



## Agenda

To all Members of the

# REGENERATION & HOUSING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL

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

**Venue:** Council Chamber, Floor 2, Civic Office, Waterdale, Doncaster

**Date:** Tuesday, 30th November, 2021

**Time:** 10.00 am

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**PLEASE NOTE:** Due to restrictions arising from the Covid-19 pandemic, there will be limited capacity in the public gallery for observers of the meeting. If you would like to attend to observe in person, please contact the Governance Team on telephone 01302 734941 or 01302 735682 to request a place no later than 12 noon Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021. Please note that the pre-booked places will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis and once pre-booked capacity has been reached there will be no further public admittance to the meeting. For those who are attending the meeting, please bring a face covering, unless you are exempt.

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

Issued on: 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021

Governance Services Officer for this meeting  
Rachel Wright Tel: 01302 737662

**Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council**  
[www.doncaster.gov.uk](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk)

<b>Items for Discussion</b>	<b>Page No</b>
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 meeting held on 13th October 2021.	1 - 6
5. Public Statements - [A period not exceeding 20 minutes for statements from up to 5 members of the public on matters within the Committees remit, proposing action(s) which may be considered or contribute towards the future development of the Committees Work Programme].	
<b>A. Items where the Public and Press may not be excluded.</b>	
6. Update on the Delivery of Management of Doncaster Markets.	7 - 16
7. Town Centre Economy.	17 - 26
8. Overview and Scrutiny Work Plan and the Councils Forward Plan of Key Decisions.	27 - 40

### **Members of the Regeneration & Housing Overview & Scrutiny Panel**

Chair – Councillor Majid Khan

Vice-Chair – Councillor David Nevett

Councillors Duncan Anderson, Iris Beech, Steve Cox, Sue Farmer, Sophie Liu, John Mounsey and Gary Stapleton

Invitee: Mark Whitehouse (Union representative)

# Agenda Item 4

DONCASTER METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

REGENERATION & HOUSING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL

WEDNESDAY, 13TH OCTOBER, 2021

A MEETING of the REGENERATION & HOUSING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL was held at the COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICE, DONCASTER on WEDNESDAY, 13TH OCTOBER, 2021 at 11.30 AM

PRESENT:

Chair - Councillor Majid Khan

Councillors David Nevett, Duncan Anderson, Iris Beech, Steve Cox, Sue Farmer, Sophie Liu and Gary Stapleton

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Phil Holmes, Director Adults Health and Well-being  
Dave Richmond, Chief Executive St Leger Homes  
Mark Steward, Head of Service Access to Homes

APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor John Mounsey

		<u>ACTION</u>
1	<u>TO CONSIDER THE EXTENT, IF ANY, TO WHICH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS ARE TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING.</u>	
	There were no items on the agenda.	
2	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, IF ANY.</u>	
	There were no declarations made.	
3	<u>MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3RD MARCH, 2021</u>	
	<u>RESOLVED:</u> That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2021, be agreed as a correct record.	
4.	<u>PUBLIC STATEMENTS</u>	
	There were no public statements made.	

<p>5.</p>	<p><u>UPDATE ON TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION USE AS PART OF HOMELESSNESS DELIVERY.</u></p>	
	<p>The Panel was presented with a report relating to homelessness and outlined the duty to provide temporary accommodation to certain prescribed groups, namely those with dependent children or deemed to be vulnerable.</p> <p>Members were reminded of the increasing demand for temporary accommodation, which were twofold:</p> <p>Firstly the additional duties for local authorities following the introduction of the Homelessness Reduction Act; and</p> <p>secondly the 'Everyone In' programme as a result of the Corona Virus Pandemic ensuring all rough sleepers, including individuals who would not normally be owed a duty, to be provided temporary accommodation.</p> <p>During discussion, the following areas were addressed by the Panel:</p> <p><u>Good practice during the pandemic</u> – it was stressed there was already a lot of good practice in Doncaster through partnership working and the complex lives alliance. This had provided a positive position at the beginning of the pandemic. The following areas were dicussed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The partnership was able to utilise hotels within the borough. This was an area the partnership wished to develop as part of the supporting pathway model;</li> <li>• The Tenancy Sustainment Team supported residents early with financial support to ensure they retained their tenancies and moving forward wished to continue supporting people early when in temporary accommodation, ensuring they were tenancy ready;</li> <li>• Supporting people with rent payments in advance, including the development of rent guarantee schemes, was an area to investigate with the private sector;</li> <li>• With regard to customer experience the number of people visiting the Civic Office with housing enquiries had reduced dramatically during the pandemic with telephone call activity increasing, and follow up responses on-line and email. It was hoped this would continue;</li> <li>• Ex-prisoner housing – prior to the pandemic a South Yorkshire Offenders pathway had been developed where officers undertook housing assessments in prison as part of release and homing plans, but this was paused during lockdown with some assessments being undertaken by video call. There were some</li> </ul>	

	<p>benefits to the video calls, for example officer efficiency, however the level of engagement with the customer had reduced; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Partnership's focus on people with early prevention avoiding homelessness as much as practicable.</li> </ul> <p><u>Funding</u> - success had been achieved in the areas detailed below however, it was noted that sustainability with regard to resources and long term support was difficult. Short term funding was continually being sought and the bureaucracy it created was noted. Having longer term funding would provide a more stable strategic approach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rough Sleeper initiative – attracting substantial funding for rounds 3 and 4.</li> <li>• short term support with the Next Steps accommodation fund / Protect Plus.</li> <li>• Accommodation for ex-offenders achieved through the partnership approach. This ensured that no one left prison without a fixed abode, providing 12 weeks to secure a permanent home through accommodation schemes.</li> </ul> <p><u>Homelessness enquiries received by St Leger Homes during Covid</u> – it was noted that pre-pandemic there were approximately 500 enquiries per month but these were now averaging 2000 per month.</p> <p>The reasons for homelessness during the pandemic were set out in paragraph 29 of the report, people presenting themselves as “homeless now”, for example fleeing domestic abuse or violence from outside the home. Therefore the opportunity to prevent homelessness was massively reduced with efforts being made to return to the levels pre-pandemic.</p> <p><u>Domestic Violence</u> - It was noted that homelessness could be a result of someone suffering from domestic abuse with safe accommodation required urgently. The difference between the indicators in the report were as follows:</p> <p>Domestic Abuse: Violence within the home.</p> <p>Fleeing Violence: Experiencing violence from outside the home.</p> <p><u>Reasons for Homelessness</u> – A Member highlighted that the information provided highlighted the last thing a person was doing before they presented themselves as homeless but it questioned what the root cause was for being homeless. It was acknowledged that homelessness was very complex for each individual and was very rarely triggered by one event. With regard to data collection and figures set out in the report, it was noted that the Government had introduced more categories to monitor, therefore the information</p>	
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<p>provided was driven by those indicators.</p> <p><u>Supported accommodation</u> – pressure on the system was acknowledged and had led to an increase in demand, therefore there was the requirement for more of every support service provided.</p> <p>It was noted that broadly there was enough supported accommodation but it was not necessarily the best balance. For example, more bespoke and a mixed blend of housing was required.</p> <p>With regard to the current adapted stock, it was explained that approximately 30% of the housing stock had been adapted but it was important to future proof design of the stock and get the right balance for both adaptations and general design issues.</p> <p><u>Out of Authority rehousing</u> – the Panel noted that placing someone in a home outside the Authority boundary was used as a last resort and very rare, or to ensure someone was safe from harm. Finding someone a property was a supply and demand issue, for example, during race week when all accommodation was booked by visitors, this may be a time when out of authority housing could be considered.</p> <p>At all times the Authority ensure people stay local with their communities and support network however it was acknowledged there was a legal duty to find reasonable accommodation when someone presents themselves as homeless. To prevent the need for placement, a safe location in temporary accommodation where appropriate, close to networks needs to be allocated. If accommodation was not available then emergency accommodation would be sought in hotels however families being placed in hotels would be avoided as much as possible. If the above placements could not be made then accommodation outside the borough would be sought. Anyone placed outside the borough would only be temporary and the priority would be to return them to Doncaster Borough as quickly as possible. It was recognised that in some circumstances accommodation could be available within the Borough but may not be safe for the person seeking accommodation.</p> <p><u>Housing Allocations</u> – It was explained that there had been a massive rise in demand of people requiring local authority accommodation and the type of properties available tended to be static. For example, the number of houses becoming available reduced by 30% over the last year.</p> <p>With regard to the “HomeChoice” banding system 95% of people who needed a home had been placed directly in the Gold and Platinum level over the last year. Therefore it had become more difficult to house people in the lower bands if they were seeking a specific tight geographical area. It was noted that the Allocations Policy would be reviewed in 2022 with a review of the use of housing stock being</p>
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	<p>considered in the future.</p> <p>With regard to tenants being moved to a different property, because where they were living was deemed to be temporary, it was explained that the position was not the same for each person. If a person or family was happy to stay in the accommodation and it met their needs, they could remain. However, in some instances the balance may not be right, for example, if a three bedoomed property was required for the family and they were currently in a two bedroomed, then a measured approached would be required to move the family to the right property.</p> <p>It was also explained that if people remained in temporary accommodation in areas that had a very low turnover, then temporary accommodation would reduce even further. A good spread was required to be provided across the Borough.</p> <p>With regard to the percentage of people entering local authority housing from the private sector for non-payment of rent, it was agreed that a response would be provided following the meeting.</p> <p>The Local Authority approaching the private sector to use temporary urgent accommodation was addressed, however it was noted that the sector was experiencing the same demand and need. It was also explained that unfortunately the private sector did not see people in Council properties as being in a stable economic position that could guarantee rent.</p> <p><u>Rent Holiday</u> - the Panel was reminded of this provision during the pandemic, for the people who needed it. It was acknowledged that some people were impacted severely but others remained in employment. It was noted that rent performance last year had improved on the previous year and the opinion was that people found themselves in a better position because they were not spending on holidays or going out and therefore prioritised paying rent and bills.</p> <p><u>Nomination rights to non St Leger properties</u> – it was explained that the question raised could not be answered at this meeting but noted that each scheme had an individual Agreement for housing rights. It was explained how the “HomeChoice” letting system worked within these Agreements.</p> <p><u>Military veterans</u> – in response to a question relating to a charity providing 10 bungalows to assist military veterans, it was explained that a response would be provided following the meeting.</p> <p>It was explained that housing priority was provided for Doncaster's veterans and they were automatically placed in Gold and Platinum bands when seeking accommodation. Doncaster's Armed Forces Covenant and that Councillor Mark Houlbrook, Cabinet Member for</p>	
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	<p>Sustainability add Waste was the Local Authority's Armed Forces Champion, was noted.</p> <p>A Member stressed that he was a veteran and feedback he had received was positive with regard to the Armed Forces Covenant and wished to record thanks for the support being provided.</p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED:</u></b> that the report and discussion, be noted.</p>	
6.	<b><u>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PLAN AND THE COUNCIL'S FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS</u></b>	
	<p>The Senior Governance Officer presented the Work Plan and Forward Plan for Key Decisions to the Panel for its consideration.</p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED:</u></b> that the Work Plan and Forward Plan of key decisions, be noted.</p>	



## Doncaster Council

### Report

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Date: 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021

**To the Chair and Members of the  
Regeneration and Housing Scrutiny Panel**

#### **REPORT TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON THE DELIVERY OF MANAGEMENT OF DONCASTER MARKETS**

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Councillor P Cole	All	No

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1 This report provides an update on the progress to date relating to the delivery of management of Doncaster and Mexborough Markets by Market Asset Management (Doncaster) Ltd. The report will highlight the management progress from April 2020 to September 2021. The report will be succinct and will concentrate on the KPIs, contractual matters and notable events.

#### **EXEMPT REPORT**

- 2 This report is not exempt.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3 It is recommended that the Elected Members note this update report.

#### **WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?**

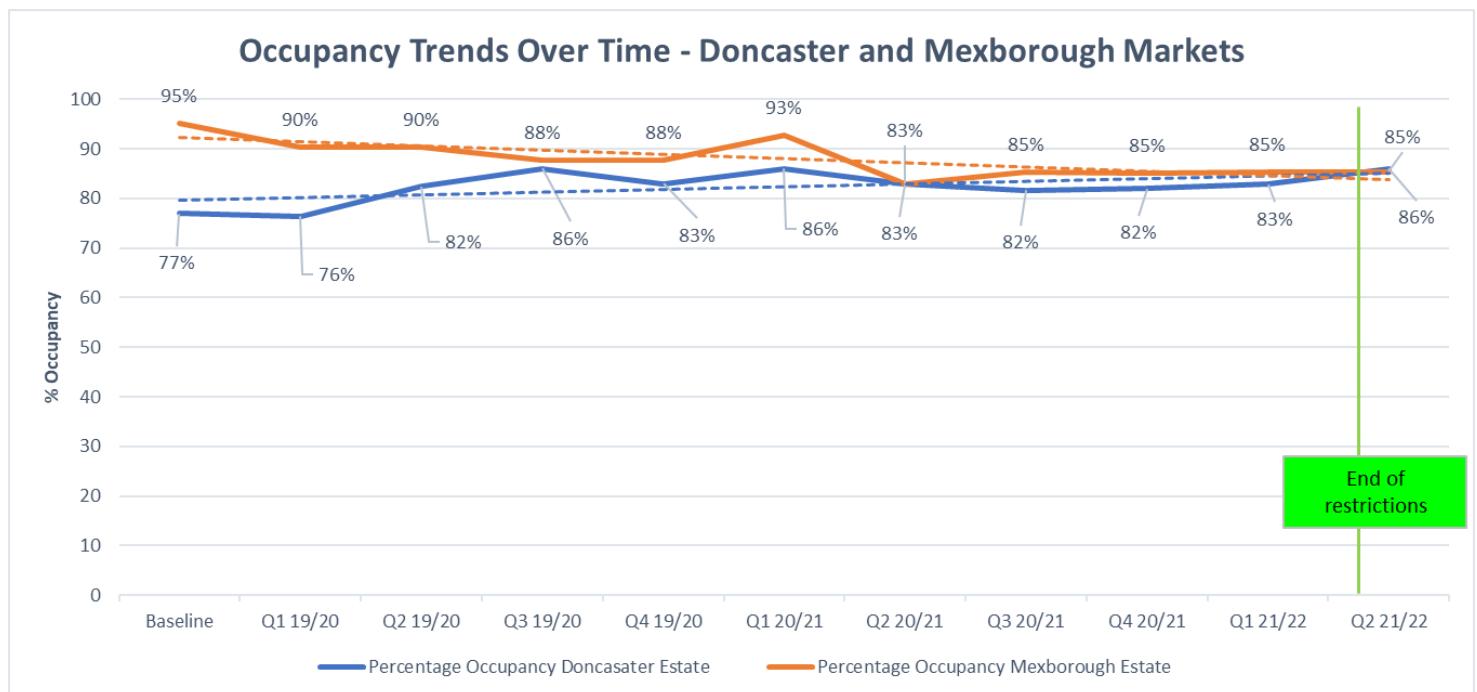
- 4 The citizens of Doncaster will continue to benefit from a modern and changing market offer that will include a variety of retail, competitive leisure and food and beverage experiences.

#### **BACKGROUND**

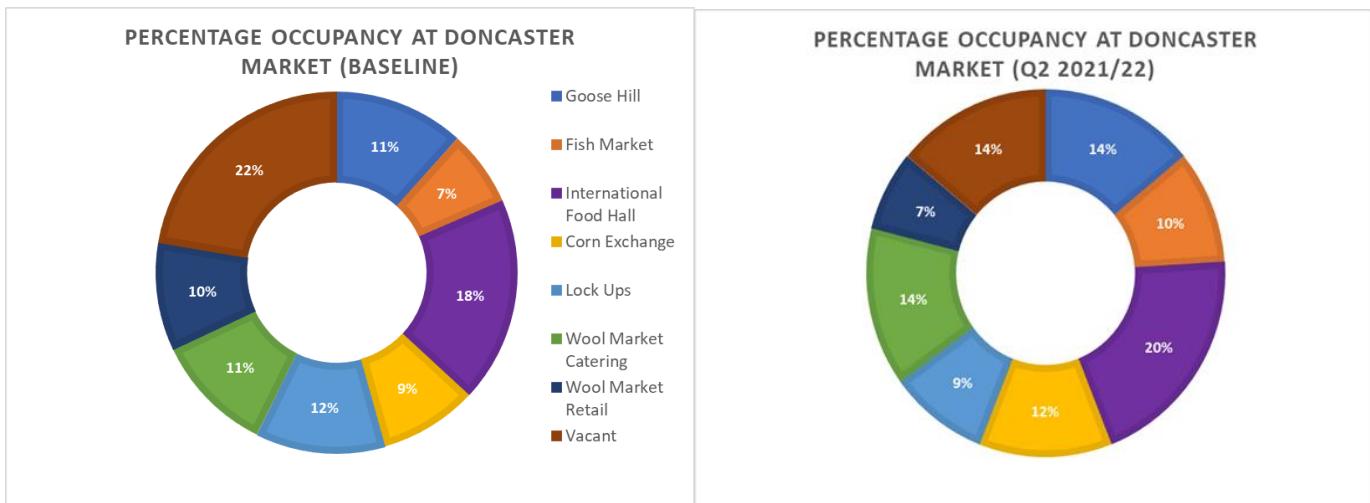
- 5 This is an update report following the previous Economy & Environment Overview and Scrutiny in March 2020.
- 6 Market Asset Management (Doncaster) Ltd are contractually obliged to provide Doncaster Council with a number of Key Performance Indicators.

These have been attached to the report as Appendix A.

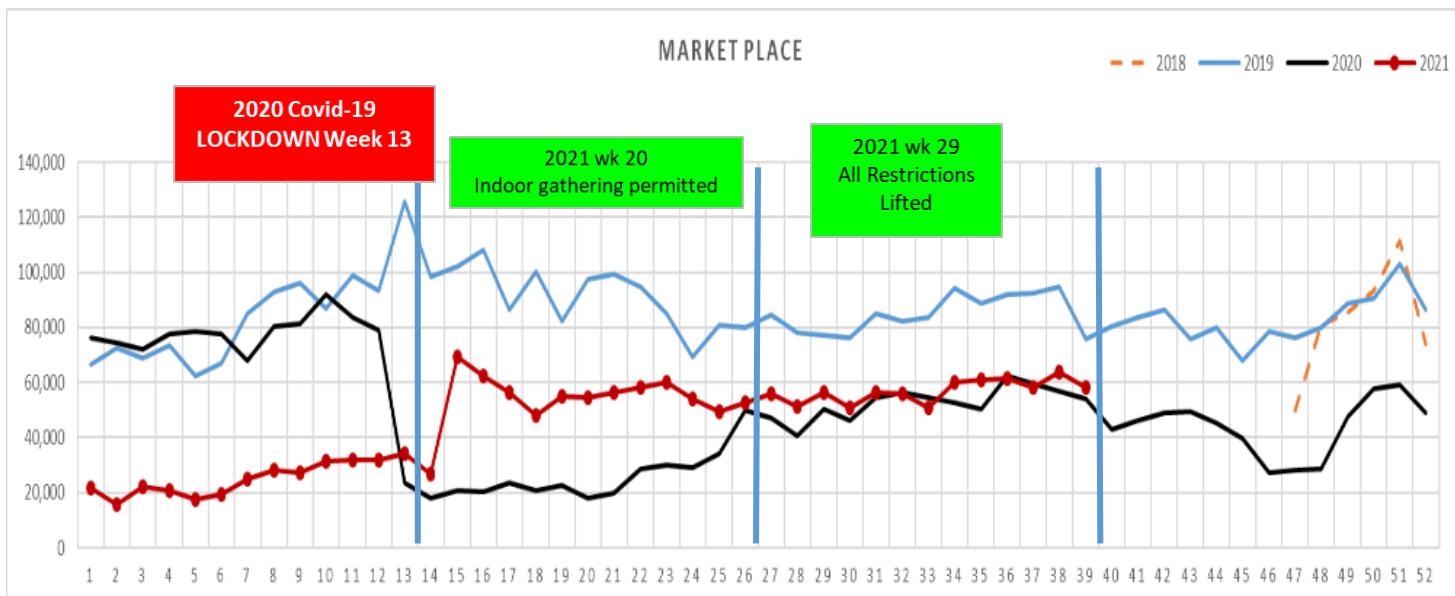
- 7 The chart below illustrates the occupancy trends in both Doncaster and Mexborough estates. Since baseline occupancy levels in May 2019 the contract with MAM began there has been an increase in occupancy levels in Doncaster Market from 77% to the current 86% measured in 2021/22 Q2.
- 8 Mexborough market has shown the opposite with a slight reduction in occupancy of 95% at baseline to the current 85%. To put this into context, there are currently 5 vacant stalls in Mexborough out of the total 40.
- 9 The change in occupancy levels have been impacted due to the Covid-19 pandemic where a significant portion of 2020/21 saw reduced footfall across both markets and also impacted on the number of traders who were allowed to remain open due to the national restrictions put in place.



- 10 Doncaster Market now sits at 86% occupancy, reflecting a return to the pre-Covid growth. There has been sustained interest and a series of successful lettings to introduce new businesses in the Corn Exchange and Goose Hill areas of the market.



- 11 Across the Doncaster estate there has been a number of changes in units for each of the market areas since baseline was measured in May 2019. Overall there has been a reduction in total units of 165 in May 2019 to the present 157 units.
- 12 Five units have been let at Mexborough Market to one trader selling household accessories with a further two units let to a trader selling garden accessories. There has been some turnover of traders during the pandemic period and not all units have been re-filled. A number of existing traders have also expressed interest in expanding their footprint within the market.
- 12 Plans to increase and improve signage both inside and outside Mexborough market hall have been well received by the traders and investment is being made in replacing the double front doors with automatic modern doors. The roof refurbishment and replacement of the glass lights has improved overall light levels inside the market hall. Additional security to design out crime recommended by South Yorkshire Police, fencing and gating has been fitted to discourage outside sleepers and anti-social behaviour in the market area.



- 13 All Covid restrictions were lifted two weeks in to Q2 of 2021-22. Footfall remains significantly reduced compared to pre-pandemic levels in 2019. This reduction is mirrored across all footfall sites in the town centre indicating that people are not returning as much as before Covid. Footfall in the market area has on average been 56,950 with peaks during St Leger Festival week and the final week of September coinciding with unseasonably warm weather for the time of the year.
- 14 The Council have raised one specific contractual issue;
- This issue relates to the removal of the market tops from the outer market stalls after every market day and replacement for the next market day in the morning. The reason for the removal overnight is due to consistent reports of anti-social behaviour. This removal will help to discourage this type of behaviour. MAM have raised concerns over the health and safety of

removing the boards as they are very heavy. A solution to this problem is currently being discussed between MAM and the Council.

- 15 Quarter 2 of 2021-22 saw the removal of all Covid restrictions in July. This has allowed MAM to increase the number of events they hold which in turn drove footfall levels. Events included the Delicious Doncaster Food Festival, the Young Traders regional final both in July. The Doncaster Business Chamber Networking event on the 22 September was held in the Wool Market, bringing together a wide variety of local and regional businesses.
- 16 CAST held their Roundabout Theatre event in the Market Square, supporting trade within the Wool Market and surrounding commercial ventures, offering an exciting opportunity for local people to experience theatre in an entirely new setting.
- 17 Currently there are a number of proposals being developed to improve the markets estates. The first proposal is within the Wool Market where an active leisure zone is to be developed in place of a number of retail units to boost income and support the food and beverage areas. This will include shuffleboard, interactive dart games, retro arcade games and duck pin bowling. These entertainment units will be built by MAM contractors over the winter.
- 18 The better a market, the higher the performance of a town centre which increases its competitive edge over neighbouring towns. MAM and DMBC are achieving this in a collaborative approach. Markets are seen as the creation of a place where locals and tourists can frequent, generating atmosphere, supporting local businesses and in turn increasing town centre footfall.

## **OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 19 This is an update report, there are no options to be considered.

## **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION**

- 20 Recommend that the update report is noted.

## **IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES**

- 21

	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Implications</b>
	<p><b>Doncaster Working:</b> 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"><li>• Better access to good fulfilling work</li><li>• Doncaster businesses are supported to flourish</li><li>• Inward Investment</li></ul>	Starter units for Doncaster market traders to use to launch their business ideas. This moves onto shops and alternative premises.

	<p><b>Doncaster Living:</b> 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"> <li>• The town centres are the beating heart of Doncaster</li> <li>• More people can live in a good quality, affordable home</li> <li>• Healthy and Vibrant Communities through Physical Activity and Sport</li> <li>• Everyone takes responsibility for keeping Doncaster Clean</li> <li>• Building on our cultural, artistic and sporting heritage</li> </ul>	Doncaster town centre needs a vibrant and modern market to contribute to the economy.
	<p><b>Doncaster Learning:</b> 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"> <li>• Every child has life-changing learning experiences within and beyond school</li> <li>• Many more great teachers work in Doncaster Schools that are good or better</li> <li>• Learning in Doncaster prepares young people for the world of work</li> </ul>	A safe place for learning about business, commerce and trade. A stage for children to practice life skills and develop potential.
	<p><b>Doncaster Caring:</b> Our vision is for a borough that cares together for its most vulnerable residents;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children have the best start in life</li> <li>• Vulnerable families and individuals have support from someone they trust</li> <li>• Older people can live well and independently in their own homes</li> </ul>	Social value from market traders that are interactive with the shoppers. A place to dwell and interact with people from many walks of life.
	<p><b>Connected Council:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A modern, efficient and flexible workforce</li> <li>• Modern, accessible customer interactions</li> <li>• Operating within our resources and delivering value for money</li> <li>• A co-ordinated, whole person,</li> </ul>	Team Doncaster partnership working.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>whole life focus on the needs and aspirations of residents</li> <li>• Building community resilience and self-reliance by connecting community assets and strengths</li> <li>• Working with our partners and residents to provide effective leadership and governance</li> </ul>	
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## RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

22 This is an update report on the market management

## LEGAL IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials SRF Date 12.11.21 ]

23 There are no specific legal implications arising out of this report. Legal advice can be provided on issues raised by the panel.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials CR Date 12.11.2021]

24 There are no direct financial implications as this paper is an update on the current delivery of the management of the markets.

## HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initial RH Date 11.11.21 ]

25 There are no specific HR implications in relation to this report

## TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials PW Date 11.11.21 ]

26 There are no specific technology implications in this report

## HEALTH IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials CT Date 11.11.21]

27 Markets play an important role for the community, not only for their health and wellbeing by providing social connection, but also for accessing affordable fresh food. The markets also provide low cost opportunities for the set-up of new and emerging businesses. The planned improvements for Mexborough and the addition of different activities to the Wool Market will contribute to the Covid 19 recovery and long-term sustainability of these important assets for our communities.

## EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials HF Date 08.11.21]

28 The Council has a statutory requirement to have due regard to the protected characteristics of those affected by the proposals under the Equality Act 2010. The original report contained a due regard statement that outlined how equality would be monitored. Governance as part of the contract management has been put in place to ensure that proposals put forward by MAM would be beneficial to all parties.

## CONSULTATION

29 None required - this is an update report.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

30 None

## **GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

MAM Market Asset Management

## **REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS**

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**Debbie Hogg  
Director of Corporate Resources**

Appendix 1 – KPI data from MAM (Doncaster) Ltd

Summary Data of Occupancy Levels in Doncaster and Mexborough Estate (table 1)

<b>DONCASTER</b>	<b>Total Units</b>	<b>% Occupancy</b>
<b>Total Lettable units</b>	165	
<b>Baseline (31.05.2019)</b>	127	76.97%
<b>Q1 (30.06.2019)</b>	126	76.36%
<b>Q2 (30.09.2019)</b>	136	82.42%
<b>Q3 (31.12.2019)</b>	142	86.06%
<b>Q4 (31.03.2020)</b>	137	83.03%
<b>Q1 (30.06.2020)</b>	140	85.89%
<b>Q2 (30.09.2020)</b>	135	82.82%
<b>Q3 (31.12.2020)</b>	135	81.65%
<b>Q4 (31.03.2021)</b>	128	82.05%
<b>Q1 (30.06.2021)</b>	130	82.80%
<b>Q2 (30.09.2021)</b>	135	85.99%
<b>MEXBOROUGH</b>	<b>Total Units</b>	<b>% Occupancy</b>
<b>Total Lettable units</b>	40	
<b>Baseline (31.05.2019)</b>	39	97.50%
<b>Q1 (30.06.2019)</b>	37	92.50%
<b>Q2 (30.09.2019)</b>	37	92.50%
<b>Q3 (31.12.2019)</b>	36	90.00%
<b>Q4 (31.03.2020)</b>	36	87.80%
<b>Q1 (30.06.2020)</b>	38	92.68%
<b>Q2 (30.09.2020)</b>	34	82.93%
<b>Q3 (31.12.2020)</b>	35	85.37%
<b>Q4 (31.03.2020)</b>	35	85.37%
<b>Q1 (30.06.2021)</b>	35	85.37%
<b>Q2 (30.09.2021)</b>	35	85.37%

## Occupation Rates and Voids for Doncaster Estate

	Total Lettable Units		Baseline (May 2019)		Quarter 1 (19/20)	Quarter 2 (19/20)	Quarter 3 (19/20)	Quarter 4 (19/20)	Quarter 1 (20/21)	Quarter 2 (20/21)	Quarter 3 (20/21)	Quarter 4 (20/21)	Quarter 1 (21/22)	Quarter 2 (21/22)
	No of Units	Total Sq M	Occ. Units	Occ. Sq M	Occ. Units									
Corn Exchange	25	342	15	215	14	20	21	21	21	21	18	18	18	19
Fish Market	15	209	12	167	12	12	12	11	13	13	13	14	15	15
Goose Hill	26	300	20	237	19	19	23	20	20	19	17	19	19	22
Lock Ups	19	321	15	243	15	15	15	13	13	14	14	14	14	14
Market Hall Shops	28	784	25	706	26	26	27	29	29	32	32	32	32	32
Market Hall Stalls	8	103	6	89	4	5	5	5	5					
Wool Market Food (inc cages)	18	224	18	224	18	18	18	18	18	22	22	22	22	22
Wool Market Retail	26	443	16	231	18	21	21	20	21	14	13	9	9	11
Occupied					126	136	142	137	140	135	129	128	130	135
Vacant					39	29	23	28	23	28	29	28	27	22

## Occupation Rates and Voids (Mexborough Estate)

	Total Lettable Units		Baseline		Quarter 1 (19/20)	Quarter 2 (19/20)	Quarter 3 (19/20)	Quarter 4 (19/20)	Quarter 1 (20/21)	Quarter 2 (20/21)	Quarter 3 (20/21)	Quarter 4 (20/21)	Quarter 1 (21/22)	Quarter 2 (21/22)
	No of Units	Total Sq M	Occ. Units	Occ. Sq M	Occ. Units									
Mexborough	40	411.64	39	394.24	37	37	36	36	38	34	35	35	35	35





# Doncaster Council

## Report

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Date: 30/11/2021

**To the Chair and Members of the  
Regeneration and Housing Scrutiny panel**

### Town Centre Economy

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Cllr Glyn Jones	Town Ward	No

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report provides a current snapshot of the town centre economy and its performance against pre-pandemic levels
2. The pandemic continues to and is likely to leave a lasting impact on the economic activity of the town centre
3. There has been a reduction in the number of visitors to the town centre compared to pre-pandemic levels
4. Although there has been a drop in visitor numbers, the amount of money spent within the town centre has returned to pre-pandemic levels.

### EXEMPT REPORT

5. This report is not exempt

### RECOMMENDATIONS

6. Members of the Regeneration and Housing Scrutiny Panel are asked to note and comment on the information provided

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

7. The performance of the economy impacts all citizens of Doncaster, the pandemic period has been a significant challenge for all sectors of the town centre economy and will continue to be for the foreseeable future

## BACKGROUND

### 8. Impact from COVID

Doncaster town centre, like all physical economic centres, has spent much of the previous 19 months under some form of trading restriction, causing sharp declines in the economic output of the town centre. The impact of these restrictions has been unequal, sectors that are reliant on face-to-face interactions such as hospitality or leisure have been and continue to face the most challenges

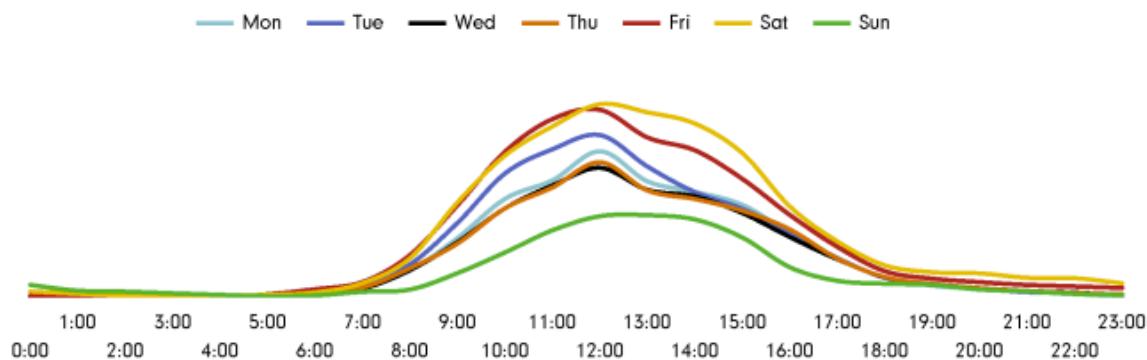
9. Centre for Cities data estimates that Covid disruption has caused an 18% drop in the town centre economy across all settings.
10. The Covid 19 pandemic will continue to disrupt the performance of major economic centres such as Doncaster town centre for the foreseeable future, although metrics measuring the economic success of the town centre are improving – footfall, spend, void rate – external influences continue to pose a challenge and reduce the resilience of the town centre economy.
11. Potential for future covid restrictions, changes to national economic policy and irreversible consumer habits have accelerated the direction change of economic centres. It is likely that over the next 5 years the town centre will look differently to how it does today, it is predicted that there will be a reduction in the retail offer, replaced by an increase in hospitality, leisure, and residential settings. This transformation period will lead to economic uncertainty but offer potential for future investment and growth.

### Footfall

12. There is no doubt that the pandemic has severely impacted on Doncaster town centres footfall, this change has been driven not only by lockdowns or changes in consumer habits but on the reduced number of commuters travelling and workers no longer being primarily office based.
13. Year on year % comparisons to 2019 show that the town centre has a 20.5% reduction in footfall, for the North & Yorkshire region this is 14.1% and 15.1% for the UK as a whole. Whilst Doncaster does not compare positively in this snapshot period, it should be noted that in the January 2021 to August 2021 range Doncaster was performing above the national average, this sudden drop can be partially explained by differing factors such as academic calendars, major events returning elsewhere and weather differences. There has however, been continuous footfall growth since restrictions were eased in April 2021 as shown in the graph below.



14. Footfall has not returned equally to the town centre, Baxtergate, Market Road, and the High Street are responsible for the bulk of footfall growth, whilst still showing improvement, pedestrian movement on St Sepulchre Gate is lagging behind.
15. The busy footfall hours of the town centre have also changed. There has been a noticeable drop between commuting hours – 0700 – 0900 and 1500 – 1800, this can be mostly explained by a reduction of workers being based in or travelling through the town centre.
16. This graph shows the current average times the town centre is used.

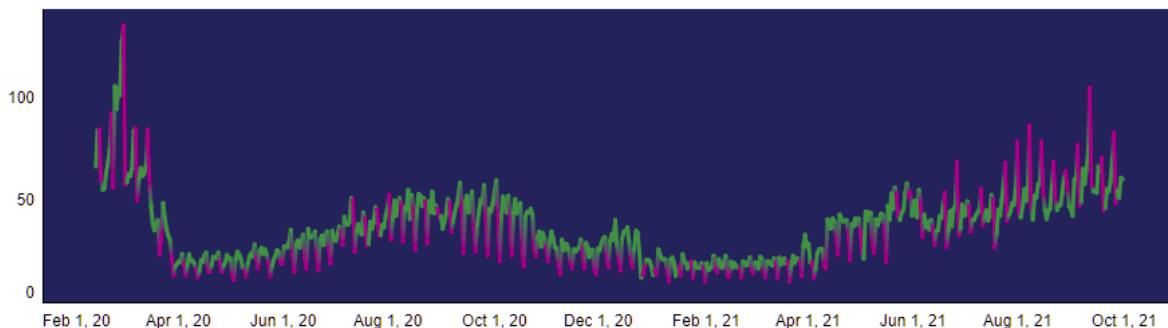


17. Footfall data is extracted through pedestrian counting cameras placed in the core retail area of the town centre. There is not currently a provision to accurately gather this information in the wider town centre.
18. Transportation data for visitors to the town centre tell a similar picture, public transport usage in the borough is 32% lower than pre-pandemic levels and with the borough's major bus and rail infrastructure in the town centre, this is likely to have contributed to a reduction in overall footfall.

### Night-time Economy

19. The make up of Doncaster town centres night-time economy is going through a transitional period. Historically, these venues have enjoyed busy periods on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays. Post-pandemic this has reduced to Fridays and Saturdays with the sector reporting that 60-70% of revenue is received on Saturdays alone.
20. Of all sectors in the town centre economy, the night-time economy has been hardest hit by the pandemic. Patronage has grown month on month since reopening in 2021 but has not yet returned to pre-pandemic levels. This is understandable as by nature, the sector mostly takes place in confined indoor spaces with close interaction, factors which have either been prohibited or discouraged during the pandemic. There is also uncertainty on future regulations such as covid passports contributing to this reduction.
21. There has been a change in where patrons travel from when visiting Doncaster's night-time economy, previously, 35% of patrons travelled from outside the borough, this figure is currently 27%, a drop of 8%.
22. Overall, it is estimated that the night-time economy has reduced 23% compared to pre-pandemic.
23. This chart looks at visitors to Doncaster town centre after 1800, with a baseline

(Friday and Saturday only) of 100. Purple represents the weekend, green weekday.

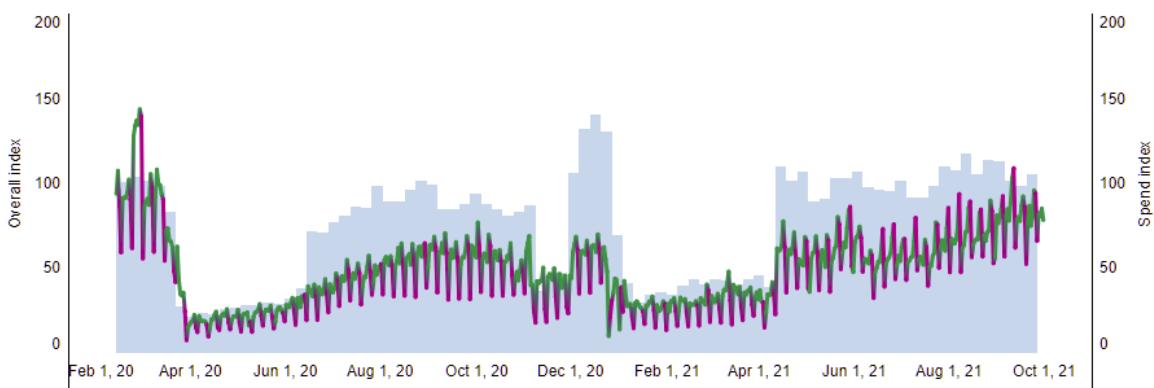


### Alfresco dining

24. Doncaster town centre enjoys a vibrant and diverse outside eating and drinking offer. Hospitality businesses are able to apply for a licence to place tables and chairs on the public highway allowing patrons a wider choice in where they consume the offer. This is important not only from an economic standpoint, but from a public health view where evidence has shown reduced transmission risks in outdoor settings.
25. This choice is well received by the business and visitor community alike and there are currently 52 premises within the town centre offering alfresco spaces.
26. In the summer of 2021, the town centres alfresco offer was enhanced through £89,734.68 of grant monies shared between 32 premises, this was funded by Sheffield City Region and delivered by Business Doncaster, and this allowed businesses to improve both the safety of areas and aesthetic appeal of the locations.
27. There is an opportunity to grow this offer in future with larger spaces, longer operating times and creative uses pending the agreement of statutory consultees and stakeholders.

### Market economy

28. Although Doncaster town centre has undergone a 20.5% reduction in pedestrian flow in the core retail area, there is positivity that the amount of money spent by visitors has returned to above pre-pandemic levels.
29. The chart below shows the number of visitors to Doncaster town centre against a backdrop of how much money is being spent by the visitor. Blue represents transactions, pink weekend footfall, green weekday footfall.



- 30. The overall transaction information shows a 5% increase in the total value of spend when compared to pre-lockdown levels. In short, although less people are visiting, the total spend equates to a higher figure resulting in a net gain.
- 31. During the pandemic, there has been an unignorable shift to online shopping. E-commerce now accounts for 36% of all retail sales, a 10% increase on pre-pandemic levels. As the festive period begins and winter draws close, this figure is likely to increase posing a risk to the already traditionally quiet purchase months of January, February and March.

### Retail Voids

- 32. The void rate in Doncaster has improved on pre-pandemic levels, at the start of the pandemic, Doncaster town centres void rate was 20%. Despite a perceived impression that Doncaster town centre is full of empty shops the void rate has dropped significantly to 16% as of August 2021 which performs well against the national average of 18.4%. Property and investment enquiries into town centre locations are lower than ideal though this mirrors issues seen throughout the local region.
- 33. Work has been concentrated on certain areas of the town to reduce the impact of empty shops. As an example back in 2019 Scot Lane had a 20% occupancy rate. Work by the council to purchase three empty units and specific work by Business Doncaster to promote the street to independent businesses now means the street is now over 80% occupied with the latest tenants, a gin bar and a new restaurant opposite the Mansion House opening before Christmas 2021.
- 34. The town centre economy is expected to be bolstered by the upcoming festive period. Historically, December has been the busiest period of the year for the town centre economy and as the first pandemic Christmas without restrictions this trend is expected to continue and be welcomed across all economic settings. The post-Christmas period poses a challenge for the town centre economy where spend is typically at its lowest yearly point, this is likely to be exacerbated by upcoming changes in national economic policy leading to reduced available purchasing power.
- 35. To further aid recovery Doncaster has been selected as one of the town centres to receive assistance through the Government High Street taskforce scheme. This work will commence early in 2022 when an appointed high street 'place' expert will work with the council on a range of new initiatives, still to be decided

### **OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 36. N/A

## REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

37. N/A

## IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

38.

	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Implications</b>
	<p><b>Doncaster Working:</b> 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"><li>• Better access to good fulfilling work</li><li>• Doncaster businesses are supported to flourish</li><li>• Inward Investment</li></ul>	The economy is at the centre of all Doncaster Council objectives and has a direct and indirect effect on directorate key priorities
	<p><b>Doncaster Living:</b> 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"><li>• The town centres are the beating heart of Doncaster</li><li>• More people can live in a good quality, affordable home</li><li>• Healthy and Vibrant Communities through Physical Activity and Sport</li><li>• Everyone takes responsibility for keeping Doncaster Clean</li><li>• Building on our cultural, artistic and sporting heritage</li></ul>	
	<p><b>Doncaster Learning:</b> 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"><li>• Every child has life-changing learning experiences within and beyond school</li><li>• Many more great teachers work in Doncaster Schools that are good or better</li><li>• Learning in Doncaster prepares young people for the world of work</li></ul>	

	<p><b>Doncaster Caring:</b> Our vision is for a borough that cares together for its most vulnerable residents;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children have the best start in life</li> <li>• Vulnerable families and individuals have support from someone they trust</li> <li>• Older people can live well and independently in their own homes</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Connected Council:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A modern, efficient and flexible workforce</li> <li>• Modern, accessible customer interactions</li> <li>• Operating within our resources and delivering value for money</li> <li>• A co-ordinated, whole person, whole life focus on the needs and aspirations of residents</li> <li>• Building community resilience and self-reliance by connecting community assets and strengths</li> <li>• Working with our partners and residents to provide effective leadership and governance</li> </ul>	

## RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

39. There are no specific risks associated with the recommendations of this report though the themes and trends of the report should be considered

## LEGAL IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials SRF Date 15.11.21]

40. There are no legal implications arising from this report. Specific advice can be provided on issues raised by the panel.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials JC Date 16/11/21]

41. The Council's "Updated Medium Term financial Strategy (MTFS 2022/23 – 2024/25)" includes the consideration of the impact of the economic recovery on the Council's financial outlook.
42. The Council continues to experience significant reductions in the income from commercial rents and activities for example car parking which are directly affected by the Town centre economy. The ever changing nature of the COVID pandemic presents the Council with the difficult challenge of managing the on-going impact of budgetary pressures, whilst continuing to understand the future impact of changes in the economic position both locally and nationally. The council anticipates that

some behaviours will have changed for good, for example, it is unlikely that income from car parking will go back to previous levels.

43. Ways of mitigating budget pressures resulting from Councils commercial income have to be balanced and carefully considered alongside other priorities; encouraging people back into the Town centre/generating business growth/increasing business rates/ driving development and employment prospects for the people of Doncaster.
44. The MTFS position will continue to be monitored closely and updated as further information is known and the financial impact of cost pressures becomes clearer during the financial year, including assumptions around when and to what level asset rental and car parking income may recover. All the assumptions and options will be considered as part of the budget setting process.
45. Specific financial implications relating to new initiatives mentioned within the report e.g. Al fresco dining and the High street task force will be considered separately when more information is known.

#### **HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials AA Date 12/11/2021]**

46. There are no direct HR Implications in relation to this report.

#### **TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials...PW..... Date...12/11/21]**

47. There are no technology implications in relation to this report.

#### **HEALTH IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials.....CT .....Date ...12.11.21.....]**

48. The Town Centre is an asset that can promote and improve the health of local residents and the wider local community. The report notes there have been various changes within the town centre related to the impacts of Covid 19 and this insight provides a starting point of areas where recovery action needs to be targeted.
49. Public Health is pleased that Doncaster has been selected to receive assistance through the Government High Street taskforce scheme and requests they be included any project group that is established to take this piece of work forward.

#### **EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials AMc Date 12/11/2021]**

50. There are no equality implications with regards to this report. Regular review of the Overview and Scrutiny work plan enables the Committee to ensure it remains relevant and is responding to important issues for citizens and the borough. The work plan update helps support openness, transparency and accountability as it summarises outcomes from overview and scrutiny activities. Citizens are able to contribute to the work of overview and scrutiny by attending meetings or contributing to reviews

#### **CONSULTATION**

51. There is no consultation required for this report

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

52. N/A

## **GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

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### **REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS**

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**Dan Swaine**  
**Director of Economy & Environment**

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Please note dates of meetings/rooms/support may change

### OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY WORK PLAN 2021/22

	OSMC	H&ASC O&S	CYP O&S	R&H O&S	C&E O&S
<b>May</b>		<b>Friday 4th June, 2021 at 3.30pm, MS Teams</b>	-		
		• Work Planning Meeting			
<b>June</b>	<b>Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2021 at 10am, MS Teams</b>		<b>Tues 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 10am, MS Teams</b>	<b>Wed 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 10.30am, MTeams</b>	<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 2pm, MS Teams</b>
	• Work Planning Meeting		• Work Planning Meeting	• Work Planning Meeting	• Work Planning Meeting
	<b>Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 10am Council Chamber (AS/RW)</b>				
	• Qtrly Finance & Performance Report – Qtr 4 (c) o DMB o SLHD o DCST • Youth Justice Plan (c) • Edenthorpe Neighbourhood Plan (c)				
<b>July</b>		<b>Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 at 10am- MS Teams Briefing Session (CR)</b>	<del>Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021 at 4.30pm Cancelled</del> <b>Tues 10<sup>th</sup> August 2021 at 9am Briefing Meeting</b>		<b>Wed 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 10am, Council Chamber (CM)</b>
		• Asset Based Community Development and Well Doncaster – update and Annual Report. Links with Localities, Adult Social Care addressing the way people live day to day, with a focus on local communities becoming healthier. (c)			• Sustainability/ Environmental Strategy update and next steps – 111 actions and maximising funding (c) • NEW Social Inclusion Alliance Update (c)

FP – Forward Plan Decision

CR, CM or AS – Officer Responsible

Please note dates of meetings/rooms/support may change

	<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2021 at 9.30am – MS Teams Briefing meeting (CR)</b>				
	• Locality working (c)				
	<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2021 at 11.00am – MS Teams Briefing Session – postponed from 8<sup>th</sup> July (CR)</b>				
	• Commissioning (c)				
<b>Aug</b>	<b>Extraordinary OSMC – Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> August 2021 at 10am, Council Chamber (CR/RW)</b>		<b>Tues 10<sup>th</sup> August 2021 at 9am Briefing Meeting (CM)</b>		
	• Local Plan (c) • Doncaster Delivering Together (Borough Strategy 2030) (c) • Sproborough Neighbourhood Plan (TBC) (c)		• Children and Young People overview including relationship with Doncaster Children's Services Trust and invitation to Young Advisors and Youth Council (Make Your Mark) Further shaping of the work plan (c)		
<b>Sept</b>	<b>Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> Sept 2021 at 10am Council Chamber (CM/RW)</b>	<b>Thurs 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 2021 at 10am Council Chamber (CM)</b>	<b>Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> Sept 2021 at 4.30pm Council Chamber (CR)</b>		
	• Qtrly Finance & Performance Report – Qtr 1 (c) ○ DMBC ○ SLHD ○ DCST • Compliments and Complaints (c)	• Changes to NHS working (ICS - White Paper) and what this will mean for the Borough's residents (timing TBC) (c) • Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (c)	• Safeguarding theme to include Children's Social Care with the Early help element of focus (c)		

Please note dates of meetings/rooms/support may change

	<b>Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> Oct 2021 at 11am Briefing Session, MS Teams (CM)</b>		<b>Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2021, 2pm Briefing Sessions, MS Teams (CM)</b>	<b>Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Oct 2021 at 11.30am, Chamber (CR)</b>	<b>Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Oct 2021 at 10am , Chamber (CM)</b>
<b>Oct</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Localities (general update and the executives proposals for Governance)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview of upcoming policies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social Housing - Post Covid easing restrictions – consequences of rehousing people in temporary accommodation (c)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flood Planning Preparation (c)</li> <li>Domestic Abuse Strategy(c)</li> </ul>
	<b>Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021 at 10am Council Chamber (CR)</b>	<b>Mon 22nd Nov 2021 at 1.30pm Council Chamber (CM)</b>	<b>Tues 9<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021, 1pm Virtual Meeting (CR) Deferred TBA</b>	<b>Briefing Session Wed 10<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021, 10:30am Virtual Meeting (RW/CM)</b>	<b>Briefing Session Wed 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021 2pm Virtual Meeting (CR)</b>
<b>Nov</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Statement of Licensing Policy Gambling Act 2005 (c)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Winter Planning</li> <li>Update from Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (c)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evidence gathering session – meeting with teachers (c)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Deal Doncaster and Stainforth – update including priorities, next steps plus outline of the levelling up funding bid for the town centre.(c)</li> <li>Town Centre update including Waterdale area, strategy and plans for, Housing, retail, hospitality and engagement with businesses and how they are responding to challenges (c)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental Strategy (Sustainability)</li> <li>Naturalisation</li> </ul>
	<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November following the formal meeting Council Chamber (CR)</b>			<b>Tues, 30<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021, 10am Council Chamber (CM)</b>	<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm (CR)</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commissioning – discussions with service users re: drug and alcohol abuse (c)</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update on the Market (MAM contract).(c)</li> <li>Town Centre economy including impact from Covid, footfall, night-time economy, Alfresco dining, market economy.(c)</li> </ul>	Community Safety Strategy(c)

Please note dates of meetings/rooms/support may change

	<b>Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2021 at 10am Council Chamber (AS/RW)</b>		<b>Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> Dec 2021 at 4.30pm (?) Council Chamber</b>		
Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Qtrly Finance &amp; Performance Report – Qtr 2 (c) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ DMBc</li> <li>◦ SLHD</li> <li>◦ DCST</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEND Strategy and Behaviour Transformation Programme (pre cabinet decision) (to include a focus on Education health Care plans)</li> <li>• Theme Education and Skills to include school organisation with comparators for attendance, exclusions, NEET, education outcomes post 16 employment and education and Big Picture (pre cabinet decision)</li> <li>• SALT and Neurodevelopment pathway New</li> <li>• Education and Skills 2030 programme (c)</li> </ul>		
Jan	<b>Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> Jan 2022 at 10am Council Chamber (briefing session) (CR/CM)</b>	<b>Mon 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2022 at 1.30pm</b>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget (c)</li> <li>• Corporate Plan (c)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carers Strategy – to include people with lived experience</li> </ul>			
Feb	<b>Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2022 at 10am Council Chamber (CR/CM)</b>				<b>Wed 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 2022 at 10am Council Chamber</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget (c)</li> <li>• Corporate Plan (c)</li> </ul>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crime and Disorder Committee (c)</li> </ul>
	<b>Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> Feb 2022 at 10am deferred to 15<sup>th</sup> March</b>				

Please note dates of meetings/rooms/support may change

	<b>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 10am Briefing Session Microsoft Teams</b>			
	• Localities update			
<b>March</b>	<b>Thurs 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 at 10am, Council Chamber (AS/RW)</b>	<b>Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 at 10am, Council Chamber</b>	<b>Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 4.30pm</b>	<b>Wed 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 10am</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Qtrly Finance &amp; Performance Report – Qtr 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ DMBC</li> <li>◦ SLHD</li> <li>◦ DCST</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part 1 - CQC Inspection and Regulation Update – Doncaster Care Quality including inspection ratings. Covid impact and how care providers have risen to the challenge</li> <li>• Part 2 - CQC possible part two - Chief Nurse CCG – NHS settings</li> <li>• Public Health report – link with the implications of long Covid</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young people's mental health and resilience (Mental Health strategy and implementation Plan going to H&amp;WBB in Jan)</li> <li>• Children and Young People's Plan (invite HASC Scrutiny Panel)</li> <li>• Youth Council (Domestic Abuse TBC)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment programme opportunities following Covid easing with possible invite to DWP</li> <li>• Local Plan – update including delivery of key projects and connectivity</li> </ul>
<b>Apr</b>				
<b>May</b>				

#### **POSSIBLE ISSUES FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION OR TO BE SCHEDULED**

Quarter 4 Performance OSMC 23 <sup>rd</sup> June, 2022	Adult Safeguarding Report 2022 (date TBC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theme: Sufficiency Reports to include comparators and best</li> </ul>	Impact of Brexit on housing improvements – building materials and maintenance timeframes (TBC – difficult to provide full picture at time of	Briefing meeting Environment Strategy - sustainability information briefing meeting date to be arranged.
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FP – Forward Plan Decision

CR, CM or AS – Officer Responsible

Please note dates of meetings/rooms/support may change

			practices with comparisons to like authorities.	work planning possibly – link with OSMC)	
	Impact of Brexit – to be addressed through performance: Lack of carers Housing improvements Private sector house building	Joint Regional Health (JHOSC) – as required Chair only to attend	<p>Following issues to be fed into the above themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transition of young disabled adults to adulthood;</li> <li>• Covid theme – impact of children being home schooled;</li> </ul>		Briefing meeting – naturalisation update
	Local Plan update Autumn 2022	Links with Social Care and Housing (added following discussion with Chair and Director) TBC maybe 2022/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doncaster Children's Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report – to circulate for comments</li> </ul>		Environmental Improvement Plan ( timing TBC)
	Localities March 2022 – including feedback on Public Health grant	Children's Mental Health – CYP leading and Panel is to be invited to CYP 17 <sup>th</sup> March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on the funding provided for additional family practitioners and difference they have made – including risks associated.</li> </ul>		
<b>BRIEFING NOTES</b>					
		Adult Safeguarding Annual report 2021 to be circulated		Housing Allocations Policy circulated	Veterans – Briefing note general update with focus on homelessness (151021)
		Substantial Variation – Update on merger Scawthorpe/Bentley		Preston Model - towns and cities transforming community wealth building	Green Space and Parks Champion – Briefing note re: green assets (TBC)
				City Status Bid	

**DONCASTER METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**FORWARD PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1ST DECEMBER 2021 TO 31ST MARCH 2022.**

The Forward Plan sets out details of all Key Decisions expected to be taken during the next four months by either the Cabinet collectively, The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Portfolio Holders or Officers and is updated and republished each month.

A Key Decision is an executive decision which is likely:-

- (a) to result in the Local Authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Local Authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral divisions in the area of the Local Authority;
- (c) any decision related to the approval or variation of the Policy and budget Framework that is reserved to the Full Council.

The level of expenditure/savings which this Authority has adopted as being financially significant are (a) in the case of the revenue budget, gross full-year effect of £250,000 or more b) in the case of capital budget, £1,000,000 or more in respect of a single project or otherwise across one financial year.or the decision has a significant impact on 2 or more wards.

Please note in addition to the documents identified in the plan, other documents relevant to a decision may be submitted to the Decision Maker. Details of any additional documents submitted can be obtained from the Contact Officer listed against each decision identified in this plan.

In respect of exempt items, if you would like to make written representations as to why a report should be considered in public, please send these to the contact officer responsible for that particular decision. Unless otherwise stated, representations should be made at least 14 days before the expected date of the decision.

**KEY**

Those items in **BOLD** are **NEW**

Those items in **ITALICS** have been **RESCHEDULED** following issue  
of the last plan

Prepared on: 28 October 2021 and superseding all previous Forward Plans with effect from the period identified above.

Damian Allen  
Chief Executive

## **MEMBERS OF THE CABINET**

### **Cabinet Member For:**

Mayor - Ros Jones

Deputy Mayor - Councillor Glyn Jones

Councillor Lani-Mae Ball

Councillor Nigel Ball

Councillor Joe Blackham

Councillor Rachael Blake

Councillor Phil Cole

Councillor Mark Houlbrook

Councillor Jane Nightingale

Councillor Andrea Robinson

- Budget and Policy
- Housing and Business

Education, Skills and Young People

- Public Health, Leisure, Culture and Planning

Highways, Infrastructure and Enforcement

- Children's Social Care, Communities and Equalities

Finance and Trading Services

- Sustainability and Waste

Corporate Resources.

- Adult Social Care

### **Some Decisions listed in the Forward Plan are to be taken by Full Council**

### **Members of the Full Council are:-**

Councillors Nick Allen, Bob Anderson, Duncan Anderson, Lani-Mae Ball, Nigel Ball, Daniel Barwell Iris Beech, Joe Blackham, Rachael Blake, Nigel Cannings Glenn Bluff, Laura Bluff, Bev Chapman, James Church, Gemma Cobby, Phil Cole, Jane Cox, Steve Cox, Linda Curran, Amiee Dickson, Susan Durant, Sue Farmer, Sean Gibbons, Julie Grace, Martin Greenhalgh, John Healy, Leanne Hempshall, Charlie Hogarth, Mark Houlbrook, Debbie Hutchinson, Barry Johnson, Glyn Jones, R. Allan Jones, Ros Jones, 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, Ian Pearson, Andy Pickering, Cynthia Ransome, Rob Reid, Andrea Robinson, Dave Shaw, Glynis Smith, Sarah Smith, Gary Stapleton, and Austen White

WHEN DECISION IS EXPECTED TO BE TAKEN	KEY DECISION TO BE TAKEN	RELEVANT CABINET MEMBER	DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY	CONTACT OFFICER(S)	DOCUMENTS TO BE CONSIDERED BY DECISION MAKER	REASON FOR EXEMPTION – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 SCHEDULE 12A
1 Dec 2021	Resource Requirements to Support Specialist Safeguarding	Portfolio holder for Children's Social Care, Communities and Equalities	Cabinet	Riana Nelson, Director of Learning, Opportunities and Skills (DCS) riana.nelson@doncaster.gov.uk		Open
1 Dec 2021	To outline the proposed implementation plan and secure funding for the smart hub roll out programme in light of the digital switch over Public Switched telephone Network (PSTN), for the Home Emergency Alarm Response Team (HEART) Service.	Councillor Andrea Robinson, Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care	Cabinet			Open
1 Dec 2021	Quarter 2 2021-22 Finance and Performance Report	Councillor Phil Cole, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Trading Services	Cabinet	Matthew, Smith, Head of Financial Management Tel: 01302-737663 matthew.smith@doncaster.gov.uk		Open

1 Dec 2021	St Leger Homes Performance Report 2021/22 Quarter 2	Councillor Glyn Jones, Deputy Mayor, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Business.	Cabinet	Julie Crook Tel: 01302 862705, Dave Richmond, Chief Executive, St Leger Homes of Doncaster dave.richmond@stlegerhomes.co.uk		Open
1 Dec 2021	DCST Quarter 2 Finance & Performance Report.	Councillor Rachael Blake, Portfolio Holder for Children's Social Care, Communities and Equalities	Cabinet	James Thomas, Chief Executive of Doncaster Children's Services Trust James.Thomas@dcs trust.co.uk		Open
15 Dec 2021	<b>To award the contract for the Carers' Wellbeing Service in Doncaster, which supports a change in access model to a carer led preventative focussed service</b>	Councillor Andrea Robinson, Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care	Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care	Teresa Bainbridge, Commissioning Officer teresa.bainbridge@doncaster.gov.uk		Open
20 Dec 2021	Receipt and allocation of Rough Sleeping Drug and Alcohol Treatment Grant	Councillor Nigel Ball, Portfolio Holder for Public Health, Leisure, Culture and Planning	Portfolio Holder for Public Health, Leisure and Culture	Helen Conroy, Public Health Specialist Tel: 01302 734571 Helen.Conroy@doncaster.gov.uk		Open

19 Jan 2022	To accept £18.6m Levelling Up Fund money and £125k Levelling Up Capacity Grant Funding	Councillor Glyn Jones, Deputy Mayor, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Business.	Cabinet	Christian Foster, Head of Policy, Insight & Change christian.foster@doncaster.gov.uk		Open
19 Jan 2022	Approval of the Council Tax Base for 2022/23	Mayor Ros Jones, Mayor of Doncaster with responsibility for Budget and Policy	Cabinet	Alan Stoves, Head of Revenues and Benefits Tel: 01302 735585 Alan.stoves@doncaster.gov.uk		Open
20 Jan 2022	Community Safety Strategy 2022 to 2025.	Councillor Rachael Blake, Portfolio Holder for Children's Social Care, Communities and Equalities	Council, Cabinet	Rachael Long, Crime and Safer Doncaster Theme Manager rachael.long@doncaster.gov.uk		Open
20 Jan 2022	Re-procurement of External Audit.	Councillor Phil Cole, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Trading Services	Council	Matthew, Smith, Head of Financial Management Tel: 01302-737663 matthew.smith@doncaster.gov.uk		Open

20 Jan 2022	Determination of the Doncaster Council Statement of Policy (Gambling Policy 2022) as required under Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005.	Councillor Joe Blackham, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Infrastructure and Enforcement	Cabinet, Council	Dave McMurdo dave.mcmurdo@doncaster.gov.uk, David Smith, Licensing Officer david.smith@doncaster.gov.uk		Open
2 Feb 2022	<i>To outline the proposed implementation plan and review funding requirements for the delivery of the Education and Skills Strategy 2030.</i>	Portfolio holder for Education, Skills and Young People	Cabinet	Leanne Hornsby, Assistant Director, Education, Skills, Culture and Heritage leanne.hornsby@doncaster.gov.uk		Open
16 Feb 2022	<b>To approve new discretionary relief schemes for Business Rates for 2022/23.</b>	Councillor Richard A Jones	Cabinet	Alan Stoves, Head of Revenues and Benefits Tel: 01302 735585 Alan.stoves@doncaster.gov.uk		Open
28 Feb 2022	<b>To approve the 2022/23 Corporate Plan</b>	Mayor Ros Jones	Council, Cabinet	Alan Wiltshire, Head of Policy and Partnerships, Tel. 01302 862307, allan.wiltshire@doncaster.gov.uk		Open

	<b>28 Feb 2022</b>	To approve the level of the Council Tax for 2022/23 and to pass appropriate statutory resolutions including the Council Tax requirement for 2022/23.	Mayor Ros Jones, Mayor of Doncaster with responsibility for Budget and Policy	Council	Alan Stoves, Head of Revenues and Benefits Tel: 01302 735585 Alan.stoves@doncaster.gov.uk		Open
	28 Feb 2022	To approve the Revenue Budget 2022/23	Mayor Ros Jones	Council, Cabinet	Faye Tyas, Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Director of Finance faye.tyas@doncaster.gov.uk		Open
	28 Feb 2022	To approve the Capital Strategy & Capital Budget 2022/23 - 2025/26.	Mayor Ros Jones	Cabinet, Council	Faye Tyas, Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Director of Finance faye.tyas@doncaster.gov.uk		Open
	28 Feb 2022	To approve the Housing Revenue Account Budget 2022/23	Mayor Ros Jones	Council, Cabinet	Faye Tyas, Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Director of Finance faye.tyas@doncaster.gov.uk		Open
	28 Feb 2022	To approve the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2022/23 - 2025/26.	Mayor Ros Jones	Cabinet, Council	Faye Tyas, Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Director of Finance faye.tyas@doncaster.gov.uk		Open

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1 Mar 2022	St Leger Homes Performance Report 2021/22 Quarter 3	Councillor Glyn Jones, Deputy Mayor, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Business.	Cabinet	Julie Crook Tel: 01302 862705, Dave Richmond, Chief Executive, St Leger Homes of Doncaster <a href="mailto:dave.richmond@stlegerhomes.co.uk">dave.richmond@stlegerhomes.co.uk</a>		Open