



Report

Date: 29th March 2023

To: The Mayor and Members of Cabinet

Doncaster's Locality Plans 2023-2024

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

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

2. EXEMPT REPORT

- 2.1 This is not an exempt report.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

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

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

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

5. BACKGROUND

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

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: EXTENDING OUR REACH

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

7. OPTIONS CONSIDERED









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

8. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

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

9. IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

There are no Human Resources implications arising from this report.

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

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

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

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

CONSULTATION

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

BACKGROUND PAPERS

17. None.

REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS

Phil Holmes, Director of Adults, Health and Wellbeing
01302 737529 | phil.holmes@doncaster.gov.uk