

CIVIC CENTRE,
SUNDERLAND
9 SEPTEMBER 2019

TO THE MEMBERS OF SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL

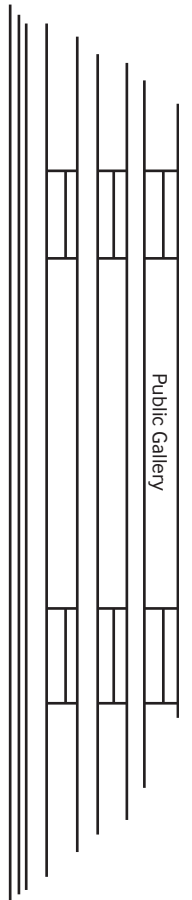
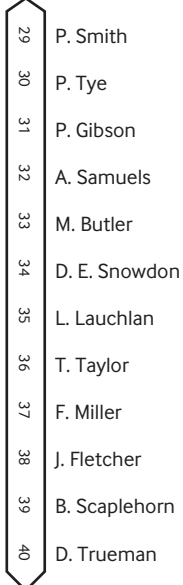
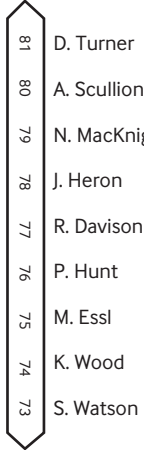
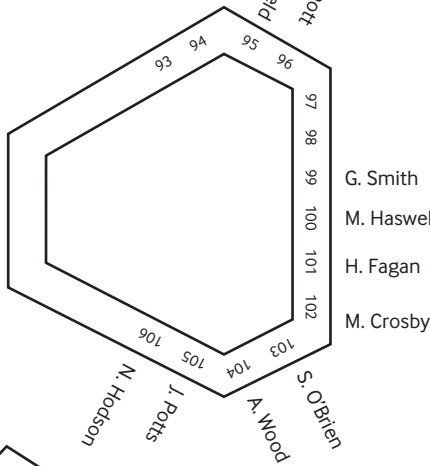
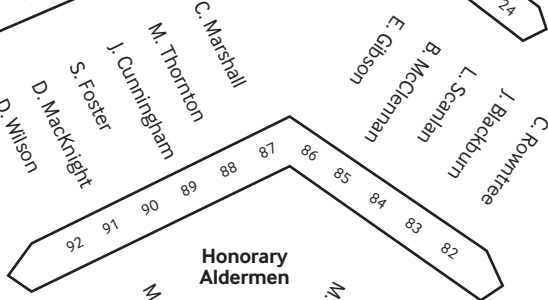
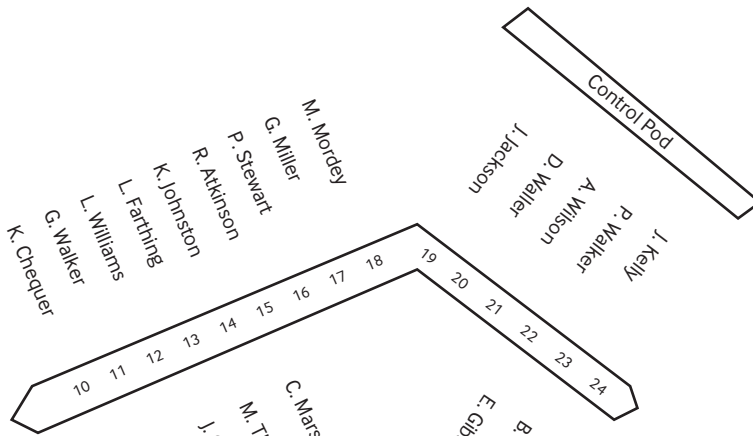
YOU ARE SUMMONED TO ATTEND A MEETING of Sunderland City Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Sunderland, on **WEDNESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2019** at **4.00 p.m.** at which it is proposed to consider and transact the following business:-

Item	Page
1. To read the Notice convening the meeting.	-
2. To approve the minutes of the Last Meeting of the Council held on 19 June 2019 (copy herewith).	1
3. Receipt of Declarations of Interest (if any).	-
4. Announcements (if any) under Rule 2(iv).	-
5. Reception of Petitions.	-
6. Apologies.	-
7. Written Questions by Members of the Public (if any) under Rule 9.	-

8.	Report of the Cabinet (copy herewith).	19
9.	Written Questions (if any) under Rule 10.2.	-
10.	To consider a report on Action Taken on Petitions (copy herewith).	61
11.	To consider the attached Motions (copy herewith).	65
12.	To consider the following reports:-	73
	(i) Report on Special Urgency Decisions – report of the Leader (copy herewith).	75
	(ii) Appointments – report of the Assistant Director of Law and Governance (copy herewith).	77



PATRICK MELIA, CHIEF EXECUTIVE.

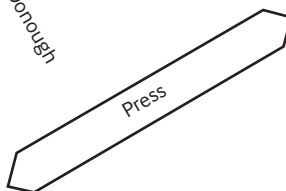
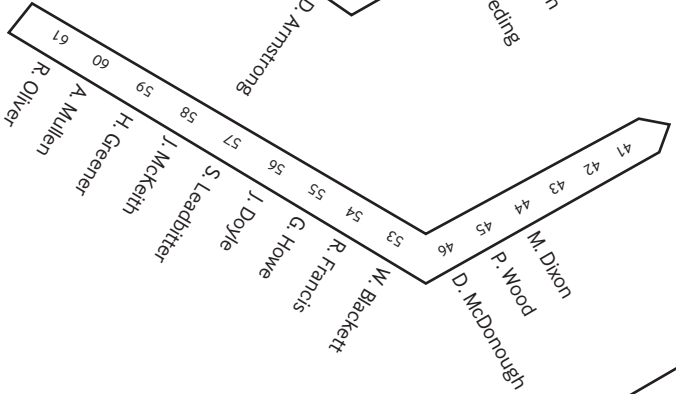
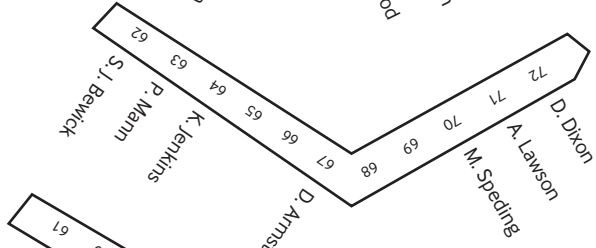
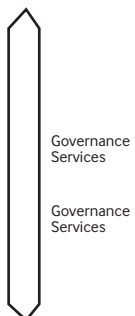


Assistant Director of Law and Governance
E. Waugh

Mayor
D. Snowdon

Chief Executive
P. Melia

Deputy Mayor
H. Trueman



Minutes

Sunderland City Council

At a meeting of SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL held in the CIVIC CENTRE on WEDNESDAY, 19 JUNE, 2019 at 4.00 pm

Present: The Mayor (Councillor D. Snowdon) in the Chair
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor H. Trueman)

Councillors	Armstrong	Foster	MacKnight, N	Stewart
	Atkinson	Francis	Mann	Taylor
	Bewick	Gibson, E	McDonough	Thornton
	Blackburn	Gibson, P.	McKeith	Trueman, D
	Blackett	Greener	Miller, F	Turner
	Butler	Haswell	Miller, G.	Tye
	Chequer	Heron	Mordey	Walker, G
	Crosby	Hodson	Mullen	Waller
	Cunningham	Howe	O'Brien	Watson
	Davison	Hunt	Oliver	Williams
	Dixon, D.	Jackson	Rowntree	Wilson, A.
	Dixon, M	Jenkins	Samuels	Wilson, D.
	Doyle	Johnston	Scanlan	Wood, A.
	Essl	Kelly	Scullion	Wood, K.
	Fagan	Lauchlan	Smith, G	Wood, P.
	Farthing	Lawson	Smith, P	
	Fletcher	MacKnight, D	Snowdon, D.E.	

Also Present:-

Honorary Aldermen: - Greenfield
Tate

The notice convening the meeting was read.

Minutes

6. RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15 May 2019 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Declarations of Interest

The following Councillors declared interests as follows: -

Item 12 – Motions on Notice – Protecting Schools from Government Funding Cuts	Councillor Hunt	Governor of St Pauls CE School
	Councillor Lawson	Governor of Our Lady Queen of Peace RC Primary School
	Councillor N. MacKnight	Member of Aim High Academy

Announcements

(i) North East Better Health at Work Awards

At the invitation of the Mayor, Councillor Dr. G. Walker advised the Council that Sunderland City Council had once again been successful with its submission for the North East Better Health at Work Award. For the second year running the Council had achieved the highest level of the award, Maintaining Excellence, in what was now the eighth year of participation.

This award was in recognition of all the work completed by teams and individuals across the organisation in order to maintain/improve the health and wellbeing of colleagues, friends and family members, helping to make Sunderland a more vibrant, dynamic and healthy City.

(ii) Culture Awards

At the invitation of the Mayor, Councillor Kelly advised the Council that Sunderland City Council had won Best event North East for the Tall Ships Event.

The Mayor received the awards on behalf of the Council.

Reception of Petitions

7. RESOLVED that the petitions listed below submitted by the Councillors named, be received and referred for consideration in accordance with the Council's Petitions Scheme: -

Councillor Greener – Petition from residents calling on the Council to look at the condition of roads within Mount Grove, Chatsworth Crescent and Chatsworth Crescent South.

Councillor Dr. G. Walker – Petition from residents calling on the reinstatement of the Go North East 36 Bus to serve the Houghton-Le-Spring – Herrington and Silksworth Areas.

Councillor Cunningham – Petition from residents calling on the Council to replace and bring up to date equipment and supply a piece of equipment for disabled children to meet inclusive standards. To erect no dogs allowed signs at King George Playing Field, Church Road, Hetton Downs.

Councillor Hodson – Petition from residents of Thornholme Road who wish to seek advice from the Council for assistance in obtaining the same signage to alleviate parking issues caused by the implementation of parking permits around Beechwood Terrace, Ashwood Terrace and Beechwood Street.

Councillor Hodson – Petition from residents to call on the Council to protect the flagstones and granite kerbs on Thornhill Terrace when making repairs to the carriageway, footpaths and kerbs in the street.

Councillor McDonough – Petition from residents to call on the Council to remove the bus lane at the Board Inn roundabout in Herrington.

Apologies

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Leadbitter, Marshall, McClennan, Potts, Scaplehorn, Speding and P. Walker and on behalf of Alderman Arnott.

Written Questions under Rule 9

Pursuant to Rule 9 of the Council Rules of Procedure, the Leader and Members of the Cabinet were asked questions which had been submitted by members of the public.

Report of the Cabinet

The Cabinet reported and recommended as follows: -

1. Honorary Freedom of the City

That they had given consideration to a report of the Chief Executive recommending that the Council consider formally conferring the Honorary Freedom of the City upon the England footballer Jordan Henderson to recognise the example of commitment and achievement he sets as an ambassador of Sunderland and role model for young people.

The Cabinet recommended to Council that:-

- (i) it agrees to the conferring, in accordance with the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, of the Honorary Freedom of the City upon Jordan Henderson, and
- (ii) authority be given for the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to agree all appropriate arrangements for the formal ceremony at an extraordinary meeting of the Council at an appropriate time in the future.

2. Cross Border Taxi Licensing Enforcement

That they had given consideration to a report of the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods outlining proposals for the Council to enter into arrangements with other local authorities in the north east region in order to facilitate cross border licensing enforcement with regard to hackney carriages and private hire vehicles that are being operated outside of the area of the local authority from which their relevant licences were obtained.

The Cabinet agreed that:-

- (i) The Council enters into a Memorandum of Understanding with other local authorities in the north east region in order to facilitate cross border licensing enforcement with regard to hackney carriages and private hire vehicles that are being operated outside of the area of the local authority from which the relevant licences were obtained.
- (ii) The form of the Memorandum of Understanding shall be in the form, or substantially in the form, of that set out in Appendix 1 to the report, subject to any amendments required or agreed by the Assistant Director of Law and Governance.
- (iii) The Council enters into agreements under section 113 of the Local Government Act 1972 with the other authorities participating in the Cross Border Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Authorisation Scheme for (a) the placing at the disposal of the other authorities for the purposes of the Scheme the services of licensing officers employed by the Council; and (b) the acceptance of the services of officers of those other participating authorities on a reciprocal basis.
- (iv) The Executive Director of Neighbourhoods be authorised to take all steps necessary to implement the above and be given delegated power to authorise officers made available by other participating authorities to exercise taxi licensing enforcement powers within their respective areas on behalf of this Council.
- (v) Council be asked to agree provisions (1) to (4) above in relation to any matters within the remit of the Scheme and the Memorandum of Understanding that are not functions of the Executive.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor G Miller, duly seconded by the Deputy Leader, Councillor Mordey, moved the report of the Cabinet.

The Leader advised Jordan Henderson, whilst proud to accept the honour of freedom of the City, would like to take up this offer at the end of his career and had agreed to become an ambassador for the city in the meantime.

The approval and adoption of the Cabinet report was agreed:-

Accordingly it was:-

8. RESOLVED that the report of the Cabinet be approved and adopted.

Area Arrangements Annual Report 2018/19

The Executive Director of Neighbourhoods submitted the Area Committee Annual Report which summarised the work of the five Area Committees during 2018/2019.

Councillor Kelly, duly seconded by Councillor P. Stewart, moved the Annual Report of the Area Committees and accordingly it was: -

9. RESOLVED that the achievements and impact of the work of the Area Committees and their supporting People and Place Boards during 2018/2019, as outlined in the Annual Report, be received and noted.

Scrutiny Annual Report 2018/19

The Director of People, Partnerships and Communications submitted the Scrutiny Annual Report which summarised the work of the Scrutiny Committees during 2018/2019.

Councillor D. MacKnight, duly seconded by Councillor Hunt, moved the Annual Report of the Scrutiny Committees and accordingly it was: -

10. RESOLVED that the operation, achievements and impact of the Scrutiny Committees during 2018/2019 as outlined in the report, be received and noted.

Written Questions under Rule 10.2

Pursuant to Rule 10.2 of the Council Rules of Procedure, Members of the Council asked questions of the Leader and Members of the Executive.

Councillor O'Brien, seconded by Councillor Haswell, moved an extension to the time for responding to written questions.

Upon being put to the vote, the motion was defeated with 22 Members voting in favour: -

Councillors	Armstrong	Fagan	Jenkins	Oliver
	Bewick	Francis	Mann	Smith, G.
	Blackett	Greener	McDonough	Wood, A.
	Crosby	Haswell	McKeith	Wood, P.
	Dixon, M	Hodson	Mullen	
	Doyle	Howe	O'Brien	

And 43 Members voting against: -

Councillors	Atkinson	Heron	Miller, F.	Thornton
	Butler	Hunt	Miller, G.	Trueman, D.
	Blackburn	Gibson, E.	Mordey	Turner
	Chequer	Gibson, P.	Rowntree	Tye
	Cunningham	Jackson	Samuels	Walker, G.
	Davison	Johnston	Scanlan	Watson
	Dixon, D.	Kelly	Scullion	Williams
	Essl	Lauchlan	Smith, P.	Wilson, A.
	Farthing	Lawson	Snowdon, D.E.	Wilson, D.
	Fletcher	MackKnight, D.	Stewart	Wood, K.
	Foster	MackKnight, N.	Taylor	

Notices of Motion

(i) Captain Robert Nairac, Grenadier Guards

Councillor Oliver, duly seconded by Councillor Mullen, moved the following motion:-

“This Council pays tribute to Captain Robert Nairac, of the Grenadier Guards, who was murdered 42 years ago whilst serving in Northern Ireland.

This Council notes the local connection between the Nairac family and the City of Sunderland and will assist in any tribute proposed by the House of Commons”.

Upon being put to the vote, the motion was declared to be carried with 63 Members voting in favour: -

Councillors	Armstrong	Foster	Mann	Thornton
	Atkinson	Francis	McDonough	Trueman, D
	Bewick	Gibson, E	McKeith	Turner
	Blackburn	Gibson, P.	Miller, F	Tye
	Blackett	Greener	Miller, G.	Walker, G
	Butler	Haswell	Mordey	Waller
	Chequer	Heron	Mullen	Watson
	Crosby	Howe	Oliver	Williams
	Cunningham	Hunt	Rowntree	Wilson, A.
	Davison	Jackson	Samuels	Wilson, D.
	Dixon, D.	Jenkins	Scanlan	Wood, K.
	Dixon, M	Johnston	Scullion	Wood, P.
	Doyle	Kelly	Smith, G	
	Essl	Lauchlan	Smith, P	
	Fagan	Lawson	Snowdon, D.E.	
	Farthing	MackKnight, D	Stewart	
	Fletcher	MackKnight, N	Taylor	

And 2 Members voting against:-

Councillors Hodson Wood, A.

Accordingly, it was:-

11. RESOLVED that:-

This Council pays tribute to Captain Robert Nairac, of the Grenadier Guards, who was murdered 42 years ago whilst serving in Northern Ireland.

This Council notes the local connection between the Nairac family and the City of Sunderland and will assist in any tribute proposed by the House of Commons.

(ii) **Protecting Schools from Government Funding Cuts**

Councillor Farthing, duly seconded by Councillor Williams, moved the following motion:-

This Council notes that as a result of Government cuts to education funding that Sunderland schools:

- Will have lost £22.7 million in overall funding between 2015-2020
- Will have lost the equivalent of £267 per pupil
- Have seen an increase in class sizes
- Are having to bear the brunt of unfunded National Insurance contributions
- Have an inadequate High Needs Block Funding, leaving our most vulnerable pupils without the support they need

Without the support they need **Sunderland Council** resolves:

- To write to the Secretary of State for Education and call for more funding to be invested in education.
- To support the coalition of trade unions campaigning against school cuts.
- To call on the Government to fully fund and fully implement current and future recommendations of the School Teachers' Review Body on teachers' pay
- To remind Parents and Governors of the impact on school budgets of the proposed Government National Funding Formula.

The motion having been unanimously agreed it was:-

12. RESOLVED that:-

This Council notes that as a result of Government cuts to education funding that Sunderland schools:

- Will have lost £22.7 million in overall funding between 2015-2020
- Will have lost the equivalent of £267 per pupil
- Have seen an increase in class sizes
- Are having to bear the brunt of unfunded National Insurance contributions
- Have an inadequate High Needs Block Funding, leaving our most vulnerable pupils without the support they need

Without the support they need **Sunderland Council** resolves:

- To write to the Secretary of State for Education and call for more funding to be invested in education.
- To support the coalition of trade unions campaigning against school cuts.
- To call on the Government to fully fund and fully implement current and future recommendations of the School Teachers' Review Body on teachers' pay
- To remind Parents and Governors of the impact on school budgets of the proposed Government National Funding Formula

(iii) Housing

Councillor Atkinson, duly seconded by Councillor Johnston, moved the following motion:-

“Housing is a fundamental need and decent, affordable housing should be a basic right for everybody in this city. The reason is simple that without stable housing everything else just falls apart. Housing is not only a roof, but social housing provides social innovation, employment services, health services, social inclusion ensuing that the quality of life of its residents is improved.

We ask this council to resolve that they implement the following housing commitments:

- That we prioritise the building of Social Housing and that the builds are to a high specification and lead the way forward using recycled material and green energy in a bid to move towards a stable and de-carbonised economy.
- That the needs of our residents are met by any housing built and future-proofs the city's housing stock.
- That we explore all ownership methods for social housing.
- Ensure that all 2,500 empty properties in Sunderland are brought back into use
- Develop a Homelessness Charter
- Work to prevent homelessness and develop a strategy of sign-posting before people are made homeless.
- Ensure that Veterans and children are a priority in our housing strategies
- Ensure domestic violence sufferers who live in homes in Sunderland are afforded the support they need.
- Ensure that residents in private tenancies are fully supported.

- Work with all registered providers to ensure their stock is well maintained and that they develop schemes to ensure more social housing is available to residents
- We ensure that HMOs are licenced and that owners understand their commitment to the residents who live in them as well as the communities in which they are located.
- We re-introduce the Accredited Landlord Scheme in Sunderland as a whole.
- We ensure that we use all enforcement powers to tackle the problems associated with problematic or empty properties
- Empower residents through housing to ensure they have a stable base which also supports social mobility and works to break down the perceived inequalities associated with social housing”.

Councillor Doyle, duly seconded by Councillor M. Dixon, moved the following amendment to the motion:-

To insert, after the final bullet point, the following:

“The Portfolio Holder for Housing and Regeneration will write to each councillor as soon as possible, but by no later than the next meeting of the full Council, to explain exactly how she will deliver upon each of the proposals outlined in this motion and to set out in detail how she envisages these ideas working in practice.”

So the amended motion would read:-

“Housing is a fundamental need and decent, affordable housing should be a basic right for everybody in this city. The reason is simple that without stable housing everything else just falls apart. Housing is not only a roof, but social housing provides social innovation, employment services, health services, social inclusion ensuing that the quality of life of its residents is improved.

We ask this council to resolve that they implement the following housing commitments:

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- That the needs of our residents are met by any housing built and future-proofs the city’s housing stock.
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- Ensure that Veterans and children are a priority in our housing strategies
- Ensure domestic violence sufferers who live in homes in Sunderland are afforded the support they need.
- Ensure that residents in private tenancies are fully supported.

- Work with all registered providers to ensure their stock is well maintained and that they develop schemes to ensure more social housing is available to residents
- We ensure that HMOs are licenced and that owners understand their commitment to the residents who live in them as well as the communities in which they are located.
- We re-introduce the Accredited Landlord Scheme in Sunderland as a whole.
- We ensure that we use all enforcement powers to tackle the problems associated with problematic or empty properties
- Empower residents through housing to ensure they have a stable base which also supports social mobility and works to break down the perceived inequalities associated with social housing
- The Portfolio Holder for Housing and Regeneration will write to each councillor as soon as possible, but by no later than the next meeting of the full Council, to explain exactly how she will deliver upon each of the proposals outlined in this motion and to set out in detail how she envisages these ideas working in practice”.

Upon being put to the vote the amendment was defeated with 21 Members voting in favour:-

Councillors	Armstrong	Fagan	Jenkins	Smith, G.
	Bewick	Francis	Mann	Wood, A.
	Blackett	Greener	McDonough	Wood, P.
	Crosby	Haswell	McKeith	
	Dixon, M	Hodson	Mullen	
	Doyle	Howe	Oliver	

And 44 Members voting against:-

Councillors	Atkinson	Heron	Miller, F.	Thornton
	Butler	Hunt	Miller, G.	Trueman, D.
	Blackburn	Gibson, E.	Mordey	Turner
	Chequer	Gibson, P.	Rowntree	Tye
	Cunningham	Jackson	Samuels	Walker, G.
	Davison	Johnston	Scanlan	Waller
	Dixon, D.	Kelly	Scullion	Watson
	Essl	Lauchlan	Smith, P.	Williams
	Farthing	Lawson	Snowdon, D.E.	Wilson, A.
	Fletcher	MackKnight, D.	Stewart	Wilson, D.
	Foster	MackKnight, N.	Taylor	Wood, K.

Upon being put to the vote the substantive motion was declared to be carried with 63 Members voting in favour:-

Councillors	Armstrong	Foster	MackKnight, N	Trueman, D
	Atkinson	Francis	Mann	Turner
	Bewick	Gibson, E	McDonough	Tye
	Blackburn	Gibson, P.	McKeith	Walker, G
	Blackett	Greener	Miller, F	Waller
	Butler	Haswell	Miller, G.	Watson
	Chequer	Heron	Mordey	Williams
	Crosby	Hodson	Mullen	Wilson, A.
	Cunningham	Howe	Oliver	Wilson, D.
	Davison	Hunt	Rowntree	Wood, A.
	Dixon, D.	Jackson	Samuels	Wood, K.
	Dixon, M	Jenkins	Scanlan	Wood, P.
	Doyle	Johnston	Smith, G	
	Essl	Kelly	Smith, P	
	Fagan	Lauchlan	Snowdon, D.E.	
	Farthing	Lawson	Stewart	
	Fletcher	MackKnight, D	Thornton	

And no members voting against

Accordingly it was: -

13. RESOLVED that:-

Housing is a fundamental need and decent, affordable housing should be a basic right for everybody in this city. The reason is simple that without stable housing everything else just falls apart. Housing is not only a roof, but social housing provides social innovation, employment services, health services, social inclusion ensuing that the quality of life of its residents is improved.

We ask this council to resolve that they implement the following housing commitments:

- That we prioritise the building of Social Housing and that the builds are to a high specification and lead the way forward using recycled material and green energy in a bid to move towards a stable and de-carbonised economy.
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- That we explore all ownership methods for social housing.
- Ensure that all 2,500 empty properties in Sunderland are brought back into use
- Develop a Homelessness Charter
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- Ensure that Veterans and children are a priority in our housing strategies
- Ensure domestic violence sufferers who live in homes in Sunderland are afforded the support they need.
- Ensure that residents in private tenancies are fully supported.

- Work with all registered providers to ensure their stock is well maintained and that they develop schemes to ensure more social housing is available to residents
- We ensure that HMOs are licenced and that owners understand their commitment to the residents who live in them as well as the communities in which they are located.
- We re-introduce the Accredited Landlord Scheme in Sunderland as a whole.
- We ensure that we use all enforcement powers to tackle the problems associated with problematic or empty properties
- Empower residents through housing to ensure they have a stable base which also supports social mobility and works to break down the perceived inequalities associated with social housing

(iv) Messages of Hope on Bridges

Councillor McDonough, duly seconded by Councillor Oliver, moved the following motion:-

“This Council will work with the community to design and install permanent messages of hope on major bridges in our city to help to prevent suicide and encourage those who are at risk of taking their own life to reconsider and access support”.

The motion having been unanimously agreed it was:-

14. RESOLVED that:-

This Council will work with the community to design and install permanent messages of hope on major bridges in our city to help to prevent suicide and encourage those who are at risk of taking their own life to reconsider and access support.

(v) Timing of Council Meetings

Councillor Oliver, duly seconded by Councillor Doyle, moved the following motion:-

“This Council will rescind the decision taken at the AGM to move the time of full council meetings to 4pm.

Full council will start at 6pm in order to allow members who work usual office hours to attend.”

Upon being put to the vote the motion was defeated with 19 Members voting in favour:-

Councillors	Armstrong	Fagan	Jenkins	Oliver
	Bewick	Francis	Mann	Smith, G
	Blackett	Greener	McDonough	Wood, A.
	Dixon, M	Haswell	McKeith	Wood, P.
	Doyle	Howe	Mullen	

And 45 Members voting against:-

Councillors	Atkinson	Heron	Miller, F.	Turner
	Butler	Hodson	Miller, G.	Tye
	Blackburn	Hunt	Mordey	Walker, G.
	Chequer	Gibson, E.	Rowntree	Waller
	Crosby	Gibson, P.	Samuels	Watson
	Cunningham	Jackson	Scanlan	Williams
	Davison	Johnston	Scullion	Wilson, A.
	Dixon, D.	Kelly	Smith, P.	Wilson, D.
	Essl	Lauchlan	Snowdon, D.E.	Wood, K.
	Farthing	Lawson	Stewart	
	Fletcher	MacKnight, D.	Thornton	
	Foster	MacKnight, N.	Trueman, D.	

(vi) Leisure Facilities in Sunderland City Centre

Councillor Hodson, duly seconded by Councillor Haswell, moved the following motion:-

“Leisure facilities are one of the key aspects of a city centre which form part of the ‘pull factor’ in drawing people into the area. Provision of a variety of leisure facilities also adds to the attraction of a retail environment and has the secondary benefit in drawing potential shoppers. Furthermore, the provision of good quality leisure facilities, offering opportunities to take part in physical activity, is a key tool in helping to encourage people to have active and healthy lives, reducing dependence on other hard-pressed services, and can also tackle social isolation.

This Council notes that:

- The former Crowtree Leisure Centre provided facilities in the city for residents to participate in ice skating, indoor bowls, squash and other activities;
- That the part-closure and subsequent demolition of the Crowtree Leisure Centre left residents without these facilities in the local area and now they must travel out of the area to take part in their sporting and leisure activities;
- Resident demand for a replacement leisure facility remains to this day.

This Council therefore calls on the chief executive to report on the feasibility of including a new public leisure facility in the city centre as part of the future Vaux and Crowtree site redevelopment plans or other city centre regeneration areas/projects.”

The Leader, duly seconded by Councillor Atkinson, moved the following amendment to the motion:-

Delete the second bullet point all together
Delete the last paragraph all together and replace it with:

“This council therefore calls upon the chief executive to update council on the ongoing plans to develop a new public leisure facility within the City Centre and the timescales involved in progressing this.”

So the amended motion would read:-

“Leisure facilities are one of the key aspects of a city centre which form part of the ‘pull factor’ in drawing people into the area. Provision of a variety of leisure facilities also adds to the attraction of a retail environment and has the secondary benefit in drawing potential shoppers. Furthermore, the provision of good quality leisure facilities, offering opportunities to take part in physical activity, is a key tool in helping to encourage people to have active and healthy lives, reducing dependence on other hard-pressed services, and can also tackle social isolation.

This Council notes that:

The former Crowtree Leisure Centre provided facilities in the city for residents to participate in ice skating, indoor bowls, squash and other activities;

Resident demand for a replacement leisure facility remains to this day.

This council therefore calls upon the chief executive to update council on the ongoing plans to develop a new public leisure facility within the City Centre and the timescales involved in progressing this.”

Upon being put to the vote the amended motion was declared to be carried with 63 Members voting in favour:-

Councillors	Armstrong	Foster	MacKnight, N	Trueman, D
	Atkinson	Francis	Mann	Turner
	Bewick	Gibson, E	McDonough	Tye
	Blackburn	Gibson, P.	McKeith	Walker, G
	Blackett	Greener	Miller, F	Waller
	Butler	Haswell	Miller, G.	Watson
	Chequer	Heron	Mordey	Williams
	Crosby	Hodson	Mullen	Wilson, A.
	Cunningham	Howe	Oliver	Wilson, D.
	Davison	Hunt	Rowntree	Wood, A.
	Dixon, D.	Jackson	Samuels	Wood, K.
	Dixon, M	Jenkins	Scanlan	Wood, P.
	Doyle	Johnston	Smith, G	
	Essl	Kelly	Smith, P	
	Fagan	Lauchlan	Snowdon, D.E.	
	Farthing	Lawson	Stewart	
	Fletcher	MacKnight, D	Thornton	

And no Members voting against.

The Mayor read out the amended motion, which was agreed and accordingly it was:-

15. RESOLVED that:-

Leisure facilities are one of the key aspects of a city centre which form part of the 'pull factor' in drawing people into the area. Provision of a variety of leisure facilities also adds to the attraction of a retail environment and has the secondary benefit in drawing potential shoppers. Furthermore, the provision of good quality leisure facilities, offering opportunities to take part in physical activity, is a key tool in helping to encourage people to have active and healthy lives, reducing dependence on other hard-pressed services, and can also tackle social isolation.

This Council notes that:

The former Crowtree Leisure Centre provided facilities in the city for residents to participate in ice skating, indoor bowls, squash and other activities;

Resident demand for a replacement leisure facility remains to this day.

This council therefore calls upon the chief executive to update council on the ongoing plans to develop a new public leisure facility within the City Centre and the timescales involved in progressing this

Report on Special Urgency Decisions

The Leader of the Council submitted a quarterly report on executive decisions which had been taken as a matter of special urgency, which advised that there were no such instances since the last report.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor G. Miller, duly seconded by the Deputy Leader, Councillor Mordey, moved the report and accordingly, it was:-

16. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Appointments to Outside Bodies

The Assistant Director of Law and Governance submitted a report and supplementary report which requested the Council to consider appointments to a number of outside bodies.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor G. Miller, duly seconded by the Deputy Leader, Councillor Mordey, moved the reports and accordingly, it was:-

17. RESOLVED that: -

- (i) The nominations of Councillors Richard Elvin and Sheila Quigley as the representatives of Hetton Town Council on the Standards Committee be confirmed;

- (ii) Councillor N. MacKnight be appointed to the Corporate Parenting Board in place of Councillor Johnston;
- (iii) The nomination of Councillor Dr. G. Walker to the Council of Governors for the South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust and Councillor Chequer to the Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust be approved; and
- (iv) The appointment of the following trustees to the Parker Trust CIO and to also serve as trustees of Parker Memorial Home be approved:-

Susan Rackstraw
Kay Taylor
Pat Dyball
Andrea Soloman
Michael Braban
Ian Galbraith
Alison Smith.

Further that the Assistant Director of Community Resilience, in consultation with the Chair of the Parker Trust, be authorised to conduct a further recruitment process, in due course, to identify suitable candidates for recommendation to Council for appointment to the positions of trustee, in order to increase the proportion of independent trustees on each body.

- (v) Councillor Scullion be appointed to the Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee in place of Councillor Scanlan; and
- (vi) Councillor Scanlan be appointed to the Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee in place of Councillor Scullion.

(Signed) D. SNOWDON,
Mayor.

Report of the Cabinet

The CABINET reports and recommends as follows:-

1. City Plan “Sunderland 2019-2030”

That at its meeting held on 16 July, Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Director of People, Communications and Partnerships (copy report attached) on the City Plan “Sunderland 2019-2030” which outlined the Council's overarching strategic plan for the period 2019/2020 to 2029/2030.

The Draft City Plan covers:-

- The key Challenges facing Sunderland
- A Vision for the city and Values for the council which provide the focus for the council's activity in respect of addressing those Challenges and other key issues for the city
- Three Key Themes – Dynamic City, Healthy City and Vibrant City - which are used to organise the council's aims in respect of the Challenges and the other key issues
- Five Commitments for each Key Theme under which the council's Activities in respect of addressing the Challenges and the other key issues are aligned
- A Timeline of Activities illustrating the council's actions across all of the Key Themes for the years 2019-2020 to 2024-2025 and the five-year period 2025-2030

The Cabinet noted the contents of the report and the City Plan “Sunderland 2019-2030” (attached) and as an Article 4 Plan it was referred to the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee for further advice and consideration prior to recommending it to Council for approval.

Members are to note that the version of the Timeline accompanying this report has been updated since the original presentation of the City Plan to Scrutiny Coordinating Committee on 14 March 2019 and Cabinet on 16 July 2019 (copy of City Plan with revised timeline attached).

The comments of the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee and the recommendations of the Cabinet will be reported to the Council meeting.

2. Annual Health and Safety Report: April 2018 – March 2019

That they will be giving consideration to a report of the Strategic Director of People, Communications and Partnerships (copy attached) on the Annual Health and Safety Report: April 2018 – March 2019. The report gives an overview of the management of health and safety at work within the Council.

Cabinet's recommendations to Council will be set out in a supplementary report.

CABINET – 16 JULY 2019

CITY PLAN “SUNDERLAND 2019-2030”

Report of Director of People, Communications and Partnerships

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 This report submits for consideration the City Plan “Sunderland 2019-2030”.

2.0 Description of Decision (Recommendations)

2.1 Cabinet is requested to consider the contents of the City Plan “Sunderland 2019-2030” and recommend it to Council for approval.

3.0 Context

3.1 The council's performance management framework contains several related components in respect of the council's priorities, delivery actions, milestones, performance measures and targets.

3.2 These components enable the council to describe its roles and responsibilities in respect of addressing the challenges Sunderland and its communities face, identifying the activity it will undertake and the targets and measures which will be used to understand progress.

3.3 A council plan has a key role in these arrangements in forming the basis for the council's strategic direction and key priorities and the means of managing them.

3.4 It was previously a statutory requirement that councils produce a strategic plan bringing together their Medium Term Financial Strategy, service plans, objectives and performance outturns and targets. This requirement was removed by the Coalition Government in 2010.

3.5 However, the council has remained committed to robust strategic planning, openness and accountability to stakeholders and has therefore determined to clearly articulate its strategic direction and approach in previous Corporate Plans and now in the City Plan “Sunderland 2019-2030” (“City Plan”).

4.0 Current Position

4.1 The City Plan will be the council's overarching strategic plan for the period 2019/2020 to 2029/2030.

4.2 The Final Draft of the City Plan is attached to this report as an Appendix.

4.3 The Final Draft City Plan covers:

- The key Challenges facing Sunderland
- A Vision for the city and Values for the council which provide the focus for the council's activity in respect of addressing those Challenges and other key issues for the city

- Three Key Themes – Dynamic City, Healthy City and Vibrant City - which are used to organise the council’s aims in respect of the Challenges and the other key issues
- Five Commitments for each Key Theme under which the council’s Activities in respect of addressing the Challenges and the other key issues are aligned
- A Timeline of Activities illustrating the council’s actions across all of the Key Themes for the years 2019-2020 to 2024-2025 and the five-year period 2025-2030

4.4 Progress in respect of the City Plan will be managed via the Corporate Performance Management arrangements which identify Key Milestones, Performance Measures, Targets and accountabilities for each of the City Plan Timeline Activities.

4.5 The Corporate Performance Management arrangements are implemented through the monthly Performance Clinics process and quarterly reporting to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee and Cabinet.

4.6 The City Plan will be underpinned by delivery and project level plans, and individual appraisal arrangements which will break down City Plan content into operational and management activity to create a clear “golden thread” of empowerment, responsibility and accountability from the council’s ambitions to service and individual activity and vice-versa.

4.7 The final City Plan will primarily be published electronically on the council’s website and The Hub with limited printed copies created as necessary.

5.0 Reasons for the Decision

5.1 Production of a corporate plan is required under the council’s Constitution, as an Article 4 Plan.

5.2 The City Plan is considered to fulfil the role of a corporate plan as the primary statement of both the council’s and the city’s strategic direction and key priorities.

6.0 Alternative Options

6.1 Alternative Options considered and rejected as part of the process of developing the Corporate Plan were:

Option 1. Do Nothing: This option was not considered appropriate as the council would not have a corporate plan that captured and expressed in simple terms the council’s strategic direction and intentions for the years 2019-2030.

Option 2. Produce a Corporate Plan: This option was not considered appropriate as a Corporate Plan is considered no longer suitable as the primary statement of both the council’s and the city’s strategic direction and key priorities in the context of Government cuts and cost pressures or the council’s role and responsibilities in respect of addressing the key challenges Sunderland and its communities face.

7.0 Impact Analysis

Equalities - The City Plan forms the basis for how promoting equality and reducing inequalities is fundamental to council’s approach. Further to this the City Plan is subject to Equalities Analysis, through the delivery activities underpinning it, which will be subject to Equality Analyses at the appropriate stage of their development.

Sustainability - The City Plan is subject to a Sustainability Analysis, through the delivery activities underpinning it, which will be subject to Sustainability Analyses at the appropriate stage of their development

8.0 Other Considerations/Consultations

Co-operative Values – At Annual Council in May 2015, it was resolved that the following statement be included in the Constitution to reflect the values of the “Cooperative Council”.

“Sunderland City Council is a co-operative council and in being so will act ethically in all its actions while adhering to and actively promoting its co-operative values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity. These values will underpin its decision making and actions.”

As the council’s sole strategic plan and the key means of articulating and communicating the council’s priorities and direction in leading the citywide response to the key challenges impacting on Sunderland, the City Plan lies at the heart of the council’s approach as a “Co-operative Council”.

Financial Implications – Any financial implications arising as a result of actions set out in the City Plan can be met through existing budget provision or will be included within the medium term financial strategy as appropriate, and subject to the annual approval process.

Legal Implications – The Assistant Director of Law and Governance has been consulted to ensure that correct process is followed for the formal adoption of the City Plan as part of the council’s Policy Framework under Article 4 of the Constitution.

Policy Implications – The development of the City Plan has been coordinated by the Director of People, Communications and Partnerships.

The City Plan has been shared and developed in conjunction with the Chief Officer Group, Assistant Directors, Corporate SMT, the Cabinet and Sunderland Partnership.

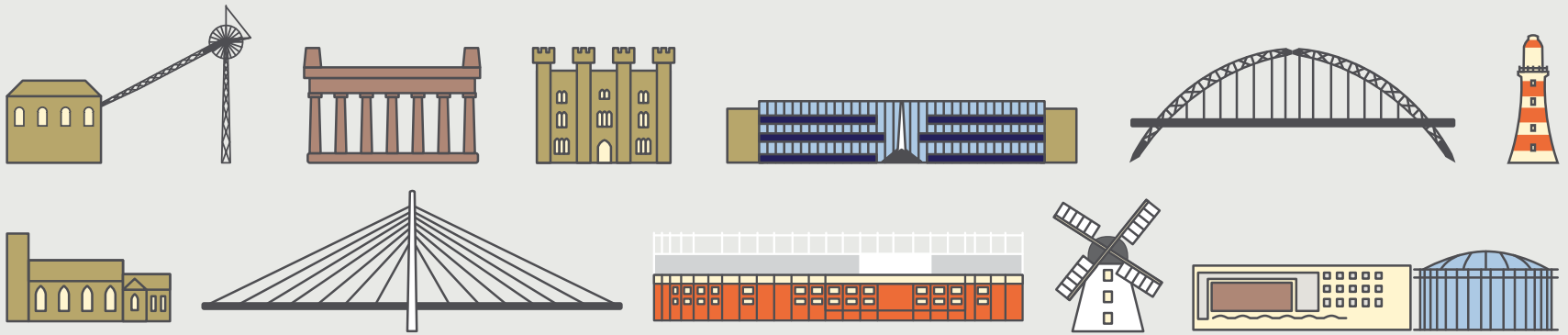
9.0 List of Appendices

Appendix: City Plan “Sunderland 2019-2030”

10.0 Background Papers

City Plan “Sunderland 2019-2030” working draft presentations

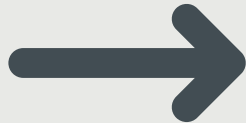
Appendix: Final Draft City Plan “Sunderland 2019-2030”



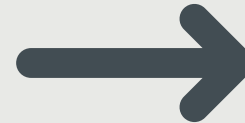
SUNDERLAND 2019-2030

DEVELOPING A CITY PLAN

Our
challenges



Draft vision
and values



Key
themes



OUR CHALLENGES

Migration out of the city continues



OUR CHALLENGES

Sunderland city centre
not functioning as an
economic motor



OUR CHALLENGES

A group of hands, belonging to people in business attire, are stacked together in a circle, holding a small green plant growing in soil. The hands are positioned around the plant, symbolizing growth, investment, and support. The background is blurred, focusing attention on the hands and the plant.

Sunderland is very good at attracting inward investment but is less successful at growing Sunderland businesses

OUR CHALLENGES

The qualifications and skills which Sunderland's residents have don't match the needs of industry in the city

OUR CHALLENGES

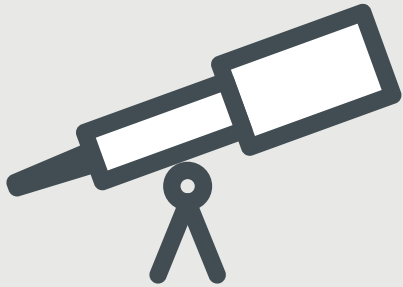
Health outcomes in Sunderland are still poor and health behaviours haven't yet changed sufficiently



OUR CHALLENGES

High levels of children in need
and in care





VISION

By 2030 Sunderland will be a connected, international city with opportunities for all



VALUES

We innovate, we enable and we are respectful

THREE KEY THEMES



A DYNAMIC CITY



A HEALTHY CITY



A VIBRANT CITY



A DYNAMIC CITY

by 2030 we will have:

- more and better jobs
- more and better housing
- more local people with better qualifications and skills to enable them to participate in and benefit from a stronger economy
- a stronger city centre with more businesses, housing and cultural opportunities
- a lower carbon city with greater digital connectivity for all



A HEALTHY CITY

by 2030 we will have:

- access to the same opportunities and life chances
- more people living healthier longer lives
- people enjoy independent lives
- cleaner and more attractive city and neighbourhoods
- a city with great transport and travel links



A VIBRANT CITY

by 2030 we will have:

- more creative and cultural businesses
- more residents participating in their communities
- more visitors visiting Sunderland and more residents participating in cultural events and activities
- more people feel safe in their neighbourhoods and homes
- more resilient people

TIMELINE

- 100% schools engaged with the Active Charter
- Digital Ambition in place for the city
- 1st building on IAMP operational
- 1st drive-thru rapid charging facility for electric cars
- 1st building on Vaux site
- World Transplant Games take place
- Empty property strategy published
- £20m investment in sports facilities
- University Medical School open
- Launch Step-Up Sunderland

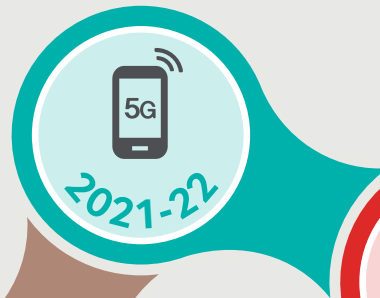
- Increase in economic activity at the Port
- On-site development of Sunderland Station
- New City Hall opens on the Vaux site
- Roll out of 5G
- SSTC3 (Northern Spire to City Centre) opens
- Increased business take-up of low carbon initiatives
- New primary school opens

- 2,000 new office jobs
- Heat and power network in the City Centre
- More and better homes in the City Centre
- New 4* hotel
- More resilient families in Sunderland
- More local people benefitting from a stronger economy
- Increase in the number and strength of creative and cultural businesses

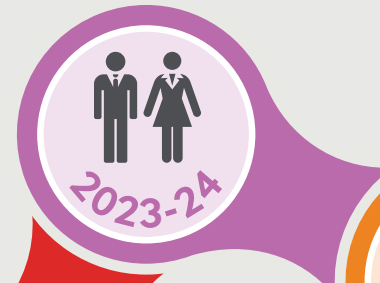
- Best performing Key City in England
- Sunderland recognised as a centre of excellence in sport
- Sunderland will be a more dynamic, healthier and vibrant city



- Additional investment in cultural events and venues
- 50 empty homes brought back into use
- Innovation Centre opens on IAMP
- Assisted technology test-bed delivered
- New school for children with Autism opens
- Sunderland Industrial and Employment Strategy approved



- Better walking and cycling routes linking communities to riverside and seafront and green spaces
- Reduction in smoking in the city
- More people physically active
- Improvement in household recycling rates
- More people enjoying independent lives



- The gap between average wages in the city and regional average wages will be significantly reduced
- Sunderland recognised as a cultural destination of choice
- Key housing sites developed
- New pedestrian access across the river
- Better transport links between Washington and the City Centre and other areas



PERFORMANCE MEASURES



Annual health check

KEY MEASURES



Jobs and employment



Environment and safety



Health



Work/life balance



Income and wages



Transport



Deprivation



Digital



Skills, education and training



Housing



Crime and disorder

CABINET

17 SEPTEMBER 2019

ANNUAL HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT: April 2018 to March 2019

Report of the Strategic Director of People, Partnerships and Communications,

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 A summary health and safety report is produced for Cabinet every year to review the management of health and safety at work within the Council.
- 1.2 This report refers to the period April 2018 to March 2019; however, some of the incident statistics cover April 2016 to March 2019 in order to provide some medium-term context to the data.

2.0 Description of Decision (Recommendations)

- 2.1 It is recommended that Cabinet note the content of the Annual Health and Safety Report: April 2018 – March 2019, and refer the report to Council for information.

3.0 Background

- 3.1 This report follows a standard format, detailing significant health and safety events, incidents reported to the Health & Safety Executive, Council-wide initiatives to improve health and safety performance as well as information from formal health and safety audit/inspection reports used to maintain and challenge the Council's health and safety management system.

4.0 Significant Health and Safety Incidents during 2018/19

4.1 Cremator installation – May 2018

A "near miss" occurred over the weekend of the 27th and 28th May 2018 due to the unsafe condition in which a cremator was left by a contractor commissioned by the Council to carry out the installation of a new cremation and abatement plant at Sunderland Crematorium.

The consequences of a collapse could have been major injuries/fatality to the contractor's or council employees and fire within the building, which may have compromised the safety of other people.

This incident was also considered in the context of an earlier near miss at the start of the contract, regarding the removal of an old gas cremator.

Steps were taken to ensure that the Principal Designer and the Principal Contractor complied with their duties for the remainder of the project. This resulted in extra scrutiny to the adequacy of the risk assessments, with feedback given to client officers where necessary and additional monitoring to check that employees were working in accordance with risk assessment controls and changes were made to the procurement process to ensure that contactors understand their legal obligations and in particular in relation to CDM 2015.

4.2 Port of Sunderland – Fall from Height – June 2018

A team of Port Operatives were discharging steel slabs from the cargo hold of a ship. As this lift was being carried out the load slowly began to turn. The injured person (IP) stepped backwards to ensure he was clear of the lift when he tripped, lost his balance and fell approximately 6ft landing in a void between the steel slabs. This incident was notified to the HSE under RIDDOR as an over 7-day injury.

Operatives are instructed to fill the voids created when the steel slabs are removed with fall arrest bags before continuing with work thus preventing/reducing the risk of falls from height. This is communicated by the supervisor to all operatives involved in the discharge via toolbox talks every morning before work commences. On-going supervision is provided during the discharge of the vessel, including on the quay and in the cargo hold. This discharge was 5 days in and the IP had attended all 5 toolbox talks and has stated that he had identified the void but had taken no action.

All staff (including Agency) involved in work activities where a fall from height is identified as a significant hazard will complete Work at Height Training which is refreshed periodically.

Where it is identified that an employee is not following safe working procedures follow up action will be taken by the manager to ensure the safety of all those involved in a work activity.

Risk Assessments and operating procedures have been updated to include the hazard of working at height and adequate controls identified and implemented.

4.3 Port of Sunderland – Explosion of pontoon resulting in a fatality to a contractor – July 2018

This investigation is on-going and subject to legal privilege therefore no details can be disclosed.

A Pre-Inquest Review will be held in the Coroner's court in October 2019.

4.4 Falling tree and lamp post in Roker Park – September 2018

During gale force winds which were affecting most of the UK (wind speeds of up to 75 mph) an Ash tree failed at the base causing it to fall. It was reported that a branch of the tree had struck a member of the public on the head causing a laceration. Trees in the park were inspected and identified remedial works carried out.

The incident was not notified under RIDDOR as the IP's personal details (name address etc) were unknown; the incident was not witnessed at the time, but immediately afterwards.

Emergency works were carried out to make the tree safe. Remaining trees were surveyed and some remedial works, post storm carried out.

A 5m high heritage style cast iron light column had collapsed leaving exposed electrical cables; the collapse was a consequence of corrosion around the column base. All columns were inspected and 19 were replaced. Although this was a near miss it highlighted that all of the lighting columns within the park had not been included in the maintenance schedule for many years. Columns are now subject to periodic inspection going forward.

4.5 Houghton Feast Parade – October 2018

During the Saturday pedestrian and vehicle parades there were a number of incidents noted by the Event Safety Co-ordinator.

The Council's Health and Safety Manager raised concerns regarding the management of safety issues for this parade event with the event organiser.

It was recommended that roles, responsibilities and liabilities for the parade event were reviewed, with the aim that the primary management responsibility for the event is either directly given to the Council's Events team or that specific contractual arrangements are agreed and understood before the planning of the next year's event. A meeting has taken place to address these issues.

4.6 SCAS Hoist Failure – October 2018

A hoist fell from its overhead tracking whilst transporting a customer. A Support worker was hoisting a customer from the floor in the sensory room towards the door exiting the sensory room and leading to the hallway. The customer was successfully hoisted until he reached the door area, when at this point the customer dropped to the floor. The customer did not appear to be hurt but staff called paramedics as a precautionary measure. Paramedics attended the site and confirmed the customer had not sustained any injuries.

The system used to ensure that all lifting equipment is inspected under Lifting Operations & Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER) had failed.

The LOLER inspection system has been reviewed and made more robust so that all equipment is tested within specified timescales.

4.7 Member of Public found semi-conscious in Civic Centre Car Park Basement – December 2018

The IP was found lying in the basement of the car park while under the influence of drugs/drink and was taken to Sunderland Hospital for treatment of his injuries which were not life threatening. It is believed that the IP fell a short distance from a vehicle ramp leading to the basement. This ramp is closed off by a barrier and has signage displayed to inform car park visitors that the basement is closed however the "No Pedestrians" signs have faded.

Recommendations were made to management with regard to signage and reducing the gaps between the railings on vehicle ramps to less than 100mm to prevent falls. This work has now been completed.

4.8 Adult Services - Social Worker Assault – February 2019

A social worker within Adult Social Care went to visit a service user. Prior to seeing the service user the social worker attended a meeting and as she left the meeting room with other health professionals she saw the service user in the corridor. Without warning he attacked the social worker. A member of hospital staff was present and performed breakaway training to separate the service user from the social worker. The social worker returned to the workplace and reported the incident to her Line Manager.

A specific risk assessment for the social worker was undertaken and an appropriate protective device identified.

4.9 Health and Safety Enforcement Interventions during 2018/19

There have been no enforcement interventions this year.

5 Council wide Health and Safety initiatives and priorities

The following initiatives and priorities to drive improvements in performance were progressed during 2018/19:

5.1 Development of Employee Protection Register (EPR)

Development of an EPR has steadily progressed over the past year with key milestones reached.

It is anticipated that following the testing process the live system will be operational in late 2019.

5.2 Lone Worker Protection

Lone working can be high risk especially for those staff who work on their own in the community. A project was started to identify lone worker controls that are required to give adequate safeguards and assurances to staff.

The Health and Safety Team are working with service areas to identify: -

- The numbers of lone workers,
- ensuring that appropriate risk assessments are in place
- the types of lone worker protection devices required, the testing of these and associated costs to the council.

5.3 Health & Safety Assurance Framework

A Corporate Health & Safety Assurance Framework has been developed to map the Health & Safety responsibilities that the Council has, establish who is responsible for managing those responsibilities and gather the appropriate assurances that the responsibilities are being fulfilled.

The Assurance Map is based on the 4 Health & Safety risks within the Corporate Risk Profile, in addition to key "Operational" risks which in essence are based on the suite of Health and Safety Codes of Practice.

The results of the assurances gathered through the Framework are reported to the Executive Health & Safety Forum, Chief Officers Group and feed into the Audit and Governance Committee reporting arrangements.

At present there are 5 areas with limited assurance: -

- Premises Management
- Management of driving at work
- Management of workplace transportation
- Lone worker protection
- Employees subjected to physical violence

The Health and Safety Team have prioritised these areas and are working with key staff to address issues.

5.4 Watch Your Step - Slips, Trips, and Falls Initiative

Apart from incidents of violence, slips, trips and falls remain the most common kind of accident reported to the Health and Safety Team. In order to try and reduce the number of slips, trip and falls within the Council, SCAS, TFC, schools and academies the completion of an Introductory STEP training package by all employees will be promoted.

The package provides an easy way to learn about slips and trips, how they are caused, why preventing them is important and how to tackle hazards in the workplace to prevent them from happening. The training is provided in three levels, introductory, intermediate and advanced and has been tailored to suit different work areas.

5.5 Alcohol and Substance Misuse Testing

As an employer the Council has a duty to provide a safe working environment for all employees and to ensure the safety of our customers, visitors and residents. Following feedback from various council officers, service areas and Health and Safety forums it became apparent that there was a requirement for a procedure to determine the council's approach to alcohol and substance misuse. The Alcohol and Substance Misuse Code of Practice was implemented in August 2019. Testing will only take place under the following circumstances:

Post-Incident Testing

Following an accident or incident where one or more employees have been involved in one or more of the following:

- A serious injury
- Motor vehicle incident risk-ranked as high-risk on our premises
- Another incident risk-ranked as high-risk or having the potential to be high risk.

Reasonable Cause Testing

Where an employee is suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or misusing drugs whilst at work.

Testing will be carried out by an experienced independent external organisation accredited to ISO 17025. This is an International Standard to show competence in alcohol and substance testing carried out in the following way:

- A sample of breath will be used to test for alcohol
- A sample of urine or a swab from the inside of the mouth will be used to test for all other substances.
- Testing will be strictly controlled and designed to give accurate results, as well as maintaining the employee's dignity.

5.6 Health and Safety Training for Senior Leaders

The IOSH 'Leading Safely' qualification, which is the nationally recognised and accredited training for senior leaders, will be repeated for Chief Officer Group and Assistant Directors including senior leaders in connected companies.

5.7 Policy, Codes of Practice and Reporting

The Policy and Codes of Practice have all been updated into a more user-friendly format. Regular reviews will continue, as and when changes are required, and as a minimum within a 3-year cycle.

The online incident reporting system (IR1) is now firmly embedded within the organisation and managers are now empowered with regards to incident investigation with reports now, in the main, being completed within specified timeframes.

6.0 Recommended Priorities for 2019/20

The priorities for Health and Safety Management in the coming year are:

- to continue to focus on the implementation of an Employee Protection Register and Corporate lone worker solution;
- the implementation of the Alcohol and Substance Misuse Code of Practice; and
- the refresh and implementation of the Slips, Trips and Falls initiative.

Chief Officers have been asked to ensure that there are robust directorate arrangements in place for health and safety (including with connected companies) with discussions on key issues, such as incident statistics/trend analysis, audit compliance and fire risk assessment findings and to develop and implement health & safety action plans targeting areas of improvement.

7.0 Incident Reporting and Statistics

7.1 [Appendix 1](#) details the incidents reported for 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19 with a total of 1901 incidents occurring in 2018/19.

7.2 Of all major incidents reported, the percentage of incidents that are defined as incidents which are reportable to the HSE under *RIDDOR were 2.25% for 2016/17, 4.03% for 2017/18 and 1.6% for 2018/19.

Due to incidents now being recorded more accurately via the online IR1 system figures for 2017/18 included for the first time incidents other than to those of employees, e.g. members of the public and dangerous occurrences and therefore there was an increase in the volume recorded. This increase has continued through 2018/19 via promotion of incident recording particularly to those of violence and near miss, however and positively, the percentage reported to HSE has decreased to 1.6%.

*RIDDOR (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations)

7.3 The total number of reports to the HSE for 2016/17 were 14, for 2017/18 there were 49 and for 2018/19 there were 30.

7.4 The greatest number of RIDDOR incidents reported to HSE are from slips, trips and falls with physical assault and manual handling joint second. Of all incidents reported the highest causes are from physical assault which has surpassed slips, trips and falls.

The Health and Safety team will focus on the underlying causes over the forthcoming year to establish areas for improvement as per the priorities identified in paragraph 6.

- 7.5 SCAS have the greatest number of incidences of violence however the vast majority of these are “unintentional” or ‘known behaviour’, related to the challenging behaviour of the customers they care for. Changes made to the IR1 system in October 2018 have made the distinction of these incidents easier to record therefore the numbers reported will increase as a result.

8.0 Health and Safety Audit Reports and Statistics

- 8.1 Each topic of the audit template is suitably weighted and designed to streamline, simplify and ensure consistency across all areas of the organisation, making it easier to compare and benchmark improvements across all service areas. Where necessary, action plans are contained within the audit report that managers receive. The ‘core’ compliance criteria are applied to all areas of the council and trading companies, making the subsequent compliance score directly comparable no matter what service area is audited.

Each Directorate including SCAS and TFC have an audit schedule with all areas receiving an audit every 2 years.

- 8.2 [Appendix 2a](#) details the total number of health and safety audits undertaken in each directorate for 2018/19 and identifies areas of good practice as well as areas of improvement.

110 audits were carried out with an average compliance score of 82.67% - a score of over 90% gives assurance of best practice with a score of 50% or below indicating that the H&S management system is failing.

- 8.3 The poorest ten performing Service Areas/Establishments have been identified in the table in [Appendix 2b](#). Arrangements, reports and or action plans have been developed with the service area lead officers to address those non-conformances identified that have a score of less than 60%.
- 8.4 Core elements with an average score of less than 70% are Health & Safety Training (68%), Lone Working (66%) Manual Handling (60%), Display Screen Equipment (52%), Swimming Pools (50%). These elements will be targeted for improvement across all directorates in the forthcoming year.

9.0 Fire Risk Assessment (FRA) Reports and Statistics

- 9.1 [Appendix 3a](#) details the total number of fire risk assessments undertaken in all service areas for 2018/19; areas of both non-compliance and compliance have been identified.
- 9.2 24 FRA's were carried out with an average compliance score of 70.75% - the score only gives an indication of fire management and is not weighted as the audit results are; it is worth noting that even one non-compliance, depending upon the nature, has the potential to fail the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order.

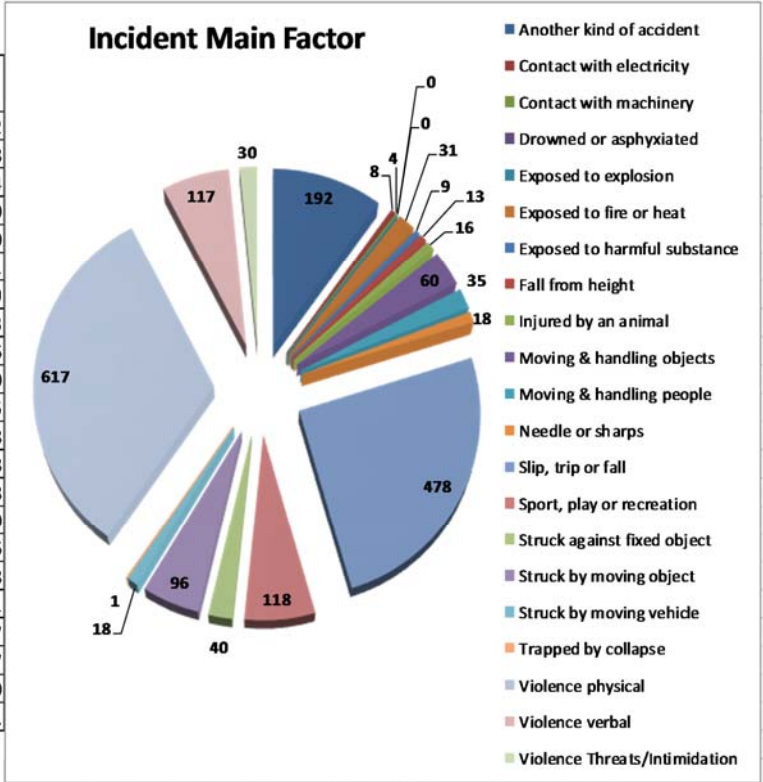
- 9.3 576 items required improvement with arrangements, reports and or action plans developed with the service area lead officers/premises manager, property services to address those non-compliances identified.

Appendix 1

All Incidents by Type	2018/19				2017/18				2016/17			
	Incidents	%	HSE	Non HSE	Incidents	%	HSE	Non HSE	Incidents	%	HSE	Non HSE
Accident	983	52.54	22	961	777	61.47	44	733	284	44.58	12	272
Dangerous Occurrence	11	0.59	3	8	12	0.95	1	11				
Near Miss	116	6.20	0	116	96	7.59	0	96	9	1.41	0	9
Violence at Work	755	40.35	4	751	369	29.19	2	367	341	53.53	1	340
Work related Ill Health	6	0.32	1	5	10	0.79	2	8	3	0.47	1	2
Total	1871	100	30	1841	1264	100	49	1215	637	100	14	623

All Incidents from 1st April 18 to 31st March 19

Incident Main Factor	Non RIDDOR	RIDDOR	Total Incidents
Another kind of accident	191	1	192
Contact with electricity	7	1	8
Contact with machinery	4	0	4
Drowned or asphyxiated	0	0	0
Exposed to explosion	0	0	0
Exposed to fire or heat	30	1	31
Exposed to harmful substance	9	0	9
Fall from height	11	2	13
Injured by an animal	16	0	16
Moving & handling objects	57	3	60
Moving & handling people	34	1	35
Needle or sharps	18	0	18
Slip, trip or fall	468	10	478
Sport, play or recreation	117	1	118
Struck against fixed object	39	1	40
Struck by moving object	92	4	96
Struck by moving vehicle	16	2	18
Trapped by collapse	1	0	1
Violence physical	614	3	617
Violence verbal	117	0	117
Violence Threats/Intimidation	30	0	30
Total	1871	30	1901
Unintentional/Known Behaviour	163	0	

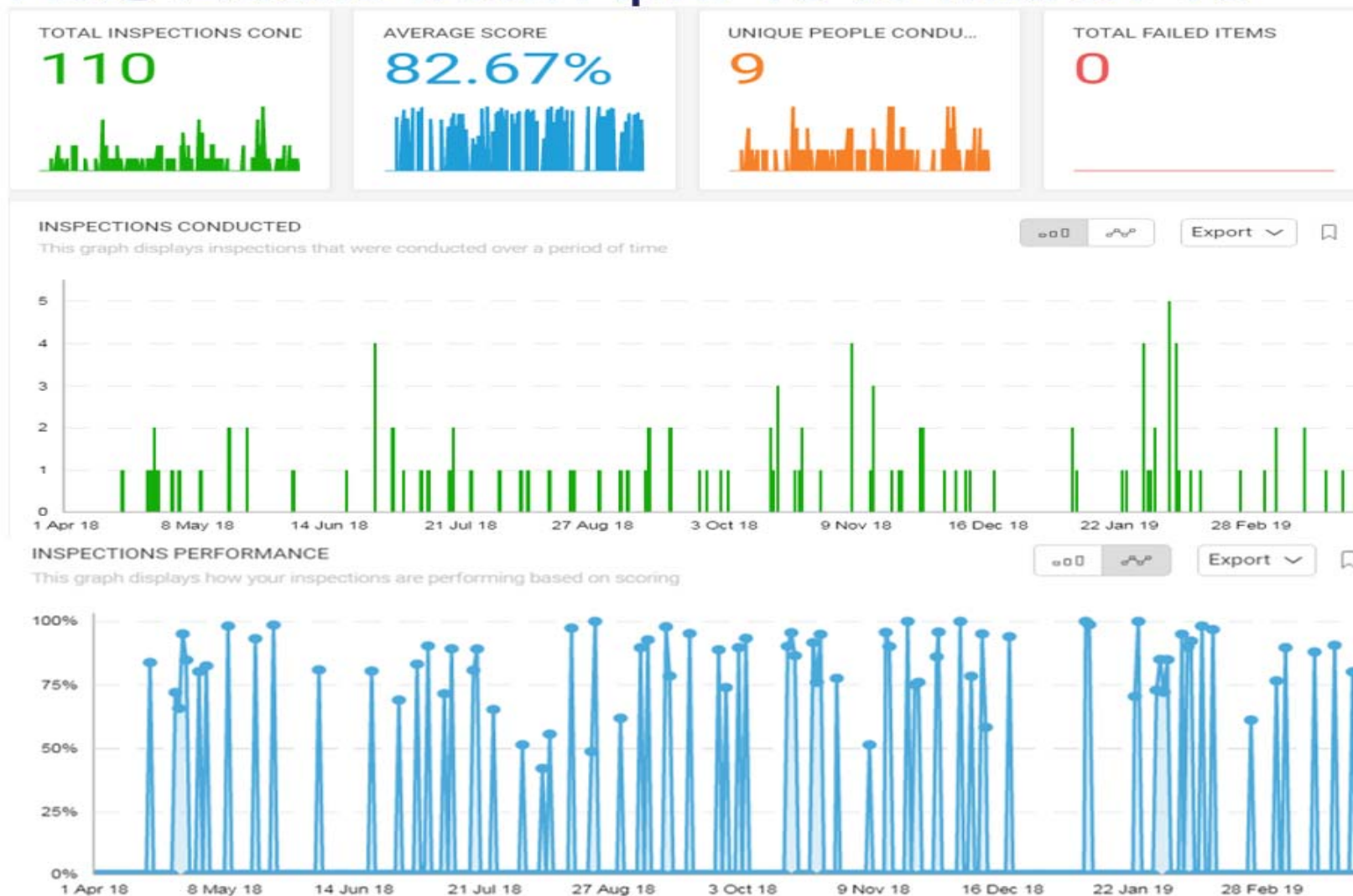


Incident Type	Non RIDDOR	RIDDOR	Percent of all incidents
Accident	983	22	52.9
Dangerous occurrence	11	3	0.7
Near miss	116	0	6.1
Violence at work	755	4	39.9
Work related ill health condition	6	1	0.4
Total	1871	30	1.6
% RIDDOR Incident Rate for all Incidents			

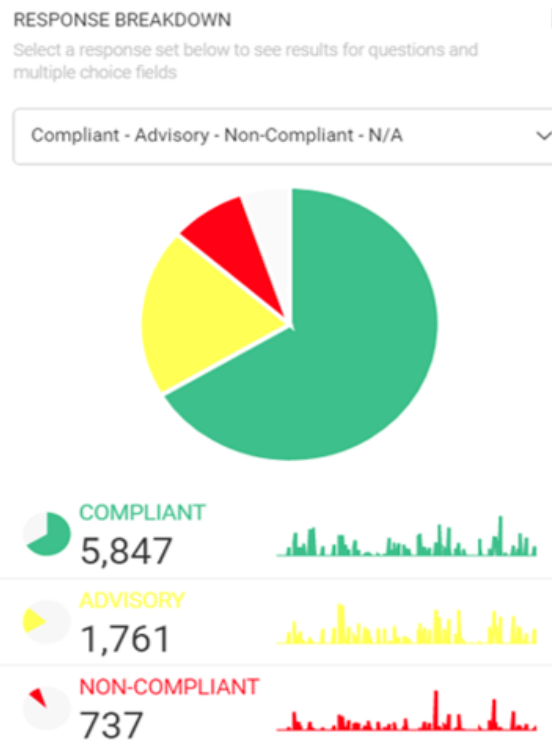
Incidents of Violence	Totals
Corporate Services	23
Economy and Place	42
People Services	39
Sunderland Care and Support	514
Strategy Partnerships and Transformation	0
Together for Children	141
Total	759

All Service Areas - Incidents from 1/04/18 to 31/03/19				
Directorate/Organisation	Service Area	Non RIDDOR	RIDDOR	Percent RIDDOR
Corporate Services	Assurance Procurement & Performance	0	0	#DIV/0!
	Commercial Finance	3	0	0.0
	Customer Services Network	27	0	0.0
	Elections	0	0	#DIV/0!
	Financial Management	0	0	#DIV/0!
	Human Resources & Organisation Developme	4	0	0.0
	ICT	1	0	0.0
	Law and Governance	1	0	0.0
	Transactional Services	0	0	#DIV/0!
	Economy & Place	Business and Investment Team	0	0
Infrastructure & Transportation	41	1	2.4	
Place Management	119	11	9.2	
Planning & Regeneration	8	0	0.0	
Port	8	1	12.5	
Property	7	0	0.0	
Public Protection & Regulatory Service	4	0	0.0	
*Blanks	3	0	0.0	
Peoples Services	Adult Social Care	34	0	0.0
	Events	40	0	0.0
	Housing Support & Community Living	6	0	0.0
	Integrated Commissioning	15	0	0.0
	Library Services	21	0	0.0
	Programmes	4	0	0.0
	Public Health	0	0	#DIV/0!
SP & T	Member Support & Community Partnerships	0	0	#DIV/0!
	Policy Partnerships and Communications	0	0	#DIV/0!
	Transformation & Business Support	2	0	0.0
Sunderland Care & Support	Business Development & Performance	1	0	0.0
	Children's Services	1	0	0.0
	Community Equipment Store	2	0	0.0
	Day Services and Short Breaks	220	0	0.0
	Grace House	6	0	0.0
	Management Hub 1	36	0	0.0
	Management Hub 2	59	1	1.7
	Management Hub 3	38	1	2.6
	Management Hub 4	5	0	0.0
	Recovery at Home: Community Services	41	3	7.3
	Recovery at Home: Single Point Access	57	0	0.0
	Short Breaks	28	0	0.0
	Supported Living Services	359	3	0.8
	Vilette Lodge	14	0	0.0
	*SCAS Blanks	24	0	0.0
	TFC	Early Help	17	1
Education		579	6	1.0
Quality and Performance		2	0	0.0
Social Care		26	2	7.7
*Blanks		8	0	0.0
		1871	30	1901

H&S Audits from April 18 to March 19



H&S Audits from April 18 to March 19



Text to qualify audit scores

Sunderland City Council Health and Safety Team carry out periodic audits of the health and safety performance of all Schools and Services on a two yearly cycle.

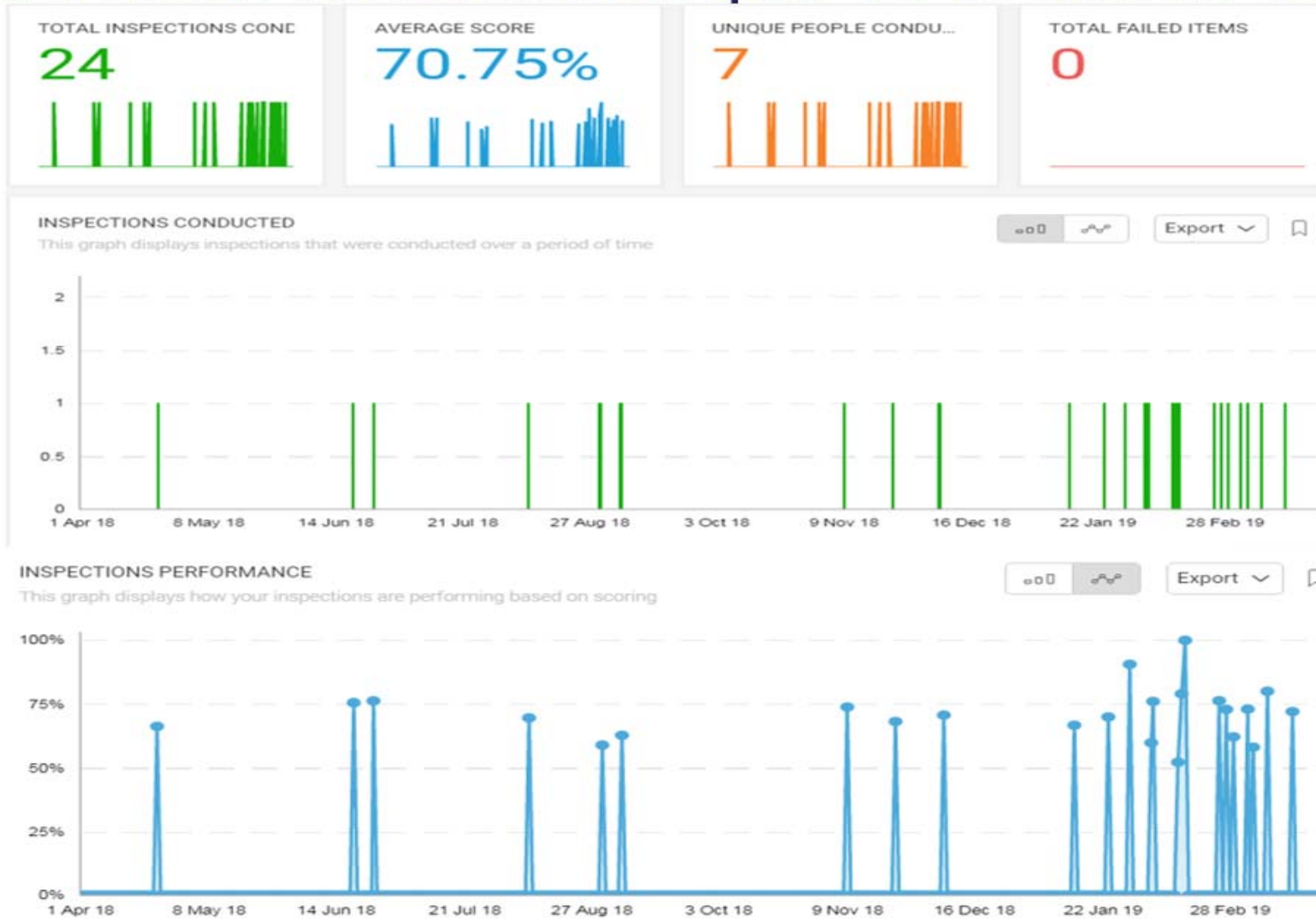
The scoring system is graded progressively on a percentage basis as follows:-

- A score of over 90% demonstrates best practice and should give assurance that the health & safety management system is robust.*
- A score of 75% to 90% indicates fair to good practice and gives moderate assurance that the health & safety management system is meeting the minimum requirements of legislation. The Service is taking steps to improve its health and safety systems.*
- A score of 50% to 75% indicates a basic level of assurance with passive acceptance of the organisations systems and may not be meeting legal compliance.*
- A score below 50% suggests that arrangements are not as expected and the impact is significant. The activity to date has not been appropriate and there are insufficient plans to deliver the critical H&S outputs and outcomes.*

The Audit scores are performance indicators only and managers should refer to specific content of the report for any actions that require improvement to meet legislative requirements.

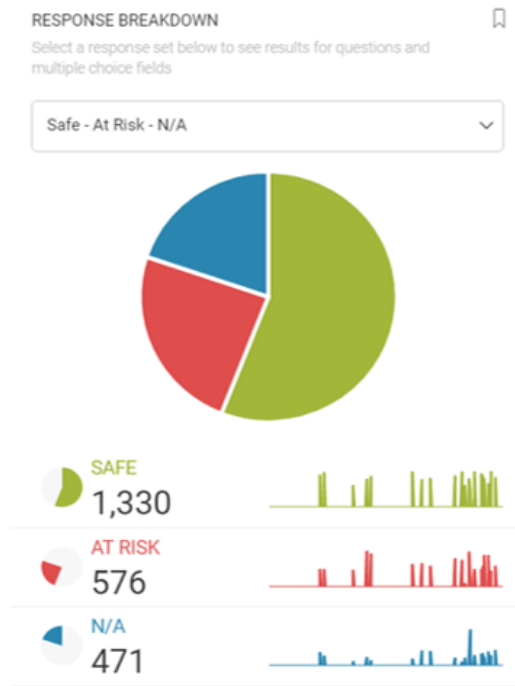
Responsibility for progressing audit recommendations rests with the service area's management team. The Health & Safety Team can provide advice and guidance on how best to progress actions as required.

Fire Risk Assessment April 18 to March 19



Appendix 3b

Fire Risk Assessment April 18 to March 19



NB: The percentage score for fire risk assessment is not weighted in the same way as that of the audit scores and therefore must only be used as a basic guide to performance only. The 'At Risk' figure identifies the total number of improvements required.

Action on Petitions

ACTION TAKEN ON PETITIONS

Council Members are asked to note the action taken in relation to the under-mentioned petitions which were presented to Council:-

- (i) **Petition by residents of Mount Grove, Chatsworth Crescent, Chatsworth Crescent South and Westfield Court, Sunderland requesting resurfacing of the above named roads and for yellow lines at the junction with Mount Road.**

Presented by Councillor Greener on the 19th June 2019.

The Assistant Director of Infrastructure, Planning and Transportation, following consultation with the Member with Portfolio for Environment and Transport and the Ward Councillors has **declined** the petitioner's request. However it should be noted that a section of Mount Grove is already included in this year's Highway Maintenance Programme and that the resurfacing of Chatsworth Street South and Westfield Court will be considered for inclusion in the 2020-21 Highway Maintenance Programme. A review into the provision of yellow lines at the junctions with Mount Road is expected in the next 12 months. The lead petitioner has been informed of the above decision.

- (ii) **Petition by the residents of Thornhill Terrace that the proposed highway maintenance scheme for Thornhill Terrace will protect the existing flagstones and kerbs.**

Presented by Councillor Hodson on the 19th June 2019.

The Assistant Director of Infrastructure, Planning and Transportation, following consultation with the Member with Portfolio for Environment and Transport and the Ward Councillors has **upheld** the petitioner's request. The maintenance scheme which is due for completion in early September will include the retention where possible of the existing kerbs and flagstones. A date for the resurfacing of the road has still to be programmed. Councillor Hodson has been informed of the decision.

Motions on Notice

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

Council Members are asked to consider the under-mentioned Motions:-

1. Adoption of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Anti-Semitism

Reported incidents of antisemitic hate crimes in the UK have risen year after year since 2015. More than 100 incidents of anti-semitism occur each month, including verbal abuse, social media harassment and physical assault. In 2018, there were 78 separate incidents of Jewish owned properties being desecrated.

Sunderland Council condemns these incidents. It resolves to adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Anti-Semitism and implement its adoption in the following ways:

- To include a copy of the Working Definition and its examples in newly elected members' induction packs;
- To introduce the Working Definition and its examples at the equality and diversity session included in members' training and in equivalent sessions provided for Sunderland City Council employees;
- To email all elected members and Council employees before the end of October 2019 with the Working Definition and its examples;
- To introduce a reference to the Working Definition in the Members Code of Conduct and equivalent Council staff policies and ensure that any complaints of anti-semitism made against elected members or Council employees are investigated in accordance with the Working Definition and its examples;
- To ensure that the Council observes any official changes the IHRA makes to its Working Definition and/or examples and implements those changes within its own practices (defined above).

Councillor D. McDonough
Councillor M. Dixon
Councillor Dr. A. Mullen
Councillor R. Oliver
Councillor H. Greener

Councillor W. Blackett
Councillor R. Francis
Councillor J. McKeith
Councillor G. Howe
Councillor J. Doyle

2. The Start Time of Future Planning and Highways meetings

Sharon Hodgson MP recently criticised the 4.30 pm start time of a Planning and Highways meeting, suggesting that it was difficult for working people to attend. Council acknowledges Mrs Hodgson's point, made on behalf of residents of Washington relating to the incinerator vote, and resolves to commence all future Planning and Highways meetings at 6 pm.

Councillor R. Oliver
Councillor Dr. A. Mullen
Councillor H. Greener
Councillor W. Blakett
Councillor R. Francis

Councillor J. McKeith
Councillor G. Howe
Councillor D. McDonough
Councillor J. Doyle
Councillor M. Dixon

3. Developing a Community Engagement Strategy

This council believes:

That to achieve its vision of becoming a truly Dynamic, Healthy and Vibrant City it needs to take steps to work with residents in our local communities to ensure they are fully engaged in developing future service delivery.

That only through working together we can ensure that quality services are delivered both at a City level and on a local level.

By increasing community engagement and participation this council also believes we can develop more resilient communities, bringing people together to make a difference by helping them to do more for themselves and others so that their local community and neighbourhoods can thrive.

This council therefore:

Calls upon the Chief Executive to bring forward proposals for developing a proactive community engagement strategy for the city and in doing so look at the feasibility of:

- Delegating more powers and responsibilities to Area Committees to run more services locally; as part of a programme of devolving responsibilities away from the Civic Centre.
- Devolving some decision making and scrutiny of services to residents themselves, allowing the council to work with them on improving their local neighbourhoods.
- Reviewing how residents can become empowered to develop and deliver on local projects and ideas within their community; in addition to becoming more involved in strategic planning of council services.

- Ensure a more robust communication strategy is in place with local communities so residents are aware of the activities of the council that impact on them and their local community, but importantly the part they can then play in reviewing and improving service delivery.

Councillor P. Stewart
 Councillor J. Kelly
 Councillor D. Waller
 Councillor A. Wilson
 Councillor G. Walker
 Councillor K. Chequer
 Councillor G. Miller

Councillor M. Mordey
 Councillor P. Tye
 Councillor D. MacKnight
 Councillor R. Davison
 Councillor P. Smith
 Councillor R. Atkinson
 Councillor S. Foster

4. Appointment of Future Mayors and Deputy Mayors

This Council resolves to appoint future mayors and deputy mayors in proportion to the political composition of the council sharing the appointments among the political groups.

Councillor R. Oliver
 Councillor Dr. A. Mullen
 Councillor J. McKeith
 Councillor D. McDonough

5. Climate Crisis

Sunderland council led the way by being the first in North East to declare a climate emergency. This is a recognition that the climate crisis is the biggest threat to the well-being and economic prosperity of the city and urgent action is needed.

Sunderland council can also lead the way by being the most open and responsive in reacting to the declaration and putting the climate crisis on the agenda of every council meeting.

Therefore, we call upon the cabinet to present and discuss a summary of progress at full council meetings for the foreseeable future.

Councillor D. Armstrong
 Councillor H. Greener

6. School Uniforms

School uniforms are a common requirement in education and provide a sense of identity, community and cohesion in schools. They also have a positive influence on behaviour and discipline within school and remove the peer pressure to dress following fashions and reduce inequalities between pupils. The cost of a school uniform can also be a financial burden on parents, especially where schools have complicated requirements or restrict where uniforms can be purchased.

The costs of school uniforms represent a significant financial challenge for parents and pupils, especially those on low incomes. Costs can result in parents being unable to provide their children with a full school uniform or rely on purchasing ill-fitting oversized clothes. Whilst acknowledging the good work of community groups offering a uniform exchange, parents and pupils also can experience stigma through being forced to rely on second hand clothing.

This council notes that:

- The Department for Education 2015 'Cost of School Uniform' report noted the average cost of school uniform as being £212.88 per pupil (excluding costs of PE kit).
- The Children's Society reports in 2015 & 2018 'The Wrong Blazer' highlighted concerns about the costs of school uniform (up to £340.00 per year), particularly where parents were required to buy from a specialist retailer.

This council therefore resolves to:

- Explore the development of a scheme to provide funding for school uniform grants for parents on the lowest incomes. Report on a scheme to be prepared in advance of the 2020/2021 school year to support parents in covering the cost of school uniforms.
- Encourage schools in Sunderland, Houghton, Hetton and Washington to consider ensuring that school uniform requirements are not over complicated and restrict where they can be purchased. Guidance will be shared which includes:
 - Only stipulate basic items and colours but not styles so that items can be bought from multiple retail chains at reasonable prices and not just from one authorised supplier.
 - Avoid high cost items such as blazers and caps.
 - Have easily washable items: dry clean only items should be avoided.
 - If there are any differences in the school uniform and appearance policies between sexes/ genders, these should be justified and clearly stated in the policy.

- School governing bodies should have a sensible, flexible approach to uniform items to account for extreme weather conditions.
- Limit the frequency of uniform changes as this can be costly for parents and limits the scope for re-sale or handing on to siblings or other pupils.

Councillor S. O'Brien
Councillor M. Haswell
Councillor G. Smith
Councillor A. Wood
Councillor N. Hodson

7. The UK's Exit from the EU

This Council acknowledges that Sunderland voted to leave the European Union in 2016 and calls upon the City's three MPs to honour this result by facilitating the UK's exit from the EU.

Councillor J. Doyle
Councillor D. McDonough
Councillor Dr. A. Mullen
Councillor G. Howe
Councillor R. Oliver

Councillor J. McKeith
Councillor R. Francis
Councillor W. Blakett
Councillor H. Greener
Councillor M. Dixon

Reports

Update on Special Urgency Decisions

Report of the Leader

The Council's Constitution requires that a quarterly report be submitted to Council on executive decisions which have been taken as a matter of special urgency. The relevant provisions are now contained in Regulations 11 and 19 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

These are the special urgency provisions under which key decisions may be taken by the executive, although not contained in the 28 day Notice of Key decisions (whether proposed to be taken in public or private), where compliance with Regulation 10 (the general exception) was also impracticable.

There have been no such instances since the last report.

Recommendation

That the Council notes the content of this report.

APPOINTMENTS

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE

1.0 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the extension of the appointment of the Council's Independent Person.

2.0 Independent Person

2.1 The Localism Act 2011 requires the Council to appoint at least one Independent Person, whose views must be sought and taken into account before the Standards Committee makes a decision in respect of an allegation against a Member which has been investigated. The Independent Person's views may also be sought by a Member who is the subject of a complaint.

2.2 At its meeting on 20 September 2017, the Council appointed Mr Dennis Hall to the post for a period of two years from 1 October 2017, with provision for the Council to extend the appointment on two subsequent occasions (i.e. 6 years in total). The allowance payable for the post (which does not form part of the Members' Allowances Scheme) is set at £1,000 per annum plus reasonable travel and subsistence expenses and it is proposed that this continues.

2.3 Mr Hall is a retired local government solicitor and former monitoring officer, with extensive knowledge and experience of local government. He has provided valuable input and support to the Standards Committee and it is therefore recommended that his period of office be extended.

3.0 Recommendation

3.1 The Council is recommended to extend the period of appointment of Mr Dennis Hall as Independent Person as set out in the report, for an additional period of two years from 1 October 2019.

