

Council Meeting

29 March 2023

Time 5.45 pm **Public Meeting?** YES **Type of meeting** Full Council

Venue Council Chamber - Civic Centre, St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton WV1 1SH

Membership (Quorum for this meeting is 15 Councillors)

Mayor Cllr Sandra Samuels OBE (Lab)

Deputy Mayor Cllr Dr Michael Hardacre (Lab)

Labour

Cllr Obaida Ahmed
Cllr Qaiser Azeem
Cllr Mary Bateman
Cllr Philip Bateman MBE
Cllr Olivia Birch
Cllr Dr Paul John Birch J.P.
Cllr Greg Brackenridge
Cllr Ian Brookfield
Cllr Paula Brookfield
Cllr Chris Burden
Cllr Craig Collingswood
Cllr Lovinyer Daley
Cllr Claire Darke
Cllr Jasbinder Dehar

Cllr Steve Evans
Cllr Val Evans
Cllr Bhupinder Gakhal
Cllr Celia Hibbert
Cllr Carol Hyatt
Cllr Jasbir Jaspal
Cllr Jaspreet Jaspal
Cllr Milkinderpal Jaspal
Cllr Rashpal Kaur
Cllr Rupinderjit Kaur
Cllr Linda Leach
Cllr Asha Mattu
Cllr Barbara McGarrity QN
Cllr Louise Miles

Cllr Beverley Momenabadi
Cllr Lynne Moran
Cllr Anwen Muston
Cllr Phil Page
Cllr Rita Potter
Cllr John Reynolds
Cllr Susan Roberts MBE
Cllr Zee Russell
Cllr Stephen Simkins
Cllr Clare Simm
Cllr Tersaim Singh
Cllr Paul Sweet
Cllr Jacqueline Sweetman
Cllr Gillian Wildman

Conservative

Cllr Paul Appleby
Cllr Simon Bennett
Cllr Adam Collinge
Cllr Jonathan Crofts
Cllr Wendy Dalton
Cllr Christopher Haynes
Cllr Stephanie Haynes
Cllr Sohail Khan
Cllr Andrew McNeil
Cllr Andrew Randle
Cllr Mak Singh
Cllr Paul Singh
Cllr Udey Singh
Cllr Wendy Thompson
Cllr Ellis Turrell
Cllr Jonathan Yardley

Information for the Public

If you have any queries about this meeting, please contact the Democratic Services team:

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Agenda

Item No. *Title*

MEETING BUSINESS ITEMS

- 1 **Apologies for absence**
- 2 **Declarations of interest**
- 3 **Minutes of previous meeting** (Pages 5 - 14)
[To receive minutes of the previous meeting held on 1 March 2023]
- 4 **Communications**
[To receive the Mayor's announcements]

DECISION ITEMS

- 5 **Report of Leader of the Council**
[To receive a report from the Leader of the Council]
- 6 **One Public Estate - Asset Transformation Programme** (Pages 15 - 38)
[To approve proposals for a programme of works focussing on asset transformation by rationalisation and relocation of services to a single more suitable location, freeing up brownfield land to then provide over 200 new homes]
- 7 **Pay Policy Statement 2023-2024** (Pages 39 - 58)
[To approve the Pay Policy Statement 2023-2024]
- 8 **Wolverhampton Homes Delivery Plan 2023 -2024** (Pages 59 - 96)
[To approve the Wolverhampton Homes Annual Delivery Plan for 2023 – 2024]
- 9 **Municipal Calendar of Meetings 2023-2024** (Pages 97 - 108)
[To approve the Municipal Calendar of Meetings 2023-2024]
- 10 **Annual Scrutiny Report May 2021 - May 2022** (Pages 109 - 120)
[To endorse the Annual Scrutiny Report May 2021 - May 2022]
- 11 **Written Questions by Councillors** (Pages 121 - 124)
[That the Cabinet Members respond to questions received]
- 12 **Motions on Notice** (Pages 125 - 128)
[That Council consider the motions received by Councillors Ian Brookfield and Ellis Turrell]

PART 2 - EXEMPT ITEMS, CLOSED TO PRESS AND PUBLIC

- 13 **Exclusion of press and public**
[To pass the following resolution: That in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business as it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information on the grounds shown below]
- 14 **One Public Estate - Asset Transformation Programme** (Pages 129 - 154)
[To approve proposals for a programme of works focussing on asset transformation by rationalisation and relocation of services to a single more suitable location, freeing up brownfield land to then provide over 200 new homes]
- Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) (3)

Attendance

Mayor Cllr Sandra Samuels OBE (Lab)
Deputy Mayor Cllr Dr Michael Hardacre (Lab)

Labour

Cllr Obaida Ahmed	Cllr Bhupinder Gakhal	Cllr Anwen Muston
Cllr Mary Bateman	Cllr Celia Hibbert	Cllr Phil Page
Cllr Philip Bateman MBE	Cllr Carol Hyatt	Cllr Rita Potter
Cllr Olivia Birch	Cllr Jasbir Jaspal	Cllr John Reynolds
Cllr Dr Paul John Birch J.P.	Cllr Jaspreet Jaspal	Cllr Susan Roberts MBE
Cllr Greg Brackenridge	Cllr Milkinderpal Jaspal	Cllr Zee Russell
Cllr Chris Burden	Cllr Rashpal Kaur	Cllr Stephen Simkins
Cllr Craig Collingswood	Cllr Linda Leach	Cllr Clare Simm
Cllr Lovinyer Daley	Cllr Barbara McGarrity QN	Cllr Tersaim Singh
Cllr Claire Darke	Cllr Louise Miles	Cllr Paul Sweet
Cllr Steve Evans	Cllr Beverley Momenabadi	Cllr Jacqueline Sweetman
Cllr Val Evans	Cllr Lynne Moran	Cllr Gillian Wildman

Conservative

Cllr Simon Bennett	Cllr Andrew McNeil
Cllr Adam Collinge	Cllr Andrew Randle
Cllr Jonathan Crofts	Cllr Mak Singh
Cllr Wendy Dalton	Cllr Paul Singh
Cllr Christopher Haynes	Cllr Wendy Thompson
Cllr Stephanie Haynes	Cllr Ellis Turrell
Cllr Sohail Khan	Cllr Jonathan Yardley

Employees

Tim Johnson	Chief Executive
David Pattison	Chief Operating Officer
Emma Bennett	Executive Director of Families
Richard Lawrence	Director of Regeneration
Claire Nye	Director of Finance
John Roseblade	Director of Resident Services

Item No. Title

1 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Qaiser Azeem Councillor Paul Appleby, Councillor Ian Brookfield, Councillor Paula Brookfield, Councillor Jas Dehar, Councillor Udey Singh and Councillor Olivia Birch for lateness

2 **Declarations of interest**

Councillor Philip Bateman declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters related to Ashmore Park Nursery School and in relation to Birmingham International Airport.

Councillor Mary Bateman declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters related to Ashmore Park Nursery School.

Councillor Wendy Dalton declared she had just been appointed to Uplands Junior School, Board of School Governors.

The Monitoring Officer, David Pattison advised that he was not aware of any councillor having a pecuniary or other registrable interest which prevented councillors from speaking or voting on an item at this meeting.

3 **Minutes of previous meeting**

The Mayor proposed, the Deputy Mayor seconded, and it was resolved:

That the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 25 January 2023, be agreed as a correct record and signed accordingly by the Mayor.

4 **Communications**

1. LGBT History Month

The Mayor announced that she had been pleased to support a number of events that had taken place to celebrate LGBT History Month. She thanked the Deputy Mayor for attending the LGBT Rainbow flag raising on Wednesday 1 February.

2. Ukraine - One Year On

The Mayor reported that it had been a year since Russia had launched its attack on Ukraine and that the city of Wolverhampton continued to stand firm with the Ukrainian people. She reported that the Deputy Mayor had represented the Council and the people of Wolverhampton at a ceremony where the flag of Ukraine had been raised on Friday 24 February.

3. Peter Bilson House

The Mayor was pleased to announce that a new facility for supported accommodation would open on Bond Street and would be named after the former Deputy Leader of the Council, Peter Bilson. She announced that she would attend an opening ceremony with Peter's family and that it would serve as a lasting legacy to the man himself, who had played a key role in tackling homelessness and rough sleeping in Wolverhampton.

Prayers were offered.

4. International Women's Day

The Mayor announced that International Women's Day would take place on Wednesday 8 March. She was pleased to announce that she had been invited to open the Council's 'Everywoman – Embracing Equity' event in the City Suite on the

day and invited everyone to attend to hear stories, experiences and wisdom from inspiring women.

5. Mayors Charity Quiz Night

The Mayor announced that the Charity Quiz Night would now take place in the City Suite on Thursday 9 March at 7pm and that the Mayoral Office could be contacted for further details.

6. Commonwealth Day

The Mayor announced that Monday 13 March would mark the celebrations for the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Commonwealth Charter by Queen Elizabeth II. She reported that the Commonwealth Peace Flag would be raised on the day, with a reception in the City Suite afterwards, and invited members to attend to commemorate the event.

7. Ramadan 2023

The Mayor announced that the Islamic Holy Month of Ramadan would begin on the evening of Wednesday 22 March and wished all members of the faith Ramadan Mubarak.

8. Mayors RockFest 2023

The Mayor was pleased to announce that The Mayors Charity Rockfest 2023 would take place over the weekend of 7 to 9 April and provided details of the event. She publicly thanked the organiser Doddy White and his team at Rockers Through The Ages for their sterling efforts to set up the event.

9. King Charles' III Coronation Poetry Competition

The Mayor announced that a poetry competition for children and adults would be launched to mark the King's Coronation, in partnership with the City's library service, and that details of how to enter could be found on social media.

10. Death of Betty Boothroyd

The Mayor was saddened to announce the death of Baroness Betty Boothroyd, who had served as the first female Speaker of the House of Commons from 1992 to 2000. The Mayor passed on the Council's condolences to her family and friends.

11. Congratulations to Cllr Paul Appleby

The Mayor passed on congratulations to Councillor Paul Appleby and his wife Becci on the birth of their second child, George.

5 **Our City: Our Plan Refresh 2023/2024**

Deputy Leader of Inclusive City Economy, Councillor Stephen Simkins, presented the report on Our City: Our Plan Refresh 2023/2024 for approval. The refreshed council plan, Our City: Our Plan was detailed in appendix 1 to the report.

The plan sets out an ambition that 'Wulfrunians will live longer, healthier lives'. Delivery of this ambition would be supported by six overarching priorities: strong families where children grow up well and achieve their full potential; fulfilled lives for all with quality care for those that need it; healthy, inclusive communities; good homes in well-connected neighbourhoods; more local people into good jobs and training and thriving economy in all parts of the city. Supporting these six overarching priorities were three cross cutting principles: climate conscious; driven by digital and fair and equal.

The report also provided an update on the Council performance framework and how the Council would continue to monitor our progress towards delivering our city priorities.

Deputy Leader of Inclusive City Economy, Councillor Stephen Simkins, proposed the recommendations and the Cabinet Member for Resources and Digital City, Councillor Obaida Ahmed seconded the recommendations.

The report was debated by Council. Councillor Stephen Simkins replied to the debate.

Resolved:

1. That the Our City: Our Plan refresh, the City of Wolverhampton Council Plan be approved.
2. That cross party engagement be sought to deliver the priorities set out in Our City: Our Plan the strategic framework to level up our city.

6 **Final Budget Report 2023-2024**

The Cabinet Member for Resources and Digital City, Councillor Obaida Ahmed presented the report on Final Budget Report 2023-2024 for approval.

The Capital Programme 2022-2023 to 2026-2027 Quarter Three Review and 2023-2024 to 2027-2028 Budget Strategy provided Council with an update on the 2022-2023 financial performance of the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) capital programmes, whilst also providing a revised forecast for 2022-2023 to 2026-2027 as at quarter three 2022-2023. The report also recommend revisions to the current approved capital programme covering the period 2022-2023 to 2027-2028.

The Treasury Management Strategy 2023-2024 sets out the Council's Treasury Management Strategy for 2023-2024 for approval by Full Council. The report incorporates six elements, which are detailed in separate documents, appended to this report.

The 2023-2024 Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2023-2024 to 2025-2026 presented a balanced budget for 2023-2024 aligned to the Our City: Our Plan and an update on the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2023- 2024 to 2025-2026, for recommendation to Council. The Council had a balanced budget for 2023-2024, without the need to use general fund reserves. There was still a high level of uncertainty going forward and a significant financial challenge over the medium term with a projected deficit for 2024-2025 of £16.4 million, rising to £23.1 million by 2025-2026.

The Council Tax Base and Business Rates (NDR) Net Rate Yield 2023-2024 set the estimates for Wolverhampton Collection Fund 2023-2024, which the Council manages on behalf of local precepting bodies and central government. The report also sought approval to extend the Council's local scheme for Business Rates Discretionary Relief with effect from 1 April 2023.

The Cabinet Member for Resources and Digital City, Councillor Obaida Ahmed proposed the recommendations and the Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor Stephen Simkins seconded the recommendations.

Councillor Ellis Turrell provided the principal speech in response to the budget report and moved the report Conservative Group Alternative Budget and outlined the rationale to the amendment to the budget. Councillor Wendy Thompson seconded the amendment to the budget and outlined the rationale for supporting the amendment.

The Conservative Group Alternative Budget was debated by Council.

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 the votes were recorded as follows for the amended motion:

Conservative Group Alternative Budget (Amendment)	
Councillor Sandra Samuels OBE	Against
Councillor Dr Michael Hardacre	Against
Councillor Obaida Ahmed	Against
Councillor Mary Bateman	Against
Councillor Philip Bateman MBE	Against
Councillor Simon Bennett	For
Councillor Olivia Birch	Against
Councillor Dr Paul John Birch J.P.	Against
Councillor Greg Brackenridge	Against
Councillor Chris Burden	Against
Councillor Adam Collinge	For
Councillor Craig Collingswood	Against
Councillor Jonathan Crofts	For
Councillor Lovinyer Daley	Against
Councillor Wendy Dalton	For
Councillor Steve Evans	Against
Councillor Valerie Evans	Against
Councillor Bhupinder Gakhal	Against
Councillor Christopher Haynes	For
Councillor Stephanie Haynes	For
Councillor Celia (CeeCee) Hibbert	Against
Councillor Carol Hyatt	Against
Councillor Jasbir Jaspal	Against
Councillor Jaspreet Jaspal	Against
Councillor Milkinderpal Jaspal	Against
Councillor Rashpal Kaur	Against
Councillor Sohail Khan	For
Councillor Linda Leach	Against
Councillor Barbara McGarrity QN	Against
Councillor Andrew McNeil	For
Councillor Louise Miles	Against
Councillor Beverley Momenabadi	Against
Councillor Lynne Moran	Against
Councillor Anwen Muston	Against
Councillor Phil Page	Against
Councillor Rita Potter	Against
Councillor Andrew Randle	For
Councillor John C Reynolds	Against

Councillor Susan Roberts MBE	Against
Councillor Zee Russell	Against
Councillor Stephen Simkins	Against
Councillor Clare Simm	Against
Councillor Gurmukh (Mak) Singh	For
Councillor Paul Singh	For
Councillor Tersaim Singh	Against
Councillor Paul Sweet	Against
Councillor Jacqueline Sweetman	Against
Councillor Wendy Thompson	For
Councillor Ellis Turrell	For
Councillor Gillian (Jill) Wildman	Against
Councillor Jonathan Yardley	For
Rejected	

The amended motion was LOST by 37 votes.

The substantive report was debated by Council.

Councillor Obaida Ahmed replied to the debate.

The substantive motion on 2023-2024 Final Budget Report was put before Council.

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 the votes were recorded as follows for the substantive motion originally moved:

Final Budget Report 2023-2024 (Resolution)	
Councillor Sandra Samuels OBE	For
Councillor Dr Michael Hardacre	For
Councillor Obaida Ahmed	For
Councillor Mary Bateman	For
Councillor Philip Bateman MBE	For
Councillor Simon Bennett	Against
Councillor Olivia Birch	For
Councillor Dr Paul John Birch J.P.	For
Councillor Greg Brackenridge	For
Councillor Chris Burden	For
Councillor Adam Collinge	Against
Councillor Craig Collingswood	For
Councillor Jonathan Crofts	Against
Councillor Lovinyer Daley	For
Councillor Wendy Dalton	Against
Councillor Steve Evans	For
Councillor Valerie Evans	For
Councillor Bhupinder Gakhal	For
Councillor Christopher Haynes	Against
Councillor Stephanie Haynes	Against
Councillor Celia (CeeCee) Hibbert	For
Councillor Carol Hyatt	For
Councillor Jasbir Jaspal	For

Councillor Jaspreet Jaspal	For
Councillor Milkinderpal Jaspal	For
Councillor Rashpal Kaur	For
Councillor Sohail Khan	Against
Councillor Linda Leach	For
Councillor Barbara McGarrity QN	For
Councillor Andrew McNeil	Against
Councillor Louise Miles	For
Councillor Beverley Momenabadi	For
Councillor Lynne Moran	For
Councillor Anwen Muston	For
Councillor Phil Page	For
Councillor Rita Potter	For
Councillor Andrew Randle	Against
Councillor John C Reynolds	For
Councillor Susan Roberts MBE	For
Councillor Zee Russell	For
Councillor Stephen Simkins	For
Councillor Clare Simm	For
Councillor Gurmukh (Mak) Singh	Against
Councillor Paul Singh	Against
Councillor Tersaim Singh	For
Councillor Paul Sweet	For
Councillor Jacqueline Sweetman	For
Councillor Wendy Thompson	Against
Councillor Ellis Turrell	Against
Councillor Gillian (Jill) Wildman	For
Councillor Jonathan Yardley	Against
Carried	

The substantive motion was CARRIED by 37 votes.

Resolved:

1. That the updated City of Wolverhampton Capital Strategy be approved.
2. That the revised, medium term General Revenue Account capital programme of £351.5 million, an increase of £11.1 million from the previously approved programme, and the change in associated resources be approved.
3. That the authorised borrowing limit for 2023-2024 to support the capital strategy as required under Section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2003 to be set at £1,213.0 million (PI3, Appendix 3 of the Cabinet report) be approved. The authorised borrowing limit includes a forecast provision for potential business cases that may be brought forward during the year, additional borrowing would only be authorised if the business case proves to be affordable over the medium term. The forecast borrowing is below the authorised borrowing limit.
4. That the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2023-2024 as set out in Appendix 1 of the Cabinet report be approved.
5. That the Annual Investment Strategy 2023-2024 as set out in Appendix 2 of the Cabinet report be approved.
6. That the Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators as set out in Appendix 3 of the Cabinet report be approved.

7. That the Annual Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement setting out the method used to calculate MRP for 2023-2024 as set out in Appendix 4 of the Cabinet report be approved.
8. That the Treasury Management Policy Statement and Treasury Management Practices as set out in Appendix 6 of the Cabinet report be approved.
9. That it be approved, that authority continued to be delegated to the Director of Finance to amend the Treasury Management Policy and Practices and any corresponding changes required to the Treasury Management Strategy, the Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators, the Investment Strategy and the Annual MRP Statement to ensure they remain aligned. Any amendments would be reported to the Cabinet Member for Resources and Digital City and Cabinet (Resources) Panel as appropriate.
10. That it be approved, that authority continued to be delegated to the Director of Finance to lower the minimum sovereign rating in the Annual Investment Strategy, in the event of the UK's credit rating being downgraded by the third credit rating agency, due to the current economic climate.
11. That it be approved, that authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Resources and Digital City, in consultation with the Director of Finance, to amend the MRP statement should this be required following the outcome of the consultation.
12. That the net budget requirement for 2023-2024 of £306.4 million for General Fund services be approved.
13. That the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2023-2024 to 2025-2026 as detailed in Table 6 and the key assumptions underpinning the MTFS as detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 of the Cabinet report be approved.
14. That the Council Tax for Council services in 2023-2024 of £1,909.01 for a Band D property, being an increase of 4.99% on 2022-2023 levels, which incorporates 2% in relation to Adult Social Care be approved.
15. That the Reserves Strategy as detailed in Appendix 8 to the Cabinet report be approved.
16. That it be noted that the Council Tax base for the 2023-2024 was calculated at 65,994.12 (Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")), as reported to Cabinet on 18 January 2023.
17. That it be agreed, to calculate the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2023- 2024 was £125,983,000.
18. That it be agreed, that the following amounts be calculated for the year 2023-2024 in accordance with Sections 30 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended:
 - (a) £719,961,000 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act.
 - (b) £593,978,000 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
 - (c) £125,983,000 being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).

(d) £1,909.01 being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (section 1 above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).

(e) £0 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.

(f) £1,909.01 being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.

19. That it be noted, that West Midlands Police and Fire Authorities have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as detailed in the report.
20. That it be agreed, that the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables as the amounts of Council Tax for 2023-2024 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings as detailed in the report.
21. That it be agreed, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (3) (f) and (4) above, the City Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of the Council Tax for the year 2023-2024 for each of the categories of dwellings as detailed in the report.
22. That it be agreed, a notice of the amounts payable in respect of chargeable dwellings in each valuation band for the year commencing on 1 April 2023 be published in at least one local newspaper and that in accordance with Section 3(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, this notice shall also make reference to the National Non-Domestic Rating Multiplier set by the Secretary of State, and specify that the Council Tax and the non-domestic rate demands are annual demands which cover the full financial year.
23. That it be agreed, the Council had determined that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2023-2024 was not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.
24. That it be agreed, as the billing authority, the Council had not been notified by a major precepting authority that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2023-2024 was excessive and that the billing authority was not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK Local Government Finance Act 1992.
25. That it be noted, the MRP charge for the financial year 2023-2024 would be £20.6 million; it was forecasted to increase to £22.4 million in 2024-2025 (paragraph 2.13 of the Cabinet report).
26. That it be noted, Cabinet or Cabinet (Resources) Panel and Council would receive regular Treasury Management reports during 2023-2024 on performance against the key targets and Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators in the Treasury Management Strategy and Investment Strategy, as set out in the paragraph 2.11 and Appendices 2 and 3 of the Cabinet report.

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Meeting of the City Council 29 March 2023
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Report title	One Public Estate – Asset Transformation Programme	
Referring body	Cabinet (Resources) Panel – 22 March 2023	
Councillor to present report	Councillor Bhupinder Gakhal	
Wards affected	East Park and Bilston East	
Cabinet Member with lead responsibility	Councillor Bhupinder Gakhal, City Assets and Housing	
Accountable director	Mark Taylor, Deputy Chief Executive	
Originating service	City Assets	
Accountable employee	Julia Nock	Deputy Director of Assets
	Tel	01902 550316
	Email	Julia.nock@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	Cabinet (Resources) Panel	22 March 2023

Recommendation for decision:

The Council to be recommended to approve:

1. The creation of a capital project budget for the One Public Estate - Asset Transformation Programme, funded through grants and prudential borrowing as detailed within the report, subject to confirmation of successful grant bids.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To seek Council approval to the creation of a capital project budget for the One Public Estate - Asset Transformation Programme, funded through grants and prudential borrowing, subject to confirmation of successful grant bids.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 On 22 March 2023, Cabinet (Resources) Panel are to consider a report on One Public Estate - Asset Transformation Programme.

- 2.2 Cabinet (Resources) Panel has been recommended to recommend that Council approves:

1. The creation of a capital project budget for the One Public Estate – Asset Transformation Programme, funded through grants and prudential borrowing as detailed within the report, subject to confirmation of successful grant bids.

3.0 Financial implications

- 3.1 The financial implications are detailed in the Cabinet (Resources) Panel report of 22 March 2023.

4.0 Legal implications

- 4.1 The legal implications are detailed in the Cabinet (Resources) Panel report of 22 March 2023.

5.0 Equalities implications

- 5.1 The equalities implications are detailed in the Cabinet (Resources) Panel report of 22 March 2023.

6.0 All other implications

- 6.1 All other implications are detailed in the Cabinet (Resources) Panel report of 22 March 2023.

7.0 Schedule of background papers

- 7.1 Cabinet (Resources) Panel report of 22 March 2023 - [One Public Estate - Asset Transformation Programme](#).

Cabinet (Resources) Panel

22 March 2023
PUBLIC VERSION

Report title	One Public Estate - Asset Transformation Programme	
Decision designation	RED	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Bhupinder Gakhal City Assets and Housing	
Key decision	Yes	
In forward plan	Yes	
Wards affected	East Park and Bilston East	
Accountable Director	Mark Taylor, Deputy Chief Executive	
Originating service	City Assets	
Accountable employee	Julia Nock Tel Email	Deputy Director of Assets 01902 550316 Julia.nock@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	City Housing and Environment Leadership Team	21 February 2023
	City Assets Leadership Team	22 February 2023
	Strategic Executive Board	7 March 2023

Recommendations for decision:

The Cabinet recommends that Council approves:

1. The creation of a capital project budget for the One Public Estate – Asset Transformation Programme, funded through grants and prudential borrowing as detailed within the report, subject to confirmation of successful grant bids.

The Cabinet is recommended to approve:

1. The proposal to relocate Council services from various depot assets (as listed in this report) to a central location at Hickman Avenue Depot (North), improving service operation and efficiencies.
2. The site clearance and land remediation of the former Loxdale primary school, Stowheath day training centre and Stowheath Resource Centre (Stowheath) and the allocation for disposal with vacant possession for housing development, subject to outline planning consent. A further report is to follow in relation to approval of any development agreement.

3. Delegate authority to the Cabinet Member for Resources and Digital City and the Cabinet Member for City Assets and Housing, in consultation with the Director of Finance and Deputy Director of Assets to agree and enter into the required funding agreements, for the respective funding applications as detailed in the report.

Recommendation for noting:

The Cabinet (Resources) Panel is asked to:

1. Note the letter of support from MP Pat McFadden for the proposed scheme (see Appendix 1)

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The report discusses the proposals for a programme of works focussing on asset transformation by rationalisation and relocation of services to a single more suitable location, freeing up brownfield land to then provide over 200 new homes. The Council holds freehold ownership of the three sites proposed to form part of the programme of works, which include the Hickman Avenue Depot, the former Loxdale Primary School and the former Day Training Centre Stowheath site (See Appendix 2 - site location plans).
- 1.2 With the support of the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA), the One Public Estate initiative and multiple Council services, a proposal has been prepared to consider optimising Council assets with a collaborative approach and unlocking sites for housing developments. Council services have been looking for ways to synergise their operations and this coupled with the city's housing requirements has resulted in a wider asset transformation programme. This report identifies the findings and seeks approval to work towards, relocating services and unlocking much needed housing with public sector grant intervention to overcome viability issues exacerbated by ground contamination and redundant mine workings.
- 1.3 The project pre procurement estimated cost includes an allowance for inflation and contingency of 15%. The Council is seeking to attract grant funding to help reduce the requirement for any additional prudential borrowing. The paper seeks approval to progress the capital project but not until obtaining outline planning consent, securing grant funding, achieving cost certainty from market tenders and securing a development agreement. The latter would result in a succeeding report to approve any development agreement. These conditions will protect the Council by reducing the financial exposure and grant funding are secured, until which time the capital expenditure on the project will not commence.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Council has developed a Corporate plan "Our City: Our Plan", which sets out how it will deliver better outcomes for residents and businesses across Wolverhampton and is the corner stone of the transformational plans developed by the Council.
- 2.2 City Assets seek to support the plan by rationalising, optimising and consolidating assets to reduce operational costs, create efficiencies and unlock sites for housing development with key stakeholders. These activities are reflected in the Strategic Asset Plan which specifically discusses the proposals outlined in this paper.
- 2.3 The Council's Capital Strategy was approved by Full Council on 1 March 2023. This is underpinned by the strategic approach to align resources to Our City, Our Plan to ensure that the Council's resources continue to be aligned to the needs and priorities of local people.

- 2.4 Development of the former Loxdale Primary School and Stowheath sites (Appendix 2 - site location plans) have stalled for a number years due to a lack of financial resource to carryout feasibility studies to help understand the challenges, and capital funds required to relocate existing uses and remediation of land to offer the sites for development.
- 2.5 In the recent months, support from the Opportunity for Development Fund (ODF), which is part of the One Public Estate (OPE) initiative, has enabled us to develop proposals and undertake due diligence on how to bring forward the project and accelerate delivery. The work has allowed us to start de-risking the sites and understand the opportunities and challenges, to provide optimised facilities for Council services and develop new and much needed quality homes, with grant funding for abnormal costs. This early effort has also allowed us to challenge the viability issues by reviewing design quality, construction costs, build densities, tenure mix and sales values. As part of the sensitivity analysis, increasing the level of affordable housing above 25% resulted in an increased viability issue and was also viewed to affect the level of interest we would gain from the development market. However, the team have maintained the effort to provide the required level of good sized and quality affordable housing in accordance with national standards.
- 2.6 The project proposals have been developed considering four key criteria for the city and these are dependent on each other for their successful delivery and achievement of outputs and outcomes.

One - Rationalising, consolidating and optimising Council assets with a collaborative approach

- 2.7 As the public sector responds to the impact of COVID-19, Local Authorities are considering their role in economic recovery. The pandemic has also led the public sector to consider future models of service delivery, to make use of digital technology and flexible working across areas. Working in partnership will result in greater opportunities for collaboration through shared spaces, joined up services and released surplus assets – which in turn will promote lower carbon solutions and new economic activity.
- 2.8 The One Public Estate (OPE) initiative is an established national programme delivered in partnership by the Office of Government Property (OGP) within the Cabinet Office and the Local Government Association (LGA). It seeks Councils to deliver ambitious property-focused programmes in collaboration with central government and other public sector partners rationalising, consolidating and optimising its services to get more from collective assets. Our involvement as member of the OPE partnership board, along with support from the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) has meant we have set the pace in the region with early project delivery including;
- OPE 8: Brewers Yard with the relocation of services and business at the wholesale market site

- OPE 9: Oxley Health & Wellbeing Facility and new homes with the development of a fit for purpose health facility and self & custom build homes
- 2.9 Public sector collaboration with health partners relocating work space to Council buildings e.g. establishing NHS headquarters within the Civic Centre City Assets have developed a Strategic Asset Plan (SAP) that was completed and approved by Cabinet on 17 October 2018. This provides the structure and management of the Council's land and property portfolio over following five years, to 2023, and incorporates the Our Assets principle. The plan is structured into three parts:
- 2.10 The Asset Management Policy within the SAP establishes a clear mission with supporting principles for the management of land and buildings. Ensuring they are fit for purpose and benefit the people of the City of Wolverhampton with rationalisation and disposal of land and buildings, that will enable a financial return to stimulate development and growth, support and encourage local businesses and promote joint-working. It is strongly viewed the OPE initiative is a means to delivering the SAP objectives and outcomes and a golden thread between numerous public sector initiatives and grant funding bodies to realising a physical and social change for betterment.

Two - Supporting Willenhall Rd improvements and the East Park Gateway programme

- 2.11 The improvement of A454 Willenhall Road has been identified as a priority for the City of Wolverhampton and part of the highway works its way through the East Park Gateway programme. A significant proportion of the area is low quality under used industrial land, where new investment is hampered by a poor environment and constrained access to the main road network. As a main arterial route into the city centre from the motorway, the current frontages to Willenhall Road require improving as this is a key entrance into the city.
- 2.12 These works are designed to improve traffic flow and ease congestion on the Willenhall Road corridor and facilitate access improvements to the Hickman Avenue depot, which will become a frontage scheme to the highway, eventually. The proposed design considers future highway improvements and the building layout has been carried out in consultation with the Highways team to consider future proofing of the scheme and work seamlessly with the highway proposals.

Three - Key worker housing and affordable living

- 2.13 Around 30,000 people live in the East Park and Bilston East wards of Wolverhampton, which covers the sites included in this report. According to the city deprivation ranking in the 'Wolverhampton Health Inequalities Strategy 2021-2023', Bilston East and East Park wards are ranked first and third respectively, as the City's most deprived zones.

- 2.14 The city as a whole has the need to increase housing supply and has an ambition to make way for key worker housing and affordable living. Through the Strategic Economic Plan (2016), Housing Deal (2018), the emerging West Midlands Industrial Strategy (2019), the Housing and Land Portfolio Business Plan (2020-2021) and the Recharge for the West Midlands (2020), there is great commitment to delivering new homes by 2031.
- 2.15 The Wolverhampton Housing Strategy 2019-2024 seeks to deliver more and better homes, safe and healthy and access to secure homes. In doing so it aligns with the Economic Growth Strategy and seeks to retain and attract economically active people to live and work in our city. The strategy has identified groups to ensure good quality homes in the city at a price they can afford for; first time buyers and second stage movers, households who want to rent, people who need affordable homes, homes for new communities and housing for graduates.

Four - Brownfield first approach

- 2.16 There are a number of brownfield and redundant sites whose undeveloped nature damages perception of the city, however, they also represent an opportunity to deliver housing and taking a brownfield first approach. Of course, the challenges to remediate land by improving soil conditions and making redundant mine workings safe to build over continues to be a challenge as regulations increase. The requirement to seek approval from The Coal Authority and compliance with policies for building over or within the influencing distance of a Mine Entry are very strict.
- 2.17 However, it is imperative that brownfield site clearance and unlocking of sites is a key focus and the importance of vibrancy is considered in residential deliverability. This will help appeal to a broad range of occupiers considering a future in the city, coupled with the increasing flight to quality demanded of both public and private open space. This would enable delivery of attractive and joined up placemaking opportunities and ultimately encourage a substantial increase in transactional and rental values across the city.
- 2.18 Furthermore, the Wolverhampton Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) published in 2021 provided details the need to boost the supply of housing and bring brownfield land into residential use.

3.0 Project progress and proposals

- 3.1 To progress the early stages of the project and understand the challenges and opportunities, activities have been undertaken to help develop a way forward and reach a position where alternative options can also be presented for discussion (see section 4.0). Specific progress has been made within the last 12 months with:
1. Preparation of initial development appraisals, taking account of land value and new build construction costs with consideration of rising inflation.
 2. Due diligence on the sites to identify any constraints and site abnormalities.

3. Development of a 'Delivery Plan' defining the strategy for the management of the project and the procedures for its successful completion and implementation.
4. Collaborative working with stakeholders and the project team representing CWC end users including Street Lighting, Cleaning and Catering, Stowheath Kitchens, Meals on Wheels, Taxi Licensing, Wolverhampton Homes, Facilities Management, Health and Safety, Highways and the Housing Team to develop site layouts and floor plans for the Asset Transformation Programme.
5. Submission of grant applications for support towards the project.
6. Pre application consultations have been successful with the Local Planning Authority and subsequent to this a planning application has been submitted

3.2 The scheme involves the Council seeking to obtain outline planning consent for the proposed uses as detailed below and then follow with a procurement process to deliver the works;

- Hickman Avenue Depot (North) – Construction of light industrial units for meals on wheels, street lighting, catering & cleaning, Stowheath kitchens. Open space for a salt barn and parking for Wolverhampton homes and Taxi licensing. The site will be enabled with ducting for EV infrastructure installation in the future. Alteration to existing offices to allow for a change in access arrangements.

A future project to relocate the Crown Street Waste Transfer Station is currently under consideration for positioning to the Southern area of Depot. If the project proves viable following consultation then a further paper will be presented to pursue this proposal.

- Loxdale development – Relocation of Taxi licensing upon completion of Hickman Avenue depot light industrial units, demolition of existing buildings, land remediation and diversion of utilities. Selection of a development partner.
- Stowheath development – Relocation of Stowheath kitchen units upon completion of Hickman Avenue depot light industrial units, demolition of existing buildings, land remediation, diversion of utilities and improvements to Hickman Avenue. Selection of a development partner.

3.3 The proposal is a locally led programme, bringing multiple public sector partners together, to;

- help reduce Council service running costs, surrender leases and relocation of services to a new facility.
- assist with rationalisation, consolidation and modernisation of assets and promote sharing of facilities with public sector partners. The salt barn is a prime opportunity ensuring neighbouring authorities do not all create excessive stock piles which deteriorate in quality and effectiveness over time. This would also offer an income generation opportunity.

- Develop a net zero carbon project, with focus on energy reduction and use of renewable energy sources
- Utilise Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) and provide new homes.
- Create an estimated 620 construction jobs, six apprenticeships, help upskill the work force with Health and Safety training and vocational qualifications, deliver local economic growth, offer social value.
- release capital value with re-development.
- and really help with levelling up for much needed services in East Park and Bilston East wards and support the economic recovery.

3.4 The project will also play a key role towards the city's recovery from the COVID-19 impact in years to come and act as an opportunity to reduce the Council's Carbon footprint and provide key worker housing and will directly link to the Council's Our City: Our Plan. Giving the opportunity to;

- Create good homes in well-connected neighbourhoods
- Help more local people into good jobs and training
- And create a thriving economy in all parts of the city

3.5 The proposals are also consistent with, and complement, the 'New Horizons - Our Vision for the City of Wolverhampton in 2030' – a strategic blueprint commissioned by the Council and developed in close collaboration with key partners.

3.6 The four key criteria would be achieved as set out below:

One - Rationalising, consolidating and optimising Council assets with a collaborative approach

The proposal to relocate uses from the former Loxdale primary school and Stowheath day training centre site to Hickman Avenue Depot supports the policy as outlined in the SAP and in particular delivery of items A2, A3, A4, A6, C1 and C6 of the Action Plan. With action 'C6' specifically making reference to proposals as outlined in this paper.

Consultation with a selected number of the Council service teams identified that there are services operating from Council assets in standalone and/or remote facilities. The geographical location and condition of the asset is having a negative impact on service delivery and/or loss in opportunity to increase efficiencies. Table 1 below summarises the findings and benefits the Asset Transformation Programme could achieve if the services were placed in a central location. These findings are strongly supported by the Councils City Assets team and the Strategic Asset Plan 2018-2023.

Table 1 – Service Integration benefits at Hickman Avenue Depot

Service	Current Challenge	Centralised location benefits
Taxi Licensing	Facility in residential area	Access to taxi vehicles from main highway. Suitable office space for staff.
Stowheath Kitchens	Kitchens not fit for purpose and outdated	New modern layout and located adjacent to catering stores and meals on wheels. Offers flexibility to Council for catering across the city as and when required.
Meals on Wheels	Facility to be demolished for housing project	Location near main highway. Gives flexibility to future provision of meals cooked from new kitchens at the same location
Wolverhampton Homes Car Park	Car park not fit for purpose with no strict layout or parking surface	New layout improves parking efficiency and capacity to store waste, and enable future EV installation
Catering and Cleaning	Facility to be demolished for new wholesale markets and fleet services depot	New location adjacent to proposed kitchens. Moved away from busy wholesale market trading environment.
Street Lighting & asset management		New location closer to Qualcast road depot and main highway. Fit for purpose facility and asset team centrally located
Salt Barn		

Two - Co-ordinated proposals with Willenhall Rd improvements and the East Park Gateway programme

3.7 The design development has taken into consideration the proposals for Willenhall Road improvements and the East Park Gateway programme, the latter which sets out intentions for development of the area and its enhancement with Council services at the Hickman Avenue depot. The design layout at the Hickman Avenue depot (North) gives priority to the highway improvements and ensures our proposals can be delivered independently and are co-ordinated so as to not blight any land between the two schemes. Furthermore, the positioning of structures allows for expansion of our site for car parking northwards if land beyond St Mathews Street becomes available in the future.

Three - Key worker housing and affordable living

3.8 The early design for the residential schemes at the Loxdale and Stowheath sites has been developed to allow for over 200 new homes across both sites including 25% affordable housing. The project design has focused on construction efficiencies along

with form and function and encouraged the layouts to benefit from Modern Methods of Construction and design layouts that benefit occupiers including disabled users, key workers and affordable housing with compliance to national space standards.

Four - Brownfield first approach

3.9 The Council is preparing a Wolverhampton Local Plan to replace the Black Country Core Strategy. This Plan will need to maintain high housing delivery rates up to 2041 to address the very high housing need figures set by the Government. Recently, the Council has come under public pressure to resist releasing green belt and greenfield sites for development. Unlocking brownfield land in the urban area for housing, such as the Stowheath and Loxdale sites, is a great example.

3.10 The site proposals will be submitted to the Local Government Association (LGA) and WMCA as part of a grant funding bid for abnormal costs to support site levelling, land remediation, utilities diversions, service upgrades and for renewable energy considerations.

Scheme financial viability

3.11 An outline construction cost plan for the development has been prepared by the Councils Cost Consultants and includes 15% for contingency and inflation. Current Building Cost Information Service (BCIS) forecasts show that inflation in the coming year shall fall and 15% is deemed reasonable. An outline viability appraisal for both the Loxdale and Stowheath sites identified a financial gap, which means that the value of the development upon completion would be less than the estimated capital expenditure required, considering the abnormal costs. As such grant funding and public intervention is required to ensure the project is viable for the private sector to invest. Should the project costs increase where the contract is tendered there is a possibility that this grant may be increased to reflect the larger viability gap, however if this is the case this will be brought forward in a further report.

3.12 At the time of preparing the paper, discussions with all grant funding stakeholders identified within the paper have been positive and encouragement has been received based on the progress made in tabling a deliverable programme. Each grant funding body has stipulated particular funding criteria and the proposals ensure these requirements are met in all instances, subject to certain conditions some of which are outlined in this paper (refer to section 3.16). Future opportunities to approach new funding initiatives shall be pursued in particular for energy related grants and other areas to minimise the Councils prudential borrowing.

3.13 The forecast capital receipts from the two sites at Loxdale and Stowheath are not currently assumed in the capital programme, and are therefore proposed to be used as match funding towards this project.

- 3.14 To maintain a strong and disciplined control on project costs and programme, in addition to the provision of internal resources an external team of professional consultants will be appointed to lead the project after obtaining planning consent and for monitoring purposes. This will offer assurance during the development stages of the project and robust contract management during the delivery stage.

Delivery Timescales

- 3.15 The following are key milestones to help understand the roadmap to delivering the overall project based on the preferred option evaluated in section 4.0. The critical path requires the construction of buildings at Hickman Avenue Depot (North) before uses at Stowheath and Loxdale can be relocated. However, remediation works at Loxdale and Stowheath can commence without the relocation activity as these works are to be carried out away from the occupied buildings. Note: These works do not impact any sequencing of works along Willenhall Road.

Activity	Hickman Avenue Depot (North)	Stowheath Residential scheme	Loxdale Residential scheme
Cabinet Approval	Q1 2023		
Planning consent approval	Q3 2023	Q3 2023	
Release of Tenders	Q4 2023	Q2 2023	Q2 2023
Start remediation works		Q1 2024	Q1 2024
Remediation completion		Q3 2024	Q3 2024
Start Construction works	Q1 2024		
Construction completion	Q3 2024		
Development agreement		Q4 2023	
Housing starts on site		Q4 2024	
Housing completions		Q2 2026	

Proposal Conditions and Consideration

- 3.16 To reduce the financial risk to the Council and funders, the following milestones are proposed as conditions, prior to any construction contract award and capital expenditure:
1. Outline planning consent is obtained for the three sites
 2. Agreement with The Coal Authority in relation to building over or within the influencing distance of mine entries
 3. Completion of ground investigations
 4. Grant funding is secured for on-site works
 5. Cost certainty is achieved with market tendering for the construction and remediation works
- 3.17 The following are advantages and disadvantages identified to understand the benefits, challenges, risks and likely issues, for the preferred option.

Advantages

- Relocation of existing uses to a location that is operationally more suitable and allow improve efficiency between services
- New fit for purpose and modernised facilities, future proofed
- Progress of 'East Park Gateway Regeneration Programme' (see reference section 10.0) and the Willenhall Road improvements that link to Hickman Avenue Depot.
- Provision of new much needed quality homes in Stowheath and Loxdale that are affordable, suitable for key workers and supports the Wolverhampton Housing Strategy 2019 - 2024
- Brownfield land remediation
- A new homes project on Brownfield land which attracts grant funding to support abnormal costs
- Opportunity to raise S106 contributions for Public Open Space
- Prevents an alternative use being proposed over a much-needed housing scheme by a 3rd party
- Development of strategic sites being accelerated
- Improvements to local highway infrastructure
- Implementation of the Council SAP and delivery of items A2, A3, A4, A6, C1 and C6 of the Action Plan

Disadvantages

- Some Council capital investment required to fund project.
- Increased activity to the Hickman Avenue depot
- Minor disruption to Council services during construction stages and upon relocating to new Hickman Avenue Depot

4.0 Evaluation of alternative options

4.1 In addition to the preferred proposal there are alternative options which were explored to find beneficial use of the sites and opportunities to unlock Council assets. Whilst evaluating the options and determining the preferred option, it was imperative to ensure good value for money, maximising outputs from the assets, synergising with Council services, job creation, remediation of brownfield land and addressing community needs with the provision of new homes.

4.2 **Option 1: Do Nothing** – This option would result in multiple Council services continuing to operate from Loxdale and Stowheath sites and Hickman Avenue Depot (North) remaining vacant.

Advantages

- The three sites remain as underutilised assets increasing in value overtime

Disadvantages

- Building improvement costs would be required to bring the asset up to full standard. This is not assumed in the approved capital programme.
- The opportunity to meet much needed housing demand within the highly ranked deprived zones of East Park and Bilston East is deferred indefinitely.
- Ongoing non-recoverable costs with site security, insurance, fly tipping clearance and grounds and building maintenance.
- Failure to capitalise on brownfield land regeneration opportunities and/or attract grant funding
- Council services continue operating from facilities/locations that are negatively impacting service delivery and/or not maximising on opportunities for synergy.
- Fragmented service provision continues across a range of buildings
- The Council would not be able to progress activities towards de-carbonising assets as part of the Council's 2028 net zero target.
- Could be perceived as a lack of activity by the Council.
- No new homes developed on brownfield land
- Return of any secured funding

4.3 **Option 2: Freehold disposal of the assets** – This option would result in the assets being auctioned to the highest bidder.

Advantages

- Any existing liabilities such as anti-social behaviour and non-recoverable expenditure would transfer to the new proprietor.
- The sale of the sites would generate income for the Council

Disadvantages

- No control on the type of developments, quality or use or timing, other than those permitted under planning policy

- It is likely the need to maximise Stowheath and Loxdale sites for housing may not be fulfilled considering the extent of abnormal costs
- The growing need for brownfield land re-development and provision of housing would remain with the Council.

4.4 **Option 3: Sourcing an alternative site and/or buildings to relocate Council services in lieu of Hickman Avenue depot (North)** – This option would require purchasing a site in a suitable location that could accommodate all the Council services as part the Asset Transformation Programme and achieve the desired outcomes.

Advantages

- Result in an accelerated programme if the alternative site was sized and configured as required between Council services.

Disadvantages

- Ongoing lease costs if a suitable freehold site is not available
- Hickman Ave Depot (North) is left redundant

5.0 Reasons for decision

5.1 Based on the proposal and alternative options, the recommendation for Cabinet (Resources) Panel is to pursue the proposal as outlined in section 3.0, which would result in the optimisation of Hickman Avenue Depot to accommodate multiple Council services allowing them to work better together. It will also boost the supply of new homes by bringing brownfield sites into residential use. Without public intervention, provision of land and funding the opportunity to remediate the land and develop prominent sites is unlikely to progress and will continue to be stalled. The advantages and disadvantages of the alternative options considered are detailed above. Option 1 is difficult to pursue and can be seen as ‘lack of activity’ by the Council. Option 2 is not advised as the key requirements mentioned in section 2.0 will not result in the necessary outputs and outcomes being achieved. Finally, option 3 is not suitable as it would result in the North section of Hickman Avenue Depot becoming redundant and not being utilised as an opportunity, which is currently under freehold ownership by the Council.

6.0 Financial implications

6.1 As detailed within the exempt report.
[RJ/14032023/Q]

7.0 Legal implications

7.1 Subject to the recommendations being approved, the Council propose to secure grant funding to relocate existing services, remediate the land, deliver new homes and construct light industrials units at the respective sites followed by procuring a

development partner to. As such, the Council will need to ensure that it complies with its Constitution and Procurement Regulations and its statutory powers in the public interest and for the purpose of which those powers have been conferred.

- 7.2 The Council will need to undertake a procurement exercise for the proposed development and associated goods, works and services. It will need to adhere to its Contracts and Procedure Rules and the law relating to Subsidy Control.
- 7.3 In relation to the Council's assets the Council will need to comply with its Constitution and Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 in relation to the proposed disposals in the of leases. Section 123(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 states that a council may dispose of land held by them in any manner they wish. This includes granting leases as proposed in the report. In Section 123 (2) of the Local Government Act 1972, except with the consent of the Secretary of State, a Council shall not dispose of land, otherwise by way of a short tenancy, for a consideration less than the best that can reasonably be obtained.
- 7.4 Under the Local Government Act 1972, the Secretary of State can issue a General Disposal Consent covering particular types of cases. For instance, a local authority may consider disposals at a reduced consideration if the purposes for which the land is to be disposed of is likely to contribute to the promotion or improvement of the economic, social, or environmental well-being of its area.
- 7.5 The Council must be aware of the rules relating to Subsidy Control as disposing of land at an undervalue could confer a benefit and therefore stand alone and unequivocal legal advice is required in respect of this proposal. The advice has therefore been sought and obtained from an external law firm. The Council must ensure it considers Subsidy Control rules, where applicable, when dealing with grant funding monies.
- 7.6 The Council's Legal Services will provide legal advice throughout the progression of the matter in relation to the various legal agreements, which include the leases, funding agreements, contracts, and other ancillary agreements.
[ABM/02032023/Z]

8.0 Equalities implications

- 8.1 An equalities analysis has established that this project is relevant to the Council's duty to advancing equality of opportunity. The Senior Equality Diversity and Inclusion Officer has been satisfactorily consulted on this matter and no implications have been highlighted whilst jointly reviewing the Equality Analysis Form.

9.0 All other implications

- 9.1 The Health & Safety team have been consulted on the temporary relocations and at this stage there are no concerns. As the project develops the team shall be involved throughout the process.

9.2 The selection of the Developer and award of the professional team and construction works will be fully tendered compliant with the Council's and public procurement rules and policies. A clear procurement and contract strategy are to be developed as part of the project in consultation with the Councils procurement team.

10.0 Schedule of background papers

10.1 [East Park Gateway Regeneration Programme](#) - Cabinet (Resources) Panel, 16 January 2018.

10.2 City of Wolverhampton Council - Strategic Asset Plan 2018-2023

11.0 Appendices

11.1 Appendix 1: MP letter of support

11.2 Appendix 2: Site Plans



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA



One Public Estate
Local Government Association
Smith Square
London
SW1P 3HZ

Our Ref: PM28935

23 August 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

As Member of Parliament for Wolverhampton South East, I am pleased to pledge my support for the Brownfield Land Release Fund 2 Programme.

The BRLF 2 programme will help to support and deliver major benefits to the residents of Bilston, helping to unlock Council assets that have struggled to come out of the ground due to viability issues and offer the community good quality affordable homes.

The funding will help accelerate the delivery programme and from what I am hearing this has already started with the team building a robust project to prove it is eligible for the funding. I see the grant funding opening up a whole corridor of opportunities along with re-purposing the two Council assets in Loxdale and Stowheath. The proposals will also see the relocation of Council services to fit for purpose buildings and help consolidate & improve space utilisation, reducing operation costs and help reach our targets to decarbonise the Council assets. The proposals also;

- Address market failure
- Support small scale infrastructure upgrades
- Develop brownfield land reducing pressure on our green field land
- Focus on public sector asset modernisation and rationalisation
- Seek to offer energy efficiency & greenhouse gas reductions
- Create new jobs and upskill the workforce
- Promote new homes with Modern Methods of Construction
- And look to kick start by March 23 with a development agreement unlocking the asset and 'shovel ready' thereafter

So what's the bigger picture? These projects are part of a wider Bilston asset transformation programme and targeting to provide homes for new families by early 2025 and this fits just in time for the proposed Bilston Health & wellbeing project which we recently submitted a grant funding application as part of the Levelling Up Round 2 bids. This facility is being designed future proofed for patient growth and assist the unlocking of sites such as Stowheath and Loxdale..... these projects upon completion play straight into this story board.

I look forward to hearing from you soon and pledge my support and resources to move this project forward to benefit our residents by unlocking housing on brownfield sites with public sector intervention.

Yours sincerely,

**Rt Hon Pat McFadden MP
Wolverhampton South East**

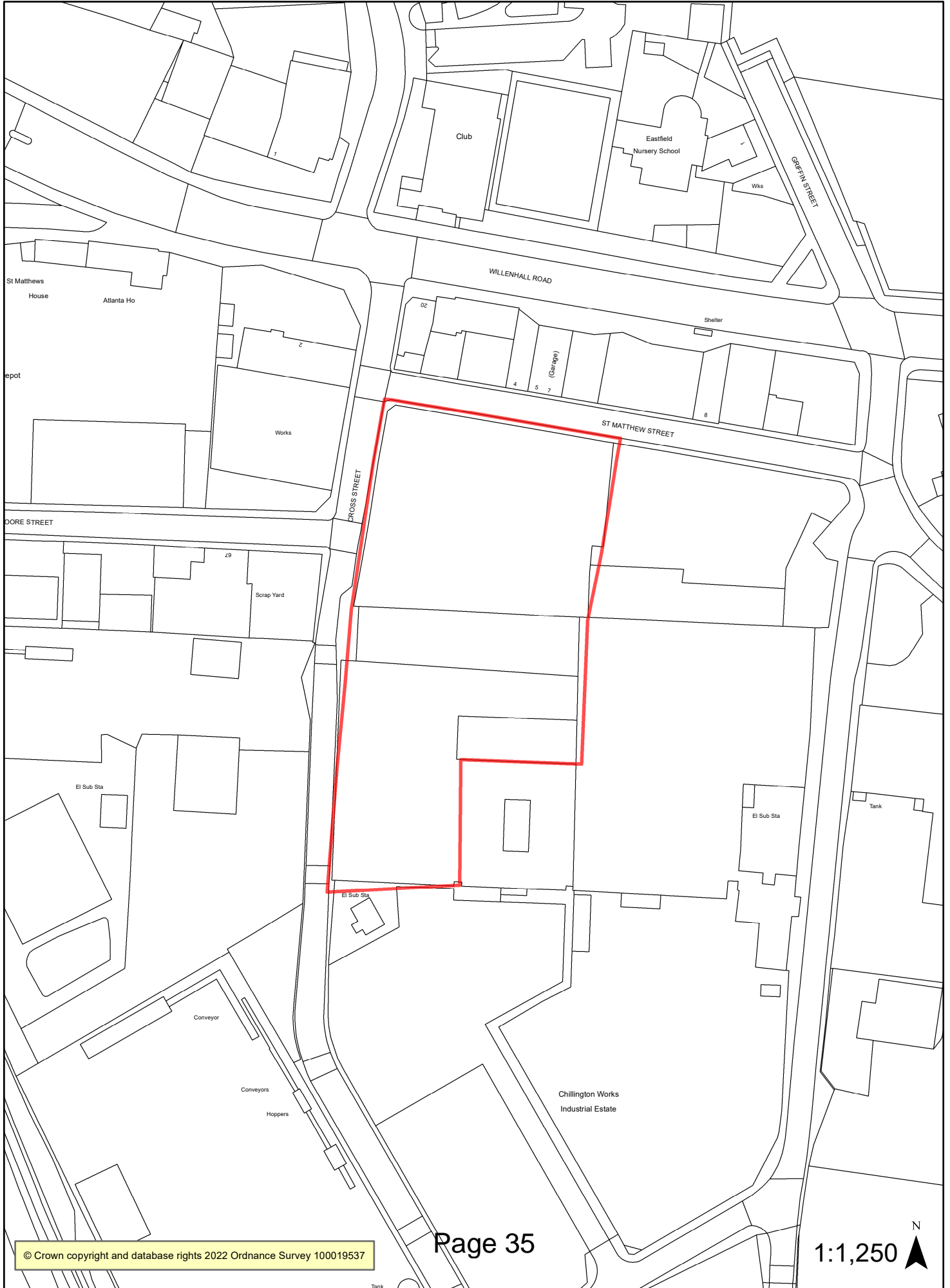
Crescent House, Broad Street, Bilston, WV14 0BZ

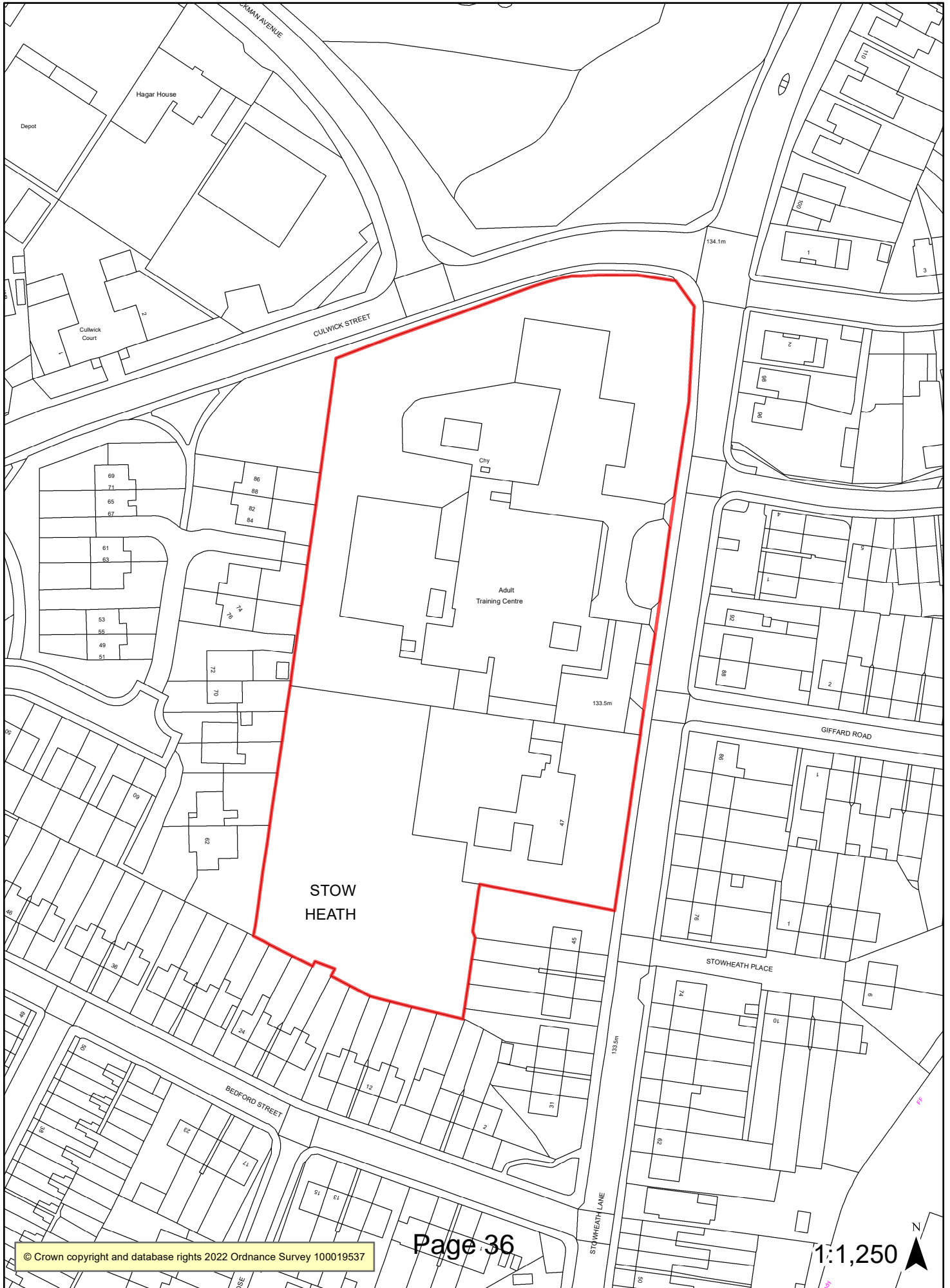
Telephone: 020 7219 4036
or 01902 405762

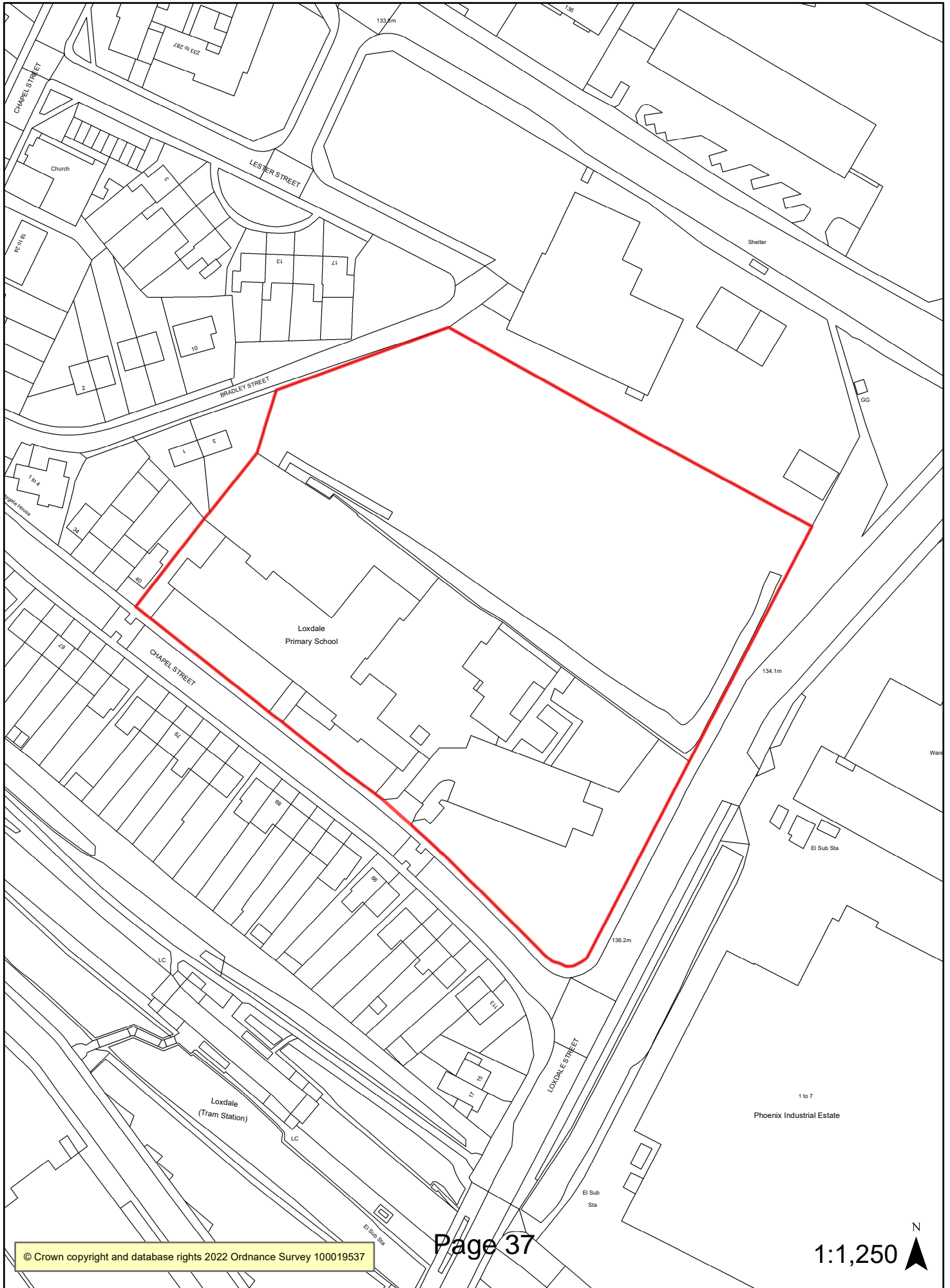
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Instagram: [@patmcfaddenmp](https://www.instagram.com/patmcfaddenmp)

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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Meeting of the City Council 29 March 2023
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Report title	Pay Policy Statement 2023-2024	
Referring body	Cabinet – 22 March 2023	
Councillor to present report	Councillor Paula Brookfield	
Wards affected	All Wards	
Cabinet Member with lead responsibility	Councillor Paula Brookfield, Governance and Equalities	
Accountable director	David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer	
Originating service	Human Resources	
Accountable employee	Laura Phillips Tel Email	Deputy Director People and Change 01902 558892 laura.phillips@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	Cabinet	22 March 2023

Recommendations for decision:

The Council to be recommended to approve:

1. The Pay Policy Statement for 2023-2024.
2. The publication of the Pay Policy Statement in line with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011.

Recommendation for noting:

The Council to be asked to note:

1. That the national pay award for 2023 – 2024 has not been agreed, at the time of writing the Pay Policy Statement.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 To refer to Council for approval the new Pay Policy and the publication of the Pay Policy.

2.0 Background

2.1 On 22 March 2023, Cabinet are to consider a report on Pay Policy Statement 2023-2024.

2.2 Cabinet has been recommended to recommend that Council approves:

1. The Pay Policy Statement for 2023-2024.
2. The publication of the Pay Policy Statement in line with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011.

2.3 Cabinet has been recommended to recommend that Council notes:

1. That the national pay award for 2023 – 2024 has not been agreed, at the time of writing the Pay Policy Statement.

3.0 Financial implications

3.1 The financial implications are detailed in the Cabinet report of 22 March 2023.

4.0 Legal implications

4.1 The legal implications are detailed in the Cabinet report of 22 March 2023.

5.0 Equalities implications

5.1 The equalities implications are detailed in the Cabinet report of 22 March 2023.

6.0 All other implications

6.1 All other implications are detailed in the Cabinet report of 22 March 2023.

7.0 Schedule of background papers

7.1 Cabinet report of 22 March 2023 - [Pay Policy Statement 2023-2024](#)

Report title	Pay Policy Statement 2023-2024	
Decision designation	RED	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Paula Brookfield Governance and Equalities	
Key decision	Yes	
In forward plan	Yes	
Wards affected	All Wards	
Accountable director	David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer	
Originating service	Human Resources	
Accountable employee(s)	Laura Phillips Tel Email	Deputy Director People and Change 01902 558892 Laura.phillips@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	Strategic Executive Board Full Council	29 March 2023

Recommendations for decision:

Cabinet recommends that Council approves:

1. The Pay Policy Statement for 2023-2024
2. The publication of the Pay Policy Statement in line with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011.

Recommendation for noting:

The Cabinet recommends that Council notes:

1. That the national pay award for 2023 – 2024 has not been agreed, at the time of writing the Pay Policy Statement.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To refer to Council for approval the new Pay Policy and the publication of the Pay Policy.
- 1.2 This report has been compiled to comply with the requirements of section 38 (1) of the Localism Act 2011.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Under section 112 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council has the “power to appoint officers on such reasonable terms and conditions as the authority thinks fit”.
- 2.2 Section 38 of The Localism Act 2011 requires that each council prepares an annual pay policy statement setting out the following:
 - a. The remuneration of its chief officers. In this context a ‘chief officer’ is defined as:
 - The head of its paid service designated under section 4(1) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989
 - Its Monitoring Officer designated under section 5(1) of the Act
 - A statutory chief officer mentioned in section 2(6) of that Act
 - A non-statutory chief officer mentioned in section 2(6) of that Act
 - A deputy chief officer mentioned in section 2(8) of that Act
 - b. The remuneration of its lowest-paid employees, and
 - c. The relationship between:
 - The remuneration of its chief officers, and
 - The remuneration of its employees who are not chief officers
- 2.3 It should be noted that provisions of the Act do not apply to the staff based in local authority schools.
- 2.4 Additionally the Act requires that the pay policy statement must set out the Council’s policies relating to:
 - a. The level and elements of remuneration for each chief officer covered by the Act
 - b. The remuneration of chief officers on recruitment

- c. Increases and additions to remuneration for each chief officer
 - d. The use of performance related pay for chief officers
 - e. The use of bonuses for chief officers
 - f. The publication of, and access to, information relating to remuneration of chief officers.
- 2.5 The Localism Act requires that a local authority publish the pay policy statement “in such manner as they see fit which must include publication on the authority’s website”. In addition, section 38 (4) requires authorities to set out in their pay policy statements their approach to the publication of and access to information relating to the remuneration of chief officers.
- 2.6 The requirements to publish a pay policy statement and details of senior pay have been underpinned by the mandatory requirements in the Local Government Transparency Code 2015. The City of Wolverhampton Council will publish the relevant data sets under the transparency code on the Wolverhampton data share site following the approval of the Pay Policy.
- 2.7 The act requires the Pay Policy statement to include the data confirming the relationship between the remuneration of its chief officers, and employees who are not chief officers. The City of Wolverhampton Council’s pay ratio has reduced from 9.28:1 to 8.5:1, this maintains the City of Wolverhampton Council’s pledge to have a pay ratio below 10:1.
- 2.8 Comparative data for this financial year is not yet available, however figures for last year show, Sandwell at 8:1 and Dudley at 10:1. Walsall Council report on the pay ratio between the highest pay and the median pay so would not be comparative. Birmingham City Council have not published data for 2022-2023.
- 2.9 The senior pay scale (appendix 2) sets out the grades that will be applied to senior managers in 2023 - 2024. The senior pay data (appendix 3) covers senior posts in line within the definitions in the guidance. Decisions on individual increments will not at this point have been taken, as these are subject to performance management criteria and will not take effect, if approved, until after 1 April 2023
- 2.10 Senior managers pay was independently reviewed by West Midlands Employers (WME) in 2021. Posts have been evaluated using the Local Government Employer (LGE) Senior Job Evaluation scheme. The LGE scheme evaluates roles based on four criteria; knowledge requirement, creative thinking/policy direction, impact on people/organisation and responsibility for resources.
- 2.11 The Council’s senior leadership team, are required to work effectively to deliver the priorities of Council as well as dealing with the unprecedented ongoing challenges, whilst not losing our sense of ambition, or vision, for our city or our external reputation to reap benefits for our city.
- 2.12 Data on all senior salaries in 2022 - 2023 will be published on the City Council’s web site, following approval. Data relating to posts with salaries over £100,000 are available in appendix 4.

- 2.13 Data required by the Local Government Transparency Code 2015, will also be available by 31 March 2023 This includes employees whose remuneration in the year 2021 – 2022 was at least £50,000 in brackets of £5,000. This information is recorded by job title. For senior managers whose salaries are £150,000 or more a name must also be given. At City of Wolverhampton Council this would only apply to the Chief Executive.

3.0 Evaluation of alternative options

- 3.1 The authority is required to prepare and publish a Pay Policy in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

4.0 Reasons for decision

- 4.1 To ensure that the authority complies with the relevant legislation and best practice guidance.

5.0 Financial implications

- 5.1 At the time of writing this report national negotiations are ongoing in respect of the pay award for 2023-2024. The Medium Term Financial Strategy approved by Council on 1 March 2023 currently assumes a 5% pay award for the next financial year.
[GE/02033023/C]

6.0 Legal implications

- 6.1 The preparation and approval of a senior Pay Policy Statement is a requirement of section 38 of the Localism Act 2011. The Act prescribes information to be included in the statement, its manner of publication and the requirement for the Council to act in accordance with its approved Policy Statement.
[JB/10022023/M]

7.0 Equality implications

- 7.1 This report sets out the policies used to manage senior pay across the Council and the current relationship between the highest and the lowest salary levels. All posts are subject to Job Evaluation, as agreed by the Trade Unions in the signing of our collective agreement.
- 7.2 Data on pay and grading, gender and race pay gaps are reported in in annual reports.
- 7.3 Appointments into the senior pay structure are made in line with the Council's Constitution and relevant policies and procedures.

8.0 All other implications

- 8.1 There are no direct human resources implications arising from this report. Appointments into the senior pay structure are made in line with the Council's Constitution and relevant policies and procedures.

9.0 Schedule of background papers

- 9.1 None

10.0 Appendices

- 10.1 Appendix 1 - Pay Policy Statement.
- 10.2 Appendix 2 - Senior Management Pay Scale.
- 10.3 Appendix 3 - Pay Policy Data.
- 10.4 Appendix 4 - Current roles where pay range exceeds £100,000 per annum

This report is PUBLIC
[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

Senior Pay Policy Statement – 2023-2024

General Principles

This Policy Statement has been compiled to comply with the requirements of section 38 (1) of the Localism Act 2011, which requires local authorities to state their policy on the level and elements of remuneration for each Chief Officer (as defined by the Act).

1. Appointment and increments

- 1.1 The Appointment of Senior Managers is governed by the Employee Employment Procedure Rules detailed in the Constitution of the City of Wolverhampton Council. A Special Appointment Committee will be established to appoint the Head of Paid Service, Section 151 Officer, Monitoring Officer and roles graded 14 and above, on a politically balanced basis and will usually comprise of the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council, any appropriate Cabinet Member, the Cabinet Member with lead responsibility for Human Resources and their opposition counterparts or their substitutes and a nominated employee from an equality forum group in an observer capacity.
- 1.2 To comply with the guidance from the Secretary of State, Full Council approval is required, to agree appointment packages including salary, bonus, fees allowances and benefits in kind, to posts exceeding a pay range of £100,000. For existing posts where the salary range exceeds £100,000 (Directors and above currently), the Council is reaffirming its approval to the current and any future appointment to these already established roles. These posts are detailed in appendix 4. Where the creation of a comparable post (salary range exceeding £100,000) is required, this will need the approval of Full Council. To appoint to any already established role, a Special Appointments Committee will be established on a politically balanced basis and will usually comprise the Leader of the Council, Deputy Leader of the Council, Leader of the opposition, appropriate Cabinet Member and appropriate Scrutiny Panel chairs or their substitutes.
- 1.3 All other Senior Manager roles are subject to appropriate HR recruitment policy and process.
- 1.4 The salary scale upon appointment will usually be at the “minimum point of advantage”, in certain circumstances it may be appropriate to appoint at a higher pay point within the grade. This must be agreed by the Chief Executive and the Deputy Director of People & Change.
- 1.5 Senior Management roles who meet the eligible criteria, receive the appropriate pay increment on 1 April each year, to the maximum of the grade (see 4.1).
- 1.6 The Senior Management pays scales for 2023-2024 are detailed in appendix 2.

2. Annual Pay Award

- 2.1 All annual pay awards are set in line with nationally negotiated rates. The last agreement for officers within scope of the JNC for Chief Officers and Chief Executives of Local Authorities (Grade 12 to Grade 17) increased individual salaries by £1,925 with effect from 1 April 2022.
- 2.2 Employees at Grade 11 and below receive the pay award agreed through collective bargaining with the National Employers and the relevant Trade Unions (NJC). The last nationally agreed pay award for NJC Local Government Employers increased all pay points by £1,925 with effect from 1 April 2022.
- 2.3 Pay agreements for April 2023 have not been agreed for NJC or JNC local government employees, however, national negotiations have now commenced.

3. Market forces supplements

- 3.1 The City of Wolverhampton Council has a policy to offer market forces supplements in instances where the substantive grade of the post is insufficient to attract or retain post holders in skill shortage areas. Market forces supplements are awarded for a defined period and subject to regular review. Currently there is only one West Midlands Pension Fund senior manager receiving a Market Force Supplement.

4. 'Earn Back,' bonus and performance related pay

- 4.1 None of the posts featured in this report are eligible for bonus or performance related pay. However, there is no automatic incremental progression within senior management grades, movement within grade is dependent on performance. Progression for Senior Managers who do not sit on the Strategic Executive Board (SEB), is agreed by SEB. For SEB Members progression is agreed by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council and any incremental progression for the Chief Executive is agreed by the Leader of the Council. Senior Managers who meet the performance criteria are expected to receive an increment in April 2023.

5. Cessation of Employment

- 5.1 If made redundant, post holders covered by this policy will be compensated in the same way as other Council employees and within the confines of the Council's approved redundancy scheme. The extent of any payment will depend on the individual's age, length of service and whether the redundancy is voluntary or compulsory.
- 5.2 The Council retains provision to make additional payments, or payments for some reason other than redundancy (Special Severance Payments). On 12 May 2022 the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (DLUHC) issued [statutory guidance](#), which applies to "best value authorities", when making Special Severance Payments (SSPs) from that date.

- 5.3 Approval for payments under £20,000 must be approved in accordance with the local authorities scheme of delegations to the Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive or Director in consultation with the Deputy Director of People & Change and Section 151 Officer, Monitoring Officer or their nominees.
- 5.4 Approval for payment over £20,000 but under £100,000, is delegated to the Leader of the Council, in consultation with the Head of Paid Service. This is approved through an Independent Executive Decision Notice (IEDN) and reported to Cabinet.
- 5.5 Section 40, a supplement to the original Localism 2011 Act, stated that we should have regard for any guidance issued or approved by the Secretary of State. Guidance issued recommends that Full Council should be given the opportunity to vote on salary packages and severance payment of £100,000 and over. Appointment processes are detailed in 1.1 of the Pay Policy and have been agreed by Full Council. Any severance packages in excess of £100,000, (not inclusive of pension capital costs), will be agreed by Full Council.
- 6. Re-engagement of senior employees in receipt of a local government pension**
- 6.1 The City of Wolverhampton Council recognises that the re-employment of retired local government officers is likely to be perceived negatively and bring into question the use of retirement packages in the public sector. The Council's Voluntary Redundancy Scheme makes clear that employees, regardless of salary level, should not seek re-employment into council roles for 12 months after accepting early retirement/voluntary redundancy. Appointment of former employees as either agency staff or consultants is also prohibited if the arrangement could have been foreseen at the time of retirement. The Council is, however, not averse to appointing senior staff who have retired from other public sector employers. This is because the City of Wolverhampton Council has no control over the decision-making of other employers and could potentially benefit from the skills and experience of the individual concerned.
- 7. Payments made in recognition of election responsibilities**
- 7.1 In accordance with the regulations, at times of General or Mayoral Elections the council appoints an Acting Returning Officer, by convention, the Head of Paid Service, whose fee for overseeing the election process, is paid by central government. The fee is set nationally. However, at times of a Local Election it forms part of the Head of Paid Services' contract of employment to be Returning Officer and no additional payment is made by Central Government for his role. Other Senior Managers may act as Returning Officer at times of a Local Election and will receive payment from Central Government.
- 8. Pension Contributions and other elements of remuneration**
- 8.1 Employer pension contributions have been included in the pay data included in this policy; this is in line with the definitions of remuneration in the Local Government Transparency Code 2015. The employer contribution rate for LGPS in 2022/23 was 26.16% and for Teachers Pension was 23.68%.

9. Interim Senior Managers

9.1 There is a requirement from time to time to appoint senior managers on an interim basis in response to short term vacancies or skill shortages, the engagement of all interim senior managers is subject to the necessary approvals and council processes.

10. Pay comparison between the highest and the lowest paid

10.1 In setting the requirement that the policy statement includes a comparison between the highest and the lowest paid, the Act gives no definition of 'lowest paid' and specifies that authorities should set their own and explain why it has been chosen.

10.2 For the purposes of this policy statement, to comply with the Localism Act, the identification of the lowest paid role has been identified as a full-time job, performed all year round, with the exclusion of posts that include an on-going training requirement, such as an apprenticeship.

10.3 The lowest pay point is pay point 1 currently £20,258. This point is part of City of Wolverhampton Council's Grade 2. Grade 2 is from pay point 1 £20,258 – pay point 3 £20,812 per annum.

10.4 The type of roles that fall within Grade 2 are Catering and Cleaning roles, School Crossing Patrol and Passenger Assistant. There were 603 employees on Grade 2 as of 1st April 2022.

10.5 The City of Wolverhampton Councils pay ratio of 8.5:1 falls below the City of Wolverhampton Councils pledge to keep the pay ratio below 10:1.

City of Wolverhampton Council's Pay Multiple	Highest and Lowest paid salaries	Highest and Lowest paid roles
8.5:1	£172,128 £20,258	Chief Executive Cleaner

10.6 Comparative data for this financial year is not yet available, however figures for last year show, Sandwell at 8:1 and Dudley at 10:1. Walsall council report on the pay ratio between the highest pay and the median pay so would not be comparative. Birmingham City Council have not published data for 2022-23.

10.7 In addition to reporting the above as part of the Localism Act, there is a requirement under the Transparency Code 2015, to report the pay multiple, defined in this case, as the ratio between the highest taxable earnings for a given year (2021/2022) and the

median figure for the whole authority's workforce. The median figure should be calculated using all employees on a fixed date each year. The date of 1 April 2022 has been used to provide the most current data. The highest salary is the Chief Executive on Grade 17 £172,128 and the lowest full time pay is £18,328, with 5 Apprentices on this salary. The median earning figure used as the denominator is £32,909, giving a pay ratio of 5.23:1.

- 10.8 The median earning figure is reported as £32,909. Comparative data for this financial year is not yet available, however data from last year show, Sandwell at 1:5, Dudley at 1:7 and Walsall at 1:7.

11. Publication

- 11.1 The Pay Policy Statement 2023-2024 will be published on the City of Wolverhampton Council's website, alongside the data published under the Local Government Transparency code, at <http://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/article/1889/Corporate>
- 11.2 As good practice the actual remuneration of Chief Officers (as defined by the Localism Act) will also be published on the City of Wolverhampton Council's website.

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Pay Grades Senior Management

Existing (from April 2021)			New (from April 2022)			
Grade	Pay point	£ per year	Pay point	£ per year	% Increase	Grade
12	47	£71,974	47	£73,899	2.67	12
	48	£74,584	48	£76,509	2.58	
	49	£77,192	49	£79,117	2.49	
	50	£79,803	50	£81,728	2.41	
	51	£82,417	51	£84,342	2.34	
13	52	£88,627	52	£90,552	2.17	13
	53	£92,456	53	£94,381	2.08	
	54	£96,289	54	£98,214	2.00	
	55	£97,896	55	£99,821	1.97	
14	56	£101,074	56	£102,999	1.90	14
	57	£106,690	57	£108,615	1.80	
	58	£110,686	58	£112,611	1.74	
	59	£114,394	59	£116,319	1.68	
	60	£118,101	60	£120,026	1.63	
	61	£121,753	61	£123,678	1.58	
15	62a	£129,205	62a	£131,130	1.49	15
	62b	£131,790	62b	£133,715	1.46	
	62c	£134,425	62c	£136,350	1.43	
	62d	£136,981	62d	£138,906	1.41	
16	63	£140,412	63	£142,337	1.37	16
	64	£143,891	64	£145,816	1.34	
	65	£145,902	65	£147,827	1.32	
	66	£147,765	66	£149,690	1.30	
17	67	£159,566	67	£161,491	1.21	17
	68	£162,225	68	£164,150	1.19	
	69	£164,885	69	£166,810	1.17	
	70	£167,544	70	£169,469	1.15	
	71	£170,203	71	£172,128	1.13	

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Position	Regulations Definition	Annual Salary	Pay Ceiling	Employers Pension Contribution	New contribution	Employers Rate %	Left Role
Chief Executive	Head of Paid Service	£172,128	£172,128	n/a		n/a	
Deputy Chief Executive	Non statutory Chief Officer	£149,690	£149,690	£39,159		26.16%	
Executive Director of Families	Statutory Chief Officer	£133,715	£138,906	£34,980		26.16%	
Executive Director of Pensions	Non statutory Chief Officer	£147,827	£149,690	£38,672		26.16%	
Chief Operating Officer	Monitoring Officer	£133,715	£138,906	£34,980		26.16%	
Director of Finance	Section 151 Officer	£123,678	£123,678	£32,354		26.16%	
Deputy Director of Commissioning and Transformation	Deputy Chief Officer	£90,552	£99,821	£23,688		26.16%	
Director of Communications and External Relations	Deputy Chief Officer	£116,319	£123,678	£30,429		26.16%	
Director of Regeneration	Non statutory Chief Officer	£123,678	£123,678	£32,354		26.16%	
Director of Strategy	Deputy Chief Officer	£116,319	£123,678	£30,429		26.16%	
Director of Public Health	Statutory Chief Officer	£123,678	£123,678	£32,354		26.16%	
Director of City Housing and Environment	Deputy Chief Officer	£102,999	£123,678	£26,945		26.16%	
Black Country Transport Director	Non Statutory Chief Officer	£123,678	£123,678	£32,354		26.16%	
Deputy Director Social Care	Deputy Chief Officer	£98,214	£99,821	£25,693		26.16%	
Director of Adults Services	Statutory Chief Officer	£102,999	£123,678	£26,945		26.16%	
Head of Community Financial Support	Deputy Chief Officer	£63,961	£63,961	£16,732		26.16%	
Head of Adult Services (Secondment)	Deputy Chief Officer	£66,983	£71,030	£17,523		26.16%	
Head of Service (Adult services - North)	Deputy Chief Officer	£70,018	£71,030	£18,317		26.16%	
Head of Adult Services (Mental Health Assessment & Care Management)	Deputy Chief Officer	£71,030	£71,030	£18,581		26.16%	
Head of Service (Learning Disabilities Management)	Deputy Chief Officer	£71,030	£71,030	£18,581		26.16%	
Head of Service Adult Improvement	Deputy Chief Officer	£73,899	£84,342	£19,332		26.16%	
Deputy Director of People and Change	Deputy Chief Officer	£98,214	£99,821	£25,693		26.16%	
Deputy Director of Education	Deputy Chief Officer	£94,381	£99,821	£24,690		26.16%	
Assistant Director - Pensions	Deputy Chief Officer	£98,214	£99,821	£25,693		26.16%	
Deputy Director of Assets	Deputy Chief Officer	£94,381	£99,821	£24,690		26.16%	
Chief Accountant	Deputy Chief Officer	£84,342	£84,342	£22,064		26.16%	
Head of Assets	Deputy Chief Officer	£67,994	£71,030	£17,787		26.16%	
Head of Adult Education	Deputy Chief Officer	£71,030	£71,030	£18,581		26.16%	
Head of Skills	Deputy Chief Officer	£71,030	£71,030	£18,581		26.16%	
Head of Operations	Deputy Chief Officer	£76,509	£84,342	£20,015		26.16%	
Head of Governance, Risk and Assurance	Deputy Chief Officer	£73,899	£84,342	£19,332		26.16%	
Assistant Director - Investment Management & Stewardship	Deputy Chief Officer	£108,615	£123,678	£28,414		26.16%	
Head of Finance	Deputy Chief Officer	£84,342	£84,342	£5,454		26.16%	
Head of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion	Deputy Chief Officer	£62,959	£63,961	£16,470		26.16%	
Head of Service Health & Safety	Deputy Chief Officer	£62,959	£63,961	£16,470		26.16%	
Head of Legal Services	Deputy Chief Officer	£71,030	£71,030	£18,581		26.16%	
Head of Commercial	Deputy Chief Officer	£62,959	£63,961	£16,470		26.16%	
Head of Procurement	Deputy Chief Officer	£69,008	£71,030	£18,052		26.16%	
Head of Revenues and Benefits	Deputy Chief Officer	£70,018	£71,030	£18,317		26.16%	
Head of The Hub	Deputy Chief Officer	£63,961	£63,961	£16,732		26.16%	
Head of City Development	Deputy Chief Officer	£71,030	£71,030	£18,581		26.16%	
Head of City Planning	Deputy Chief Officer	£71,030	£71,030	£18,581		26.16%	
Head of City Investment	Deputy Chief Officer	£62,959	£63,961	£16,470		26.16%	
Head of Enterprise	Deputy Chief Officer	£71,030	£71,030	£18,581		26.16%	
Head of Communities (Public Health)	Deputy Chief Officer	£76,509	£84,342	£20,015		26.16%	
Head of Communities (Public Health)	Deputy Chief Officer	£73,899	£84,342	£19,332		26.16%	
Consultant in Public Health	Deputy Chief Officer	£73,430	£91,787	£10,559		14.38%	
Consultant in Public Health	Deputy Chief Officer	£91,787	£91,787	£13,199		14.38%	
Head of Partnerships (Public Health)	Deputy Chief Officer	£76,509	£84,342	£20,015		26.16%	
Position		Annual Salary	Pay Ceiling	Employers Pension Contribution		Employers Rate %	Left Role
Head of Adult Commissioning & Market Management	Deputy Chief Officer	£60,917	£63,961	£7,627		26.16%	21/10/22
Assistant Director - Investment Strategy	Deputy Chief Officer	£107,690	£123,678	£5,365		26.16%	10/06/22
Head of Adult Services (East)	Deputy Chief Officer	£71,030	£71,030	£1,630		26.16%	02/05/22
Head of Service Adoption at Heart	Deputy Chief Officer	£70,018	£71,030	£4,576		26.16%	30/06/22
Head of Service - Leisure & Wellbeing	Deputy Chief Officer	£63,961	£63,961	£4,830		26.16%	19/07/22

Localism Act

- (2) In this Chapter "chief officer", in relation to a relevant authority, means each of the following—
- the head of its paid service designated under section 4(1) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989;
 - its monitoring officer designated under section 5(1) of that Act;
 - a statutory chief officer mentioned in section 2(6) of that Act.
 - a non-statutory chief officer mentioned in section 2(7) of that Act;
 - a deputy chief officer mentioned in section 2(8) of that Act.

Local Gov't & Housing Act

- (7) In this section "non-statutory chief officer" means, subject to the following provisions of this section—
- a person for whom the head of the authority's paid service is directly responsible;
 - a person who, as respects all or most of the duties of his post, is required to report directly or is directly accountable to the head of the authority's paid service; and
 - any person who, as respects all or most of the duties of his post, is required to report directly or is directly accountable to the local authority themselves or any committee or sub-committee of the authority.
- (8) In this section "deputy chief officer" means, subject to the following provisions of this section, a person who, as respects all or most of the duties of his post, is required to report directly or is directly accountable to one or more of the statutory or non-statutory chief officers.
- (9) A person whose duties are solely secretarial or clerical or are otherwise in the nature of support services shall not be regarded as a non-statutory chief officer or a deputy chief officer for the purposes of this Part.

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Appendix 4 - Current roles where pay range exceeds £100,000 per annum

Post	Grade
Chief Executive	17
Deputy Chief Executive	16
Executive Director of Pensions	16
Chief Operating Officer	15
Executive Director of Families	15
Director of Finance	14
Director of Communications and External Relations	14
Director of Regeneration	14
Director of Strategy	14
Director of Public Health	14
Director of City Housing and Environment (Temporary)	14
Black Country Transport Director	14
Director of Adult Services	14
Assistant Director - Investment Strategy	14
Assistant Director - Investment Management & Stewardship	14

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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Meeting of the City Council 29 March 2023
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Report title	Wolverhampton Homes Delivery Plan 2023-2024	
Referring body	Cabinet – 22 March 2023	
Councillor to present report	Councillor Bhupinder Gakhal	
Wards affected	All Wards	
Cabinet Member with lead responsibility	Councillor Bhupinder Gakhal City Assets and Housing	
Accountable director	John Roseblade, Director of Resident Services	
Originating service	City Housing	
Accountable employee	Lynda Eyton	Client Relationship Manager
	Tel	01902 555706
	Email	lynda.eyton@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	City Housing and Environment Leadership Team	24 January 2023
	Strategic Executive Board	31 January 2023
	Cabinet Member Briefing	8 February 2023
	Cabinet	22 March 2023

Recommendations for decision:

The Council to be recommended to approve:

1. The Wolverhampton Homes Delivery Plan 2023-2024.
2. The arrangements for monitoring the delivery of the Wolverhampton Homes Delivery Plan.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report will be to seek Council approval of the Wolverhampton Homes Annual Delivery Plan 2023-2024 and its monitoring arrangements.

2.0 Background

2.1 On 22 March 2023, Cabinet are to consider a report on Wolverhampton Homes Delivery Plan 2023-2024.

2.2 Cabinet has been recommended to recommend that Council approves:

1. The Wolverhampton Homes Delivery Plan 2023-2024.
2. The arrangements for monitoring the delivery of the Wolverhampton Homes Delivery Plan.

3.0 Financial implications

3.1 The financial implications are detailed in the Cabinet report of 22 March 2023.

4.0 Legal implications

4.1 The legal implications are detailed in the Cabinet report of 22 March 2023.

5.0 Equalities implications

5.1 The equalities implications are detailed in the Cabinet report of 22 March 2023.

6.0 All other implications

6.1 All other implications are detailed in the Cabinet report of 22 March 2023.

7.0 Schedule of background papers

7.1 Cabinet report of 22 March 2023 - [Wolverhampton Homes Annual Delivery Plan 2023](#).

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Cabinet 22 March 2023
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Report title	Wolverhampton Homes Delivery Plan 2023-2024	
Decision designation	RED	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Bhupinder Gakhal City Asserts and Housing	
Key decision	Yes	
In forward plan	Yes	
Wards affected	All Wards	
Accountable Director	John Roseblade, Director of Resident Services	
Originating service	City Housing	
Accountable employee	Lynda Eyton	Client Relationship Manager
	Tel	01902 555706
	Email	Lynda.eyton@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	City Housing and Environment Leadership Team	24 January 2023
	Strategic Executive Board	31 January 2023
	Cabinet Member Briefing	8 February 2023

Recommendations for decision:

The Cabinet recommends that Council:

1. Approve the Wolverhampton Homes Delivery Plan 2023-2024.
2. Approve the arrangements for monitoring the delivery of the Wolverhampton Homes Delivery Plan.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet acceptance of the Wolverhampton Homes Annual Delivery Plan 2023-2024 and its monitoring arrangements and to recommend approval of the plan by Full Council.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Under the terms of the management agreement between the City of Wolverhampton Council (CWC) and its arms length management organisation (ALMO), Wolverhampton Homes (WH), the Council is required to adopt an annual Delivery Plan. The schedules to the management agreement were revised and adopted by Cabinet on 12 September 2018, with 'Schedule 3 - Annual Delivery Planning Process Timetable' amended in support of WH developing an overarching business plan allowing for longer term service and financial planning.
- 2.2 Full Council adopted WH's four-year Business Plan in April 2019, which ends April 2023, aligned to the next break clause in the management agreement. However, this current Business Plan will be held in abeyance pending the development of the new Housing Strategy which will be in place from 2024. The new WH Business Plan will be written in conjunction with the new Housing Strategy to ensure the WH Business Plan priorities and objectives are fully aligned with those of the Council.
- 2.3 To set out how this longer-term vision will be achieved, working with CWC, WH are required to provide an annual update by way of an annual Delivery Plan, which demonstrates how these strategic priorities will be operationalised over the coming year.

3.0 Update Wolverhampton Homes Service Delivery 2022-2023

- 3.1 Whilst remaining aligned to the overarching four-year Business Plan, the annual delivery plan 2022–2023 was developed in the context of the Charter for Social Housing Residents – Social Housing White Paper, published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government 17 November 2020.
- 3.2 The new regulatory changes, increased expectations from the Regulator of Social Housing and the importance of the customer voice have been embraced by WH and are reflected in their key core priorities.
- 3.3 Several factors, increased service demand, inflation, increased staffing costs, raising energy and fuel costs have increased the budgetary pressures on WH. WH have focussed scrutiny on the company's finances and have continued to explore new ways of working across the business. This has included a review of office accommodation.
- 3.4 Inflationary increases have not only increased budgetary pressures on WH but on their tenants also. WH commits to support CWC's Financial Wellbeing Strategy and have responded to the increased costs of living by supporting their tenants through several channels:

- WH's Money Smart Team provide tenants with advice around budgeting and income maximisation, supporting them to access financial support available including the Council's Household Support Fund.
 - The Money Smart Team have supported customers to have their gas reconnected, some customers who have chosen not to have gas in their home, for a range of personal reasons, WH are continuing to engage with to ensure the option for reconnection to the gas supply remains an option for them.
 - WH provide Home Energy visits, offering energy efficiency advice and Winter Wellbeing Roadshows through the winter months
- 3.5 WH's Home Improvement Agency have installed over 1,100 disabled adaptations and Disabled Facilities Grants works into homes across the city, showing continuous improvement in the use of grants (specifically Disabled Facilities Grants) to allow more children and adults to live better for longer in their homes.
- 3.6 WH has developed a mechanism primarily for their trade operatives but is also utilised by all front line staff. The See It, Report It programme enables staff and contractors to raise concerns about any customer in the homes WH manage, identifying safeguarding and support needs at the earliest opportunity.
- 3.7 The WH's Anti-social Behaviour team have worked closely with CWC and other local authorities across the region to obtain an injunction through the courts banning car cruising in the Black Country. The team have also recently attended a stakeholder event at the Mayor's Parlour with partner agencies to look at how to tackle the root cause of youth crime and violence following the city being awarded £1 million in funding from the Violence Reduction Partnership. They are continuing to work with partner agencies across the City on this important area of work.
- 3.8 WH have recently achieved DAHA (Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance) accreditation. The accreditation assessment recognises the work Wolverhampton Homes has undertaken in embedding good standards of practice when supporting tenants impacted by domestic abuse.
- 3.9 WH have supported the Council's priority to address youth unemployment in the city with their Early Careers Strategy. The development of the strategy has seen a number of young people across the city supported into employment through school work experience, apprenticeships, management trainee positions and direct employment. Further work, in collaboration with DWP, The Youth Hub and Wolverhampton College will see the development of a work placement programme for young people to develop their skills around work shadowing, CV writing and interview practice.

4.0 Annual Delivery Plan 2023-2024

- 4.1 Wolverhampton Homes Delivery Plan 2023–2024 at appendix 1 has been developed with the City of Wolverhampton’s Housing Strategy Team, WH Senior Management Team and WH Senior Leadership Team.
- 4.2 The Delivery Plan ensures Wolverhampton Homes deliver services on behalf of the Council to support the Council’s vision and priorities as set out in the Council Plan, Our City, Our Plan and ensuring Wulfrunians live longer, healthier lives. One of the six key priorities in Our City, Our Plan is to deliver **Good homes in well connected neighbourhoods**, with four key outcomes:
1. Work together to deliver more new homes
 2. Safe and healthy homes for all
 3. Access to a secure home
 4. Clean, green neighbourhoods and public space
- 4.3 In line with the key outcomes listed in 4.2, the services to be delivered by Wolverhampton Homes as shown in appendix 1, will contribute to these outcomes and include activities such as the continuation of the supply of new builds on infill sites, the development of new single/couples accommodation for former rough sleepers, providing safe and secure homes and environments, supporting residents to live independently in their own home and maintaining housing stock and asset standards.
- 4.4 The Delivery Plan also aligns with the seven pillars of the Charter for Social Housing White Paper and reflects the requirements of the Regulator of Social Housing as set in the Consumer Standards and sets out what tenants can expect from their landlord. The seven pillars of the Charter for Social Housing White Paper are:
- To be safe in your home. The government will work with industry and landlords to ensure every home is safe and secure.
 - To know how your landlord is performing including on repairs, complaints and safety, and how it spends its money, so you can hold it to account
 - To have your complaints dealt with promptly and fairly, with access to a strong Ombudsman
 - To be treated with respect, backed by a strong consumer regulator and improved consumer standards for tenants
 - To have your voice heard by your landlord, for example through regular meetings, scrutiny panels or being on its Board
 - To have a good quality home and neighbourhood to live in, with your landlord keeping your home in good repair

- To be supported to take your first step to ownership, so it is a ladder to other opportunities, should your circumstances allow
- 4.5 The Delivery Plan is themed by WH service areas: Corporate Services, Homes and Communities and Property Services. There is a focus on WH's core service offering and in line with the Our Future redesign ensures the company continues to:
- Enhance community and customer focus
 - Provide safe and secure homes
 - Support people to sustain their tenancies and homes
- 4.6 WH remain committed to responding proactively to the Charter for Social Housing Residents and to deliver the requirements of the Fire Safety Bill (2021) and the Building Safety Bill (2021) ensuring that residents are safe and feel safe, and remains resolute in achieving the highest standards of governance.
- 4.7 The Delivery Plan includes some detail on how the plan will be achieved through value for money in the use of resources and adequate staffing resources.
- 4.8 WH draft budget for 2023–2024 is being prepared for presentation to WH Board in March 2023 and will make some assumptions about achievable efficiencies to deliver against a balanced budget during 2023–2024. Value for Money initiatives are continually sought in line with the Value for Money strategy which was launched in 2021. This will aim to provide contributions to the efficiencies, in particular in reviewing ways of working, service delivery, IT and digital, all of which saw new opportunities during the pandemic that are being reviewed and built upon.
- 5.0 Monitoring**
- 5.1 The Council currently maintains the WH Delivery Plan Quarterly Monitoring Group, chaired by the Director of City Housing and Environment, it provides the opportunity to the Council (including officers from Housing and Finance) to have oversight and scrutiny of the progress WH are making in the achievement of the Delivery Plan.
- 5.2 In addition, CWC Landlord Services Officers, with WH Performance Team hold monthly Performance Officer Group meetings to provide ongoing oversight and monitoring of key performance indicators at appendix 2. The key performance indicators have been development jointly by WH Senior Management Team and CWC Housing Strategy to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements and the terms of the Management Agreement and that there are consistently high standards of services provided to tenants.
- 5.3 In response to the requirements of The Charter for Social Housing Residents White Paper and the Bill anticipated later this year, CWC Housing Strategy have commissioned TPAS (tenant engagement experts) to work with them, WH and the other housing managing agents to deliver the tenant scrutiny function, giving tenants more opportunities

to have their voice heard and to give them more influence in shaping the housing management services provided to them. WH will work with TPAS to achieve this.

- 5.4 The Regulator for Social Housing is reviewing the Consumer Standards which apply to all registered housing providers including local authorities. The current consumer standards are:
- a. Home Standard.
 - b. Tenancy Standard.
 - c. Neighbourhood and Community Standard.
 - d. Tenant Involvement and Empowerment Standard.
- 5.5 These Standards will be measured through a set of Tenant Satisfaction Measures (TSMs) being introduced from April 2023 and reported to the Regulator. WH have collected TSM data for 2022–2023 to create a baseline, the monitoring of this will transfer to CWC Landlord Services who will collate this information including that of the other managing agents from April 2023 and implement any required action plans across the managing agents as regulation, enacted through the Social Housing Bill expected this year, is implemented.
- 5.6 The performance against the key performance indicators at appendix 2, progress and outcomes emerging from Tenant Scrutiny and TSMs will be routinely reported to Cabinet.
- 5.7 The monitoring arrangements that have been in place for several years will continue to be reviewed and updated to ensure they remain fit for purpose, reflect best practice and are in line with recommendations from the Regulator.

6.0 Evaluation of alternative options

- 6.1 The Council entered into a 15-year management agreement with WH in 2013 to continue to deliver housing management services on behalf of the Council.
- 6.2 It is a requirement of this management agreement that the Council and WH work to develop and adopt a delivery plan which sets out how WH will deliver the services delegated to them and help to deliver the Stock Maintenance and Improvement Programme (WH Capital Programme at appendix 5).
- 6.3 Option one would be to adopt the WH Delivery Plan that has been developed jointly with CWC Housing Strategy.
- 6.4 Option two would be not to adopt an annual delivery plan. Where a delivery plan cannot be agreed, the management agreement sets out that it will be determined in accordance with its dispute resolution process.

7.0 Reasons for decision

- 7.1 It is recommended that the WH Delivery Plan at appendix 1 is adopted. It is accompanied by performance indicators at Appendix 2, both of which have been developed in conjunction with the Council. Appendix 3 sets out WH's procurement plan for 2023-2024 as required by the management agreement, appendix 4 those contracts let in 2022-2023 and appendix 5 sets out the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) capital programme specifying the areas of WH's responsibility for delivery.
- 7.2 Additionally, the Council continues to monitor and review WH to ensure that the organisation remains high-performing, well-governed and delivering a housing service in line with the council's strategic objectives.

8.0 Financial implications

- 8.1 There are no direct financial implications from this action plan. Wolverhampton Homes receive an annual management fee from the HRA to deliver services as contracted in the Management Agreement.
- 8.2 The 'Housing Revenue Account Business Plan 2023-2024 including Rents and Service Charges', report as approved by Full Council 25 January 2023 delegated approval of the management fee for 2023-2024 to the Cabinet Members for City Assets and Housing, and Resources and Digital City in conjunction with the Director of City Housing and Environment and the Director of Finance after review of budget pressures.
- 8.3 Wolverhampton Homes receive additional income from Service level Agreements for general fund services such as Telecare, external trading activities and are reimbursed for costs incurred in delivering capital programme activities. A balanced budget to deliver on the annual delivery plan is approved by the Wolverhampton Homes Board on an annual basis.
[JM/30012023/S]

9.0 Legal implications

- 9.1 In accordance with the management agreement the Council's in-house Legal Services has provided legal support to Wolverhampton Homes with efficiencies for a considerable number of years. The arrangements for monitoring the delivery of the Wolverhampton Homes Delivery Plan should be robust and ensure that there are good governance arrangements in place.
[CS/26012023/1]

10.0 Equalities implications

- 10.1 WH annual delivery plan has equalities implications in terms of the workstreams that the plan describes. Where appropriate any equalities implications have been or will be the subject of equality analysis within WH. This is governed through a schedule of equality analysis which is presented to WH Equality Circle Forum to inform the equality agenda,

providing a platform to assess the impact of planned service delivery. As a result of these considerations and analyses Councillors can be assured that Wolverhampton Homes is fully committed to meeting the requirements of the General Equality Duty as created by Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

11.0 All other implications

- 11.1 There are no direct climate change or environmental implications for this report, however, the delivery of estate and property based programmes will contribute to the improvement of living conditions and enhance the visual appearance of neighbourhoods. WH will develop plans throughout the year to develop a strategic asset investment proposal for Housing in relation to achieving improved energy efficiency and carbon neutrality, which will contribute towards reducing carbon emissions over the course of the Business Plan.
- 11.2 There are no direct health and wellbeing implications for the report, however WH account for and work to improve the health and wellbeing of the tenants whose homes they manage, as part of their day-to-day delivery of housing management services and their interactions with the Council and other statutory organisations with whom they may work in partnership, make referrals to and sign post tenants to.
- 11.3 There are no direct digital implications for the report however WH are proactively working towards increased accessibility to their services through digital channels as well as improved digital inclusion for the tenants that they work with in the day to day delivery of housing management services.

12.0 Schedule of background papers

- 12.1 27 March 2019, [Wolverhampton Homes Business Plan 2019-2023](#), Cabinet
- 12.2 12 September 2018, [Wolverhampton Homes Management Agreement Update](#), Cabinet
- 12.3 18 January 2023 [Housing Revenue Account Business Plan 2023-2024 including Rent and Service Charges](#), Cabinet

13.0 Appendices

- 13.1 Appendix 1: Wolverhampton Homes Delivery Plan 2023-2024
- 13.2 Appendix 2 – Wolverhampton Homes Suite of Key Performance Indicators 2023-2024
- 13.3 Appendix 3 – Wolverhampton Homes Procurement Plan 2023-2024
- 13.4 Appendix 4 – Wolverhampton Homes Contracts Let 2022-2023
- 13.5 Appendix 5 – Wolverhampton Homes Capital Programme 2023-2024

Wolverhampton Homes Annual Delivery Plan 2023 – 2024

The seven pillars of the Charter for Social Housing Residents (CSHR) sets out what our customers can expect from Wolverhampton Homes:

1. To be safe in your home. The government will work with industry and landlords to ensure every home is safe and secure.
2. To know how your landlord is performing including on repairs, complaints, and safety, and how it spends its money, so you can hold it to account
3. To have your complaints dealt with promptly and fairly, with access to a strong Ombudsman
4. To be treated with respect, backed by a strong consumer regulator, and improved consumer standards for tenants
5. To have your voice heard by your landlord, for example through regular meetings, scrutiny panels or being on its Board
6. To have a good quality home and neighbourhood to live in, with your landlord keeping your home in good repair
7. To be supported to take your first step to ownership, so it is a ladder to other opportunities, should your circumstances allow

Corporate Services – Julie Haydon, Director								
Ref.	Service Area: Corporate Services							
No.	Area	Outcome	What is required	Performance and Service Delivery Monitoring	Charter for Social Housing Residents	Consumer Standards	Lead officer	
Page 69 1.	Our Future	Deliver on Our Future plans to ensure that the company is skilled and fit for purpose	<p>People:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff are engaged and skilled to undertake their roles for the good of the company and customer • Embed a range of people strategies that support the development of a modern workforce to recognise the diversity of staff and customers • Ensure effective leadership and management is in place across the business • Develop Board members, senior teams, and staff so that they positively contribute to the success of the organisation • Create a thriving environment where all staff feel they belong and can bring their best selves to work • Maximise employee engagement opportunities taking into account motivation and expectations <p>Change Management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embed a company-wide project management approach for all areas of change <p>Service Delivery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review service provision and delivery to ensure it is fit for purpose 	<p>H-HR1 Average number of working days lost through sickness</p> <p>Strategies to support workforce equality and diversity monitored and reported to WH Board and to be presented to quarterly monitoring meeting (WHDPQMG)</p> <p>Board and Staff development strategies to be presented to WH Board and WHDPQMG</p>	1, 2, 3, 4 & 5	Tenant Involvement and Empowerment Standard	<p>Head of Business Services</p> <p>Head of People</p> <p>Head of OD&EE</p> <p>Head of Customer Experience</p>	

			<p>Accommodation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A full review of accommodation WH Facilities 	Changes to service provision and delivery to be reported to WHDPQMG			
2.	Governance and Compliance	The company is compliant with all areas of governance and regulation	<p>Governance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery of robust governance arrangements <p>Health and Safety:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WH complies with and delivers on relevant H&S requirements <p>Business Continuity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WH is resilient to period of disruptive change and is able to respond to major emergencies 	Reported to WH Audit and Business Assurance Committee, WH Board and WHDPQMG	1, 2, 3, 4 & 5	Tenant Involvement and Empowerment Standard	<p>Head of Business Services</p> <p>Head of Customer Experience</p>
3.	Digital and Data	A robust digital and data strategy exists to drive the objectives	<p>Systems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A full review of business wide systems and system development opportunities <p>Digital:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the use of the digital offer to support customer engagement <p>Data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decisions driven by data 	Reported to WH Communities and Service Delivery Committee, WH Board and WHDPQMG	1, 2, 3, 4 & 5	Tenant Involvement and Empowerment Standard	<p>Head of Business Services</p> <p>Head of Customer Experience</p> <p>Head of People</p>
4.	Customer Experience	Customers at the heart of all decision making	<p>Customer Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the delivery of the overarching customer experience strategy and associated action plans Ensure consistent advice is provided at all front-line touch points Integration of solution focussed outcomes into business delivery – ensuring learning from complaints is identified and addressed Resident involvement, influence, and scrutiny 	<p>H-HD1 Calls answered</p> <p>H-HD3 Number of calls abandoned</p> <p>BS-CF1 Percentage of complaints handled within target time (Stage 1 and Stage 2)</p> <p>H-HD4 Percentage of Tenants satisfied with Homes Direct Call Handling</p> <p>BS-SAT1 Percentage of tenants satisfied with the overall service the landlord provides</p>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7	<p>Tenant Involvement and Empowerment Standard</p> <p>Neighbourhood and Community Standard</p>	<p>Head of Customer Experience</p> <p>Head of Organisational Development and Employee Engagement</p> <p>Head of Homeless</p>

				Delivery of the overarching customer experience strategy and action plans reported to WH Communities and Service Delivery Committee, WH Board and WHDPQMG			
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Homes and Communities – Angela Barnes, Director

Homes and Communities – Angela Barnes, Director							
Ref.	Service Area: Homes and Communities						
No.		Outcome	What is required	KPI Measure	Charter for Social Housing Residents	Consumer Standards	Lead officer
1.	Sustaining tenancies	Prevention of tenancies coming to a premature end by providing the necessary information, advice, and support for tenants to be able to maintain their tenancies	<p>Consistent whole company overview and approach to the issue of preventing tenancy failures and homelessness and to plan and make improvements in this area.</p> <p>Pre-tenancy measures and initiatives which assist in the identification of tenants at risk, and by developing initiatives which identify in advance vulnerable potential tenants.</p> <p>Provision of tailored support throughout any tenancy, catering for the changing needs of households, including financial inclusion, tenancy support and early intervention services to our tenants at any stage of their tenancy should they require it.</p>	H-TM8 % of Tenancies where no contact has been made within 12 months	4 & 6	<p>Tenant Involvement and Empowerment Standard</p> <p>Tenancy Standard</p>	Heads of Services, Homes & Communities
2.	To ensure that estates are safe and clean, where people feel they belong and where anti-social behaviour is not tolerated	<p>Estates are kept free of litter and fly tipping, with open spaces maintained</p> <p>Estates are safe environments with opportunities for children to play and in which tenants and residents have a vested interest and sense of belonging</p> <p>Anti-social behaviour is dealt with promptly and effectively, to minimise the impact on individuals and the wider community.</p>	<p>Improved local awareness and communication around estate issues, ownership, and swift actions to resolve issues, publicise success stories.</p> <p>Build relationships with key stakeholders, WH teams and communities, enhancing the appearance of neighbourhoods through redesign or minor alterations, whilst addressing localised issues.</p> <p>Be a key partner of CWC in the delivery of targeted estate-based projects, informed by local knowledge and metrics.</p> <p>Maintain high levels of performance when responding to reported incident of ASB.</p> <p>Build and monitor the level of resilience within communities and as far as is reasonably practical ensure customer expectations are managed effectively.</p> <p>Reports of low-level ASB/nuisance are dealt with and resolved quickly before they escalate to increase community safety and public reassurance.</p> <p>Promotion of ASB service in areas where there is under-reporting, both geographical and in communities of interest.</p> <p>Continue to represent and contribute to the city's Safer Wolverhampton Partnership and build upon excellent relationships with partner organisations.</p> <p>Enhance the use of data collected from CCTV across WH managed estates and respond to situations accordingly.</p>	<p>H-ASB1 % of Customers satisfied with the way their ASB complaint was dealt with</p> <p>TSM - Number of ASB cases relative to the size of the LL</p> <p>1. anti-social behaviour cases, of which</p> <p>2. anti-social behaviour cases that involve hate incidents opened per 1,000 homes</p> <p>H-NS2 % Waste Removal/fly tipping jobs completed in time</p>	1,3,4,5 & 6	<p>Tenant Involvement and Empowerment Standard</p> <p>Neighbourhood and Community Standard</p>	Head of Tenancies & Communities

3.	Income Management	To actively develop and facilitate a culture where tenants and other customers understand and act upon their responsibility to meet their financial obligations	<p>Income streams are maximised through effective and efficient management of accounts and there is a firm but fair and equitable approach when dealing with arrears and income collection Active engagement between tenants, other customer, and Wolverhampton Homes in relation to their financial obligations.</p> <p>Effective and continuous conversation with all customers, with contact being appropriate to the individual and proportionate to the situation.</p> <p>Support to manage rent arrears and other financial commitments will be offered at any stage of the arrears management process, as appropriate to the tenant's circumstances.</p> <p>Link to CWC Financial Wellbeing Strategy.</p>	<p>H-HSL1 % of Service charges collected from Leaseholders</p> <p>H-IM5 % of Current Tenant Rent Arrears</p>	2 & 4,5,7	<p>Tenant Involvement and Empowerment Standard</p> <p>Tenancy Standard</p>	Head of Income
4.	Temporary Accommodation	<p>All Local Authority TA is suitable under Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996</p> <p>That B&B and hotel accommodation is used only in an emergency and effort is maintained to ensure its use is limited to less than 6 weeks</p>	Access to a sufficient supply of mixed tenure temporary accommodation that meets our requirements in accordance with our duties under homelessness legislation.	<p>HO-HS1 Temporary Accommodation spend against budget</p> <p>HO-HS2 Average time spent in Temporary Accommodation</p>	1 & 6	<p>Tenant Involvement and Empowerment Standard</p> <p>Tenancy Standard</p>	Head of Housing Solutions
Page 73	Domestic abuse policy & procedure	<p>A policy that reflects local, national, strategic, and operational guidance in response to the growing recognition of the detrimental effects that domestic abuse has on society as a whole</p> <p>A demonstration of the principle that domestic abuse is behaviour that should not be accepted and that everyone has a right to live free from fear and abuse</p> <p>Recognition of the need to share information and work in partnership with other agencies that may have greater experience of domestic abuse in order to reduce the risk of harm to victims</p>	<p>Staff having a responsibility to ensure they that they are familiar with potential signs and indicators of high risk of domestic abuse in adults and children.</p> <p>Staff have an awareness of the organisations Domestic Abuse policy and procedures.</p> <p>Work alongside other professionals and agencies in the prevention, assessment, and investigation of abuse, using the skills, knowledge, and powers of all relevant agencies appropriately in line with this policy and procedure.</p> <p>Staff must attend safeguarding training in accordance with the requirements set out within the organisation's Safeguarding Children, Young People and Adult Policies, and the Induction and Mandatory Training Policy.</p>			<p>Tenant Involvement and Empowerment Standard</p> <p>Tenancy Standard</p>	Head of Sustainment & Support

6.	Adaptations to tenanted properties	<p>Service which focuses on enabling elderly, vulnerable and disabled people to lead rich and fulfilling lives</p> <p>Service dedicated to providing advice, information, and support to anyone who needs their help, as well as supplying trusted tradespeople to make home alterations and adaptations that make daily life easier for those in need</p>	<p>Adequate staffing resources with appropriate skill set.</p> <p>Supply chain (including access to appropriate contractors) to undertake the work in a timely manner.</p> <p>Clearly defined customer pathways / communication.</p> <p>Effective working relationship with key partners.</p>	<p>Adaptations to tenanted properties monitored via KPIs</p> <p>P-AA1 P-AA2 P-AA3</p>		<p>Tenant Involvement and Empowerment Standard</p>	<p>Head of Sustainment & Support</p>
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Property Services – Ian Gardner, Director

Ref.	Service Area: Property Services						
No.	Action	Outcome	What is required	KPI Measure	Charter for Social Housing Residents	Consumer Standards	Lead officer
1.	Compliance with Regulatory requirements	<p>Ensure that WH complies with all relevant Health & Safety compliance requirements (property related)</p> <p>To ensure that all mandatory and legislative requirements covering all compliance activities are enforced and evidenced, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gas Safety - Electrical Safety - Water Safety - Asbestos Safety - Fire Safety - Lifting equipment Safety - Building Safety <p>Develop work programmes to ensure new legislation is implemented and recommendations or guidance is considered</p>	<p>A range of legal duties and guidance exists to ensure WH effectively delivers its range of services to protect its customers, colleagues, and the public.</p> <p>WH will demonstrate ensure compliance with all prescribed mandatory regulations, legislation, codes of practice etc. through effective performance management and audits.</p> <p>WH regularly reviews and audits its policies and procedures.</p> <p>KPI's are used to manage and report on health, safety, environmental and compliance related activities and are reported to Board and / or, relevant committees and other stakeholders.</p> <p>Implement a Building Safety Team to support the Accountable Person, within CWC, to discharge their duties.</p> <p>Building Safety related activities are managed via the Fire Safety Committee.</p> <p>Tenant involvement in building safety.</p>	<p>COM1 - Gas Safety</p> <p>COM2 – EICR Checks</p> <p>COM3 – Passenger Lift Safety</p> <p>COM4 – Legionella water checks</p> <p>COM5 – High Risk Fire Assessments</p> <p>COM6 – Duty to Manage Asbestos</p> <p>Compliance with Health and Safety requirements reported to WH Board and WHDPQMG</p>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6	Home Standard	<p>Head of Compliance</p> <p>Head of Stock Assets and Stock Investment</p>
2.	Investment in City Assets and communities	<p>Delivery of a range of large estate regeneration, refurbishment, and Building Safety projects, including estate remodelling</p> <p>Continue to enhance the supply of housing through the innovative use of infill sites new build programme.</p>	<p>Key delivery outcomes are reported to CWC/WH Asset Management Group, Board and Scrutiny meetings, in addition to associated capital programme finance meetings, to monitor progress against:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual Capital Programme - 5 Year Asset Management Plan - Medium Term - 30 Year Business Plan - Long Term <p>Support CWC with identifying suitable sites assist in the delivery of new build units and contribute to Council delivering its strategic housing plans.</p>	<p>Capital Finance Reporting</p> <p>To be monitored via AMG</p>	1, 2, 5, 6 & 7	Home Standard	<p>Head of Assets and Stock Investment</p> <p>Head of Capital Works</p>
3.	Develop long term investment strategies to maintain decent	<p>Cleanse and repopulate the Asset Management database</p> <p>Improve the efficacy of our Asbestos Management System</p>	<p>To improve the quality of stock condition information available to support the ongoing delivery of the asset management strategy and enable active asset management to support effective investment planning.</p>	<p>DHS Compliance TSM RP01</p> <p>EPC Data</p>	1, 2, 4, 5 & 6	Home Standard	Head of Assets and Stock Investment

	homes and reduce carbon emissions	<p>Support CWC in the development of the Affordable Housing Conversion Policy strategic and regeneration plans</p> <p>To contribute to CWCs Strategic Climate Change and Sustainability Agenda and support the City's 2028 target</p>	<p>To provide stock condition data to inform the 30-year business plan, including component accounting and achieve decarbonisation by 2050.</p> <p>To review opportunities for redevelopment of estates, for example, non-traditional housing linked to the Asset Management Group.</p> <p>To improve the quality of stock condition information available to support the ongoing delivery of the asset management strategy and enable active asset management to support effective investment planning.</p> <p>To provide stock condition data to inform the 30-year business plan, including component accounting and achieve decarbonisation by 2050.</p> <p>To review energy efficiency and carbon reduction programmes of work.</p> <p>Develop a Carbon Reduction Strategy.</p>				
4.	Provide an efficient & customer focussed repairs service to keep customers safe.	<p>Delivery of MAGNUS transformation programme</p> <p>To develop and maximise commercial opportunities</p>	<p>Delivery of a high standard service to our customers through a repairs and maintenance policy that specifies our target timescales for assessment and remediation of reports of disrepair, damp and mould.</p> <p>Adopt a robust and proactive approach to hazard and risk management encompassing the principles of the Home Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS).</p> <p>Adopt a communication plan that encourages customers to report any and all concerns relating to damp, mould and condensation.</p> <p>Implement major ICT transformation, including scheduling, mobile working, materials management, and job costing.</p> <p>Review Value for Money in terms of cost, quality, and performance.</p> <p>Increase performance and the collection and use of analytical data.</p> <p>Delivery of an efficient and effective Voids Management Service.</p> <p>Develop services based on customer feedback.</p> <p>WH regularly reviews and audits its policies and procedures.</p> <p>Review productivity, trading, and external market opportunities.</p> <p>Review call-down contracts to explore commercial opportunities for bringing specific services in-house.</p> <p>Implement major ICT transformation, including scheduling, mobile working, materials management, and job costing.</p> <p>Review Value for Money in terms of cost, quality, and performance.</p>	<p>Tenant Satisfaction Measures (TSM's)</p> <p>Progress of the MAGNUS transformation programme to be reported to WH Board and WHDPQMG</p> <p>Commercial opportunities and Value for Money reviewed at Financial Issues Group (FIG)</p>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6	<p>Tenant Involvement and Empowerment Standard</p> <p>Home Standard</p>	<p>Head of Repairs & Maintenance</p> <p>Head of Building Solutions</p>

PI Code	Performance Indicators
TSM TP01	Overall Satisfaction
TSM TP02	Satisfaction with Repairs
TSM TP03	Satisfaction with time taken to complete the most recent repair
TSM TP04	Satisfaction that the home is well maintained
TSM TP05	Satisfaction that the home is safe
TSM TP06	Satisfaction that the landlord listens to tenant views and acts upon them
TSM TP07	Satisfaction that the landlord keeps tenants informed about things that matter to them
TSM TP08	Agreement that the landlord treats tenants fairly and with respect
TSM TP09	Satisfaction with the landlords approach to handling complaints
TSM TP10	Satisfaction that the landlord keeps communal areas clean and well maintained
TSM TP11	Satisfaction that the landlord makes a positive contribution to neighbourhoods
TSM TP12	Satisfaction with the landlords approach to handling anti-social behaviour
TSM BS01	% of valid Landlord Gas Safety Records for tenanted properties (TSM BS01)
STATISTIC	Properties requiring a Gas Certificate
STATISTIC	Number of GAS cases overdue
STATISTIC	% outstanding that are compliant with the No Access procedure
COM2	% of domestic properties with EICR certificates up to five years old.
STATISTIC	Number of EICR Cases over 5 years
STATISTIC	Electrical Installations with a valid certificate
TSM BS05	% of Passenger lifts serviced within timescale (TSM BS05)
COM3	% of Passenger lifts availability
STATISTIC	Number of sites with lifts
TSM BS04	% of Sites where a risk assessment has been carried out for control of Legionella Bacteria in domestic water systems within a 2 year period (TMS BS04)
STATISTIC	Number of Sites requiring a Legionella Risk Assessment
TSM BS02	The management of fire risk assessments; the percentage re-inspected within timescale (Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005) (TSM BS02)
STATISTIC	Number of Fire Risk Assessments completed in the month
STATISTIC	Number of Fire Risk Assessments required in the month

TSM BS03	The Duty to Manage Asbestos – the percentage re-inspected within timescales (Regulation 4 - Non Domestic Premises - Control of Asbestos Regulations (CAR) 2012) (TSM BS03)
STATISTIC	The number of Asbestos sites requiring re-inspection in the month
TSM RP01	Homes that do not meet the Decent Homes Standard (%) (ANNUAL INDICATOR)
H-TM8	% of tenancies contacted with the last 12 months
H-IM1b	% Rent collected (WH Only)
H-IM2	% rent arrears of current tenants as a proportion of rent roll (GNPI 29) (WH only)
H-IM3	% rent arrears of former tenants as a proportion of rent roll
STATISTIC	Number of Food Bank Referrals
STATISTIC	Number of Money Smart Referrals
TSM NM01	Anti-Social behaviour (ASB) cases relative to the size of the landlord (TSM)
NEW	HD Call Satisfaction
H-HD1	Homes Direct: % of Customers calls answered within 80 seconds
H-HD2	Homes Direct - % of Customer calls answered
STATISTIC	Number of Calls Offered By HD
STATISTIC	Number of Calls Answered
STATISTIC	Number of Calls Abandoned
BS-HR1	Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence in month
TSM CF02a	% of Complaints responded to within Complaint Handling Code timescales (CH02) - Stage 1
TSM CF02b	% of Complaints responded to within Complaint Handling Code timescales (CH02) - Stage 2
TSM CH01	Number of complaints, relative to the size of the landlord (TSM CH01)
BS-CF3	% of members enquiries responded to within timescales
STATISTIC	Number of Members Enquiries responded to
P-R1	% Responsive repairs during period for which an appointment was made/kept
P-R2	% of Planned repairs completed within timescales
TSM RP02a (P-R3b)	% of Non Emergency repairs completed within target timescale (TSM RP02)
TSM RP02b (P-R7)	Emergency Repairs completed within 24 Hours (TSM RP02)
STATISTIC	Outstanding Repairs (exc TMO's) - Total
STATISTIC	Number of Response Repair requests received (exc TMO's)

STATISTIC	Number of Response Repairs completed (exc TMO's)
STATISTIC	Number of Section 11 claims received
P-V1	Average time to repair voids, overall, (including TA)
P-V3	Key to Key time for void properties (including TA properties)
STATISTIC	Number of units in management (Total WH Stock)
STATISTIC	Number of Current Voids
STATISTIC	Number of new Voids arising this month
CI-LT1	Average time taken to relet properties (ready to let to new Tenancy Start)
CI-LT3	% rent lost from empty properties
CI-LT4	% new tenants satisfied with the allocation & lettings process
STATISTIC	Number of social housing lettings completed in the month
STATISTIC	Number on the Waiting List
STATISTIC	Number of New Housing Applications received in the month
HO-HS2	Average time spent in temp - no of days (across all forms)
STATISTIC	Number of customers owed a Duty as a percentage of overall demand
STATISTIC	Number of all presentations (Overall Demand/Total Customers)
DMC 1A	Total % of damp, condensation and /or mould related service requests inspected within target timescale of ' <u>10 working days</u> '.
DMC 1B	Total % of damp, condensation and /or mould related works orders ' <u>completed</u> ' within target timescale of ' <u>20 working days</u> '.
H-HSL1	% of Service Charges inc Ground Rent collected from Leaseholders
NEW	% Completed Stock Condition Surveys
H-NS2	% Waste Removal/Fly Tipping jobs completed in time

	TSM Indicators
	Additional WH Indicators
	Supporting Stats

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Wolverhampton Homes - Procurement Plan 2022 - 2024

1. Contracts to be procured in 2023 - 2024

Contract Title	Construction Professional Services
Contract Description	Provision of the full range of professional services to support the delivery of the capital programme, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • architectural and design services (design of buildings, spaces and their infrastructure) • engineering services (including civil, structural, mechanical and electrical) • environmental and sustainability services (to support the achievement of carbon neutral) cost / project management services
Existing Contractor / Supplier / Service Provider	Jacobs
Proposed Contract Term	4 years
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	£12,000,000
Directorate	Property Services
WH Lead Officer	Simon Bamfield / Steve North
Procurement Route	Direct Award CCS Framework (This will be evaluated to ensure this is the most effective route for procurement however, Jacobs is first placed on cost and quality).
Status	<p>This approach is recommended as it will enable WH to build on the strong relationship that is already in place and continue to deliver significant efficiencies through the use of standardised specifications and uniform design criteria and collaborative working with the construction partners.</p> <p>The development of designs at an early stage will form an integral part of the procurement of SCP2, allowing time for cost planning, procurement and design stages to be developed giving WH the opportunities for early engagement with the supply chain in anticipation of construction projects to follow.</p>

Contract Title	Legionella Monitoring & Risk Assessments
Contract Description	To manage water hygiene across various sites throughout the City. Carrying out risk assessments, monitoring for legionella, temperature profiling and cleaning and disinfecting water systems as required.
Existing Contractor / Supplier / Service Provider	Integrated Water Solutions
Proposed Contract Term	4 years
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	£350,000k
Directorate	Property Services
WH Lead Officer	Keith Gibbons / Roy Parlor
Procurement Route	ESPO Framework (This will be evaluated to ensure this is the most effective route for procurement).
Status	Documentation to be developed

Contract Title	Supply of fitting services
Contract Description	To provide specialist fitting services on a responsive basis as and when required. To support the activities of the inhouse Repairs team by providing a fully integrated and flexible service to Wolverhampton Homes.
Existing Contractor / Supplier / Service Provider	McDougall Brothers (Metal Windows Ltd)
Proposed Contract Term	4 years
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	£640,000
Directorate	Property Services
WH Lead Officer	Neil Causer
Procurement Route	Open Tender / OJEU
Status	Documentation to be developed

Contract Title	Fire Safety Services
Contract Description	Maintenance, repair and testing of fire alarm and intruder alarm systems, fire equipment (fire extinguishers, emergency lighting systems, wet & dry risers and sprinkler systems to communal areas and residential properties).
Existing Contractor / Supplier / Service Provider	Midwest Mechanical & Electrical Services Ltd
Proposed Contract Term	4 years
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	£800,000
Directorate	Property Services
WH Lead Officer	Keith Gibbons / Roy Parlor
Procurement Route	Open Tender / OJEU
Status	Documentation to be developed

Contract Title	Grounds Maintenance
Contract Description	Wolverhampton Homes require a landscaping contractor to undertake ground maintenance works on HRA land across the City.
Existing Contractor / Supplier / Service Provider	Continental Landscapes Ltd
Proposed Contract Term	5 years, with a break clause at year 2
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	£6,000,000
Directorate	Housing
WH Lead Officer	Darren Baggs / Matthew Pickerill
Procurement Route	OJEU Open Tender
Status	Documentation to be developed. Existing arrangement to be extended via exemption to November 2023 to maintain service delivery throughout growing seasons.

Contract Title	Glazing Services
Contract Description	Wolverhampton Homes require a contractor to provide a fully responsive glazing service to support the activities of Wolverhampton Homes in-house repairs team.
Existing Contractor / Supplier / Service Provider	Harris Glass Limited
Proposed Contract Term	5 years, with a break clause at year 2
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	£200,000
Directorate	Property Services
WH Lead Officer	Ian Gardner
Procurement Route	Non-OJEU Open Tender
Status	Tender documentation being developed to enable procurement exercise to commence

Contract Title	Valuation Services
Contract Description	Wolverhampton Homes require a specialist valuation service to support the delivery of the Right to Buy scheme for our customers.
Existing Contractor / Supplier / Service Provider	Lee Shaw Partnership
Proposed Contract Term	5 years, with a break clause at year 2
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	£150,000
Directorate	Housing
WH Lead Officer	Darren Baggs / Sophie Munn
Procurement Route	Non-OJEU Open Tender
Status	Tender documentation being developed to enable procurement exercise to commence

Contract Title	Annual Gas Servicing
Contract Description	Wolverhampton Homes require a company specialising in Gas compliance to ensure that Wolverhampton Homes maintains its statutory requirements as a landlord for annual gas servicing to domestic properties.
Existing Contractor / Supplier / Service Provider	Dodds Group (Midlands) Limited
Proposed Contract Term	4 years
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	£3,620,000
Directorate	Property Services
WH Lead Officer	Ian Gardner / Roy Parlor
Procurement Route	EEM Framework direct award
Status	Contract documentation drafted with Legal Services to review. Contract to go Live from May 2023.

Contract Title	Roofing repair and maintenance
Contract Description	To provide a roofing repairs and maintenance services. All works will be required to be completed in accordance with the applicable performance targets and customer service and ICT systems.
Existing Contractor / Supplier / Service Provider	Roof Style
Proposed Contract Term	4 Years with break clause at year 2
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	£800,000
Directorate	Property Services
WH Lead Officer	Ian Gardner
Procurement Route	Open Market sub FTS / OJEU Tender
Status	To be re-tendered as existing financial budget advertised in the previous tender has been exceeded. Preparation of tender documents with officers to prepare.

2. Contracts to be Awarded – 2023 - 2024

Contract Title	Domestic Periodic Testing
Contract Description	Wolverhampton Homes require an electrical contractor to undertake Electrical Inspection Condition Report (EICR) testing to its properties, ensuring Wolverhampton Homes conforms to guidance and best practice in respect of electrical safety.
Existing Contractor / Supplier / Service Provider	Dodd Group (Midlands Limited)
Proposed Contract Term	4year direct award
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	£3,600,000 (if option to extend is taken up subject to CPI uplift)
Directorate	Property Services
WH Lead Officer	Roy Parlor / Keith Gibbons
Procurement Route	EEM Framework – Direct Award
Status	Use of an existing framework is preferred to maintain continuity with the existing provider, who is performing well, and to provide an opportunity to accelerate the EICR programme. Contract documentation with Legal Services to review.

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Contract Title	Empty Property Care (Void Properties)
Contract Description	Wolverhampton Homes requires a suitably qualified contractor to provide house clearance, garden clearance, garage and shed clearance, vermin control, removal of sharps/needles, boarding up properties in order to make them secure until they become fit for tenancy again.
Existing Contractor / Supplier / Service Provider	Orbis
Proposed Contract Term	4 years
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	£1,590,000
Directorate	Property Services
WH Lead Officer	Ian Gardner
Procurement Route	Open FTS / OJEU Tender
Status	Tender documentation with Procurement to sign off. Draft JCT contract with Legal Services to review.

Contract Title	Asbestos Removal
Contract Description	Asbestos removal services to support the inhouse team in peak times and to also provide an out of hours service
Existing Contractor / Supplier / Service Provider	Axiom Building Solutions Limited
Proposed Contract Term	4 years with a no fault break clause at year 2
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	£775,000
Directorate	Property Services
WH Lead Officer	Ian Gardner
Procurement Route	Open FTS / OJEU Tender
Status	Procurement exercise Live. Commencement of Contract March 2023.

Contract Title	Wolverhampton Homes Asbestos Surveying, Air Monitoring, Bulk Analysis & Consultancy
Contract Description	<p>To provide specialist technical services relating to asbestos surveys, air clearance testing and materials sampling works on a responsive basis as and when required. To support the activities of the in-house team by providing a fully integrated and flexible service that is seamless from the customer's perspective and that ensures that value for money is achieved.</p> <p>To include all technical asbestos related works including surveys, air clearance testing and materials sampling works for Responsive Repairs and Building Solutions.</p>
Existing Contractor / Supplier / Service Provider	Bradley Environmental Services
Proposed Contract Term	4 years
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	£1,600,000
Directorate	Property Services
WH Lead Officer	Simon Bamfield
Procurement Route	SBS Framework direct award
Status	Terms and conditions of contract with Legal Services for review.

Contract Title	Damp Condensation and Structural Surveys
Contract Description	A qualified Chartered Surveyor is required to support the in-house team by undertaking damp, condensation, and structural surveys where it is deemed the damp conditions are serious enough to potentially affect the structural integrity of parts of the building. An independent Chartered Surveyor is required to provide an unbiased report of any potential remedial works required and to represent Wolverhampton Homes in court as an expert witness when required to do so.
Existing Contractor / Supplier /Service Provider	PPC Ltd
Proposed Contract Term	6 years
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	£1,660,000
Directorate	Property Services
WH Lead Officer	Ian Gardner
Procurement Route	Open FTS / OJEU Tender
Status	Procurement exercise live. Commencement of contract March 2023.

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Contract Title	Drainage
Contract Description	To provide a specialist drainage CCTV surveys, jetting, and other related works service during normal working hours, on occasions the contractor will be expected to provide an immediate emergency service outside of normal working hours including evenings, weekends and Bank Holidays.
Existing Contractor / Supplier / Service Provider	Metro Rod Limited
Proposed Contract Term	4 years
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	£1,560,000
Directorate	Property Services
WH Lead Officer	Ian Gardner
Procurement Route	Open Tender
Status	Tender documents with Procurement to review and sign off. Contract documentation with Legal to review.

Contract Title	Painting & Decorating
Contract Description	To provide external redecoration to houses, low rise flats and garages to include elements such as rendered wall areas, doors, gates, canopies, fascia's, fencing and other external elements. Internal redecoration of communal areas to low-rise, medium-rise and high-rise blocks will also form part of the planned painting programme. Internal redecoration to domestic houses and flats both tenanted and void, will be requested on a response basis.
Existing Contractor / Supplier / Service Provider	Tony Davies & Partners Limited
Proposed Contract Term	4 years
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	£6,000,000
Directorate	Property Services
WH Lead Officer	Ian Gardner
Procurement Route	Open Market Competitive Tender
Status	Procurement exercise Live. Contract commencement March 2023.

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Wolverhampton Homes - Procurement Plan 2022 – 2024

1. Contracts Awarded 2022 - 2023

Contract Title	Insurance Services
Contract Description	Wolverhampton Homes requires a range of insurance policies that cover a number of specific service activities: for example: motor and fleet, property material damage, portable computers and equipment, specialist CCTV, personal accident, contractors' plant, money loss, crime fidelity guarantee, terrorism etc.
Existing Contractor / Supplier / Service Provider	Zurich and Maven
Proposed Contract Term	5 years
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	£750,000 + insurance premium tax (IPT)
Directorate	Corporate Services
WH Lead Officer	Kevin Manning / Nicky Devey
Procurement Route	Framework Agreement (option under consideration Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation (YPO) and Lots)
Status	Contract commenced 01 October 2022

Contract Title	Communal Laundries
Contract Description	Wolverhampton Homes manage laundry facilities within High-Rise flatted estates across the City. There is currently a rolling programme in place with A J Parkes to repair and maintain the machines within the laundries to ensure that customers have continued safe and serviceable facilities.
Existing Contractor / Supplier / Service Provider	A J Parkes
Proposed Contract Term	2 years
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	£10,000 per annum
Directorate	Housing Services
WH Lead Officer	Darren Baggs / Mathew Pickerill
Procurement Route	Negotiation
Status	Exemption signed contractor engaged

Contract Title	Biomass Heath Town Fuel / Repairs & Maintenance
Contract Description	Fuel, repairs and maintenance to the Heath Town Energy Centre Boiler System.
Existing Contractor / Supplier / Service Provider	AMP Clean Energy
Proposed Contract Term	4 years with a break clause at year 2
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	£500,000
Directorate	Property Services
WH Lead Officer	Ian Gardner
Procurement Route	YPO Framework
Status	Contract awarded to AMP clean energy from April 2022

Contract Title	Void Management Scheme
Contract Description	The Void Management Scheme ensures timely turnaround of the metering arrangements for void properties by the appointed energy provider offering free void period energy to WH for repairs and maintenance and instant access to gas and electricity for residents.
Existing Contractor / Supplier / Service Provider	Energy Angels
Proposed Contract Term	2 years with a yearly option to extend
Total Value of Contract (approx.)	Nil cost to WH. Despite there being nil cost to the company the services to be procured are defined as a concession contract, due to the company receiving a benefit, i.e. it will receive an indirect financial benefit to a limited value of 'free energy' during the void period. Based on approximately 1,500 voids per year, the annual benefit could be up to £45,000 or up to £180,000 over a 4-year period.
Directorate	Property Services
WH Lead Officer	Ian Gardner
Procurement Route	Non – FTS / OJEU – Open Tender (Concession Contract)
Status	Contract awarded to Energy Angels from April 2022

Wolverhampton Homes' Maintenance and Improvement Programme (January 2023)

Item	Name of Project	Budget for current year	Budget for Year-1	Budget for Year-2	Budget for Year-3	Budget for Year-4	Budget for Year-5
		2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
DELEGATED PROJECTS (DELIVERED & MANAGED BY WOLVERHAMPTON HOMES)							
A	Internal Improvements						
21/A01	Refurbishment of voids	£7,300,000	£7,105,000	£6,500,000	£4,500,000	£4,500,000	£4,500,000
21/A02	Boiler Replacement Programme	£1,200,000	£1,080,000	£780,000	£810,000	£830,000	£860,000
21/A03	Internal Improvements	£6,870,000	£11,600,000	£12,400,000	£11,800,000	£10,400,000	£9,000,000
B	Refurbishment Works						
	Heath Town Estate Refurbishment						
21/B01	Heath Town Estate: refurbishment of the retained blocks	£8,900,000	£11,900,000	£14,700,000	£9,900,000	£2,200,000	
	High-rise estate improvements						
23/B02/B03/B04	High Rise External Façade Works Programme; incorporating window replacement, roof replacement, external wall insulation and associated work.	£500,000	£10,400,000	£15,700,000	£15,200,000	£10,200,000	£6,400,000
21/B02	Renewal of High-Rise Infrastructure (City-wide); incorporating retro-fitting sprinklers and fire safety improvements	£8,900,000	£19,400,000	£15,000,000	£10,300,000	£6,500,000	£4,400,000
	Medium-rise estate improvements						
	Medium-rise blocks improvement programme The total estimated cost will be circa £262m (although the majority of this is already allowed for within the HRA Business Plan), but there will also be contributions from existing budgets of circa £28m	£250,000	£2,250,000	£2,400,000	£1,000,000	£4,000,000	£4,000,000
	Low-rise estate improvements						
	Improvement programme to deliver estate-based envelope, fire safety, infrastructure and landscaping improvements. This will be delivered to all flats, houses and bungalows as required, but exclude those properties already included in high-rise, medium-rise or non-traditional properties workstreams).	£0	£1,250,000	£1,500,000	£0	£0	£0

Wolverhampton Homes' Maintenance and Improvement Programme (January 2023)

Item	Name of Project	Budget for current year	Budget for Year-1	Budget for Year-2	Budget for Year-3	Budget for Year-4	Budget for Year-5
		2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
	Refurbishment of system-built housing						
21/B14	Surveys of non-traditional housing (including high-rise)	£150,000	£400,000	£400,000	£50,000	£50,000	£300,000
23/B/15	Retrofit works to system-built properties	£240,000	£19,200,000	£15,400,000	£0	£2,600,000	£5,648,000
	Other						
21/B07	Lift & DDA Improvements	£400,000	£430,000	£460,000	£460,000	£460,000	£460,000
21/B08	Door Entry / CCTV Security Programme	£150,000	£150,000	£200,000	£250,000	£250,000	£300,000
21/B09	Fire Safety Improvements - Medium and Low rise	£2,600,000	£1,600,000	£1,800,000			
21/B11	Sustainable Estates Programme:	£1,600,000	£800,000	£300,000	£300,000	£300,000	£300,000
21/B06	Roof Replacement Programme (City-wide)	£4,700,000	£6,300,000	£6,300,000	£2,900,000	£2,900,000	£2,900,000
21/B05	Structural Repair Works (ad-hoc, City-wide)	£1,600,000	£1,650,000	£1,140,000	£1,140,000	£1,140,000	£1,140,000
21/B13	Pathway improvement and safety programme	£197,000	£210,000	£220,000	£220,000	£230,000	£230,000
C	Miscellaneous Items						
21/C02	Capital Programme Management (Wolverhampton Homes salaries)	£1,900,000	£2,000,000	£2,000,000	£2,000,000	£2,000,000	£2,000,000
21/C03	Sale of Council Houses Administration (RTB)	£60,000	£60,000	£60,000	£60,000	£60,000	£60,000
PROJECTS MANAGED & DELIVERED BY WOLVERHAMPTON HOMES ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL BUDGET HOLDER							
D	Internal Works						
21/D01	Disabled Adaptations	£1,700,000	£1,900,000	£1,500,000	£1,400,000	£1,110,000	£1,100,000
21/D02	Bushbury Hill EMB Improvement Programme	£200,000					
E	Refurbishment Works						
21/E01	External improvements to Jericho House	£98,000					
21/E02	Commercial to residential conversions: Bond House	£3,533,000					

Wolverhampton Homes' Maintenance and Improvement Programme (January 2023)

Item	Name of Project	Budget for current year	Budget for Year-1	Budget for Year-2	Budget for Year-3	Budget for Year-4	Budget for Year-5
		2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
F	Other Projects						
	Replacement of system-built housing (based on £200k per unit inclusive of demolition, ground remediation and construction costs)	£500,000	£5,000,000	£10,100,000	£10,100,000	£0	£0
21/F01	Small sites programme delivered by Wolverhampton Homes	£2,500,000	£1,502,000				
	City Council Capitalised Salaries	£400,000	£400,000	£400,000	£400,000	£400,000	£400,000
	Other new build / estate remodelling programmes (delivered by the City of Wolverhampton Council)	£15,792,000	£24,524,000	£32,857,000	£33,500,000	£27,500,000	£26,500,000
	Estimated Total Value	£72,240,000	£131,111,000	£142,117,000	£106,290,000	£77,630,000	£70,498,000

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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Meeting of the City Council 29 March 2023
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Report title	Municipal Calendar of Meetings 2023-2024	
Referring body	Governance and Ethics Committee – 16 March 2023	
Councillor to present report	Councillor John Reynolds Chair of Governance and Ethics Committee	
Wards affected	All Wards	
Cabinet Member with lead responsibility	Councillor Ian Brookfield Leader of the Council	
Accountable director	David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer	
Originating service	Democratic Services	
Accountable employee	Jaswinder Kaur	Democratic Services and Systems Manager
	Tel	01902 550320
	Email	Jaswinder.Kaur@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report has been considered by	Governance and Ethics Committee	16 March 2023

Recommendations for decision:

The Council is recommended to:

1. Approve the City of Wolverhampton Council Municipal Calendar of Meetings for 2023-2024.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To consider a proposed timetable for Council and committee meetings for the next Council Municipal Year (2023-2024).

2.0 Background

- 2.1 On 16 March 2023, Governance and Ethics Committee considered a report on the Municipal Calendar of Meetings 2023-2024.

- 2.2 Governance and Ethics Committee recommended to Council that it approves:

- 1. The City of Wolverhampton Council Municipal Calendar of Meetings for 2023-2024.

3.0 Financial implications

- 3.1 The financial implications are detailed in the Governance and Ethics Committee report of 16 March 2023.

4.0 Legal implications

- 4.1 The legal implications are detailed in the Governance and Ethics Committee report of 16 March 2023.

5.0 Equalities implications

- 5.1 The equalities implications are detailed in the Governance and Ethics Committee report 16 March 2023.

6.0 All other Implications

- 6.1 All other implications are detailed in the Governance and Ethics Committee report of 16 March 2023.

7.0 Schedule of background papers

- 7.1 Municipal Calendar of Meetings 2023-2024, Governance and Ethics Committee, 16 March 2023.

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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Governance and Ethics Committee 16 March 2023
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Report title	Municipal Calendar of Meetings 2023-2024	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Ian Brookfield Leader of the Council	
Accountable director	David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer	
Originating service	Democratic Services	
Accountable employee	Jaswinder Kaur	Democratic Services and Systems Manager
	Tel	01902 550320
	Email	Jaswinder.kaur@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be considered by	Council	29 March 2023

Recommendations for decision:

The Governance and Ethics Committee recommends that Council:

1. Approves the City of Wolverhampton Council Municipal Calendar of Meetings for 2023-2024 as detailed in Appendix 1.

Recommendations for noting:

The Governance and Ethics Committee is recommended to:

1. Approve consultation with the political groups on the City of Wolverhampton Council Municipal Calendar of Meetings for 2023-2024.
2. Delegate any amendments to the City of Wolverhampton Council Calendar of Meetings for 2023-2024 to the Chair of Governance and Ethics Committee in consultation with the Chief Operating Officer following consultation with political groups.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To consider a proposed timetable for Council and committee meetings for the next Council Municipal Year (2023-2024).

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Full Council Meeting Procedure Rules set out the responsibility of Council to approve a programme of Ordinary meetings of the Full Council, the Cabinet, the Scrutiny Board and Scrutiny Panels and Regulatory or other committees for the year. Full Council is asked to agree the meeting dates for all meetings to enable the programme to be co-ordinated.
- 2.2 The proposed Calendar of Meetings for 2023-2024, which was drafted in consultation with the responsible officers for each body and addresses issues raised by Councillors and officers in relation to the current year's timetable.
- 2.3 The frequency remains unchanged for all meetings with an addition of a Scrutiny Board for March 2024.
- 2.4 At the request of the Finance Team the February 2024 Cabinet meeting has been scheduled to take place in half term week, this would allow the Finance Team sufficient time to prepare the budget report.
- 2.5 Amendments to the programme of meetings can be agreed during the year by the relevant bodies or by councillors and officers as set out in the Council's Constitution.

3.0 Financial implications

- 3.1 There are no financial implications associated with the recommendation in this report.
[GE/06022023/X]

4.0 Legal implications

- 4.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.
[TC/09022023/A]

5.0 Equalities implications

- 5.1 There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

6.0 All Other Implications

- 6.1 There are no other implications arising from this report.

7.0 Schedule of background papers

- 7.1 None.

8.0 Appendices

8.1 Appendix 1 – Calendar of Meetings 2023 - 2024

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Municipal Calendar 2023-2024 *Please note this us up to date as of 27.02 23

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
May 2023 Bank Holidays – 1, 8 & 29 May School Half Term 29 May- 2 June	22 May Exec Team at 5pm	23 May Planning Committee at 2pm	17 May Council AGM at 5:45pm 24 May CRP at 4pm Cabinet at 5pm	25 May Corporate Parenting Board at 5:30pm	N/A
June 2023 School Half Term 29 May- 2 June	12 June Exec Team at 5pm 19 June Audit & Risk Committee at 2pm 26 June Exec Team at 5pm	6 June All Cllr Briefing 5pm 13 June Scrutiny Board at 6pm Equalities Advisory Group at 10am 20 June Climate Change Advisory Group at 5:15pm 27 June Residents, Housing and Communities at 6pm	7 June Health and Wellbeing Together at 10am Asset Management Board at 2pm 14 June Stat Licencing Committee at 10am Regulatory Committee at 10:30am CRP at 4pm Cabinet at 5pm 21 June Economy & Growth Scrutiny at 6pm 28 June Pensions Committee at 10am All Cllr Briefing 5pm	8 June Public Realm Member Ref Group at 3pm Resources and Equalities Scrutiny Panel - 6pm 15 June Wolverhampton SACRE at 4pm 22 June Children & Families Together Board at 5:30pm 29 June Wv Living Shareholder Board at 1pm Health Scrutiny at 1:30pm Schools Forum at 4pm	30 June City Investment Board at 1:30pm
July 2023 School Summer Holidays 25 July – 5 September	10 July Exec Team at 5pm 24 July Audit & Risk Committee at 2pm	4 July Fulfilled Adults Scrutiny at 6pm 11 July Planning Committee at 2pm 18 July Pensions Board at 2pm 25 July All Cllr Briefing 5pm	5 July Families, CYP Scrutiny at 6pm 12 July CRP at 4pm Cabinet at 5pm 19 July Council at 5:45pm 26 July CRP at 4pm Cabinet at 5pm	6 July Governance & Ethics Committee 13 July Corporate Parenting Board at 5:30pm Capital Projects Member Ref Group at 2 pm	14 July Cllr Development Advisory Group at 10am 28 July Safer Wolves Partnership Board at 10am
August 2023 Bank Holiday – 28 Aug School Summer Holidays	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
September 2023 School Summer Holidays 25 July – 5 September	4 Sept Exec Team at 5pm 18 Sept Exec Team at 5pm 25 Sept Audit & Risk Committee at 2pm	5 Sept Scrutiny Board at 6pm 12 Sept Climate Change Advisory Group at 5:15pm Planning Committee at 2pm 19 Sept Equalities Advisory Group at 10am 26 Sept All Cllr Briefing 5pm	6 Sept CRP at 4pm Cabinet at 5pm 13 Sept Health and Wellbeing Together at 10am 20 Sept Council at 5:45pm 27 Sept Pensions Committee at 10am Stat Licencing Committee at 10am Regulatory Committee at 10:30am Economy & Growth Scrutiny at 6pm	7 Sept Governance & Ethics Committee Resources at 2pm 14 Sept Corporate Parenting Board at 5:30pm Public Realm Member Ref Group at 3pm 21 Sept Health Scrutiny at 1:30pm 28 Sept WV Living Shareholder Board at 1pm Capital Projects Member Ref Group at 2pm Children & Families Together Board at 5:30pm Residents, Housing and Communities at 6pm	15 Sept City Investment Board at 1:30pm
October 2023 School Half Term 30 October – 3 November	2 Oct Exec Team at 5pm 16 Oct Exec Team at 5pm	17 Oct Pensions Board at 2pm Fulfilled Adults Scrutiny at 6pm	4 Oct Families, CYP Scrutiny at 6pm 18 Oct CRP at 4pm Cabinet at 5pm	5 Oct Schools Forum at 4pm 12 Oct Resources and Equalities Scrutiny at 6pm 19 Oct Wolverhampton SACRE at 4pm 26 Oct Governance & Ethics Committee at 2pm	13 Sept Cllr Development Advisory Group at 10am 27 Oct Safer Wolves Partnership Board at 10am
November 2023	6 Nov Exec Team at 5pm 27 Nov Audit & Risk Committee at 2pm Exec Team at 5pm	7 Nov Asset Management Board at 2 pm 14 Nov Planning Committee at 2pm Scrutiny Board at 6pm 28 Nov All Cllr Briefing at 5pm	8 Nov Council at 5:45pm 15 Nov CRP at 4pm Cabinet at 5pm 22 Nov Stat Licencing Committee at 10am Regulatory Committee at 10:30am Families, CYP Scrutiny at 6pm 29 Nov Economy & Growth Scrutiny at 6pm	16 Nov Residents, Housing and Communities at 6pm 23 Nov Governance & Ethics Committee at 2pm Corporate Parenting Board at 5:30pm 30 Nov Capital Projects Member Ref Group at 2pm	24 Nov City Investment Board at 1:30pm
December 2023 Bank Holidays – 25, 26 Dec School Christmas Break 22 December – 8 January	11 Dec Exec Team at 5pm	5 Dec Equalities Advisory Group at 10am Fulfilled Adults Scrutiny at 6pm 12 Dec WV Living Shareholder Board at 9:30am Scrutiny Board at 6pm 19 Dec Climate Change Advisory Group at 5:15pm	6 Dec Council at 5:45pm 13 Dec Pensions Committee at 10am CRP at 4pm Cabinet at 5pm	7 Dec Health and Wellbeing Together at 10am Public Realm Member Ref Group at 3pm Schools Forum at 4pm Resources and Equality Scrutiny at 6pm 14 Dec Health Scrutiny at 1:30pm Children & Families Together Board at 5:30pm	

January 2024 Bank Holiday – 1 Jan School Christmas Break 22 December – 8 January	15 Jan Exec Team at 5pm	16 Jan Planning Committee at 2pm 23 Jan Pensions Board at 2pm 30 Jan All Cllr Briefing at 5pm	10 Jan Stat Licencing Committee at 10am Regulatory Committee at 10:30am 17 Jan Asset Management Board at 2pm CRP at 4pm Cabinet at 5pm 24 Jan Council at 5:45pm 31 Jan Families, CYP Scrutiny at 6pm	11 Jan Governance & Ethics Committee at 2pm Corporate Parenting Board at 5:30pm 18 Jan Health Scrutiny at 1:30pm Schools Forum at 4pm 25 Jan Capital Projects Member Ref Group at 2pm	26 Jan Cllr Development Advisory Group at 10am Safer Wolves Partnership Board at 10am
February 2024 School Half Term 12 February – 16 February	5 Feb Exec Team at 5pm 19 Feb Exec Team at 5pm	6 Feb Scrutiny Board at 6pm 20 Feb Fulfilled Adults Scrutiny at 6pm	7 Feb Wolverhampton SACRE at 4pm Economy & Growth Scrutiny at 6pm 21 Feb CRP at 4pm Cabinet at 5pm 28 Feb Council at 5:45pm	1 Feb Resources and Equalities Scrutiny at 6pm 8 Feb Governance & Ethics Committee at 2pm Public Realm Member Ref Group at 3pm 15 Feb Schools Forum at 4pm 22 Feb Residents, Housing and Communities at 6pm	
March 2024 Bank Holiday – 29 March School Easter Holidays 22 March – 8 April	4 March Audit & Risk Committee at 2pm Exec Team at 5pm 11 March All Cllr Briefing at 5pm 18 March Exec Team at 5pm	5 March Equalities Advisory Group at 10am Scrutiny Board at 6pm 12 March Resources and Equalities Scrutiny at 6pm 19 March Planning Committee at 2pm Fulfilled Adults Scrutiny at 6pm	6 March Stat Licencing Committee at 10am Regulatory Committee at 10:30am Asset Management Board at 2pm 13 March Health and Wellbeing Together at 10am Families, CYP Scrutiny at 6pm 20 March Pensions Committee at 10am CRP at 4pm Cabinet at 5pm	14 March Governance & Ethics Committee at 2pm 21 March Health Scrutiny at 1:30pm Corporate Parenting Board at 5:30pm	22 March – provisional date for publication of Notice of Election 29 March Children & Families Together Board at 5:30pm
April 2024 Bank Holiday – 1 April School Easter Holidays 22 March – 8 April	15 April Exec Team at 5pm	16 April Scrutiny Board at 6pm 23 April Pensions Board at 2pm	10 April Council at 5:45pm 24 April Asset Management Board at 2pm CRP at 4pm Cabinet at 5pm	18 April Public Realm Member Ref Group at 3pm	12 April Cllr Development Advisory Group at 10am
May 2024 Bank Holiday May 6, 27 School Half Term 27 May – 31 May	20 May Exec Team at 5pm		15 May Council at 5:45pm 22 May CRP at 4pm Cabinet at 5pm	2 May – Local, PCC, CAM Elections	

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

CAM – Combined Authority Mayor

CRP – Cabinet Resources Panel

Cllr – Councillor

CYP – Children and Young People

Exec – Executive

SACRE – Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

Stat – Statutory Licensing Committee

PCC – Police and Crime Commissioner

****Reserves Working Group normally meets once a year and is arranged during the year at an appropriate time.**

Municipal Calendar of Meetings 2022 - 2023	No. of Meetings	Usual day & time	2023								2024				
			May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Council & Executive															
Council	9	Wed (5:45pm)	17a		19		20		8	6	24	28		10	15a
Cabinet	13	Wed (5:00pm)	24	14	12, 26		6	18	15	13	17	21	20	24	22
Cabinet (Resources) Panel	13	Wed (4:00pm)	24	14	12, 26		6	18	15	13	17	21	20	24	22
Executive Team	18	Mon (5:00pm)	22	12, 26	10		4, 18	2, 16	6, 27	11	15	5, 19	4, 18	15	20
Scrutiny															
Scrutiny Board	6	Tues (6:00pm)		13			5		14	12		6	5	16	
Fulfilled Adult Lives	5	Tues (6:00pm)			4			17		5		20	19		
Strong Families, Children and Young People	5	Wed (6:00pm)			5			4	22		31		13		
Resources and Equality	5	Thurs (6:00pm)		8				12		7		1	12		
Health	5	Thurs (1:30pm)		29			21			14	18		21		
Economy and Growth	5	Wed (6:00pm)		21			27		29			7			
Residents, Housing and Communities	5	Thurs (6:00pm)		27d			28		16			22			
Pensions															
Pensions Committee	4	Wed (10:00am)		28			27			13			20		
Pensions Board	4	Tues (2:00pm)			4			17			23			23	

Municipal Calendar of Meetings 2022 - 2023	No. of Meetings	Usual day & time	2023								2024				
			May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Regulatory and Oversight															
Audit and Risk Committee	5	Mon (2:00pm)		19	24		25		27				4		
Planning Committee	6	Tues (2:00pm) (site visits 10:00am)	23		11		12		14		16		19		
Statutory Licensing Committee	5	Wed (10:00am)		14			27		22		10		6		
Regulatory Committee	5	Wed (10:30am)		14			27		22		10		6		
Licensing Sub-Committee (as required)		As required (10:30am)													
Governance and Ethics Committee	7	Thurs (2:00pm)			6		7	26	23		11	8	14		
Partnership Boards															
Health and Wellbeing Together	4	Wed (10:00 am)		<u>21</u>			13			<u>7</u>			<u>13</u>		
Children and Families Together Board*	4	Thurs (5:30 pm)		22			28			<u>14</u>			22		
Corporate Parenting Board*	6	Thurs (5:30 pm)	25		13		<u>14</u>		23		<u>11</u>		<u>21</u>		
Schools' Forum*	5	Thurs (4:00 pm)		<u>29</u>				5		<u>7</u>	<u>25</u>	29			
Wolverhampton SACRE*	4	Thurs (4:00 pm)		<u>15</u>				19				<u>7</u>			16
Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Board*	3	Fri (10:00 am)			28			27			<u>26</u>				

Municipal Calendar of Meetings 2022 - 2023	No. of Meetings	Usual day & time	2023								2024				
			May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Advisory Groups															
Councillor Development Advisory Group	4	Fri (10:00 am)			14				13			26		12	
Equalities Advisory Group	4	Tue (10:00 am)		13				19			5		5		
Climate Change Advisory Group	4	Tues (5:15 pm)		20				12**			19		19		
Briefings															
Councillor Briefings	7	Anyday (5:00 pm)		6, 28	25			26		28		30		11	

*Attendance not monitored for these meetings

a Annual Council 6pm

b Budget setting

c During School Holidays

d Taking place on a Tuesday

** Meeting will start at 5:30

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Meeting of the City Council

29 March 2023

Report title	Annual Scrutiny Report May 2021 - May 2022	
Referring body	Scrutiny Board – 14 March 2023	
Councillor to present report	Councillor Paul Sweet - Chair of Scrutiny Board	
Wards affected	All Wards	
Cabinet Member with lead responsibility	Councillor Paula Brookfield, Governance and Equalities	
Accountable director	David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer	
Originating service	Scrutiny (Governance)	
Accountable employee	Martin Stevens DL Tel Email	Scrutiny Team Leader Tel: 01902 550947 martin.stevens@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	Scrutiny Board	14 March 2023

Recommendation for decision:

The Council is recommended to:

1. Endorse the Scrutiny Annual Report, May 2021 – May 2022.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The Annual Review highlights some of the key achievements of the Scrutiny function over the 2021-2022 Municipal Year including details of the progress and outcomes from a selection of meetings.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Scrutiny Board considered the Annual Scrutiny Report May 2021 - May 2022 on 14 March 2023.
- 2.2 Scrutiny Board recommended to Council that it endorses the Annual Scrutiny Report, May 2021 - May 2022.

3.0 Scrutiny

- 3.1 Scrutiny is a vital component of good governance, and the work carried out by Councillors through scrutiny has been invaluable in influencing policy. This has been through representing the concerns and interests of the public and by providing challenge to the Cabinet. Scrutiny also undertakes reviews of partners working with the Council through detailed and critical analysis of their plans and reports.

4.0 Financial implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations in this report as Councillors are requested to endorse the Annual Scrutiny Report for 2021-2022. Any financial implications emerging as work undertaken in pursuit of Scrutiny recommendations will continue to be incorporated in reports to the Scrutiny Board and Panels. Ongoing scrutiny function developments will be implemented utilising current budgeted Scrutiny Team resources.
[GE/11032023/P]

5.0 Legal implications

- 5.1 This report provides an overview of the scrutiny which has taken place during the Municipal Year May 2021 - May 2022. For legal implications, specific to each project please refer to the reports taken to Scrutiny Board and Panels during the year.
[AS/17032023/A]

6.0 Equalities implications

- 6.1 In scrutinising issues, the members of the Board, Panel or group are required to consider the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different groups of people in order to meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.
- 6.2 For equalities implications relating to each issue considered, please refer to the reports taken to Scrutiny Board and Panels during the year

7.0 All other implications

7.1 For all other implications, refer to the reports and minutes from the Scrutiny meetings during the time frame the Annual Report covers.

8.0 Schedule of background papers

8.1 Copies of all agendas and minutes for Scrutiny meetings can be found [here](#).

9.0 Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1: Scrutiny Annual Report May 2021 - May 2022

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SCRUTINY

Annual Report 2021 / 2022

A Year in Scrutiny May 2021–May 2022

I'm sure Members would join with me in welcoming a return to in person meetings in the Municipal Year 2021-2022. The Council Chamber was used for nearly all the Scrutiny meetings. All the Scrutiny Public meetings, held in the Chamber, were webcast. This has brought a greater deal of public awareness to the work of Scrutiny and the work of Scrutiny Panels has regularly featured in the media. What was particularly striking in this Municipal year was the vast range of items covered by the six Scrutiny Panels and Board. A total of 40 Scrutiny Public meetings were held during the Municipal Year. I would like to pay tribute to all the employees involved in facilitating every one of these meetings with particular thanks to the Officers in the Scrutiny Team.



Cllr Paul Sweet
Chair of Scrutiny Board, 2021/2022

Stronger City Economy

Chair: Cllr Jacqueline Sweetman
Vice-Chair: Cllr Christopher Haynes



The Municipal year started with a question and answer session with the Portfolio Holder for Inclusive City Economy, Cllr Stephen Simkins. Members asked a wide range of questions and received responses from the Cabinet Member. This session helped to shape the work programme for the year ahead.

The October 2021 meeting saw a focus on the Culture, Creative and Visitor Economy. The final meeting of the year focused on jobs, skills and learning opportunities.

Reflecting on the Municipal Year, the Chair, Cllr Jacqueline Sweetman said, *“For the 2021-2022, Municipal Year the Panel chose to look at particular subjects in depth and reduced the number of items on each agenda. It meant the Panel were really able to delve into the subject matter, all of which were vitally important to the City. A focus on strategy in all the areas*

considered was the key to unlocking how the Council can improve performance and consequently improve the lives of the residents of Wolverhampton and the people who work and visit the City. A great emphasis was placed on the importance of pre-decision scrutiny. This meant the Panel could have as much impact on policy as possible at an early stage and to act as a critical friend.”

Our Council

Chair: Cllr Zee Russell
Vice-Chair: Cllr Udey Singh



The issues of equality, diversity and inclusion and the Council’s role in championing them falls within the remit of the Panel and has been a regular agenda item during the year, reflecting the importance of the issue. The Panel wanted to see evidence of work being done to build on past achievements. The Panel discussed in detail the draft Council’s Equality Diversity and Inclusion Strategy which was presented by the Director of Governance and the Head of Equality Diversity and Inclusion. It was very helpful to have the opportunity to hear directly from the Chairs of the different staff equality forums of their experiences, both good and bad. The Panel asked the representatives directly for their ideas of

the changes they would like to see in the strategy. The Panel supported their ideas for improvements that could be made to the draft policy.

The Panel valued the opportunity to listen directly to employees and were reassured about the importance given to improving equalities practice across the Council and the support given by senior managers to delivering the priorities in the strategy.

A highlight from the Panel's work programme was a presentation detailing the Council's approach to managing strategic risks around the issue of cyber security, such as ransomware, during the pandemic targeted at private and public sector organisations with the sudden switch to remote working. The Panel were reassured about the action being taken by the Council to make changes that would prevent or lessen the impact of the increased number of cyber-attacks on the network during this period.

The Panel discussed the future challenges to the security of the network and were given details about the cybersecurity framework which details further action planned to protect it. This work would be supported by annual external audit from the National Cyber Security Centre and the Public Services Network review the strength of the current measures.

The Panel highlighted the important role of employee's in helping to protect the network from potential cyber-attacks and welcomed the mandatory training and supporting guidance aimed at reducing the risks with the majority continuing to work remotely.

Chair, Cllr Zee Russell said, "I really welcome the changes being made, big and small, in promoting and implementing policies that support greater inclusion and equality of opportunities for underrepresented groups across the Council and the wider community. It is important to build on good work done so far. I really welcome the work done to promote the Council as being an attractive employer and planned consultation on plans for developing a Rainbow City, which I think will make a real positive difference to people's lives now and in the future."

Children, Young People & Families

Chair: Cllr Rita Potter

Vice-Chair: Cllr Adam Collinge



The outcomes and lessons learnt from the Yo! The Panel welcomed the commitment from the Head of Service to providing activities and opportunities for all children and young people in the future. The Panel also welcomed plans to encourage and support more local youth activity providers to bid for grant funding, particularly in areas with more limited leisure offer.

The Panel talked about the current community and leisure offer to parents of children with SEND and welcomed efforts to involve, Members of *Voice4Parents – Wolverhampton’s Parent Carer Forum*, in developing the programme of holiday activities.

The Executive Director of Families reassured the Panel of the Council’s commitment to the programme and highlighted plans to providing support activities, such as targeted and detached youth work in the future.

Councillors were encouraged to get involved in developing the programme of holiday activities and refer local groups to contact the service about getting publicity about their projects and to apply for funding to help fill gaps in provision.

In preparation for a report to the Panel on Special Educational Needs and Disabilities in Wolverhampton members visited Green Park Special School in the October. The Panel met with the Headteacher and talked to pupils during the tour of school facilities and were very impressed with what they saw and heard. The visit was very helpful for the Panel in understanding the challenges experienced by the school in trying to meet the needs of children and families during the pandemic.

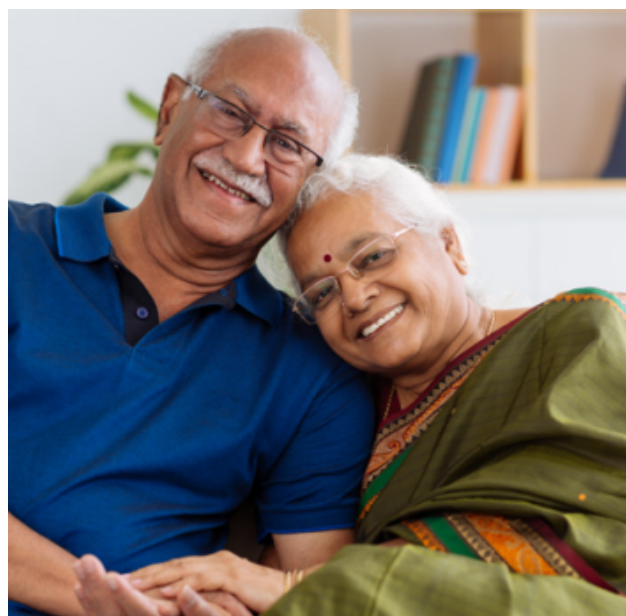
Chair, Cllr Rita Potter said, *“As Chair I think it is important for Panel Members to see for themselves sites delivering services to the children and young people of Wolverhampton, to reassure themselves about the standard of provision and also to speak directly to young people about the experiences. A*

visit was arranged to The Way in October 2021 to see the facilities on offer and the support given children and young people with special needs. The meeting also provided a good opportunity to speak the Chief Executive to encourage more children from across the City following the pandemic to take advantages of the fantastic range of learning and sports facilities on offer. The meeting was also an opportunity to raise concerns from parents about reports of poor behaviour at the facility and welcomed the plans in place to offer reassurance to parents and young people.

Adults and Safer City

Chair: Cllr Val Evans

Vice-Chair: Cllr Sohail Khan



The Panel considered and commented on the draft Safer Wolverhampton Partnership (SWP) Board annual report before it was presented to the Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Board meeting for approval. The discussion focused on the issue of increasing numbers of domestic violence cases

particularly throughout the pandemic at a meeting in October 2021. The Panel had a detailed presentation from the West Midlands Police about the factors which have contributed to the increase.

The Panel talked in detail about the actions being taken to address the issue and welcomed work being planned to improve the quality of the data, as there were concerns about the integrity of the data as some reported incidents of harassment and stalking had not been properly recorded in the Police's overall figures for recording domestic abuse incidents.

The Panel welcomed plans to refresh the Interpersonal Violence Strategy in March 2022 and priorities for action. The Panel supported the view of the importance of agencies intervening as early as possible if children see or are involved in domestic violence incidents. The Panel recommended the Board to consider and respond to the findings LGIU briefing paper -Violence against women and girls – report of HM Inspectorate of Constabulary.

The Chair, Cllr Valerie Evans stated, *“the most important thing to the Adults and Fulfilled Lives Scrutiny Panel was the Pandemic and what was happening with vaccine and our older people that lived in homes. It was important that we were kept up to date with the roll out of the vaccine for our older people and our staff. We also invited a Chief Inspector of West Midlands Police who talked about violence against women and children. We found out that due to the lockdown that domestic violence had risen during that time. During the lockdown it was hard to keep people in touch with each other. The Council had worked with older people keeping them*

in contact with each other and Doctors; and groups they could attend using technology.”

Vibrant & Sustainable City

Chair: Barbara McGarrity QN

Vice-Chair: Cllr Paul Appleby



The new Municipal year began with a focus on housing with three items on the agenda for the first meeting. The Wolverhampton Homes Delivery Plan / Performance, an update on the roll out of the new Housing Allocation Policy, and the Housing Strategy alongside housing priorities were all considered by the Panel.

The October meeting of the Panel saw a review of the Climate Change Action Plan. The second item was on the abandoned vehicle process. These items helped to demonstrate the diversity of the Panel's remit and with reference to the Climate Change item, how it sometimes considers important matters at a local, regional, national and international level.

The final meeting of the Municipal year saw items on the West Midlands Local Transport Plan Core Engagement and the future plans for Arbour Services at the Council. The Transport Plan item was a good example of the West

Midlands Combined Authority engaging directly with a Scrutiny Panel to obtain their views. Trees is often at the top of Members constituent enquiries and so the item was well received.

Reflecting on the Municipal Year, the Chair, Cllr Barbara McGarrity QN remarked, *“I Chair, the Residents, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Panel which has such a diverse remit. Throughout the year, the Panel considered some really important areas, which impact on our residents directly, such as Housing, Transport and Trees. I like to think that the Panel have significantly impacted on policy formulation at a local and regional level.”*

Health Scrutiny Panel

Chair: Cllr Susan Roberts MBE
Vice-Chair: Cllr Paul Singh



The first meeting of the Municipal year started out with the Panel scrutinising the Wolverhampton Covid 19 Outbreak Control Plan refresh, the Public Health Annual Report 2020-2021 and the Healthwatch Pre-Tender Engagement Activity. A Special meeting was called in July 2021 to consider the proposal to merge Urology Services at the Royal

Wolverhampton NHS Trust with the Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust. The Panel made a number of recommendations regarding the proposal, all of which are recorded in the minutes for the item.

In October 2021, the Panel gave in depth consideration to the Healthwatch Annual Report 2020-2021 and the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust Quality Accounts. A report on Primary Care was received which was followed by a question and answer session on this very important area for Wolverhampton residents. The Panel concluded that a special dedicated meeting on Primary Care needed to be held, which was subsequently scheduled for the December. The Panel commissioned Healthwatch to carry out a telephone survey with each of the GP Practices in Wolverhampton. This data was reviewed at the Special meeting in December leading to further recommendations from the Panel on the matter of Primary Care.

In February 2022, the Panel received a monitoring report on the merger of Urology Services, a report from the Alzheimer’s Society on Dementia, and a report from RWT on Digitally Enabled Primary Care.

Reflecting on the Municipal Year, the Chair, Cllr Susan Roberts MBE said, *“The Municipal Year 2021-2022 had a particular focus on Primary Care for the Health Scrutiny Panel. This is such an important area for the residents of Wolverhampton. I was especially pleased to shine a light on this topic and that the Panel made productive and important recommendations to health partners, in a time of great change in how the health system operates.”*

Scrutiny Board

Chair: Cllr Paul Sweet

Vice-Chair: Cllr Simon Bennett



Throughout the Municipal year, the Scrutiny Board considered the Corporate Complaints reports. At the meeting in September the Board looked at the important matter of Private Sector Housing Standards with a particular emphasis on Category One Hazards. Items on Customer Contact, Rainbow City and British Art Show 9 featured at the December meeting. The February 2022 meeting considered the Financial Inclusion Strategy – Engagement and Consultation, and the Council Plan, Medium Term Financial Strategy and Performance Framework.

In March two meetings were held. The first one was a one item agenda on the Financial Wellbeing Strategy 2023-2025. The second meeting in March featured a fascinating item on the Economics of the Black Country and Wolverhampton, where Sarah Middleton, Chief Executive, Black Country Consortium Ltd and Professor Delma Dwight, Director of Black Country Economic Intelligence Unit, Black Country Consortium Ltd and Director of Midlands Engine Observatory presented to Board.

The meeting also had an item on Social Housing Consumer Standards.

Select Committee: Wolverhampton Pound

Chair: Cllr Susan Roberts MBE

Vice-Chair, Cllr Paul Appleby

Eight Select Committee style meetings on the subject of the Wolverhampton Pound took place between November 2021 and February 2022. They had been tasked with considering two questions,

‘How do we engage with local businesses and the community and voluntary sector in relation to procurement, contract management and commissioning and how do we ensure inclusivity, equality and value for money in these approaches?’

‘How do we engage with partners, local businesses and the community and voluntary sector to make the City a catalyst for change by ensuring that all contracts reflect our values in areas such as climate change, equality, diversity and inclusion, retaining and growing local wealth and having a real presence in the City?’

The Select Committee made a total of 20 recommendations, which will be monitored by Scrutiny Board and the Resources and Equality Scrutiny Panel.

Useful links and documents:

- [City of Wolverhampton Council Website](#)
- [Forward Plan](#)
- [Centre for Public Scrutiny](#)
- [Statutory Guidance for Overview and Scrutiny](#)
- [City of Wolverhampton Constitution](#)
- [Minutes and Agendas](#)
- [Petitions](#)
- [Consultations](#)
- [Code of Conduct](#)

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Meeting of the City Council 29 March 2023
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Report title	Written Questions by Councillors	
Referring person	Councillor Gillian Wildman, Councillor Lovinyer Daley, Councillor Simon Bennett, Councillor Jonathan Crofts, Councillor Adam Collinge, Councillor Stephanie Haynes, Councillor Andy Randle, Councillor Sohail Khan, Councillor Wendy Dalton	
Wards affected	All Wards	
Cabinet Member with lead responsibility	Councillor Stephen Simkins, Deputy Leader: Inclusive City Economy Councillor Beverley Momenabadi, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People Councillor Jasbir Jaspal, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing Councillor Chris Burden, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Work	
Accountable director	David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer	
Originating service	Governance	
Accountable employee	David Pattison	Chief Operating Officer
	Tel	01902 550320
	Email	David.pattison@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Recommendation for decision:

The Council is recommended to:

That the relevant Executive Members respond to the questions received in accordance with Council's procedure rules for a maximum of 30 minutes.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 For the Cabinet Members to respond to the questions received:

a. Levelling Up in Bilston

Councillor Gillian Wildman to ask the Deputy Leader: Inclusive City Economy:

After initially declaring that our transformative Levelling Up Round 2 Bilston Health & Regeneration Programme (HaRP) bid was unsuccessful in January this year, the Government has back tracked and performed another U-turn, confirming in the Spring Budget that Wolverhampton will receive £20million towards the delivery of this programme.

Can the Cabinet Member for City Economy outline what this means for levelling up in Bilston and the wider city?

b. WV Active Leisure Centres

Councillor Lovinyer Daley to ask the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People:

Can the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People outline further details about the £2 million that this Council will be investing to provide free access to all of our WV Active Leisure Centres by our young people, as announced at Budget Council earlier this month?

c. Light House

Councillor Simon Bennett to ask the Deputy Leader: Inclusive City Economy:

Can the Cabinet Member for Inclusive City Economy please provide an update on developments with the Light House?

d. Green Belt Land

Councillor Jonathan Crofts to ask the Deputy Leader: Inclusive City Economy:

Will the Cabinet Member agree to protect our green belt sites, such as the WEC, to ensure they are never put forward for development again?

e. WV Active

Councillor Adam Collinge to ask the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing:

Can the Cabinet Member confirm whether they envisage WV Active, particularly WV Active Central, will benefit from the Government's recently announced £63 million support fund for leisure centres nationally, and will they be seeking to apply for this support?

f. Educational Attainment

Councillor Stephanie Haynes to ask the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Work:

Could the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills, and Work provide insight into what is being done to tackle the fall in educational attainment from key stage 4 to key stage 5?

g. Wednesfield Police Base

Councillor Andy Randle to ask the Lead Member on the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel:

Would the Council representative on the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel support a future police base in Wednesfield near its current strategic location, and will plans be made to support the police to find a new home once the existing building closes?

h. RSM Review

Councillor Sohail Khan to ask the Deputy Leader: Inclusive City Economy:

Would the Cabinet Member for Inclusive City Economy be able to outline the key findings from the RSM review for business support provided to businesses in the city centre that have been affected by the recent roadworks?

i. Bilston Health and Wellbeing Hub

Councillor Wendy Dalton to ask the Deputy Leader: Inclusive City Economy:

Will the Cabinet Member join us in congratulating Andy Street, the Mayor of the West Midlands, on securing £20 million for the Health and Wellbeing Hub in Bilston to ensure improved health outcomes for all Bilston residents?

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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Meeting of the City Council 29 March 2023
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Report title	Motions on Notice
Referring body/person	Councillor Ian Brookfield Councillor Ellis Turrell
Wards affected	All Wards
Cabinet Member with lead responsibility	N/A
Accountable director	David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer
Originating service	Governance
Accountable employee	David Pattison Chief Operating Officer Tel 01902 550320 Email David.pattison@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Recommendation for decision:

The Council is recommended to:

Consider the motions received in accordance with the Council's procedure rules for a maximum of 50 minutes.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 For Council to consider the motions received:

a. Green Innovation Zones

Councillor Stephen Simkins, in the absence of Councillor Ian Brookfield, will move the following motion:

“In the Spring Budget, the Chancellor announced plans to launch 12 “investment zones” across the UK over the next five years. These “investment zones” are a scaled-back version of an initiative briefly launched by the government of Liz Truss last autumn. Four zones are planned in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and the rest in the Midlands or north of England.

This Council believes that our ambitious Green Innovation Corridor plan meets the criteria for these proposed “investment zones” and demonstrates strong partnership between the local authority and academic institutions. Indeed, our Levelling Up Fund Round 2 feedback was that our Green Innovation Corridor bid was strong.

As the Government starts discussions on these Investment Zones, this Council calls on them to work closely with us and the West Midlands Combined Authority, to designate the Green Innovation Corridor as the Investment Zone for the region.”

b. Deeper Devolution Deal

Councillor Ellis Turrell will move the following motion:

“This Council welcomes the Deeper Devolution Deal negotiated between the West Midlands Mayor Andy Street and the Government, as announced in the Spring Budget on 15 March 2023. This new deal secures wide-ranging powers and a budget windfall in excess of £1.5 billion to level up Wolverhampton and the wider region.

In particular, this Council welcomes the following measures included in the Deeper Devolution Deal:

- 1. A Wolverhampton Innovation Corridor, one of six new locally designed Levelling Up Zones, with 25-year business rates retention to drive further investment, innovation and economic growth.*
- 2. A landmark housing deal worth up to £500 million, offering greater flexibility to drive brownfield regeneration.*
- 3. 100% retention of business rates for the next 10 years, worth £450 million.*
- 4. A new departmental-style budget arrangement with a single pot of funding.*
- 5. Greater local responsibility for developing and delivering careers advice and a partnership with the Department for Work and Pensions to target employment support.*

The Deeper Devolution Deal comes on top of more than £1 billion in direct Government investment into Wolverhampton over the last 3 years, through schemes such as the Levelling Up Fund and Towns Fund, and the package of measures contained in the Budget on 15 March 2023 which will make a real difference to people's lives in our city.

This Council therefore agrees to:

- 1. Thank the West Midlands Mayor Andy Street for securing this milestone new Devolution Deal for Wolverhampton and the West Midlands region; and*
- 2. Work closely with the West Midlands Mayor and the combined authority on delivering the measures contained within the Devolution Deal.”*

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