stops.

Professor James reported that the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) had recently published a National Stop and Search Learning report.

The report contained a number of recommendations for the Home Office, National Police Council and Chief officers. He asked what steps the Commissioner had taken to ensure that the Chief Constable was responding appropriately to the recommendations contained within the report.

M Buttery replied that each time a new report was published, the Commissioner would raise this at his weekly meeting with the Chief Constable. In addition, M Buttery had weekly meetings with the Deputy Chief Constable where any recommendations arising from reports were tracked in an Action Plan.

It was confirmed that the Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel and Independent Ethics Panel would be fully appraised of the recommendations arising from the IOPC's National Stop and Search Learning report.

Professor James asked if the Commissioner was satisfied that the Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel had been established to conform with the recommendations set out in the IOPC's National Stop and Search Learning report.

The Commissioner acknowledged the question and agreed to check following today's meeting.

Professor James asked if he could receive a copy of the PCC's Assurance Framework (PAF) for risk, governance and internal control.

This request was acknowledged.

Professor James asked if rehabilitation measures in each of the Community Safety Partnerships were being measured.

M Buttery replied that she would need to check each of the individual Community Safety Partnership's Plans to ascertain if they have a specific item in their plan in relation to the rehabilitation of offenders. In relation to reducing re-offending, M Buttery agreed to access data from the Yorkshire and Humber Partnership.

Councillor Garbutt referred to a demonstration which had been held on Sunday 24 April 2022, in Sheffield to condemn Turkey's recent attacks on Kurds in Iraq. The demonstration had involved families and children.

He reported that someone had alleged to him that the demonstration had been broken-up by South Yorkshire Police in an extremely violent way with the protestors being pepper-sprayed and hit with batons by the police at the demonstration. He asked if the Commissioner would be reviewing the Force's actions.

The Commissioner replied that CCTV footage of the policing at the demonstration would be reviewed at chief officer level.

In response to a question from Councillor Milsom, F Topliss explained that that the OPCC were currently in the final stages of producing a leaflet to better inform the public about the different roles and responsibilities of the agencies involved in road safety in South Yorkshire. The leaflet would be made available to all Councils, Parish Councils, Town Councils, and local libraries.

Councillor Milsom was pleased to note that the Commissioner now had a seat on the Safer Roads Partnership. She asked the Commissioner to outline how partnership level strategy planning and spending manifests into local solutions regarding localised traffic and road safety problems.

The Commissioner provided a detailed response and confirmed that the Force were currently in the process of reinvigorating its Community Speed Watch Programme. If Panel Members had a particular speeding problem in their local area, they were asked to email the OPCC who would put them in contact with the Community Speed Watch Team.

Councillor Garbutt commented that car parking was a particular problem in Sheffield. He asked if the Safer Roads Partnership would be addressing this issue.

The Commissioner replied that car parking was not only a problem in Sheffield, but across all of South Yorkshire. There were particular problems outside of schools when people were dropping off and collecting children.

Additionally, there were also problems with people parking their vehicles on narrow residential streets, which caused problems for emergency service vehicles gaining access.

The Commissioner said that there was a responsibility for Panel Members and particularly School Governors, to discuss what they could do to alleviate car parking problems in local areas.

Councillor Davison commented that he had been very impressed with the preventative measures available at the Sexual Assault and Referral Centre (SARC), following a Panel visit on 18 March 2022. He asked if arrangements could be made for Panel Members to visit any other Force departments to understand how crime prevention was being addressed.

The Commissioner agreed to consider Councillor Davison's request.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.
- ii) Asked questions on the matters contained within the report, given that it explained how the PCC has over the period delivered his Police and Crime Plan, and discharged the wide range of his legal responsibilities.
- iii) Noted that M Buttery had agreed to provide Professor James with a copy of a template which posed a series of questions to help Members of the Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel determine whether Stop and Searches had been conducted properly.
- iv) Noted that the Commissioner had agreed to check if the Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel had been established to conform with the recommendations contained in the IOPC's National Stop and Search Learning report.
- v) Noted that the OPCC would issue Professor James with a copy of the PCC's Assurance Framework (PAF) for risk, governance and internal control.
- vi) Noted that M Buttery had agreed to check each of the individual Community Safety Partnership's Plans to ascertain if they have a specific item in their plan in relation to the rehabilitation of offenders.
- vii) Noted that M Buttery had agreed to access data from the Yorkshire and Humber Partnership in relation to reducing re-offending.
- viii) Noted that the Commissioner had agreed to consider if arrangements could be made for Panel Members to visit any other Force departments to understand how crime prevention is being addressed.

12. FEMALE OFFENDERS' STRATEGY - UPDATE

A report was presented to provide the Panel with an update on the work that the Police and Crime Commissioner is maintaining an oversight of in relation to Female Offenders within South Yorkshire.

The Panel were reminded that the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) had published a Female Offender Strategy in 2018.

The Strategy set out Government's commitment to a new programme of work for female offenders, driven by three priorities.

The Panel noted that local progress had been impeded by COVID, probation reform, and the absence of any discrete funding to South Yorkshire to support local delivery of the ambitions set out in the Strategy.

In January 2021, the MoJ had published the Concordat on women in or at risk of contact with the Criminal Justice System. The second section looked at improving outcomes at a local level, including through establishing a whole system approach to respond more collaboratively and effectively to the multiple and complex needs of women in or at risk of contact with the Criminal Justice System.

The Strategy also contained a commitment to publish a data tool to enable local areas to better understand the needs of women in the area.

The Panel noted that work to support local delivery of the ambitions contained in the Strategy and the Concordat had continued over the course of the last year.

During 2021/22, the Force had committed to developing a Female Offender Strategy. A first draft of the Strategy had been produced by the Force Lead and was currently being considered.

Upon unification of the Probation Service in June 2021, a Female Offender Commissioned Rehabilitative Service for South Yorkshire had been available delivered by a local consortium of specialist female providers led by Changing Lives.

The Panel noted that, on behalf of the Local Criminal Justice Board, the countywide Rehabilitative and Reduce Reoffending Steering Group (RRRSG) had co-ordinated and progressed local partnership working in relation to females.

On 9 February 2022, the PCC had welcomed more than 60 delegates to a 'Women and girls in or at risk of entering the Criminal Justice System' virtual event. Further details were presented in the report and noted by Members.

Professor James commented that he was pleased to note the developments beginning to take place and welcomed the multi-agency approach which had been developed.

Professor James noted that there was a commitment to publish a data tool to enable local areas to better understand the needs of women in the area. He asked

if a specific dashboard could be produced for South Yorkshire and if this could be included in future quarterly Performance reports.

M Buttery acknowledged Professor James' request and agreed to discuss with K Wright to consider if it would be feasible to include this data in future quarterly Performance reports, or if updates could be provided in the PCC's quarterly Update reports.

In response to a request from Professor James, the Commissioner agreed to provide the Panel with regular progress updates in relation to the arrangements being piloted in Doncaster during 2022/23 for a Female Conditional Caution trial.

RESOLVED – That the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report.
- ii) Noted that M Buttery had agreed to discuss with K Wright if it would be feasible to include a specific dashboard for South Yorkshire in future quarterly Performance reports, or if updates could be provided in the PCC's quarterly Update reports.
- iii) Noted that the Commissioner had agreed to provide the Panel with regular progress updates in relation to the arrangements being piloted in Doncaster during 2022/23 for a Female Conditional Caution trial.

13. LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

A report was submitted to update Members on current events – national, regional and local, together with future plans in respect of learning and development for the Panel.

Suggestions for any other learning and development opportunities Members may have to support the Panel's learning and development were welcomed.

A summary of the events which had taken place since the last meeting together with details of proposed future events were set out within the report for Members' information.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the update.
- ii) Agreed to provide suggestions for future learning and development.

14. REPORT BACK FROM DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIPS - MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES

Councillor Cherryholme provided the Panel with a detailed update on the key issues, priorities and work currently being undertaken by the Safer Barnsley Partnership.

Councillor Milsom provided the Panel with an update from the Safer Sheffield Partnership meeting held on 24 February 2022.

On behalf of Councillor Haleem, L Noble provided the Panel with an update from the Safer Rotherham Partnership meeting held on 7 April 2022.

No update was available in relation to the Safer and Stronger Doncaster Partnership Board.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel noted the feedback.

15. WORK PROGRAMME / PAB DATES

Members considered the 2022/23 Work Programme and were reminded that they could submit issues for the Work Programme that fall within the Panel's Statutory role in supporting and scrutinising the Commissioner.

All issues would be given full consideration by the Chair, Vice-Chair and Commissioner at the pre-agenda planning meetings.

Additionally, Members were encouraged to attend the meetings of the Commissioner's Public Accountability Board (PAB) to increase their operational knowledge. These were currently being held virtually and Members could obtain details to 'dial in' to the meeting from A Shirt.

Members were reminded that they could also submit questions for PAB through the OPCC, with 5 working days notice prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel noted the contents of the 2022/23 Work Programme.

16. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED - That the Annual meeting of the Police and Crime Panel be held on Monday 6 June 2022, at 1:00 pm, in Barnsley Town Hall.

The Commissioner and M Buttery thanked L Noble and M McCarthy for all their hard work and wished them both all the very best for the future.

CHAIR