

## **SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE**

### **AGENDA**

**Meeting to be held on Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2021 at 5.30 p.m.**

**This meeting will be held remotely. Joining details will be emailed to all participants.**

**The meeting will be livestreamed for the public to view on the Council's YouTube channel, 'sunderlandgov' at :-  
[https://youtu.be/7H353\\_xlAb4](https://youtu.be/7H353_xlAb4)**

#### **Membership**

Cllrs D. Dixon, Doyle, Heron, Hunt (Vice Chairman), Jenkins, D. MacKnight (Chairman), F. Miller, Mullen, O'Brien, P. Smith, Speding, D. Trueman, Turner and Watson.

ITEM		PAGE
1.	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>	-
2.	<b>Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2021</b> (copy attached).	1
3.	<b>Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)</b>	-

#### **Part A – Cabinet Referrals and Responses**

No items.

## **Part B – Scrutiny Business**

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| 4. | <b>Smart City Update</b>  | 8  |
|    | Report of the Assistant Director of Smart Cities (copy attached).         |    |
| 5. | <b>Scrutiny Annual Report 2020/2021</b>                                   | 13 |
|    | Report of the Scrutiny and Members' Support Co-ordinator (copy attached). |    |
| 6. | <b>Scrutiny Committee Work Programmes 2020-21</b>                         | 32 |
|    | Report of the Scrutiny and Members' Support Co-ordinator (copy attached). |    |
| 7. | <b>Notice of Key Decisions</b>  | 38 |
|    | Report of the Scrutiny and Members' Support Co-ordinator (copy attached). |    |

## **Part C – Health Substantial Variations to Service**

No items.

## **Part D - CCFA/Members' Items/Petitions**

No items.

E. WAUGH,  
Assistant Director of Law and Governance,  
Civic Centre,  
SUNDERLAND.

7<sup>th</sup> April, 2021.

## Item 2

**At a meeting of the SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE held REMOTELY on THURSDAY 11<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2021 at 5.30 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor Hunt in the Chair

Councillors D. Dixon, Doyle, Jenkins, D. MacKnight, F. Miller, Mullen, O'Brien, P. Smith and D. Trueman.

Also in attendance:-

Mr Nigel Cummings, Scrutiny Officer, Law and Governance, Corporate Services Directorate

Mr Jon Ritchie, Executive Director of Corporate Services

Ms Gillian Robinson, Scrutiny and Members' Support Coordinator, Law and Governance, Corporate Services Directorate

Ms Liz St Louis, Assistant Director of Smart Cities, Corporate Services Directorate

Mrs Christine Tilley, Community Governance Services Team Leader, Law and Governance, Corporate Services Directorate

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Heron and Turner.

**Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2021**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 (copy circulated), be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)**

**Item 7 - Notice of Key Decisions**

Councillor Doyle made an open declaration in relation to item no. 201116/536 in relation to consultation work he had been doing with regards to the project.

## **Performance Management Update – Quarter 3 of 2020/21**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide the Committee with the Corporate Performance Report for Quarter 3 of 2020/21.

(For copy report – see original minutes.)

Ms Liz St Louis, Assistant Director of Smart Cities presented the report advising that the Performance report covered Quarter 3 of 2020/21 and was aligned to the Sunderland City Plan 2019 – 2030 and to the three key themes of the City Plan, Dynamic City, Healthy City and Vibrant City, as well as including the organisational health indicators.

Ms Liz St Louis, Assistant Director of Smart Cities, Corporate Services Directorate took the Committee through the summary for the three key themes of Dynamic City, Healthy City and Vibrant City of the Sunderland City Plan, highlighting commitments, achievements and progress made for each key theme, as well as performance against each of the five aspirations for each theme and against the additional Council indicators for good organisational health, productive and innovative working, strong financial management and a Council ready for the future.

Councillor Doyle referred to the delivery of affordable homes and where it stated in the report that:-

“There have been 19 completed affordable homes in Quarter 3 of 2020/21, which is lower than expected but this has been affected due to the impact of the pandemic as well as wider funding changes with Homes England”.

Councillor Doyle asked whether Ms St Louis could explain to the Committee what the funding changes had been.

Ms St Louis stated that she did not have the above information to hand, but she could send the information out in writing.

Councillor D. Dixon referred to the information relating to Healthy City and commented that although the figures were generally improving in most of the areas that the healthy life expectancy had yet again gone down and asked whether Ms St Louis was able to provide an explanation for this and what the Council was doing to tackle it.

Ms St Louis advised that as they were national figures which were collated, they were quite old figures from 2016-2018 as at 2018/19 and it would take some time for the interventions to come through on this. The Council had appointed a new Public Health Executive Director, Gerry Taylor and there had been a significant amount of activity taking place. There was a Health Inequalities Strategy that had been adopted and a lot of work was being done within the Council and with partners across the City with a robust action plan which would start to be delivered from now into the next financial year.

Mr Jon Ritchie, Executive Director of Corporate Services added that one of the things the Executive Director of Public Health, Gerry Taylor had done as well as dealing with the immediacy of the response to the pandemic, was that at Cabinet on

23<sup>rd</sup> March there was an update on the Healthy City Plan which Members might want to look at when the papers were published the following week.

The Chairman commented that it was a valid point as all of the indicators seemed to be moving in the right direction, but yet the life expectancy was dropping and therefore was there something that wasn't being monitored or being addressed.

Mr Nigel Cummings, Scrutiny Officer, Law and Governance, Corporate Services Directorate advised that the Healthy City Plan had been considered at the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee a couple of meetings back and was something which the Committee was keeping on the radar and updates on progress would come through that Committee also.

Councillor P. Smith referred to the section on Cleaner and More Attractive City regarding litter and rubbish and commented that when looking at the report that there was a lot of things which were happening due to COVID, however this was not the case in relation to litter and rubbish and everyone could take it home.

Councillor Smith stated that she was tired of having to explain to people that it was down to people dropping litter. The Cleansing Department was doing a fantastic job trying to keep the Ski Slope site, for example, clear of rubbish but it was almost impossible and it was not acceptable that people did this. She was aware that the Council was taking enforcement action, issuing warning letters and there had been 9 completed prosecutions, however in her opinion the Council needed to come down harder on people as it was not improving in the city's streets, parks and open spaces.

Ms St Louis advised that there was a lot of work being done around enforcement as the figures showed and this had been increasing in every quarter she had been reporting in to the Scrutiny Committee, but there had also been quite a lot of work done on the social responsibility element to try to appeal to people to change habits and be responsible for the environment within which they lived and visited. It was an ongoing issue and one which the Council took very seriously and was trying its best to tackle.

Councillor O'Brien enquired whether the briefing provided to the Political Groups on the roll out of City Fibre could be provided to the Scrutiny Committee as he felt it would be beneficial as it was such an expansive infrastructure project for the City and should be promoted.

Councillor Mullen enquired with respect to the Literary Festival whether Ms St Louis was able to tell the Committee about the 18,000 engagements, how they were measured and how this figure was reached, for example whether people needed to sign up for a full event.

Ms St Louis stated that she did not have the above detail available to her, but she could get the information from the Team which ran the event and send that out to the Committee following the meeting.

The Chairman stated that the information would be very informative.

Councillor D. Dixon referred to the information on Vibrant City and commented that again most of the figures were showing improvement, which was excellent but, although it stated that crime recorded incidents was improving, residents' feelings of safety was declining. He asked whether this was because the incidents of violent crime in the city were increasing.

Ms St Louis advised that in the narrative it was explained that unfortunately some months' data was unavailable and that the survey to come up with that figure was actually suspended during the initial months of the pandemic. It was a much reduced sample size and so this needed to be revisited to ensure they were comparing comparative data.

The Chairman commented that she had been wondering whether the above was related to domestic violence and feeling safe in the home and whether an increase in domestic violence might have contributed to this.

Councillor Dixon advised that this was possible as at a recent meeting with the Police he had been advised that there had been an increase in the figures in violent crime.

Full consideration having been given to the report and there being no further questions of Ms St Louis, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the information provided on corporate performance in the report and the comments made be received and noted.

### **Compliments, Complaints and Feedback Quarter 3 October – December 2020**

The Assistant Director of Smart Cities submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide the Committee with information regarding compliments, complaints and feedback received by the Council.

(For copy report – see original minutes.)

Ms Liz St Louis, Assistant Director of Smart Cities, Corporate Services Directorate briefed the Committee on the report advising that it presented an overview across the full range of complaints and feedback received by the Council during Quarter 3 of the financial year 2020/21, October – December 2020.

Ms St Louis referred the Committee to Part A, the Complaints and Compliments overview by type received which provided a departmental or company breakdown.

Ms St Louis referred Members to Part B which set out the procedures by which the Council and its companies operated.

Ms St Louis referred to Appendix 1 highlighting the 273 compliments received by the Council during Quarter 3 and pointed out that this was the highest number of compliments by far over the last two years for the same quarter. A synopsis was set out of the compliments which covered a whole range of services and expressed customers' appreciation.

Ms St Louis referred Members to Appendix 2 of the report which detailed the complaints dealt with by the Local Government Ombudsman and Social Care Ombudsman and highlighted that there had been a total of 7 concluded and out of the 7 they had investigated 3 complaints and 1 to date had been upheld. The information about this complaint was contained within the body of the report.

Ms St Louis referred to Appendix 3 which covered corporate complaints and showed comparative data for the previous years. She advised that 560 stage 1 complaints were received in Quarter 3 and that she was pleased to report that this was the lowest number year to date. The directorate breakdown was detailed in the report with the vast majority in the busiest frontline delivery directorate which was Neighbourhoods with the vast majority relating to Environmental Services.

Ms St Louis highlighted that of the 411 Environmental Services complaints, 340 of those related to refuse but this was a very low percentage against the backdrop of 1.6m collections that took place in any quarter.

Ms St Louis stated that at the last meeting of the Scrutiny Committee a ward breakdown of refuse complaints had been requested and this was included in the report.

In terms of Stage two complaints, 5 had been concluded during Quarter 3 and 2 of those were upheld in part and 3 were not upheld. The Directorate breakdown was set out in the report along with a summary of the complaints which were partly upheld.

Ms St Louis referred to Appendix 4 which provided a summary of Adult Social Care complaints of which there were 32 received in Quarter 3. A breakdown was shown alongside the nature of the complaint. Out of the 32 complaints, 6 were upheld in full, 6 were upheld in part, 13 were not upheld, 6 weren't eligible and 1 was ongoing. A summary of the complaints which were upheld was provided within the body of the report.

Ms St Louis stated that at the last meeting of the Scrutiny Committee Members had asked if a sample of the complaints received could be included in the report and this had been included at Appendix 5 and showed a range of different areas.

Ms St Louis stated that Appendix 6 provided a summary of compliments and complaints for Sunderland Care and Support. There had been 68 compliments received in quarter 3 and a summary was provided in the report. There were 15 complaints during the period and details of the those were provided in the report. Ms St Louis pointed out that 10 of the complaints were not upheld, 2 were upheld in part and 3 were upheld in full.

The Chairman and Councillors D. Dixon and Mullen thanked Ms St Louis for adapting the report to include the information the Committee had requested at a previous meeting.

Councillor D. Dixon requested that future reports provided a table showing the number of complaints received for previous years to show the trend and assist with tracking whether the number was increasing or decreasing year on year and by

quarter in the same way as compliments were already shown in the report at Appendix 1.

Councillor Mullen commented that in his opinion Mr Graham Scanlon, Assistant Director of Housing Services had played a big part in why the bin collection service had improved. He referred to his own experiences where he had received speedy responses from Mr Scanlon to the enquiries he had raised and where he had been very rapid in dealing with problems and he thanked Mr Scanlon for this.

Councillor Mullen advised that he still received complaints about the inconsistency with which the issue of bags being left at the side of green bins was dealt with. He explained that sometimes they would be collected and at other times they would be left. This caused a bit of confusion for residents as to what Council policy was as some binmen would take them and others wouldn't, although he understood the latter was official policy. When they were left on the streets, Councillors subsequently had to report them as fly tipping or get them collected by other means because when residents returned they had blown down the street or had been torn open by birds etc. which meant that the rubbish was on the streets. Councillor Mullen asked that a more consistent policy on this was put into operation and that this was advertised to residents. Councillor Mullen stated that his strong preference on this would be that if it was only one or two bags, that it would be really helpful if binmen could pick them up.

Ms St Louis stated that she would take the point made by Councillor Mullen back to Mr Scanlon together with the complimentary feedback.

Full consideration having been given to the report and the Chairman having thanked Ms St Louis for her report, it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the information provided regarding compliments, complaints and feedback received by the Local Authority as detailed in the report and the comments made, be received and noted.

### **Scrutiny Committee Work Programmes for 2020-21**

The Scrutiny and Members' Support Co-ordinator submitted a report (copy circulated) attaching, for Members' information, the variations to the Scrutiny Committee work programmes for 2020/21 and providing an opportunity to review the Committee's own work programme for 2020/21.

(For copy report – see original minutes.)

Mr Nigel Cummings, Scrutiny Officer referred the Committee to the report and the work programmes for the Scrutiny Committee and the three thematic Scrutiny Committees. He highlighted that paragraph 5 set out a small budget to deliver the agreed Scrutiny work programmes and assist with any further research required, however, to date there had been no expenditure due to the pandemic and lockdown which had been in place. Mr Cummings invited Members to submit any queries to him for a response.



In response to Councillor O'Brien, Mr Cummings confirmed that he would speak to Ms Liz St Louis regarding a briefing in respect of City Fibre and that this would be added to the Committee's work programme.

Full consideration having been given to the report it was:-

4. RESOLVED that:-

- (a) the variations to the Scrutiny Committee Work Programmes for 2020/21 and to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee's own work programme, be noted;
- (b) A briefing on City Fibre be added to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee's Work Programme; and
- (c) the current scrutiny budget position for 2020/21, be noted.

### **Notice of Key Decisions**

The Scrutiny and Members' Support Co-ordinator submitted a report (copy circulated), providing Members with an opportunity to consider those items on the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions for the 28-day period from 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2021.

(For copy report – see original minutes.)

Mr Nigel Cummings, Scrutiny Officer, advised that if there was anything on which any Member wanted further information to let him know and he would be happy to take that forward on their behalf.

5. RESOLVED that the Notice of Key Decisions be received and noted.

The Chairman closed the meeting having thanked everyone for their attendance.

(Signed) P. HUNT,  
Chairman.

# Item 4

## SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

15 April 2021

### SMART CITY UPDATE

### REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SMART CITIES

#### **1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To receive a progress report from Liz St Louis (Assistant Director of Smart Cities) on the progress being made in delivering the Smart City Vision.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1 At the last meeting of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee, the Committee agreed to receive an update with regards the Smart City Vision and Delivery Programme and the opportunities afforded by the recent CityFibre announcement in the city as well as a number of other initiatives.
- 2.2 This item has been brought to the Committee in view of the significant and positive impact of the Smart City Programme on the City Plan aspirations of delivering a smart dynamic, a smart healthy and a smart vibrant city

#### **3. Current Position**

- 3.1 Liz St Louis (Assistant Director of Smart Cities) will provide a presentation on the progress being made to date.
- 3.2 A copy of the presentation is attached for information.

#### **4. Recommendations**

- 4.1 The Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider and comment on the contents of the report.



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AND BUSINESSES THRIVE**

**Sunderland**  
City Council

## Sunderland, Our Smart City - Background and Context

- City Plan – By 2030 Sunderland will be an connected, international city with opportunities for all
- Digitally connecting people and places is vital to deliver the aspirations of the city plan under of three key themes of Smart Dynamic City, Smart Healthy City and Smart Vibrant City
- Next generation fibre and mobile infrastructure underpins the connectivity required so we can deliver a whole range of benefits for Sunderland residents, businesses and visitors
- A city wide partnership involving the Health, the Education and the Business Sectors
- The partnership is already starting to deliver significant improvements to health, care, education and enterprise
- Importantly this is about delivering social and economic good – leaving no-one and nowhere behind

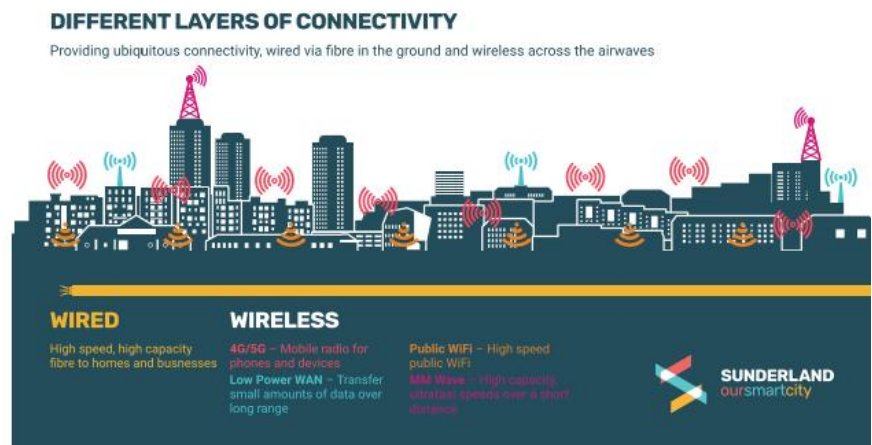


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## Smart City Developments - Connectivity

- 5G Ready Communications Ring launched Dec 2019 – delivering free, ultrafast wi-fi to a number of locations; over 3,000 connections every month
- Successful 5G Create bid to DCMS in July 2020 attracted over £4.8m to Sunderland; looking at 5G's ability to boost productivity at the Nissan plant and supply chain
- Successful MHCLG, Getting Building Fund in Aug 2020 attracted £4.5m to Sunderland to implement 5G in the City Centre and Riverside alongside a city-wide Low Powered Network to support the Internet of Things
- Award of a £2.9m contract to CityFibre in November 2020 as an anchor tenant for the Council's network
- CityFibre to invest over 62m in the city providing gigabit-capable full fibre connectivity to over 90% of premises – significant social value for the city



## Smart City Developments – Use Cases

Delivering a range of use cases to make a transformational difference to the lives of the people and businesses of Sunderland;

- Assistive Technologies – now deployed to over 1,050 homes across the city helping to keep people safe in their own homes, supported by an app that allows families, carers and social care professionals to monitor wellbeing
- Smart video sensor devices monitoring vehicle, cycle and pedestrian flows for key routes in the city enabling real time interventions and informing future initiatives and urban planning
- Smart sensors in waste bins are enabling more effective cleansing routes
- Working with Digital Catapult to deliver two local challenges;  
Transport – e-mobility hub  
Smart Building Solutions – optimise energy efficiency/reduce waste



# Smart City Developments - 5G/Internet of Things Opportunities

Search underway for a '5G Neutral Host Joint Venture Partner' - 20 year partnership to deliver ubiquitous 5G across Sunderland

- Initial business case to deliver a city-wide IOT backbone and 5G in the City Centre and Riverside Sunderland by March 2022
- Smart District / Smart Campus – progressing opportunities
- Living Lab – showcasing how technology can be translated into everyday life / research opportunities that follow
- Education, Enterprise and Skills working group – driving forward significant opportunities
- Progressing Digital Careers in Sunderland
- Progressing Enterprise Support in Sunderland – aspiration of 500 new tech start-ups in next 5 years



## Smart City Developments – Smart City Platform

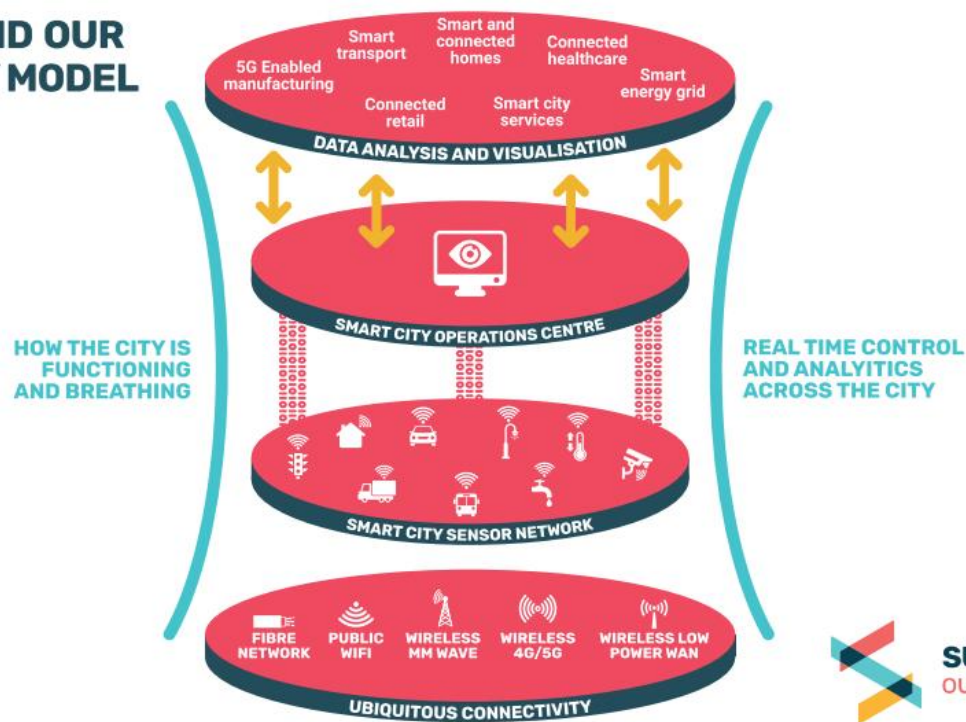
- Develop a Smart City Technology Platform – ensuring the Smart City Platform is sustainable and data is accessible
- Open Data Portal – evidencing challenges and opportunities/new business ideas
- Culture House – advanced analytics suite; hub and spoke model

“How best to harness the opportunities afforded by next generation connectivity to support the collective and individual digital ambitions of city partners?”





SUNDERLAND OUR SMART CITY MODEL



## **SCRUTINY COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

**15 APRIL 2021**

### **SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2020/2021**

#### **REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY AND MEMBERS' SUPPORT COORDINATOR**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To approve the scrutiny annual report 2020/21 that is to be presented to Council at a future date.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1 As in previous municipal years the annual report will be a single combined report of all four scrutiny committees. The annual report will provide an overview of the scrutiny function by detailing the work and outcomes achieved during the last 12 months.

#### **3. Current position**

- 3.1 The proposed report is attached at appendix 1 for member's consideration. The report provides a brief overview of some of the main work undertaken by the committees during 2020/21. It should be noted that the report is written from the perspective of the respective Chair of the Committee reflecting over the year.

- 3.2 The annual report is divided into a number of chapters including:

- Foreword
- Scrutiny Arrangements
- Individual Committee Pages
- The Year Ahead
- Scrutiny on a Page.

#### **4. Conclusion**

- 4.1 The scrutiny committees have delivered their work programmes against the backdrop of a global pandemic which has seen all aspects of life affected. The work programmes for 2020/21 were adapted to focus on the challenges and issues that Covid-19 brought to the country, Sunderland and its communities. The Scrutiny Committees have continued to work well with Council Directorates, stakeholders and partner organisations to deliver these work programmes and the committees have continued to develop relationships and work with officers and stakeholders in these most unique and difficult of times.

## **5. Recommendation**

- 5.1 That Members comment on the content and make final approval of the Annual Report 2020/21.

## **6. Glossary**

n/a

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**Contact Officer:** Nigel Cummings, Scrutiny Officer  
(0191) 561 1006  
[nigel.cummings@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:nigel.cummings@sunderland.gov.uk)



## Foreword

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the Scrutiny Annual Report. The report provides an overview of the work of scrutiny during 2020/21 and sets out the contribution it has made to the good governance of the Council. It also looks at how the scrutiny function will remain fit for purpose for the year ahead and the challenges we face moving into the future.

The year has been one dominated by the Covid-19 pandemic and this has been reflected in the work programmes of each of our Committees; both its immediate impact but also beginning the process of looking at the longer term implications for the people of the city.

We have therefore looked at the action being taken by the Council and its partners to maintain vital services, as well as the range of measures introduced to help cushion its effect on local residents. This includes measures to maintain children's and social care services and educate our young people through home and virtual schooling, ensuring that our care homes are safe and that we protect our most vulnerable residents. We have also heard about the wide range of support being provided to local businesses, many of which are administered by the Council, including vital support available to the voluntary service through the Local Support Scheme (LSS).

Throughout the pandemic we have received regular updates on Covid-19 infection rates in the city, the action being taken by our colleagues in health to combat its spread and more recently the roll out of the vaccination programme which provides some optimism and we look forward to feeling its impact in the coming months.

However, it is clear that the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic will leave us with a range of future challenges; not least the long term health of our residents, the effect on the local economy and the impact on child poverty, educational attainment and equalities. All major issues that will need to be addressed in the years ahead.

Nevertheless, we have some positives during the year. We have heard repeatedly of how the Covid-19 pandemic has helped to forge greater joint working between partner organisations in the city. We have also heard numerous examples of the hard work and commitment shown by staff across all sectors to whom we offer our thanks. As well as the resilience and spirit shown by our young people and their families during a period of great adversity. Also, good progress continues to be made on a range of regeneration projects in the city including the development of Sunderland Riverside on the former Vaux site, the International Advanced Manufacturing Park and the Sunderland Strategic Transport Corridor.

However, it is clear that local authorities across the country continue to operate within an environment of austerity and financial constraint, while demand for their services continues to grow. These problems are likely to be more acute in the years to come. With the Council and our partners required to deliver ever greater efficiencies and financial savings, the need for robust, evidence-based scrutiny becomes ever more pressing. To help meet these demands we have continued to adapt and improve the scrutiny process and we will look to hold an event to develop the work programmes and review the function in the coming year.

Sunderland continues to be involved in a number of joint scrutiny arrangements in relation to health provision across the area. Sunderland and South Tyneside Councils, and now Durham County Council, continue to meet on a regular basis in relation to the Path to Excellence programme, which is now progressing through phase two. This will consider the best way to arrange future surgical services with a clear ambition to separate emergency operations from planned operations. Members are also actively involved in the joint arrangements that cover the North East and North Cumbria looking at the Integrated Care Partnerships and Integrated Care

Systems. These joint arrangements remain of key importance over the coming year as both are concerned with service reconfiguration and development, particularly of how services are provided and delivered across Sunderland and the North East.

Scrutiny in Sunderland has also made a significant contribution to regional scrutiny arrangements. Throughout the year, we have represented the Council on the NECA Overview and Scrutiny Committee which looks at matters of significant importance to residents across the region, focusing particularly on economic development and transport issues including zero emission buses and restoring passenger confidence in public transport as lockdown restrictions are lifted.

The Committee would like to place on record its thanks to all those staff within in the Council who have worked tirelessly in support of our local communities.

No doubt, the next twelve months will bring further challenges. However, I do believe that with the cooperation of fellow members, partners and the support of our officers we will rise to meet these challenges in the year ahead.

On a personal note I would also like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all the members, officers and partners who have contributed and supported scrutiny during the year.

<PHOTO & SIGNATURE>

**Councillor Doris MacKnight**

**Chair of the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee**

## **Scrutiny Arrangements in Sunderland**

The democratic governance arrangements in Sunderland consists of the Leader of the Council, Deputy Leader, Cabinet Secretary, five Executive Portfolio holders and five Deputy Cabinet members. The decisions of the Cabinet are held to account by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee and three thematic Scrutiny Committees.

### **What is Scrutiny?**

Scrutiny aims to ensure that public services and policies best meet the needs of the residents of the city. It does this through:

- Policy review and development;
- Holding the Council's Executive and its partners to account;
- Investigating issues of local concern; and
- Working with partners to improve services to the local area.

### **The Scrutiny Model**

The current scrutiny structure was commissioned following and consists of an overarching Scrutiny Coordinating Committee and three themed scrutiny committees; namely the Children Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee, the Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee and the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee.

### **How does scrutiny make a difference?**

Scrutiny ensures that decision-making processes are clear and accessible to the public and that the people taking decisions are held accountable for those decisions.

On a regular basis the scrutiny function will add value by investigative questioning of witnesses on the issues within the council's policy framework. The impact of the work of scrutiny will also be evidenced over time by the implementation of its recommendations.

The monitoring of delivery of scrutiny's recommendations over a period time builds up a portfolio of evidence of scrutiny's role in service improvement.

## **SCRUTINY COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Cllr Doris MacKnight**

**Vice-Chair: Cllr Paula Hunt**

**Committee Members: Darryl Dixon, Juliana Heron, Keith Jenkins, Fiona Miller, Anthony Mullen, Stephen O'Brien, Pat Smith, Mel Speding, Dorothy Trueman, Doris Turner and Susan Watson.**

I am pleased to be able to present the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee's summary of the work it has undertaken during the year. The Committee has worked against a backdrop of a global pandemic that has seen unprecedented restrictions placed on our daily lives. Meetings have been held virtually throughout the year and while it is not the ideal it has allowed the Committee to continue and has also allowed the Council to continue to function and exercise its duties.

A key focus of the work of the Committee is on the Council's financial and budgetary information and proposals. The Committee recognises the importance of scrutiny of the Council budget, capital programme and medium-term financial strategy. The Committee acknowledged the ambitious capital programme for the City, as well as the importance of an updated capital strategy to oversee and manage the risks associated with these projects. Scrutiny of the Budget and financial reports remain an important part of the Committee's remit to provide clarity, information and assurance around proposals that are to be recommended to Council.

Brexit negotiations were still ongoing when the Committee was updated on the Council's European Union (EU) Exit Planning arrangements. This provided information on the provision of an EU Exit Risk Register identifying and managing potential key risks to the Council. The Committee were interested in the preparations that businesses were making and received assurances that the Business Investment Team was in regular liaison with businesses, supporting them with preparations. This is an issue that the Committee will continue to monitor, particularly, in relation to the impact on the Council and the City.

The Scrutiny Coordinating Committee acts as the designated Scrutiny Committee for crime and disorder matters and was updated on the work of the Safer Sunderland Partnership (SSP) during 2019-20 through the Partnership's annual report. The Leader of the Council updated the Committee highlighting significant progress in reducing recorded crime and maintaining residents' feelings of safety. Members were also updated on the Council's continued partnerships against coercion, Prevent and serious and organised crime with partners; and on the joint delivery of the newly established Northumbria Violence Reduction Unit.

The Committee discussed a wide-ranging number of issues including anti-social behaviour, cyber-crime, domestic abuse and enforcement activity across Sunderland. There was also an update on the Northumbria and Citywide resilience response on a range of issues related to Covid-19. This provided the Committee with an overview of the Covid-19 situation in terms of policing and the demands on services, which were identified as higher than normal due to the ongoing restrictions. The Committee will receive a further review of the partnership in 2021/22 and this will provide a greater analysis of the impact of the pandemic on services.

As a result of the Safer Sunderland Partnership Annual Report the Committee requested that further information be presented to the Committee on the issue of

hate crime. A report was provided on the current trends and statistics on hate crime in the Sunderland area, which outlined the action being undertaken to raise awareness of hate crime, encourage hate crime reporting by the public, and the support mechanisms in place for victims of hate crime. Members of the Committee were also offered the opportunity to become Hate Crime Champions as part of an initiative between Northumbria Police and Sunderland Partnership. The initiative raises awareness of what constitutes a hate crime, the impact on victims and their families and/or community, and how hate crime can be reported.

Corporate performance, aligned to the Sunderland City Plan and to the three key themes, continues to provide an overview of Council performance for the Committee. The monitoring of progress and achievement of key priorities and indicators remains a primary focus of the Scrutiny Committee. The impact of the pandemic and the effect of restrictions on a number of aspects of performance were acknowledged by Members and this would continue to be a focus for the Committee as the City looks at recovering from the impacts on businesses, hospitality, health services and education.

Alongside the quarterly performance reports the Committee also receives a quarterly compliments, complaints and feedback report. This remains an important monitoring mechanism in respect of services provided by the Council to residents. The Committee are always interested in the trends and themes of complaints and recognise their importance in service improvement and development. Members continue to request modifications to the report which have been adopted and allowed for a continual improvement on the information and how it is presented.

The Scrutiny Coordinating Committee has operated in challenging circumstances against a backdrop of a global pandemic. However, the Committee has continued to perform its role in scrutinising council performance, budgets and complaints. The coming year will see new challenges as we deal with the impacts of Covid-19 and how as a Council along with our partners we look at recovery for the City and its residents. Finally, I would like to thank all my scrutiny colleagues, council officers and partners for their support, hard work and dedication during this unprecedented year.

**Councillor Doris MacKnight**

**Chair of the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee**

## **Children, Education & Skills Scrutiny Committee**

**Chair: Cllr Pat Smith**

**Vice Chair: Cllr Joshua McKeith**

**Committee Members: Councillors Margaret Crosby, Paula Hunt, Dominic McDonough, Pam Mann, Fiona Miller, Michael Mordey, Alex Samuels, Lynda Scanlan, Philip Tye, Karen Noble**

**Co-opted Members: Ann Blakey (Roman Catholic Diocese) and Jackie Graham (Church of England Diocese)**

The year has been one dominated by the Covid pandemic and therefore much the work of the Committee has been focused on its immediate effect and the longer-term implications on the children and young people of the city.

In order to monitor its immediate impact, the Committee has received regular updates across a range of children's services including social care, early help, cared for children, children with special educational needs and the impact on the school's sector generally. During these updates we have heard about the action being taken to ensure that support has continued to be provided to the most vulnerable sections of our community. Operational staff have been provided with agile technology so that they can work from home and urgent child protection discussions have taken place as usual virtually. All early help services, including the YOS and targeted youth services, have continued to support children and families. For children with disabilities, all cases in review have been offered a higher level of support. There has been significant collaborative working with partners in SEND and virtual/indirect family time has been secured for cared for children. Support has continued to be offered to those experiencing or who have experienced domestic abuse.

To facilitate the initial full opening of schools, Together for Children, working in close partnership with other Council services, have offered a wide range of guidance and support in a number of areas including health and safety, home to school transport and school catering. From the outset of the pandemic, schools in Sunderland have remained open to key worker and vulnerable children. We heard from Ann Blakey and Jackie Graham, our headteacher representatives about the considerable efforts being made by teaching staff to keep schools open and continue teaching the children of key workers, while also providing online teaching for those learning from home.

The Committee would like to place on record its appreciation for the hard work and commitment of all staff working in children's services and the education sectors who have gone over and above what could be expected of them during the Covid pandemic.

In January 2021, we received the Annual Report of the Sunderland Safeguarding Partnership. For Sir Paul Ennals, the Independent Chair of the Partnership, the Covid pandemic had provided the city's safeguarding arrangements with its ultimate stress test; being a once in a generation crisis that had hit Sunderland particularly hard, given its higher than average levels of deprivation and above average proportion of elderly people. Nevertheless, he reported that partnership working within Sunderland had proved itself to be extremely strong, with services adapting rapidly and successfully to the new challenges and that this should provide a firm foundation for the city moving forward. However, the report did highlight number of areas of future concern, most notably the long-term effect of disrupted schooling and the impact on child mental health.

To hear more about the issues facing child mental health, the Committee received a report from the Sunderland CCG. We heard that all children and young people's mental health providers continue to deliver services through a mix of online and face to face interventions; the latter being undertaken according to clinical need. Indeed, online services had proved popular and helped to increase efficiency and reduce waiting times. Moving forward, it was planned to develop this aspect of the service further, while retaining the option of face to face contact for those who prefer it. Additional funding had been secured for extra staff resources which should, when fully implemented, cover approximately 20 schools and around 8,000 pupils. A children and young people's mental health service redesign project was underway to develop an improved service delivery model. The Committee also heard about planned improvements to the assessment services for young people with Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). These changes should allow for services to be better targeted, with greater use made of early help services and more intensive work focused on those with the most complex needs.

It was recognised however that there remained major concerns over the potential impact of the Covid pandemic on child mental health and that there were likely to be a major long-term implication for the city in the years ahead.

Another area of concern for the Committee was the impact of the Covid pandemic on children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and the challenges faced by young carers. We met with representatives from the Sunderland Carers Centre and the Sunderland Parent Carer Forum to hear more about the difficulties they faced, in particular the heightened anxieties and isolation experienced during lockdown and the need for access to support and signposting to services. While the situation does seem to have improved after the initial lockdown, there clearly remains major challenges moving forward and the situation needs to be monitored.

In setting its work programme for the year, the Committee was also keen to consider the effect of Covid pandemic on incidences of anti-social behaviour within the city. To this end, the Committee received an update report on the work of the Youth Offending Service. We heard that during the pandemic the YOS has continued to deliver services and remained in contact with all young people. This has often been through face to face visits, though a range of virtual methods of working directly with young people have been developed. The YOS also resumed Community Payback as soon as contact outdoor was allowed but adjusted this to be delivered on a one-to-one basis and with a risk assessment as close to the young person's home as possible to minimise travel.

The Council is currently in the process of developing a youth strategy. In order to provide input into the document, several members of the Committee sat on a working group involved in its development. Emerging from its discussions is the importance of the document being concise, transparent and user friendly which can help identify any gaps in service provision and signpost users to sources of support. The Committee looks forward to seeing the final document once it is completed.

A further area of concern arising out of the Covid pandemic has been its long-term effect on apprenticeships and employment opportunities for young people in the city. In order to discuss these issues, the Committee met with Principal and Vice Principal of Sunderland College, the main provider of apprenticeships in the city. Clearly, the College is committed to working with the business sector and helping to provide our young people with the skills to meet the job opportunities that will be needed in the

future. We were interested to hear about the work going on in schools to provide career advice for young people and raise the profile of apprenticeships. An on-going problem for the city has been the relatively high numbers of young people not in education, employment or work (NEET). It is important as a city that we are able to equip our young people in what will be a very challenging employment market.

We have heard during the year of numerous instances where the Covid pandemic has adversely affected young people and their families and where we are likely to see significant long-term implications. These include the impact on child poverty, child mental health, children with special educational needs and the growth of educational, health and economic inequalities. We feel that these challenges can only be faced if the city has a clear plan for building back after the pandemic and one that takes full account of the issues facing young people.

However, it would be wrong not to recognise some of the positives we have seen during the year. We have heard repeatedly of how the Covid pandemic has helped to forge greater joint working between partner organisations in the city. We have also heard numerous examples of the hard work and commitment shown by staff across all sectors. But perhaps most importantly we should also recognise the achievements of our young people who have lived through a year of considerable challenge and adversity.

Also, while the effect of the pandemic has occupied much of its work, the Committee has continued to monitor the progress being made in improving the general delivery of children's services in the city. Despite very difficult circumstances, it is pleasing to see the performance has continued to improve across a suite of key performance indicators and we look forward to this continuing. Good progress is also being made on the Ofsted Improvement Plan and there has been a reduction in the number of complaints being received.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all the members of the Committee for their contributions and to thank all the officers and witnesses who gave up their time to attend and provide insights into the services they provide and the challenges they face.

**Councillor Pat Smith**

**Chair of the Children Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee**



## **Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee**

**Chair: Cllr Doris Turner**

**Vice Chair: Cllr Melanie Thornton**

**Committee Members: Councillors James Blackburn, William Blackett, Michael Dixon, Heather Fagan, Stephen Foster, Julia Jackson, Keith Jenkins, Christine Marshall, Dianne Snowdon and Tony Taylor.**

During the year, the Committee's work programme has focused on the effect of the Covid pandemic on the local economy and the action being taken to help alleviate the situation. We have also continued to monitor progress on a range of regeneration initiatives going on in the city, many of which have continued to make good progress despite the effects of the pandemic.

In terms of the local economy, the Committee has received regular updates on the support provided to local businesses, many of which are administered by the Council, including the Small Business Grant Fund, the Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund and the local authority Discretionary Fund. We have also heard about the support and advice provided by the Council to encourage the take-up of the grants and the loans and the support available to the voluntary service through the Local Support Scheme (LSS). The Committee would like to place on record its thanks to all those staff within the Council who have worked tirelessly in support of the business and voluntary sectors in the city.

We also heard from Sharon Appleby, Head of Business Operations at the BID on the work they are doing to support local business. It was hoped that following the Covid pandemic, footfall and retail spending in the city centre should begin the process of recovery and that the proposed development of Sunderland Riverside in particular should provide an impetus for the growth of independent retail sector.

Jonathan Walker and Natasha McDonagh from the North East Chamber of Commerce outlined for us the considerable long term economic challenges facing the city arising from the Covid pandemic, as well as the UK's exit from the European Union and the nationwide downturn in the high street retail sector. However, they both noted that moving forward, the Sunderland economy retained strong foundations and that many opportunities existed, particularly in the engineering, manufacturing and the software sectors.

The promotion of new business start-ups will play a significant part in securing the city's long term prosperity. We heard about the role of the city's three business centres – the Evolve Business Centre, Sunderland Software Centre and the Washington Business Centre – in encouraging growth in expanding areas of the economy, such as IT and software and in helping to diversify the local economy as a whole. We also heard about the measures being taken to improve their operation and efficiency.

The city's International Strategy also has an important role in generating growth in the local economy and we heard about the wide range of activities taking place to establish economic links with existing and new overseas markets and promote inward investment into the city.

The cultural sector is another area that has been hard hit by the Covid pandemic. Victoria French, Head of Events highlighted to us the economic impact of the cancellation of events such as the Sunderland Airshow and the Sunderland Illuminations and Festival of Light, as well as the loss to the local economy from the closure of art and theatre venues. Again, however she was hopeful that the city's

cultural and arts sector would show the resilience to bounce back following the ending of the pandemic.

During the year, the Committee views have been fed into a number of planning documents which will help to facilitate the future regeneration of the city. In particular, the Riverside Sunderland and East Washington developments will provide much needed growth and expansion to two key sites in the city. The Committee stressed the importance of ensuring that sufficient infrastructure is in place to accommodate the new housing planned for these sites, including roads links, public transport, schools, health and leisure facilities.

The Committee was also consulted on the contents of two important planning documents. Firstly, the Allocations and Designations Plan which will allocate sufficient land to deliver at least 13,410 net new homes, 7,200 new jobs and the development of at least 45,400m<sup>2</sup> of new comparison retail development. Secondly, the Development Management SPD which provides planning and design guidance for those wishing to extend or alter a dwelling house and assists developers in preparing proposals for residential developments.

The Committee also received an update on the measures being taken to alleviate the risk of flooding in the city and the work currently taking place and planned in the future.

Following on from last year, we heard from Graham Scanlon, Housing Manager on the progress being made on the Council's housing strategy. This included the measures to increase housing growth and maximise choice of housing, make the best use of existing housing stock and support vulnerable people to access housing. We also heard about the action being taken to improve the quality of private rented sector, reduce the number of empty properties and tackle the issue of homelessness in the city.

In relation to the regeneration of the city, the Committee once again received an update on the progress being made by Siglion. It is pleasing that regeneration of the Riverside is progressing well and should deliver high quality office accommodation, together with residential, retail and leisure use. We also heard that good progress was being made on the new Civic Hall which should be open in later in the year and within the Sunderland Heritage Action Zone area which should contribute to the preservation of Sunderland's historic core and improve the appearance of the city centre.

Another major project being undertaken in the city is the development of the International Advanced Manufacturing Park (IAMP). Comprising 260,000 sq. metres of business space on a 100-hectare site, the IAMP will have a massive impact on the city and region, creating around 5,200 jobs and bringing in around £300m of private investment over the next ten years. Again, the Committee heard about the very encouraging progress being made and agreed to visit the site once the Covid restrictions had been lifted.

The importance of transport links will be vitally important to the city's long term development. The Committee therefore received an update on the Sunderland Strategic Transport Corridor which should provide a catalyst of economic growth, improve transport links and reduce congestion. We also received an update on road safety in the city; highlighting the road safety work undertaken during the year and an analysis of accident and casualty statistics. These figures show a slight rise in number, albeit from a steady ten year downward trend. Nevertheless, we feel it is

important that these figures are closely monitored to ensure that there is no long term reversal of the downward trend.

In March 2019, Sunderland City Council declared a climate emergency. In response, a city-wide 2030 Shadow Board was established, bringing together partners from across the city, with the ambition of the city becoming carbon neutral by 2040 and the Council carbon neutral by 2030. A draft of the Low Carbon Framework and Action Plan were submitted to this Committee for its views. The Committee stressed the importance of fully involving partners from throughout the city if the goals are to be achieved and we were pleased to see that this has been reflected in the Plan.

All in all, it has been a very busy and productive year for the Committee. I would just like to take this opportunity to thank members of the Committee and everyone else involved for their hard work and commitment.

**Councillor Doris Turner**

**Chair of the Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee**

## **HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Cllr Darryl Dixon**

**Vice-Chair: Cllr Neil MacKnight**

**Committee Members: Councillors Michael Butler, Ronny Davison, Michael Essl, Helen Greener, Martin Haswell, Juliana Heron, Shirley Leadbitter, Pam Mann and Barbara McClennan.**

Once again, I am pleased to be able to present the work of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee as part of the annual report. However, unlike in other years the report is set against a backdrop of the biggest public health crisis in our lifetimes. As a result, the Committee has adapted its work programme to concentrate on the Coronavirus Pandemic, which has swept across the globe over the last 12 months and impacted on the lives of everyone in the UK.

Since the re-commencement of meetings in early July the Committee has received regular updates on the Covid-19 situation in Sunderland at each of its scheduled meetings during 2020-21. The updates have been led by the Council's Public Health Team and Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group who have provided detailed updates on a number of issues related to the pandemic.

The Director of Public Health has kept the Committee updated on Sunderland's experience of the pandemic from the very early stages of the lockdown measures, through the easing of restrictions and then back into tighter restrictions and further lockdowns. The Committee has been able to monitor the daily infection rates, local mortality rates from Covid-19 and the impact of the pandemic on Sunderland through these regular updates. Committee members have also been able to monitor the effectiveness of the restrictions, act as a voice for some of the concerns and issues of local people and disseminate key messages within their local communities.

The Health and Wellbeing Committee has, over the years, developed a good relationship with key health partners and this has been extremely useful during this crisis. Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group and South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust have been extremely cooperative with the Committee and provided detailed updates on a number of key issues. One of those issues has been around admissions to hospital, occupancy levels for critical care beds and the overall performance levels of the hospital. The Committee are also very aware of the impact that this is having on staff and have looked to ensure that there is adequate support for their own health and wellbeing.

As we have continued to monitor the pandemic one of the key issues for the Committee has been the commencement and rollout of the vaccination programme across Sunderland. The Committee recognises how important the success of vaccination will be in tackling the pandemic. Sunderland CCG have been able to update the Committee on progress with the vaccination programme, which has been extremely successful to date, provide assurances and dispel many of the myths and misinformation around vaccination.

Care homes have been a critical aspect of the Covid-19 pandemic and as a Committee we have ensured that this has remained a priority for our work programme. Again, the Committee has received extensive support and cooperation from council officers and health partners providing updates and assurances on the situation within care homes and the plans and actions to keep residents safe.

Also, as part of this the Committee requested information on the measures being taken to prepare for the winter period against the concerns of a second wave of the

Covid-19 virus. Members were provided with a comprehensive overview of the winter planning for Sunderland including learning from Covid-19, system winter schemes and the role of the surge group its protocols and processes. The All Together Better Alliance has also played a key role in the out of hospital care and highlighted the partnership working across health and social care that has exemplified the city's handling of the pandemic.

The North East Ambulance Service (NEAS) are a fundamental part of the health service and they continue to provide annual service performance updates to the Committee. Members remain cognisant of the response times for all four national standard categories and in particular that NEAS continues to be one of the fastest responding ambulance trusts in the country to category one incidents. Sunderland call volumes for 999 and NHS 111 calls were also reported as well as the impacts of Covid-19 on the service including the additional measures for crew and patient safety and the challenging issue of hospital handovers. Members were also concerned to learn of increased violent assaults on staff following the easing of the first lockdown in July/August. The Committee will continue to receive performance updates from NEAS as this allows Members to gauge the performance of the ambulance service in Sunderland and also complements other performance data received by the Committee.

During discussions on the Covid-19 pandemic Members requested that information be brought to the Committee advising of the national, regional and local approaches for the flu vaccination programme for 2020/2021. Members recognised the importance, due to the pandemic, of ensuring that there was an increase in the flu vaccine uptake in the city's most clinically at risk and vulnerable groups. The Committee acknowledged that work was ongoing to achieve the national targets, with ongoing monthly performance and activity being monitored by the Sunderland Flu Prevention Board.

The Committee have also considered the development of Sunderland CCG's Adult Mental Health Strategy which was at the second stage of the process; reviewing the intelligence that had been gathered at stage one and commencing the formal engagement stage. Members raised a number of issues including around the engagement of services users, transition arrangements from youth to adult services and the role of the voluntary and community sectors and GP's in the strategy. The Committee have also requested further updates on progress, and we will look to keep this on our work programme going forward.

The Committee also had a meaningful discussion on the development of the Council's Healthy City Plan. A variety of views were expressed along with a range of opinions both for and against aspects of the plan. It is important that the Committee is able to discuss key documents providing not only a critical friend challenge but also further issues for consideration.

Covid-19 will have far reaching impacts and implications for all facets of modern life and one of the first of these will see major reforms to the NHS. The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care presented legislative proposals for a Health and Care Bill to Parliament on 11 February 2021. The Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee received an overview of the major reforms at its meeting in March 2021. It is clear that this will be an issue that the Committee will monitor as it progresses through the various bill stages to statute and the its implications for health and social care in Sunderland.

Perhaps more importantly we have also been able to see and understand the incredible work that has been undertaken to respond to this situation including test and trace, locally enhanced contact tracing and the vaccine rollout programme.

This has been an extraordinary year for the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee as we have faced the challenges of a generation in dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic. However, the Committee has evidenced first-hand the amazing dedication and cooperation of health workers across Sunderland. I would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to everyone across the Council and our health partners for their work, commitment and sacrifice in these most difficult times. The Committee will continue to support where it can and over the coming year will look at the impacts of the pandemic and our road to recovery. I think it will be another challenging year ahead.

**Councillor Darryl Dixon**

**Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee**

## **The Year Ahead**

Overview and scrutiny is an integral part of the Council's governance and decision making structure contributing to the Council's budgetary and policy making function as well as holding the executive to account for its actions. This report provides an opportunity to reflect on the experiences for the last year and recognise the challenges we face in the year ahead.

Clearly, the next few years will continue to be challenging for the Council; operating as it does in an environment of diminishing resources and increasing demand for services. This represents a major challenge for us all. For scrutiny it is important that we help the Council to make the best use of the resources available and ensure that frontline services are still delivered to the highest possible standards. This will not be easy. However, I feel it is our duty as elected representatives of the city to continue to do everything in our power to help protect our residents from the difficulties that face us.

We have heard throughout this year's report about the effect of the Covid-19 pandemic on the city and the measures being taken to deal with its immediate impact. Moving forward we will need to address its longer-term implications and challenges. These include the impact on adult and child mental health, the effect on educational attainment and its consequences for health and economic inequalities. There will also be the long-term effect of the pandemic on the economy of the city; including its effect on economic growth, employment prospects, household incomes and the decline of the high street retail sector. We feel that these challenges can only be faced if the city develops a clear plan for building back after the pandemic and one that takes full account of the particular issues facing our young people.

Other key issues facing scrutiny in the year ahead will be the effect on the local economy of leaving the EU, the future reform of the NHS and its implications for health and social care in the city and the effect of Covid on the way our services are delivered, with greater use of on line delivery offering the prospect of greater flexibility for the future.

Scrutiny will also continue to play an active role in the changing delivery of health services across Sunderland and the region. It is certainly an area that will continue to be determined by financial, social and environmental factors that will continue to drive change in the sector. We will continue to monitor and challenge health partners through our own Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee, the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee with South Tyneside and also regionally through the North East Joint Health Scrutiny Committee. Through these joint arrangements we are able to represent the concerns and needs of the Sunderland population and ensure that Sunderland residents views are represented and considered in looking at service reconfigurations.

As part of the ongoing development of scrutiny we will look to conduct a review of the scrutiny process to ensure its effectiveness and impact in moving forward. Members will also focus on developing robust scrutiny work programmes that are directed at the key issues facing the city and its residents. We will therefore be looking to monitor the progress being made in implementing the Council's new City Plan for 2019-2030 and the measures being taken to make Sunderland a more dynamic, healthy and vibrant city. A key to this will be our ability to work closely and collaboratively with our partners and make the most of the resources available in the city.

Once again, I would like place on record our thanks to everyone who contributed to the work of scrutiny over the last twelve months and look forward to having another productive year ahead.



## SCRUTINY ON A PAGE

The Scrutiny Coordinating Committee, the three thematic scrutiny committees, North East Combined Authority Scrutiny Committee (NECA) and the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) tackle a large range of issues over a municipal year. In order to fully appreciate the variety and breadth of the subjects covered. Below is an extensive, though not exhaustive, summary of the work of scrutiny in Sunderland.

Adult Safeguarding Board Annual Report	Licensing Policy Update
All Together Better Alliance	Low Carbon Framework
Allocations and Designations Plan	Managing the Market
Annual Road Safety Report	Sunderland CCG - Mental Health Strategy
Apprenticeships	North East Ambulance Service Annual Update
Budget Planning Framework	Ofsted Improvement Plan – Update
Business Centres - Update	Operation of Assessment Services for CYP with ASC and ADHD
Capital Programme Review	Ophthalmology
Capital Strategy	Path to Excellence Phase 2
Children Services Complaints	Performance Management
City Hall Update	Preparations of Schools in Response to Covid-19
Compliments, Complaints and Feedback	Regional Adoption Agency
Covid-19 Business Support Grants	Revenue Budget
Covid-19 Updates	Riverside SPD
Draft Health Inequalities	Safeguarding Children Partnership Update
Derwent Hill	Safer Sunderland Partnership Annual Report
Development Management SPD	Schools Reopening Update
European Union – Exit Planning	Sunderland Business Improvement District
Financial Strategy	Sunderland Chamber of Commerce – Update
Flu Immunisation Programme	Sunderland Cultural Sector
Hate Crime and Tension Monitoring	Sunderland Eye Infirmary
Healthy City Plan	Sunderland Strategic Transport Corridor – Update
Heritage Update	Together for Children – Performance Monitoring Report
Homes of Multiple Occupation SPD	Washington Meadows SPD
Scoping Report	Scoping Report
Housing Strategy Update	Winter Preparedness
Impact of Covid-19 on Child Mental Health	Youth Offending
Impact of Covid-19 on Young Carers and SEND	
Impact of Covid-19 on Children and Young Families	
International Advanced Manufacturing Park	
International Strategy	

# Item 6

**SCRUTINY COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

**15 APRIL 2021**

## **SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMMES FOR 2020-21**

### **REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY AND MEMBERS' SUPPORT COORDINATOR**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The report attaches, for Members' information, the variations to the Scrutiny Committee work programmes for 2020/21 and provides an opportunity to review the Committee's own work programme for 2020/21.
- 1.2 In delivering its work programme, the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee will support the council in achieving its Corporate Outcomes.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The role of the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee is two-fold, firstly it has a role in co-ordinating efficient business across the Scrutiny Committees and manage the overall Scrutiny Work Programme and secondly to consider the Council's corporate policies, performance and financial issues.
- 2.2 The aim of its co-ordinating role is to avoid duplication, make best use of resources and to provide a corporate overview of the scrutiny function. As such the remainder of this report outlines the current work programmes of the Scrutiny Committees.

#### **3. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMMES**

- 3.1 **Appendix 1** sets out the Scrutiny Committee work programmes for the Children, Education and Skills, Economic Prosperity and Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committees respectively.

#### **4. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAMME**

- 4.1 **Appendix 2** outlines this Committee's full work programme for the year, updated to reflect new additions and amendments requested by Committee as the year has progressed.

#### **5. DEDICATED SCRUTINY BUDGET**

- 5.1 A small budgetary provision of £15,000 per annum is available to the Scrutiny Committees to deliver the agreed Scrutiny Committee Work Programmes.

- 5.2 As of 6 April 2021 the breakdown of the budget stood as follows:-

Description	£
Scrutiny Development	Nil
Member Development	Nil
Policy Review Development	Nil
<b>Total Expenditure to Date</b>	£0.00
<b>Budget</b>	£15,000.00
<b>Remaining Budget</b>	£15,000.00

## 5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee:

- (a) notes the variations to the Scrutiny Committee Work Programmes for 2020/21 and to its own work programme;
- (b) notes the current scrutiny budget position for 2020/21.

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REASON FOR INCLUSION	9 JULY 20	3 SEPT 20 (CANCELLED)	1 OCT 20	22 OCT 20	26 NOV 20	7 JAN 21	4 FEB 21	4 MARCH 21	26 APRIL 21
<b>Policy Framework/ Cabinet Referrals and Responses</b>	Scrutiny Annual Report – 19/20 (JD)							Scrutiny Annual Report – 20/21(JD)	
<b>Scrutiny Business</b>	Covid 19 – Update (Martin Birch)		Impact of Covid on Children and Young Families (Jill Colbert)  Preparations of Schools in Response to Covid 19 (Simon Marshall)	Impact of Covid 19 on Young Carers and SEND (Carers Centre Parent Carers Forum)	Safeguarding Children Partnership Update (Sir Paul Ennals)  Regional Adoption Agency (Jill Colbert)		Impact of Covid 19 on Child Mental Health (CCG – Ann Fox/Kimm Lawson)  Operation of Assessment Services for CYP with ASC and ADHD (CCG – Ann Fox)	Schools Reopening Update (Simon Marshall)  Youth Offending (Linda Mason)	Apprenticeships (Sunderland College)
<b>Performance / Service Improvement</b>						Together for Children – Performance Monitoring Report (Jill Colbert)  Children Services Complaints  Ofsted Improvement Plan – Update (Jill Colbert)			
<b>Consultation / Awareness Raising</b>	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21

**ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE –WORK PROGRAMME 2020-21**

REASON FOR INCLUSION	7 JULY 20	8 SEPTEMBER 20	6 OCTOBER 20	3 NOVEMBER 20	1 DECEMBER 20	12 JANUARY 21	9 FEBRUARY 21	9 MARCH 21	13 APRIL 21
<b>Policy Framework/ Cabinet Referrals and Responses</b>			Homes of Multiple Occupation SPD Scoping Report (Catherine Auld)  Riverside SPD (Catherine Auld)	Licensing Policy – Update (Steve Waring)		Development Management SPD (Catherine Auld)  Allocations and Designations Plan (Catherine Auld)  Land of East of Washington SPD (Catherine Auld)		Draft Annual Report (Jim Diamond)	
<b>Scrutiny Business</b>	Covid 19 Business Support (Catherine Auld)  Sunderland Strategic Transport Corridor – Update (Mark Jackson)	Annual Road Safety Report (Mark Jackson)  Work Programme - Consideration of Draft 20-21 (JD)	International Strategy (Catherine Auld)	Low Carbon Framework (Catherine Auld)  Covid 19 Business Support Grants – Final Position (Catherine Auld/Paul Wilson)	Sunderland Chamber of Commerce – Update (Natasha McDonagh)  Sunderland Business Improvement District (Sharon Appleby)	Housing Strategy – Update (Graham Scanlan)	International Advanced Manufacturing Park (Mark Jackson)	Siglion/ City Hall – Update (Peter McIntyre)  Sunderland Cultural Sector – Update and Impact of Covid (Victoria French)	Heritage Update (Catherine Auld/Dan Hattle)
<b>Consultation Information and Awareness Raising</b>	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme of Committee – Proposed Process (JD)	Notice of Key Decisions	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21

To Programme: Sunderland Rail Station – Update (Mark Jackson)  
IAMP/Lorry Parking Facilities (Mark Jackson)  
Local Flood Authority Update (Mark Jackson)  
Business Centres – Update (Catherine Auld)

# HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – WORK PROGRAMME 2020-21

REASON FOR INCLUSION		1 JULY 20 D/L:19 June 20	2 SEPTEMBER 20 D/L:21 August 20	30 SEPTEMBER 20 D/L:18 Sept 20	28 OCTOBER 20 D/L:16 Oct 20	25 NOVEMBER 20 D/L:13 Nov 20	6 JANUARY 21 D/L:23 Dec 20	3 FEBRUARY 21 D/L:22 Jan 21	10 MARCH 21 D/L:26 Feb 21	14 APRIL 21 D/L:2 April 21
Policy Framework / Cabinet Referrals and Responses										
Scrutiny Business		Covid-19 Update (Sunderland City Council, CCG & NHS FT)  Draft Health Inequalities Strategy (Julie Parker-Walton)	Covid-19 Update (Sunderland City Council, CCG & NHS FT)	Covid-19 Update (Public Health)  Winter Preparedness (P Foster – ATB)  Flu immunisation Programme (G Gibson)	Covid-19 Update (Sunderland City Council, CCG & NHS FT)	Covid-19 Update (Sunderland City Council, CCG & NHS FT)  MH Strategy (Sunderland CCG)  SSAB Annual Report (Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board)	Covid-19 Update (Sunderland City Council, CCG & NHS FT)	Covid-19 Update (Sunderland City Council, CCG & NHS FT)  North East Ambulance Service (M Cotton)  Healthy City Plan (G Taylor/J Hibberd)	Covid-19 Update (Sunderland City Council, CCG & NHS FT)  Managing the Market (G King)  NHS White Paper (N Cummings)  Annual Report (N Cummings)	Covid-19 Update (Sunderland City Council, CCG & NHS FT)  Sunderland Eye Infirmary (NHS FT)
Performance / Service Improvement										
Consultation/ Information & Awareness Raising	Notice of Key Decisions	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 20-21

## Items to be scheduled

Ophthalmology  
 Path to Excellence Phase 1 & 2 Updates  
 Integrated Care Systems Update (CCG)  
 Engaging the Public (CCG)  
 Care and Support Annual Repot (Sunderland Care and Support)  
 NHS FT Merger Update (NHS FT)

SCRUTINY COORDINATING COMMITTEE – WORK PROGRAMME 2020-21

REASON FOR INCLUSION		25 JUNE 20 D/L 15 JUNE 20	10 SEPTEMBER 20 D/L 31 AUG 20	8 OCTOBER 20 D/L 28 SEPT 20	5 NOVEMBER 20 D/L 26 OCT 20	3 DECEMBER 20 D/L 23 NOV 20	14 JANUARY 21 D/L 4 JAN 21	11 FEBRUARY 21 D/L 1 FEB 21	11 MARCH 21 D/L 1 MARCH 21	15 APRIL 21 D/L 5 APRIL 21
<b>Policy Framework / Cabinet Referrals and Responses</b>		Revenue budget Outturn 20/21 (Jon Ritchie)	First Revenue Budget Review 20/21 (Jon Ritchie)		Budget Planning Framework 2021/22 and Financial Strategy (Jon Ritchie/Paul Wilson)  Capital Programme Second Review 2020/21 (Jon Ritchie)	European Union – Exit Planning (Paul Davies)	Capital Programme Planning 2021/2022 to 2024/2025 and Capital Strategy (Jon Ritchie)  Budget Planning Framework and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021/2022 to 2024/2025 (Jon Ritchie)			
<b>Scrutiny Business</b>		Covid-19 Update (Sarah Reed/Jon Ritchie)	Annual Report (N Cummings)	Safer Sunderland Partnership Annual Report (Stuart Douglass)				Hate Crime (Jessica May)  Capital Programme Planning 2021/2022 TO 2024/2025: Derwent Hill (Victoria French)		Smart City Update (Liz St Louis)  Annual Report (N Cummings)
<b>Performance / Service Improvement</b>			Compliments, Complaints & Feedback Annual Report (Marie Johnston)  Performance Management Q1 (Liz St Louis)			Performance Management Q2 (Liz St Louis)  Compliments, Complaints & Feedback (Marie Johnston)			Performance Management Q3 (Liz St Louis)  Compliments, Complaints & Feedback (Marie Johnston)	
<b>Consultation / Information &amp; Awareness Raising</b>		Notice of Key Decisions  Scrutiny Work Programmes 2019/20	Notice of Key Decisions  Scrutiny Work Programmes 2019/20	Notice of Key Decisions  Scrutiny Work Programmes 2019/20	Notice of Key Decisions  Scrutiny Work Programmes 2019/20	Notice of Key Decisions  Scrutiny Work Programmes 2019/20	Notice of Key Decisions  Scrutiny Work Programmes 2019/20	Notice of Key Decisions  Scrutiny Work Programmes 2019/20	Notice of Key Decisions  Scrutiny Work Programmes 2019/20	Notice of Key Decisions  Scrutiny Work Programmes 2019/20

**Work Programme Items to be scheduled:**  
City Plan Update  
New Ways of Working  
Impact of Covid-19 Partner Organisations

### NOTICE OF KEY DECISIONS

#### REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY AND MEMBERS' SUPPORT COORDINATOR

##### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Members with an opportunity to consider the items on the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions for the 28-day period from 22 February 2021.

##### 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Holding the Executive to account is one of the main functions of Scrutiny. One of the ways that this can be achieved is by considering the forthcoming decisions of the Executive (as outlined in the Notice of Key Decisions) and deciding whether Scrutiny can add value in advance of the decision being made. This does not negate Non-Executive Members ability to call-in a decision after it has been made.
- 2.2 To this end, the most recent version of the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions is included on the agenda of this Committee. The Notice of Key Decisions for the 28-day period from 22 February 2021 is attached marked **Appendix 1**.

##### 3. CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 In considering the Notice of Key Decisions, Members are asked to consider only those issues where the Scrutiny Committee could make a contribution which would add value prior to the decision being taken.
- 3.2 In the event of Members having any queries that cannot be dealt with directly in the meeting, a response will be sought from the relevant Directorate.

##### 4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 To consider the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions for the 28-day period from 22 February 2021 at the Scrutiny Committee meeting.

##### 5. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Cabinet Agenda

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Contact Officer : Nigel Cummings, Scrutiny Officer  
0191 561 1006  
[Nigel.cummings@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:Nigel.cummings@sunderland.gov.uk)



The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Notice is given of the following proposed Key Decisions (whether proposed to be taken in public or in private) and of Executive Decisions including key decisions) intended to be considered in a private meeting:-

Item no.	Matter in respect of which a decision is to be made	Decision-maker (if individual, name and title, if body, its name and see below for list of members)	Key Decision Y/N	Anticipated date of decision/ period in which the decision is to be taken	Private meeting Y/N	Reasons for the meeting to be held in private	Documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the matter*	Address to obtain further information
201116/536	To agree to dissolve partnership agreement with Homes England and trigger right of preemption to acquire land at Sunnyside.	Cabinet	N	During the period 12 January to 31 March 2021.	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

Item no.	Matter in respect of which a decision is to be made	Decision-maker (if individual, name and title, if body, its name and see below for list of members)	Key Decision Y/N	Anticipated date of decision/ period in which the decision is to be taken	Private meeting Y/N	Reasons for the meeting to be held in private	Documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the matter*	Address to obtain further information
200813/494	To approve the establishment of a funding mechanism for the acquisition of residential properties.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 9 February to 31 March 2021	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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201109/536	Riverside Sunderland – To approve proposals for the detailed design, construction and letting of a new Development on the former Vaux site.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 9 February to 31 March 2021	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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200902/500	To approve the acquisition of Bridge House, Bridge Street.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 9 February to 31 March 2021	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
210208/554	To consider statutory proposals and objections/comments received thereon in relation to the proposed increase in capacity and alteration of the lower age of admission at Hetton Primary School.	School Organisation Committee of Cabinet	Y	11 March 2021 (published on a separate notice published on 8 February 2021.)	N	Not applicable.	School Organisational Committee of Cabinet report and responses to Consultation and Statutory proposals	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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210208/555	To consider statutory proposals and objections/comments received thereon in relation to the proposal to increase the number of pupils at Sunningdale Primary School	School Organisation Committee of Cabinet	Y	11 March 2021 (published on a separate notice published on 8 February 2021.)	N	Not applicable	School Organisational Committee of Cabinet report and responses to Consultation and Statutory proposals	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
210208/556	To seek approval for the proposed maintained school admission arrangements for the academic year September 2022-23 and to describe proposed amendments to published admission numbers (PANs) for the academic year 2021/22, where it is necessary to provide additional places or remove existing places.	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	N	Not applicable	Cabinet Paper and Appendices	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
170927/212	To approve in principle the establishment of a new police led Road Safety Partnership (Northumbria Road Safety Partnership) embracing the Northumbria Force Area.	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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201201/538	To give approval to progress with the Emergency Active Travel Funded cycle scheme on the Sea Front from the former tram stop to Roker café.	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
210113/551	To endorse the Healthy City Plan following approval at the Health and Wellbeing Board.	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
210118/552	To consider the making of a Compulsory Purchase Order for the New Wear Footbridge.	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
210128/553	To authorise the Executive Director of City Development to deliver the Future High Street Fund Programme	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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210201/557	To consider and approve funding and delivery proposals for the Vaux Housing project.	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
210201/558	To consider and approve funding and delivery proposals for the Vaux Housing project.	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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210201/559	To consider the acquisition of Bridge House, Bridge Street.	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>



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210201/560	To consider the acquisition of West Walk Retail, 56-62 High Street West	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
210204/561	Leechmere Centre – To procure and award a contract for renewal of flat roof coverings.	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
210210/562	To seek approval to the planned Highway Maintenance (including Bridges) and Integrated Transport Programme for 2021-2022 and approve amendments (additions/deferrals) to the 2020-2021 Programme.	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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210210/563	To review the Corporate Parenting Board and agree recommendations listed within the report	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
210211/564	To approve the payment of financial assistance to a Sunderland based company in relation to the company's own investment plans.	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
210211/565	To consider entering into a Funding Agreement and associated Partnership Agreement related to the city's low carbon programme.	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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210212/566	Receive a progress update and approve appointment of a preferred developer in relation to the re-development of the existing Civic Centre site, on terms to be agreed by the Executive Director of City Development in consultation with the Executive Director of Corporate services, Leader and Cabinet Secretary.	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
210212/567	Receive a progress update and approve appointment of a preferred developer in relation to the re-development of the existing Civic Centre site, on terms to be agreed by the Executive Director of City Development in consultation with the Executive Director of Corporate services, Leader and Cabinet Secretary.	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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210215/568	Review of City-wide Public Spaces Protection Order	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
210215/569	To seek approval for the Annual Review of the Housing Delivery and Investment Plan	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
210218/570	To consider and approve funding and delivery proposals for public realm and infrastructure for Sunderland Riverside and the fit-out of City Hall	Cabinet	Y	23 March 2021	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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201201/537	To give approval to progress with the three schemes (Sunderland Station and Car park, Holmeside bus rationalisation and A690 corridor cycle provision) funded by the governments Transforming Cities Fund.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 1 to 30 June 2021	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

**Note;** Some of the documents listed may not be available if they are subject to an exemption, prohibition or restriction on disclosure.

Further documents relevant to the matters to be decided can be submitted to the decision-maker. If you wish to request details of those documents (if any) as they become available, or to submit representations about a proposal to hold a meeting in private, you should contact Governance Services at the address below.

Subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure, copies of documents submitted to the decision-maker can also be obtained from the Governance Services team PO Box 100, Civic Centre, Sunderland, or by email to [committees@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk)

**\*Other documents relevant to the matter may be submitted to the decision maker and requests for details of these documents should be submitted to Governance Services at the address given above.**

**Who will decide;**

Councillor Graeme Miller – Leader; Councillor Paul Stewart – Deputy Leader/Cabinet Secretary; Councillor Louise Farthing – Children, Learning and Skills; Councillor Kelly Chequer – Healthy City; Councillor Linda Williams – Vibrant City; Councillor Rebecca Atkinson – Dynamic City.

This is the membership of Cabinet as at the date of this notice. Any changes will be specified on a supplementary notice.

Elaine Waugh,  
Assistant Director of Law and Governance

22 February 2021