

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Meeting to be held in the City Hall (Committee Room 1), Plater Way, Sunderland on Thursday 8 December, 2022 at 5.30 p.m.

Membership

Cllrs Bond, Butler, Curtis, Doyle, Edgeworth, Hartnack, Mason-Gage, Mullen, P. Smith, D. Snowdon, D.E. Snowdon (Chair), Thornton, H. Trueman and Watson (Vice Chair).

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No items.

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No items.

E. WAUGH,
Assistant Director of Law and Governance,
City Hall,
SUNDERLAND.

30th November 2022.

Item 2

At a meeting of the SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE held in COMMITTEE ROOM 1, CITY HALL, SUNDERLAND on THURSDAY, 10TH NOVEMBER 2022 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor D.E. Snowden in the Chair

Councillors Bond, Butler, Curtis, Doyle, Edgeworth, Hartnack, Mason-Gage, Mullen, and Watson.

Also in attendance:-

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

Chief Inspector Neil Hall, Northumbria Police

Mr Stephen Laverton, Strategic Manager Community Safety and Safeguarding, Adult Social Care Directorate

Mr David Noon, Principal Governance Services Officer, Law and Governance, Corporate Services Directorate

Ms Gillian Robinson, Scrutiny, Mayoral and Members Support Co-ordinator, Law and Governance, Corporate Services Directorate

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P. Smith, D. Snowden and Thornton.

Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 13th October 2022

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 13th October 2022 (copy circulated), be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)

Item 6 – Notice of Key Decisions

Councillor Doyle made an open declaration in respect of item number 220621/720 (To approve funding options in respect of development at Nile and Villiers Street Sunnyside) due to the involvement of his employer in relation to the matter on the notice regarding the development.

Safer Sunderland Partnership Annual Report

The Director of Adult Social Care submitted a report (copy circulated) which highlighted the achievements of the Safer Sunderland Partnership (SSP) during 2021-22 and provided an opportunity for Members to discuss the progress made.

(For copy report – see original minutes.)

Mr Stephen Laverton, Strategic Manager, Community Safety and Safeguarding, provided the Committee with a detailed commentary on the Annual Report and together with Chief Inspector Neil Hall of Northumbria Police, addressed questions and comments from Members.

The Chairman noted that paragraph 2.6 of the report showed a worrying increase in Sexual Offences and asked how were they classified, which was the most prevalent and what was being done to tackle the issue. Chief Inspector Hall advised that in the main they were section 3 assaults (non-consenting sexual touching) taking place within the confines of the night time economy. Operation Cloak, funded by the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) had commenced in March 2022. This had involved 1 Sergeant and 10 PCs working both in uniform and plain clothes, together with officers from partner organisations to tackle predator behaviour within the evening / night time economy. There had been a fall in Section 1 rapes since its introduction.

Councillor Mason-Gage stated that the rise of 15% did not look good and asked if perhaps that was because women felt more confident in reporting assaults. Chief Inspector Hall replied that it was difficult to quantify this, but he hoped that women now felt more confident in reporting assaults. He did not believe that the figure reflected a great deal of under reporting. From March 2022 to date there had been 500 cases which was down on the figure for the same period last year.

Councillor Curtis asked if there was any way to tell if the victims were male or female as it was known that a lot of men would not report being the victim of a sexual assault. Chief Inspector Hall confirmed that it was believed that there was a significant degree of under reporting from men. It would be possible to provide a split based on gender however the victims were predominantly female.

Councillor Hartnack asked if Chief Inspector Hall's comments regarding the night time economy related specifically to the City Centre, highlighting that there was a significant and growing night time economy based around Seaburn. He expressed concern that despite this, Seaburn was often left without its compliment of Police Officers at the weekend as they were diverted to cover the city centre. He advised that the Neighbourhood Team in the north of the city comprised of 1 acting Sergeant, 2 PCs and 1 PCSO however at a weekend this could be reduced to zero.

Chief Inspector Hall replied that it was an issue of resources. It was clear that over preceding years, the numbers on the Police establishment had dipped significantly however they were now getting back up to where they should be. For example, this weekend all Officers deployed in the city centre would be from the Alpha Team (City Centre) with no need to abstract Officers from Seaburn. He could not promise that abstractions from the Neighbourhood Teams would not be required in the future but he believed that generally the corner had been turned with regard to Police staffing levels.

Councillor Mason-Gage referred to Paragraph 2.9 regarding Drugs, and in particular the figures in relation to the number of users of opiates and crack cocaine. She questioned how it was possible to establish this with any certainty as presumably it was not something that anyone would readily admit to. Mr Laverton advised that he would go back Public Health who had supplied the figures to ask the question regarding the methods used.

Councillor Edgeworth referred to paragraph 2.11 regarding Alcohol. He asked if the figures in relation to hospital admissions included repeat visits from the same person, as it was possible that the perception of the size of the problem could be distorted if for example one person was responsible for 25% of the admissions. Mr Laverton replied that he was not the first person to raise this possibility and he was hopeful that a clear picture could be reflected in future versions of the report.

With regard to Paragraph 2.12, City Centre Youth Violence, Chief Inspector Hall informed the Committee that this was reducing. Building on work to tackle a cohort of adult offenders in Sunnyside, the VRU had agreed to fund 4 positions (1 sergeant, 1PC and 2 PCSOs) to work with the worst offenders in relation to city centre youth ASB. The Officers would be part of a multi-agency hub (SAIL) based in High Street West which would also include staff from the BID, Sunderland City Council and TfC. The SAIL project which was based around a diversionary programme was scheduled to start in December.

Councillor Curtis believed this to an extremely important initiative and asked if the funding was ring fenced and could it be mainstreamed. Chief Inspector Hall replied that the funding was only for 3 years however he believed that SAIL would provide tangible results which could only improve the chances of funding being extended.

Councillor Curtis highlighted that other areas of the city had significant ASB problems and asked if the scheme could be extended to these areas. Chief Inspector Hall replied that the adult scheme related specifically to Sunnyside however the SAIL programme was in effect city wide, as whilst it aimed to reduce city centre ASB, the offenders and the families the project would be working with lived all over the city.

In response to an enquiry from the Chairman, Chief Inspector Hall confirmed that the multi-agency hub would also include representatives from housing providers.

Councillor Hartnack stated that ASB took many forms and asked if ASB involving motorcycles and cars would be covered by SAIL. Chief Inspector Hall advised that the specific aim of SAIL was to centre on the perpetrators of city centre youth disorder and violence.

Councillor Edgeworth asked that details of SAIL were circulated to all Members of the Council for their information. Chief Inspector Hall confirmed that he would be happy to do so and advised that public communications regarding the project would be heavy in the run up to its launch in December.

Councillor Curtis referred to a recent survey which highlighted that members of the public felt increasingly unsafe whilst travelling on public transport. He had also met recently with members of the Sunderland Youth Parliament who had overwhelming expressed this as a major concern for them and he asked if Mr Laverton and Chief Inspector Hall could meet with NEXUS to address these concerns.

In response to Councillor Hartnack's earlier comment regarding motorcycle ASB Mr Laverton briefed the Committee on measures taken to try and tackle the problem including a joint approach with Gateshead & South Tyneside to try and establish a designated piece of land at Follingsby Park where legal off-road driving could be undertaken. A pre planning application had been submitted to South Tyneside Council and the outcome was awaited.

Councillor Butler stated that he believed that this was the right approach to take and it had been a long time coming. He felt that what was required was more carrot and less stick. Whilst Fulwell Quarry contained 2 SSSIs which he would not want to see damaged, off road riding was considered a rite of passage for young people living near the Quarry. He personally knew 2 people who had continued to ride there responsibly for over 40 years. He argued that it was possible that the use of the stick in previous enforcement efforts had deterred people from transporting off-road motorbikes to the quarry to ride responsibly, forcing them onto the streets instead.

Councillor Edgeworth reported that motorcycle disorder was the top issue for residents in the Grindon, Thorney Close, and Hasting Hill areas where there was open space and easy access to it. Whilst he believed the plans for Follingsby were a step in the right direction he feared it would only attract responsible users rather than those engaged in ASB. He asked if the Safer Sunderland Partnership or the Council had any strategy to restrict access to Council owned land given that the problem blighted Sandhill which contained a nature reserve and Hastings Hill which was a Scheduled Ancient Monument. Mr Laverton advised that he would draw the locations listed by Councillor Edgeworth to Michelle Coates and the ASB Team so they could be targeted. He added that the Team relied on intelligence to allow them to seize bikes. Chief Inspector Hall confirmed that the reporting of the incidents was invaluable to the intelligence gathering process.

Councillor Bond stated that he felt it necessary to feedback to Mr Laverton and Chief Inspector Hall how the public felt about the issue. He advised that he had received 64 letters from people during the preceding 3 weeks regarding motorcycle ASB in Fulwell Quarry. He believed that the Police needed to improve their PR as the public perception was that they were doing nothing about the problem. Chief Inspector Hall replied that the Police continued to use conventional means such as the press, tv and radio however it was Force policy to push usage of the Northumbria Connects site.

Councillor Hartnack advised that both he and Councillor Bond had recently met with the Police regarding how Operation Canary Wood was to operate in Fulwell. With regard to the Follingsby initiative, he felt it was a great idea but had reservations about how successful it would be as most of the current problem bikers lacked the trailers needed to take their bikes to the site. He believed the recent incidents including a death in Pallion and near misses in Seaburn would continue. He felt that if anything, the stick was not strong enough and believed that greater enforcement was required to get a grip on the issue. He outlined what would happen to him if he drove his car dangerously and without insurance, and questioned why the same approach was not taken with motorcycles.

Councillor Butler replied that he believed that what was needed to tackle the problem was more lateral thinking. He advised that a similar approach to the proposals for

Follingsby had been undertaken in Fife and this had resulted in a 40% reduction in motorcycle ASB.

Chief Inspector Hall reassured the Committee that the Police acted proactively and that “the stick” was still there. The Force also tried to be creative through the use of section 59 notices and long lens cameras to gather intelligence. He reiterated that the Police still required the public to report issues as Force resources were deployed where the data showed there was a problem.

Councillor Mason-Gage asked if members could receive some guidance, for use when door knocking, on the best ways of reporting crime, what information the Police would require from residents when reporting a crime, and what they could expect to receive in return. Chief Inspector Hall replied that he would be happy to do so, but in the meantime asked Councillors to continue to promote the use of the 101 number.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Hartnack regarding the Community Trigger, Chief Inspector Hall advised that detailed information on the policy could be found by following the link embedded in paragraph 4.5 of the report (page 14 of the agenda papers). Councillor Hartnack welcomed the adoption of the Community Trigger and suggested that it could be helpful for the Committee to consider some case studies on its use at a future meeting.

Councillor Butler referred to the section of the report detailing domestic abuse (paragraph 3.1.2) and stated that he favoured the use of the term “survivors” when talking about “victims”. It was something he felt very passionately about and asked if there was anything more the Partnership could do in supporting survivors to report abuse. The Chairman concurred with the sentiments expressed by Councillor Butler.

Chief Inspector Hall replied that there was work to be done especially in relation to repeat cases however it would not be a quick piece of work. Councillor Butler added that he believed that the short-term intervention work undertaken in the city was very good however there was a real requirement for a longer term plan to support some families.

Councillor Butler referred to paragraphs 5.3 to 5.5 stating that PREVENT was a difficult issue to talk around, however it was clear that there had been some significant issues involving far right activity in the city. He believed there was a real need to track the outcomes regarding PREVENT as he felt that to date it had not been successful. Mr Laverton advised that a report regarding the national picture in respect of PREVENT was expected early in the new year. Councillor Curtis highlighted issues in Washington that had arisen in relation to use of a hotel to house migrants. In addition, Councillor Mullen referred to a memo circulated to all Councillors from the Chief Executive regarding the Comfort Inn in Castle Ward, the contents of which had been leaked to the wider public. He believed the tone and wording of the email had not been helpful.

Councillor Butler highlighted the positive aspects of integrating refugees and asylum seekers into society. He cited the case of Cameroon-born boxer Thomas Essomba who was part of the Cameroon Olympic Boxing Team that had sort asylum in the UK during London 2012. Thomas had settled in Sunderland, becoming Commonwealth flyweight champion, a role model and a personal friend. Councillor Butler believed that integration was a word that should not be shied away from.

Councillor Mason-Gage referred back to the section in the report on Drugs and asked if future reports could provide any details regarding the extent to which children were being employed / exploited by illegal drugs traders. Mr Laverton replied that it would probably require a reinterpretation of the data, but he believed that it would be possible.

Prior to the conclusion of the debate Councillor Mullen stated that he wished to raise 2 issues that were not covered by the report. Firstly, the frustration of local councillors in trying to find someone to take responsibly for dealing with parking issues (Councillor Officers would often claim an issue was within the Police remit only for the Police to claim the reverse). Secondly the role of the PCC. Councillor Mullen cited various instances which he felt illustrated that she was partisan in her approach and asked the question were the politics of the PCC reflected in Police resourcing in any way?

With regard to the first enquiry, Chief Inspector Hall replied that he understood Councillor Mullen's frustrations. The legislation was complex and open to interpretation but generally the Police would only become involved if the vehicle was causing an obstruction to the highway. With regard to the second question, Chief Inspector Hall advised that the answer was no.

There being no further questions or comments, the Chairman thanked Mr Laverton and Chief Inspector Hall for their attendance and it was:-

3. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the report be received and noted,
- ii) the focused work on City Centre youth violence be promoted to all Members of the Council, and
- iii) consideration be given to providing guidance for Members and the public on reporting anti-social behaviour (including motorcycle disorder), to Northumbria Police that outlined the process, what to expect and which aided in managing expectations.

Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2022/23

The Scrutiny, Mayoral and Member Support Co-ordinator submitted a report (copy circulated) attaching, for Members' information, the thematic Scrutiny Committee work programmes for 2022/23 and providing an opportunity to review the Committee's own work programme for 2022/23.

(For copy report – see original minutes.)

Mr Nigel Cummings presented the report, updating Members on the current position and in addition sought agreement as to which of the following items, Members would like to see as the next piece of work for the Committee, or as a topic for task and finish group working:-

- i) Council Organisation and Culture -
- ii) Protection of Green Spaces -
- iii) Report It Tool

iv) City Centre Regeneration Masterplan

Councillor Mullen stated that he had a strong preference for item i) (Council Organisation and Culture) but would like it to focus on the working environment of City Hall and cited concerns he had in relation to the lack of group rooms, acoustics in the Council Chamber and the lack of privacy together with the effect on people's mental health of working in a glassed walled building.

Councillor Doyle stated that he would favour item iv) (City Centre Regeneration Masterplan) believing it was an ideal window of opportunity for study.

The Committee considered potential time constraints in trying to schedule both pieces of work into the Work Programme before the end of the municipal year. Mr Cummings advised that he would scope up both topics as items for Task and Finish group working and would hope to circulate a scoping report prior to the next meeting.

3. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the Scrutiny Committees' work programmes for 2022/23 and the variations to these work programmes be noted, together with the current scrutiny budget position, and
- ii) Task and Finish Group scoping reports be drafted in relation to the topics on 'Council Organisation and Culture' and 'City Centre Regeneration Masterplan'

Notice of Key Decisions

The Scrutiny, Mayoral and Member 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 12th October 2022.

(For copy report – see original minutes.)

Consideration having been given to the report, it was :-

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

The Chair closed the meeting, having thanked everyone for their attendance.

(Signed) D. E. SNOWDON,
Chairman.

Item 4

SCRUTINY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

8 DECEMBER 2022

REFERENCE FROM CABINET – 8 DECEMBER 2022

CAPITAL PROGRAMME PLANNING 2023/2024 TO 2026/2027

Report of the Assistant Director of Law and Governance

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To seek the views of this Committee on a report of the Assistant Director of Finance (copy attached) to be considered by Cabinet on 8 December 2022 which detailed:
 - an update to Cabinet on the level of capital resources and commitments for the forthcoming financial year within the current approved capital programme; and
 - to set out additional capital new start project proposals for inclusion in the Capital Programme 2023/2024 to 2026/2027 to be reported to Cabinet in February 2023.
- 1.2 Members' views are requested in accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules.

2. Background and Current Position

- 2.1 Copies of the 8 December 2022, Cabinet Agenda were made available to all Members of the Council. The Cabinet was asked to approve the additional new start capital project proposals set out in this report for inclusion in the full capital programme 2023/2024 to 2026/2027 to be reported to Cabinet in February 2023. An update on the comments and decision of Cabinet will be provided to the meeting.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 The matter at 2.1 is referred to this Committee for advice and consideration. The comments from the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee will be reported to Cabinet on 19 January 2023.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee is invited to give advice and consideration to Council on the report of the Assistant Director of Finance.

5. Background Papers

5.1 Cabinet Agenda, 8 December 2022.

5.2 A copy of the Agenda is available for inspection from the Assistant Director of Law and Governance or can be viewed on-line at:-

<https://committees.sunderland.gov.uk/committees/cmis5/Meetings/tabid/73/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/410/Meeting/10814/Committee/1953/Default.aspx>

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CABINET – 8 DECEMBER 2022

CAPITAL PROGRAMME PLANNING 2023/2024 TO 2026/2027

Report of the Assistant Director of Finance

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 The purpose of the report is:

- To update Cabinet on the level of capital resources and commitments for the forthcoming financial year within the current approved capital programme; and
- To set out additional capital new start project proposals for inclusion in the Capital Programme 2023/2024 to 2026/2027 to be reported to Cabinet in February 2023.

2. Description of Decision

2.1 Cabinet is asked to:

- Approve the additional capital project proposals set out in this report for inclusion in the full capital programme 2023/2024 to 2026/2027 to be reported to Cabinet in February 2023.

3. Background

3.1 The Council's Capital Strategy was agreed by Cabinet in October 2022. The strategy provides the framework within which the Council's capital investment plans will be prioritised and delivered. The strategy is reviewed annually to capture any required updates including emerging changes to Council priorities encapsulated within the City Plan and the refresh of key financial indicators.

3.2 The Council currently has an ambitious capital programme, with investment of £710m profiled over the period 2022/2023 to 2026/2027. The delivery of the City Plan, which will drive transformation and economic regeneration in the City, will require further capital investment by the Council as detailed within this report.

3.3 While the financial position and future spending commitments continue to be managed closely, the Council still has significant and ambitious growth plans that will benefit the city, its residents, its businesses, and other stakeholders.

4. Existing Capital Programme 2022/2023 to 2026/2027

4.1 The current capital programme (as detailed in the Second Capital Review report presented to Cabinet in October), commits substantial resources over the five years to 2026/2027. The programme was approved with the aim of delivering on the priorities set out in the City Plan. The value of the capital programme investment totals £710.484m across the 5 years as summarised below:

Expenditure by Portfolio	Gross Cost £'000	Expend. to 31.3.22 £'000	Estimated Payments				
			2022/2023 £'000	2023/2024 £'000	2024/2025 £'000	2025/2026 £'000	2026/2027 £'000
Deputy Leader and Clean Green City	238,999	122,991	37,114	50,211	23,148	4,535	1,000
Cabinet Secretary	77,179	30,334	20,822	12,666	8,750	3,329	1,278
Children's Learning and Skills	70,704	32,983	27,307	7,709	2,705	0	0
Dynamic City	660,294	216,247	141,171	165,203	68,910	68,763	0
Healthy City	33,222	16,119	7,128	3,603	6,122	250	0
Vibrant City	69,691	20,931	6,247	17,936	17,700	4,306	2,571
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	1,150,089	439,605	239,789	257,328	127,335	81,183	4,849
			710,484				

The current programme is funded as follows:

Funding Source	Total	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Prudential Borrowing	501,391	135,542	195,825	104,750	60,425	4,849
Capital Receipts	17,409	6,281	4,289	1,641	5,198	0
Reserves and Revenue	13,429	9,706	3,723	0	0	0
External Funding	178,255	88,260	53,491	20,944	15,560	0
Total	710,484	239,789	257,328	127,335	81,183	4,849

5. Additional Capital Project Proposals 2023/2024 to 2026/2027 – Framework for Considering Priority Projects

- 5.1 The Chief Officer Group take forward the development of projects and ensure appropriate prioritisation and oversight. The role of this Group, which consists of senior officers, is to:
- Co-ordinate the development of capital projects to meet future strategic requirements, aligned to Council priorities and the City Plan; and
 - Prioritise new capital proposals and variations to existing projects within the context of available resources and the strategic priorities, prior to making recommendations to Cabinet for consideration.
- 5.2 The current Capital Strategy, approved by Cabinet in October 2022, has been updated to reflect; the priorities included within the City Plan, the latest capital investment and debt ratios, and a refresh of the investment forecasts over the longer term.
- 5.3 The Capital Strategy provides the framework within which the Council's capital investment plans are prioritised and delivered. The capital priorities are aligned to the City Plan "Sunderland 2019-2030" priorities of:
- Sunderland will be a **dynamic smart city**. This includes a lower carbon city with greater digital connectivity for all; more and better jobs; more people with better qualifications and skills; a stronger city centre with more businesses, housing and cultural opportunities; and more and better housing;

- Sunderland will be a **healthy smart city**. This includes reduced health inequalities enabling more people to live healthier longer lives; access to equitable opportunities and life chances; people enjoying independent lives; great transport links with low carbon and active travel opportunities for all; and a cleaner and more attractive city and neighbourhood; and
- Sunderland will be a **vibrant smart city**. This includes more resilient people; more people feeling safe in their homes and neighbourhoods; more residents participating in their communities; and more people visiting Sunderland and more residents informing and participating in cultural events, programmes and activities.

In addition, a continuing priority for the Council is to deliver the best possible services and support to our residents, with a focus on long term benefits for our children and young people beyond 2030.

5.4 Whilst primarily supporting the above priorities, the Council will also continue to seek to maximise the return on investment through:

- Generating savings or supporting the avoidance of additional revenue costs;
- Growing the Council's income base i.e. fees and charges, business rates and council tax;
- Seeking a commercial return; and
- Generating and supporting funding opportunities which encourages and levers in private sector investment and other funding into the city.

6. **Additional Capital Project Proposals 2023/2024 to 2026/2027 - Resources Available**

6.1 Resources - Grants

The Council has been successful in securing several key funding streams in recent years to support the City Plan for various projects across the City; these include Future High Streets Fund, Transforming Cities Fund, Housing Infrastructure Fund, Getting Building Fund, Active Travel Fund, Homes England funding for social housing, Levelling Up Round 1 Fund, as well as from other grant funding streams. Opportunities for external grant will continue to be targeted to support delivery of future investment in the city. The outcome of the Council's application to Round 2 of the Levelling Up Fund is expected late 2022 / early 2023.

As in previous years, it is anticipated that resources allocated in respect of Transport, Disabled Facilities Grant and Education specific purpose grants will be allocated to those services areas. These grants, in the main, support recurring capital maintenance activity and as such are not included in the detailed new starts section of this report. A detailed update of future years' grant allocations and their proposed use will be provided to Cabinet as part of the Capital Programme report in February 2023 based upon the information available at that time.

6.2 Resources – Capital Receipts and Reserves

The Council continues to market sites for sale to maximise capital receipts and support operational requirements. Capital receipts are only earmarked once they have been realised, or where they have been included as part of any Capital project financial plan as part of the overall business case. They have the potential to be required to fund transformation costs arising from implementation of savings programmes, drawing on Government flexibilities on the use of capital receipts to support such costs. Any realised capital receipts not required to fund transformation costs are considered for use to support the funding of the Capital Programme to reduce borrowing requirements.

Available reserves are being utilised to support the current revenue and capital plans and are scheduled to reduce over the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) period. Reserves which become available are considered for use to support the funding of the Capital Programme to reduce borrowing requirements.

S106 Reserves - Upon confirmation of S106 agreements with developers, monies received are held in reserves until detailed plans on use of the funding are developed in accordance with the requirements outlined in the S106 agreements. Once developed, the projects are brought into the Capital Programme at the appropriate time. Typical uses include the development / improvement of play provision, educational assets, highways infrastructure, affordable housing, public open spaces and ecological improvements.

6.3 Resources – Capital Expenditure charged to Revenue Account (CERA)

At present there is minimal specific budget provision for revenue contributions to support capital expenditure.

6.4 Resources – Borrowing

The Council can fund its capital expenditure through additional prudential borrowing. Additional borrowing results in additional debt charges which must be affordable within the revenue budget planning with appropriate provision included within the base budget and MTFP.

The Budget Planning Framework and Medium-Term Financial Plan Report, approved by Cabinet on 13th October 2022, with a revised report elsewhere on this agenda, includes sufficient provision for capital financing charges that may arise following Cabinet approval of the additional new project proposals set out within this report.

In line with past practice, it is proposed to use the funding flexibly, with the option to switch borrowing with surplus capital receipts once they are realised. This would reduce planned capital finance charges that may arise from this borrowing.

6.5 Resources – Other Funding – Enterprise Zones

The Council has three Enterprise Zone sites: IAMP, A19 Ultra Low Carbon Zone and part of the Port of Sunderland. All the business rates growth generated on these Enterprise Zones for their 25-year life are payable to the North East Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). This resource is then distributed by the North East LEP to meet / contribute to the capital financing costs of the infrastructure works associated with those zones delivered through the Council's Capital Programme.

7. Additional Capital Project Proposals 2023/2024 to 2026/2027 - Detail

- 7.1 The following suite of additional projects, categorised by Portfolio, are proposed for inclusion in the capital programme for 2023/2024 to 2026/2027 with further details set out in Appendix 1. The profiling of proposed projects will be reviewed and refined, and any updates will be reflected in the capital programme to be reported to Cabinet in February 2023.

Appendix 1 Ref	Project Name	Total Project Spend	Spend 2023/24	Spend Future Years	Council Funding
		£m	£m	£m	£m
Deputy Leader and Clean Green City					
1.1.1	Vehicle, Plant and Equipment Replacement Programme	16.056	3.842	12.214	16.056
1.1.2	Nobles Quay Replacement	3.000	2.600	0.400	3.000
1.1.3	Port Infrastructure	1.300	0.400	0.900	1.300
Total		20.356	6.842	13.514	20.356
Cabinet Secretary					
1.2.1	Planned Property Capital Maintenance	7.500	0.000	7.500	7.500
1.2.2	End User Devices	0.465	0.000	0.465	0.465
1.2.3	NetBackup Appliance Refresh	0.460	0.000	0.460	0.460
Total		8.425	0.000	8.425	8.425
Dynamic City					
1.3.1	Highways Asset Investment Programme	8.000	1.000	7.000	8.000
1.3.2	Bridge Maintenance Investment Programme	5.000	1.000	4.000	5.000
Total		13.000	2.000	11.000	13.000
TOTAL OF INVESTMENT PROPOSALS		41.781	8.842	32.939	41.781

- 7.2 The proposed additional new projects total £41.781m (£8.842m in 2023/2024 and £32.939m in future years).

The total £41.781m is to be met from available Council resources, following approval of the Budget Planning Framework Report and Medium-Term Financial Plan by Cabinet in October 2022.

Planned funding sources for individual capital schemes may be subject to amendment to achieve best value to the Council and ensure the capital programme continues to be prudent, affordable and sustainable into future years, and within overall borrowing limits whilst still retaining flexibility.

7.3 Further Reports

Following approval of new project budget allocations by Council in February 2023, and in accordance with the Council's Constitution, prior to the commencement of project works, details of all new schemes must be subject to a full capital investment appraisal. Those schemes with an estimated cost more than £0.500m must be reported for approval to Cabinet before commencement of the scheme.

8. Reasons for Decision

- 8.1 To comply with statutory requirements.

9. Alternative Options

- 9.1 No alternative options are submitted for Cabinet's consideration.

10. Impact Analysis

- 10.1 Impact assessments will be undertaken by Directorates to ensure programmes are delivered within budget.

11. List of Appendices

- 11.1 Appendix 1 - Capital New Start / Additional Investment Proposals 2023/2024 to 2026/2027.

12. Background Papers

- 12.1 Cabinet Report – 13th October 2022 - Budget Planning Framework and Medium-Term Financial Plan 2023/2024 – 2026/2027.

Capital New Start / Additional Investment Proposals 2023/2024 to 2026/2027

The following projects are proposed for inclusion in the 2023/2024 to 2026/2027 capital programme. Amounts represent the total estimated project cost.

1.1 Deputy Leader and Clean Green City New Start Proposals

1.1.1 Vehicle, Plant and Equipment Replacement Programme - £16.056m

A series of investments to deliver replacements of vehicles, plant and equipment i.e. vans, trucks, cars, refuse collection vehicles, snow ploughs, gritters / sweepers, grasscutters & attachments and various plant and equipment. Where replacements are for existing leased vehicles, there will be a revenue budget saving which will be factored into the Medium Term Financial Plan.

Area Outcomes / Benefits and Contribution to Strategic Priorities:

The investment provides city wide customer service delivery benefits and will contribute to the following strategic priorities.

- Dynamic Smart City: a stronger city centre with more business, housing and cultural opportunities
- Dynamic Smart City: a lower carbon city with greater digital connectivity for all
- Healthy Smart City: a cleaner and more attractive city and neighbourhood
- Vibrant Smart City: more people feeling safe in their homes and neighbourhoods.

1.1.2 Nobles Quay Replacement - £3.000m

Reconstruction of Nobles Quay which is in need of repair.

Nobles Quay is one of the quays located on the south side of the river in the east end of the city and is one of the oldest quays remaining in the city dating back to early 1800's. The current stone wall quay is in poor condition and emergency works have recently been carried out to prevent the quay from collapsing ahead of a permanent solution being implemented.

Area Outcomes / Benefits and Contribution to Strategic Priorities:

Whilst directly benefitting residents in East Sunderland, it is envisaged that the quay will support the city-wide population.

- Dynamic Smart City: more and better jobs
- Dynamic Smart City: a stronger city centre with more business, housing and cultural opportunities
- Healthy Smart City: a cleaner and more attractive city and neighbourhood
- Healthy Smart City: great transport links with low carbon and active travel opportunities for all
- Vibrant Smart City: more residents participating in their communities.

1.1.3 Port Infrastructure - £1.300m

The investment will support the undertaking of minor infrastructure works on the Port estate. The acquisition of plant and machinery will support the efficiency of the Port's operations and provide for a safe and secure environment for Port employees, tenants and users. The funding would also deliver essential repair work to the eastern end of the Corporation Quay as well as feasibility work into works on the Sheers Quay to determine the scope and costs associated with any development.

Area Outcomes / Benefits and Contribution to Strategic Priorities:

The investment will safeguard the port business activity and provide continued support for the city wide economy, and will contribute to the following strategic priorities.

- Dynamic Smart City: more and better jobs
- Dynamic Smart City: a lower carbon city with greater digital connectivity for all

1.2 Cabinet Secretary New Start Proposals

1.2.1 Planned Property Capital Maintenance - £7.500m

Various construction, mechanical and electrical services projects and works required to maintain and improve the Council's property assets portfolio (in accordance with the Council's Asset Management Plan). Works will be identified, primarily from asset condition data, and prioritised based on urgency and within available resources.

Area Outcomes / Benefits and Contribution to Strategic Priorities:

The investment provides city wide customer service delivery benefits, and will contribute to the following strategic priorities:

- Dynamic Smart City: a lower carbon city with greater digital connectivity for all
- Healthy Smart City: reduce health inequalities enabling more people to live healthier longer lives
- Healthy Smart City: access to equitable opportunities and life chances
- Healthy Smart City: people enjoying independent lives
- Healthy Smart City: a cleaner and more attractive city and neighbourhood.

1.2.2 End User Devices – £0.465m

Ongoing replacement of ICT end user devices (laptops, desktop PC's and mobile phones) to ensure the continued, up-to-date and secure use of ICT services.

Area Outcomes / Benefits and Contribution to Strategic Priorities:

Having fit for purpose and resilient technical solutions for ICT users underpins the effective running of the Council and therefore indirectly supports the delivery of the City Plan.

1.2.3 NetBackup Appliance Refresh - £0.460m

The NetBackup Appliances which protect our on-premise server estate become end of life in 2025. To continue to secure the integrity of the server estate and the applications and data held the appliances must be replaced.

Area Outcomes / Benefits and Contribution to Strategic Priorities:
Having fit for purpose and resilient technical solutions for ICT users underpins the effective running of the Council and therefore indirectly supports the delivery of the City Plan.

1.3 Dynamic City New Start Proposals

1.3.1 Highways Asset Investment Programme - £8.000m

Government grants are provided for capital investment into the highways network via the annual maintenance grant and ad-hoc pot-hole funding, and there is revenue provision for minor repair works. However, in order to improve the condition of the Council's highway assets, including roads, footways and traffic signals and reduce the backlog further, additional Council investment is proposed from 2023/2024 through to 2026/2027.

Area Outcomes / Benefits and Contribution to Strategic Priority:
A well-maintained highway network is key to facilitating economic growth and will contribute to the following strategic priorities:

- Dynamic Smart City: a stronger city centre with more business, housing and cultural opportunities
- Dynamic Smart City: a lower carbon city with greater digital connectivity for all
- Healthy Smart City: great transport links with low carbon and active travel opportunities for all
- Vibrant Smart City: more people visiting Sunderland and more residents informing and participating in cultural events, programmes and activities.

1.3.2 Bridge Maintenance Investment Programme - £5.000m

Government grants are provided for investment into the capital maintenance of bridges via the annual maintenance grant, and there is revenue provision for minor repair works. However, in order to improve the condition of the Council's bridges and structures, additional Council investment is proposed from 2023/2024 through to 2026/2027.

Area Outcomes / Benefits and Contribution to Strategic Priority:
Having fit for purpose and resilient technical solutions for ICT users underpins the effective running of the Council and therefore indirectly supports the delivery of the City Plan.

Item 5

SCRUTINY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

8 DECEMBER 2022

REFERENCE FROM CABINET – 8 DECEMBER 2022

**BUDGET PLANNING FRAMEWORK AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN
2023/2024 – 2026/2027**

Report of the Assistant Director of Law and Governance

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To seek the views of this Committee on a report of the Assistant Director of Finance to be considered by Cabinet on 8 December 2022 which:
- Provides an update, since the Budget Planning Framework and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) report to Cabinet in October 2022, on the key factors influencing the development of the Council's financial plans into the medium term;
 - Sets out the updated headlines and context for the MTFP 2023/2024 to 2026/2027;
 - Sets out provisional budget savings proposals for 2023/2024 to assist in meeting the current budget gap, as a basis for budget consultation, prior to the receipt of the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2023/2024; and
 - Sets out the consultation / communication strategy for the budget 2023/2024.
- 1.2 Members' views are requested in accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules.

2. Background and Current Position

- 2.1 Copies of the 8 December 2022, Cabinet Agenda were made available to all Members of the Council.
- 2.3 The Cabinet is recommended to agree:-
- To note the summary MTFP set out at section 3 of the report and note that the full MTFP 2023/2024 to 2026/2027 will be presented to Cabinet in February 2023; and
 - To approve the provisional additional budget savings proposals, as a basis for budget consultation, prior to the receipt of the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2023/2024.
- 2.4 Recommendations from the Cabinet meeting on 8 December will be reported verbally to the meeting.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 The report is referred to the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee for its comments, in the context of the approved consultation arrangements for the Council's Budget. Comments from the Scrutiny Committee will be reported back to Cabinet.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 The Scrutiny Coordinating Committee is invited to give its comments to Cabinet on the attached report of the Assistant Director of Finance.

5. Background Papers

- 5.1 Cabinet Agenda, 8 December 2022.
- 5.2 A copy of the Agenda is available for inspection from the Assistant Director of Law and Governance or can be viewed on-line on the links detailed in paragraph 5.1.

<https://committees.sunderland.gov.uk/committees/cm5/Meetings/tabid/73/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/410/Meeting/10814/Committee/1953/Default.aspx>

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**BUDGET PLANNING FRAMEWORK AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN
2023/2024 – 2026/2027****Assistant Director of Finance****1. Purpose of Report****1.1 This report:**

- Provides an update, since the Budget Planning Framework and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) report to Cabinet in October 2022, on the key factors influencing the development of the Council's financial plans into the medium term;
- Sets out the updated headlines and context for the MTFP 2023/2024 to 2026/2027;
- Sets out provisional budget savings proposals for 2023/2024 to assist in meeting the current budget gap, as a basis for budget consultation, prior to the receipt of the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2023/2024; and
- Sets out the consultation / communication strategy for the budget 2023/2024.

2. Description of Decision**2.1 Cabinet is recommended:**

- To note the summary MTFP set out at section 3 of the report and note that the full MTFP 2023/2024 to 2026/2027 will be presented to Cabinet in February 2023; and
- To approve the provisional budget savings proposals, as a basis for budget consultation, prior to the receipt of the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2023/2024.

3. Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/2024 to 2026/2027

3.1. The MTFP 2022/2023 to 2025/2026 was approved by Council in March 2022 as part of the 2022/2023 budget setting process. The plan is continually updated to reflect changing circumstances and latest known information. This report provides a further update on the MTFP since the Budget Planning Framework and MTFP report to Cabinet on 13th October 2022. The full MTFP 2023/24 to 2026/2027 will be presented to Cabinet in February 2023.

3.2. Key points to note since the October Cabinet report, which impact on the Budget Planning for 2023/2024 and beyond, are set out in section 3 below.

3.3. National and Economic context to the 2023/2024 budget

3.3.1 Since the last update to Cabinet in October, the Chancellor announced his Autumn Statement on 17th November 2022. The Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) outlook for the economy and public finances was published alongside the Chancellor's Autumn Statement.

3.3.2 Over recent months, the global energy and food supply shocks emanating from Russia's invasion of Ukraine have intensified. The further curtailment of Russian imports saw European wholesale gas prices rise ten-fold from pre-pandemic levels, and markets now expect prices to remain four times higher in the medium term.

- 3.3.3 In response to inflationary pressures from rising energy, food, and other goods prices the Bank of England have attempted to manage the position through raising interest rates to levels not seen since the 2008 financial crisis. This has curtailed the global economic recovery following the pandemic and intensified the financial pressure on governments who emerged from it with higher debt and are again being called upon to help households and businesses with energy bill support. Rising debt interest payments are a major factor in the UK Government's weakened financial position.
- 3.3.4 A lower growth rate, measured through Gross Domestic Product (GDP), is the driving factor behind the UK's worsening economic prospects. In March 2022, the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) forecast that the UK would recover from the economic impact of the pandemic, and then continue to grow at around 1.7% per year from 2023 onwards. Things have worsened sharply since then. The Bank of England forecast in its November Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) report that the economy will move into a recession through a contraction of 0.75% in the second half of 2022, and then continue to fall during 2023 and into the first half of 2024. The recent OBR report is not quite as pessimistic but still forecasts a recession starting in the second half of 2022 and extending into 2023. Forecast recovery in real incomes, consumption, and investment in 2024 would allow GDP to return to growth, with output recovering to pre-pandemic levels in the fourth quarter of that year.
- 3.3.5 Linked to the recession, unemployment is now forecast to rise by 505,000 from £1.2m to £1.7m in the third quarter of 2024.
- 3.3.6 The October Consumer Prices Index (CPI) inflation rate rose to 11.1% in the 12 months to October 2022, up from 10.1% in September 2022. It is estimated that the peak would have been a further 2.5 percentage points higher without the energy price guarantee support scheme limiting a typical household's annualised energy bill to £2,500 this winter.
- 3.3.7 Inflation is forecast to drop sharply over the course of next year and potentially falling below zero by around 2025. Following this sharp dip, which is reliant upon falling gas prices, inflation is then forecast to return to the Government's target level of 2% in 2027.
- 3.3.8 The income tax, personal allowances and higher rate thresholds which were already fixed at their current levels until April 2026 will now be maintained at these levels for a further two years until April 2028 to generate greater tax revenues. OBR forecasts suggest that we will see the largest fall in real household disposable income per head (7.1% over two years) since the 1940s, due to the impact of frozen personal tax allowances coupled with high inflation.
- 3.3.9 Following the recommendations of the independent Low Pay Commission (LPC), the National Living Wage (NLW) will increase for individuals aged 23 and over by 9.7% to £10.42 an hour from 1 April 2023.
- 3.3.10 The Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) will next meet on 15th December 2022, where it will consider the details of the Autumn statement alongside other economic factors in relation to future Bank Rate rises. At its last meeting on 2nd November 2022, the MPC voted by a majority of 7-2 to increase Bank Rate by 0.75 percentage points to its current rate of 3%.

3.4 Central Government Funding for Local Government

3.4.1 Key messages from the Autumn Statement relating to local government finance include:

Core Spending Power

- 3.4.2 The Autumn Statement provided confirmation that the 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 departmental expenditure limit provided to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) as part of the 2021 Spending Review would remain. Beyond this period, into 2025/2026, given the backloading of some of the public spending tightening announcements made by the Chancellor, unprotected departments like DLUHC, are likely to receive a reduction in real terms funding if inflation returns to the 2% target level. Details of the Council's grant funding allocations for 2023/2024 and potentially 2024/2025 will not be known until the Provisional Local Government Finance settlement is published in late December 2022. Government at this time are unable to confirm the specific date but it is being suggested it could be as late as 21st December.

Social Care Funding

- 3.4.3 The continued and mounting financial pressures within adult social care have been acknowledged though providing additional funding for both 2023/2024 and 2024/2025. Nationally, additional resource of £2.8 billion will be provided in 2023/2024 and a further £1.9 billion in 2024/2025. Although, some of this funding is assumed to be raised locally through increases in council tax and some of this funding was already in place for other initiatives. This resource comprises three areas:

- New grant funding of £1 billion in 2023/2024 and a further £0.7 billion in 2024/2025:
 - £0.6bn in 2023/2024 (a further £0.4bn in 2024/2025) will be distributed through the Better Care Fund (BCF) “to get people out of hospital on time into care settings, freeing up NHS beds for those that need them”
 - £0.4bn in 2023/2024 (a further £0.3bn in 2024/2025) will be distributed through a grant “ringfenced for adult social care which will also help to support discharge”.
- Repurposing of funding previously earmarked by the Government for Social Care Charging Reforms of £1.3 billion in 2023/2024 and a further £0.6 billion in 2024/2025. The Chancellor announced the postponement of the Social Care reforms plans from October 2023 to October 2025. The earmarked funding to implement a care cost cap and increase the upper capital limit for accessing care, is now being released to allow councils to meet their mounting financial pressures in social care delivery. It is unclear how the reforms, which have been delayed until October 2025, will subsequently be funded.

- Confirmation of the Adult Social Care precept limit at 2% for 2023/2024 and 2024/2025. This would provide the c. £0.5 billion balance of resource in 2023/2024 and with a similar sum in 2024/2025. This would require councils to charge a further 2% to local council taxpayers in 2023/2024 (and 2024/2025) for the Adult Social Care precept element of the council tax charge.

3.4.4 At present the methodology for distributing the additional grant funding is unclear, including if any funding will be distributed via health partners. It is also unclear if there are any output requirements, targets or other conditions associated with the receipt of the grants. Further information could be received from Government in the coming weeks or if not, further clarity will be received as part of the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement.

Council Tax

3.4.5 The Government is giving local authorities in England additional flexibility in setting council tax by increasing the referendum limit for increases in core council tax to 2.99% per year from April 2023 (from 1.99%). This is in the absence of any additional funding being provided by the Government to assist councils with the significant inflationary cost pressures they are being faced with in the current year and into next year. As noted above, local authorities with social care responsibilities will also be able to increase the adult social care precept by up to 2% per year. This would allow councils to raise council tax by up to 4.99% in total for 2023/2024 without the need for a referendum and will form the basis of the Government's assumption for council tax increases in those years.

Business Rates

3.4.6 The Autumn Statement confirmed a number of areas of business rates charging for 2023/2024. The business rates revaluation to reflect changes in property prices since 2017, will go ahead as planned in April 2023. Draft listings of the updated business rate charges have now been released by the Government. In broad terms manufacturing / factories and warehousing have increased whilst those in the retail, hospitality and leisure sectors are generally seeing decreases.

3.4.7 To support businesses who will receive an increase in their bill from April 2023, a package of targeted support worth £13.6 billion over the next 5 years will be provided as businesses transition to meeting their full liability based upon the revaluation.

3.4.8 In recognition of the ongoing financial pressures on the retail, hospitality and leisure (RHL) sector, support for eligible businesses is being extended and increased from 50% to 75% business rates relief up to £110,000 per business in 2023/2024. Around 230,000 RHL properties will be eligible nationally to receive this increased support worth £2.1 billion. Councils will be fully compensated for this relief.

3.4.9 The business rates multiplier has been frozen for a further year in 2023/2024. Local authorities will receive "cap compensation" funding to recognise this loss of income. The basis of the calculation of this compensation is not yet confirmed but has historically been based on September inflation figures.

- 3.4.10 The Autumn Statement confirmed “English Local Authorities will be fully compensated for the loss of income as a result of these business rates measures and will also receive new burdens funding for administrative and IT costs”.

Housing

- 3.4.11 Increases in social housing rents in England are to be capped at 7% for 2023/2024. Rents would normally increase for the coming year by the September CPI inflation rate plus 1%. Since inflation reached 10.1% in September, that would have amounted to an 11.1% increase from April 2023. To reduce cost impacts for tenants facing a cost-of-living crisis this has been limited to a maximum of 7% by the Government as part of the Autumn Statement. Councils / social housing providers will not be compensated for the lost income arising from the reduced increase.

Schools

- 3.4.12 The Autumn Statement announced a real terms increase in per pupil funding from that committed at Spending Review 2021. The core schools’ budget in England will receive £2.3 billion of additional funding in each of 2023/2024 and 2024/2025.

Public Health

- 3.4.13 There was no announcement in relation to Public Health grant funding as part of the Autumn Statement. The Spending review in October 2021 indicated Public Health grant funding will be maintained in real terms over the spending review period.

Summary Funding Position over the Medium Term

- 3.4.14 Given the uncertainty on the allocation of national funding changes outlined above, the Medium-Term Financial planning assumptions on Government grant income are currently unchanged from the update provided to Cabinet in October 2022. The Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement will detail the allocations of funding from the Government which will be reported to cabinet at its January meeting.
- 3.4.15 The medium to long term position on Government funding continues to be uncertain following the prior move away from the planned 75% business rates retention and the recent number of changes to the DLUHC ministerial team. In the absence of any further information, the continued assumption is that the Government will ensure at worst a broadly status quo position is maintained upon implementation of Fair Funding and any updated Business Rate Retention Scheme.

3.5 Medium Term Financial Plan

- 3.5.1 The MTFP position reported to Cabinet in October 2022 is shown below. This position highlighted a MTFP gap of £61.114m over the 4-year period 2023/2024 to 2026/27, with a forecast gap of £21.385m in 2023/2024.

	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m	Total £m
Government Grant Change	(7.615)	(0.874)	(0.892)	(0.910)	(10.291)
On-going Spending Pressures	39.456	20.418	15.069	15.402	90.345
Total Gross Funding Gap	31.841	19.544	14.177	14.492	80.054
Council Tax / Social Care Precept increase	(3.501)	(3.643)	(3.771)	(3.903)	(14.818)
Council Tax Base Impact	(2.385)	(1.239)	(0.643)	(0.662)	(4.929)
Council Tax - Prior Year Surplus / Deficit Impact	2.413	(1.118)	0.000	0.000	1.295
Business Rates - Base and Inflationary impact	(0.500)	(1.409)	(1.427)	(1.446)	(4.781)
Business Rates - Prior Year Surplus / Deficit Impact	(2.913)	1.777	0.000	0.000	(1.136)
Current MTFP Gap after council tax and business rates	24.955	13.912	8.336	8.481	55.684
Previously Agreed Use of MTFP Smoothing Reserves	(3.570)	0.000	5.430	3.570	5.430
Current MTFS Gap after previous agreed use of reserves	21.385	13.912	13.766	12.051	61.114

- 3.5.2 A detailed analysis of the Council's spending pressures and commitments was presented to Cabinet in the October 2022 report. All spending pressures and commitments will continue to be reviewed and refined throughout the budget setting process.

Pay

- 3.5.3 The pay award for the current financial year, 2022/2023, was agreed by the Trades Unions on 1st November 2022. In July 2022 the local government employers made a formal offer, for Local Government Pay of £1,925 on all NJC pay points, to Trades Unions. The offer equated to 10.50% for SCP1 and no less than 4.04% for SCP43. The agreed pay award has been backdated to 1st April 2022 and averages at c. 7% which is significantly above the 3% included in the base revenue budget at the time of setting the 2022/2023 budget. This impact was factored in to the MTFP for future years alongside an assumption of a 4.5% pay award for 2023/2024. This position is unchanged from the October budget planning update but will be kept under review throughout the budget process.

- 3.5.4 It should be noted that at this stage in the budget setting process there remain significant uncertainties which include:

- Government funding announcements, and the subsequent Local Government Finance Settlement for 2023/2024, to confirm the actual individual local authority allocations. This is expected in late December;
- The ongoing impact of the global economy and inflation on the Council's costs and income, namely pay, energy, supplies and demand on services;
- Ongoing pressures in both Adult and Children's Social Care;
- Confirmation of delivery of existing savings plans and the development and implementation of any new proposals;
- The impact of capital investment priorities both in terms of debt charges and any associated operational costs;

- The Government's plans and timescales in relation to Fair Funding and Business Rates retention impacting on the MTFP; and
- The general economic position and the direct impact on public sector finances.

3.6 Locally Raised Income

Council Tax

- 3.6.1 As noted above, the Government is giving local authorities in England additional flexibility in setting council tax by increasing the referendum limit for increases in core council tax to 2.99% per year from April 2023. Local authorities with social care responsibilities will also be able to increase the adult social care precept by up to 2% per year. This will allow councils to raise total council tax by 4.99% in total for 2023/2024 without the need for a referendum.
- 3.6.2 Decisions on the level of council tax including social care precept will be made as part of the final budget planning stages once all other funding factors are fully understood. At this stage, the MTFP continues to allow for an annual total increase of 2% in core council tax and a further 1% for the Social Care precept.
- 3.6.3 The financial impact of cost of living crisis on residents could impact council tax collection rates and potentially increase the numbers of claimants eligible for the Local Council Tax Support Scheme as we move in to 2023/2024. The situation will be monitored closely during the budget setting process.

3.7 Business Rates

- 3.7.1 Under the current Retained Business Rates funding arrangement, the Council retains locally 49% of increased income arising from growth in the Local Business Rates base (equally it shares the risk of any under achievement of income targets). The Council has a relatively low Business Rates yield with the Government providing a top-up grant. The revaluation of business rateable values to be introduced from April 2023 will impact on the proportions of collectable rates and top-up grant but will be neutral overall.
- 3.7.2 Inherent within the scheme is growth arising from increases in chargeable properties. However, there is continued uncertainty specifically around appeals and avoidance tactics which can impact on the level of income achieved. The most significant opportunity for Business Rates growth arises through new developments, although growth in Business Rates in our three Enterprise Zones will be accounted for separately, as this is used to support the investment in those sites.
- 3.7.3 As with council tax, the impact of the cost of living crisis on Business Rates is likely to be felt moving in to 2023/2024 with pressure on collectability and ultimately business survival through the recession. As set out in paragraph 3.4.8 the Government have confirmed some business rates discounts for specific sectors, for which local authorities will be fully compensated. The position will be kept under review and required adjustments reflected in the MTFP as appropriate during the budget setting process.

3.8 Revenue Savings Proposals

3.8.1 As noted in the Budget Planning Framework Report in October 2022, plans were in the development stage to be brought forward at a later stage in the budget planning process to address the budget gap. Budget savings proposals totalling £11.279m in 2023/2024 and £9.975m on an ongoing basis have now been developed and are summarised below. Further details of the proposals are provided at Appendix 1.

Portfolio	Service Area	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
		£m	£m	£m	£m
Leader	Policy & Partnerships	0.024			
	Corporate Affairs & Communications	0.043		0.014	
Leader Portfolio Total		0.067	0	0.014	0
Deputy Leader & Clean Green City	Economic Regeneration	0.238			
	Environmental Services Fleet		0.313		0.222
Deputy Leader & Clean Green City Total		0.238	0.313	0	0.222
Cabinet Secretary	Finance, Revenues and Benefits	0.811	(0.200)	(0.100)	
	Audit, Risk, Procurement and Insurance	0.199			
	Property Services including catering and cleaning	0.344			
	ICT	0.339			
	Legal Services	0.120			
	Corporate Support Service	0.192			
	Customer Services Network	0.162			
	Members Support	0.030			
	Strategic and Operational HR	0.067			
	Registration Services	0.036			
	Electoral Services		0.012		
Cabinet Secretary Total		2.300	(0.188)	(0.100)	0
Children, Learning & Skills	Education Pensions	0.150			
Children, Learning and Skills Total		0.150	0	0	0
Dynamic City	Housing Options Team	0.140			
	Regulatory Services	0.130			
	Siglion Distribution	2.000			(2.000)
	Street Lighting	0.500			
	Regeneration Properties	0.265			
Dynamic City Total		3.035	0	0	(2.000)
Healthy City	Public Health Joint Commissioning	0.015			
	Adult Social Care	5.307	0.393		
	Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board		0.042		
Healthy City Total		5.322	0.435	0	0
Vibrant City	Community Sport and Physical Activity	0.052			
	Sport and Leisure Facilities	0.090			
	Tourism	0.025			
Vibrant City Total		0.167	0	0	0
TOTAL		11.279	0.560	(0.086)	(1.778)

3.9 Overall Remaining Budget Gap

- 3.9.1 The position takes into account the previously agreed use of earmarked reserves of £9m in 2023/2024. After taking into account the budget saving proposals set out at section 3.8, there remains a budget gap of £10.106m in 2023/2024, with a further £41.033m required to be identified over the period 2024/2025 to 2026/2027. Savings and efficiency proposals continue to be developed to address the remaining gap across all services including by Together for Children . Any additional proposals will be presented to Cabinet in January.
- 3.9.2 The Council's strong financial management and creation of reserves to support the budget over the medium term provides the opportunity to utilise funding to support the budget position whilst developing and delivering savings via the Efficiency Strategy. The Council has previously created a MTFP Smoothing reserve to address these forecast pressures. It is expected that these reserves will be around £27m at the start of next financial year and the MTFP assumes it will be used over 3 years, before being fully utilised at the end of 2025/2026.
- 3.9.3 Following the publication of the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement, the level of resource to be provided by the Government for 2023/2024 and potentially 2024/2025 will be confirmed. A further update covering the Local Government Finance Settlement and any other changes to budget planning assumptions will be provided to Cabinet in January 2023.

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
MTFP Gap after previous agreed use of reserves - Oct 22	21.385	13.912	13.766	12.051	61.114
Savings Proposals	(11.279)	(0.560)	0.086	1.778	(9.975)
Updated MTFP Gap after savings proposals	10.106	13.352	13.852	13.829	51.139

3.10 Approach to addressing the overall funding gap

- 3.10.1 The Council's Efficiency Strategy was agreed by Council in March 2022. The Strategy set out a continual and iterative development of a programme of activity to address the gap taking into account the strategic vision of the Council's role in the future and reflecting the following key principles:
- Ensuring resources are targeted on statutory and front-line services and protecting key priority services with a focus on need rather than want;
 - Managing demand - implementing strategies and policies that enable the Council to manage demand and facilitate those services which make a difference in the most effective way;
 - Being customer focussed - using robust data and information to understand our resident's needs and maximising opportunities through use of technology for both our customers and internal users, so that people self-serve wherever possible thereby eliminating waste and duplication;
 - Redesigning and reshaping services to deliver required outcomes in a value for money way which maximises productivity;

- Strategic commissioning based on outcomes and using an intelligence-based approach to ensure a sound evidence base for commissioning decisions and effective commissioning arrangements;
- Pressing forward with new models of service delivery that improve our commercialisation, to maximise income opportunities where there is a market and business case;
- Ensuring opportunities for collaboration with partners to deliver key outcomes that matter to the city;
- Ensuring that our internal, support services respond appropriately to the changing shape and size of the Council;
- Involving the Community – residents, businesses, partners, voluntary sector to ensure best outcomes for the city; and
- Continued focus on regeneration and inward investment in order to grow business rates and council tax income, leveraging funding to maximise additional income sources and commercial opportunities.

4. Workforce Planning Implications

- 4.1 Some of the 2023/2024 savings proposals outlined in section 3.8 have staffing implications. These will be managed through the Council's Redundancy Policy and Procedure as necessary. It should also be noted that officers are continually reviewing resource allocations to ensure that staffing arrangements are fit for purpose.
- 4.2 At this stage it is proposed that any cost of redundancy payments and the release of pensions as required by the LGPS Regulations will be met from a combination of utilisation of capital receipts flexibilities and from within the overall corporate resource position.

5. Budget Consultation/Communication Strategy 2023/2024

- 5.1 Communication and consultation are important parts of medium-term financial planning. A range of activity informs this process and influences financial planning.
- 5.2 Consultation on the budget proposals will commence on 9th December 2022 and will run until early January 2023. Existing networks such as 'Let's Talk' and social media platforms will be utilised to communicate with both geographic communities and communities of interest.
- 5.3 In addition to residents, there will be communications with a range of partners and stakeholders including Trades Unions, Chamber of Commerce, Sunderland Business Innovation District (BID), the wider business community, employees, and the city's Equality Forums and Independent Advisory Groups. Communications with these groups will be tailored to their interests, for example, economic regeneration, neighbourhood services and adult services.
- 5.4 Feedback from the budget consultation will be prepared for members and Chief Officer Group for consideration whilst developing final budget proposals.

- 5.5 Scrutiny Coordinating Committee will continue to be consulted throughout the budget setting process.
- 5.6 Feedback from consultation with all consultees will be considered in framing the final budget proposals to be submitted to Cabinet in February 2023.

6. Crime and Disorder

- 6.1 Consideration has been given to the options for savings about their potential impact on crime and disorder, (Section 17 Duty). No existing proposals have been identified as having a negative impact.

7. Equalities Analysis

- 7.1 In accordance with the approach followed in previous years the Council continues to fully consider the impact of its plans by following a robust approach to equalities analysis.
- 7.2 Directorates must consider the equality impact of any new proposals brought forward to meet the future budget gap and complete equality analyses as appropriate. Completed equality analyses, considerations of potential impacts and a summary of the cumulative impact of proposals will be presented with future Cabinet reports.
- 7.3 Members must understand the equality implications of the proposals, which will be outlined in the equality analyses, as having regard to them will assist members in complying with the public sector equality duty when considering the final proposals.

8. Suggested Reasons for Decision

- 8.1 Adoption of the Budget Planning Framework forms an essential part of the process of the preparation and compilation of the Revenue Budget for 2023/2024.
- 8.2 To enable constitutional requirements relating to the development of the Revenue Budget to be met.

9. Alternative Options to be considered and recommended to be rejected

- 9.1 There are no alternative options recommended for approval.

10. Background Papers

[Revenue Budget and Proposed Council Tax for 2022/2023 and Medium Term Financial Plan](#)
(2nd March 2022 Council).

[Budget Planning Framework and MTFP 2023/2024 - 2026/2027](#)
(13th October 2022 Cabinet)

Savings Proposals

Leader

Saving Proposal Area	Description	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Policy & Partnerships	Review of subscriptions to support bodies and networks.	24,327			
Corporate Affairs & Communications	Reduce frequency of resident printed newsletter Your Sunderland to x3 times and following expiry of the current contract for the delivery of the resident survey in 2024, consider moving to a biannual survey.	43,440		13,500	
Total – Leader		67,767	0	13,500	0

Deputy Leader and Clean Green City

Saving Proposal Area	Description	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Economic Regeneration	Review of team staffing arrangements and deletion of vacant posts.	220,830			
Economic Regeneration	Reduced Staffing Costs in Business Centres.	11,519			
Economic Regeneration	Reduction in foreign travel costs.	5,274			
Environmental Services Fleet	Savings in vehicle and equipment lease charges following purchases via the capital programme.		312,515		222,221
Total – Deputy Leader and Clean Green City		237,623	312,515	0	222,221

Cabinet Secretary

Saving Proposal Area	Description	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Finance, Revenues and Benefits	Housing benefit - overpayment recovery and deletion of vacant posts.	456,988	(200,000)	(100,000)	
Finance, Revenues and Benefits	Revenues - Reduction in costs of cash collection arrangements.	50,000			
Finance, Revenues and Benefits	Corporate Management - Deletion of vacant posts and reduction in historic pensions budget.	263,652			
Finance, Revenues and Benefits	Finance - Increase in income for finance service activity.	40,000			
Audit, Risk, Procurement and Insurance	Insurances - Deletion of vacant post within Insurance team, increased external charging and reduction in insurance fund provision.	167,462			
Audit, Risk, Procurement and Insurance	Procurement - Reduction in invoice scanning contract costs.	10,000			
Audit, Risk, Procurement and Insurance	Audit, Risk and Assurance - Review of audit, risk and assurance team staffing arrangements.	21,574			
Property Services including catering and cleaning	Review of Catering and Cleaning provision and staffing arrangements.	128,776			
Property Services including catering and cleaning	Reduction in repairs and renewals budget.	150,000			
Property Services including catering and cleaning	Civic Buildings - New or increased charges to property users.	15,000			
Property Services including catering and cleaning	Asset Management - New or increased charges to service users.	50,000			
ICT	Review of ICT staffing structure, cessation of support contracts no longer required and reductions in consultancy costs and fibre contract costs.	339,288			
Legal Services	Review of legal services staffing arrangements alongside charging capital projects where appropriate for legal advice.	120,464			

Corporate Support Service	Review of Corporate Support Service staffing arrangements through the removal of vacant posts and operating model efficiencies.	192,378			
Customer Services Network	Review of Customer Services Network team staffing arrangements and supplies and services budget reduction	161,968			
Members Support	Realignment of member support budget in line with current expenditure levels.	30,000			
Strategic and Operational HR	Further savings associated with functions transitioning following the Thinking Operating Model review.	67,134			
Registration Services	Maximisation of income from Registration Services.	35,761			
Electoral Services	Removal of vacant 0.5 FTE post from electoral services team		12,313		
Total – Cabinet Secretary		2,300,445	(187,687)	(100,000)	0

Children, Learning and Skills

Saving Proposal Area	Description	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Education Pensions	Reduction in historic pensions costs	150,000			
Total – Children, Learning and Skills		150,000	0	0	0

Dynamic City

Saving Proposal Area	Description	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Housing Options Team	Increased income from external grants.	140,232			
Regulatory Services	Increased fee income generated from Building Control and Development Control activity.	80,000			
Regulatory Services	Review of Regulatory services team staffing arrangements.	50,000			
Silgion Distribution	Temporary increased distribution from Siglion	2,000,000			(2,000,000)
Street Lighting	Increased ongoing utilisation of the Street Lighting Smoothing reserve.	500,000			
Regeneration Properties	Review of regeneration property portfolio income.	265,000			
Total - Dynamic City		3,035,232	0	0	(2,000,000)

Healthy City

Saving Proposal Area	Description	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Public Health Joint Commissioning	Increased Public Health Grant investment.	15,000			
Intermediate Care (SCAS)	Reduction in LA therapy support to Farmborough Court and rededicate therapy team to delivering rehabilitation to people in their own home.	100,000	50,000		
Reablement (SCAS)	Cease contribution to Reablement Services, and cease directly providing extra care reablement apartments.	764,000	381,000		
Community equipment Store	Joint review of community equipment with partners to reduce the catalogue list for prescribers.	33,333	16,667		
Adult Social Care - Home Care	Reduce reliance on traditional services and further develop strength based, digital solutions etc for services in people's homes and reduce number of out of city placements.	2,501,139			
Adult Social Care - Residential	Using intervention measures to reduce the number of admissions to permanent care by 1%.	347,000			

Adult Social Care	Review essential car user payments to all adult social care staff.	0	215,000		
Adult Social Care	Increase contribution income through annual inflationary uplift on NHS contracts (CPI).	200,000			
Adult Social Care	Alongside ICB review approach to commissioning arrangements for Continuing Health Care	333,333	166,667		
Adult Social Care	Review of Adult Social Care Reserves (one off)	500,000	(500,000)		
Adult Social Care	Average recovery of Direct Payment surplus per annum	400,000			
Home Improvement Agency (SCAS)	Cease paying for annual maintenance of Fixed Mechanical Equipment (FME) when manufacturer's guarantee runs out.	128,000	64,000		
Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB)	Review of Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board arrangements.		42,000		
Total - Healthy City		5,321,805	435,334	0	0

Vibrant City

Saving Proposal Area	Description	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Community Sport and Physical Activity	Review of service area budget and increased investment from Public Health grant funding.	52,000			
Sport and Leisure Facilities	Review of service provision and budgets within Sport and Leisure including increased investment from Public Health grant funding.	90,000			
Tourism	Reduced extent and / or frequency of publications, signage, etc.	25,000			
Total – Vibrant City		167,000	0	0	0

Item 6

SCRUTINY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

8th December 2022

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT UPDATE – QUARTER 2 OF 2022/23

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the Committee with the Corporate Performance Report for Quarter 2 of 2022/23.
- 1.2 The Senior Manager – Corporate Strategy will attend the meeting to respond to questions.

2. CORPORATE PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

- 2.1 A key element of the Council's Corporate Performance Management Framework is to present, on a quarterly basis, an update to the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee on key performance information for consideration and discussion.
- 2.2 The Council's Corporate Performance Management Framework is aligned to the Sunderland City Plan 2019 – 2030.
- 2.3 The City Plan 2019-2030 covers:
 - A Vision for the city and Values for the council which provide the focus for the council's activity
 - Three Key Themes – Dynamic Smart City, Healthy Smart City and Vibrant Smart City - which are used to organise the council's aims
 - A set of Commitments for each Key Theme under which the council's Activities are aligned
 - A Timeline of Activities illustrating the council's actions across all of the Key Themes.
- 2.4 The Corporate Performance Report is aligned to the three key themes of the City Plan (*Dynamic Smart City*, *Healthy Smart City* and *Vibrant Smart City*) as well as including additional Council indicators for organisational health / productive & innovative working, financial management and a council ready for the future.
- 2.5 The report sets out the progress made to the end of Quarter 2 of 2022/23, against a City Plan that commenced in 2019 and spans an eleven-year period through to 2030.
- 2.6 Following the City Plan's publication in 2019, the first review was undertaken following the conclusion of performance for 2019/20, as the

impacts of Covid-19 started to become apparent. The refreshed plan was adopted from 1st April 2021.

- 2.7 A review and assurance process will be undertaken each year, to ensure that delivery remains focused on achieving the plan commitments, and the vision to create a connected, international city with opportunity for all by 2030.
- 2.8 The performance information in these quarterly reports informed the latest annual assurance. Analysis of the evidence concluded that the plan remained relevant, but given the significant, focus on tackling global climate change, a related challenge to support the council's and city's commitments in respect of carbon neutrality was included. The City Plan's accompanying Indicative Timeline, that articulates a flavour of key delivery projects and programmes, was also updated – for adoption from 1st April 2022. This Quarter 2 of 2022/23 performance report is aligned to the refreshed plan.
- 2.9 It should be noted that detailed performance indicators for Children's Service are separately reported and discussed at the Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee.

3 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Scrutiny Coordinating Committee is recommended to consider and comment on the information provided in the report.

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DYNAMIC SMART CITY

A lower carbon city with greater digital connectivity for all – more and better jobs – more local people with better qualifications and skills – a stronger city centre with more businesses, housing, and cultural opportunities – more and better housing.

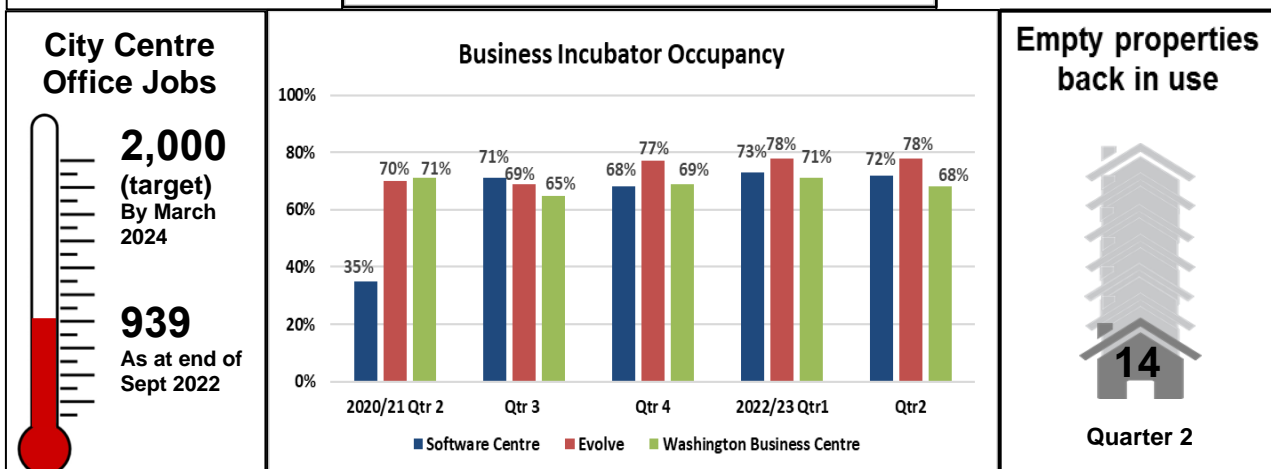
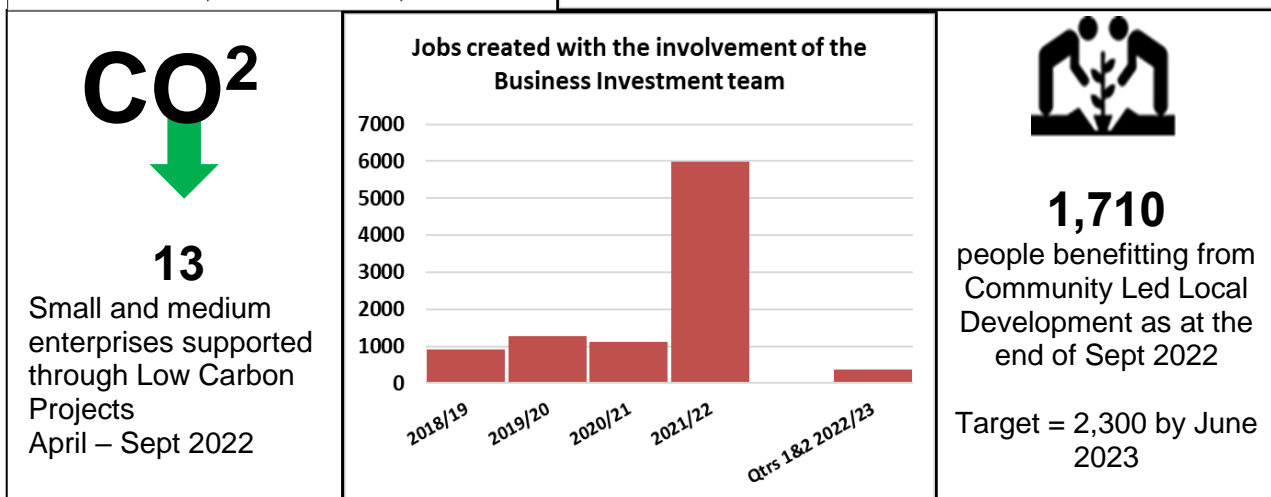
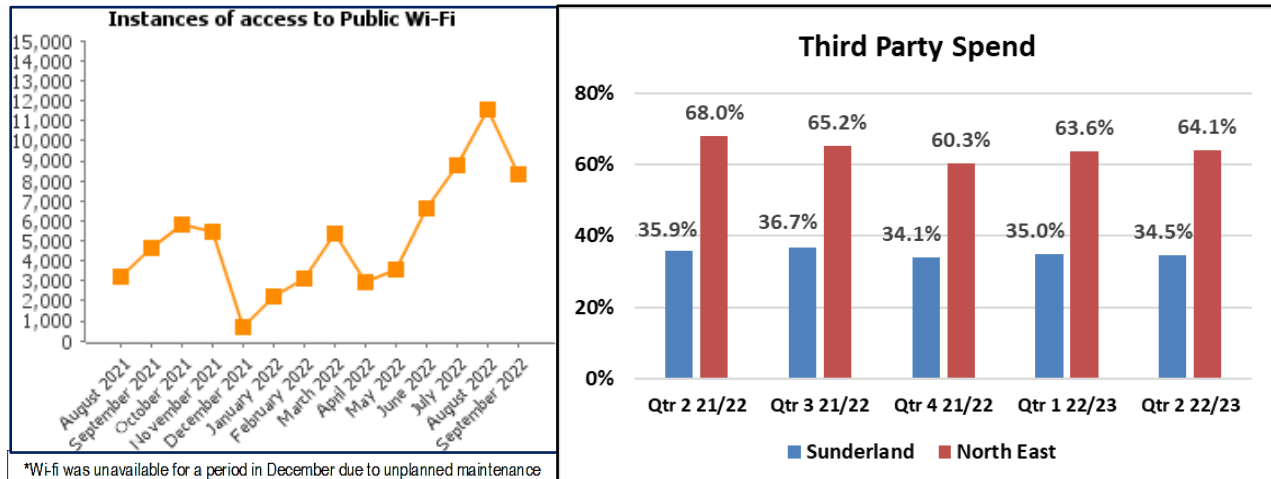


CITY CONTEXT

CURRENT DATA (LATEST AVAILABLE)	COMPARATIVE DATA	SUNDERLAND TREND
% Of properties with ultrafast broadband September 2022: 68.4%	UK 70.9%	Improving (September 2021: 64.5)
CO2 emissions estimates for Sunderland (per capita) 2020: 3.7 tonnes	NE 4.7, England 4.3	Improving (2016: 4.7 tonnes)
Employment rate Jul 2021 - June 2022: 70.8%	NE 70.6%, GB 75.5%	Improving (Jul 2020 - Jun 2021: 66.2%)
Proportion of workers earning below Living Wage Foundation rates 2020/21: 17.4% (provisional)	NE 19.6%, GB 17.2%	Improving (2016/17: 21.5%)
Median wage workers 2022: £540.90	NE £575.20 GB £642	Improving (2018: £517.20)
% Population NVQ Level 4 qualification 2021: 24.7%	NE 34.4% GB 43.5%	Declining (2017: 27.3%)
GCSE - % achieving a grade 4-9 in Maths & English 2020/21 (Teacher Assessed): 69.8%	NE 70.8%, England 67.1%	N/A (Exams & Teacher Assessed not comparable)
Level 3 (A level & equivalent) attainment by age of 19 in 2020/21: 50.3%	NE 53.5% England 59.8%	N/A (Exams & Teacher Assessed not comparable)
City Centre new homes Qtr. 2 2022/23: 0	N/A	No change (Qtr. 2 2021/22: 0)
People employed in the City Centre 2021: 14,141	N/A	Increasing (2017: 11,373)
Population of the City 2021 Census: 274,200	N/A	N/A (Census figure not comparable with 2020 mid-year estimate of 277,846)
Net Internal Migration 2020: -403	N/A	Declining (2016: -381)
New homes-built Qtr.2 2022/23: 320	N/A	Improving (Qtr.2 2021/22: 227)
Completed affordable homes Qtr.2 2022/23: 6	N/A	Declining (Qtr.2 2021/22: 36)

COUNCIL LED ACTION & PROGRESS

2022/23 Timeline	Status
Deliver connected, automated logistics project	Completed
Complete development of Hillthorn Business Park	On Track
The Yard Business Hub Opens	On Track
Continued Advanced Digital Infrastructure Deployment	On Track
Sunderland Station South Entrance Open	On Track



A lower carbon city with greater digital connectivity for all

Our ambition is to lead the way on digital transformation to make Sunderland a Smart City, and through our Smart Cities Strategy we will deliver a range of use cases for smart working and living - with high speed and resilient digital connectivity central to our plans.

At the end of Quarter 2, the proportion of Sunderland properties with ultrafast broadband has increased to 68.4% (from 64.5% at the end of Quarter 2 of 2021/22). Instances of access to public Wi-Fi in the City Centre (at 28,630) have also risen in relation to the same period in the previous year (at 11,040). In Quarter 2 the first 5G network went live progressing plans to deliver 5G Citywide.

With greater digital connectivity there also comes the opportunity to transform our travel patterns, thereby reducing CO2 emissions. Through our rapid charging station, we continue to support the use of electric vehicles in the city. Transactions have risen consistently over the last year and were up from 1,872 in Quarter 1 to 2,088 in Quarter 2, (and up from 1,094 transactions in Quarter 2 of 2021/22).

Previously published figures showed that progress is being made, with the latest CO2 emissions estimate for Sunderland per capita (tonnes per resident) at 3.7 for 2020 – reduced from 4.2 in 2019, and over the longer term from 4.7 in 2016. The Sunderland figure is also lower than both the North-East and England (at 4.7 and 4.3 tonnes per resident).

Sunderland City Council, along with partners across the city, is committed to playing its part in tackling the global challenge of climate change and to become a carbon neutral city by 2040. This includes disclosing data through the global Carbon Disclosure Project to measure, manage and improve emission levels. The Council is committed to becoming net zero as an organisation by 2030, across all greenhouse gases, in addition to becoming carbon neutral. Latest (previously reported) data on tonnes of CO2 emissions from LA operations for 2021/22 at 7,405 tonnes, was up slightly from 7,094 in 2020/21 (during which reductions were likely accelerated due to Covid restrictions). Over the longer term, the figure has been significantly reduced, from 22,000 tonnes (recorded in 2017/18).

The Council's Low Carbon Action Plan (first published in January 2021) has been updated (published July 2022). The updated Action Plan identifies a series of over-arching objectives under each of the strategic priorities of: Our Behaviour, Policies and Practices, Built Environment, Renewable Energy Generation and Storage, Low Carbon and Active Transport & Reducing Consumption & Waste. The identified actions are wide ranging and align with the City Plan priorities across Dynamic, Healthy & Vibrant. In Quarter 2, delivery of the updated actions in the Action Plan has commenced including engagement of Green Champions and increased measures to promote active travel and recycling - including the Refill Sunderland campaign launched to encourage businesses in Sunderland to sign up as Refill Stations. The 'We Love Cities' communications campaign was also launched, which aims to engage the city in our aspiration to become carbon neutral.

We are supporting increased business take-up of low carbon initiatives through the delivery of the Sunderland City Council (SSC) and Northeast (NE) Low Carbon projects. Through the Sunderland element, 5 SME's have been supported in Quarter 2.

More and better jobs

Our focus in our City Plan was on increasing the number of well-paid jobs in the city by promoting growth in key sectors including automotive and advanced manufacturing, financial and customer services, digital and software, as well as increasing professional services in the city centre, and port related activity. As the Coronavirus pandemic hit in 2020, and persisted into 2021, businesses and employment were impacted, and our aim now is to ensure that the city and its residents emerge from the Covid-19 pandemic in a strong and competitive position.

The employment rate for Sunderland, at 70.8% (125,200 aged 16+) for the period July 2021 to June 2022, has risen compared with July 2020 to June 2021 (at 65.9%). The Sunderland figure is above the North East rate of 70.6%. The rate for Great Britain, for the same period is 75.5%.

In Quarter 2 progress has been made in the key target sector of advanced manufacturing with the first Phase 1 tenants secured on the Hillthorn Business Park Development. Designed to support the needs of industrial and advanced manufacturing, storage and distribution business in the area, Hillthorn Business Park complements the nearby International Advanced Manufacturing Park (IAMP) and Turbine Business Park. Collectively, the aim is for these sites to position Sunderland at the heart of advanced manufacturing in the UK.

Alongside this, the Driving the Electronic Revolution (DER) Centre, located in the Skills Academy for Sustainable Manufacturing and Innovation (SASMI), is bringing together technological and manufacturing expertise in electrification research & development, whilst the Next Generation Advanced Manufacturing Accelerator (NGAMA) project (developed in partnership with NE Automotive Alliance as our delivery partner) is providing access to funding to support growth projects for SMEs in the sector.

The Port continues to focus on increasing its economic activity, with turnover up from £1.948m in Quarter 1 to £2.100m in Quarter 2 (tonnage at 146,061 for Quarter 2).

We continue to ensure that our Council activity supports the local economy where possible. In Quarter 2, 64.1% (£62.072m) of all Council third party spend was within the regional economy, and £7.143m of social value was secured through our procurement projects.

More local people with better qualifications and skills

Through the City Plan, the aim is to ensure that residents' skills and qualifications enable them to secure good jobs that match the needs of employers in key sectors thus reducing the gap in the median wage between Sunderland residents and Sunderland workers.

Newly released provisional data for the median weekly wage shows that the gap between Sunderland residents and Sunderland workers has reduced from £29.30 in April 2021 to £4.30 in April 2022. Figures for both (residents and workers), however, remain above the Northeast and Great Britain with the median weekly wage for residents at £537 (NE £580, GB £642) and for workers at £541 (NE £575, GB £642).

Previous published data (provisional) shows there has been an increase to 17.4% (in the tax year ending April 2021) in workers living below the Living Wage Foundation rate, when compared with the tax year ending 2020 (at 16.1%). Overall, however, the latest figure represents an improvement in the long term, with the figure for the tax year ending April 2017 at 17.4%. Local data shows there are 58 accredited real Living Wage employers in the city and 17,940 workers employed by them (in Quarter 2, the measure definition changed to include all employers – not just those with a headquarters in Sunderland).

As the city and its residents emerge from the pandemic, we will seek to ensure residents have the skills to be in a strong and competitive position to access employment. We will continue to focus on tackling the barriers for those least able to access employment through initiatives such as Community Local Led Development (CLLD). 1,710 people had benefitted from CLLD as at

the end of September 2022. 197 participants engaged in Family English and Maths programmes up to 31st July 2022, and 84 participants engaged in wider Family Learning programmes.

Previously published data showed that 24.7% of the Sunderland population had a Level 4 qualification in 2021 (compared with the Northeast at 34.4% and Great Britain at 43.5%). In the summer of 2022 pupils will once again have sat exams at GCSE and A-level after Covid disruption resulted in exams being replaced by teacher assessment. Although students will have received individual results over the summer months, validated results are published at a later date (expected in February 2023).

A stronger city centre with more business, housing, and cultural opportunities

As we recover from the COVID-19 pandemic our aspiration is that Sunderland city centre will drive transformational economic growth with Riverside Sunderland clearly demonstrating our investment ambition. In the long term there will be more people living and working in the City Centre.

Through Riverside Sunderland we aim to create a vibrant new city centre residential community of 1,000 sustainable new homes, promoting more city centre living (previously published annual figures show the City Centre residential population at 3,089 mid 2020). Construction has commenced on the first residential units. Alongside the delivery of new homes, the Riverside *Future Living Expo* will provide events and experiences to engage visitors in new and sustainable ways of living.

Riverside Sunderland will also comprise of 1 million square feet of modern offices, commercial premises, and other employment space, creating new sites for businesses to grow and with the aim of workspace for 8,000 – 10,000 quality jobs. New office premises are now established onsite - including City Hall, home to the Council and named “Best of the Best” in office workspaces (British Council for Offices (BCO) Awards). Figures for 2021 show 14,141 people employed in the City Centre, an increase on the figure of 13,348 in 2020. At the end of Quarter 2, 939 new city centre office jobs have been created since April 2019.

Riverside Sunderland, along with the wider City Centre will benefit from a new heat and power network and we continue to progress our plans for a range of physical developments in the city centre - such as the Sunderland station. Construction of the South Entrance of the new station commenced in May 2022 and is expected to complete in July 2023.

More and better housing

Through our City Plan we seek to ensure that Sunderland offers the opportunities that families and individuals need to achieve their ambitions – with a housing offer that reflects the homes that people aspire to live in. This includes larger family and high-status homes as well as more affordable homes. This will be achieved through the delivery of key housing sites.

Figures previously published for out migration showed a slowing from a net of -511 in 2019 to -403 in 2020. Whilst the latest figure is higher than the five-year long-term trend figure of -381 for 2016, the 2016 figure was the lowest figure reached before figures declined substantially in 2017 (to -748) and then began reducing year on year.

In Quarter 2, there were 320 additional homes in the city (including new and conversions) - of which 200 are in council tax bands C-G. There have been 6 completed affordable homes in Quarter 2.

Alongside more homes, we are also committed to ensuring that the housing we have is of quality - with 14 empty properties brought back into use in Quarter 2 and 245 privately rented properties inspected for hazards.

Working in partnership with Gentoo, the Council has also been successful with an application to the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund Wave 1 programme to support around 600 households across the city to improve their Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating.

HEALTHY SMART CITY

Reduce health inequalities enabling more people to live healthier longer lives – access to equitable opportunities and life chances – people enjoying independent lives – a city with great transport links – cleaner and more attractive city and neighbourhoods.

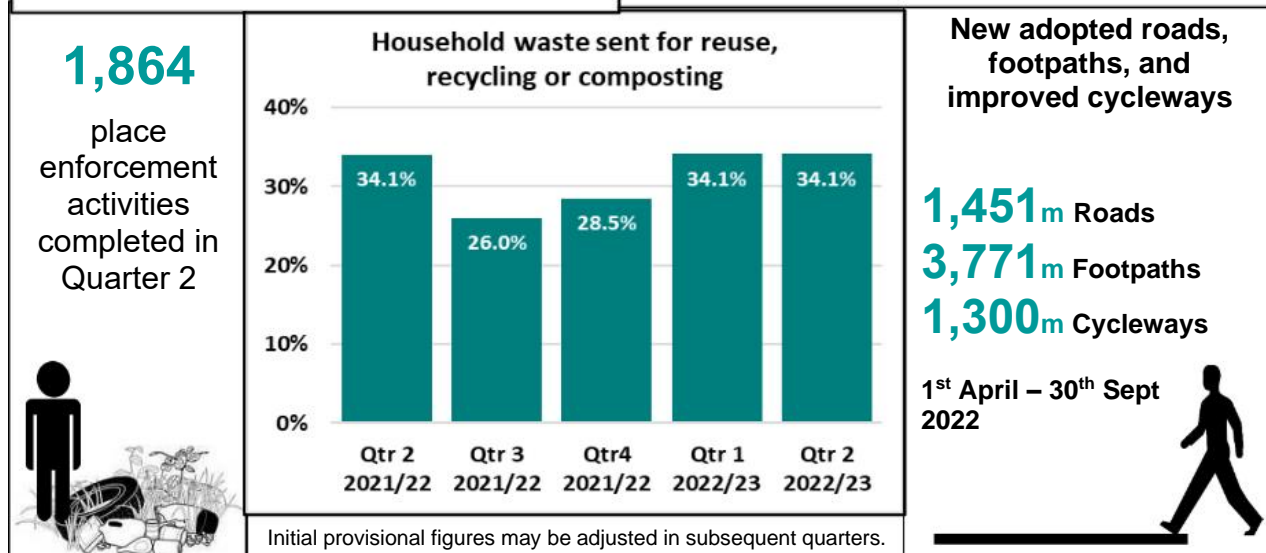
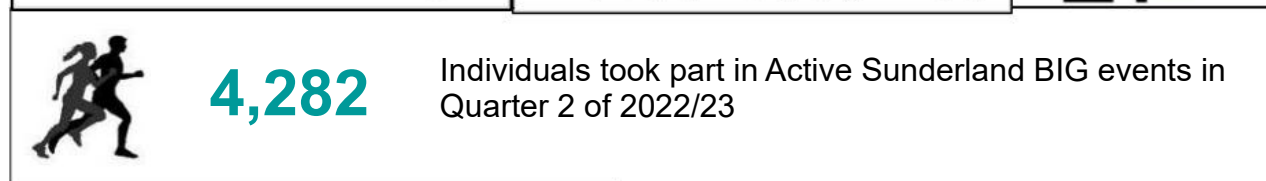
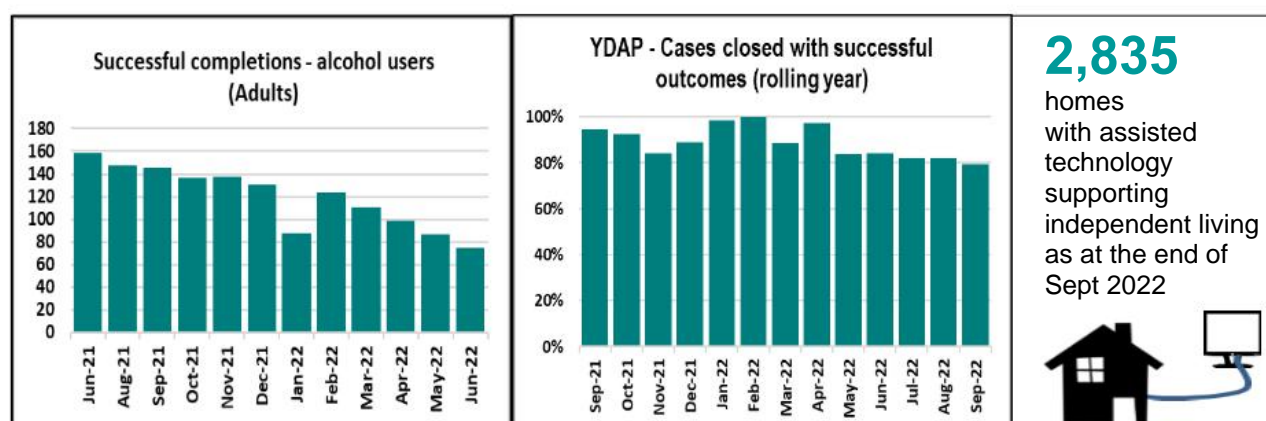


CITY CONTEXT

CURRENT DATA (LATEST AVAILABLE)	COMPARATIVE DATA	SUNDERLAND TREND
Healthy Life Expectancy at birth 2018-2020 as at 2021/22: Female: 56.9 yrs. Male: 56.1 yrs.	England 63.9 yrs. NE 59.7 yrs. England 63.1 yrs. NE 59.1 yrs.	Declining (2014-2016: 59.3 yrs.) Declining (2014-2016: 58.8 yrs.)
Admission episodes alcohol-related 2020/21: 2,401 (Broad, Persons, per 100,000 pop)	England 1,500, NE 1,979	N/A (Not comparable due to change in methodology)
Smoking prevalence: 2019/20: 14.6%	England 12.1%, NE 13.6%	Improving (2015/16: 18%)
The proportion of adults living with overweight or obesity 2020/21: 69.1%	England 63.5%, NE 67.7%	Declining (2016/17: 67.7%)
Prevalence of overweight (incl. obese) among children in Year 6 2019/20: 36.9% (Local authority data not included in the release for 2020/21)	2019/20 England 35.2%, NE 37.5% 2020/21 England 40.9%, NE 44.2%	Improving (2015/16: 39.8%)
% Of people that are fairly active / active (Active Lives – Public Health) 2020/21: 74%	England 76.6%, NE 74.4%	No change (2016/17: 74%)
Women who smoke at time of delivery Qtr. 4 2021/22: 13%	England 9.1% NE 12.1%	Improving (Qtr. 4 2020/21: 13.7%)
EYFSP Good level of development 2018/19: 72.6% (2020/21 data release cancelled)	England 71.8%, NE 71.8%	Improving (2014/15: 66%)
Teenage pregnancy (under 18 conception rate) rolling year: Qtr. 1 2021/22: 25.1	England 12.8, NE 19.8	Declining (Qtr. 1 2020/21: 18.2)
Proportion of people (18+) living independently (without social care services) Qtr. 2 2022/23: 98.2%	N/A	No change (Qtr.2 2021/22 98.2%)
Litter - % of relevant land & highways with deposits that fall below an acceptable level Qtr. 2 2022/23: 11.2%	N/A	Declining (Qtr.2 2021/22: 10.1%)

COUNCIL LED ACTION & PROGRESS

2022/23 Timeline	Status
Better walking and cycling routes linking communities to riverside and sea front and green spaces	On Track
Reduction in smoking in the city	On Track
More people physically active	On Track
Improvement in household recycling rates	Completed
More people enjoying independent lives	On Track
Digital Catapult affordable warmth testbed delivered	Completed



Reduce health inequalities enabling more people to live healthier longer lives

Our City Plan recognises the need to ensure that health and wellbeing outcomes are significantly improved, with previously published healthy life expectancy at birth in Sunderland (at 56.1 years for males and 56.9 for females 2018-2020), lower than the Northeast and England and declining.

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, brought a new health challenge to the city. In addition to the impacts of infection, we know that the pandemic will have had wider health implications in relation to behaviours that can cause harms to health such as smoking, alcohol consumption, inactivity, and poor diet (leading to obesity).

Previously published figures for hospital admissions (adults) due to alcohol were 2,401 for Sunderland for 2020/21 (Northeast average 1,979, England 1,500). Although the figures suggest a reduction (improvement) for Sunderland in comparison to previous figures - due to changes in how the statistics have been compiled figures are not directly comparable with previous trends. Previously published figures for the three-year period 2018/19-2020/21 for under 18's alcohol admissions per 100,000 were 76 for Sunderland - an improvement on the previous rate of 82.4, (North-East rate 52, England rate of 55.4). Latest available figures for successful intervention completions for Adults Services for alcohol, and for the Youth Drug and Alcohol programme (all substances) are shown in the charts.

An Alcohol Strategy for Sunderland was developed in Quarter 2, for adoption, subject to approval in Quarter 3. Delivery has commenced on the Supplementary Substance Misuse Treatment Grant, which enables local delivery in response to local need to meet the national aspirations of increasing treatment capacity, increasing access to residential rehabilitation and reducing drug and alcohol related deaths. As at the end of Quarter 2, the grant for Sunderland has enabled a dedicated role to support the homeless population and those living in hostels, a specialist role based within the city centre Neighbourhood Policing Team to support repeat offenders with complex needs, a specialist pharmacy liaison role and increased capacity to address alcohol harms. A Drug Related Death Inquiry Panel is now established to gain a better understanding of substance related deaths in Sunderland with the aim of preventing future deaths.

Work is ongoing to support a reduction in smoking in the city through the Smoke Free Action Plan. In Quarter 1 of 2022/23 (latest available data) 41.6% of smokers setting a quit date successfully quit at 4 weeks (109 successful quitters of 262 quit attempts). Although performance remains above the national target, there were fewer successful quitters in Quarter 1, than in Quarter 4 of 2021/22 (at 47.9%) or Quarter 1 of 2021/22 (at 56%). A deep dive analysis is being undertaken, however, it is anticipated that this may at least in part be attributable to a move to CO validation for all 4 week quits compared to self-validation in previous periods due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Previously published figures for the proportion of adults who are living with overweight, or obesity, showed a reduction from 73.5% in 2019/20 to 69.1% in 2020/21 (though figures remained above the Northeast and England). Covid 19 impacted on the delivery of the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP), for the academic year 2020/21, however, the 2021/22 NCMP has been completed by Growing Healthy Sunderland with Reception and Year 6 weight and height measurements uploaded to NHS Digital. The data is currently being validated and will be released later in the year. The Sunderland Weight Management programme commenced in August 2021 and exceeded its aim to support 1,500 residents in the first year (ending June 2022), having received 2,453 referrals. In Quarter 2, there were 692 referrals.

Latest available data published previously by Public Health England, shows that 74% of people in Sunderland were active or fairly active in 2020/21, in line with the Northeast figure of 74.4% (2% behind England at 76%). In Quarter 2 several active events have been delivered to support active living. The Big Bike Ride and Big Community Sports Festivals both took place along with the Big Summer Festival. In total there were 7,845 participants in Active Sunderland

Big Events and 497,774 Leisure Centre attendances in Quarter 2. There were 140,886 visitors through the turnstiles of Football Hubs with 2,240 games played.

Published data for the three-year period of 2019-2021, shows the suicide rate for Sunderland reduced to 14.2 per 100,000 (age 10+) from 14.4 (for 2018-2020), though it remains above the England rate of 10.4 and Northeast rate of 13. The next suicide audit is underway (covering the period 2019-2021 which will inform a refresh of the current Suicide Prevention Action Plan. Specific work is underway to tackle the increasing number of presentations at Wearmouth Bridge (informed by police intelligence) including a review of signage (in line with national guidance) as well as drop-in support led by the Samaritans and recommissioning of the training contract. As a Council we continue to progress work towards signing up to the Mental Health Concordat.

We will continue to work, with our partners, on areas where we can support people to make healthy choices and stay active. This includes working with employers across the city to promote better health at work. In Quarter 2 we have supported the Workplace Alliance by developing a training and events programme to improve health & wellbeing.

We continue to promote healthy choices by our own people through the Council's Employee Wellness programme. In Quarter 2 a workforce Health Survey has been carried out, enabling us to better understand the health concerns and issues for our employees to enable targeted communications for health improvement.

Access to equitable opportunities and life chances

We are taking a life course approach to health and wellbeing starting with the early life stages of preconception to early years and adolescence under this commitment. The latest (previously published) figure on women who smoke at time of delivery (for Quarter 4 of 2021/22) is 13% (80 smokers of 615 maternities). This is 0.7% lower than the same period in the previous year.

The proportion of infants being breastfed, at 25.5% for Quarter 4 of 2021/22 (latest available data) remains below the England position of 48.9% (Northeast figures unavailable). A new training programme has been developed for 'Midwife training in Alcohol Identification and Brief Advice', which is ready to be rolled out. A Behavioural Insights Research Project has been completed, aimed at improving breastfeeding rates in Sunderland. The findings have been disseminated to key stakeholders and linked with the Breastfeeding Friendly Sunderland work for the development / delivery of further action.

98.2% of new birth visits and 95.7% of 2.5-year-old checks have been carried out in timescale. Validated national statistics for the earlier period of Quarter 4 of 2021/22, shows performance was better than for England and the North-East.

In Education, there was no update in Quarter 2 on the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) Good Level of Development, the latest data release is expected by the end of Quarter 3. New premises for Sunningdale School have been opened, as have replacement premises for Hetton Primary School.

The rate of under 18 conceptions (teenage pregnancy rate based on conceptions per 1,000 women aged 15 -17) for Sunderland rose to 25.1 in Quarter 1 of 2021/22 (latest available data) – up from 22.2 in Quarter 4 of 2020/21 and the same period in the previous year (at 18.2). This is above the England and North-East rates (of 12.8 and 19.8). The rise had been anticipated based on local intelligence. The Children and Young People's Sexual Health Services enhanced offer is in place to provide access to contraception and pregnancy advice options and a revised and focused action plan is being developed.

Under this commitment we seek to address inequalities in opportunities and life chances that exist across geographical areas through a community asset-based approach, as set out in our Neighbourhood Plans. Virtual community hubs were established from March 2020, supporting

communities throughout the COVID 19 pandemic and these remain in operation. A targeted community champion programme continues to deliver support, across co-located hubs supporting residents during the cost-of-living crisis.

People enjoying independent lives

98% of people 18+ in the city live independently (without social care services, based on mid-year population estimates) and we remain committed to ensuring people in the city can enjoy independent lives. However, the implementation of Social Care Reform, planned for October 2023, may impact on these figures.

With the roll out of the assistive technology in the home offer, 2,835 homes had the technology by the end of September 2022. Building on this 'Smart homes' approach for independent living, the funded Digital Catapult affordable warmth testbed has enabled trials of additional technology for the identification of homes that have become cold or damp. The testbed scheme is now completed and has been evaluated with the learning from the scheme now being considered.

83% of people who use services have control over their daily lives based on latest figures for 2019/20 (there is no update expected for 2020/21 (latest expected data) as the survey was cancelled due to Covid-19). The survey has been completed for 2022, and figures will be published later in the year via the Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework, along with figures from the Short & Long Term (SALT) statistical return.

We recognised the significant role in Carers in enabling people to live independently. Following on from the previous Carers bi-annual survey Let's Talk Carers engagement was initiated. The consultation enabled us to receive feedback from Carers to inform the design of the Carers Strategy with actions being taken to improve and co-produce services for carers based on input from those with lived experience. Further consultation will be undertaken through the Carers Group before the strategy is adopted through the Health & Wellbeing Board.

Previously published data on the rate of emergency hospital admissions due to falls in people aged 65+ (per 100,000), showed an increase from 2,628 in 2019/20, to 3,164 for 2020/21 for Sunderland and figures were above both the Northeast (at 2,311) and England (at 2,023). A Falls Coordinator, commenced in post in Quarter 1 of 2022/23, and in Quarter 2 developed a programme of activity in support of National Falls Awareness Week (19th-25th September). The theme of the event was 'falls are everyone's business' and activities that took place included: an open day, falls awareness promotions at Care homes and communications and awareness via social media and partners.

Great transport links with low carbon and active travel opportunities for all

Our emphasis within this City Plan commitment is about ensuring that people can move around the city with ease through improved transport routes - enabling access to key employment sites. Alongside vehicle transport routes, great travel links is also about having the necessary infrastructure to enable active travel. In Quarter 2 there were 196m of adopted roads, 329m of adopted footpaths and 1,300m of new or improved cycleways (taking totals for 1st April to 30th April to 1,451m adopted roads, 3771m adopted footpaths and 1,300m improved cycleways). The Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan has now been approved and adopted.

We are encouraging take-up of active sustainable travel options through a range of schemes. In Quarter 2 there were 215 new sign-ups to the Sunderland Step up App encouraging walking. Through the Love to Ride scheme (cycling) we have supported the Cycle September event, with local communications promoting the event reaching 9.4K social media accounts, with 14.2K views. As at the end of Quarter 2, the Love to Ride website (on which users can record their rides), had 243 Sunderland riders, with 251,925 miles travelled and 21,013lb of Co2 saved. Sunderland City Council achieved 1st place in the 500 – 1999 staff category in the Love to Ride Cycle September global bike challenge.

2,642 school children have taken part in pedestrian training and 1,029 children have taken part in cycle training April to September 2022.

Cleaner and more attractive city and neighbourhoods

Our focus here is on promoting environmental responsibility amongst residents to achieve a cleaner and more attractive city.

The percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting in Quarter 2 was 34% (10,666 tons recycled, reused or composted of 31,305 tons of total household waste). The target figure of 32% has now been met (and thus improvement achieved). The latest available national comparator figure, at 36.4%, is for 2021/2022. Work has been ongoing to improve the recycling rates across the City through a programme of education and enforcement aligned to the introduction of a *No Side Waste* policy from January 2023.

At the end of Quarter 2, the percentage of relevant land and highways assessed as having deposits of litter that fall below an acceptable level was 11.2%, an increase compared with Quarter 2 of 2021/22 at 10.1% but a reduction against Quarter 1 of 2022/23 at 12%. Dog fouling below an acceptable level was 0.7% (no change on the Quarter 2 of 2021/22 figure, also at 0.7%) - whilst graffiti was at 1.2%, above the Quarter 2 of 2021/22 level of 0.7%.

We are issuing sanctions where appropriate following enforcement investigations. In Quarter 2, 1,864 enforcement activities had been carried out – 139 less than in the same period in the previous year (at 2,003). The enforcement activities included 354 investigations, 1057 warning letters, 7 Community Protection Warnings, 4 Section 47 notices (businesses) and 164 Section 46 notices (residents). Both section 46 and 47 notices relate to the storage, disposal and presentation of waste under the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

In Quarter 1, a pilot was commenced to trial the removal of Glyphosate in weedkilling, the pilot has now been completed, and the pilot report compiled with recommendations for next steps.

Under the Low Carbon Action Plan, and in support of a greener city, progress was previously made on the development of the North-East Community Forest with sites delivered at Elemore, Hetton Park and Silksworth. In Quarter 2, work was ongoing to identify further potential sites for planting during 2022/23. The aim is to link site identification with Neighbourhood Investment Plans in future years.

VIBRANT SMART CITY

More resilient people – more people feel safe in their homes and neighbourhoods – more residents participating in their communities – more people visiting Sunderland and more residents informing participating in cultural events, programmes, and activities.



CITY CONTEXT

CURRENT DATA (LATEST AVAILABLE) COMPARATIVE DATA

SUNDERLAND TREND

Rate of cared for children (per 10k)
Sept 2022: 94.2%

England 67
NE 108
SN 105.7

Improving
(Sept 2021: 104.4)

Rate of CYP subject to a child protection plan (per 10k) Sept 2022:
52.2

England 41.4
NE 67.2
SN 56.1

Improving
(Sept 2021: 63.5)

Rate of Children in Need (per 10k)
Sept 2022: 367.9

England 321.2
NE 461.2
SN 415.3

Improving
(Sept 2021: 378.4)

Residents supported by food banks
Qtr.2 2022/23: 6,718

N/A

Declining
(Qtr. 2 2021/22: 3,919)

Crime (recorded incidents) Apr-Sept 2022: 14,789

N/A

Declining
(Apr-Sept 2021: 13,699)

Residents' feelings of safety (local)
Qtr.2 (Aug 2021 to Sept 2022): 93%

N/A

Declining
(Qtr.2 2020/21: 95%)

The proportion of people who use services who feel safe 2019/20:
79.7% (no survey undertaken in 2020/21)

England 70.2%
NE 74.7%
SN 72.8%

Improving
(2015/16: 71.5%)

Number of visitors to the city 2021:
5,730,000

N/A

Declining
(2017: 8,760,000)

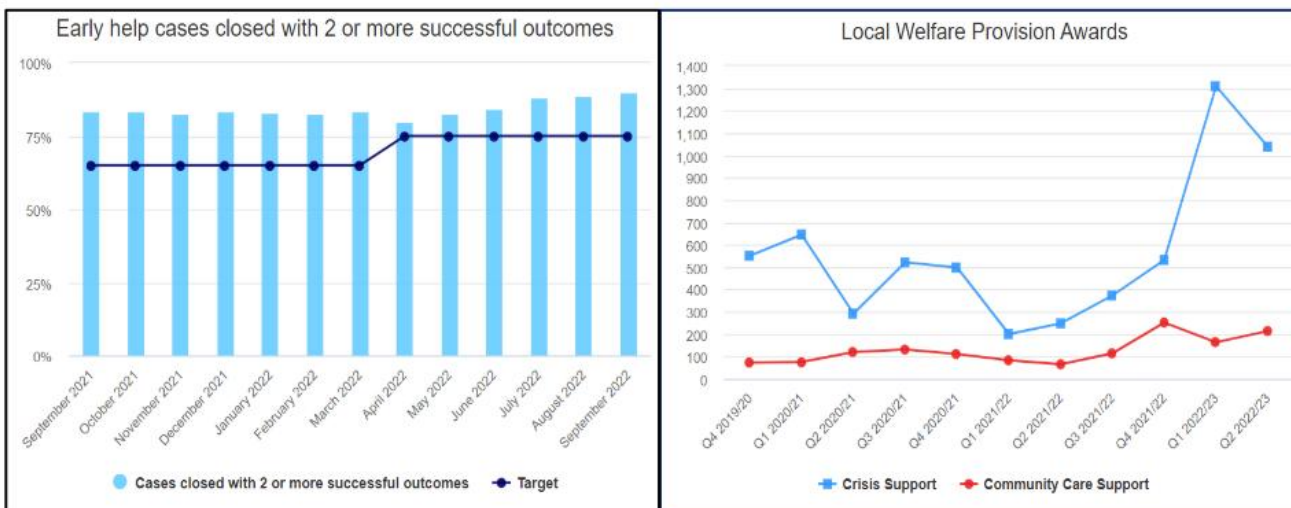
Overall spend of visitors to the city 2021: £314m

N/A

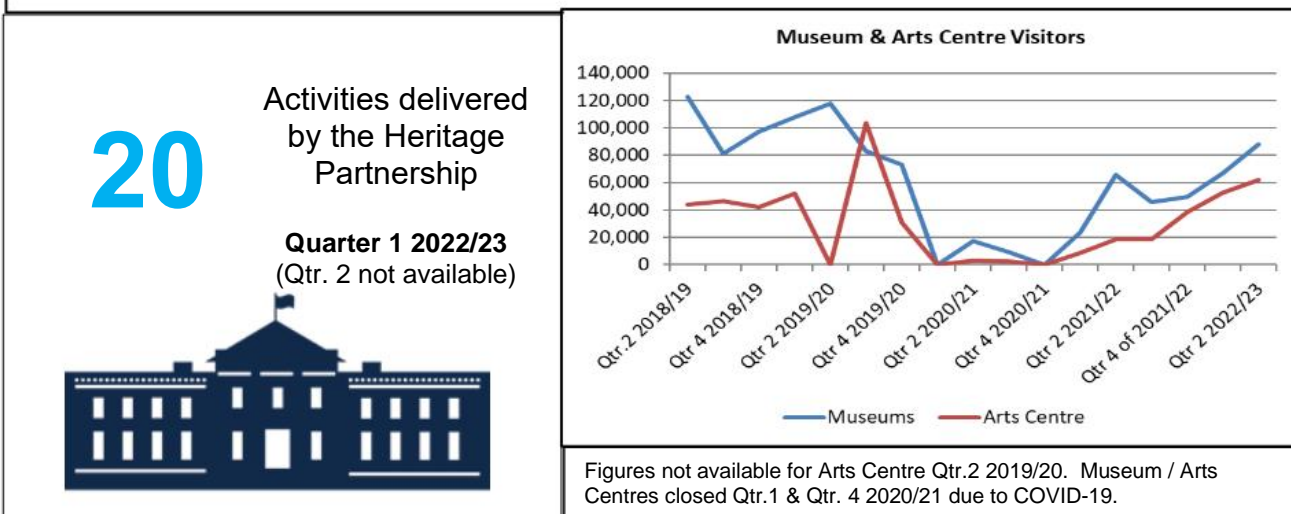
Declining
(2017: £429m)

COUNCIL LED ACTION & PROGRESS

2021/22 Timeline	Status
Launch new domestic abuse services model	On track
New national/international events including British Triathlon Super Series	On track
World Class music events staged in the city	On track



21 Events facilitated by the Council, on Council land / in council buildings in Quarter 2 of 2022/23



Council supported volunteers Qtr 2 2022/23

Category	Count
Libraries	20
Chaperones	20
Place based	20
Events/Active programme	100
Weekly programme	58
Total	218

100% of retailers in the city to be engaged in the responsible retailers' scheme by March 2025.

8 engaged as at the end of Quarter 2

More resilient people

We will support families to enable them to be resourceful to respond to challenges and achieve the best possible outcomes for their children. The rates of children in need, children subject to a Child Protection Plan, and Cared For children, have continued to reduce in Quarter 2 compared with the same period in the previous year.

At the end of Quarter 2, 84.9% of children in need assessments were completed in timescale (target 85%), 90.1 of early help cases closed with successful outcomes (target 75%), 10.2% of Cared for Children have experienced 3+ placements within the last 12 months (target 10% or less) and 98.2% of Cared for Children had an up-to-date Personal Education Plan (target 90%).

Through support to families with children in need, and intervention in families with children subject to a child protection plan, we seek to increase resilience in families and monitor how often worries are raised about children that we have already tried to help. At the end of Quarter 2, 21.8% of referrals to TFC were re-referrals within 12 months (within target of 23%), an increase on the same period in the previous year (at 16.3%). 14.6% of children subject to a child protection plan had a repeat plan within 2 years (within target of 15%), an increase on the same period in the previous year (at 7%).

We know that our communities have been greatly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, with hardship continuing for some in the face of challenges presented by the rise in the cost of living. In Quarter 1 of 2022/23 the number of residents supported by food banks reached 6,258, higher than at any point in 2020/21 and 2021/2022. In Quarter 2 usage has increased further to 6,718 residents supported.

Crisis Support awards rose steeply in Quarter 1 to 1,309 (from 532 in Quarter 4 of 2021/22), and although the number has reduced to 1,039 in Quarter 2, it remains more than double the average of the quarterly figures in 2021/22. Alongside Crisis Support awards, Community Care Support continues to be awarded, increasing from 164 in Quarter 1 to 214 in Quarter 2 of 2022/23.

More people feeling safe in their homes and neighbourhoods

This commitment relates both to people feeling safe from crime and vulnerable adults who use our services feeling safe.

Overall, our residents feel safe in their local area, with the percentage consistently at 96% or above since 2012/13 to mid-2020 when figures fell slightly to 95% (based on the Northumbria Police Survey). Latest available data is for the 12 months to the end of September 2022, and shows that the figure has fell back further to of 93%. Crime for April 2022 to September 2022 (at 14,789 recorded incidents) has increased when compared with the same period in the previous year (13,699 incidents).

We are committed to disrupting criminal and anti-social behaviour through intervention and enforcement with 10 intelligence led pro-active disruption activities carried out in relation to licensing in Quarter 2. We hope to engage 100% of retailers in the city in our Responsible Retailers Scheme by March 2025. Engagement continues with retailers and at the end of Quarter 2, there are 8 retailers signed up.

More residents participating in their communities

This commitment is about residents, including children and young people, being able to engage with and participate in their communities. In Quarter 4, there were 218 active volunteers across a range of volunteering activities including Libraries, Volunteer Chaperones, Events & Active Sunderland and other weekly programme activities (based on recorded volunteer participants).

The greatest proportion in Quarter 2 was volunteers engaged in events / active programmes (at 143).

'Crowdfund Sunderland' enables people to financially support local projects and causes through an online platform. In Quarter 2 there have been no new projects (7 in Quarter 1), however, the amount raised has increased to £98,345.

We continue to engage people through Sunderland UK social media channels, with 25,421 Facebook and 41,012 Twitter followers as at the end of September 2022. Through our external communications we are able to increase awareness of the activities and opportunities in Sunderland that enable individuals to engage in their communities. In August 2022 we launched the '*We all Make Sunderland*' Civic Pride communication campaign that will continue to run into the new year - when we will seek to understand the impact (i.e. how many people have seen / engaged with it).

More people visiting Sunderland and more residents participating in cultural events, programmes, and activities

Prior to 2020, the number of visitors to the city (and associated spend) showed a continued upward trend (visitor numbers increased from 8.24m in 2016 to 9.49m in 2019 and spend from £399m to £500m in the same period). As the Coronavirus pandemic hit the UK in early 2020, however, cultural venues and events were particularly impacted due to the greater challenges of ensuring social distancing and safe delivery. In 2020, visitor numbers reduced to 4,38m and visitor spend to £219m. With Covid continuing to impact across 2021, figures remained low but improved, at 5.73m visitors and £314m visitor spend.

As we seek to recover Tourism, we are realising our ambitions to attract new national and international events to attract visitors to the city and for our residents to enjoy. The Tour of Britain Stage 3 cycling finish took place at St Marys Way / Keel Square on 6th September attracting approximately 5,000 spectators on the route through the city. 300,000 UK viewers watched Stage 3 live on TV (ITV4) with a further 245,000 watching the TV highlights show on the same evening. The British Triathlon Super Series Grand Final also took place in Sunderland attracting approximately 5,000 attendees across the weekend with 100 participants in the Swim, Bike, Run family event and around 750 athletes taking part in other age-group races.

Sunderland Empire Theatre closed its doors in March 2020 due to the first Covid-19 pandemic lockdown (having welcomed 42,890 visitors in the last quarter of 2019/20). It re-opened its doors on 2nd September 2021, and visitor numbers have gradually rising to 49,910 in Quarter 2 of 2022/23. The Museum and Winter Gardens and Washington Arts Centre re-opened mid-way through Quarter 1 of 2021/22 with visitor figures also rising to 88,118 (Museum & Winter Gardens) and 61,922 (Arts Centre) in Quarter 2 of 2022/23. The National Glass Centre received 85,837 visitors in Quarter 2.

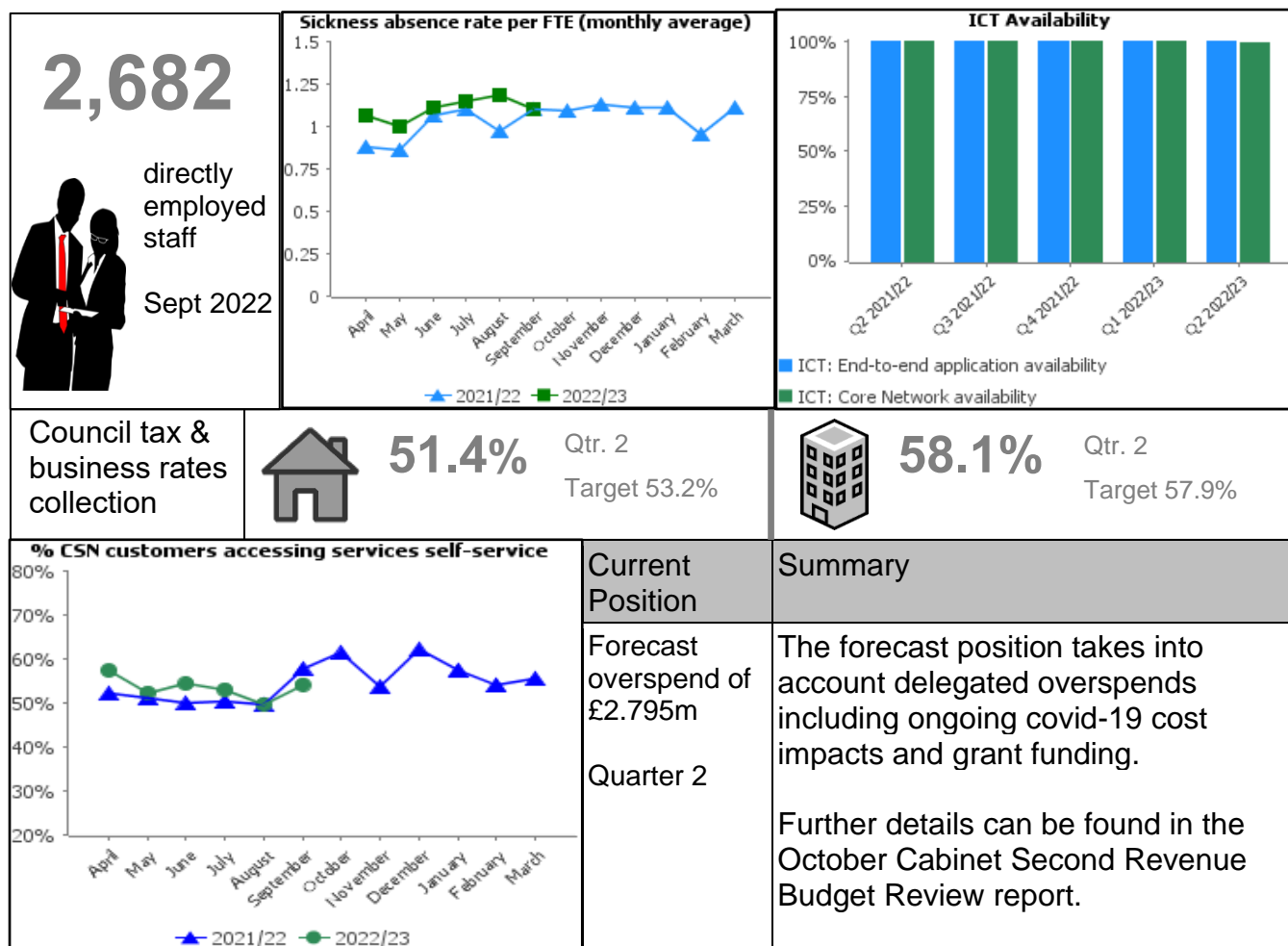
In Quarter 2 the Lamplight Festival took place as part of a programme of music events being staged in the city.

In Quarter 1 (latest available data, Quarter 2 figure not yet available) 20 activities were delivered by the Heritage Partnership and 90 organisations were engaged in the Heritage Partnership Practitioners Network.

There were 53,141 library issues (including physical books, eBooks / e-Audio and e-Magazine) with 358 new adult members in Quarter 2. There were 23,862 digital subscriptions and the Books at Home delivery service saw 391 interactions. Progress has been made on Culture House, a new cultural hub and library, to be located on Riverside Sunderland. In Quarter 2 demolition of existing buildings commenced to make way for the new building.

ORGANISATIONAL HEALTH

Good organisational health – strong financial management – productive and innovative working – a council ready for the future



Good organisational health and strong financial management

At the end of Quarter 2, there were 2,682 directly employed staff, 21 fewer than in Quarter 2 of 2021/22. The sickness absence rate was 11.5 days per FTE (12-month forecast), with the figure of 11.6 days at the same point in the previous year. In Quarter 2 we have implemented a new learning management system to support employee learning and development.

In previous periods the impact of Covid-19 was evident in Business Rates and Council Tax collection levels, with both below target. In Quarter 2, Business Rates Collection, at 58.1%, is better than the target of 57.9%, however, Council Tax collection remains below the target level (at 51.4% against a target of 53.2%).

We are committed to maximising external funding and financing opportunities. In Quarter 2, £3,884,567 has been secured through funding bids approved for projects supported by the following programmes/funders: £1,641,730 for the Multiply adult numeracy programme (DfE),

£1,355,600 for the Supporting Families Programme (DfE/DLUHC), £110,599 from the Young Women and Girls' Fund (Home Office), £20,000 grant from the Chewing Gum Taskforce (Keep Britain Tidy/DEFRA) and £731,138 from the Home Office's Safer Streets Fund Round 4 followed by a further £25,500 from the same fund.

There were no reports to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) by the Council in Quarter 2.

Productive and innovative working and a council ready for the future

As a Council we continue to deliver on the organisational change required to optimise productive and innovative working, to counteract financial uncertainty and ensure we are a Council ready for the future.

We want our employees to be as healthy and happy as they can be, and therefore able to be their most productive and innovative in delivering services to the communities of Sunderland. Just as Covid-19, and now the cost of living, has impacted on our communities, we understand it will be impacting on our employees too. Along with our workforce health survey, we have also carried out a workforce cost of living survey, to understand key concerns – particularly where these relate to working life. From this we will develop targeted communications and support, aimed at enabling our employees to be as resilient as possible, with knowledge of how to access support where needed.

We continue to develop a new operating model to ensure that the council is as customer focused and effective as it can be. Alongside this, the adoption and enhancement of digital technologies continues, for smart working focused on efficient and effective customer outcomes. In Quarter 2, we have been working to ensure that our staff on the frontline of the organisation are able to access digital technologies for effective employee communication and service delivery. In Quarter 2, 52.3% (181,324) of our Customer Service Network customers accessed services through self-serve – exceeding the target of 46%.

Item 7

SCRUTINY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

8 DECEMBER 2022

WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23

REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY, MAYORAL AND MEMBERS' SUPPORT COORDINATOR

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The report attaches, for Members' information, the thematic Scrutiny Committee work programmes for 2022/23 and provides an opportunity to review the Committee's own work programme for 2022/23.

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 In order to ensure that the Committee is able to undertake all of its business and respond to emerging issues, there will be scope for additional meetings or visits not detailed in the work programme.
- 2.3 The work programme should reflect the remit of the Committee and the need to balance its responsibility for undertaking scrutiny, performance management and policy review (where necessary).

3. Thematic 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 Coordinating 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.
- 4.2 Topics for inclusion in the Scrutiny Work Programme will vary from single issue items for consideration such as policy and performance reports through to regular updates on issues that the committee have adopted a more focused monitoring role.
- 4.3 It should be noted that the work programme is a 'living' document and can be amended throughout the course of the municipal year. Any Elected Member can add an item of business to an agenda for consideration (Protocol 1 within the Overview and Scrutiny Handbook outlines this process).

5. Task and Finish Working Approach

- 5.1 With a number of potential task and finish working group topics vying for consideration by the Committee it is suggested that in order to enhance and refine the approach, in the first instance, workshop sessions are conducted. This will provide an opportunity for Members to explore an issue more fully with relevant officers in attendance. Importantly this will also help to ascertain if a task and finish group is required and help to develop and focus the remit and scope for such a piece of work. It is recommended that workshop sessions are held in relation to the following topics:

Council Organisation and Culture - Consideration of how the Council is working as an organisation following the impacts of the pandemic and transition to City Hall. To include the cultural changes that have taken place, the challenges that face staff and service delivery in a new environment.

Report It Tool - To look at the Members 'Report It' tool, how this works in practice, Member/Officer experience of it, are there improvements that can be made in terms of efficiency, ease of use etc.

City Centre Regeneration Masterplan - To consider the vision for the City Centre and how this plan supports the delivery of the vision as well as supporting the aims of the City Plan. Also a possible joint piece of work with Economic Prosperity Committee.

- 5.2 Members will be invited to attend each session and any findings or recommendations from the sessions will be submitted to the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee for consideration.

6. Dedicated Scrutiny Budget

- 6.1 A small budgetary provision of £15,000 per annum is available to the Scrutiny Committees to deliver the agreed Scrutiny Committee Work Programmes.
- 6.2 As of 2 December 2022 the breakdown of the budget stood as follows:-

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

7. Recommendations

7.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee:

- (a) notes the variations to the Scrutiny Committee Work Programmes for 2022/23 and to its own work programme; and
- (b) notes the current scrutiny budget position for 2022/23
- (c) gives consideration to the approach for task and finish working as set out in the report.

8. Background Papers

8.1 Scrutiny Agendas and Minutes

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REASON FOR INCLUSION	9 JUNE 22 (INFORMAL MEETING)	7 JULY 22	8 SEPT 22	6 OCT 22	3 NOV 22	1 DEC 22	5 JAN 23	2 FEB 23	2 MARCH 23	30 MARCH 23
Policy Framework/ Cabinet Referrals and Responses										Scrutiny Annual Report – 22/23
Scrutiny Business	Work Programme 2022/23	Consultation with LGBTQ+ Community	Corporate Parenting (Majella McCarthy) SEND – Areas for Deep Dive (Pamela Robertson) Performance Report (Jill Colbert)	SEND – Areas for Deep Dive (Pamela Robertson) Consultation with LGBTQ+ Community - Feedback on Visit (Members)	Asylum Seekers support available for children and their families (Tracy Jeffs/Sharon Willis/Karen Dunn) Mental Health Charter Mark Award (Catherine Barnett)	Speech Disorder and Language Disorder in Early Years (Kimm Lawson) Holiday and Activities Food Programme (Jane Wheeler) Ofsted Fostering Inspection – Feedback (Tracy Jeffs)	Early Years - Role of Family Hubs as part of integrated family service ensuring families with children and young people aged 0-19 receive early help) (Karen Davison/Alan Rowen) YOS Review – Outcome (Karen Davison/Linda Mason) Cared for Children – Deep Dive (Karen Davison/ Linda Mason)	Child Obesity – (Incl How can we better promote healthy eating among young people. Also, the influence of exercise and sporting provision) (Lorraine Hughes) Safeguarding of Children (To consider the implications for the Council of the National Panel Review of Child Protection (Jill Colbert)	Schools Update (incl Implications of the White Paper Opportunities for All. The action being taken to catch up on lost education due to the Covid pandemic and which programmes are most effective, particularly for SEN pupils) (Simon Marshall)	Training and Apprenticeship Access for Care Experienced Young People (Sharon Willis) The measures to reduce the number of young people not in education or training (Simon Marshall/Jane Wheeler)
Performance / Service Improvement		TfC Self – Evaluation (Jill Colbert) Children Services Customer Feedback (Stacey Hodgkinson)		TfC Meaningful Measures Performance Report – Areas Deep Dive (Jill Colbert/Stacey Hodgkinson)		Children Services Customer Feedback (Stacey Hodgkinson)	TfC Meaningful Measures Performance Report (Stacey Hodgkinson)	Prevention Bus – Feedback (Jane Wheeler)		TfC Meaningful Measures Performance Report (Jill Colbert/Stacey Hodgkinson)

Consultation / Awareness Raising		Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 23-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	
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Items to Programme:

- Visit to Sunnigdale School (tbc)

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – WORK PROGRAMME 2022-23

REASON FOR INCLUSION	14 JUNE 22 – (INFORMAL MEETING)	12 JULY 22	27 SEPTEMBER 22 (REARRANGED)	11 OCTOBER 22	8 NOVEMBER 22	6 DECEMBER 22	10 JANUARY 23	7 FEBRUARY 23	7 MARCH 23	4 APRIL 23
Policy Framework/ Cabinet Referrals and Responses			Statement of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Licence Policy (Steve Waring)							Scrutiny Annual Report
Scrutiny Business	Remit and Work Programme of Committee	Refugee Provision (Graham Scanlan) Port Visit – Arrangements (Matthew Hunt)	Housing Strategy/ Rough Sleeping Prevention Strategy – Consultation (Graham Scanlan)	Annual Low Carbon Progress Report (Catherine Auld)	Sunderland BID (Sharon Appleby) Events (Stephen Savage)	Business Centres (Catherine Auld) Environmental Services Update (Director of Environmental Services)	Cycling Infrastructure – Update (Mark Wilson) Culture Sector and the Local Economy (Rebecca Ball) Housing Strategy (Graham Scanlan)	Housing Provider Consultation (Gentoo) (Other Housing Providers)	Siglion (Neil Guthrie/Anthony Crabb) Future High Street Fund Programme (Neil Guthrie/Anthony Crabb) UK Shared Prosperity Fund (Catherine Auld/James Garland)	Annual Road Safety Report E Scooter – Pilot Feedback Accessibility (Stephen Dixon) City Heat Network Projects - Update
Consultation Information and Awareness Raising		Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 21-22	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 21-22	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 21-22	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 21-22	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 21-22	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 21-22	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 21-22	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 21-22	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 21-22

Public Transport Update (Mark Wilson) – TBC
Homelessness Strategy (Graham Scanlan) - TBC

HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – WORK PROGRAMME 2022-23

REASON FOR INCLUSION		5 JULY 22 D/L:24 JUNE 22	27 SEPTEMBER 22 D/L:2 SEPT 22	4 OCTOBER 22 D/L: 23 SEPT 22	1 NOVEMBER 22 D/L: 21 OCT 22	29 NOVEMBER 22 D/L: 19 NOV 22	3 JANUARY 23 D/L: 23 DEC 23	31 JANUARY 23 D/L: 20 JAN 23	28 FEBRUARY 23 D/L: 17 FEB 23	28 MARCH 23 D/L: 17 MAR 23
Policy Framework / Cabinet Referrals and Responses										
Scrutiny Business		Public Health – Annual Report (Gerry Taylor) Dental Services Update (NHS Improvement)	Task and Finish Working (Nigel Cummings)	Winter Planning (ATB/ICB) SSAB Annual Report (Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board) Social Care Health Check (Graham King/Ann Dingwall)	Elective Surgery – Update (NHS FT) Integrated Care System Update (Scott Watson – ICB)	Health Protection Arrangements incl. Flu Immunisation Update (Public Health) Maternity Services Assurance Update (NHS FT)	ICB Sunderland Update (Scott Watson)	North East Ambulance Service Update (Mark Cotton)	MH Strategy Update (Sunderland ICB) Annual Report (Nigel Cummings)	GP Access Review Update (Sunderland ICB)
Performance / Service Improvement										
Consultation/ Information & Awareness Raising		Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23

SCRUTINY COORDINATING COMMITTEE – WORK PROGRAMME 2022-23

REASON FOR INCLUSION		14 JULY 22 D/L 4 JULY 22	26 SEPTEMBER 22 D/L 5 SEPT 22	13 OCTOBER 22 D/L 3 OCTOBER 22	10 NOVEMBER 22 D/L 31 OCT 22	8 DECEMBER 22 D/L 28 NOV 22	12 JANUARY 23 D/L 3 JAN 23	9 FEBRUARY 23 D/L 30 JAN 23	9 MARCH 23 D/L 27 FEB 23	6 APRIL 23 D/L 27 MARCH 23
Policy Framework / Cabinet Referrals and Responses		First Revenue Budget Review 21/22 (Jon Ritchie/Paul Wilson) Capital Programme First Review 22/23 (Jon Ritchie/Paul Wilson) First Revenue Budget Review 22/23 (Jon Ritchie/Paul Wilson)		Budget Planning Framework 2022/23 and Financial Strategy (Paul Wilson) Capital Programme Second Review 2021/22 (Paul Wilson)		Capital Programme Planning 2023/2024 to 2026/2027 (Paul Wilson) Budget Planning Framework and Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/2024 to 2026/2027 (Paul Wilson)	City Plan Refresh (Beverly Poulter/Jon Beaney)	Collection Fund (Council Tax) 2022/23 (Paul Wilson) Capital Programme 2022/2023 to 2025/2026 and Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2022/2023, including Prudential Indicators for 2022/2023 to 2025/2026 (Paul Wilson) Revenue Budget and Proposed Council Tax for 2022/2023 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2022/2023 to 2025/2026 (Paul Wilson)		
Scrutiny Business		Review of Scrutiny (Gillian Robinson)		Residents Survey Summary (Lucy Nicholson) Task and Finish Working Group (Nigel Cummings) Review of Scrutiny – Action Plan (Gillian Robinson/Nigel Cummings)	Safer Sunderland Partnership Annual Report (Stephen Laverton)		Smart Cities Update (Liz St Louis)			Annual Report (N Cummings)
Performance / Service Improvement		Performance Management Q4 (Beverley Poulter)	Performance Management Q1 (Beverly Poulter)			Performance Management Q2 (Beverley Poulter)			Performance Management Q3 (Beverly Poulter)	
Consultation / Information & Awareness Raising		Notice of Key Decisions Scrutiny Work Programmes 2021/22	Notice of Key Decisions Scrutiny Work Programmes 2021/22	Notice of Key Decisions Scrutiny Work Programmes 2021/22	Notice of Key Decisions Scrutiny Work Programmes 2021/22	Notice of Key Decisions Scrutiny Work Programmes 2021/22	Notice of Key Decisions Scrutiny Work Programmes 2021/22	Notice of Key Decisions Scrutiny Work Programmes 2021/22	Notice of Key Decisions Scrutiny Work Programmes 2021/22	Notice of Key Decisions Scrutiny Work Programmes 2021/22

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Work Programme Items to be scheduled:

Item 8

SCRUTINY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

8 DECEMBER 2022

NOTICE OF KEY DECISIONS

REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY, MAYORAL 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 9 November 2022.

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 9 November 2022 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 9 November 2022 at the Scrutiny Committee meeting.

5. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Cabinet Agenda

Contact Officer : Nigel Cummings, Scrutiny Officer
0191 561 1006
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
221006/742	To consider proposals to Lower the Age Range at Thorney Close Primary School	School Organisation Committee of Cabinet	Y	10 November 2022 (published on the Notice dated 12 October 2022).	N	Not applicable.	School Organisation Committee of Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
221006/743	To consider proposal to make Changes to the Link School	School Organisation Committee of Cabinet	Y	10 November 2022 (published on the Notice dated 12 October 2022).	N	Not applicable.	School Organisation Committee of Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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
220712/722	To seek agreement to the proposed development strategy of the Council's Self and Custom Build Sites.	Cabinet	Y	8 December 2022	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 City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
220808/732	To seek Cabinet approval to the disposal of South West Lodge, Mere Knolls Cemetery, Dovedale Road, SR6 8LW.	Cabinet	Y	8 December 2022	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 City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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220719/723	To seek approval for the acquisition of Property at Crowtree Road and to grant a lease of the former Crowtree Leisure Centre	Cabinet	Y	During the period 10 November to 31 December 2022.	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 City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
221005/738	To seek approval to acquire land from and negotiate to enter into a build contract with MCC Homes Limited in the delivery of 19nos. 1-bed bungalows for supported use at Hylton Road	Cabinet	Y	8 December 2022	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 City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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221005/740	To approve the Capital Programme Planning 2023/2024 to 2026/2027.	Cabinet	Y	8 December 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
221005/741	To approve the Budget Planning Framework and Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/24 to 2026/27.	Cabinet	Y	8 December 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
221006/745	Subject to the award of external funding, to seek approval to enter into a funding agreement and delivery arrangements for a proposed Sunderland Advanced Mobility Shuttle	Cabinet	Y	8 December 2022	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 City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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220725/725	To approve the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Delivery Plan	Cabinet	Y	8 December 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
220207/690	To approve the sale of the former Alex Smiles site and to undertake required remedial works.	Cabinet	Y	8 December 2022	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 City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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220621/720	To approve funding options in respect of development at Nile and Villiers Street Sunnyside.	Cabinet	Y	8 December 2022	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 City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
221018/745	To consider a disposal of land at Silksworth Row, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	8 December 2022	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 City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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221026/747	To provide an update on the disposal of the former Civic Centre site	Cabinet	N	8 December 2022	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 City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
221031/748	To seek agreement to sign up to the Mental Health Prevention Concordat.	Cabinet	Y	8 December 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
221031/749	To seek approval for the Financial Assistance Policy	Cabinet	Y	8 December 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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
221101/750	To consider the outcome of the review of the governance and contract arrangements for Together for Children Sunderland Limited and approve the recommended next steps.	Cabinet	Y	8 December 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
221103/751	To seek Cabinet's endorsement of the Better Care Fund submission and to seek approval to complete a Section 75 agreement (Health and Social Care Act 2012) between the Integrated Care Board and the City Council to cover the Better Care Fund (BCF) services and other integrated care functions. To seek approval for the establishment of collaborative arrangements between the Integrated Care Board (ICB) and Sunderland City Council (SCC) for the provision of integrated health and care.	Cabinet	Y	8 December 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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
220524/714	To agree to the grant of an option to sell property at Richmond Street, Sheepfolds, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 8 December 2022 to 31 January 2023.	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 City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
220207/691	To approve the acquisition of strategic sites in the Commercial Road Area.	Cabinet	Y	19 January 2023	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 City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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220819/734	In respect of the Sunderland Heat Network to provide an update and to seek Cabinet approval for change in delivery approach.	Cabinet	Y	19 January 2023	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
220822/736	To update Cabinet on progress of the New Wear Footbridge ("the Scheme") and seek approval to award the main works contract for the Scheme.	Cabinet	Y	19 January 2023	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 City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
221006/744	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	19 January 2023	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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221018/746	To consider the acquisition of land and buildings at Cowies Way, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	19 January 2023	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 City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
221107/752	To authorise the acceptance of potential external grant funding (subject to a successful bid outcome) and subsequent procurement of an external design team to support the refurbishment of Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens.	Cabinet	Y	19 January 2023	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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
210709/612	To authorise the Executive Director of City Development to deliver the Washington F-Pit Museum Heritage Visitor Centre and Albany Park Improvement project, including the procurement of consultants and contractors.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 19 January to 31 March 2023	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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 City Hall, Plater Way, Sunderland, or by email to 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 Claire Rowntree – Deputy Leader & Clean Green City; Councillor Paul Stewart - Cabinet Secretary; Councillor Louise Farthing – Children, Learning and Skills; Councillor Kelly Chequer – Healthy City; Councillor Linda Williams – Vibrant City; Councillor Kevin Johnston – 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