

Time	5.00 pm	Public Meeting?	YES	Type of meeting	Executive
Venue	Council Chamber - 4th Floor - Civic Centre, St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton, WV1 1SH				

Membership

Chair	Cllr Ian Brookfield (Lab)
Vice-Chair	Cllr Stephen Simkins (Lab)

Labour

Cllr Obaida Ahmed
Cllr Paula Brookfield
Cllr Chris Burden
Cllr Steve Evans
Cllr Bhupinder Gakhal
Cllr Jasbir Jaspal
Cllr Linda Leach
Cllr Beverley Momenabadi

Quorum for this meeting is three voting members.

Information for the Public

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

Contact	Dereck Francis
Tel/Email	Tel: 01902 555835 or dereck.francis@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Address	Democratic Services, Civic Centre, 1st floor, St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton WV1 1RL

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Some items are discussed in private because of their confidential or commercial nature. These reports are not available to the public.

Agenda

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item No. *Title*

MEETING BUSINESS ITEMS

- 1 **Apologies for absence**
- 2 **Declaration of interests**
- 3 **Minutes of the previous meeting** (Pages 3 - 8)
[For approval]

DECISION ITEMS (RED - FOR DECISION BY THE COUNCIL)

- 4 **Capital Budget Outturn 2021-2022 including Quarter One Capital Budget Monitoring 2022-2023** (Pages 9 – 46)
[To approve the capital budget outturn 2021-2022 including quarter one capital monitoring 2022-2023]
- 5 **Treasury Management - Annual Report 2021-2022 and Activity Monitoring Quarter One 2022-2023** (Pages 47 - 72)
[To approve the Treasury Management - Annual Report 2021-2022 and Activity Monitoring Quarter One 2022-2023]
- 6 **Select Committee Report: The Wolverhampton Pound: Procurement, Contract Management and Commissioning** (Pages 73 - 120)
[To consider the Select Committee Report in relation to The Wolverhampton Pound: Procurement, Contract Management and Commissioning]
- 7 **Wolverhampton's Youth Justice Plan 2022-23** (Pages 121 - 170)
[To present the Wolverhampton Youth Justice Plan 2022-2023]

DECISION ITEMS (AMBER - DELEGATED TO THE CABINET)

- 8 **Draft Black Country Plan - Additional Housing Sites in Walsall** (Pages 171 - 284)
[To approve public consultation during summer 2022 on proposed additional housing sites in Walsall, as an extension to the Regulation 18 consultation on the Draft Black Country Plan which took place in autumn 2021]
- 9 **Helping our Children and Young People to be Healthier and Happier - what we learnt from HeadStart** (Pages 285 - 298)
[To present the final programme report, highlighting achievements, challenges and the learn and embed plan]

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Meeting of the Cabinet Minutes - 15 June 2022
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Attendance

Members of the Cabinet

Cllr Ian Brookfield (Chair)
Cllr Stephen Simkins (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Obaida Ahmed
Cllr Paula Brookfield
Cllr Chris Burden
Cllr Steve Evans
Cllr Bhupinder Gakhal
Cllr Jasbir Jaspal
Cllr Linda Leach
Cllr Beverley Momenabadi

Employees

Tim Johnson	Chief Executive
Charlotte Johns	Director of Strategy
Emma Bennett	Executive Director of Families
Claire Nye	Director of Finance
David Pattison	Chief Operating Officer
John Roseblade	Director of City Housing and Environment
Becky Wilkinson	Director of Adult Social Services
Jaswinder Kaur	Democratic Services Manager
Dereck Francis	Democratic Services Officer

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

- | <i>Item No.</i> | <i>Title</i> |
|-----------------|--|
| 1 | Apologies for absence
No apologies for absence were received. |
| 2 | Declaration of interests
No declarations of interests were made. |
| 3 | Minutes of the previous meeting
Resolved:
That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 April 2022 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair. |

4 **Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services, City of Wolverhampton Council**

Councillor Beverley Momenabadi presented an update on the outcome of the recent Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) inspection of Children's Services. The service had received an overall judgement of 'Good', the best rating in the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) area. The Service was also the only local authority in the WMCA area to achieve an 'Outstanding' judgement for areas of practise. The impact of leaders on social work practise with children and families was rated 'Outstanding', and the experience and progress of children who need our help and protection', 'the experience and progress of children in care and care leavers', and 'Overall effectiveness' were all rated 'Good'. Five areas of improvement had been identified from the Inspection, for which an action plan would be submitted to Ofsted in August.

Councillor Momenabadi also reported that during the Covid-19 pandemic we became more appreciative of the risks many social workers and other professionals, put themselves through to care for others. The Inspection report was testament to their dedication, hard work and commitment to children in the city. She placed on record her thanks to the Council's social workers for their incredible efforts and work which would give children in the city the best start in life.

Resolved:

That the 'Good' overall judgement from the recent Ofsted Inspection of Children's Services be celebrated and our continued excellent position in the West Midlands and the country be noted.

5 **Reserves, Provisions and Balances 2021-2022**

Councillor Obaida Ahmed presented the report on the Council's resources currently held as earmarked reserves, provisions and general balances as at 31 March 2022, taking account of the outturn position for 2021-2022. She reported that reserves play a vital role in the financial sustainability of the Council. They enable funds to be set aside to manage risks and uncertainties but also to make sure that the Council has the funding it needs to invest in its priorities, to enable transformation and to help the development of the Council's projects in the city. The next report on the agenda (Performance and Budget Outturn 2021-2022) shows that as a council we have continued to manage our finances well and by coming in within budget we have been able to protect these vital reserves. The reserves would be continually reviewed and the reserve strategy would be updated in future budget reports.

Resolved:

1. That the transfers (to)/from earmarked reserves, provisions and general balances as detailed in tables 2, 3 and 4 of the report be approved.
2. That expenditure from provisions for their purposes as set out in Appendix 3 and 4 to the report, up to the value held in each provision as at 31 March 2022 be approved.
3. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Resources and Digital City, in consultation with the Director of Finance, to allocate funds from all reserves which fall within the Corporate remit as detailed in Appendix 1 and 2 to the report.

4. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Resources and Digital City and the relevant Cabinet Member, in consultation with the Director of Finance and the relevant Director/Deputy Director to allocate funds from all other reserves as detailed in Appendix 1 and 2 to the report.
5. That the level of the Council's earmarked reserves, provisions and general balances as at 31 March 2022 and the purposes for which they are being held, as detailed in Appendix 1, 2, 3 and 4 to the report be noted.
6. That it be noted that the reserve strategy is currently being reviewed in light of Our City Our Plan priorities and the budget challenge facing the Council over the medium term, and an updated Reserves Strategy would be reported back to Cabinet at a future meeting.
7. That it be noted that the relevance and adequacy of earmarked reserves and general balances would be reviewed as required by the Constitution during the 2023-2024 budget setting process.
8. That it be noted that allocation of funding from all earmarked reserves would be reported to Cabinet (Resources) Panel in the scheduled quarterly performance and budget monitoring reports.
9. That it be noted that the Resources and Equality Scrutiny Panel would scrutinise the use of reserves as part of the budget setting process as in previous years.
10. That it be noted that the Director of Finance considers that the overall level of all reserves, provisions and balances is sufficient to meet the likely level of obligations to be met from reserves, provisions and general balances in the short term.
11. That it be noted that whilst the positive General Fund outturn position during 2021-2022, and the resulting adjustments to reserves, would help to support the Council's short term financial position, it does not address the challenging financial position that the Council finds itself in over the medium term; namely identifying further projected budget reductions which were estimated at £12.6 million in 2023-2024, rising to £25.8 million over the medium term to 2025-2026 when reported to Full Council in March 2022.
12. That it be noted that the figures quoted in the report are still subject to statutory audit by Grant Thornton as part of the 2021-2022 accounts closedown process.

6 **Performance and Budget Outturn 2021-2022**

Councillor Obaida Ahmed presented the report on the Council's outturn position for 2021-2022 compared with approved budgets and targets and a performance update against the Relighting Our City priorities. She reported that the Council had strengthened the links between performance and budget to ensure that it was robustly monitoring delivery of the Council's priorities, underpinned by its resources. The update on the Relight Our Council performance indicators for quarter four of 2021-2022 would be the last publication of these indicators before the new Council Plan performance framework commenced in quarter one of 2022-2023. The report

also showed many areas of strong performance, and the Council's response to challenges it had faced during 2021-2022.

Resolved:

1. That the write-off of two Council Tax debts totalling £13,450.90 as detailed in Appendix 7 to the report be approved.
2. That the write-off of nine Sundry Debts totalling £111,259.34 as detailed in Appendix 6 to the report be approved.
3. That it be noted that the Council has once again managed its money well and delivered within budget - despite hugely challenging circumstances. Overall, the revenue position for 2021-2022 is an underspend of £2.2 million, after meeting the net costs of redundancy and pension strain and contributions to essential earmarked reserves.
4. That it be noted that the Housing Revenue Account revenue outturn position for the year was a surplus before allocations of £13.1 million, compared to a budgeted surplus of £13.1 million.
5. That it be noted that the capital programme has an outturn position of £82.5 million for the General Fund and £55.9 million for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). A summary of the outturn is detailed in section 10 of the report. A full detailed report on the Capital Outturn 2021-2022 including Quarter One Capital Monitoring 2022-2023 would be reported to Cabinet in July 2022.
6. That it be noted that 605 council tax accounts totalling £344,368.87, as detailed in paragraph 11.2 and Appendix 5 to the report, have been approved for write-off by the Director of Finance in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules.
7. That it be noted that 19 Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) debts totalling £164,898.52, as detailed in paragraph 11.2 and Appendix 5 to the report, have been approved for write-off by the Director of Finance in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules.
8. That it be noted that 15 housing benefit overpayments totalling £10,085.40 as detailed in paragraph 11.2 and Appendix 5 to the report, have been approved for write-off by the Director of Finance in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules.
9. That it be noted that 212 sundry debt accounts totalling £133,325.24, as detailed in paragraph 11.2 and Appendix 5 to the report, have been approved for write-off by the Director of Finance in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules.
10. That the performance against the key indicators as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be noted.

7 **Our Commitment to All Age Carers**

Councillor Linda Leach presented for approval and endorsement the Council's ambitions and commitment to carers of all ages living in Wolverhampton. The Commitment described the Council's priorities for carers and the cross cutting values that would underpin all the work undertaken to implement it. She reported that carers are the bedrock of our social care system. Their importance had always been understood but the global Covid-19 pandemic highlighted how crucial carers are. Carers and our attitude towards them should be front and centre of our thinking when building future social care. The Commitment would be regularly reviewed and it was recommended that the Health and Wellbeing Board oversee its implementation.

Resolved:

1. That the Our Commitment to All Age Carers be approved and endorsed.
2. That the Health and Wellbeing Board consider Our Commitment to All Age Carers and oversee the implementation of the plan.
3. That it be noted that the priorities set out in Our Commitment to All Age Carers have been developed through engagement and conversations with carers and professionals in the city.

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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Cabinet 6 July 2022
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Report title	Capital Budget Outturn 2021-2022 and Quarter One Capital Monitoring 2022-2023	
Decision designation	RED	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Obaida Ahmed Resources and Digital City	
Key decision	Yes	
In forward plan	Yes	
Wards affected	All Wards	
Accountable Director	Tim Johnson, Chief Executive	
Originating service	Strategic Finance	
Accountable employee	Claire Nye Tel Email	Director of Finance 01902 550478 Claire.Nye@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	Strategic Executive Board Council	21 June 2022 20 July 2022

Recommendations for decision:

The Cabinet recommend that Council approve:

1. The revised, medium term General Fund capital programme of £367.8 million, a net increase of £152,000 from the previously approved programme, and the change in associated resources.

That Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Approve the virements for the General Fund capital programme detailed at Appendix 4 to the report for;
 - i. existing projects totalling £4.2 million;
 - ii. new projects totalling £1.2 million.
2. Approve the virements for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) capital programme detailed at Appendix 4 to the report for;
 - i. existing projects totalling £14.6 million;

- ii. new projects totalling £500,000.
3. Delegate authority to the Deputy Director of Assets to approve virements from the Provision for future programmes budget within the Corporate Asset Management capital programme to individual schemes in order that corporate priorities can be addressed in an agile and timely manner.

Recommendation for noting:

The Cabinet is asked to note:

1. That there are two new projects which are subject to separate detailed project reports also on today's agenda to Cabinet (Resources) Panel meeting. The inclusion of these projects is for budget approval purpose and is on the assumption that the approval to progress with these projects is given. As the progression is dependent on this decision, if the projects are not approved, the capital programme will be reduced accordingly. The name of these projects are;
 - Children's Residential Homes;
 - Noose Lane to School Street Active Travel Route.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To provide Cabinet with an update on the outturn position for 2021-2022 and update on the 2022-2023 financial performance of the General Fund and HRA capital programmes whilst also providing a revised forecast for 2022-2023 to 2026-2027, as at quarter one of 2022-2023.
- 1.2 To recommend revisions to the current approved capital programmes covering the period 2022-2023 to 2026-2027.

2.0 Executive summary

- 2.1 The capital programme underpins Our City, Our Plan which was approved by Full Council on 2 March 2022. The plan incorporates key policy areas into a refreshed narrative and updated structure which has a focus on delivery and performance. The plan also aligns with the key priorities and objectives identified by the Relighting Our City Recovery framework.
- 2.2 The plan continues to identify an overarching ambition that 'Wulfrunians will live longer, healthier lives' delivered through six Council Plan priorities:
 - Strong families where children grow up well and achieve their full potential
 - Fulfilled lives 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
 - Thriving economy in all parts of the city
- 2.3 The Relighting Our City recovery framework identified three cross cutting principles which are now been taken forward and incorporated into the refreshed plan. These are:
 - Climate Conscious
 - Driven by Digital
 - Fair and Equal
- 2.4 The capital programme includes significant investment programmes that endeavour to create an environment where new and existing business thrive, people can develop the skills they need to secure jobs and create neighbourhoods in which people are proud to live.
- 2.5 The capital programme also reflects the priorities of the Strategic Asset Management Plan. Individual capital project delivery milestones are set and financial analysis is undertaken over the lifecycle of each project, by project managers in conjunction with Strategic Finance, and is captured in the Council's project management system. Regular project delivery updates are provided through the relevant governance structures (including Project Assurance Group where appropriate) enabling robust governance and

challenge. In addition to this, a Capital Projects Member Reference Group provides enhanced project governance and challenge.

- 2.6 Inflation has been at the highest it has been for four decades and there is considerable uncertainty and risk of inflationary pressures across the capital programme, increases in the cost of materials are already being realised. In addition to inflation risks, there are also supply chain delays, which could impact completion dates on projects and result in further cost pressures. The Council continues to assess the potential implications on its wider capital programme in terms of delivery timescales and increases in costs. Project contingency budgets are viewed in light of these pressures in order to mitigate against such cost increases, however these are unprecedented market conditions and the ongoing risk should be noted. The capital programme makes a significant contribution to the shaping of the City and on the economy of the City and therefore will contribute to the Council's plans for Our City, Our Plan.
- 2.7 On 2 March 2022, Council approved a General Fund capital programme totalling £346.1 million for the period 2021-2022 to 2026-2027. Since then, further reports submitted to Councillors have been approved to increase this amount by £21.6 million to £367.7 million, funded from a mixture of internal and external resources. Full details can be found in Appendix 1 and are summarised below:
- £18.0 million for Oxley Health and Wellbeing facility and Residential Accommodation, funded by internal and external resources;
 - £3.1 million for the Education School Capital Programme, fully funded by grant from the Department for Education (DfE);
 - £500,000 for the WM5G project, fully funded from the Towns Fund grant allocation.
- 2.8 In addition to this, reallocation of resources totalling £4.5 million from the Corporate Provision for Future Programmes budget to various individual projects has been approved, details of which can be found in Appendix 2 to the report and are summarised below:
- £4.5 million to facilitate works required within the Corporate Asset Management capital programme in order that corporate priorities are addressed and met in an agile and timely manner;
 - £40,000 to fund the installation and purchase of audio-visual equipment and conference microphone system.
- 2.9 This report considers further specific changes to budgets. A full list of the proposed capital programme can be found in Appendix 1 to the report.
- 2.10 Table 1 shows the approved General Fund capital programme budget compared with that proposed, along with the resources identified to finance the proposed change.

Table 1: Summary of the General Fund capital programme

General Fund capital programme	2021 - 2022	2022 - 2023	2023 - 2024	2024 - 2025	2025 - 2026	2026 - 2027	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Budget							
Approved	100,495	143,369	69,018	43,189	6,810	4,811	367,692
Variations							
New projects	-	2,843	1,405	-	-	-	4,248
Existing projects	(17,969)	(10,119)	12,673	6,319	3,000	2,000	(4,096)
	(17,969)	(7,276)	14,078	6,319	3,000	2,000	152
Projected	82,526	136,093	83,096	49,508	9,810	6,811	367,844
Financing							
Approved							
Internal resources	64,810	65,284	33,109	27,682	2,053	54	192,992
External resources	35,685	78,085	35,909	15,507	4,757	4,757	174,700
	100,495	143,369	69,018	43,189	6,810	4,811	367,692
Variations							
Internal resources	(10,867)	(664)	(3,121)	6,271	3,000	2,000	(3,381)
External resources	(7,102)	(6,612)	17,199	48	-	-	3,533
	(17,969)	(7,276)	14,078	6,319	3,000	2,000	152
Projected							
Internal resources	53,943	64,620	29,988	33,953	5,053	2,054	189,611
External resources	28,583	71,473	53,108	15,555	4,757	4,757	178,233
Projected	82,526	136,093	83,096	49,508	9,810	6,811	367,844

2.11 This report recommends variations to the approved capital programme totalling a net increase of £152,000, which brings the total revised programme to £367.8 million.

2.12 Details of all projects that have contributed to the overall increase of £152,000 in the General Fund capital programme can be found in Appendices 1 and 2 to the report, however, the key projects are as follows;

- An increase totalling £3.0 million relating to the Noose Lane to School Street Active Travel Route project within the Active Travel capital programme (£1.9 million) and the Children's Residential Homes development project (£1.1 million), both subject to separate detailed project reports on today's agenda to the Cabinet (Resources) Panel. The inclusion of these projects is for budget approval purpose and is on the assumption that the approval to progress with the projects is given. If the projects are not approved, the capital programme will be reduced accordingly;
- There is an increase totalling £1.3 million relating to the Schools Improvements (£905,000) and Schools ICT and Equipment projects (£364,000) within the Education capital programme. These projects were fully funded from the Schools contributions received in 2021-2022;
- In addition to this, there is an increase of £314,000 relating to the i9 Office Development project, this reflects the developers cost of the lease of the site from the Council, funded through the payment of lease premium from ION.

- An increase of £266,000 relating to Interchange Phase 2 funded from contributions from the Midland Metro Alliance (MMA), in relation to Improvements to area outside i9.
- Finally, an increase totalling £250,000 is proposed within the Transportation capital programme relates to the A414 Cycle Corridor Wednesfield Phase 2 project, fully funded from the allocation of Highways Reserves;
- The increase in expenditure detailed above is offset in part by decrease of £5.0 million relating to the Transformational capitalisation projects 2021-2022. This is in accordance with the approved 2021-2022 Budget Strategy approved by Full Council in March 2021.

2.13 The outturn expenditure for 2021-2022 for existing projects totals £82.5 million. This represents 82.1% of the approved budget.

2.14 On 2 March 2022, Council approved a revised HRA capital programme totalling £457.6 million for the period 2021-2022 to 2026-2027.

2.15 Table 2 shows the approved HRA budget for information only as there are no proposed changes to the overall budget.

Table 2: Summary of the HRA capital programme

Housing Revenue Account capital programme	2021 - 2022	2022 - 2023	2023 - 2024	2024 - 2025	2025 - 2026	2026 - 2027	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Budget							
Approved	54,900	84,663	88,488	84,560	68,760	76,260	457,631
Variations							
New projects	-	500	-	-	-	-	500
Existing projects	951	1,821	7,470	696	(1,784)	(9,654)	(500)
	951	2,321	7,470	696	(1,784)	(9,654)	-
Projected	55,851	86,984	95,958	85,256	66,976	66,606	457,631
Financing							
Approved							
Internal resources	54,105	84,663	88,488	84,560	68,760	76,260	456,836
External resources	795	-	-	-	-	-	795
	54,900	84,663	88,488	84,560	68,760	76,260	457,631
Variations							
Internal resources	429	2,305	7,470	696	(1,784)	(9,654)	(538)
External resources	522	16	-	-	-	-	538
	951	2,321	7,470	696	(1,784)	(9,654)	-
Projected							
Internal resources	54,534	86,968	95,958	85,256	66,976	66,606	456,298
External resources	1,317	16	-	-	-	-	1,333
Projected	55,851	86,984	95,958	85,256	66,976	66,606	457,631

2.16 The outturn expenditure for 2021-2022 for HRA existing projects totals £55.9 million. This represents 101.7% of the approved budget.

3.0 Existing projects

- 3.1 The changes proposed for existing projects within the General Fund capital programme total a net increase of £152,000 as outlined in paragraph 2.12. A more detailed listing of the individual projects can be found in Appendices 1 and 2 to the report.
- 3.2 Requests for budget virements between existing projects within the General Fund capital programme total £4.2 million, further details provided in Appendix 4 to the report.
- 3.3 The following paragraphs provide commentary on the key changes to budgets and an update on key projects.

Civic Halls

- 3.4 The birdcage scaffold and materials hoist has now been completely removed from Civic Halls, which has allowed all balustrade installation work around the new seating tier to be completed.
- 3.5 The Wulfrun Hall works continue to progress well, with the main hall ceiling now completed and the wall finishes now nearing completion ready for the final fix of the Mechanical & Electrical installation. The lobby and main entrance ceilings in the Wulfrun Hall have now also been completed.
- 3.6 Works to the parapet walls still continue to progress well with all new steel columns and cross beams now installed to both the Civic and Wulfrun Hall elevations in preparation for the new brickwork.
- 3.7 The project team are aligning the ongoing Civic Hall refurbishment works with the AEG contract and the wider public realm improvement programme to manage and mitigate any risks.

Interchange

- 3.8 In relation to Interchange, following completion of the Train Station, work is continuing on the completion the Metro Line extension including the establishment of the plaza space, Metro connection and cycle parking as the final components of the multi-modal transport interchange. A detailed programme of works has been set out to ensure a level of completion is achieved to coincide with the Commonwealth Games although additional works will continue post-Games through to late-2022.
- 3.9 Engagement is ongoing with Network Rail and West Midlands Trains to ensure continued improvements to the trackside station facility, treatment of the multi-story car park facade and connections to the Station, including subway renewal works, are agreed and programmed.

City Learning Quarter

- 3.10 City Learning Quarter (CLQ) is one of the Council's top regeneration priorities being fundamental to the levelling up approach for the City. The Council is responsible for the

project management and delivery of the City Learning Quarter programme which includes Phase 1, CoWTEchC (City of Wolverhampton College Technical Centre) and Phase 2, City Centre which will ultimately provide a new, refurbished and extended College building, integrated and improved Library and Adult Education facilities at land around the existing College's Metro One building at Bilston Street.

- 3.11 The CLQ Programme has successfully secured public funding of approximately £59 million from multiple sources which will now enable implementation. Phase 1, CoWTEchC has benefited from Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership (BCLEP) and West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) grant awards while Phase 2 will be funded by a combination of BCLEP, Council Contribution, Towns Fund, Levelling Up Fund and Department for Education Capital Funding, which has recently been confirmed.
- 3.12 Both Phase 1 and Phase 2 are at procurement stages that will conclude with the identification of preferred contractors for the college build projects in late Summer / early Autumn.

I54 Western Extension

- 3.13 This is a joint venture construction project with Staffordshire County Council, which reached practical completion stage in Autumn 2021. Financial projections over the last twelve months have indicated that there will be significant savings against the joint venture budget of £38.5 million and the 2021-2022 outturn figures reported support this position. Whilst the project is still incurring residual capital expenditure as it moves through to the final completion and full plot occupation phases, latest estimates (including contingencies) indicate that there will be an overall joint venture project saving in the region of £13.2 million. The project has also secured additional grant support during its life as well as firm interest in the developed plots, both of which will have a positive impact on the Council's capital programme. There are several inter dependencies between the final project expenditure, final grant secured and the final value of capital receipts achieved which impact on the overall budget requirement for the City of Wolverhampton Council. As a result, the projections in this report continue to reflect the original budgetary position for the Council and will continue to do so until there is greater certainty across these variables as the project nears final completion.

HRA

- 3.14 The outturn for 2021-2022 was total expenditure of on £55.9 million on HRA projects against a budget of £54.9 million. This position includes the acceleration of £5.8 million for projects to improve the condition of the existing stock and the rephasing of £4.9 million of new build projects into future years. Good progress on the programmes for high rise infrastructure and the refurbishment of Heath Town enabled the acceleration of £2.6 million into 2021-2022. In addition, £2.5 million was accelerated due to demand on void properties which required major works. In terms of the rephasing of new build projects, £3.7 million relates to developments where works are now progressing well and will be completed in 2022-2023.

3.15 In order to be prudent, there is an intentional ‘over-programming’ of projects to reflect the reality that some projects will inevitably be delayed due to unexpected circumstances or changes to priorities. Over-programming aims to ensure that, as far as possible, the resources available are fully utilised.

4.0 New projects and virements

4.1 Table 3 provides a summary of new projects requiring approval, covering the period 2021-2022 to 2026-2027, and identifying where additional funding is required and where the new expenditure can be met from existing resources. A detailed analysis of the individual projects included in this table can be found in Appendix 3 to the report.

Table 3: Summary of new projects requiring approval

Directorate	Forecast outturn £000	2021-2022 to 2026-2027		Virements from existing projects £000
		Additional internal resources required £000	Additional external resources required £000	
General Fund	4,248	1,135	1,905	1,208
Housing Revenue Account	500	-	-	500
Total	4,748	1,135	1,905	1,708

4.2 The new projects requiring approval are funded from a mixture of internal (£1.1 million) and external (£1.9 million) resources and virements totalling £1.7 million. A list of the virements can be found in Appendix 4 to the report.

4.3 Of the overall increase of £4.2 million for the General Fund capital programme, an increase of £3.0 million relates to the Noose Lane to School Street Active Travel Route project within the Active Travel capital programme (£1.9 million) and the Children’s Residential Homes development project (£1.1 million) which are subject to a separate detailed project reports on today’s agenda to the Cabinet (Resources) Panel meeting. The inclusion of these projects is for budget approval purpose and is on the assumption that the approval to progress with the projects is given. If the projects are not approved, the capital programme will be amended accordingly.

4.4 New projects created through virements from existing projects within the General Fund relate to Corporate Asset Management and Waste capital programmes and are summarised below. A detailed list of new projects can be found in Appendix 3 to the report.

4.5 In summary, approval for the following General Fund virements is sought in this report:

- £1.0 million for 30 new projects within the Corporate Asset Management to enable the completion of priority works ensuring all council assets are statutory compliant and fit for purpose;
- £221,000 is required to facilitate four new projects within the Waste capital programme for the purchase of residential and commercial bins.

4.6 A new project created through virement from existing projects within the HRA relate to Decent Homes Stock Condition capital programme. A virement of £500,000 from the Provision for Future Programmes is required to enable progress with a new High Rise External Works project.

5.0 Medium term capital programme financing

5.1 Table 4 details the approved financing for the capital programme for 2021-2022 to 2026-2027 and incorporates the requested approvals for projects included in this report.

Table 4: Approved and forecast capital financing 2021-2022 to 2026-2027

General Fund capital programme	2021-2022 to 2026-2027			
	Approved budget	Recommended budget	Variance	Resource as % of expenditure
	£000	£000	£000	
Expenditure	367,692	367,844	152	
Financing				
Internal resources				
Capital receipts	87,456	84,567	(2,889)	23.0%
Prudential borrowing	105,188	102,428	(2,760)	27.8%
Revenue contributions	348	2,616	2,268	0.7%
Reserves	-	-	-	0.0%
Subtotal	192,992	189,611	(3,381)	51.5%
External resources				
Grants & contributions	174,700	178,233	3,533	48.5%
Subtotal	174,700	178,233	3,533	48.5%
Total	367,692	367,844	152	100.0%

Housing Revenue Account capital programme	2021-2022 to 2026-2027			
	Approved budget	Recommended budget	Variance	Resource as % of expenditure
	£000	£000	£000	
Expenditure	457,631	457,631	-	
Financing				
Internal resources				
Capital receipts	31,591	33,433	1,842	7.3%
Prudential borrowing	291,467	289,475	(1,992)	63.3%
Revenue contributions	10,615	10,279	(336)	2.3%
Reserves	123,163	123,111	(52)	26.8%
Subtotal	456,836	456,298	(538)	99.7%
External resources				
Grants & contributions	795	1,333	538	0.3%
Subtotal	795	1,333	538	0.3%
Total	457,631	457,631	-	100.0%

5.2 Capital receipts totalling £84.6 million have been assumed within the General Fund capital programme over the medium term period 2021-2022 to 2026-2027 and can be

seen in Table 5. This is a net decrease of £2.9 million when compared to the approved budget, which has arisen due to re-profiling of receipts and capital requirements.

- 5.3 In order to be prudent, a detailed review of the schedule of asset disposals is undertaken to identify only those that are likely to be completed. The planned utilisation of capital receipts will reflect the need to balance the benefit for both the capital programme and the revenue budget and will form part of the ongoing Medium Term Financial Strategy.
- 5.4 Whilst the forecast of capital receipts is deemed prudent at this stage, it will continue to be monitored closely throughout the financial year. In the event that capital receipts assumptions change, updates will be provided in future reports to Councillors.

Table 5: Receipts assumed in the revised General Revenue Account capital programme

General Fund	Projected						Total £000
	2021 - 2022 £000	2022 - 2023 £000	2023 - 2024 £000	2024 - 2025 £000	2025 - 2026 £000	2026 - 2027 £000	
Capital programme receipts	28,000	13,200	10,000	18,000	12,400	3,000	84,600

- 5.5 It is the Council's strategy to use capital receipts to reduce the Council's need to borrow to fund the approved capital programme. Capital expenditure has a direct impact upon the Council's revenue budgets and therefore needs to be restricted to projects essential to the Council's priorities. Any proposals to increase the level of the capital programme are considered in accordance with the Capital Strategy.

6.0 Key budget risks

- 6.1 A key risk currently to the Council's capital programme is the market rate of inflation and the impact this could have on costs to deliver projects. Inflation is at the highest it has been for four decades and there is considerable uncertainty which is impacting contract pricing. In addition to the inflationary risks there are also supply chain delays, which could impact completion dates on projects and result in further cost pressures. The position in relation to these risks, continues to be monitored and to mitigate these risks contingency budgets are being reviewed. The current market conditions are however unprecedented, therefore quantification of the value of risk to the Council at this time is difficult.
- 6.2 An analysis of the risks associated with the capital programme, along with the details of the risk control measures that are in place in order to manage and mitigate these risks as far as possible can be viewed online on the Council's website by following the link below:

[Capital Programme | City Of Wolverhampton Council](#)

- 6.3 The overall risk associated with the programme continues to be quantified as amber.

7.0 Evaluation of alternative options

- 7.1 This report provides an update on progress of capital projects during 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 and anticipated budget requirement for future years. The evaluation of alternative project options is detailed in individual investment proposals.

8.0 Reasons for decisions

- 8.1 To seek Cabinet's recommendation to Council to approve the revised capital budgets. This will ensure that the capital programme budget reflects the latest forecasts and requirements.

9.0 Financial implications

- 9.1 The financial implications are discussed in the body of this report. The revenue implications of the new and existing projects seeking approval for additional or changes in resources for the General Fund Revenue Account are fully reflected in the treasury management budget forecasts included in the report 'Treasury Management – Annual Report 2021-2022 and Activity Monitoring Quarter One 2022-2023' also on the agenda for approval at this meeting.
- 9.2 New capital grant notifications received during quarter one 2022-2023 can be seen in the table below:

Service	Funding body	Name of new grant	£000
Transport	Department for Transport via West Midlands Combined Authority	Noose Lane to School Street Active Travel Route	1,905
ICT	Department of Health	Capital Investment in Community Capacity	1,070
Grand total grant notifications			2,975

[RJ/28062022/M]

10.0 Legal implications

- 10.1 Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires local authorities to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs.
- 10.2 The Local Government Act 1972 brought in the current regime for capital finance for local authorities. It reduced the level of central control over local authority borrowing and capital expenditure.
- 10.3 Each project mentioned in this report will have its own specific legal implications, raised and tailored in their respective reports.

[SZ/24062022/P]

11.0 Equalities implications

- 11.1 There is a range of individual projects delivered through the Council's capital programme that have significant impacts on specific groups and equality implications should be considered when individual capital projects are being developed.
- 11.2 This requirement would also apply if there were to be any redirection of capital funding in year to ensure that the impact of any changes is considered.

12.0 All other implications

- 12.1 A wide range of projects delivered through the capital programme have significant environmental implications and are geared to promote improvements to the physical environment.
- 12.2 Projects funded and delivered through the Council's capital programme typically have significant impact on the Council's property portfolio. Corporate landlord implications must be considered and included in relevant documents and reports when individual capital projects and programmes are being developed.
- 12.3 There is a range of individual projects delivered through the Council's capital programme which could have health and wellbeing implications, these should be considered when individual capital projects are being developed.
- 12.4 The Covid-19 pandemic has had a significant international, national and regional impact, and will continue to have, significant financial implications for the Council. Covid-19 has had an impact on development projects internationally, nationally and regionally and also on projects within the City. Specific references are made where appropriate throughout the report.

13.0 Schedule of background papers

- 13.1 Individual Executive Decision Notice, 4 January 2022 - Towns Fund Projects - Supplementary Revenue and Capital Budgets;
- 13.2 Council, 2 March 2022 – [Final Budget Report 2022-2023](#);
- 13.3 Individual Executive Decision Notice, 15 March 2022, exempt - [Corporate Asset Management Fund – Molineux Car Park and Art Gallery](#);
- 13.4 Cabinet (Resources) Panel, 23 March 2022, exempt - [Investment in our School Assets 2022-2023](#);
- 13.5 Cabinet (Resources) Panel, 23 March 2022 - [Investing in our Well-Connected Communities Transport Capital Programme 2022-2023](#);
- 13.6 Council, 6 April 2022 - [Oxley Health and Wellbeing facility Residential Accommodation](#);
- 13.7 Individual Executive Decision Notice, 8 April 2022, exempt - [Corporate Asset Management Fund - Approval of Schemes 2022-2023](#);
- 13.8 Individual Executive Decision Notice, 16 June 2022, exempt - [Corporate Asset Management Fund - Civic Centre Replacement of Hot Water System](#);
- 13.9 Individual Executive Decision Notice, 24 June 2022 – Democratic Transparency, Accessibility and Accountability: Webcasting;

13.10 Individual Executive Decision Notice, 27 June 2022, exempt - Corporate Asset Management Fund - Approval of Schemes 2022-23.

14.0 Appendices

14.1 Appendix 1: Detailed projected budget

14.2 Appendix 2: Detailed forecast change

14.3 Appendix 3: Projects requiring approval

14.4 Appendix 4: Virements for approval

Detailed projected budget

Appendix 1

Division	Project	Projected budget						Total	Internal resources	External resources
		2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027			
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
General Fund capital programme										
Finance	Corporate Provision for Future Programmes	-	11,640	3,003	2,544	-	-	17,187	(17,187)	-
	Transformation Development Efficiency Strategy	-	3,000	5,000	5,000	-	-	13,000	(13,000)	-
	WV Living - Loans	-	5,000	8,000	11,900	3,000	2,000	29,900	(29,900)	-
	WV Living - purchase of ordinary shares	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Equity Investment - Help To Own - The Marches	5,700	-	-	-	-	-	5,700	(5,700)	-
Governance	Governance Initiatives	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Webcasting Infrastructure	-	115	-	-	-	-	115	(115)	-
Strategy	ICT General Programme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Security Enhancement (ICT Main Prog)	-	40	40	-	-	-	80	(80)	-
	Software Upgrades (ICT Main Prog)	70	301	-	-	-	-	371	(371)	-
	Infrastructure Upgrades (ICT Main Prog)	219	249	-	-	-	-	468	(468)	-
	Data Centres (ICT Main Prog)	12	138	-	-	-	-	150	(150)	-
	IT Service Management	54	26	-	-	-	-	80	(80)	-
	Storage Refresh (ICT Main Prog)	405	225	-	-	-	-	630	(630)	-
	Future Developments	60	40	-	-	-	-	100	(100)	-
	ICT Disaster Recovery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Disaster Recovery	51	-	-	-	-	-	51	(51)	-
	Desk top refresh	738	517	-	-	-	-	1,255	(1,255)	-
	Service Led ICT Projects	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	IDOX/GIS Cloud Migration	-	93	-	-	-	-	93	(93)	-
	Fleet management system	-	75	-	-	-	-	75	(75)	-
	Trade waste CRM	9	51	-	-	-	-	60	(60)	-
	Migrate Care First to Eclipse_Adults and Finance Module	223	437	410	-	-	-	1,070	-	(1,070)
	Digital Inclusion	74	300	126	-	-	-	500	(500)	-
	Full Fibre Network	3,821	149	-	-	-	-	3,970	(295)	(3,675)
City Assets	Corporate Asset Management	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	(50)	-
	Civic Centre - FRA priority works	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	(2)	-
	Wolverhampton Art Gallery - external renovation	-	10	-	-	-	-	10	(10)	-
	Blakenhall Community Healthy Living Centre – roof works	486	-	-	-	-	-	486	(486)	-
	Fordhouses Industrial Estate – security hut refurbishment	29	-	-	-	-	-	29	(29)	-
	Bradley Resource Centre - FRA priority works	7	-	-	-	-	-	7	(7)	-
	Claregate Youth Centre – FRA / electrical compliance works	5	-	-	-	-	-	5	(5)	-
	Duke St Bungalows - FRA priority works	21	-	-	-	-	-	21	(21)	-
	East Park (Changing Rooms) – Legionella works	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	(1)	-
	Haymarkets – internal / external renovation works	25	70	-	-	-	-	95	(95)	-
	Low Hill Community Centre - FRA priority works	12	-	-	-	-	-	12	(12)	-
	The Gorge - demolition of building	5	-	-	-	-	-	5	(5)	-
	Wolverhampton Art Gallery - FRA priority works	12	80	-	-	-	-	92	(92)	-
	Merridale Fire Station - YOT relocation	26	-	-	-	-	-	26	(26)	-
	Bantock House - FRA priority works	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	(1)	-
	Bert Williams - FRA priority works	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	(1)	-
	Grand Theatre - FRA priority works	1	102	-	-	-	-	103	(103)	-
	Lunt Community Centre - new hot water and heating system	75	22	-	-	-	-	97	(97)	-
	Mortuary at Alfred Squire Road - roof replacement	-	69	-	-	-	-	69	(69)	-
	Bantock House – CCTV installation	(2)	-	-	-	-	-	(2)	2	-
	Bingley Enterprise Centre - replace roof and insulate and replace 11 windows	1	79	-	-	-	-	80	(80)	-
	Culwell Street – electrical / Legionella works (Phase 1)	10	-	-	-	-	-	10	(10)	-
	East Park Library – roof replacement	5	-	-	-	-	-	5	(5)	-
	Hickman Avenue Depot – electrical works / emergency lighting	-	8	-	-	-	-	8	(8)	-
	Newhampton Centre For Arts - FRA / mechanical and engineering / building fabric / electrical / Legionella	-	8	-	-	-	-	8	(8)	-
	Tettenhall Library – roof works	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	(2)	-
	West Park - electrical / Legionella / building Fabric	6	-	-	-	-	-	6	(6)	-
	Whitmore Reans Children's Centre (SFH) - main entrance door replacement, intercom system, remove and replace rotten fencing posts	4	-	-	-	-	-	4	(4)	-
	Bilston Market (Toilets) - new rainwater goods and reconfiguration of the same	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	1	-
	Birch Street Car Park - FRA Works	8	-	-	-	-	-	8	(8)	-
	Bradmore Community Centre - replacement of boilers and mechanical plant	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	(1)	-
	Fordhouse Road Ind. Estate - roof replacement	309	1,346	-	-	-	-	1,655	(1,655)	-
	Wolverhampton United Football Club - demolition of Clubhouse	82	-	-	-	-	-	82	(82)	-
	Bantock House – installation of new stair lift	5	-	-	-	-	-	5	(5)	-
	Bradley Resource Centre – internal refurbishment to bedrooms, bathroom and reception and new flooring	31	-	-	-	-	-	31	(31)	-
	Eastfield Community Centre – boiler replacement	6	-	-	-	-	-	6	(6)	-
	Ernest Bold Resource Centre - external lighting and new CCTV (option 1)	16	4	-	-	-	-	20	(20)	-

Detailed projected budget

Appendix 1

Division	Project	Projected budget						Total	Internal resources	External resources
		2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027			
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
General Fund capital programme										
City Assets	West Park – replace boilers within conservatory	75	15	-	-	-	-	90	(90)	-
	Parkfields Centre - Plant room alteration and refurbishment	748	439	-	-	-	-	1,187	(1,187)	-
	76 Worcester Street – internal/external refurbishment	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	(3)	-
	4 & 4A Salop Street – roof works, external refurbishment & window replacements	90	-	-	-	-	-	90	(90)	-
	Aldersley Leisure Centre (Hockey Pitches) – external lighting to include electrical controls & lighting columns	144	111	-	-	-	-	255	(255)	-
	Bushbury Crematorium – Fire Alarm System	-	40	-	-	-	-	40	(40)	-
	Central Baths - flooring to male / female showers	25	-	-	-	-	-	25	(25)	-
	Culwell Street (Portacabin) - roof replacement	16	-	-	-	-	-	16	(16)	-
	Newhampton Arts Centre (Studio) - external roof works	15	-	-	-	-	-	15	(15)	-
	Wednesfield offices (Alfred Squire Rd) - new air conditioning unit	8	-	-	-	-	-	8	(8)	-
	West Park (Bandstand) – refurbishment	26	-	-	-	-	-	26	(26)	-
	Wolverhampton Art Gallery - replace condenser unit	30	-	-	-	-	-	30	(30)	-
	Bingley Enterprise Centre - boiler / mechanical system replacement	136	4	-	-	-	-	140	(140)	-
	Civic Centre - mechanical flue replacement	125	-	-	-	-	-	125	(125)	-
	Bilston Town Hall – new fire alarm system	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	(3)	-
	Bradley Resource Centre – fire door replacement	6	4	-	-	-	-	10	(10)	-
	Bradley Resource Centre – mechanical plant upgrade	6	178	-	-	-	-	184	(184)	-
	Fowlers Park Playing Fields – flue and control panel	13	-	-	-	-	-	13	(13)	-
	Graiseley Healthy Living Centre – roof replacement	34	-	-	-	-	-	34	(34)	-
	Grand Theatre – fire door replacement	82	-	-	-	-	-	82	(82)	-
	Landport Industrial Estate – electrical works at units 9 and 10	12	-	-	-	-	-	12	(12)	-
	Wolverhampton Art Gallery – humidification unit	28	-	-	-	-	-	28	(28)	-
	Wolverhampton Art Gallery - replacement of AHU in basement	59	-	-	-	-	-	59	(59)	-
	Bradley Resource Centre – replacement of extractor fan and interlock system	-	6	-	-	-	-	6	(6)	-
	Long Knowle Community Centre – mechanical heating system replacement	-	5	-	-	-	-	5	(5)	-
	Bilston Town Hall – refurbishment	10	35	-	-	-	-	45	(45)	-
	St Chads Community Centre – asbestos clearance / removal	12	2	-	-	-	-	14	(14)	-
	Art Gallery – boiler replacement	21	-	-	-	-	-	21	(21)	-
	Land at Wednesfield Road – monument / brickwork enhancement	11	4	-	-	-	-	15	(15)	-
	Wolverhampton Contact Centre – replacement of water heater	17	-	-	-	-	-	17	(17)	-
	Molineux Car Park – wall demolition and landscaping	5	55	-	-	-	-	60	(60)	-
	Ashmore Park Community Hub – new ventilation system	-	100	-	-	-	-	100	(100)	-
	Former Oxley Day Training Centre - demolition of buildings	-	568	-	-	-	-	568	(568)	-
	Hickman Avenue - demolition of void buildings	-	500	-	-	-	-	500	(500)	-
	Priory Green Offices – roof replacement	-	70	-	-	-	-	70	(70)	-
	Merridale Offices (Youth Offending Team) – installation of new ventilation system	-	80	-	-	-	-	80	(80)	-
	Former Priestfield Railway retaining wall – removal and reconstruction of wall	-	250	-	-	-	-	250	(250)	-
	Former Loxdale School – conversion of site	-	350	-	-	-	-	350	(350)	-
	Former Oxley Moor House – demolition of buildings	-	82	-	-	-	-	82	(82)	-
	Former Oxley Day Training Centre Site – development of a modern health, wellbeing facility	-	433	4,795	3,785	522	-	9,535	(8,591)	(944)
	Former Oxley Day Training Centre Site – development of residential accommodation	-	388	4,253	3,356	463	-	8,460	(7,169)	(1,291)
	Bantock Park - Building Management System	-	11	-	-	-	-	11	(11)	-
	Springvale Library - roof replacement	-	100	-	-	-	-	100	(100)	-
	St Chads Community Centre - flooring replacement	-	17	-	-	-	-	17	(17)	-
	Lunt Community Centre - roller shutter	-	5	-	-	-	-	5	(5)	-
	Bilston Market - CCTV	-	16	-	-	-	-	16	(16)	-
	Central Baths - CCTV	-	16	-	-	-	-	16	(16)	-
	Wolverhampton Retail Market - CCTV	-	31	-	-	-	-	31	(31)	-
	The Avenues - boiler replacement	-	60	-	-	-	-	60	(60)	-
	Tettenhall Padding Pool - plant enclosure/welfare facilities	-	250	-	-	-	-	250	(250)	-
	18/19 Queen Square - window replacement	-	52	-	-	-	-	52	(52)	-
	Bingley Enterprise Centre - window and door replacements	-	94	-	-	-	-	94	(94)	-
	Eastfield Community Centre - flooring replacement	-	13	-	-	-	-	13	(13)	-
	Eastfield Community Centre - boiler and pumps replacement	-	10	-	-	-	-	10	(10)	-
	Neil Docherty Resource Centre - lighting installation	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	(2)	-
	Neil Docherty Resource Centre - heating pump replacement	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	(1)	-
	Neil Docherty Resource Centre - plant room doors replacement	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	(3)	-

Detailed projected budget

Appendix 1

Division	Project	Projected budget						Total	Internal resources	External resources
		2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027			
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
General Fund capital programme										
City Assets	Neil Docherty Resource Centre - flooring replacement	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	(1)	-
	Tettenhall Wood Institute - flooring replacement	-	22	-	-	-	-	22	(22)	-
	The Avenues - door replacements	-	9	-	-	-	-	9	(9)	-
	The Avenues - flooring replacements	-	29	-	-	-	-	29	(29)	-
	The Avenues - lighting replacement	-	4	-	-	-	-	4	(4)	-
	The Avenues - heating pump replacement	-	9	-	-	-	-	9	(9)	-
	The Avenues - plant room door replacement	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	(2)	-
	Whitmore Reans Childrens Centre - flooring replacement	-	9	-	-	-	-	9	(9)	-
	Whitmore Reans Childrens Centre - lighting replacement	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	(2)	-
	Aldersley Leisure Village - refurbishment of six changing rooms	-	113	-	-	-	-	113	(113)	-
	Bradley Resource Centre - upgrade of lighting	-	40	-	-	-	-	40	(40)	-
	Civic Centre - replacement of water dosing system	-	32	-	-	-	-	32	(32)	-
	Art Gallery - lighting upgrade	-	25	-	-	-	-	25	(25)	-
	Hickman Avenue Depot - new surface water drainage system	-	9	-	-	-	-	9	(9)	-
	Civic Centre - Hot Water System	-	40	-	-	-	-	40	(40)	-
	Mayoral Garage - security system and roller shutter upgrade	-	25	-	-	-	-	25	(25)	-
	Graiseley Healthy Living Centre - roof works	-	31	-	-	-	-	31	(31)	-
	Aldersley Leisure Village - retaining wall rebuild and support	-	35	-	-	-	-	35	(35)	-
	Parkfields - replacement of upper floor windows	-	350	-	-	-	-	350	(350)	-
	St Chads Community Centre - replacement of flue and boilers	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	(50)	-
	Shaw Road HWR CCCTV and replacement of welfare facilities	-	120	-	-	-	-	120	(120)	-
	Anchor Lane HWRC Replacement of welfare facilities	-	100	-	-	-	-	100	(100)	-
	Bradley Resource Centre - fire door replacement and refurbishment	-	110	-	-	-	-	110	(110)	-
	Hickman Avenue Offices - upgrade lighting	-	165	-	-	-	-	165	(165)	-
	Eastfield SFH roof replacement	-	25	-	-	-	-	25	(25)	-
	Eastfield Community Centre - roof replacement	-	53	-	-	-	-	53	(53)	-
	Loxdale Industrial Estate - Units 4 and 10 - roof improvement works and electrical upgrades	-	15	-	-	-	-	15	(15)	-
	Civic Centre - works to support relocation of Registrars to Customer Services	-	65	-	-	-	-	65	(65)	-
	Art Gallery - additional security/CCTV	-	80	-	-	-	-	80	(80)	-
	Civic Centre - CCTV Ceremonial Car Park	-	20	-	-	-	-	20	(20)	-
	Civic Centre - replacement of heat exchanger	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	(50)	-
	Civic Centre - upgrade of fire alarm	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	(50)	-
	Civic Centre - replacement of 12 fire detection panels	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	(50)	-
	Sea Cadets - demolition of void hall	-	170	-	-	-	-	170	(170)	-
	Land adjacent to Bilston Town FC - removal of knotweed, ground clearance and securing of site	-	35	-	-	-	-	35	(35)	-
	Aldersley Leisure Village - upgrade of BMS system	-	22	-	-	-	-	22	(22)	-
	Bilston Cemetery - replacement of boundary fence	-	22	-	-	-	-	22	(22)	-
	Bushbury Crematorium - upgrade of fire alarm	-	45	-	-	-	-	45	(45)	-
	Whitmore Reans Library - replacement of BMS system	-	4	-	-	-	-	4	(4)	-
	East Park Pavillion - new fire door	-	6	-	-	-	-	6	(6)	-
	Ernest Bold Centre - landscaping of outdoor areas	-	9	-	-	-	-	9	(9)	-
	Old Hall Street/The Foyer - installation of security system	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	(50)	-
	Disposals Programme (Non-Strategic)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Bilston Community Centre - demolition	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	(2)	-
	Public Sector Decarbonisation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Molineux Archives - Solar PV and LED lighting	29	-	-	-	-	-	29	-	(29)
	Civic Centre - Air Handling units and LED lighting	23	-	-	-	-	-	23	-	(23)
	Wolverhampton Art Gallery - LED lighting	49	-	-	-	-	-	49	-	(49)
City Housing and Environment	Disabled Facilities Grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grants	621	1,500	-	-	-	-	2,121	-	(2,121)
	Small Adaptations Grants	875	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,875	-	(1,875)
	Stair Lift Maintenance	14	36	-	-	-	-	50	-	(50)
	Care & Repair Fees	61	139	-	-	-	-	200	-	(200)
	Social Care Minor Adaptations	73	90	-	-	-	-	163	-	(163)
	Discretionary Bathrooms Adaptations Grant	433	1,769	-	-	-	-	2,202	-	(2,202)
	Discretionary Top Up Grants	-	650	-	-	-	-	650	-	(650)
	Contribution assistance grants	-	84	-	-	-	-	84	-	(84)
	Dual residency grant	-	200	-	-	-	-	200	-	(200)
	Technology enabled care	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	-	(50)
	Living well grant	5	50	-	-	-	-	55	-	(55)
	Home Not Hospital	-	200	-	-	-	-	200	-	(200)
	Relocation grant	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	-	(50)
	DFG Capitalised Salaries	413	700	-	-	-	-	1,113	-	(1,113)
	Rehabilitation Equipment	318	350	-	-	-	-	668	-	(668)
	Housing General Fund General Schemes - Small Works Assistance (SWA)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Small Works Assistance	138	151	-	-	-	-	289	(267)	(22)
	Capitalised Salaries	57	61	-	-	-	-	118	(118)	-

Detailed projected budget

Appendix 1

Division	Project	Projected budget						Total	Internal resources	External resources
		2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027			
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
General Fund capital programme										
City Housing and Environment	Housing General Fund General Schemes - Empty Properties Strategy	-	162	-	-	-	-	162	(162)	-
	14 Lane Road	117	-	-	-	-	-	117	(117)	-
	Two and a half Clifford Street	-	80	-	-	-	-	80	(80)	-
	30 Victoria Road	75	-	-	-	-	-	75	(75)	-
	182 Castlecroft Road	6	-	-	-	-	-	6	(6)	-
	10 Lloyd Street - Build	18	-	-	-	-	-	18	(18)	-
	10 Lloyd Street - Land	25	-	-	-	-	-	25	(25)	-
	Sustainable Warmth	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Local Authority Delivery 2: Green Homes	-	271	-	-	-	-	271	-	(271)
	Maintenance of classified roads	-	-	3,316	3,316	3,316	3,316	13,264	-	(13,264)
	Transport Structural Maintenance - Street Lighting	412	350	-	-	-	-	762	(111)	(651)
	Response patching	200	200	-	-	-	-	400	-	(400)
	Specialist Surface Treatments	14	66	-	-	-	-	80	(16)	(64)
	Cannock Road - Phase II	267	-	-	-	-	-	267	(55)	(212)
	Replacement of non-compliant safety fencing	-	30	-	-	-	-	30	-	(30)
	Development of the Highway Asset Management Plan and Strategy	25	137	-	-	-	-	162	(62)	(100)
	Griffiths Drive - resurface carriageways	107	-	-	-	-	-	107	(97)	(10)
	Bushbury Lane (Stafford Road to Shaw Lane) - resurface carriageways	195	-	-	-	-	-	195	(49)	(146)
	Cross Street North - resurface carriageways	160	-	-	-	-	-	160	(100)	(60)
	Compton Road – (Clark Road to Avenue Road)	176	-	-	-	-	-	176	-	(176)
	Cambridge Street and Water Street	-	41	-	-	-	-	41	(41)	-
	Woodland Road / Coppice Road Junction – (All junction only)	-	45	-	-	-	-	45	(45)	-
	Inkerman Street	214	-	-	-	-	-	214	-	(214)
	Showell Circus	141	-	-	-	-	-	141	-	(141)
	Purbrook Road	-	150	-	-	-	-	150	(150)	-
	Broad Lane South / Stubby Lane Jct	108	-	-	-	-	-	108	-	(108)
	Codsall Road	121	-	-	-	-	-	121	(91)	(30)
	Stafford Street Reinstatement	-	100	-	-	-	-	100	(50)	(50)
	Well Lane	33	-	-	-	-	-	33	-	(33)
	Deans Road - Entirety	-	500	-	-	-	-	500	-	(500)
	Wynn Road (First 100m from Coalway Road)	-	40	-	-	-	-	40	-	(40)
	School Road (Phase 2)	-	200	-	-	-	-	200	-	(200)
	Overfield Drive Island	-	35	-	-	-	-	35	-	(35)
	Bushbury Road	-	260	-	-	-	-	260	-	(260)
	Lower Prestwood Road	-	125	-	-	-	-	125	-	(125)
	Jeffcock Road	-	360	-	-	-	-	360	-	(360)
	Leybourne Crescent / The Droveway Junction	-	80	-	-	-	-	80	-	(80)
	Kingsway (Cannock Road inc Island)	-	60	-	-	-	-	60	-	(60)
	Stafford Street (Inbound, Cannock Road to Ring Road inc Ring Road junction)	-	310	-	-	-	-	310	-	(310)
	Ring Road - Waterloo Road Junction	-	100	-	-	-	-	100	-	(100)
	Church Hill, Penn	-	140	-	-	-	-	140	-	(140)
	Highway Improvement Programme	-	-	1,441	1,441	1,441	1,441	5,764	-	(5,764)
	Integrated Transport - Advance Design	194	74	-	-	-	-	268	-	(268)
	Integrated Transport - Cannock Road / Cross St North	4	2	-	-	-	-	6	(6)	-
	UTC - Wireless Communications	81	100	-	-	-	-	181	-	(181)
	Ring Road & City Centre Signage	296	301	-	-	-	-	597	-	(597)
	Bus infrastructure improvements	-	30	-	-	-	-	30	(30)	-
	UTC Expansion ITS/CCTV/Driver Information/ANPR	180	165	-	-	-	-	345	-	(345)
	Lyndale Drive Culvert - Highways Improvement	1	39	-	-	-	-	40	(40)	-
	Willenhall Road Culvert - Highways Improvement	20	20	-	-	-	-	40	(40)	-
	UTC Expansion CCTV	121	125	-	-	-	-	246	-	(246)
	Traffic Signal Maintenance	-	500	-	-	-	-	500	-	(500)
	UTC upgrade & CCTV link	191	40	-	-	-	-	231	-	(231)
	Vehicles (Procurement)	530	3,837	-	-	-	-	4,367	(4,352)	(15)
	Bowman's Harbour - Former Landfill Sites	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Bowman's Harbour Repository - Tech Investigation	30	11	-	-	-	-	41	(41)	-
	Markets Bilston Retail Market	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Bilston Market - boiler replacement	40	26	-	-	-	-	66	(66)	-
	Parks Strategy and Open Space	-	175	-	-	-	-	175	(175)	-
	Heath Town Park	1	49	-	-	-	-	50	-	(50)
	Spring Road - (Taylor Road / Hilton PF)	-	34	-	-	-	-	34	(34)	-
	Fowlers Park	-	12	-	-	-	-	12	-	(12)
	Land North East of 72 Church Street, Bilston	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	-	(3)
	Tettenhall Paddling Pool	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	(1)	-
	Ward Street Neighbourhood Park	114	94	-	-	-	-	208	-	(208)
	Penk Rise - refurbishment of Open Space	-	10	-	-	-	-	10	-	(10)

Detailed projected budget

Appendix 1

Division	Project	Projected budget						Total	Internal resources	External resources
		2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027			
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
General Fund capital programme										
City Housing and Environment	Bushbury Recreation Ground - open space improvements	6	103	-	-	-	-	109	-	(109)
	Kingsclere Walk - refurbishment of existing play area	-	55	-	-	-	-	55	-	(55)
	Northwood Park - refurbishment of existing play area	2	114	-	-	-	-	116	-	(116)
	Ashmore Park, Wednesfield - open space improvements	6	94	-	-	-	-	100	-	(100)
	Ward Street railway cutting – gas main diversion works for new open space	8	17	-	-	-	-	25	-	(25)
	Prouds Lane Open Space Improvements	11	111	-	-	-	-	122	-	(122)
	Wednesfield Link Open Space Improvements	-	72	-	-	-	-	72	-	(72)
	Smestow Valley Local Nature Reserve Open Space	-	16	-	-	-	-	16	-	(16)
	Oak Street Open Space - Woodland Planting	10	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	(10)
	Prouds Lane Playing Field - Open Space Improvements	-	275	-	-	-	-	275	(250)	(25)
	Wednesfield / Coleman Avenue Open Space - Play Area	-	57	-	-	-	-	57	-	(57)
	Bantock Park - Offsite Open Space Improvements	1	69	-	-	-	-	70	-	(70)
	Peascroft Wood - Open Space Improvements	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	-	(3)
	Black Country Blue Network Phase 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Ward Street Railway Cutting	603	269	128	-	-	-	1,000	-	(1,000)
	Pendeford Park Open Space	83	206	-	-	-	-	289	-	(289)
	Fowlers Park	240	99	-	-	-	-	339	-	(339)
	Walsall MBC Parks and Open Space	1	34	5	-	-	-	40	-	(40)
	Dudley MBC Open Space	-	225	27	-	-	-	252	-	(252)
	Severn Rivers Trust Cradley Projects	-	82	-	-	-	-	82	-	(82)
	Canal & Rivers Trust Coseley Canal	-	39	-	-	-	-	39	-	(39)
	Bereavement Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Bereavement Services Improvement Programme at Bushbury Crematorium site (drainage, pavements)	50	4	-	-	-	-	54	(54)	-
	Bushbury Crematorium	754	558	-	-	-	-	1,312	(1,312)	-
	Safety Programme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Local Safety Schemes - TROs/ Signs&Guardrails / Road Ma	242	212	-	-	-	-	454	-	(454)
	Vehicle actuated speed warning signs	14	38	-	-	-	-	52	(8)	(44)
	Lunt Road - traffic calming and zebra crossing	3	80	-	-	-	-	83	(80)	(3)
	Arterial route – Stafford Road – areas at risk of accidents	472	-	-	-	-	-	472	(376)	(96)
	Newhampton Road East & West - local safety improvement	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	(50)	-
	Dixon Street	54	44	-	-	-	-	98	(44)	(54)
	Bradley Lane - traffic calming	9	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	(9)
	Shaw Road/Hurst Road/Ettingshall Road	29	-	-	-	-	-	29	-	(29)
	Marston Road/Penn Road Junction	138	-	-	-	-	-	138	(1)	(137)
	Ettingshall Road/Manor Road	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	(50)	-
	Barnhurst Lane/Aldersley High School	62	-	-	-	-	-	62	(42)	(20)
	Old Heath Road Area Local Safety Scheme	-	160	-	-	-	-	160	-	(160)
	Underhill Lane	-	60	-	-	-	-	60	-	(60)
	SRTS - Woden Road/St Stephens Primary School	-	20	-	-	-	-	20	-	(20)
	SRTS - 20's Plenty Roll Out	-	20	-	-	-	-	20	-	(20)
	Network Development - Safer Routes to School	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	School Gate Parking	48	20	-	-	-	-	68	(8)	(60)
	Warstones Road/Warstones Primary - installation of new crossing	28	-	-	-	-	-	28	(28)	-
	Active Travel Programme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Cycling - Cycle Route Improvements	-	30	-	-	-	-	30	-	(30)
	Walking, Cycling and SRTS - Cycle Parking	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	(2)	-
	Wednesfield Road - footway widening and introducing shared cycle route	499	540	-	-	-	-	1,039	(277)	(762)
	St Peters Ring Road/ Waterloo Road Cycleway	17	93	-	-	-	-	110	-	(110)
	National Cycle Routes	143	297	-	-	-	-	440	-	(440)
	Ring Road 30 Mph and City Centre	174	-	-	-	-	-	174	-	(174)
	Noose Lane to School Street Active Travel Route	-	500	1,405	-	-	-	1,905	-	(1,905)
	Accessing Growth Fund - Major Roads Network	-	40	-	-	-	-	40	(40)	-
	Black Country Ultra Low Emission Vehicle Programme – Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall share	19	-	-	-	-	-	19	-	(19)
	Black Country Ultra Low Emission Vehicle Programme – Wolverhampton	7	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	(7)
	A4123 Corridor - A4150 Ring Road to A456 Hagley Road	287	134	-	-	-	-	421	-	(421)
	A454 Wolverhampton to Neachells Lane, Phases 1,2 and 3	341	149	-	-	-	-	490	-	(490)
	A449 Stafford Road - M54J2 to A4150 Ring Road	68	73	-	-	-	-	141	-	(141)
	A449 Stafford Road North Only	1	398	-	-	-	-	399	-	(399)
	A41 Moxley Gyratory	73	-	-	-	-	-	73	-	(73)
	Street Lighting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Street Lighting replacement programme (Invest to Save)	119	581	1,168	-	-	-	1,868	(1,868)	-
	Smart Intelligent Infrastructure Investment (ERDF)	1,581	1,845	-	-	-	-	3,426	(2,001)	(1,425)
	Disabled Access (rolling programme)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Disabled Access (rolling programme)	-	20	-	-	-	-	20	(20)	-
	Highway Structures (bridges, subways, retaining walls)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Highway Structures - Council Assets - Strengthening	107	-	-	-	-	-	107	(7)	(100)
	Arthur Street Bridge	1,107	-	-	-	-	-	1,107	(201)	(906)
	Moathouse Lane Bridge	-	30	-	-	-	-	30	(30)	-
	River Embankment and design Bridgnorth Road	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	-	(50)
	Emergency Structural Maintenance repairs	-	140	-	-	-	-	140	-	(140)

Detailed projected budget

Appendix 1

Division	Project	Projected budget						Total £000	Internal resources £000	External resources £000
		2021- 2022 £000	2022- 2023 £000	2023- 2024 £000	2024- 2025 £000	2025- 2026 £000	2026- 2027 £000			
General Fund capital programme										
City Housing and Environment	Maintenance of unclassified roads	-	250	750	-	-	-	1,000	(1,000)	-
	Carriageway Surfacing Treatment	117	506	-	-	-	-	623	(623)	-
	Dudley street Footways	51	-	-	-	-	-	51	(40)	(11)
	Lichfield Street (Princes Square – Railway Drive)	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	(2)
	Vicarage Road	15	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	(15)
	Public Rights of way improvements	-	25	-	-	-	-	25	(25)	-
	Church Hill - resurface footways	443	-	-	-	-	-	443	(435)	(8)
	Wright Avenue Estate	52	398	-	-	-	-	450	(450)	-
	Castlecroft Road – remove concrete crossings	-	130	-	-	-	-	130	(130)	-
	Future High Street Fund	-	1,740	4,083	-	-	-	5,823	(4,976)	(847)
	Victoria Street Public Realm (Westside Link Phase 1)	3,574	6,236	1,610	-	-	-	11,420	(487)	(10,933)
	Civic Halls Public Realm (Westside Link Phase 3)	932	3,423	-	-	-	-	4,355	(165)	(4,190)
	Maintenance of Non Highway Structures	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Demolition of 60-60A Willenhall Road	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	(3)	-
	Improving Pedestrian Safety	-	12	-	-	-	-	12	(12)	-
	Waste & Recycling Strategy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Garden waste bins	58	31	-	-	-	-	89	(89)	-
	Commercial Waste Services Bins	91	80	-	-	-	-	171	(171)	-
	Lighting up the City	-	10	-	-	-	-	10	(10)	-
	Smart and Accessible City	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Ultra Low Emission Bus (ULEB) Pantograph	-	143	-	-	-	-	143	-	(143)
	ORCS Bid Local Contribution	-	374	-	-	-	-	374	-	(374)
	SupaTrak system and in-cab Garmin devices	5	10	-	-	-	-	15	(15)	-
	Traveller Transit Site	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Traveller Transit Site Phase 1	345	12	-	-	-	-	357	(357)	-
	Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund 2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Dunstall Road	134	-	-	-	-	-	134	-	(134)
	School Road	181	-	-	-	-	-	181	-	(181)
	Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund 2021 - The Holloway	126	-	-	-	-	-	126	-	(126)
	Willenhall Road	6	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	(6)
	Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund 2021 - Upper Villiers Street	84	-	-	-	-	-	84	-	(84)
	Residential Waste Bins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Waste Domestic Bins	111	-	-	-	-	-	111	(111)	-
	Cylindrical 'Paladin' Bins	12	-	-	-	-	-	12	(12)	-
	Mobile Weighbridge	-	10	-	-	-	-	10	(10)	-
	Digital Advertising Boards	-	30	-	-	-	-	30	(30)	-
	Lockers	-	12	-	-	-	-	12	(12)	-
	Palladin Bins	-	47	-	-	-	-	47	(47)	-
	Domestic Bins	-	108	-	-	-	-	108	(108)	-
	Flood Defence and Land Drainage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Waterhead Brook flood defence works - Abbeyfield Road	146	-	-	-	-	-	146	(21)	(125)
	Trash Screen and Primrose Avenue Flood Gates and Retention Tank	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Brewers Yard, Culwell Street Depot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Culwell Street - demolition & remediation	48	52	-	1,597	602	54	2,353	(2,205)	(148)
	Wholesale market - demolition	-	871	-	-	-	-	871	-	(871)
	Wholesale market & Fleet Depot - new build	44	43	2,747	2,136	132	-	5,102	(2,268)	(2,834)
	Fleet Depot - new build	7	63	4,104	3,316	334	-	7,824	(1,577)	(6,247)
Regeneration	i54 Access and Infrastructure	53	67	39	296	-	-	455	(166)	(289)
	Targeted Disposals Programme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Disposal of Heath Town Baths	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	(3)	-
	Targeted Disposals - Hoardings	-	36	-	-	-	-	36	(36)	-
	South Side	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Burdett House Demolition	-	315	-	-	-	-	315	(315)	-
	Wolverhampton Interchange Office/Retail Accommodation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	i9 Office Development	13,198	-	-	-	-	-	13,198	(12,884)	(314)
	i10 - IGNITE Business Project	263	67	-	-	-	-	330	(330)	-
	Wolverhampton Interchange Block 11	-	57	-	-	-	-	57	(57)	-
	Bilston Urban Village	1,077	41	-	-	-	-	1,118	(1,118)	-
	Black Country Growth Deal – Cultural Programme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Civic Halls Improvements	17,331	5,149	-	-	-	-	22,480	(22,480)	-
	Interchange - Ph2 Train Station/MSCP/Metro Extension	2,208	3,748	-	-	-	-	5,956	(5,071)	(885)
	i54 Western Extension	3,213	17,553	-	-	-	-	20,766	(14,981)	(5,785)
	City Learning Quarter	327	18,943	21,592	10,821	-	-	51,683	(2,469)	(49,214)
	War Memorial Restoration	-	5	-	-	-	-	5	-	(5)
	Tettenhall War Memorial Restoration	-	4	-	-	-	-	4	-	(4)
	Development of Cultural Estate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Art Gallery Improvement Scheme	1,332	-	-	-	-	-	1,332	(876)	(456)
	Strategic Land Acquisitions	-	310	-	-	-	-	310	(310)	-
	AIM for GOLD - ERDF	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	AIM for GOLD - ERDF	360	1,903	-	-	-	-	2,263	-	(2,263)
	Towns Fund Phase 2 - Regeneration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	WM5G Accelerator Project	500	-	-	-	-	-	500	-	(500)

Detailed projected budget

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Division	Project	Projected budget						Total	Internal resources	External resources
		2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027			
General Fund capital programme										
Public Health	Sports Investment Strategy	-	174	-	-	-	-	174	(172)	(2)
	Barnhurst Land Pitches	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	(3)	-
	Synthetic Pitch at Our Lady & St Chad's School	-	114	-	-	-	-	114	(114)	-
	Peace Green sport facilities	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	(3)	-
	Leisure Centres Enhancement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	WV Active - Aldersley Leisure Village Enhancement	5	51	-	-	-	-	56	(56)	-
	WV Active Leisure Centres - Lockers	38	96	-	-	-	-	134	(134)	-
	Bowling provision	-	102	-	-	-	-	102	-	(102)
	Grants to other organisations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NACRO Premises Refurbishment	-	8	-	-	-	-	8	-	(8)
	Safer Streets capital programme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Safer Streets - CCTV	40	-	-	-	-	-	40	-	(40)
	Safer streets - Street Lighting	12	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	(12)
Children's Services	Co-Location Programme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Children's Transformation - Bingley	-	8	-	-	-	-	8	(8)	-
	Children and young people in care - extensions/vehicles	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	(3)	-
	Extension - Mr and Mrs R	36	-	-	-	-	-	36	(36)	-
	Children's Residential Homes	-	1,135	-	-	-	-	1,135	(1,135)	-
Education and Skills	Primary Expansion Programme	-	150	9,307	-	-	-	9,457	-	(9,457)
	PEP Phase 3 - Bilston CE Primary School	(6)	-	-	-	-	-	(6)	-	6
	PEP Phase 3 - St Marys Catholic Primary School	11	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	(11)
	Loxdale Primary Phase 4	86	-	-	-	-	-	86	-	(86)
	Spring Vale Primary Phase 4	3	10	-	-	-	-	13	-	(13)
	St Bartholomew's Church of England Primary School - phase 4	543	1,156	-	-	-	-	1,699	-	(1,699)
	Hill Avenue Academy - phase 4	92	1,702	-	-	-	-	1,794	-	(1,794)
	Bilston Church of England Primary - caretaker house renovation	113	27	-	-	-	-	140	-	(140)
	Schools Devolved Formula Capital	-	755	-	-	-	-	755	-	(755)
	Devolved - Rakegate Primary (was Junior)	15	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	(15)
	Devolved - Springdale Junior	18	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	(18)
	Devolved - Whitgreave Junior	5	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	(5)
	Devolved - Christ Church Junior	11	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	(11)
	Devolved - St Andrews Primary	22	-	-	-	-	-	22	-	(22)
	Devolved - Castlecroft Primary	13	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	(13)
	Devolved - Lanesfield Primary	5	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	(5)
	Devolved - Long knowle Primary	14	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	(14)
	Devolved - Bilston Church of England Primary	32	-	-	-	-	-	32	-	(32)
	Devolved - Ashmore Park Nursery	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	(3)
	Devolved - Bushbury Nursery	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	(3)
	Devolved - Windsor Nursery	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	(3)
	Devolved - Braybrook PRU Centre	(2)	-	-	-	-	-	(2)	-	2
	Devolved - Orchard PRU Centre	8	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	(8)
	Devolved - Midpoint Centre	8	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	(8)
	Devolved - Claregate Primary	6	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	(6)
	Devolved - Christ Church, Church of England Infant and Nursery	6	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	(6)
	Devolved - Tettenhall Wood Special	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	(1)
	Nursery schools ICT & equipment (DFC)	4	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	(4)
	Primary schools ICT & equipment (DFC)	94	-	-	-	-	-	94	-	(94)
	Special schools ICT & equipment (DFC)	11	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	(11)
	Devolved - Kings Church of England School	17	-	-	-	-	-	17	-	(17)
	Prudential Loans	-	150	-	-	-	-	150	(150)	-
	Asbestos Removal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Claregate Primary - asbestos removal for windows replacement	16	5	-	-	-	-	21	-	(21)
	Electrical Works	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Castlecroft Primary - rewiring inc. alarms and emergency lighting	92	44	-	-	-	-	136	-	(136)
	Low Hill Nursery - replacement door entry system	38	-	-	-	-	-	38	-	(38)
	Penn Hall Special - electrical upgrade	121	56	-	-	-	-	177	-	(177)
	Westacre Infants - replacement lighting	67	-	-	-	-	-	67	-	(67)
	Midpoint PRU - intruder alarm	40	-	-	-	-	-	40	-	(40)
	Christ Church Junior - replacement lighting Phase 1	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	-	(50)
	Claregate Primary - replacement lighting Phase 1	-	40	-	-	-	-	40	-	(40)
	Graiseley Primary - replacement fire alarm	-	80	-	-	-	-	80	-	(80)
	Long Knowle Primary - replacement lighting	-	20	-	-	-	-	20	-	(20)
	Uplands Junior - replacement lighting	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	-	(50)
	Wodensfield Primary - replacement lighting	-	30	-	-	-	-	30	-	(30)
	Contingency for Emergency Works	-	2,453	-	-	-	-	2,453	-	(2,453)
	Building Schools for Future ICT Infrastructure	-	182	-	-	-	-	182	(182)	-
	Post BSF infrastructure upgrades	-	155	-	-	-	-	155	(155)	-
	Capital Maintenance - Fire Safety	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	The King's Church of England School - fire protection work	18	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	(18)
	Colton Hills Community School - fire protection work	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	(1)

Detailed projected budget

Appendix 1

Division	Project	Projected budget						Total	Internal resources	External resources
		2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027			
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
General Fund capital programme										
Education and Skills	Uplands Junior - Fire Safety Work	-	42	-	-	-	-	42	(4)	(38)
	St Andrews, Church of England Primary - Fire Safety Work	-	10	-	-	-	-	10	-	(10)
	Eastfield Primary - replace fire escapes	-	25	-	-	-	-	25	-	(25)
	Capital Maintenance - heating pipework upgrades	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Springdale Junior - replacement heating pipework	199	140	-	-	-	-	339	-	(339)
	Rakegate Primary - hot water system	-	52	-	-	-	-	52	-	(52)
	Dovecotes Primary - replacement boiler, pipework and	108	-	-	-	-	-	108	-	(108)
	Ashmore Park Nursery - replacement boiler	60	-	-	-	-	-	60	-	(60)
	Bushbury Nursery - replacement water heaters	4	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	(4)
	Colton Hills Secondary - replacement boilers	-	300	-	-	-	-	300	-	(300)
	Spring Vale Primary - replacement boilers	105	-	-	-	-	-	105	-	(105)
	Castlecroft Primary - replacement boiler flue	6	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	(6)
	Wodensfield Primary - boiler house flue	11	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	(11)
	Uplands Junior - replacement pipework	29	-	-	-	-	-	29	-	(29)
	Springdale Primary replace hot water system	43	-	-	-	-	-	43	-	(43)
	Bilston Church of England Primary - boiler plant upgrade	-	100	-	-	-	-	100	-	(100)
	Christ Church Infants - replacement heating controls	-	60	-	-	-	-	60	-	(60)
	Claregate Primary - boiler plant upgrade	-	150	-	-	-	-	150	-	(150)
	St Andrews Church of England Primary - boiler plant	-	150	-	-	-	-	150	-	(150)
	Capital Maintenance - roof / ceilings replacements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Christ Church, Church of England Infants (TW) - roof covering to link	-	10	-	-	-	-	10	-	(10)
	Green Park Special School - flat roof	14	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	(14)
	Spring Vale Primary - flat roof	61	42	-	-	-	-	103	-	(103)
	Merridale Primary - replacement roof covering phase 1	109	-	-	-	-	-	109	-	(109)
	Bantock Primary - replacement roof tiles phase 1	175	-	-	-	-	-	175	(24)	(151)
	Fallings Park Primary - replacement roof covering phase 1	128	117	-	-	-	-	245	(13)	(232)
	Ashmore Park Nursery - flat roofing	-	40	-	-	-	-	40	-	(40)
	Bilston Nursery - pitched roofing	8	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	(8)
	Colton Hills Secondary - flat roofing	184	111	-	-	-	-	295	-	(295)
	Graiseley Primary - pitched and flat roofing	117	-	-	-	-	-	117	(11)	(106)
	Stow Heath Primary - flat roofing	34	-	-	-	-	-	34	-	(34)
	Merridale Primary - replacement roof phases 2 and 3	126	41	-	-	-	-	167	-	(167)
	Eastfield Primary - corridor roofing	7	26	-	-	-	-	33	-	(33)
	Castlecroft Primary - replacement roof to nursery play area	11	-	-	-	-	-	11	(3)	(8)
	Lanesfield Primary - replacement hall roof	-	60	-	-	-	-	60	-	(60)
	Long Knowle Primary - replace roof, gutters & fascias	-	40	-	-	-	-	40	-	(40)
	Wodensfield Primary - replace roof to KS2	-	120	-	-	-	-	120	-	(120)
	Capital Maintenance - Structural Works	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Stow Heath Primary - flooring and damp proofing	46	-	-	-	-	-	46	-	(46)
	Christ Church, Church of England, Infant School - timber works to modular classroom	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	(1)
	Kings CE School Priority Remedial Works	3	887	-	-	-	-	890	-	(890)
	Wodensfield Primary - refurbish toilets	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	(3)
	Lanesfield Primary - refurbish toilets	43	-	-	-	-	-	43	-	(43)
	Orchard PRU - security fencing installation	20	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	(20)
	Castlecroft Primary - internal restructuring	12	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	(12)
	Dovecotes Primary - replace fascias	-	25	-	-	-	-	25	-	(25)
	Dovecotes Primary - replace floors	-	10	-	-	-	-	10	-	(10)
	Wodensfield Primary - replacement floor screed and ramps	9	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	(9)
	Rakegate Primary - firestopping works	-	25	-	-	-	-	25	-	(25)
	Midpoint PRU - fencing	5	5	-	-	-	-	10	-	(10)
	West Park Primary - replacement fascias and doors	11	2	-	-	-	-	13	-	(13)
	Colton Hills Secondary - replacement lift	37	63	-	-	-	-	100	(20)	(80)
	Eastfield Primary - hall flooring	8	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	(8)
	Castlecroft Primary - replacement sinks and associated fixtures	4	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	(4)
	Claregate Primary - resurface paving	-	40	-	-	-	-	40	-	(40)
	Long Knowle Primary - replace fences Phase 1	-	30	-	-	-	-	30	-	(30)
	Merridale Primary - install fencing	-	25	-	-	-	-	25	-	(25)
	Springdale Primary - toilets refurbishment	-	80	-	-	-	-	80	-	(80)
	Uplands Junior - toilets refurbishment	-	30	-	-	-	-	30	-	(30)
	West Park Primary - toilets refurbishment	-	40	-	-	-	-	40	-	(40)
	Wood End Primary - toilets refurbishment	-	20	-	-	-	-	20	-	(20)
	Capital Maintenance - Window Upgrade	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Dovecotes Primary - replacement aluminium windows	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	1
	Claregate Primary - replacement hall windows	84	-	-	-	-	-	84	-	(84)
	Christ Church, Church of England Infant and Nursery - replacement doors and windows	15	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	(15)
	Midpoint PRU - replacement windows	13	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	(13)
	Westacre Infants - replacement hall windows	55	-	-	-	-	-	55	-	(55)
	Wodensfield Primary - replacement KS2 windows	15	17	-	-	-	-	32	-	(32)
	Wodensfield Primary - replacement windows and doors to KS1	13	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	(13)
	Christ Church, Church of England, Junior School - replacement doors	20	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	(20)
	Claregate Primary - replacement windows and doors to kitchen	-	18	-	-	-	-	18	-	(18)

Detailed projected budget

Appendix 1

Division	Project	Projected budget						Total	Internal resources	External resources
		2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027			
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
General Fund capital programme										
Education and Skills	Bantock Primary - replacement windows	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	-	(50)
	Christ Church Infants - replacement windows	-	30	-	-	-	-	30	-	(30)
	Dovecotes Primary - replacement windows	-	10	-	-	-	-	10	-	(10)
	Long Knowle Primary - replacement windows to Nursery	-	10	-	-	-	-	10	-	(10)
	Springdale Primary - replacement doors & windows	-	120	-	-	-	-	120	-	(120)
	St Andrews Church of England Primary - replacement windows to quadrangle	-	65	-	-	-	-	65	-	(65)
	Colton Hills Secondary - replacement windows Phase 2	-	50	-	-	-	-	50	-	(50)
	Secondary School Expansion Programme	-	-	5,747	-	-	-	5,747	-	(5,747)
	Aldersley High	81	-	-	-	-	-	81	-	(81)
	St Edmund's Catholic Academy	1,129	1,155	-	-	-	-	2,284	-	(2,284)
	West Midlands University Technical College (UTC)	-	2,000	-	-	-	-	2,000	-	(2,000)
	Moreton Academy	106	2,094	-	-	-	-	2,200	-	(2,200)
	Schools ICT & equipment RCCO funded	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Primary schools ICT & equipment	246	-	-	-	-	-	246	(246)	-
	Secondary schools ICT & equipment	17	-	-	-	-	-	17	(17)	-
	Special schools ICT & equipment	65	-	-	-	-	-	65	(65)	-
	Orchard PRU Minibus	16	-	-	-	-	-	16	(16)	-
	Colton Hills Secondary School - dining furniture	20	-	-	-	-	-	20	(20)	-
	Schools improvements RCCO funded	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Orchard PRU improvements - Sports Barn	5	-	-	-	-	-	5	(5)	-
	Eastfield Nursery improvements	30	-	-	-	-	-	30	(14)	(16)
	Loxdale Primary School - playground equipment	40	-	-	-	-	-	40	(40)	-
	Penn Fields Special School - Learning Lodge	26	-	-	-	-	-	26	(26)	-
	Tettenhall Wood Special School - Learning Pods	68	-	-	-	-	-	68	(68)	-
	Warstones Primary School - playground equipment	57	-	-	-	-	-	57	(57)	-
	Fallings Park Primary School - improvements	60	-	-	-	-	-	60	(60)	-
	Bilston Church of England Primary School - improvements	42	-	-	-	-	-	42	(42)	-
	Colton Hills Secondary School - improvements	303	-	-	-	-	-	303	(234)	(69)
	Eastfield Primary School - improvements	75	-	-	-	-	-	75	(75)	-
	Penn Hall Special School - improvements	13	-	-	-	-	-	13	(13)	-
	Westacre Infants School - improvements	11	-	-	-	-	-	11	(11)	-
	Wood End Primary School - improvements	11	-	-	-	-	-	11	(11)	-
	Bantock Primary School - improvements	64	-	-	-	-	-	64	(64)	-
	Green Park Special School - improvements	40	-	-	-	-	-	40	(40)	-
	Loxdale Primary School - improvements	13	-	-	-	-	-	13	(13)	-
	Merridale Primary School - improvements	19	-	-	-	-	-	19	(19)	-
	Oak Meadow Primary School - improvements	17	-	-	-	-	-	17	(17)	-
	Orchard PRU - improvements	13	-	-	-	-	-	13	(13)	-
	Stow Heath Primary School - improvements	88	-	-	-	-	-	88	(88)	-
	SPCF Special Provision Capital Fund	-	422	-	-	-	-	422	-	(422)
	SPCF Penn Hall Special School SEN sensory gym	13	-	-	-	-	-	13	(3)	(10)
	SPCF Resource base St Michaels Church of England Primary	550	5	-	-	-	-	555	-	(555)
	SPCF Resource base St Martins Church of England Primary	50	-	-	-	-	-	50	-	(50)
	Broadmeadow Special School expansion Childrens Centre	40	-	-	-	-	-	40	-	(40)
	Healthy Pupil Capital Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	HPCF Special schools - sports & fitness	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	-	(3)
Total General Fund - existing and new projects		82,526	136,093	83,096	49,508	9,810	6,811	367,844	(189,611)	(178,233)

Detailed projected budget

Appendix 1

Division	Project	Projected budget						Total	Internal resources	External resources
		2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027			
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Housing Revenue Account capital programme										
Housing Revenue Account	Decent Homes - Stock Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	High Rise M&E Infrastructure Refurbishment	5,468	8,834	12,869	13,644	9,250	7,050	57,115	(57,115)	-
	Heath Town Refurbishment of Retained Properties	12,696	10,466	14,404	7,608	3,715	1,511	50,400	(50,400)	-
	Internal Decency Works	2,649	5,544	6,734	5,621	4,371	2,531	27,450	(27,450)	-
	Bushbury Improvement Programme	1,098	302	-	-	-	-	1,400	(1,400)	-
	Mid Rise Infrastructure	-	1,000	1,700	1,700	4,000	6,100	14,500	(14,500)	-
	Minor Works/Door Entry Rolling Programme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Door Entry	55	470	370	370	370	370	2,005	(2,005)	-
	Pathway Improvement and Safety Programme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Repairs - Pathways/Unadopted Roads	212	197	200	200	200	200	1,209	(1,209)	-
	External Improvement Programme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	External Improvement Works (Pre Decent Homes)	495	-	-	-	-	-	495	(495)	-
	Adaptations for People with Disabilities	-	2,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	710	5,710	(5,710)	-
	Disabled Adaptations - Minor Only 08/09 Onwards	104	-	-	-	-	-	104	(104)	-
	Disabled Adaptations - Level Access Showers	889	-	-	-	-	-	889	(889)	-
	Disabled Adaptations - Stairlifts	209	-	-	-	-	-	209	(209)	-
	Disabled Adaptations - Vertical Lifts / Ceiling Track Hoists	50	-	-	-	-	-	50	(50)	-
	Disabled Adaptations - Extensions	191	-	-	-	-	-	191	(191)	-
	Disabled Adaptations - Other	314	-	-	-	-	-	314	(314)	-
	Disabled Adaptations - to Void Properties	34	-	-	-	-	-	34	(34)	-
	WH Service Sales Admin & Capitalised Salaries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Sale of Council Houses Admin	60	60	60	60	60	60	360	(360)	-
	Wolverhampton Homes - Capitalised Salaries	1,792	1,900	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	11,692	(11,692)	-
	Housing services capitalised salaries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Housing Services Capitalised Salaries	226	400	400	400	400	400	2,226	(2,226)	-
	Refurbishment of Voids	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Refurbishment of Voids to Decent Homes Standard	8,574	7,001	5,000	3,500	3,500	3,500	31,075	(31,075)	-
	Boiler Replacement Programme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Boiler Replacement	1,093	750	680	560	560	560	4,203	(4,203)	-
	Low Hill PODS scheme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Low Hill PODS scheme	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	1	-
	Heath Town	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Heath Town	77	543	-	-	-	-	620	(620)	-
	Tap Works site	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Tap works – Showell Road	5	-	-	-	-	-	5	(5)	-
	New Build infill schemes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	New Build infill scheme Phase 1	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	1	-
	SCP Newbuild Phase 2	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	(2)	-
	Structural works	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Structural works	1,379	900	900	950	986	985	6,100	(6,100)	-
	Remedial Works to non-traditional properties	-	366	650	3,026	4,060	8,248	16,350	(16,350)	-
	Jericho House	152	98	-	-	-	-	250	(250)	-
	Lift and DDA Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Lift Improvements	600	400	400	400	400	400	2,600	(2,600)	-
	Fire Safety Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	High Rise Fire Safety Issues	554	-	-	-	-	-	554	(554)	-
	Fire Safety Improvements - Medium and Low Rise	1,965	2,535	1,250	1,250	-	-	7,000	(7,000)	-
	Roof Refurbishment Programme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Roofing Refurbishment Programme - City wide	3,289	3,947	4,550	2,988	2,988	2,988	20,750	(20,750)	-
	Tower and Fort Works	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Tower and Fort Works Project	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	(3)	-
	New Build Programme	-	-	2,250	2,000	5,000	5,000	14,250	(14,250)	-
	Old Fallings Crescent	17	500	2,000	2,331	-	-	4,848	(4,848)	-
	Sustainable Estates Programme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Sustainable Estates Programme	443	1,091	534	507	600	600	3,775	(3,775)	-
	Non Trad Surveys	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Non Traditional Surveys	157	150	200	393	50	50	1,000	(1,000)	-
	Small Sites 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Small Sites 4	34	-	-	-	-	-	34	(34)	-
	Commercial Conversions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Bond House conversion to residential	667	3,533	-	-	-	-	4,200	(3,880)	(320)
	Burton Crescent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Burton Crescent	3	14	-	-	-	-	17	(17)	-
	Heath Town New Build Programme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Heath Town New Build Phase 1	2,469	7,031	-	-	-	-	9,500	(9,500)	-
	Heath Town New Build Phase 2	-	3,500	10,000	9,500	-	-	23,000	(23,000)	-
	Heath Town Phase 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	WVL Units	-	-	2,786	5,000	6,000	6,000	19,786	(19,786)	-
	WVL Units - Prouds Lane	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	208	(208)
	WVL Units - Wednesfield	2,107	-	-	-	-	-	2,107	(1,987)	(120)
	WVL Units - Former Residential care Home Sites	81	-	-	-	-	-	81	(81)	-
	WVL Units - Northcote	552	5,048	-	-	-	-	5,600	(5,600)	-
	Northcote	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Detailed projected budget

Appendix 1

Division	Project	Projected budget						Total	Internal resources	External resources
		2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027			
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Housing Revenue Account capital programme										
Housing Revenue Account	Medium Sites	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Medium Sites	2	1,000	6,878	-	-	-	7,880	(7,880)	-
	High Rise Sprinkler Programme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	High Rise Sprinkler Programme	231	-	-	-	-	-	231	(231)	-
	High Rise External Works	-	-	2,343	6,248	6,466	6,343	21,400	(21,400)	-
	High Rise External Works	-	500	-	-	-	-	500	(500)	-
	Reedham Gardens	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Reedham Gardens	5	2,424	1,800	-	-	-	4,229	(4,229)	-
	Additional Social Housing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Additional Social Housing	2,962	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	12,962	(12,277)	(685)
	Small Sites Programme	-	-	3,000	3,000	-	-	6,000	(6,000)	-
	Bushbury Hill Community Housing	-	1,479	-	-	-	-	1,479	(1,479)	-
	Inkerman Street Community Housing	-	1,479	-	-	-	-	1,479	(1,479)	-
	Small Sites 5	1,410	4,002	-	-	-	-	5,412	(5,412)	-
	Estate Remodelling	-	2,000	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000	38,000	(38,000)	-
	Estate remodelling - New Park Village	478	1,520	-	-	-	-	1,998	(1,998)	-
	City Wide Non traditional structural repairs	-	2,000	-	-	-	-	2,000	(2,000)	-
Total Housing Revenue Account - existing and new projects		55,851	86,984	95,958	85,256	66,976	66,606	457,631	(456,298)	(1,333)

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Detailed forecast change

Appendix 2

Division	Project	Approved budget £000	Proposed budget £000	Total change £000	Comments
General Fund capital programme					
Finance	Corporate Provision for Future Programmes	18,344	17,187	(1,157)	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Capitalisation Directives	18,000	13,000	(5,000)	The change in this budget reflects revised budget requirement as reported to the Performance and Budget Outturn Report to Cabinet on 15 June 2022
	WV Living	29,900	29,900	-	
	Other Equity Investments and Loans to Companies	5,700	5,700	-	
Governance	Governance Initiatives	115	115	-	
Strategy	ICT General Programme	1,879	1,879	-	
	ICT Disaster Recovery	51	51	-	
	ICT Desktop Refresh	1,255	1,255	-	
	Service Led ICT Projects	1,798	1,798	-	
	Full Fibre Network	3,970	3,970	-	
City Assets	Corporate Asset Management	27,530	28,477	947	The change in this budget reflects virements to existing projects as detailed in Appendix 4 and to new projects for which approval is now sought in Appendix 3.
	Disposals Programme (Non-Strategic)	2	2	-	
	Public Sector Decarbonisation	153	101	(52)	The change in this budget reflects the final costs on completion of the project.
City Housing and Environment	Disabled Facilities Grants	9,681	9,681	-	
	Housing General Fund General Schemes - Small Works Assistance (SWA)	289	289	-	
	Housing General Fund General Schemes - Capitalised Salaries	80	118	38	The change in this budget reflects revised budget requirement for the project.
	Housing General Fund General Schemes - Empty Properties Strategy	410	483	73	The change in this budget reflects revised budget requirement mainly funded from the recycled capital receipts.
	Housing General Schemes - Affordable Warmth	101	-	(101)	The change in this budget reflects project completion.
	Local Authority Delivery 2: Green Homes Grant	271	271	-	
	Maintenance of classified roads	18,776	18,766	(10)	The change in this budget reflects allocation of Other Contributions which were offset by virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Highway Improvement Programme	8,271	8,248	(23)	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Vehicles (Procurement)	4,368	4,367	(1)	The change in this budget reflects virements to existing projects as detailed in Appendix 4 and to new projects for which approval is now sought in Appendix 3.
	Bowman's Harbour - Former Landfill Sites	41	41	-	
	Markets Bilston Retail Market	66	66	-	
	Parks Strategy and Open Space	1,523	1,523	-	
	Bereavement Services	1,366	1,366	-	
	Safety Programme	1,679	1,757	78	The change in this budget reflects allocation of Other Contributions and virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Active Travel Programme	1,549	3,700	2,151	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4 and new project for which approval is now sought in Appendix 3.
	Network Development - Safer Routes to School	90	96	6	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Accessing Growth Fund - Major Roads Network	1,641	1,590	(51)	The change in this budget reflects revised budget requirement for the project.
	Street Lighting	5,294	5,294	-	
	Disabled Access (rolling programme)	20	20	-	
	Highway Structures (bridges, subways, retaining walls)	1,402	1,434	32	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Maintenance of unclassified roads	13,285	14,159	874	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Maintenance of Non Highway Structures	-	3	3	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Security Enhancement works	12	12	-	
	Waste & Recycling Strategy	150	260	110	The change in this budget reflects virements to existing projects as detailed in Appendix 4 and to new projects for which approval is now sought in Appendix 3.
	Lighting up the City	10	10	-	
	Smart and Accessible City	517	517	-	
	General Waste Service Improvement	15	15	-	
Traveller Transit Site	357	357	-		
Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund 2021	316	531	215	The change in this budget reflects allocation of Other Contributions and virements as detailed in Appendix 4.	
Residential Waste Bins	219	330	111	The change in this budget reflects virements to existing projects as detailed in Appendix 4 and to new projects for which approval is now sought in Appendix 3.	

Detailed forecast change

Appendix 2

Division	Project	Approved budget £000	Proposed budget £000	Total change £000	Comments
General Fund capital programme					
City Housing and Environment	Future High Street Fund	10,267	10,178	(89)	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Black Country Blue Network Phase 2	2,041	2,041	-	
	Flood Defence and Land Drainage	-	146	146	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Brewers Yard, Culwell Street Depot	16,150	16,150	-	
Public Health	Sports Investment Strategy	294	294	-	
	Leisure Centres Enhancement	190	190	-	
	Bowling provision	102	102	-	
	Grants to other organisations	8	8	-	
	Safer Streets capital programme	60	52	(8)	The change in this budget reflects revised budget requirement for the project.
Regeneration	i54 Access and Infrastructure	455	455	-	
	Targeted Disposals Programme	39	39	-	
	South Side	315	315	-	
	Wolverhampton Interchange Office/Retail Accommodation	13,330	13,528	198	The change in this budget reflects allocation of Other Contributions which were offset by virement as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Wolverhampton Interchange Block 11	57	57	-	
	Bilston Urban Village	1,118	1,118	-	
	Black Country Growth Deal – Cultural Programme	22,480	22,480	-	
	Interchange - Ph2 Train Station/MSCP/Metro Extension	5,690	5,956	266	The change in this budget reflects allocation of Other Contributions.
	i54 Western Extension	20,766	20,766	-	
	City Learning Quarter	51,683	51,683	-	
	War Memorial Restoration	9	9	-	
	Development of Cultural Estate	1,351	1,332	(19)	The change in this budget reflects revised budget requirement and virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Strategic Land Acquisitions	310	310	-	
	AIM for GOLD - ERDF	2,263	2,263	-	
Towns Fund Phase 2 - Regeneration	500	500	-		
Adult Services	Aiming High for Disabled Children	52	-	(52)	The change in this budget reflects revised budget requirement for the project.
Children's Services	Co-Location Programme	8	8	-	
	Children and young people in care - extensions/vehicles	39	39	-	
	Children's Residential Homes	-	1,135	1,135	The change in this budget reflects budget requirement for new project as detailed in Appendix 3. Approval to progress with the project is subject to a separate report to Cabinet (Resources) Panel on 06 July 2022.
Education and Skills	Primary Expansion Programme	13,227	13,194	(33)	The change in this budget reflects budget alignment with grant allocation and virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Schools Devolved Formula Capital	1,137	1,052	(85)	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Prudential Loans	150	150	-	
	Asbestos Removal	20	21	1	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Electrical Works	762	728	(34)	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Contingency for Emergency Works	2,608	2,453	(155)	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Building Schools for Future ICT Infrastructure	337	337	-	
	Capital Maintenance - Fire Safety	89	96	7	The change in this budget reflects School contribution towards the works and virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Capital Maintenance - Heating Pipework Upgrades	1,341	1,517	176	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Capital Maintenance - Roof / Ceilings Replacements	1,564	1,581	17	The change in this budget reflects School contribution towards the works and virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Capital Maintenance - Structural Works	1,488	1,484	(4)	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Capital Maintenance - Window Upgrade	587	584	(3)	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Secondary School Expansion Programme	13,221	12,312	(909)	The change in this budget reflects budget alignment with grant allocation and virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Schools ICT & equipment RCCO funded	-	364	364	The change in this budget reflects School contributions towards ICT and Equipment costs.
	Schools improvements RCCO funded	5	995	990	The change in this budget reflects School contributions towards school improvement works and virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	SPCF Special Provision Capital Fund	1,080	1,080	-	
	Healthy Pupil Capital Fund	3	3	-	
Total General Fund capital programme - existing and new projects		367,692	367,844	152	

Detailed forecast change

Appendix 2

Division	Project	Approved budget £000	Proposed budget £000	Total change £000	Comments
Housing Revenue Account					
Housing Revenue Account	Decent Homes - Stock Improvements	151,650	150,865	(785)	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Minor Works/Door Entry Rolling Programme	2,220	2,005	(215)	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Pathway Improvement and Safety Programme	1,209	1,209	-	
	External Improvement Programme	600	495	(105)	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Adaptations for People with Disabilities	7,500	7,501	1	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	WH Service Sales Admin & Capitalised Salaries	11,010	12,052	1,042	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Housing services capitalised salaries	3,000	2,226	(774)	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Refurbishment of Voids	31,075	31,075	-	
	Boiler Replacement Programme	4,203	4,203	-	
	Low Hill PODS scheme	-	(1)	(1)	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Heath Town	563	620	57	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Tap Works site	30	5	(25)	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	New Build infill schemes	-	1	1	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Structural works	22,700	22,700	-	
	Lift and DDA Improvements	2,710	2,600	(110)	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Fire Safety Improvements	7,000	7,554	554	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Roof Refurbishment Programme	20,750	20,750	-	
	Tower and Fort Works	30	3	(27)	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	New Build Programme	19,098	19,098	-	
	Sustainable Estates Programme	3,670	3,775	105	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Non Trad Surveys	1,000	1,000	-	
	Small Sites 4	21	34	13	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Commercial Conversions	4,200	4,200	-	
	Burton Crescent	269	17	(252)	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
	Heath Town New Build Programme	32,500	32,500	-	
	WVL Units	27,574	27,574	-	
	Medium Sites	7,880	7,880	-	
	High Rise Sprinkler Programme	-	231	231	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.
High Rise External Works	21,900	21,900	-		
Reedham Gardens	4,229	4,229	-		
Additional Social Housing	12,672	12,962	290	The change in this budget reflects virements as detailed in Appendix 4.	
Small Sites Programme	14,370	14,370	-		
Estate Remodelling	41,998	41,998	-		
Total Housing Revenue Account - existing projects		457,631	457,631	-	

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Projects requiring approval

Appendix 3

New projects created from virements and additional resources	2021 - 2022	2022 - 2023	2023 - 2024	2024 - 2025	2025 - 2026	2026 - 2027	Total	Virement	Additional resources	
A full set of virements can be found in Appendix 4	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	Internal	External
									£000	£000
General Fund capital programme										
Corporate Asset Management										
Approval is sought for for the following capital projects to enable the completion of priority works ensuring all council assets are statutorily compliant and fit for purpose:										
Bantock Park - Building Management System	-	11	-	-	-	-	11	11	-	-
Springvale Library - roof replacement	-	100	-	-	-	-	100	100	-	-
St Chads Community Centre - flooring replacement	-	17	-	-	-	-	17	17	-	-
Lunt Community Centre - roller shutter	-	5	-	-	-	-	5	5	-	-
Bilston Market - CCTV	-	16	-	-	-	-	16	16	-	-
Central Baths - CCTV	-	16	-	-	-	-	16	16	-	-
Wolverhampton Retail Market - CCTV	-	31	-	-	-	-	31	31	-	-
The Avenues - boiler replacement	-	60	-	-	-	-	60	60	-	-
Tettenhall Paddling Pool - plant enclosure/welfare facilities	-	250	-	-	-	-	250	250	-	-
18/19 Queen Square - window replacement	-	52	-	-	-	-	52	52	-	-
Bingley Enterprise Centre - window and door replacements	-	94	-	-	-	-	94	94	-	-
Eastfield Community Centre - flooring replacement	-	13	-	-	-	-	13	13	-	-
Eastfield Community Centre - boiler and pumps replacement	-	10	-	-	-	-	10	10	-	-
Neil Docherty Resource Centre - lighting installation	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-
Neil Docherty Resource Centre - heating pump replacement	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Neil Docherty Resource Centre - plant room doors replacement	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-
Neil Docherty Resource Centre - flooring replacement	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Tettenhall Wood Institute - flooring replacement	-	22	-	-	-	-	22	22	-	-
The Avenues - door replacements	-	9	-	-	-	-	9	9	-	-
The Avenues - flooring replacements	-	29	-	-	-	-	29	29	-	-
The Avenues - lighting replacement	-	4	-	-	-	-	4	4	-	-
The Avenues - heating pump replacement	-	9	-	-	-	-	9	9	-	-
The Avenues - plant room door replacement	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-
Whitmore Reans Childrens Centre - flooring replacement	-	9	-	-	-	-	9	9	-	-
Whitmore Reans Childrens Centre - lighting replacement	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-
Aldersley Leisure Village - refurbishment of six changing rooms	-	113	-	-	-	-	113	113	-	-
Bradley Resource Centre - upgrade of lighting	-	40	-	-	-	-	40	40	-	-
Civic Centre - replacement of water dosing system	-	32	-	-	-	-	32	32	-	-
Art Gallery - lighting upgrade	-	25	-	-	-	-	25	25	-	-
Hickman Avenue Depot - new surface water drainage system	-	9	-	-	-	-	9	9	-	-
Children's Residential Homes										
Approval to progress with development of two Children's Residential Homes is sought in a separate report to Cabinet (Resources) Panel on 6 July 2022. The inclusion of this project is for budget approval process and is on the assumption that the approval to progress with the project is given.	-	1,135	-	-	-	-	1,135	-	1,135	-

Projects requiring approval

Appendix 3

New projects created from virements and additional resources	2021 - 2022	2022 - 2023	2023 - 2024	2024 - 2025	2025 - 2026	2026 - 2027	Total	Virement	Additional resources	
A full set of virements can be found in Appendix 4	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	Internal	External
									£000	£000
Active Travel Programme										
Approval is sought for delivery of the following project subject to a signed grant agreement in a separate report to Cabinet (Resources) Panel on 6 July 2022. The inclusion of this project is for budget approval process and is on the assumption that the approval to progress with the project is given:										
Noose Lane to School Street Active Travel Route	-	500	1,405	-	-	-	1,905	-	-	1,905
Residential Waste Bins										
Approval is sought for acquisition of the following equipment required within Waste Services, fully funded from the existing budgets:										
Palladin Bins	-	15	-	-	-	-	15	15	-	-
Domestic Bins	-	95	-	-	-	-	95	95	-	-
Garden Waste Bins	-	31	-	-	-	-	31	31	-	-
Commercial Waste Service Bins	-	80	-	-	-	-	80	80	-	-
Total General Fund capital programme new projects	-	2,843	1,405	-	-	-	4,248	1,208	1,135	1,905
Financing										
Internal resources	-	2,343	-	-	-	-	2,343	1,208	1,135	-
External resources	-	500	1,405	-	-	-	1,905	-	-	1,905
Grand total financing	-	2,843	1,405	-	-	-	4,248	1,208	1,135	1,905
New projects created from virements and additional resources	2021 - 2022	2022 - 2023	2023 - 2024	2024 - 2025	2025 - 2026	2026 - 2027	Total	Virement	Additional resources	
A full set of virements can be found in Appendix 4	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	Internal	External
									£000	£000
Housing Revenue Account										
Decent Homes Stock Condition Capital Programme										
Approval is sought to proceed with works fully funded from existing resources for the following project:										
High Rise External Works	-	500	-	-	-	-	500	500	-	-
Total HRA new projects	-	500	-	-	-	-	500	500	-	-
Financing										
Internal resources	-	500	-	-	-	-	500	500	-	-
External resources	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand total financing	-	500	-	-	-	-	500	500	-	-

Virements for approval

Appendix 4

Capital project	Virement		Comments
	Existing project £000	New project £000	
General Fund			
Re-allocation virements to new projects			
Corporate Provision for Future Programmes	(987)	-	
Corporate Asset Management Capital Programme			
Bantock Park - Building Management System	-	11	
Springvale Library - roof replacement	-	100	
St Chads Community Centre - flooring replacement	-	17	
Lunt Community Centre - roller shutter	-	5	
Bilston Market - CCTV	-	16	
Central Baths - CCTV	-	16	
Wolverhampton Retail Market - CCTV	-	31	
The Avenues - boiler replacement	-	60	
Tettenhall Paddling Pool - plant enclosure/welfare facilities	-	250	
18/19 Queen Square - window replacement	-	52	
Bingley Enterprise Centre - window and door replacements	-	94	
Eastfield Community Centre - flooring replacement	-	13	
Eastfield Community Centre - boiler and pumps replacement	-	10	Virements are proposed to reflect an allocation of the Corporate Provision for Future Programmes to new Corporate Asset Management projects to enable the completion of priority works ensuring all council assets are statutorily compliant and fit for purpose.
Neil Docherty Resource Centre - lighting installation	-	2	
Neil Docherty Resource Centre - heating pump replacement	-	1	
Neil Docherty Resource Centre - plant room doors replacement	-	3	
Neil Docherty Resource Centre - flooring replacement	-	1	
Tettenhall Wood Institute - flooring replacement	-	22	
The Avenues - door replacements	-	9	
The Avenues - flooring replacements	-	29	
The Avenues - lighting replacement	-	4	
The Avenues - heating pump replacement	-	9	
The Avenues - plant room door replacement	-	2	
Whitmore Reans Childrens Centre - flooring replacement	-	9	
Whitmore Reans Childrens Centre - lighting replacement	-	2	
Aldersley Leisure Village - refurbishment of six changing rooms	-	113	
Bradley Resource Centre - upgrade of lighting	-	40	
Civic Centre - replacement of water dosing system	-	32	
Art Gallery - lighting upgrade	-	25	
Hickman Avenue Depot - new surface water drainage system	-	9	
Corporate Provision for Future Programmes	(221)	-	
Residential Waste Bins			
Palladin Bins	-	15	Virements are proposed to reallocate resources to support new projects within the Waste Service capital programme.
Domestic Bins	-	95	
Waste & Recycling Strategy			
Garden Waste Bins	-	31	
Commercial Waste Service Bins	-	80	
Re-allocation virements to existing projects			
General Fund Housing - Empty Properties Strategy			
Provision for future programmes	(117)	-	A virement is proposed to reallocate resources to individual project within the Empty Properties Strategy.
14 Lane Road	117	-	
Secondary School Expansion Programme			
Provision for future programmes	(890)	-	A virement is proposed to reallocate resources to individual projects within the Schools Secondary Expansion Programme and Schools Capital Maintenance.
Aldersley High	3	-	
Schools Capital Maintenance - Structural Works			
Kings Church of England School - Priority Remedial Works	887	-	
Schools Contingency for Emergency Works			
Provision for future programmes	(212)	-	A virement is proposed to reallocate resources to individual project within the Schools Capital Maintenance programme.
Schools Capital Maintenance - Boilers / Pipeworks (Secondary)			
Colton Hills Secondary - replacement boilers	212	-	
Schools Devolved Formula Capital			
Provision for future programmes	(382)	-	
Devolved - Braybrook PRU Centre	(2)	-	
Primary schools ICT & equipment 2122 (DFC)	94	-	
Devolved - Bilston Church of England Primary	32	-	
Devolved - St Andrews Primary	22	-	
Devolved - Springdale Junior	18	-	
Devolved - Kings Church of England School	17	-	
Devolved - Rakegate Primary (was Junior)	15	-	
Devolved - Long knowle Primary	14	-	
Devolved - Castlecroft Primary	13	-	
Devolved - Christ Church Junior	11	-	
Special schools ICT & equipment 2122 (DFC)	11	-	
Devolved - Orchard PRU Centre	8	-	Virements are proposed to reallocate resources within the Schools Devolved Formula Capital programme.
Devolved - Midpoint Centre	8	-	
Devolved - Claregate Primary	6	-	
Devolved - Christ Church, Church of England Infant and Nursery	6	-	
Devolved - Whitgreave Junior	5	-	
Devolved - Lanesfield Primary	5	-	
Nursery schools ICT & equipment 2122 (DFC)	4	-	
Devolved - Ashmore Park Nursery	3	-	
Devolved - Bushbury Nursery	3	-	
Devolved - Windsor Nursery	3	-	
Devolved - Tettenhall Wood Special	1	-	
Schools Capital Maintenance - Development Plans			
Colton Hills Secondary School - improvements 2122	69	-	
Eastfield Nursery improvements 2021	16	-	

Virements for approval

Appendix 4

Capital project	Virement		Comments
	Existing project £000	New project £000	
General Fund			
Corporate Provision for Future Programmes	(1,000)	-	A virement is proposed to reallocate resources for the future projects within the Maintenance of Unclassified Roads capital programme.
Maintenance of Unclassified Roads Provision for future programmes	1,000	-	
Wolverhampton Interchange Phase 2 Provision for future programmes	(1,184)	-	A virement is proposed to reallocate resources to individual projects within the Interchange Phase 2 capital programme.
Interchange Ph2 Metro Extension - payment to WMCA	976	-	
Interchange Ph2 - Improvements to area outside I9 (known as 12c)	208	-	
City Learning Quarter Provision for future programmes	(40)	-	A virement is proposed to reallocate resources to individual project within the City Learning Quarter capital programme.
Cow Tech	40	-	
Project to project virements			
General Fund Housing - Disabled Facilities Grants			Virements are proposed to reallocate resources within the Disabled Facilities Grant capital programme.
Discretionary Top Up Grants	(150)	-	
Technology Enabled Care	(50)	-	
Relocation Grant	(50)	-	
Living Well Grant	(45)	-	
Contribution Assistance Grant	(16)	-	
Rehabilitation Equipment 2022-2023	168	-	
Social Care Minor Adaptations	84	-	
Small Adaptations Grants	25	-	
Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grants	21	-	
DFG Capitalised Salaries	13	-	
General Fund Housing - Empty Properties Strategy			Virements are proposed to reallocate resources within the Empty Properties Strategy capital programme.
30 Victoria Road	(5)	-	
10 Lloyd Street - Build	(1)	-	
182 Castlecroft Road	6	-	
Corporate Asset Management			Virements are proposed to reflect reallocation of resources across the projects within the Corporate Asset Management capital programme. Regular rescheduling of works is required to ensure that current corporate priorities are met and reflected.
Wolverhampton United Football Club - demolition of Clubhouse	(52)	-	
Ashmore Park Community Hub – flooring replacement	(40)	-	
Wolverhampton Art Gallery – humidification unit	(28)	-	
Wolverhampton Art Gallery - replacement of AHU in basement	(6)	-	
Pendeford Library – Fire Alarm System	(4)	-	
Wolverhampton Contact Centre – replacement of water heater	(4)	-	
Whitmore Reans Children's Centre (SFH) - main entrance door	(2)	-	
Bilston Town Hall – new fire alarm system	(2)	-	
East Park Library – roof replacement	(1)	-	
Culwell Street (Portacabin) - roof replacement	(1)	-	
Wednesfield offices (Alfred Squire Rd) - new air conditioning unit	(1)	-	
Fowlers Park Playing Fields – flue and control panel	(1)	-	
Landport Industrial Estate – electrical works at units 9 and 10	(1)	-	
Provision for future programmes	37	-	
Blakenhall Community Healthy Living Centre – roof works	19	-	
Grand Theatre – fire door replacement	14	-	
Merridale Fire Station - YOT relocation	7	-	
West Park - electrical / Legionella / building Fabric	6	-	
Art Gallery – boiler replacement	4	-	
4 & 4A Salop Street – roof works, external refurbishment & window	4	-	
West Park (Bandstand) – refurbishment	4	-	
Graiseley Healthy Living Centre – roof replacement	4	-	
Bradley Resource Centre - FRA priority works	3	-	
Fordhouses Industrial Estate – security hut refurbishment	2	-	
Civic Centre - FRA priority works	2	-	
The Gorge - demolition of building	2	-	
Wolverhampton Art Gallery - FRA priority works	2	-	
Bradley Resource Centre – internal refurbishment to bedrooms, bathroom and reception and new flooring	2	-	
Civic Centre - mechanical flue replacement	2	-	
Bradmore Community Centre - replacement of boilers and	1	-	
Corporate Provision for Future Programmes	28	-	
Corporate Asset Management			A virement is proposed to reallocate resources to support Art Gallery Improvement scheme.
Wolverhampton Art Gallery – humidification unit	(4)	-	
Development of Cultural Estate Art Gallery Improvement Scheme	4	-	
Development of Cultural Estate			Virements are proposed to reallocate unspent resources to Corporate Provision for Future Programmes.
Development of Bantock House Complex	(20)	-	
Wolverhampton Interchange Phase 2 i9 Office Development	(116)	-	
Corporate Provision for Future Programmes	136	-	

Virements for approval

Appendix 4

Capital project	Virement		Comments
	Existing project £000	New project £000	
General Fund			
Project to project virements			
Schools Capital Maintenance - Rewiring / Electrical works			
Bushbury Hill Primary - replacement lighting	(30)	-	
Westacre Infants - replacement lighting	(3)	-	
Midpoint PRU - intruder alarm	(3)	-	
Low Hill Nursery - replacement door entry system	2	-	
Schools Capital Maintenance - Emergency works			
Provision for future programmes	57	-	
Schools Capital Maintenance - Fire Prevention			
Uplands Junior - Fire Safety Work	3	-	
Schools Capital Maintenance - Boilers / Pipeworks			
Rakegate Primary - hot water system	(23)	-	
Dovecotes Primary - replacement boiler, pipework and control	(22)	-	
Ashmore Park Nursery - replacement boiler	(6)	-	
Bushbury Nursery - replacement water heaters	(1)	-	
Spring Vale Primary - replacement boilers	(1)	-	
Wodensfield Primary - boiler house flue	(1)	-	
Uplands Junior - replacement pipework	(1)	-	
Springdale Junior - replacement heating pipework	8	-	
Colton Hills Secondary - replacement boilers	8	-	
Springdale Primary replace hot water system	3	-	
Schools Capital Maintenance - Roof / Ceiling			
Fallings Park Primary - replacement roof phase 2	(180)	-	Virements are proposed to reallocate resources within the Schools Capital Maintenance programme to utilise savings for various works within the Education capital programme.
Stow Heath Primary - flat roofing	(11)	-	
Fallings Park Primary - replacement roof covering phase 1	175	-	
Bantock Primary - replacement roof tiles phase 1	26	-	
Graiseley Primary - pitched and flat roofing	2	-	
Merridale Primary - replacement roof covering phase 1	2	-	
Castlecroft Primary - replacement roof to nursery play area	1	-	
Green Park Special School - flat roof	1	-	
Schools Capital Maintenance - Windows			
Claregate Primary - replacement windows and doors to kitchen	(7)	-	
Wodensfield Primary - replacement windows and doors to KS1	(2)	-	
Dovecotes Primary - replacement aluminium windows	(1)	-	
Claregate Primary - replacement hall windows	7	-	
Schools Capital Maintenance - Asbestos Removal			
Claregate Primary - asbestos removal for windows replacement	1	-	
Schools Capital Maintenance - Structural / Demolition / Ext.works / Security			
Midpoint PRU - fencing	(15)	-	
Stow Heath Primary - flooring and damp proofing	(4)	-	
Castlecroft Primary - internal restructuring	(3)	-	
Wodensfield Primary - replacement floor screed and ramps	(1)	-	
Castlecroft Primary - replacement sinks and associated fixtures	(1)	-	
Orchard PRU - security fencing installation	15	-	
Lanesfield Primary - refurbish toilets	5	-	
Schools Primary Expansion Programme			
Stowlawn Primary Phase 4	(18)	-	Virements are proposed to reallocate resources within the Schools Primary Expansion capital programme.
Spring Vale Primary Phase 4	(17)	-	
PEP Phase 3 - Bilston CE Primary School	(6)	-	
PEP Phase 3 - St Marys Catholic Primary School	(1)	-	
Loxdale Primary Phase 4	30	-	
Provision for future programmes	12	-	
Schools BSF - ICTS Infrastructure			
Post BSF ICT	(97)	-	A virement is proposed to utilise underspend within the Schools BSF capital programme.
Building Schools for Future ICT Infrastructure	97	-	
Schools Primary Expansion Programme			
Hill Avenue Academy - phase 4	(6)	-	A virement is proposed from the Hill Avenue Academy - phase 4 project within the Education to the Local Safety Schemes within the Transportation for the road safety work associated with the Hill Avenue Academy expansion.
Safety Programme			
Local Safety Schemes - TROs/ Signs&Guardrails / Road Markings	6	-	
Schools Capital Maintenance - Structural / Demolition / Ext.works / Security			
Kings Church of England School - Priority Remedial Works	(887)	-	A virement is proposed to reallocate council resources to the Corporate Provision for Future Programmes. Council resources were released due to grant allocation towards the Kings Church of England School - Priority Remedial Works project.
Corporate Provision for Future Programmes	887	-	
Residential Waste Bins			
Lockers	(13)	-	Virements are proposed to utilise underspend within the Waste capital programme.
Waste Domestic Bins	14	-	
Waste & Recycling Strategy			
Garden waste bins	(1)	-	

Virements for approval

Appendix 4

Capital project	Virement		Comments
	Existing project £000	New project £000	
General Fund			
Project to project virements			
Future High Street Fund			
Civic Halls Public Realm (Westside Link Ph 3)	(89)	-	
Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund 2021			
Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund 2021 - Upper Villiers Street	84	-	
Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund 2021 - School Road	3	-	
Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund 2021 - Dunstall Road	1	-	
Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund 2021 - Willenhall Road	1	-	
Maintenance of Classified Roads			
Showell Circus	(44)	-	
Replacement of non-compliant safety fencing	(30)	-	
Bushbury Lane (Stafford Road to Shaw Lane) - resurface carriageways	(30)	-	
Inkerman Street	(11)	-	
Codsall Road	(6)	-	
Cannock Road - Phase II	(3)	-	
Griffiths Drive - resurface carriageways	(3)	-	
Broad Lane South / Stubby Lane Junction	(2)	-	
Well Lane	(1)	-	
Cross Street North - resurface carriageways	47	-	
Transport Structural Maintenance - Street Lighting	37	-	
Compton Road – (Clark Road to Avenue Road)	11	-	
Maintenance of Unclassified Roads			
Waterhead Drive flood defence works - carriageway reshaping	(144)	-	
Carriageway Surfacing Treatment	(74)	-	
Public Rights of way improvements	(20)	-	
Church Hill - resurface footways	95	-	
Vicarage Road	15	-	
Lichfield Street (Princes Square – Railway Drive)	2	-	
Highway Improvement Programme			
UTC Expansion CCTV	(22)	-	
UTC - Wireless Communications	(4)	-	
Ring Road & City Centre Signage	(2)	-	
Integrated Transport - Advance Design	5	-	
Safety Programme			
Local Safety Schemes - TROs/ Signs&Guardrails / Road Markings	(46)	-	
Vehicle actuated speed warning signs	(8)	-	
Lunt Road - traffic calming and zebra crossing (ITB)	(2)	-	
Dixon Street	(2)	-	
Shaw Road/Hurst Road/Ettingshall Road	(1)	-	
Arterial route – Stafford Road – areas at risk of accidents	52	-	
Barnhurst Lane/Aldersley High School	7	-	
Bradley Lane - traffic calming	1	-	
Marston Road/Penn Road Junction	1	-	
Active Travel Programme			
Ring Road 30 Mph and City Centre	(6)	-	
Walking, Cycling and SRTS - Cycle Parking	2	-	
Network Development - Safer Routes to School			
Warstones Road/Warstones Primary - installation of new crossing	(2)	-	
School Gate Parking	8	-	
Highway Structures (bridges, subways, retaining walls)			
Replacement Asphaltic Joints	(30)	-	
Highway Structures - Council Assets - Strengthening	(14)	-	
Arthur Street Bridge	76	-	
Maintenance of Non Highway Structures			
Demolition of 60-60A Willenhall Road	3	-	
Flood Defence and Land Drainage			
Waterhead Brook flood defence works - Abbeyfield Road Trash Screen and Primrose Avenue Flood Gates and Retention Tank	145	-	
Total General Fund capital programme	(1,208)	1,208	

Virements are proposed to reallocate resources across the projects within the Transportation capital programme to ensure that priorities are met and reflected.

Virements for approval

Appendix 4

Capital project	Virement		Comments
	Existing project £000	New project £000	
Housing Revenue Account			
Re-allocation virements to new projects			
High Rise External Works			
Provision for future programmes	(500)	-	A virement is proposed to reallocate resources to individual project.
High Rise External Works	-	500	
Re-allocation virements to existing projects			
Adaptations for People with Disabilities			
Provision for future programmes	(1,790)	-	Virements are proposed to reallocate resources to individual projects within the Adaptations for People with Disabilities capital programme.
Low Hill PODS scheme	(1)	-	
Disabled Adaptations - Level Access Showers	889	-	
Disabled Adaptations - Other	314	-	
Disabled Adaptations - Stairlifts	209	-	
Disabled Adaptations - Extensions	191	-	
Disabled Adaptations - Minor Only 08/09 Onwards	104	-	
Disabled Adaptations - Vertical Lifts / Ceiling Track Hoists	50	-	
Disabled Adaptations - to Void Properties	34	-	
WV Living Units			
Provision for future programmes	(214)	-	Virements are proposed to reallocate resources to individual projects within the WV Living Units capital programme.
WVL Units - Prouds Lane	(30)	-	
WVL Units - Wednesfield	210	-	
WVL Units - Former Residential care Home Sites	34	-	
Project to project virements			
Decent Homes - Stock Improvements			
Internal Decency Works	(280)	-	A virement is proposed to reallocate resources within the Decent Homes - Stock Improvements capital programme.
Bushbury Improvement Programme	280	-	
Heath Town New Build			
Heath Town New Build - Phase 3	(10,000)	-	A virement is proposed to reallocate resources within the Heath Town New Build capital programme.
Heath Town New Build - Phase 2	10,000	-	
High Rise M&E Infrastructure Refurbishment	(785)	-	Virements are proposed to reallocate resources within the HRA capital programme.
Housing Services Capitalised Salaries	(774)	-	
Burton Crescent	(252)	-	
Door Entry (2005/06 Spend Onwards)	(215)	-	
External Improvement Works (Pre Decent Homes)	(105)	-	
Lift Improvements	(110)	-	
Tower and Fort Works Project	(27)	-	
Tap works – Showell Road	(25)	-	
New Build infill scheme Phase 1	(1)	-	
Wolverhampton Homes - Capitalised Salaries	1,042	-	
High Rise Fire Safety Issues	554	-	
Additional Social Housing	290	-	
High Rise Sprinkler Programme	231	-	
Sustainable Estates Programme	105	-	
Heath Town	57	-	
Small Sites 4	13	-	
SCP Newbuild Phase 2	2	-	
Total Housing Revenue Account capital programme	(500)	500	
Grand total	(1,708)	1,708	

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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Cabinet 6 July 2022
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Report title	Treasury Management - Annual Report 2021-2022 and Activity Monitoring Quarter One 2022-2023	
Decision designation	RED	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Obaida Ahmed Resources and Digital City	
Key decision	Yes	
In forward plan	Yes	
Wards affected	All Wards	
Accountable Director	Tim Johnson, Chief Executive	
Originating service	Strategic Finance	
Accountable employee	Claire Nye Tel Email	Director of Finance 01902 550478 Claire.Nye@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	Strategic Executive Board Council Resources and Equality Scrutiny Panel	21 June 2022 20 July 2022 13 October 2022

Recommendations for decision:

That Cabinet recommended that Council is asked to note:

1. The Council operated within the overall approved Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators, and also within the requirements set out in the Council's Treasury Management Policy Statement during 2021-2022.
2. That revenue underspends of £1.0 million for the General Fund and £738,000 for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) were generated from treasury management activities in 2021-2022.
3. That the General Fund and HRA treasury management activities for 2022-2023 are currently forecast to be within budget. This will continue to be monitored, and updates provided in future reports.

Recommendations for noting:

The Cabinet is asked to note:

1. The financial information included in this report is based on the 'Capital Budget Outturn 2021-2022 including Quarter One Capital Monitoring 2022-2023' report also on the agenda for this meeting. The capital report is subject to two reports being separately approved by Cabinet (Resources) Panel on 6 July 2022. Therefore, if this approval is not obtained, a revised version of this report will be presented to Council on 20 July 2022.
2. The Council's external borrowing has remained unchanged from 2020-2021 as there were no repayments of loans due in 2021-2022 and no new loans were taken out during the financial year.
3. It should be noted that, CIPFA have recently consulted on temporary proposals to update the CIPFA code of practice on Local Authority Accounting for infrastructure assets. At the time of writing, the outcome of the consultation has not been published. However, in response to the issues being considered by CIPFA, the Council is currently reviewing its accounting policy and will be discussing the findings with the Council's external auditors. This may result in additional charges being made on Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) for the General Fund for 2021-2022 onwards. Once this work has been concluded, an update will be reported to Cabinet.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 This report sets out the results of treasury management activities carried out in 2021-2022, together with performance against the Prudential Indicators previously approved by Council. It also provides a monitoring and progress report on treasury management activity for the first quarter of 2022-2023, in line with the Prudential Indicators approved by Council in March 2022.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The treasury management activities of the Council are underpinned by The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management. For further information on the requirement of the Code please refer to the Treasury Management Strategy 2022-2023 report which can be accessed online on the Council's website by following the link:

[Agenda for Cabinet on Wednesday, 23rd February, 2022, 5.00 pm :: Wolverhampton City Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

- 2.2 Treasury management is defined as:

“The management of the local authority's borrowing, investments and cash flows, including its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.”

- 2.3 The system of controls on local authority capital investment is based largely on self-regulation by local authorities themselves. At its heart is CIPFA's Prudential Code for Capital Finance.
- 2.4 Cabinet / Cabinet (Resources) Panel received quarterly reports during 2021-2022 to monitor performance against the strategy and Prudential Indicators previously approved by Council.
- 2.5 The Council continued to use Link Group as treasury management advisors throughout 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 to date. Link provides market data and intelligence on which the Council can make decisions regarding all aspects of treasury management activities and, in particular, managing the risks associated with investing surplus cash.
- 2.6 As reported to Councillors in previous treasury management reports during 2021-2022, new revised Treasury Management and Prudential Codes were published by CIPFA and Councils must have regard to the new Codes from the date of publication. However, due to the timing of the release of the new Codes, CIPFA has allowed reporting on the Codes to be deferred until 2023-2024, including changes to the capital strategy, prudential indicators and investment reporting.
- 2.7 Where possible the changes to the Codes have been implemented in the appendices attached to this report. However, due to timescales, some areas will be implemented

during 2022-2023. To enable this, at its meeting on 2 March 2022, Council approved delegated authority to Cabinet to approve updates to the Treasury Management Strategy and corresponding practices.

- 2.8 It should be noted that the Council does not undertake commercial investments, that is those held primarily for financial return. However, to be compliant with the Code, commercial investments will be referenced where required.
- 2.9 The Council built up a strong track record of managing its finances well and, in order to reduce interest payment costs, will only undertake external borrowing when cashflows require. The Council has not had to undertake any external borrowing during 2020-2021 and 2021-2022, the last time the Council carried out external borrowing was March 2019. The Council external borrowing therefore remains at £720.4 million.
- 2.10 Our City: Our Plan was approved by Full Council on 2 March 2022 and sets out how the Council will continue to work alongside its local, regional and national partners to improve outcomes for local people. The plan also aligns the key priorities and objectives identified by the Relighting Our City Recovery framework.
- 2.11 The plan continues to identify an overarching ambition that ‘Wulfrunians will live longer, healthier lives’ delivered through six Council Plan priorities:
- Strong families where children grow up well and achieve their full potential
 - Fulfilled lives 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
 - Thriving economy in all parts of the city
- 2.12 These priorities together with the associated key outcomes, objectives and activity form a framework to improve the outcomes for local people and deliver our levelling up ambitions. Supporting the six overarching priorities are three cross cutting principles – Climate Conscious, Driven by Digital, Fair and Equal.
- 3.0 The strategy and outturn for 2021-2022**
- 3.1 The strategy for 2021-2022 was to maintain cash balances at a reduced level, therefore, keeping to a minimum the credit risk incurred by holding investments and to avoid the higher costs of external borrowing compared to interest foregone on cash balances, thereby generating revenue savings.
- 3.2 During the 2021-2022, the Council followed the recommendations as set out in the Treasury Management Strategy 2021-2022.
- 3.3 The Treasury Management outturn for 2021-2022 compared to budget is shown in Table 1.

Table 1 – Treasury management budget and outturn 2021-2022

	Approved Budget £000	Outturn £000	Variance £000
General Fund	37,555	36,506	(1,049)
Housing Revenue Account	10,823	10,085	(738)
Total	48,378	46,591	(1,787)

- 3.4 Overall, there were revenue underspends of £1.0 million for the General Fund and £738,000 for the HRA for 2021-2022. For the General Fund, the main reasons are as previously reported; a reduced borrowing need in year arising as a result of re-phasing of the capital programme and due to no borrowing being undertaken in 2020-2021 and 2021-2022. These underspends were included in the report 'Performance and Budget Outturn 2021-2022' approved by Cabinet on 15 June 2022.
- 3.5 It should be noted that, CIPFA have recently consulted on temporary proposals to update the CIPFA code of practice on Local Authority Accounting for infrastructure assets. At the time of writing, the outcome of the consultation has not been published. However, in response to the issues being considered by CIPFA, the Council is currently reviewing its accounting policy and will be discussing the findings with the Council's external auditors. This may result in additional charges being made on MRP for the General Fund for 2021-2022 onwards. Once this work has been concluded, an update will be reported to Cabinet.
- 3.6 No institutions in which investments were made had any difficulty in repaying investments or interest in full during the year and no arrangements had to be made to prematurely withdraw funds from any investments as a result of a downgrade in their respective credit rating. There was also no debt rescheduled in 2021-2022.
- 3.7 Table 2 shows the average rate of interest payable and receivable in 2020-2021 and 2021-2022.

Table 2 – Average interest rate payable and receivable in 2020-2021 and 2021-2022

	2020-2021 Actual	2021-2022 Actual
Average Interest Rate Payable	3.76%	3.79%
Average Interest Rate Receivable	0.14%	0.08%

Borrowing outturn for 2021-2022

- 3.8 The Council has a built up a strong track record of managing its finances well and, in order to reduce interest payment costs, will only undertake external borrowing when cashflows require. The Council has not had to undertake any external borrowing during

2020-2021 and 2021-2022, the last time the Council carried out external borrowing was March 2019. The Council external borrowing therefore remains at £720.4 million.

- 3.9 The average debt interest rate increased marginally from 3.76% in 2020-2021 to 3.79% in 2021-2022. The Council undertakes borrowing only when necessary to maintain sufficient cash flow balances and after monitoring the market to take advantage of the best available rates. During 2021-2022 there were no new loans raised and there were no loans maturing requiring repayment.
- 3.10 The Council's need to borrow and the rates available continue to be monitored in order to achieve optimum results. The Council's medium term forecast is regularly updated to reflect actual borrowing that takes place along with any revisions to future anticipated borrowing.
- 3.11 The Council's Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) increased from £942.1 million to £954.5 million throughout 2021-2022. This reflects a net increase in the Council's underlying need to borrow for capital purposes. This was split between the General Fund and HRA at a rate of 71% and 29% respectively (2020-2021: 72% and 28%). It is important to note that, whilst the CFR has increased during the financial year, the increase is substantially lower than previously forecast and approved by Council on 3 March 2021 at £1,070.4 million and 2 March 2022 £967.9 million, this is due to re-phasing of the capital programme which has reduced the borrowing need in year.
- 3.12 As mentioned above no new loans were raised or repayments made, therefore, the level of external borrowing remains at £720.4 million. While investment rates continue to be below long term borrowing rates, the Council can minimise its overall net treasury costs in the short term by continuing to avoid new external borrowing and by using internal cash balances to finance new capital expenditure or to replace maturing external borrowing (this is referred to as internal borrowing). Table 3 shows a breakdown of the external and internal borrowing for the CFR.

Table 3 – Capital Financing Requirement

	Opening balance 1 April 2021 £000	Movement in year £000	Closing balance 31 March 2022 £000
Borrowing - external	720,447	-	720,447
Borrowing - internal	139,398	14,999	154,397
Capital Financing Requirement - capital programme	859,845	14,999	874,844
Other Long Term Liabilities	82,238	(2,612)	79,626
Total Capital Financing Requirement	942,083	12,387	954,470

- 3.13 Appendix 1 shows a summary of the external borrowing position.

Investment outturn for 2021-2022

- 3.14 The actual interest rate earned from investments decreased from 0.14% in 2020-2021 to 0.08% in 2021-2022. However, due to the economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic a prudent percentage of 0.05% was used budgeting purposes for 2021-2022, therefore, against budget a small increase in interest receivable was achieved.
- 3.15 The approach during the year was to continue to use cash balances to finance capital expenditure to keep cash balances low. This minimised counterparty risk on investments and also mitigated treasury management costs as investments rates were much lower than most new borrowing rates.
- 3.16 The Council manages its investments in-house and invests only in the institutions listed in the Council's approved lending list, which is reviewed each time a counterparty is subject to a credit rating amendment. The Council's strategy allows for investments for a range of periods from overnight to five years, depending on the Council's cash flows, its interest rate view and interest rates on offer. However, in order to maintain sufficient liquidity most investments have been placed for shorter durations.

4.0 2022-2023 forecast

- 4.1 It should be noted that in order to provide a timely report, only investment activities up to and including 31 May 2022 have been included. Borrowing activities include the month of June.
- 4.2 The 2022-2023 General Fund budget to support treasury management activities is £40.3 million and £10.2 million for the HRA. The current forecast is that projected costs can be accommodated within these budgets, however, early indicators suggest there may be pressures on the HRA. Due to the uncertain economic climate and the increase in interest rates the forecast outturn is difficult to project at this early stage. The position will continue to be monitored and updates provided in future reports.
- 4.3 The forecast positions will be considered and incorporated in the Performance and Budget Monitoring report to Cabinet.
- 4.4 Appendix 2 shows a comparison of the latest estimates of Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators over the medium term period with the equivalent figures which were approved by Council in March 2022.

Borrowing forecast for 2022-2023

- 4.5 Table 4 shows the average rate of interest payable in 2021-2022 and forecast for 2022-2023.

Table 4 – Average interest rate payable in 2021-2022 and 2022-2023

	2021-2022	2022-2023
	Actual	Forecast
Average Interest Rate Payable	3.79%	3.77%

- 4.6 The average interest rate payable for 2022-2023 in Table 4 includes the latest rates forecast provided by Link on 21 June 2022. Although interest rates have been rising, due to maturing loans in 2022-2023 being a higher rate than those available now, a slightly lower weighted average rate is forecast.
- 4.7 Each year it is usually necessary to raise new loans to finance capital expenditure and to replace existing maturing borrowing. The Council's policy is to prioritise the use of capital receipts to finance capital expenditure. Balances which are set aside to meet credit liabilities (i.e. to repay borrowing) are used to reduce the external borrowing requirement.
- 4.8 Decisions to take borrowing will be made by the Director of Finance when it is judged that rates are likely to be at their lowest levels, and probably about to rise according to market indications, and only when an inflow of funds is required to meet imminent cash flow commitments. This will keep overall surplus cash balances to a minimum, in line with the current strategy. Appendix 3 shows the maturity profile of external borrowing.
- 4.9 As always, the Council needs to be mindful that the opportunity to secure short term efficiencies by postponing longer term borrowing requirements takes into account the risk of long term rates increasing in the future. Appendix 4 to this report includes the latest Link interest rate forecasts at 21 June 2022 which forecasts that Bank Rate could increase in August, September, November, December, February and March of the 2022-2023 financial year. The Director of Finance will continue to keep actual and forecast rates under close review.
- 4.10 The Council's borrowing profile continues to operate within the overall limits previously approved by Council as shown in Chart 1.

Chart 1 – Comparison of borrowing within approved borrowing limits over the previous 12 months



- 4.11 The level of borrowing at 30 June 2022 is £720.4 million, appendix 1 shows a summary of this position. During quarter one no new loans or repayments have occurred, £10.2 million of existing borrowing is due to repaid between quarters three to four.
- 4.12 In March 2022, Council approved a net borrowing requirement for 2022-2023 of £112.0 million. The forecast net borrowing requirement for 2022-2023 is £115.2 million, as shown in appendix 5, due to rephasing in the capital programme. This appendix also shows the details for the disclosure for certainty rate, which enables the Council to access discounted borrowing at 0.20% below normal PWLB rates.

Investment forecast for 2022-2023

- 4.13 The approach during the year is to continue to use cash balances to finance capital expenditure so as to keep cash balances low.
- 4.14 Table 5 shows the total amount of surplus funds invested as at 31 March 2022 and in order to provide a timely report, 31 May 2022.

Table 5 – Total amounts invested 2022-2023

	31 March 2022 £000	31 May 2022 £000
Business Reserve Accounts	495	306
Debt Management Account Deposit Facility	-	-
Money Market Funds	79,625	52,770
Total invested	80,120	53,076
Average cash balance for the year to date	61,034	71,288

- 4.15 Money Market Funds and Business Reserve Accounts are the main investments used as these have high credit ratings and instant access.
- 4.16 The Council's cash flow balance for the first quarter of the current financial year has moved between a low of £53.1 million and a maximum of £89.2 million. The average cash balance for the quarter being £71.3 million.
- 4.17 Table 6 shows the budgeted average rate of interest receivable in 2022-2023 and the forecast for the year.

Table 6 – Average interest rate receivable in 2022-2023

	2022-2023 Budget	2022-2023 Forecast
Average Interest Rate Receivable	0.10%	1.00%

- 4.18 At the time the budget was set a prudent percentage was used for budgeting purposes as the Covid-19 pandemic had seen interest rates available for investments decrease significantly. As the Bank of England have been increasing the base rate since February 2022 the rates achieved on investments has been increasing. With the current uncertainties it is still increasingly difficult to forecast future investment rates that could be achieved therefore, a prudent rate is forecast based on the increased rates achieved to the 31 May 2022.
- 4.19 The approved Treasury Management Code of Practice sets out the criteria to be used for creating and managing approved counterparty lists and limits. As a result of any changes to credit criteria, the Director of Finance is authorised to make changes to the list of approved counterparties. In the event that any of these counterparties fall below the Council's minimum lending criteria, activity in that account will temporarily cease and any balance withdrawn immediately. Appendix 6 shows the Council's current specified investments lending list.
- 4.20 In quarter one 2022-2023 the Director of Finance has not been required to use her discretion to temporarily exceed any upper limits with approved counterparties.

5.0 Evaluation of alternative options

5.1 As this is a monitoring report of treasury management activities undertaken in line with the approved Treasury Management Strategy for 2021-2022 and 2022-2023, there are no alternative options available.

6.0 Reasons for decisions

6.1 This report provides an update on treasury management activities undertaken in line with the approved Treasury Management Strategy for 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.

7.0 Financial implications

7.1 The financial implications are discussed in the body of this report.
[SH/24062022/A]

8.0 Legal implications

8.1 The Council's treasury management activity must be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003. In addition, the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 sets out requirements for local authorities in respect of capital controls, borrowing and credit arrangements. The Council is also required to comply with the Local Authority (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008.

8.2 Treasury management relates to the management of the Council's cash flow, borrowing and cash investments. This involves seeking the best rates of interest for borrowing, earning interest on investments, whilst managing risk in making financial decisions and adopting proper accounting practice.

8.3 The area is heavily regulated. The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 regulates the operation of the Housing Revenue Account. The 'CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Services', contains treasury management indicators and advice on treasury management strategy. Investment strategy is regulated by 'DLUHC Guidance on Local Government Investments' issued initially in 2004 and reissued in 2010 and 2018. Part 2 of this Guidance is statutory guidance.
[SZ/24062022/P]

9.0 Equalities implications

9.1 Whilst there are no direct equalities implications arising from treasury management activity, the Council's capital programme of individual projects can have significant impact on specific groups and equality implications. These implications are considered when the individual capital projects are being developed.

10.0 All other Implications

10.1 There are no other implications arising from this report.

11.0 Schedule of background papers

- 11.1 [Treasury Management Strategy 2021-2022](#), Report to Cabinet, 17 February 2021
- 11.2 [Treasury Management – Annual Report 2020-2021 and Activity Monitoring Quarter One 2021-2022](#), Report to Cabinet, 7 July 2021
- 11.3 [Treasury Management Activity Monitoring – Mid Year Review 2021-2022](#), Report to Cabinet, 17 November 2021
- 11.4 [Treasury Management Strategy 2022-2023](#), Report to Cabinet, 23 February 2022
- 11.5 [Treasury Management Activity Monitoring Quarter Three 2021-2022](#), Report to Cabinet (Resources) Panel, 23 March 2022

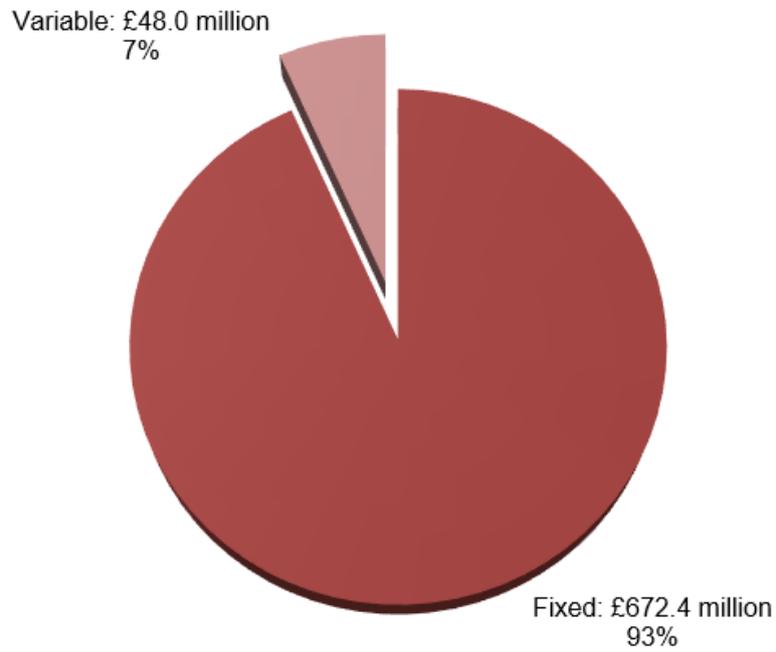
12.0 Appendices

- 12.1 Appendix 1: Borrowing type, borrowing and repayments
- 12.2 Appendix 2: Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators
- 12.3 Appendix 3: Borrowing maturity profile
- 12.4 Appendix 4: Link interest rate forecasts
- 12.5 Appendix 5: Disclosure for certainty rate
- 12.6 Appendix 6: Lending list

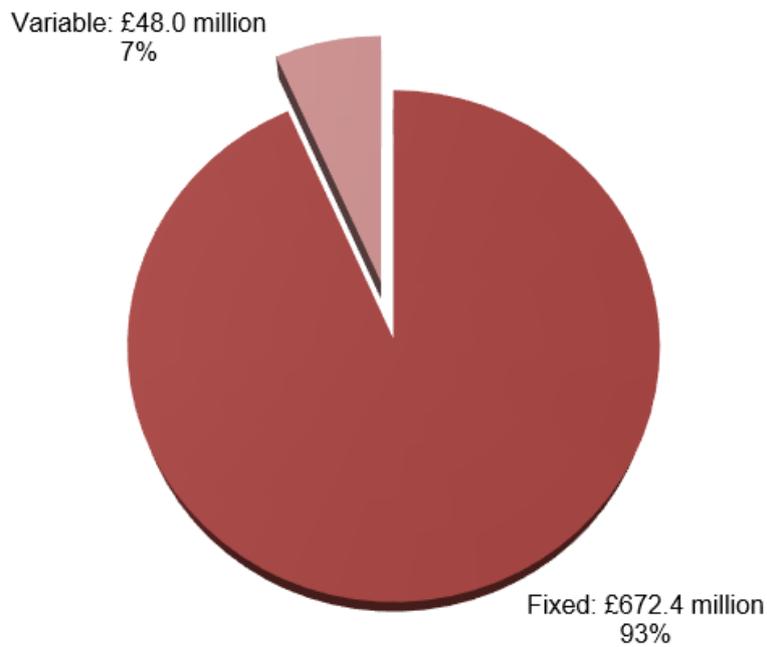
Borrowing: Graphical Summary

Borrowing by Type

As at 31 March 2022



As at 30 June 2022



Borrowing and Repayments in 2022-2023

	Start Date	Maturity Date	Amount £000	Length	Interest Rate	Full Year Interest £000
2022-2023 Borrowing						
PWLB Fixed Maturity:						
No activity in quarter 1						
Sub total for PWLB			-			-
Temporary Loans:						
No activity in quarter 1						
Sub total for Temporary Loans			-			-
Grand total borrowing						
			-			-

	Start Date	Maturity Date	Amount £000	Length	Interest Rate	Full Year Interest £000
2022-2023 Repayments						
PWLB Fixed Maturity:						
No activity in quarter 1						
Sub total for PWLB			-			-
Temporary Loans:						
No activity in quarter 1						
Sub total for Temporary Loans			-			-
Grand total repayments						
			-			-
Net movement						
			-			-

Prudential Indicators (PI) required by The Prudential Code

PI for Prudence - Ensuring that external debt is sustainable and compliance with good professional practice are essential features of prudence.

PI 1 - Estimates and actual capital expenditure.

Full details of capital expenditure plans and funding can be found in the outturn 2021-2022 quarter one capital budget monitoring 2022-2023 report.

	Approved by Council 2 March 2022				As at 30 June 2022			
	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
	Forecast £000	Forecast £000	Forecast £000	Forecast £000	Actual £000	Forecast £000	Forecast £000	Forecast £000
General Fund *	99,995	139,412	59,970	36,048	82,526	136,093	83,096	49,508
HRA	54,900	84,663	88,488	84,560	55,851	86,984	95,958	85,256
	154,895	224,075	148,458	120,608	138,377	223,077	179,054	134,764
* Service investments included in General Fund figure. These relate to areas such as capital expenditure on investment properties and loans to third parties etc. for service delivery purposes.	21,030	13,057	10,000	4,900	18,904	5,124	8,000	11,900

PI 2 - Estimates and actual capital financing requirement General Fund and HRA.

The capital financing requirement measures the authority's underlying need to borrow for a capital purpose.

	Approved by Council 2 March 2022				As at 30 June 2022			
	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
	Forecast £000	Forecast £000	Forecast £000	Forecast £000	Actual £000	Forecast £000	Forecast £000	Forecast £000
General Fund *	691,887	723,620	707,006	691,987	680,621	709,275	705,093	703,977
HRA	275,967	316,145	359,879	396,978	273,849	316,609	368,490	406,125
Total capital financing requirement	967,854	1,039,765	1,066,885	1,088,965	954,470	1,025,884	1,073,583	1,110,102
* Service investments included in General Fund figure. These relate to areas such as capital expenditure on investment properties and loans to third parties etc. for service delivery purposes.	42,350	45,165	40,730	34,206	38,167	37,531	39,742	42,890
Movement in capital financing requirement represented by:								
New borrowing for capital expenditure	58,536	109,302	68,029	70,016	46,806	107,702	88,762	84,603
Less minimum revenue provision/voluntary minimum revenue provision	(32,765)	(37,391)	(40,909)	(47,936)	(34,419)	(36,288)	(41,063)	(48,084)
Movement in capital financing requirement	25,771	71,911	27,120	22,080	12,387	71,414	47,699	36,519

PI 3 - Authorised limit for external debt.

These limits apply to the total external debt gross of investments and separately identify borrowing from other long term liabilities such as finance leases including Private Finance Initiatives (PFI). This is a self determined level reviewed and set each budget setting cycle.

	Approved by Council 2 March 2022			
	2021-2022 Limit £000	2022-2023 Limit £000	2023-2024 Limit £000	2024-2025 Limit £000
Borrowing	1,086,578	1,080,693	1,139,076	1,208,188
Other Long Term Liabilities	79,626	82,628	79,660	76,416
Total Authorised Limit	1,166,204	1,163,321	1,218,736	1,284,604
Actual and Forecast External Debt as at 30 June 2022:				
Borrowing	720,447	825,431	914,098	980,161
Other Long Term Liabilities	79,626	76,928	73,960	74,416
	800,073	902,359	988,058	1,054,577
Variance (Under) / Over Authorised limit	(366,131)	(260,962)	(230,678)	(230,027)
Authorised limit for service investments included in the above figures				
Authorised Limit	47,014	66,049	63,600	62,176
Actual and Forecast External Debt as at 30 June 2022:	43,120	42,485	44,696	47,843
Variance (Under) / Over Authorised limit	(3,894)	(23,564)	(18,904)	(14,333)

PI 4 - Operational boundary for external debt.

This is based on the same estimates as the authorised limit but directly reflects the Director of Finance's estimate of the most likely, prudent but not worst case scenario, without the additional headroom included. This is a self determined level reviewed and set each budget setting cycle.

	Approved by Council 2 March 2022			
	2021-2022 Limit £000	2022-2023 Limit £000	2023-2024 Limit £000	2024-2025 Limit £000
Borrowing	1,050,255	1,054,388	1,122,138	1,191,978
Other Long Term Liabilities	79,626	80,628	77,660	74,416
Total Operational Boundary Limit	1,129,881	1,135,016	1,199,798	1,266,394
Actual and Forecast External Debt as at 30 June 2022:				
Borrowing	720,447	825,431	914,098	980,161
Other Long Term Liabilities	79,626	76,928	73,960	74,416
	800,073	902,359	988,058	1,054,577
Variance (Under) / Over Operational Boundary Limit	(329,808)	(232,657)	(211,740)	(211,817)
Operational boundary for service investments included in the above figures				
Operational Boundary Limit	45,874	65,035	63,600	62,176
Actual and Forecast External Debt as at 30 June 2022:	43,120	42,485	44,696	47,843
Variance (Under) / Over Operational Boundary Limit	(2,754)	(22,550)	(18,904)	(14,333)

Prudential Indicators (PI) required by The Prudential Code

PI 5 - Gross debt and the capital financing requirement.

"In order to ensure that over the medium term debt will only be for a capital purpose, the local authority should ensure that debt does not, except in the short term, exceed the total of capital financing requirement in the preceding year plus the estimates of any additional capital financing requirement for the current and next two financial years".

	Approved by Council 2 March 2022				As at 30 June 2022			
	2021-2022 Forecast £000	2022-2023 Forecast £000	2023-2024 Forecast £000	2024-2025 Forecast £000	2021-2022 Actual £000	2022-2023 Forecast £000	2023-2024 Forecast £000	2024-2025 Forecast £000
Forecast Capital Financing Requirement at end of Second Year	1,066,885	1,088,964	1,088,964	1,094,833	1,073,583	1,110,102	1,110,102	1,110,102
Gross Debt	850,456	953,239	1,018,359	1,070,439	800,073	902,359	988,058	1,054,577
Capital Financing Requirement Greater than Gross Debt	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

PI for Affordability - These indicators are used to ensure the total capital investment of the Council is within a sustainable limit and the impact of these decisions are considered with regard

PI 6 - Estimates and actual ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream.

This represents the cost of financing capital expenditure as a % of net revenue for both the General and HRA.

	Approved by Council 2 March 2022				As at 30 June 2022			
	2021-2022 Forecast	2022-2023 Forecast	2023-2024 Forecast	2024-2025 Forecast	2021-2022 Actual	2022-2023 Forecast	2023-2024 Forecast	2024-2025 Forecast
General Fund *	17.7%	18.1%	18.6%	18.4%	17.7%	17.0%	18.1%	18.1%
HRA	30.4%	31.4%	31.7%	32.2%	30.7%	32.5%	33.5%	34.4%
* Service investments included in General Fund figure. These relate to areas such as capital expenditure on investment properties and loans to third parties etc. for service delivery purposes.	1.1%	1.1%	1.2%	1.0%	1.0%	0.8%	0.9%	0.9%

PI 7 - Estimates and actual ratio of net income from commercial and service investments to net revenue stream.

This represents the financial exposure of the Council to the loss of income from commercial and service investments. Only costs directly attributable to the investments are netted off, so unlike PI 6, the costs of borrowing (interest and MRP) cannot be deducted as they are not directly attributable to managing the investments and will continue regardless of the existence or performance of the investments.

	Approved by Council 2 March 2022				As at 30 June 2022			
	2021-2022 Forecast	2022-2023 Forecast	2023-2024 Forecast	2024-2025 Forecast	2021-2022 Actual	2022-2023 Forecast	2023-2024 Forecast	2024-2025 Forecast
Commercial	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Service	0.7%	0.6%	0.8%	0.7%	0.8%	0.6%	0.6%	0.7%

Treasury Management Indicators (TMI) required by The Treasury Management Code

TMI 1 - Upper limits for long-term treasury management investments (previously called 'upper limits to the total of principal sums invested over 365 days').

This details the maximum amount which can be invested for up to 5 years (as per paragraph 1.5 of the Annual Investment Strategy). It has been determined that a maximum of 50% of total investments with a cap of £35.0 million could be prudently committed to long term investments should the Director of Finance decide it is appropriate to.

	Approved by Council 2 March 2022			
	2021-2022 Limit £000	2022-2023 Limit £000	2023-2024 Limit £000	2024-2025 Limit £000
Upper limit for long-term treasury management investments	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000
Actual and Forecast Invested at 30 June 2021	-	-	-	-
Variance (Under) / Over Limit	(35,000)	(35,000)	(35,000)	(35,000)

TMI 2 - Upper and lower limits to the maturity structure of its borrowing.

These limits relate to the % of fixed and variable rate debt maturing.

	Approved by Council 2 March 2022		As at 30 June 2022	
	Upper Limit	Lower Limit	2021-2022 Actual Borrowing	2022-2023 Forecast Borrowing
Under 12 months	25%	0%	1.23%	2.07%
12 months and within 24 months	25%	0%	6.86%	5.98%
24 months and within 5 years	40%	0%	2.94%	2.93%
5 years and within 10 years	50%	0%	9.47%	10.63%
10 years and within 20 years	50%	0%	12.14%	10.89%
20 years and within 30 years	50%	0%	23.40%	23.70%
30 years and within 40 years	50%	0%	23.92%	23.83%
40 years and within 50 years	50%	0%	20.04%	19.97%
50 years and within 60 years	50%	0%	-	-

Non-treasury management investment indicators

The statutory guidance on local government investments encourages local authorities to develop qualitative indicators that allow the reader to assess the Council's total risk exposure as a result of commercial investment decisions.

NTM 1 - Estimates and actual non-treasury management investment expenditure.

This identifies the level of any non-treasury management investments (e.g. service and commercial investments).

	Approved by Council 2 March 2022				As at 30 June 2022			
	2021-2022 Forecast £000	2022-2023 Forecast £000	2023-2024 Forecast £000	2024-2025 Forecast £000	2021-2022 Actual £000	2022-2023 Forecast £000	2023-2024 Forecast £000	2024-2025 Forecast £000
Service investments	21,030	13,057	10,000	4,900	18,904	5,124	8,000	11,900
Commercial investments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	21,030	13,057	10,000	4,900	18,904	5,124	8,000	11,900

NTM 2 - Estimates and actual net debt for service and commercial investment to net service expenditure ratio.

This indicator measures the level of net debt for service and commercial investments in comparison to the Council's forecast net service expenditure, where net service expenditure is a proxy for the size and financial strength of a local authority.

	Approved by Council 2 March 2022				As at 30 June 2022			
	2021-2022 Forecast £000	2022-2023 Forecast £000	2023-2024 Forecast £000	2024-2025 Forecast £000	2021-2022 Actual £000	2022-2023 Forecast £000	2023-2024 Forecast £000	2024-2025 Forecast £000
Net debt for service and commercial investments	42,350	45,165	40,730	34,206	38,167	37,531	39,742	42,890
Net service expenditure	258,497	267,150	268,326	277,311	258,497	267,159	268,326	277,311
Debt to net service expenditure ratio	16.4%	16.9%	15.2%	12.3%	14.8%	14.1%	14.8%	15.5%

NTM 3 - Estimates and actual service and commercial income to net service expenditure ratio.

This indicator measures the level of service and commercial investment generated income in comparison to the Council's net service expenditure, where net service expenditure is a proxy for the size and financial strength of a local authority. The % indicates the Council's financial resilience and how reliant on the service/commercial investment income it is. A low % indicates the Council is not heavily reliant on service/commercial investment income.

	Approved by Council 2 March 2022				As at 30 June 2022			
	2021-2022 Forecast £000	2022-2023 Forecast £000	2023-2024 Forecast £000	2024-2025 Forecast £000	2021-2022 Actual £000	2022-2023 Actual £000	2023-2024 Actual £000	2024-2025 Actual £000
Service and commercial investment income	2,061	1,819	2,115	2,033	2,235	1,704	1,760	2,016
Net service expenditure	258,497	267,150	268,326	277,311	258,497	267,159	268,326	277,311
Service and commercial income to net service expenditure ratio	0.8%	0.7%	0.8%	0.7%	0.9%	0.6%	0.7%	0.7%

NTM 4 - Estimates and actual loan to value ratio

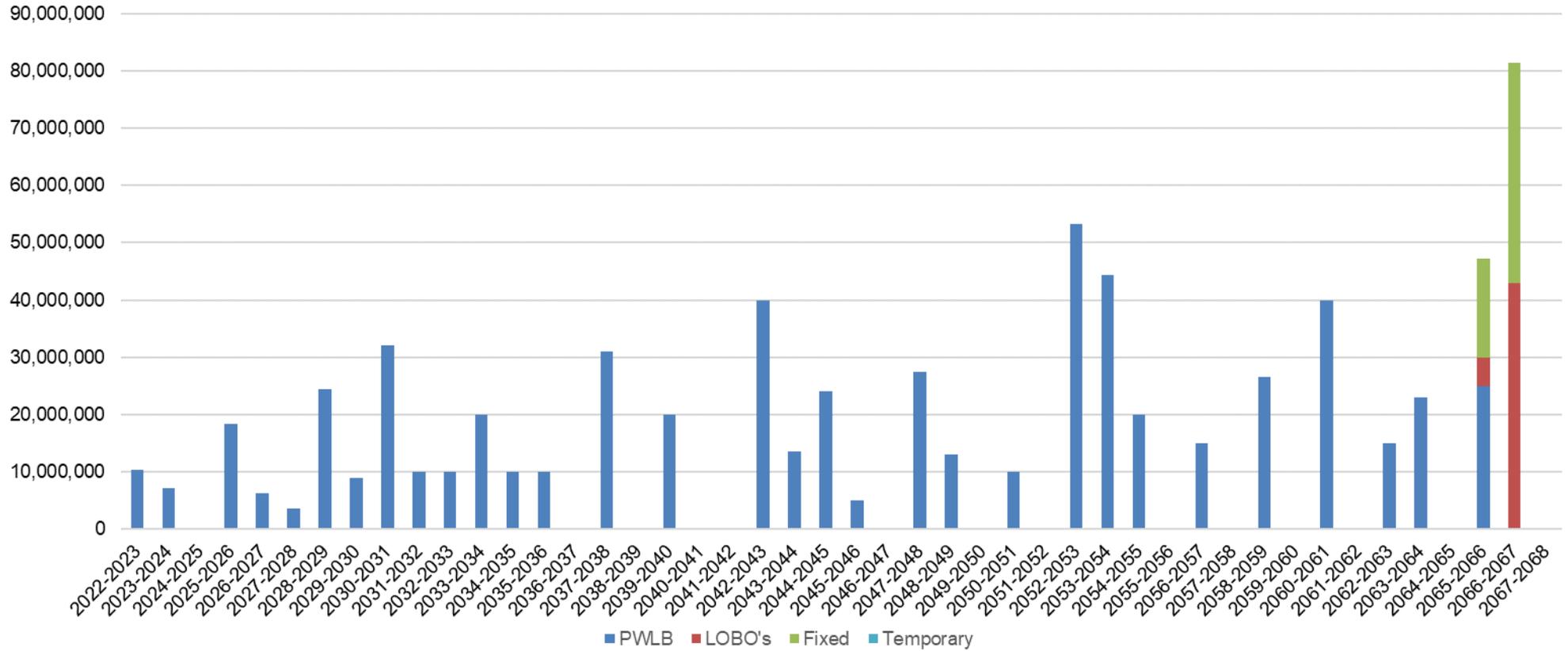
This indicator measures the net debt for service and commercial investments compared to the forecast total asset value. A decrease in the ratio over the medium term indicates a reducing level of borrowing due to repayments, whereas an increase indicates an increase in the level of borrowing due to new loans being issued.

	Approved by Council 2 March 2022				As at 30 June 2022			
	2021-2022 Forecast	2022-2023 Forecast	2023-2024 Forecast	2024-2025 Forecast	2021-2022 Actual	2022-2023 Actual	2023-2024 Actual	2024-2025 Actual
Loan to value ratio	72.2%	72.1%	68.3%	62.7%	71.4%	70.2%	70.4%	71.1%

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Borrowing Maturity Profile at 30 June 2022

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Link interest rate forecasts

The Council's treasury advisor, Link Group, provided the following forecasts on 21 June 2022 (PWLB rates are certainty rates, gilt yields plus 80bps):

Link Group Interest Rate View 21.06.22												
	Sep-22	Dec-22	Mar-23	Jun-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25	Jun-25
BANK RATE	1.75	2.25	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.50	2.50	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25
3 month ave earnings	2.00	2.50	2.80	2.80	2.80	2.80	2.60	2.50	2.30	2.30	2.20	2.20
6 month ave earnings	2.50	2.80	3.00	3.00	2.90	2.90	2.80	2.70	2.60	2.50	2.40	2.30
12 month ave earnings	3.10	3.20	3.20	3.20	3.00	2.90	2.80	2.60	2.50	2.40	2.40	2.40
5 yr PWLB	3.20	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.20	3.10	3.00	3.00	3.00	2.90	2.90
10 yr PWLB	3.40	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.40	3.30	3.20	3.20	3.20	3.10	3.10
25 yr PWLB	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.60	3.50	3.50	3.40	3.40	3.30
50 yr PWLB	3.40	3.40	3.50	3.50	3.40	3.40	3.30	3.20	3.20	3.10	3.10	3.00

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Certainty Rate

This table details the information that is required to enable the Council to submit a return for 2022-2023.

	Approved by Council 2 March 2022				As at 30 June 2022			
	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Actual	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Net Borrowing Requirement:								
Borrowing to finance planned capital expenditure	58,224	105,219	67,750	69,840	46,494	107,319	88,483	80,727
Existing maturity loans to be replaced during the year	22,000	41,071	95,095	70,000	(17,176)	41,071	95,095	78,000
Less:								
Minimum Revenue Provision for debt repayment	(18,338)	(19,817)	(21,121)	(22,316)	(18,338)	(19,557)	(21,202)	(22,554)
Voluntary debt repayment	(11,503)	(14,493)	(16,541)	(22,200)	(10,980)	(13,650)	(16,614)	(22,110)
	(29,841)	(34,310)	(37,662)	(44,516)	(29,318)	(33,207)	(37,816)	(44,664)
Loans replaced less debt repayment	(7,841)	6,761	57,433	25,484	(46,494)	7,864	57,279	33,336
Net Advance Requirement	50,383	111,980	125,183	95,324	-	115,183	145,762	114,063
Analysed by:								
Service delivery	29,884	28,743	8,374	2,503	24,421	31,020	5,601	2,563
Housing	9,674	58,821	57,275	54,199	4,934	56,735	71,495	63,645
Regeneration	18,666	17,655	2,101	13,138	17,139	19,564	11,387	14,519
Preventative action	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Treasury Management	(7,841)	6,761	57,433	25,484	(46,494)	7,864	57,279	33,336
Primarily for yield	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	50,383	111,980	125,183	95,324	-	115,183	145,762	114,063

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Lending List

2022-2023 Specified Investments as at 31 May 2022

Institution	Country (Sovereign Rating)	Limit £000	Term Limit
Bank Netherlandse Gemeenten	Netherlands (AAA)	20,000	12 mths
DBS Bank Ltd	Singapore (AAA)	10,000	6 mths
HSBC Bank plc	UK (AA-)	5,000	3 mths
Landwirtschaftliche Rentenbank	Germany (AAA)	20,000	12 mths
National Bank of Abu Dhabi	Abu Dhabi (U.A.E) (AA)	5,000	3 mths
NRW.BANK	Germany (AAA)	20,000	12 mths
Oversea Chinese Banking Corporation Ltd	Singapore (AAA)	10,000	6 mths
United Overseas Bank Ltd	Singapore (AAA)	10,000	6 mths
Nationalised Banks			
Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc			
National Westminster Bank plc	UK (AA-)	10,000	3 mths
The Royal Bank of Scotland plc	UK (AA-)	10,000	3 mths
AAA Rated and Government Backed Securities			
Debt Management Office	UK (AA-)	20,000	30 mths
Money Market Funds			
	Fund Rating		
Invesco STIC Account	Fitch AAmmf	20,000	Instant Access
Aberdeen Liquidity Fund (LUX) Class 2	Fitch AAmmf	20,000	Instant Access
Federated Short-Term Sterling Prime Fund	Fitch AAmmf	20,000	Instant Access
Black Rock Sterling Liquidity Fund	Moody's Aaa-mf	20,000	Instant Access

Non-rated Institutions

County Councils, London Boroughs, Metropolitan Districts and Unitary Authorities - limits £6m and 12 months.
Shire District Councils, Fire and Civil Defence Authorities, Passenger Transport Authorities and Police Authorities - limits £3m and 12 months.

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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Cabinet 6 July 2022
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Report title	City of Wolverhampton Select Committee 2022 - The Wolverhampton Pound - Procurement, Contract Management and Commissioning	
Decision designation	RED	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Ian Brookfield Leader of the Council	
Key decision	Yes	
In forward plan	Yes	
Wards affected	All Wards	
Accountable Director	David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer	
Originating service	Governance	
Accountable employee	Julia Cleary	Scrutiny and Systems Manager
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Report to be/has been considered by	Core Services	9 March 2022
	Public Health Leadership Team	16 March 2022
	Joint Adults, Children's Leadership Team	17 March 2022
	Regeneration Leadership Team	22 March 2022
	Strategic Executive Board	17 May 2022
	Cabinet Member for Governance and Equalities	18 May 2022
	Deputy Leader: Inclusive City Economy	31 May 2022
	Leader of the Council	30 May 2022
	Scrutiny Board	14 June 2022
	Cabinet	6 July 2022
	Council	20 July 2022

Recommendation for decision:

That Cabinet recommends that Council:

1. Endorse the recommendations in The Wolverhampton Pound Select Committee Action Plan attached at Appendix 2.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 Cabinet is asked to recommend to Council endorsement of the recommendations contained in The Wolverhampton Pound Select Committee Action Plan attached at Appendix 2.
- 1.2 Timescales for implementation of the recommendations will be agreed with the action owners following endorsement of the recommendations by Council.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 To re-energise political structures and increase Councillor involvement and influence in decision making processes, a trial Select Committee in relation to The Wolverhampton Pound, was commenced in October 2021.
- 2.2 To support this trial the Council sought input from expert witnesses both internal and external to gather feedback and help shape the recommendations.
- 2.3 The Select Committee comprised a cross-party group of councillors working together to gather information and evidence in relation to an agreed line of inquiry.
- 2.4 The Select Committee was non-political in its approach and met in public to hear evidence from officers, partner organisations, community groups and individuals.
- 2.5 The Select Committee pursued the goals of equality, diversity, and inclusion in relation to witnesses, membership and the work undertaken.
- 2.6 The Terms of Reference were as follows:

To consider the following lines of inquiry:

- *'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?'*
- 2.7 The following meetings were held as part of the Select Committee process:

Meeting Topic	Date of Meeting
Community Wealth Building	24 November 2021
Procurement Finance and Commercial	8 December 2021
Commissioning	15 December 2021

Business Support	12 January 2022
Review outputs to date and focus areas for recommendations in draft report.	1 February 2022
Engagement Events – Local Businesses	3 February 2022
Community and Voluntary Sector	16 February 2022
Final Select Committee – Procurement And Contract Management	23 February 2022
Care/ Commissioning Provider Engagement	Feedback sought via survey

3.0 Progress, options, discussion, etc.

3.1 The Select Committee agreed the final draft of the report at the meeting on 23 February 2022 which is now presented to Cabinet for recommendation to Council for its endorsement.

4.0 Evaluation of alternative options

4.1 The Select Committee considered a range of evidence and information when considering and agreeing its findings and recommendations from a diverse range of stakeholders, partners and providers.

4.2 The draft report has been shared and discussed with stakeholders for comment and amendments made where appropriate to ensure that the recommendations are realistic and achievable.

5.0 Reasons for decision

5.1 The recommendations and findings contained in the report show that with a progressive approach to procurement and contract management, comes innovation, creativity and the commissioning of services and products that are right for our City and our citizens. One size does not fit all and good communication and engagement with our partners, the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS), existing suppliers, and potential suppliers will allow us to ensure that we are procuring the right goods and the rights services in the right way for us.

6.0 Financial implications

6.1 This report seeks endorsement and feedback in relation to the action plan, approving the recommendations contained within in principle. At this stage it is anticipated that no additional costs will be incurred in pursuit of many of the recommendations. There are some, however, where associated financial implications may emerge. One such

recommendation is that resources for the Wolverhampton Pound initiative are reviewed by officers and that additional capacity is identified to ensure delivery against this key priority. In these cases the assessment of financial implications and identification of any required funding will follow normal process and details will be incorporated in future updates to Councillors.

[GE/31052022/B]

7.0 Legal implications

7.1 The Council must ensure that it complies with Local Government Law and Procurement Regulations when implementing the action plan.

[SZ/06062022/P]

8.0 Equalities implications

8.1 There are no direct Equalities implications arising from the report. Any equality, diversity and inclusion implications in pursuit of these recommendations will be identified in future reports to Councillors.

9.0 Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1: The Wolverhampton Pound Select Committee Report

9.2 Appendix 2: The Wolverhampton Pound Select Committee Action Plan

The Wolverhampton Pound

Procurement, Contract Management and Commissioning

City of Wolverhampton
Select Committee 2022

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Select Committee Terms of Reference

1. Remit, Scope and Terms of Reference

To consider the following lines of inquiry:

'How do we engage with local businesses and the Voluntary and Community 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 Voluntary and Community 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 is a cross-party group of non-executive councillors who will work as a team to produce a report and draft recommendations in relation to an agreed matter.
- The Select Committee will be non-political in its approach.
- The Select Committee will agree the terms of reference as set out. At this stage some potential witnesses from whom the committee particularly wants to hear for example senior officers and partner organisations may be sent a list of more specific questions and requests for information.
- The Select Committee will meet in public to hear evidence from officers, partner organisations and individuals. The select committee will meet in private to consider the evidence they receive and agree the draft report and recommendations.
- The Select Committee will pursue the goals of equality, diversity, and inclusion in relation to witnesses, membership and work undertaken.

Membership of Select Committee



Cllr Susan Roberts (MBE)
(Chair)



Cllr Paul Appleby
(Vice Chair)



Cllr Jonathan Crofts



Cllr Valerie Evans



Cllr Barbara McGarrity
QN



Cllr Rita Potter



Cllr Zee Russell



Cllr Jacqueline Sweetman



Cllr Ellis Turrell

The Committee would like to thank the following witnesses for their time, expertise, and support throughout the enquiry:

Stuart Macdonald

Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES)

Conrad Parke

Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES)

Ray Flynn

Anchor Network,
University of Wolverhampton

Mal Cowgill

Anchor Network,
City of Wolverhampton College

Shaun Aldis

Anchor Network,
Wolverhampton Homes

Corin Crane

Black Country Chamber
of Commerce

Sam Duru

Black Business Network

Karen Woolley

Federation of Small Businesses

Laura Thomas

Chief Executive Citizens Advice,
Wolverhampton and Dudley

Clare Roberts Malloy

Lead Bid and Tender Writer,
YMCA Country Group

David Pattison

Chief Operating Officer,
City of Wolverhampton Council

Mark Taylor

Deputy Chief Executive,
City of Wolverhampton Council

Claire Nye

Director of Finance,
City of Wolverhampton Council

Charlotte Johns

Director of Strategy,
City of Wolverhampton Council

Richard Lawrence

Director of Regeneration,
City of Wolverhampton Council

Becky Wilkinson

Director of Adult Services,
City of Wolverhampton Council

John Thompson

Head of Procurement,
City of Wolverhampton Council

Parvinder Uppal

Head of Commercial, City
of Wolverhampton Council

Isobel Woods

Head of Enterprise, City
of Wolverhampton Council

Joanna Grocott

Place Based Innovation Lead,
City of Wolverhampton
Council

Laura Collings

Head of Policy and Strategy,
City of Wolverhampton
Council

Andrew Wolverson

Head of Service, Children's
Strategy and Partnerships,
City of Wolverhampton
Council

Alicia Wood

Head of Adult Commissioning,
City of Wolverhampton
Council

Steven Larking

Commissioning Manager, City
of Wolverhampton Council

Scott Thompson

Thompson AVC

Michael Hallows

Commercial Business Partner,
City of Wolverhampton
Council

Jack Quinton

JRQ Media

Harbans

MasalaMontana

Neal Quinton

Magair Wolverhampton Ltd

Rachel Bruerton

Clares of Compton

Ruth Evans

Brewing Food and Beverage
Industry Suppliers Association

Jugan Paul

Visual Arts

Introduction from the Chair



Cllr Susan Roberts (MBE)

Chair of the
Wolverhampton Pound
Select Committee

Times have changed for us in Local Government with decreasing budgets, increasing demand, changing and more complex public needs, demographic challenges, technological advancements, and a need for greater community collaboration; all in the wake of an unprecedented global pandemic.

New approaches are now needed more than ever to help level up our most deprived communities and support our vulnerable citizens. At the same time we must seek to rejuvenate our local economies, support our business and ensure that we have a thriving voluntary and community sector (VCS). The Wolverhampton Pound is the new approach that will help us to achieve these feats, working together with our larger partner institutions to share resources and knowledge to deliver an additional £21.8 million per year and create an additional 430 jobs per year.

Working with the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) and other major stakeholders in the City, the City of Wolverhampton Council have developed an approach which will reorganise and control the local economy. The ambition is to ensure wealth is not extracted but broadly held

and generative, with local roots, where income is recirculated, communities are put first, and people are provided with opportunities, dignity and well-being.

The Wolverhampton Pound provides us with an opportunity to meet some of the challenges of levelling up. The Wolverhampton Pound and in particular the move of the procurement function to be a strategic change maker with a renewed focus on social value, will enable better identification of priority areas in our communities.

By embracing the fundamentals of the Wolverhampton Pound, we can enable not only economic recovery but also support the health and wellbeing of our most in need communities and sectors.

I was honoured to be asked to chair this Select Committee and would like to thank all of the organisations and groups who gave up their time to provide us with the information contained within this report. We heard evidence from CLES, partner organisations, Voluntary and Community sector representatives, local businesses, service providers and internal Council departments. This report provides a summary of our evidence sessions and a set of recommendations which the Committee consider important for the implementation and success of the Wolverhampton Pound.

Background: What is Community Wealth Building and the Wolverhampton Pound?

Community Wealth Building seeks to engage with the local economy so that wealth; both economic and social, can be kept and recirculated within our City and our communities. The Wolverhampton Pound will put our citizens and communities at the heart of all that we do, to ensure that local businesses, service providers and individuals are provided with the opportunities they have a right to expect; opportunities that will help to improve not just the local economy but the health, wellbeing and quality of life that all of our citizens deserve.

A Community Wealth Building approach in relation to procurement and contract management will affect how we all carry out our day-to-day business. A cultural change will be required to enable us to approach contract management and procurement in more creative and innovative ways and to open the door to businesses and providers who have not previously engaged with public sector procurement.

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Community Wealth Building uses the combined power of institutions, businesses and communities and aims to retain as much wealth as possible in the local economy by:

- Creating opportunity locally
- Creating new local jobs and
- Creating new locally owned enterprises

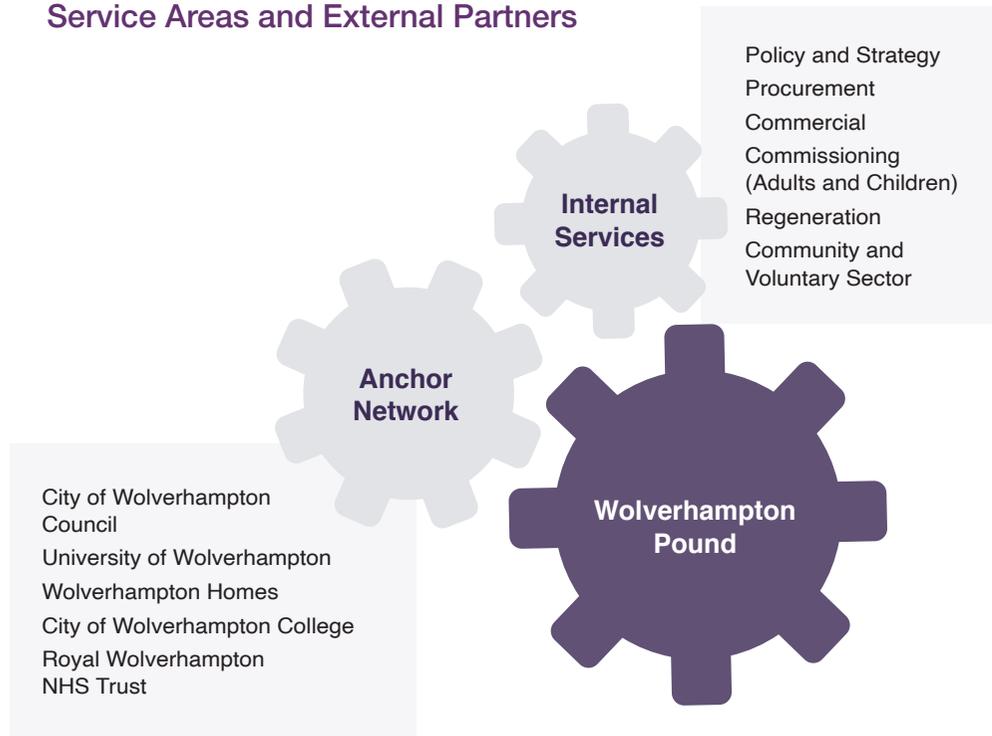
The Wolverhampton Pound has five key objectives:

- Retaining and growing local wealth and prioritising local spend
- Embedding social value in the city and leveraging local spend and employment
- Leading the green transition
- Supporting growth in the health and wellbeing economy
- Growing and promoting a cultural and creative city

The Anchor Network

Community Wealth Building engages with and focuses on the activities of Anchor institutions, which are defined as large established organisations, rooted in local communities. In Wolverhampton, the Anchor Institutions are The City of Wolverhampton Council, The University of Wolverhampton, Wolverhampton Homes, The City of Wolverhampton College and the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust.

Service Areas and External Partners



These institutions will use their assets and influence to create economic and social value in the city and in our communities, whilst ensuring that value for money is maintained throughout all process. The Wolverhampton Pound Anchor Institutions signed a statement of intent in March 2021 and a video introducing the Anchor Networks and their statement of intent can be found here [Statement of Intent Signing](#).

Statement of Intent:

We, the major institutions of Wolverhampton intend to:

- Make a long-term commitment to building community wealth in Wolverhampton.
- To work collaboratively to develop behaviours and practices that support local people and the local economy wherever possible.
- To leverage our institutional power to support a fair and just transition to a low carbon economy.
- To work in partnership with the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector (VCSE) and the private sector to build a more resilient local economy.

By using, and combining the Anchor Network procurement processes, pipelines, spending power, assets and workforce capabilities, a real and positive change can be made for the city and our citizens. By adopting a shared vision and narrative we will be able to embed coordinated place-based action across the city and identify and unite any disjointed work across the anchors and our partners. Identifying and developing this shared vision is and will continue to be a collaborative process with ongoing involvement and consultation with communities and other relevant stakeholders.

The Committee understands that the Anchor Network governing body meets on a quarterly basis, with a rotating chair from within the group. The Committee understand that the use of a rotating chair is to ensure that the network is collaboratively owned but suggest that this be kept under review to ensure that a consistent approach is being achieved. The Committee notes that the chairs also rotate for the working groups but that this rotation in on an annual basis to allow progress to be made on the implementation of work plans.

The Committee is keen to ensure that resources will be in place to continue the work of CLES once its work with the Anchor Network comes to an end. The Committee welcome the suggested creation of a Community Wealth Builder in Residence resource to lead, manage and develop the network. The Committee are pleased to note that funding has been agreed for an initial 12-month term for a Co-ordinator position and that recruitment is already underway. The Co-ordinator position will provide essential project management support for the network and focus on skills and workforce.

The Committee notes that there are three working groups sitting under the Anchor Network:

- Procurement and Commissioning
- Land and Property
- Workforce

The Committee notes the action plan for the procurement working group which includes:

- Get Ready to Bid seminar series
- Interrogation of the spend framework
- Low Carbon Procurement – Roadmap to 2028
- Social Value Framework
- Refresh of the Wolverhampton Business Charter

The Committee recommend that an update on the action plan for the procurement working group be brought to a relevant scrutiny panel for consideration when appropriate.

The Committee were pleased to see the suggestion from CLES that a Community Wealth Building Hub be developed. This hub would link directly to the Anchor Network and its working groups to bring together business support and voluntary and community sector support in the City. Armed with this wealth of knowledge and information, the hub will then be able to create real local economic opportunity and build community wealth in the areas where it is most needed.

A Community Wealth Building Hub would be driven by the strategic priorities of the Wolves Anchor Network. This hub would work across thematic areas, connecting foundational, reform and growth sectors to skills support and training, e.g., supporting the creative sector with business skills or growth sectors with digital skills, or skills to support the transition to new business models in the green economy.

A ‘hub’ model can sit between the Wolves Anchor Network, the established business support landscape, the VCSE sector and place-based working. This model will develop an approach which grows local and community ownership of the economy, with an emphasis on delivering outcomes for those people and places that are excluded from opportunity. [Relighting our City ‘together’ action plan; CLES]

The Committee also welcome the suggestion of a Procurement Hub as a shared anchor resource linking in with the CWB Hub. The Procurement Hub would seek to understand the Anchor Network’s demands for goods and services and match this with intelligence about the local economy.

A Procurement Hub Manager would join and sustain the Wolverhampton Pound Procurement working group, supporting the implementation of the collective workplan and identify viable opportunities for local market making. The Committee understand that a Procurement Hub manager will need a decent grounding in procurement and commissioning, an understanding of the sources of market intelligence and an ability to work across various sectors of the economy, from construction to health & social care.

Anchor Network Spend Analysis

The City of Wolverhampton Council engaged with the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) to support the development of the Wolverhampton Pound. This work involved embedding the principles of community wealth building (CWB) across the Anchor Network, identifying opportunities to grow and retain wealth in the City and quantifying the benefit of continued investment.

The Wolverhampton Anchor Network spent over £1billion through procurement, commissioning and the employment of staff in 2019/20. Analysis by CLES has however shown that ***'over half of all procurement spend flows outside of the West Midlands economy, and that over half of salary spend flows outside of Wolverhampton'***¹. This analysis by CLES has shown that over £600 million of spend requires further analysis. Whilst work has been carried out to show where this money is going, we still need to understand why opportunities are not being taken up by local suppliers. Strategies will then need to be developed to retain as much of this spend in the City for the benefit of our citizens and businesses. By doing this, a multiplier affect can be applied and CLES have concluded that an additional £21.8 million per year can be achieved for the Wolverhampton economy, which will in turn support a further 430 jobs each year.

Summary of yearly benefits (Wolverhampton Pound A Business Case to Level Up Wolverhampton (CLES))

	Economic Output (/year)	Employment growth (/year)	Local Supplier Multiplier (/year)	Local Staff Multiplier (/year)	Value of Social Value (/year)
Increase in local spend	£8,252,531	300	£2,640,810	£4,126,265	£2,417,860
Increase in local employment	£2,921,904	135	n/a	£1,460,952	n/a
Total	£11,174,435	436	£2,640,810	£5,587,217	£2,417,860
	£21.8m				

The work that has been started by CLES and the Anchor Institutions is therefore vital for our City to grow and thrive and for our citizens to live the lives that they deserve.

¹ Wolverhampton Pound A Business Case to Level Up Wolverhampton (CLES)

New Approaches to Procurement and Contract Management

Procurement and contract management are emerging from the back office and must be embraced as change making strategic functions. Procurement and contract management have the power and leverage to lead the Council towards its long-term vision for 2030 and to ensure that the priorities set out in the Our City: Our Plan are achieved.

A progressive approach to procurement and contract management is even more pressing in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. CLES recognise that Wolverhampton is well-placed to undertake the required work to ensure that the spend of local, key organisations is targeted to ensure maximum social value and, where possible, developing and increasing networks of local supply.

Whilst not losing sight of the more essential requirements underpinning procurement and contract management, a more progressive approach will enable us to better address the issues facing our City, including:

- Environmental sustainability
- Engagement with the Voluntary and Community Sector
- Job Creation and employment
- Skills Development – including digital skills
- Embedding social value and ethical consideration into our contracts

The Committee are aware that the city-wide procurement charter is also supportive of such an approach to procurement and contract management across the operations of key organisations in the City. **There are five key objectives within the Charter:**

- Develop and grow a skilled workforce
- Encourage health lifestyles and independence
- Support more people to be active in their communities
- Support business to develop and grow
- Support the reduction of the carbon footprint



The Committee considers that to fully recognise the objectives of the Wolverhampton Pound and those in the Our City: Our Plan, collaboration will be paramount both internally and externally across all partner and anchor institutions.

The Committee consider that the objectives detailed in the Our City: Our Plan should be included in tender documentation and communicated widely to both existing and potential suppliers during any pre- procurement communication and activity.

The Committee are pleased that reference to the Wolverhampton Pound has now been included in the new Our City: Our Plan as a means of achieving a Thriving Economy in all parts of the City:

Leverage the Wolverhampton Pound's spending power so millions more are spent in our City to create job and business opportunities.²

² City of Wolverhampton Council: Our City: Our Plan: February 2022

Green Paper, Transforming Public Procurement

In December 2020, the Cabinet Office set out proposals for changing the shape of public procurement legislation with the publication of a Green Paper, Transforming Public Procurement³. The overarching objectives of the paper are to speed up and simplify procurement processes, place value for money at their heart, generate social value and unleash opportunities for small businesses, charities and social enterprises.

The Green Paper and subsequent National Procurement Policy Statement (NPPSs) provide a more flexible process for procurement supported in part by the UK now being outside of the EU's legislative framework.

The Green paper and NPPSs are clear that local authorities no longer have to accept the lowest bid but can now take a broader view of bids received to include areas such as social value. The paper also places an emphasis on small to mid-size enterprises (SMEs), voluntary and community sector suppliers and ensuring transparency, integrity and the fair treatment of suppliers.

³ Cabinet Office, Transforming Public Procurement: December 2020

Public Procurement Timeline



Source: LoCallis – True Value Towards Ethical Public Service Commissioning

The Committee consider that the role of procurement within the Council needs to change significantly if the values and ambitions embedded within the Wolverhampton Pound are to be realised and the opportunities afforded in the Green Paper are to be capitalised upon.

At the moment, the procurement team is a centralised function which is seen by many as back office, administrative support.

The Procurement team currently carries out the following functions:

- Leading on procurement strategy
- Advising on the best route to market to support services to meet their operational needs and Council strategies
- Maximising value for money for the residents of Wolverhampton
- Ensuring compliance with Contract Procedure Rules and Public Contract Regulations 2015
- Ensuring equal treatment and transparency in all Procurement activity

The Committee understand that recruitment and retention of staff is an ongoing challenge, particularly in relation to higher skilled, experienced officers. Team members are under significant pressure due to constant deadlines with limited time to plan ahead and operate at a more strategic level. There is a heavy reliance on interim staff which means that there can be critical losses of important knowledge when these staff leave, creating limited opportunities for learning and development internally. High turn around and shortages of senior level procurement officers can have a significant knock on effect for other departments in the Council where very high level, high value procurement activities take place. Any significant delays in these procurement activities can have a negative impact on the Council, the City and our citizens.

The issues relating to recruitment are linked to huge skills shortages in both the public and private sector, with existing skills being further eroded due to an over reliance on the use of frameworks. At the moment the Council is just not able to compete with the compensation packages available for interim appointments and consultant fees.

The Committee welcome and encourage the prospect of growing our own procurement staff through the procurement buyers and procurement apprentice posts and the training being made available to move team members up to a professional standard through the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply Diploma. The Committee do however consider that the Council should enter into conversation with the University to identify any students coming towards the end of their studies who may be looking for employment in the procurement field. The Committee suggest that this might include students studying law degrees, but understand that the required qualification for procurement is not currently offered by the University. The Committee consider that the possibility of providing this qualification in the future should form part of the discussions with the University as one of the Anchor Network members. The Committee would also welcome any opportunity to engage with partners to utilise their skills and resource in areas such as procurement to help deliver major capital schemes.

The Committee consider that a cultural change is required throughout the Council to move procurement into a strategic, change making position. Procurement needs to be able to be proactive rather than reactive, and to have the resources available to strategically move the Council from being overly reliant on frameworks to a better mix of options that will open the market to smaller and more local businesses and suppliers.

The Committee understand that to achieve this, change needs to happen across the Council; contract managers need to have the skills, expertise and confidence to manage their contracts and liaise with their existing and potential suppliers. Contract Managers will need to consider areas such as pre procurement engagement, post implementation monitoring and social value matters in all of their procurement and contract management processes.

By adopting a strategic role, procurement can start to take a longer term, partnership-based approach, working closely with stakeholders such as the Anchor Network representatives and with internal departments and teams, to identify synergies and economies of scale which will help to reduce duplication and bring spend down. This new approach will allow for great collaboration and co-production in the procurement process and for real consideration to be given as to which supplier really is best placed to provide the service or goods in light of the Wolverhampton Pound and Our City: Our Plan objectives.

Resources

The Committee understand that moving away from a framework reliant system is more resource heavy and may require additional recruitment. Breaking down larger contracts into lots, to encourage more local firms to enter the process is welcome but will create a much larger number of contracts that will need to be managed and procured. As such, the Committee are supportive of the proposal to consider using market forces supplements in the short term to recruit to the more senior posts whilst at the same time continuing to develop our own staff through the apprentice and procurement buyers posts and the Diploma. When considering the recruitment and retention of staff, the Committee suggest that it may be beneficial to go beyond the standard compensation package. This should include highlighting the the less tangible elements that make working for the City of Wolverhampton Council special using the website to highlight and promote this.

In relation to the Diploma and any other such training packages that the Council makes available to employees, the Committee suggest that a clause be added so that should the employee leave within a certain amount of time after studying the qualification, that all or part of the fee for the course be reimbursed to the Council on an incremental basis. The Committee are however aware that this would only be applicable to courses run by the City of Wolverhampton Council and could not be applied in relation to any apprenticeship roles. The Committee understand that conversations in relation to this are ongoing with the Organisational Development Team, Legal Team and relevant service areas. The Committee agree that it is essential that any such process be compliant and transparent.

The Committee also recommend that the Council investigate any available opportunities to engage with partners in relation to recruitment, and to utilise their skills and resources in areas such as procurement to help deliver major capital schemes. Partners in this instance may include the Cabinet Office and Homes England. The Committee consider it important that the Anchor Network maintain good communication with such partners.

Cross Departmental Working

In order to achieve the ambitions of the Wolverhampton Pound, it is clear that there needs to be greater cross departmental working within the Council. The Committee notes that there is currently some disconnect between the work carried out by the Procurement and Commercial teams, the Strategy and Policy team, Public Health, Commissioning and the Regeneration teams.

Throughout the evidence sessions, it has become clear that that the reach of the Wolverhampton Pound will need to span a large number of processes and areas if it is to be successful:

- Procurement
- Strategy
- Commissioning and design of the product or service
- Business engagement
- Tendering
- Delivery
- Contract management (inc. Legal)
- Monitoring

The Committee recognises and commends the work being carried out in the individual teams. However, in order to meet the challenges put forward by the Wolverhampton Pound, more consistency in approach and coordination is required. The Committee also note the importance of having a comprehensive picture and understanding of the national business landscape.

The Committee welcome the work currently being carried out in relation to the formulation of a Business Directory for jobs and skills. The Directory will help and enable providers to be signed up to the e-procurement system and for local suppliers to be better identified when seeking local quotes.

The Regeneration team will also need to understand from any pre procurement engagement, what support and skills

local businesses or organisations require in order to enter into the procurement process. This can then be fed into the new IGNITE initiative.

The Committee therefore recommend that to provide coordination and consistency of approach across all departments, that a new post be created to lead on the operational implementation of the Wolverhampton Pound initiative and to ensure that the objectives of the Wolverhampton Pound are fully recognised and embedded in the day-to-day work of the Council moving forwards. The Committee recommend that senior officers from within the relevant departments work together to understand where this post should sit within the organisation and the details as to the job specification and grade.

The Procurement Pipeline

The Committee are supportive of the work being carried out in relation to the Procurement Pipeline and note the vital role that this piece of work will play in enabling the early identification of contracts coming up for tender. This early identification will in turn enable pre procurement exercises to begin in sufficient time to ensure that SMEs and VCS groups can be communicated with and where required provided with sufficient support and advice to enable them to enter into the procurement process if appropriate.

Given the importance of the pipeline, the Committee recommend that it be kept under review and monitored on a regular basis through the scrutiny process.

The Committee note that the Anchor Network partners will also be producing pipelines for their own organisations and that under the 'Building an entrepreneurial and generative society'⁴ workstream, there is an activity to produce a joint procurement and commissioning pipeline. The Committee consider that this combined pipeline will be crucial in embedding the commitments of the Wolverhampton Pound moving forwards. The Pipeline will also allow the Council and its partners to identify synergies and economies of scale across the City and allow for the greatest collaboration and coproduction possible.

The Committee recommend that when the Pipeline is published, at least three upcoming contracts be identified to be used as pilot contracts for the new approaches to procurement and the Wolverhampton Pound and that a report in relation to these and the ongoing management of the contracts be presented to the relevant Scrutiny Panel.



⁴ Relighting Our City 'together' action plan Embedding Community Wealth Building in Wolverhampton

Social Value and Ethical Considerations

One of the main objectives of the Wolverhampton Pound is to embed social value in the City to help leverage local spend and employment and make the City the best it can be for our communities.

The Government's intentions for post EU public procurement were outlined in the Transforming Public Procurement Green Paper published in December 2020 and referred to earlier.

The Green Paper was followed by a National Procurement Policy Statement (NPPS) in June 2021 which sets out that all contracting authorities should consider the following national priority outcomes alongside any additional local priorities in their procurement activities:

- creating new businesses, new jobs and new skills
- tackling climate change and reducing waste, and
- improving supplier diversity, innovation and resilience.

The Levelling Up White Paper published in January 2022 places social value and procurement as a key enabler of Government ambitions to increase productivity and reduce regional inequalities.

The Committee understand that the Council is developing a new approach to social value and developing a strategy that will outline a set of social value outcomes, aligned to the key priorities of the Our City: Our Plan.

Aligned to this strategy will be a Social Value Framework which will set out the Council's priorities and some of the activities that the Council would like to see from contractors when developing their social value proposals. This will include financial proxy values for these activities to ensure an objective and transparent approach to scoring of social value. The Committee welcome the use of objective and transparent measures to monitor the social value outputs and impacts once a contract has been awarded and monitoring of these measures and KPIs should be reported back to Scrutiny on a regular basis.

A bespoke Social Value Toolkit will also be provided with information about further tools, guidance and contacts that may be helpful in supporting potential contractors to develop meaningful social value proposals.

The Committee understand that there will also be a refreshed City Charter. The Wolverhampton City Charter was originally launched by City Board in 2013 and sets out key priorities for procurement and commissioning activity in the City. As part of the new approach to social value the charter will be refreshed.

The Committee support the principles underlying the work being carried out in relation to social value:

- **Targeted** - Social value approach must align and support delivery of the outcomes in the Our City: Our Plan.
- **Efficient** – The resources the Council and stakeholders spend on identifying, requesting, assessing, securing and monitoring additional social value should be proportionate to the additional social value that can be secured.
- **Fair and Inclusive** – Particular efforts should be made to encourage and support applications from a diverse range of individuals and organisations.
- **Objective and Consistent** – Robust financial proxy values alongside clear qualitative criteria for scoring and assessment so that there is a consistent approach to decisions.
- **Transparent** – The social value framework will be documented and published setting out, how social value will be assessed.
- **Monitored** – Social value requirements are consistently and routinely monitored through an embedded system of robust contract management.

The Committee are wholly supportive of this approach and welcome the introduction of the strategy, framework, working principles and toolkit.

The Committee consider that any social value priorities must be collaboratively considered, co-designed and produced with communities and other stakeholders such as the VCS, so that any themes, outcomes and measures are specific and relate directly to Wolverhampton and our citizens. The Committee are also mindful that the social values agreed to and included in any procurement process remain relevant throughout the whole process and not just at the start and that they be constantly referred back to during any contract monitoring to ensure that the required value is being achieved.

The Committee note that the objectives and aims in the new Our City: Our Plan have been widely consulted on with communities and all partner organisations including the VCS and recommend that any social value or ethical priorities relating to procurement and contract management link to the objectives in the refreshed Our City: Our Plan.

As well as the very welcome approach to social value, the Committee consider that matters of ethical procurement could also be included as part of the new procurement process. It may be that a supplier is able to evidence high social value and impact but may have an ethical stance that is not consistent with that of the Council or our City. Ethical considerations may include ensuring that payment terms of no more than 30 days are cascaded through the supply chain or that a supplier has a robust equality, diversity and inclusion policy or a gender equal pay policy.

Contract Management

Good contract management will involve ensuring that there is accountability for agreements made throughout the procurement process. This will include any pre procurement engagement or activity, administration of the contract itself, delivery or implementation of what has been contracted for and the ongoing relationship management between the contract manager and the service or goods provider. Improvements to contract management and the use of the proposed new digital approaches to monitor contracts are welcomed by the Committee as a means to ensure that value for money, social value and ethical considerations are embedded and monitored through the life of the contract.

The Committee consider that early engagement is of vital importance and that improved cross departmental working with partners will be required for this. This activity should include targeted early engagement with SMEs and VCS organisations. Events such as ‘meet the buyer’ are examples of such engagement and will enable potential suppliers to understand what opportunities are coming through the pipeline and what will be expected of them in terms of social value and ethical considerations. The Committee therefore recommend that steps be taken to ensure that a structured and consistent approach is developed in relation to pre procurement supplier engagement.

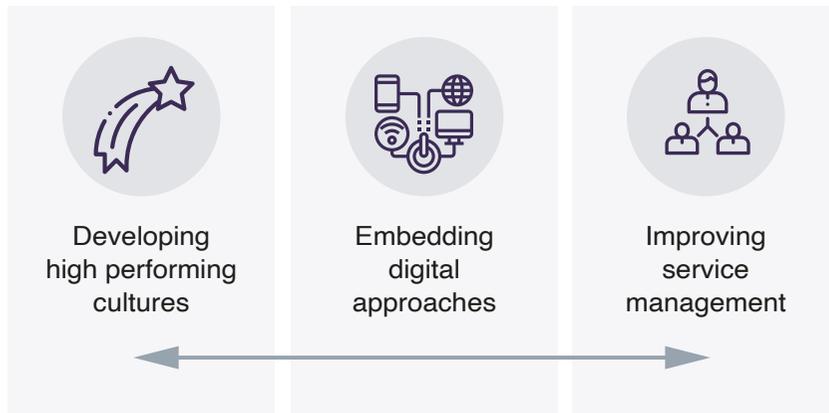
As well as seeking to engage with new potential suppliers, the Committee are mindful as to the importance of maintaining ongoing dialogue and relationships with existing suppliers.

Early engagement with suppliers and good communication may also start to generate new and innovative approaches to service provision and the supply of goods, and will provide space and time to really consider what we are commissioning. As has already been noted, the situation that we find ourselves in at the moment is unprecedented and the solutions required may not yet have been developed. By working with potential suppliers prior to the development of the tender document and by starting with the issue that needs to be addressed, innovative models of service provision or new technological solutions may start to emerge to the benefit of all. Such ways of working will also help to enhance the reputation of the Council as a progressive organisation rather than a more passive contract provider.

The Committee are however aware that under current legislation, co-production with suppliers can be challenging as the Council must ensure that there remains a level playing field for all bidders and that all bidders are treated equally. Care must be taken to ensure and to make clear, that early engagement by a supplier or service provider in the pre procurement process, does not guarantee any preferential consideration at the procurement stage.

Linking in with the Relighting our City strategy and the levelling up agenda, the Committee also consider that additional focus could be given to targeting existing and potential suppliers in areas of greater deprivation or areas that have been more adversely impacted by the pandemic. Feedback from these suppliers can then help to further inform the Social Value priorities and framework.

The Committee welcome the ongoing review and improvements being put forward in relation to contract management and the drive to make the process as transparent and visible as possible. Improvements will include developing the capability, skills and knowledge of contract managers; and reviewing current methods and practices to encourage innovation and change. At a more strategic level this will also include linking in with the Wolverhampton Pound, the Relighting our City Programme, the MTFs and the Social Value Strategy.



The Committee is pleased that training is being carried out for contract managers and that attendance and information in relation to this is being collated and fed back through the Government Commercial Function, which is providing the training. The Committee welcome the fact that 290 officers have now been identified as requiring training (213 due to their role and 77 as part of their professional development). The Committee recommend that feedback in relation to the training and ongoing monitoring of its effectiveness be reported on a regular basis to the relevant Scrutiny Panel. The Committee also consider that bespoke inhouse training should be investigated to complement the existing offer and to focus on the elements of the Wolverhampton Pound. This training should be mandatory for all budget managers as part of their induction.

The Committee welcome the introduction of the contract management framework and toolkit and are satisfied that the management board that has developed these represents a diverse selection of the Council's workforce. This level of diversity is vital as different departments and areas work in slightly different ways, construction for example will be different from service provision and it is vital that all of these considerations are incorporated into our plans and frameworks moving forwards.

The Committee recognise that effective and efficient contract management will be fundamental for the ongoing and long-term success of the Wolverhampton Pound. Good execution of the areas highlighted in the overview diagram below and in particular a more visible and accessible process, will be vital in encouraging and supporting smaller local businesses into the marketplace.

The Committee consider that careful and effective monitoring of the improved contract management processes should be undertaken, and regular updates provided to scrutiny.

Updates to scrutiny should provide a strategic oversight of contracts along with the following information:

- how and where social value is being achieved and measured
- figures in relation to how we are retaining increased economic wealth
- information on new job creation
- how we are ensuring value for money throughout the procurement and contract management process
- updates on training for contract and service managers
- successes to be celebrated

The Committee consider that to support this monitoring, a number of key performance indicators (KPIs) be agreed. These KPI's should include both quantitative and qualitative so that real, tangible progress can be measured and a clear understanding of what is and what isn't working achieved.

The Committee hopes that through this monitoring, successes can be showcased and celebrated which the Committee hopes will then encourage new, local businesses to enter the supply chain.

Improved ICT System

The Committee welcome the drive to improve ICT systems. The Committee understand that this will enable the provision of data and dashboards to improve contract management and monitoring and will be able to highlight areas for possible synergies or where additional support is required for more complex contracts. The Committee understand that the improved ICT systems will also enable the identification of trends and allow officers to monitor the performance of suppliers and contract managers.

A Complete Overview of Contract Management



Barriers to Procurement

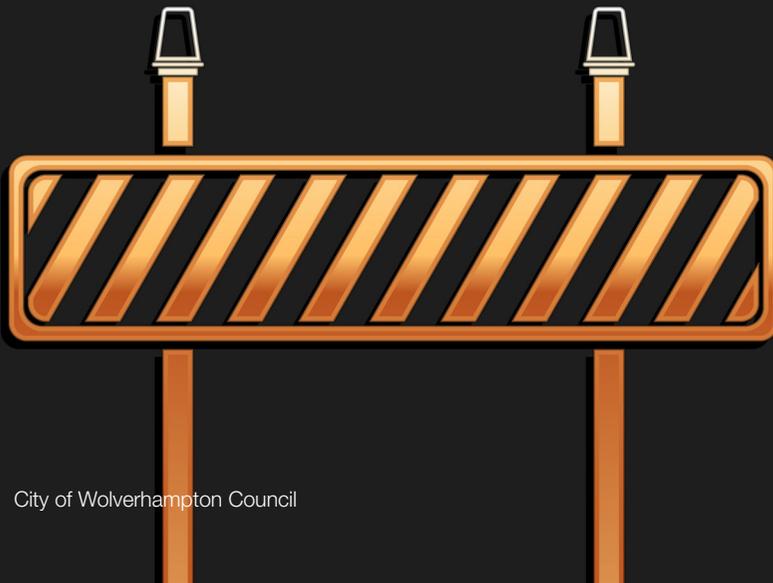
The Committee consider that good contract management should be able to mitigate some of the barriers that business representatives highlighted as prohibitive to entering the marketplace.

The Committee heard evidence from a number of local business representative who were very welcoming of the improvements that they had witnessed in the Council's approach to business support, contract management and procurement over the past few years. However, they also highlighted a number of areas as barriers to engagement.

1. Communication

Once the pipeline is in place it will be vital to have an excellent communication strategy ready to advertise and communicate upcoming contract opportunities and let the City know that the Council is open for business. This will require a properly set out pre-procurement process that enables market engagement and consultation at the earliest possible stage. Pre-procurement must involve detailed sharing of information to prospective bidders regarding how the successful applicant will be expected to adhere to or be measured in relation to social value, KPIs (qualitative and quantitative) or ethical standards (environmental, living wage, EDI etc.). The process for the evaluation of bids must also be open, transparent and available to prospective applicants at this early stage. The Committee are however aware that this can be challenging as early market engagement is used to enable stakeholders and procurement to plan the best route to market. Due to this, some of the information referred to may not be available until after the engagement has taken place. The Committee understand that early market engagement in relation to strategically important contracts is standard but to conduct this type of engagement for all activity would require additional resources

Market consultation at this early stage will also help to get businesses ready to bid and to ascertain whether there are any barriers that are in their way such as a lack of digital expertise or ability to actually put the bid in online and whether extra support or training is required to guide them through the bidding process.



2. Inconsistent application of policy

The Committee understands that many smaller businesses encounter inconsistencies in their dealings with different Council departments which can be confusing and prohibitive. The Committee recommend that a new and consistent approach be considered for when SMEs or partners from the VCS are contacting the council in relation to tendering or procurement activities. This new process must be communicated clearly to all potential suppliers in adequate time before the tender process commences. The Committee understands that there can also be inconsistencies regarding which officers the SMEs or VCS representatives find themselves speaking to and that this can also lead to inconsistent information being provided. The Committee consider that having a single point of contact for the procurement and contract management processes will be of benefit and mitigate this inconsistency and uncertainty. Again, this information needs to be made clearly available on the Council's website and widely communicated.

3. Overly Bureaucratic and inconsistent Processes

The Committee heard that businesses and especially smaller businesses found the paperwork and processes to be followed regarding entering the marketplace, very prohibitive and at times overly expensive and very time consuming. The Committee recommend that the current processes be assessed and where possible, streamlined to reduce the amount of forms or questions required and to ensure that they are appropriate for the contract being put forward. Moving to an online process is welcomed but many smaller businesses are struggling to negotiate the online process and therefore additional digital skills training should be provided. The Committee understand that many small businesses do want to put in bids for public sector contracts but consider that they do not have the required skills, resources or knowledge to be able to do so. The Committee understand that there is already an online procurement portal but suggest that this be enhanced where possible and given greater visibility on the Council's public website. The pipeline should be accessible from the portal and it should enable alerts and to be set up by suppliers for when contracts of a certain type became available. Suppliers should be able to upload their standard information here once, rather than for each new contract thus saving a considerable amount of time filling in numerous pre procurement questionnaires. Such a resources would also be beneficial to the Council as it would enable the identification of possible suppliers for new goods or services early on in the process and link in directly with any pre procurement engagement and publicity. Case studies relating to successful bids could also be uploaded to the portal and links for training opportunities or skills workshops advertised.

The business and skills directory will also be key to help ensure that providers register their details here. The Committee do recognise the challenges and risks associated with the provision of information on a less regular basis. The Committee understand that for contracts above the threshold spend, specific information is required under law such as the Standard Selection Questionnaire. The Committee understand that the level of risk associated with a contractor will increase in line with the amount of time that has

elapsed since information is uploaded. The Committee suggest that work be undertaken to investigate and balance this risk and agree how often information such as the Standard Selection Questionnaire (SSQ) should be required from suppliers. The Committee recommend that a working group be set up to discuss these issues, and that this group include representatives from legal, audit and risk, procurement, commercial and governance.

4. Provision of detailed feedback

The Committee heard that reasons as to why a bid had failed were not always communicated back to the potential supplier. The Committee consider that this is vital and should be an integral part of the procurement and contract management process. By providing constructive feedback and engaging with unsuccessful suppliers, the council can start to fully understand the skills and support that small businesses or voluntary and community organisations are currently lacking and start to put processes in place to help fill these knowledge and skills gaps. The Committee understand that Procurement already provide debrief letters for the majority of procurement exercises and that these letters are mandatory for contracts over a specific threshold. The Committee understand that debrief letters are not currently provided in relation to quotes and that should this be recommended, then additional resources will be required. The Committee are also aware that such debrief letters will not be specific to local suppliers as national and international suppliers are also able to put bids forward.

5. Liability Insurance

The Committee understand that in some cases liability insurance in local government contracts can have an adverse impact on competition and appear prohibitive for small businesses which might otherwise consider entering the procurement process. The Committee understand that the council must take a number of considerations into account when deciding whether, and to what extent, contractor liability should be limited or excluded. The Committee understand that it is important to ensure that the issues of liability and insurance take account of relevant factors including value for money. The Committee suggest that the Council investigate the current procedures in relation to liability insurance and that where the suggested levels of insurance are not considered appropriate, they may be either raised or lowered. It might, for example, be considered that the level of insurance in some instances should be lowered, as the cost to the contractor could be prohibitive. The Committee do however recognise that in these circumstances, the Council will have to accept that if loss or damage occurs in excess of the insured limit, and the contractor cannot fund the difference, then the Council will be accepting that additional risk.

The Committee consider that the approach taken in respect of liability can be an important determinant in whether or not a contractor bids for a contract. It is important therefore that contract managers in consultation with procurement, legal and insurance services team, consider these issues as early as possible in the procurement process.

Risks and Mitigation

During the engagement session with local business representatives, some concerns were expressed in relation to balancing the opening up of the marketplace with the management of risk and due diligence. The Committee note and take on board these concerns and understand that greater flexibility in procedures, more non-standard approaches to procurement, social value driven rather than tangible outcome based approaches and the possibility of awarding contracts to smaller companies with less experience, may open the Council up to legal challenge should a new supplier or provider not be able to follow through on their contractual obligations.

The Committee is mindful that as a local authority, the Council is accountable to the public for the money that is spent on procurement. The Committee is however also conscious that the Council should not be overly risk adverse and seek to balance any identified risks against the potential benefits for the City, our citizens and the Council. The Committee consider that in all cases due diligence must continue to be carried out and that the proposed improvements in contract management, engagement and monitoring will further ensure that all contractual obligations are met.

Voluntary and Community Sector Engagement

The Committee heard evidence from the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS). The Committee is very impressed with the amount and quality of work carried out by the sector and applaud the commitment of the volunteers and staff who are going above and beyond on a regular basis to help and support some of the most vulnerable people in our City.

The Committee welcome the improved and ongoing consultation and engagement that has taken place to help shape the City priorities included in the Our City: Our Plan and the establishment of ward funds to help target specific local issues, build resilience, and reduce demand on services.

The Committee understands that the Cross Sector Forum has been critical in influencing and facilitating activity across the system including:

- Raising the profile of the Voluntary and Community sector in the City
- Developing a framework to embed co-production in everything they do
- Contributing to the development of training programmes for VCS groups to access opportunities to bid for funding
- Contributing to the development of Social Value principles and the Wolverhampton Pound framework

The Committee notes that visible leadership is evident in relation to the VCS, with the Deputy Chief Executive acting as Voluntary Sector Champion and the establishment of a voluntary sector councillor champion. The Committee consider that similar visible leadership could be used to promote the Wolverhampton Pound at both councillor level and officer level and that a champion from both areas should be appointed to raise awareness and champion the work being done. These champions will provide visible leadership at the highest levels and help to raise the profile of the Wolverhampton Pound to local businesses, the VCS and our communities.

As already considered in this paper, the VCS highlighted the importance of engagement, communication and pre procurement activity as vital areas of work that have enabled them to shape and co-produce many of the services they provide. The Committee understands that communication and pre procurement are essential and that when designing any social value framework or approach, it must not come from the top down but start with the communities and work up.

The Committee understands that the Cross Sector Forum are currently collating the results of a survey recently undertaken in partnership with the University to help inform future objectives and priorities for the sector and highlight gaps in the VCS landscape in relation to procurement and commissioning provision. As previously stated, the Committee welcomes coproduction but care must be taken to ensure that processes are carried out in a fair way that is open to all.

The Committee understands that there are many small grass roots organisations that want to engage with the Council and that they have a wealth of information and experience that will be of great benefit to us. Asset mapping is considered a key area of work that is ongoing, as they are many small groups in the City not currently recognised and who may not even realise that what they are doing is volunteering.

Leadership is strong in the sector; innovations and ongoing development keep business plans evolving and the infrastructure transformative. If the market that is needed doesn't exist then it can be created through communication, collaboration and coproduction.

The Committee do however understand that a good market mix is desirable with SMEs, VCS and larger organisations all working together. The grass roots organisations might not have the required infrastructure to keep going on their own but they can provide the diverse and knowledgeable workforces that can be of benefit to the larger organisations and vice versa. At the moment it is a priority for the VCS to support the grass roots organisations to help them become sustainable and able to thrive again following the pandemic. A lot of the required support for this can come from the larger organisations such as the Council and other Anchors. The Committee are also aware, following evidence provided by the business support team and the VCS representatives, that larger organisations can provide a lot of social value and social impact in the City and for our communities. Large major suppliers can work with the Council to develop work programmes which will link in with many of our priorities and interests. This could include bringing in local firms or the VCS as sub-contractors to provide a specific service or working with schools, colleges or universities on skills provision in the medium and long term or in the provision of apprenticeships and work placements.

The Committee are however mindful that where any sub-contracting does take place that this is carried out ethically and that payments made to the VCS are at market value and that adequate resourcing

for the required work is provided by the major supplier. The Committee also note the frustration faced by the sector around some national providers delivering or duplicating services in the City with little benefit to the sector. The Committee consider that areas such as this can be picked up by the new contract management system where organisations may be required to provide information as to who they are sub contracting with.

One large area of work currently being addressed by the VCS is how to change the face of volunteering. The Committee understands that there is a need to attract volunteers from all stages of life and from as many diverse backgrounds as possible. Work is ongoing to consider how to motivate people to become volunteers and to show that volunteering can be the pathway into employment.

The Committee considers that the work being carried out by the VCS is exceptional and that it needs to be communicated further and more regularly. Therefore, the Committee recommend that regular reports in relation to the work of the VCS be provided to Scrutiny Board or the All-Councillor briefings.

The Committee also recommend that consideration be given as to whether the VCS might have a place on the Anchor Network and that if this is not possible, that processes be put in place to ensure that the VCS is regularly and routinely consulted by the Network.

Conclusion

The landscape of procurement and contract management is changing; no longer must they be considered as administrative back-office functions but heralded as changemaking, strategic tools with the potential to significantly improve the lives of the people of Wolverhampton.

How we procure and who we procure with affects everything that we do, and the work carried out during the select committee process has shown how much of an impact the objectives of the Wolverhampton Pound can have for our City and our citizens.

With committed political leadership, director level engagement, genuine cross departmental working and a Council wide understanding of the impact that good procurement can have, real change is now possible.

The recommendations and findings contained in the report show that with a progressive approach to procurement and contract management, comes innovation, creativity and the commissioning of services and products that are right for our City and our citizens. One size does not fit all and good communication and engagement with our partners, the VCS, existing suppliers, and potential suppliers will allow us to ensure that we are procuring the right goods and the rights services in the right way for us.

Next Steps

Moving forward, the Council will seek to lead by example alongside our Anchor Network partners. The new approaches to procurement and contract management recommended throughout this report will be vital in supporting and achieving the ambitions and aims of the Wolverhampton Pound. Achieving a combined Anchor pipeline will enable early and increased identification of where skills and knowledge are required and ensure that adequate training and support can be put in place to ensure that our local businesses and VCS partners have a level and fair platform from which to enter into the marketplace.

The Committee consider that as we continue on this journey, that clear guidance needs to be provided so that there is a comprehensive understanding of how the internal work being carried out by the Council and our internal structures; will link in and align with the work and the structures of the Anchor Network. The Committee request that representatives from the Anchor Network provide an update to Scrutiny as to how the objectives of the Wolverhampton Pound are being met, what progress has been made in relation to recruitment to the posts recommended by CLES, how its structures are aligned to work with partner organisations including the Council and the expectations of the network moving forwards.

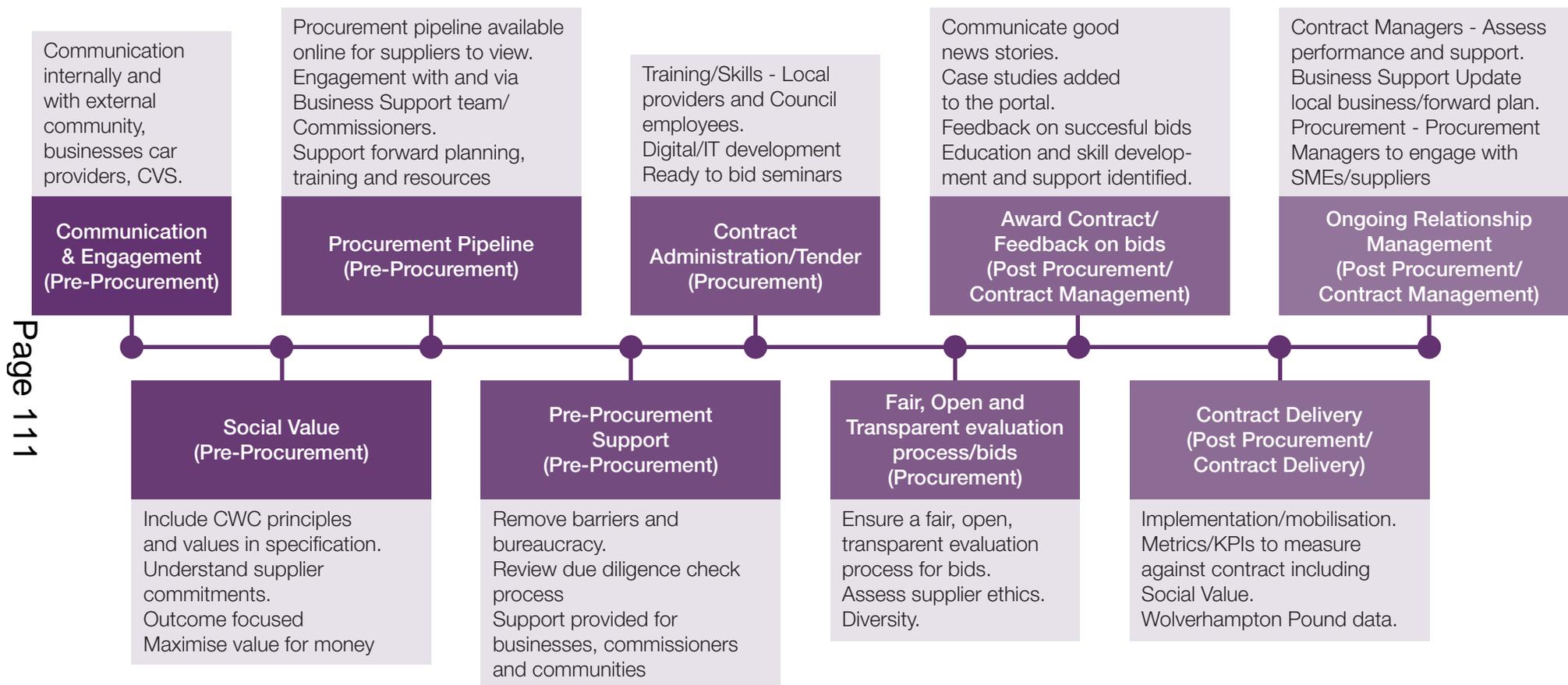
The Committee would like to thank everyone that attended the evidence sessions and commend all the hard work that the Council is undertaking to relight our City.

Recommendations

1. That the Council enter dialogue with the University in relation to identifying any students nearing the end of their studies who may be interested in a role in procurement.
2. That opportunities be considered in relation to engaging with partners to utilise their skills and resources in areas such as procurement to help deliver major capital schemes.
3. That the Council enter dialogue with the University, College and other local providers, in relation to providing the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply Diploma qualification.
4. That the Council investigate using market forces supplements in the short term to recruit to the more senior posts whilst at the same time ensuring that clear succession planning is in place by continuing to develop our own staff through the apprentice and procurement buyers posts and the Diploma.
5. That a clause be added when a qualification is undertaken and funded by the Council, that should the employee leave within a certain amount of time after studying, that all or part of the fee for the course be reimbursed.
6. That when advertising for procurement roles, the Council go beyond the normal compensation package. This should also include highlighting the less tangible elements that make working for the City of Wolverhampton Council special and using the website to highlight and promote this.
7. That to provide coordination and consistency of approach across all departments, that resources for the Wolverhampton Pound initiative are reviewed by officers, and that additional capacity is identified to ensure delivery against this key priority.
8. That the Procurement Pipeline be kept under review and monitored on a regular basis through the relevant scrutiny panels.
9. That when the Pipeline is published, at least three upcoming contracts be identified to be used as pilots for the new approaches to procurement and the Wolverhampton Pound and that a report in relation to these and the ongoing management of the contracts be monitored through the scrutiny process.
10. That any social value and ethical priorities relating to procurement link to the Our City: Our Plan and that there be a refresh of the Council social value strategy.
11. The Committee suggest that a working group be set up to investigate and balance areas of risk in relation to the procurement process and where processes might be streamlined and areas such as liability insurance reduced. The working group should include representatives from legal, procurement, audit and risk and governance.

12. That a structured and consistent approach is developed in relation to co production and early market engagement.
13. That there be mandatory training for all contract managers included as part of their induction process.
14. That moving forward, training be developed in house in relation to procurement and contract management and include reference to the Our City: Our Plan, Vision 2030, the Wolverhampton Pound, Relighting our City and the Social Value Framework.
15. That regular reports be provided to the Our Council Scrutiny Panel to include:
 - how and where social value is being achieved and measured,
 - figures in relation to how we are retaining increased economic wealth
 - information on new job creation
 - how we are ensuring value for money throughout the procurement and contract management process
 - updates on training for contract and service managers
 - successes to be celebrated
16. That a single point of contact for the procurement processes and contract management processes be identified.
17. That existing application and bureaucratic processes be assessed and where possible, streamlined.
18. That visible leadership be used to promote the Wolverhampton Pound at both councillor level and officer level and that a champion from both areas be appointed to raise awareness and champion the work being done. These champions will provide visible leadership at the highest levels and help to raise the profile of the Wolverhampton Pound to local businesses, the VCS and our communities.
19. That regular reports in relation to the work of the VCS be provided to Scrutiny Board or the All-Councillor briefings to help to raise awareness and support for the organisations.
20. That consideration be given as to whether the VCS might have a place on the Anchor Network and that if this is not possible, that processes be put in place to ensure that the VCS is regularly and routinely consulted by the Network.

Select Committee - Recommended Process Detail



All above supported by streamlined Council processes

- Online portal for Procurement and Community and Voluntary Services
- Streamlined application processes
- Simplified processes and ways to bid
- Structures in place to support including contacts for suppliers

You can get this information in large print, braille,
audio or in another language by calling 01902 551155

wolverhampton.gov.uk 01902 551155

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The Wolverhampton Pound Select Committee - Action Plan

Recommendation	Comments from Scrutiny, Cabinet and Council	Proposed Action Owner	Timescales	Progress
Recommendation 1: That the Council enter dialogue with the University in relation to identifying any students nearing the end of their studies who may be interested in a role in procurement.	TBD	Head of Procurement	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD
Recommendation 2: That opportunities be considered in relation to engaging with partners to utilise their skills and resources in areas such as procurement to help deliver major capital schemes.	TBD	Director of Regeneration Director of Communications and External Relations	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD
Recommendation 3: That the Council enter dialogue with the University, College and other local providers, in relation to providing the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply Diploma qualification.	TBD	Head of Procurement	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD

Recommendation	Comments from Scrutiny, Cabinet and Council	Proposed Action Owner	Timescales	Progress
<p>Recommendation 4: That the Council investigate using market forces supplements in the short term to recruit to the more senior posts whilst at the same time ensuring that clear succession planning is in place by continuing to develop our own staff through the apprentice and procurement buyers posts and the Diploma</p>	TBD	Head of Procurement	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD
<p>Recommendation 5: That a clause be added when a qualification is undertaken and funded by the council, that should the employee leave within a certain amount of time after studying, that all or part of the fee for the course be reimbursed.</p>	TBD	Chief Operating Officer	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD
<p>Recommendation 6: That when advertising for procurement roles, the Council go beyond the normal compensation package to also highlight the less tangible elements that make working for the City of Wolverhampton Council special and to use the website to really highlight and promote this.</p>	TBD	Head of Procurement	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD

Recommendation	Comments from Scrutiny, Cabinet and Council	Proposed Action Owner	Timescales	Progress
<p>Recommendation 7: That to provide coordination and consistency of approach across all departments, that resources for the Wolverhampton Pound initiative are reviewed by officers, and that additional capacity is identified to ensure delivery against this key priority.</p>	TBD	Chief Operating Officer Director of Finance Director of Strategy	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD
<p>Recommendation 8: That the Procurement Pipeline be kept under review and monitored on a regular basis through the relevant scrutiny panels.</p>	TBD	Director of Finance Head of Procurement	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD
<p>Recommendation 9: That when the Pipeline is published, at least three upcoming contracts be identified to be used as pilots for the new approaches to procurement and the Wolverhampton Pound and that a report in relation to these and the ongoing management of the contracts be monitored through the scrutiny process.</p>	TBD	Director of Finance Head of Procurement Head of Commercial	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD

Recommendation	Comments from Scrutiny, Cabinet and Council	Proposed Action Owner	Timescales	Progress
<p>Recommendation 10: That any social value and ethical priorities relating to procurement link to the Our City:Our Plan and that there be a refresh of the council social value strategy.</p>	TBD	Director of Strategy Head of Policy and Strategy Director of Finance Head of Commercial	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD
<p>Recommendation 11: That a working group be set up to investigate and balance areas of risk in relation to the procurement process and where processes might be streamlined and areas such as liability insurance reduced. The working group should include representatives from legal, procurement, audit and risk and governance.</p>	TBD	Chief Operating Officer	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD
<p>Recommendation 12: That a structured and consistent approach is developed in relation to co-production and early market engagement.</p>	TBD	Director of Finance Head of Procurement	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD

Recommendation	Comments from Scrutiny, Cabinet and Council	Proposed Action Owner	Timescales	Progress
<p>Recommendation 13: That there be mandatory training for all contract managers included as part of their induction process.</p>	TBD	Head of Commercial	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD
<p>Recommendation 14: That moving forward, training be developed in house in relation to procurement and contract management and include reference to the Our City: Our Plan, Vision 2030, the Wolverhampton Pound, Relighting our City and the Social Value Framework.</p>	TBD	Head of Commercial	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD
<p>Recommendation 15: That regular reports be provided to the Our Council Scrutiny Panel to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how and where social value is being achieved and measured • figures in relation to how we are retaining increased economic wealth • information on new job creation • how we are ensuring value for money throughout the procurement and contract management process • updates on training for contract and service managers • successes to be celebrated. 	TBD	<p>Chief Operating Officer</p> <p>Director of Strategy</p> <p>Director of Finance</p> <p>Director of Regeneration</p>	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD

Recommendation	Comments from Scrutiny, Cabinet and Council	Proposed Action Owner	Timescales	Progress
Recommendation 16: That a single point of contact for the procurement processes and contract management processes be identified.	TBD	Director of Finance Head of Procurement	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD
Recommendation 17: That existing application and bureaucratic processes be assessed and where possible, streamlined.	TBD	Chief Operating Officer Director of Finance	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD
Recommendation 18: That visible leadership be used to promote the Wolverhampton Pound at both councillor level and officer level and that a champion from both areas be appointed to raise awareness and champion the work being done. These champions will provide visible leadership at the highest levels and help to raise the profile of the Wolverhampton Pound to local businesses, the VCS and our communities.	TBD	Chief Operating Officer	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD
Recommendation 19: That regular reports in relation to the work of the VCS be provided to Scrutiny Board or the All-Councillor briefings to help to raise awareness and support for the organisations.	TBD	Deputy Chief Executive Place Based Manager	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD

Recommendation	Comments from Scrutiny, Cabinet and Council	Proposed Action Owner	Timescales	Progress
Recommendation 20: That consideration be given as to whether the VCS might have a place on the Anchor Network and that if this is not possible, that processes be put in place to ensure that the VCS is regularly and routinely consulted by the Network.	TBD	Deputy Chief Executive Director of Strategy Anchor Network	For discussion and agreement at Cabinet	TBD

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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Cabinet 6 July 2022
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Report title	Wolverhampton's Youth Justice Plan 2022-2023	
Decision designation	RED	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Beverley Momenabadi Children and Young People	
Key decision	Yes	
In forward plan	Yes	
Wards affected	All Wards	
Accountable Director	Emma Bennett – Executive Director for Families	
Originating service	Youth Offending Team	
Accountable employee	Rachel King	Head of Service
	Tel	07854943254
	Email	Rachel.king@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	Directorate Leadership Team	16 June 2022
	Strategic Executive Board	21 June 2022

Recommendation for decision:

The Cabinet recommends that Council:

1. Approves the adoption of the Youth Justice Plan 2022-2023.

Recommendation for noting:

The Cabinet is asked to note:

1. The specific achievement of the Youth Offending Team during 2021-2022 including a reduction in first time entrants, a reduction in re-offending rates and a reduction in the number of young people receiving a custodial sentence.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to request that Cabinet recommend to Council the approval of the Youth Justice Plan for 2022-2023. This is the plan relating to the work of the Youth Offending Team (YOT) that is overseen by the partnership YOT Management Board (YMB). The work of this plan is regularly reviewed by the YOT Management Board, which comprises of membership from the City of Wolverhampton Council, West Midlands Police, The Royal Wolverhampton Hospital Trust, Recovery Near You (substance misuse service), National Probation Service, Housing, Public Health, Clinical Commissioning Group, Black Country Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, the Chair of the Black Country Youth Court Bench and the voluntary sector.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, each Local Authority is required to have in place arrangements for the delivery of Youth Justice services usually via a YOT. Central government provides a grant to support local Youth Justice work via the Youth Justice Board (YJB) which sits within The Ministry of Justice. A condition of the grant is the provision of satisfactory services that are outlined in the required production of an annual Youth Justice Plan. The Youth Justice Plan requires Full Council approval, as detailed in the constitution under the budget and policy framework.
- 2.2 The format for Youth Justice planning is prescribed by the Youth Justice Board and has varied over the years. The attached plan is compliant with current guidance and an action plan based on future priorities and risks to delivery is prepared to drive the work.
- 2.3 This plan has involved significant consultation and planning, with contributions from staff within the YOT, the YOT Management Board and young people. A draft of the plan was submitted to YJB on 30 June 2022, with an option to send an updated version following local sign off by the YOT Management Board and approval from Full Council.
- 2.4 In October 2021, Wolverhampton YOT were inspected by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP). This judged the YOT to be good with several areas noting outstanding practice. The plan for 2022-2023 seeks to identify priorities that respond to the HMIP inspection recommendations and the national YJB key performance indicators. There is a clear focus on continuing to reduce the number of first-time entrants (FTE), reducing reoffending and reducing the number of young people who received a custodial sentence.
- 2.5 Specific focus is given to addressing gangs, youth violence and exploitation activity within the city to ensure we are identifying young people at risk and tailoring interventions to take into account the impact of adverse childhood experiences on young people. This priority area of work for the YOT is supported by the citywide Partnership Exploitation Hub, for which the YOT is a key partner. The work of the YOT will assist in developing a better understanding across the region of issues surrounding all forms of exploitation including youth violence.

- 2.6 Draft national guidance around serious violence for responsible authorities was released in May 2021. Whilst this guidance is not yet passed as legislation, Wolverhampton has been proactive in its response. A Violence Prevention group has been established, which includes YOT as a key member, with a focus on mapping current provision, understanding best practice, and undertaking a strategic needs assessment to inform future strategy and delivery.
- 2.7 Partners represented at YMB have also committed to developing a deeper understanding regarding the disproportionality of Black Asian and other Minority Ethnic groups in the youth justice system and to drive forward work and initiatives aimed at addressing this systemically. This will include continued learning and practice development for the team, focusing on trauma informed practice, including neurodiversity; and learning from the HMIP thematic report (October 2021) on the experiences of Black and Mixed Heritage boys in the criminal justice system.
- 2.8 The plan for Wolverhampton YOT will also be aligned to the City of Wolverhampton Council plan priorities. Through a focus on reducing offending behaviour this contributes to ensuring stronger families where children grow up well and achieve, and also creates safer, more cohesive communities.

3.0 Progress

- 3.1 The primary focus of a YOT is to prevent and reduce the offending behaviour of young people aged up to 18. There are three overarching national indicators on which performance is measured; the number of first-time entrants into the youth justice system, the number of young people who reoffend after their first offence and the number of young people who receive a custodial sentence as opposed to a community sentence.
- 3.2 During the last 12 months, Wolverhampton Youth Offending Team (YOT) has continued to be a forward thinking and ambitious organisation, committed to improving outcomes for young people, their victims and creating a safer community.
- 3.3 The recent Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP) inspection published in February 2022 found: ... *"an effective service, with strengths apparent across assessment and service delivery for both court and out-of-court disposals. Reviewing was also robust in post-court cases. The YOT has an excellent understanding of what is required to deliver services and interventions to children and families, and work to promote this was evident"*.
- 3.4 These findings and the commitment, creativity and passion of the team have been fundamental to the continuing drive for excellence.
- 3.5 The YMB has played an instrumental role in guiding and scrutinising the YOT's work and priorities in the last 12 months. The continued partnership contribution to the YOT is evident of the genuine local commitment to supporting a multi-agency response to young people at risk or involved in the criminal justice system in Wolverhampton.

- 3.6 During 2021-2022, the YOT has continued to make progress and this is evidenced in performance data.
- 3.7 During 2021-2022, local data shows that the first-time entrant rate for Wolverhampton recorded a 38.6% reduction in young people and a 21.6% reduction in the number of offences committed amongst FTE when compared to the previous year. 2020-2021 recorded 44 young people, reducing to 27 during 2021-2022. YJB available data (October 2020 – September 2021) reflects a reduction of 8.5%, higher than the -5.9% recorded by Wolverhampton's YOT family Group (made up of comparative YOTs). The data available from the YJB precedes the introduction of the DIVERT scheme within Wolverhampton YOT.
- 3.8 The DIVERT scheme and the use of Outcome 22 (deferred prosecution) on the YOT's FTE Data has for quarter 3 in 2021-2022 shown a significant impact. The data shows that FTE comparative rates for Quarter 3 2020-2021 (18 young people) and 2021-2022 (4 young people) reported a reduction of 78%, primarily as a result of the use of Outcome 22. This trend is expected to continue and will have a significant impact on the formal decriminalisation of young people in Wolverhampton.
- 3.9 The nationally reported reoffending data has a two-year time delay. Therefore, in April 2018, Wolverhampton YOT introduced the use of the reoffending live tracker toolkit to provide real time data. The use of the live tracker has provided an opportunity to track the most up to date cohort of young people over a 12-month period, and has ensured that 18 year olds leaving the service continue to be tracked using Police National Computer data (PNC). This has provided encouraging data on the levels of reoffending, with quarter four (January – March 2021) recording an 18.2% overall binary rate, compared to a national rate of 34.2%. Overall reoffence per reoffender was 4.50 and the overall reoffences rate across the cohort was at a rate of 0.82. With the exception of the overall re-offences per reoffender rate, all rates were below both the regional and national performance for reoffending.
- 3.10 Use of the reoffending live tracker is recommended by the YJB for all young people who go through the court system and receive a court disposal. However, in Wolverhampton, there is specific focus on trying to avoid the need for young people to enter the court system. Wherever possible, young people will be dealt with out of court. As a result of this, the YOT has taken a local decision to also use the re-offending live tracker for young people who receive an out of court disposal.
- 3.11 The live tracker data for out of court disposals shows that for quarter four in 2020-2021, the overall binary rate for OOCd was 9.1%, with significantly lower reoffending occurring compared to national rate of 37.90%. Overall re-offences per re-offender for Wolverhampton was 3.00 compared to national 3.30, and the overall reoffences rate across the cohort was 0.27 compared to 1.25 national rate.

- 3.12 It is recognised that some children and young people need to be detained in custody for the protection of themselves and the wider community. The YOT Management Board receives regular reports on custody rates and also seeks assurance that those who are detained in the secure estate are those for whom all other options have been exhausted or their sentence is proportionate to the crime committed.
- 3.13 Based on local data, only two custodial sentences were recorded during the 2021-2022 year; a reduction of four when compared to the previous year, a reduction of 67%. Only four young people were subject to Youth Detention Accommodation (YDA) on remand throughout 2021-2022, this was consistent with the 2020-2021 figures although the collective number of nights on remand was over double in 2021-2022.
- 3.14 Ensuring all young people are engaged in education, employment or training (EET) is a key factor when seeking to reduce the likelihood of involvement in the criminal justice system. In the YOT, education performance is based on the educational engagement of young people at the end of a YOT statutory order. Between 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 there has been a 10% increase in overall EET performance, increasing from 54% to 64%. There has also been a notable increase to 63% from 44% within the over school age cohort. However, there has been a reduction in the engagement rates for school aged children from 70% to 61%
- 3.15 Across the full cohort in 2021-2022, 27 (30.3%) were recorded as young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND); 20 (22.5%) had an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and 7 (7.87%) recorded SEN Support in school. 15 (75%) of the young people with an EHCP recorded a court disposal. The over-representation of young people with either SEND and EHCP within the YOT cohort was recognised within the YOT HMIP inspection. The inspection team made a recommendation in which it required the YMB to make sure these young people have access to high-quality education and training services that are matched to their needs.
- 3.16 It has been acknowledged that the YOT does not have the commissioning role nor the governance over the provision of services for young people with SEND/EHCPs, however the YMB will be working with the Head of Service for Inclusion and Empowerment and the Head of Skills to advocate and oversee the future provision of services.
- 3.17 The clear focus on education, employment and training aligns with the City's priority around reducing youth unemployment.
- 3.18 Young people were consulted about areas they felt the youth justice plan should be focusing on. The challenge and issue that was strongly emphasised by young people was knife crime. There was a strong view that there is a lack of community-based activities and this results in young people getting into trouble as they are just wandering the streets. Social media was also considered problematic by many young people as they felt it can lead to harassment, exploitation and bullying.

- 3.19 This feedback identifies a continued need to promote Wolverhampton Young Opportunities (Yo!) across the city and the importance of targeted work with more vulnerable groups.
- 3.20 The risk and challenge regarding exploitation, youth violence and gangs is one that is recognised by all partners across the city. In February 2021, CWC launched the Partnership Exploitation Hub. This has enabled a new, innovative approach to co-ordinating the partnership response to these issues. The hub facilitates more timely, effective sharing of information and intelligence, as well as joined-up disruption work. The YOT is represented within the hub.
- 3.21 Alongside the work of the Exploitation Hub, the YOT also co-ordinate a partnership gang's forum on a 6-weekly basis. This is to enable the sharing of information in order to build up a profile across the city of gang activity, to identify any tensions and to ensure individual young people have appropriate support in place.
- 3.22 Importantly, improving the response to all forms of exploitation remains a priority for Wolverhampton Safeguarding Together partnership (WST). Similarly, a Violence Prevention group was established in December 2021 with representation from across the wider partnership, to focus on better understanding local issues, identifying gaps in provision and to explore opportunities for improving partnership working.
- 3.23 The YOT will make a significant contribution to the Violence Prevention group and will continue to implement its response to serious youth violence and exploitation through initiatives like DIVERT and Creating Safety Project. There will continue to be strong risk management and disruption responses to protect young people and communities; and the YOT will ensure interventions around weapons, exploitation and gangs are fit for purpose.
- 3.24 In 2017 David Lammy undertook a review focusing on the discrimination within policing and criminal justice systems in the UK. The review found significant racial bias in the UK justice system. The issue of disproportionality is a key priority for Wolverhampton YOT and the "Black Lives Matter" movement during 2020 brought into sharp focus the continued disproportionality experienced by many Black Asian and other Minority Ethnic groups in the criminal justice system.
- 3.25 This national focus triggered a thematic inspection by HMIP in October 2021 that investigated the experiences of Black and Mixed Heritage boys in the criminal justice system. The key findings and recommendations from this thematic report will assist in shaping the YOT's response to these issues.
- 3.26 During 2021-2022, Wolverhampton YOT has continued to produce a detailed analysis of the experience of Black Asian and other Minority Ethnic groups in Wolverhampton. The findings have continued to identify areas of disproportionality for Black Asian and other Minority Ethnic groups.

- 3.27 The 2011 Census data reported that the split of ethnic groups between 10-17 year olds was split by 39% ethnic minorities and 61% white. Data for 2021-2022 shows that within the YOT cohort, 50% of the cohort were from ethnic minority backgrounds; this represented 1% Asian, 21% Black, 25% mixed heritage and 3% other young people, highlighting the larger disproportionality for black and mixed heritage young people.
- 3.28 The two custody disposals in 2021-2022 both related to young males of black and mixed ethnicity, although it should be noted that custody disposal numbers were low overall.
- 3.29 Police stop and search records for 10-17 year olds in 2021-2022 also shows that there remains an over-representation of young people of black and mixed ethnic groups being subject to stop and search procedures by West Midlands Police when compared to the general population.
- 3.30 The YOT continues to be committed to tackling disproportionality and on promoting a better understanding across the wider youth justice partnership. The DIVERT scheme (deferred prosecution), is one initiative aimed at breaking the cycle of mistrust with the Police and removing the barriers for Black and Mixed Heritage boys accessing pre-court pathways for support.
- 3.31 There will continue to be a focus on disproportionality, with staff receiving cultural competence training to improve the understanding that young people who have experienced racism have had a trauma journey, and through the provision of specialist whole family work for parents of Black and Mixed Heritage boys

4.0 Evaluation of alternative options

- 4.1 The local authority has a statutory duty to submit an annual youth justice plan relating to their provision of youth offending services. The youth justice plan 2022-2023 has been developed following consultation with partner agencies, staff and young people.

5.0 Reasons for decision

- 5.1 The local priorities that have been identified for Wolverhampton not only respond to the local areas of need but also represent an alignment with the strategic priorities identified by the YJB and the recommendations from the YOT inspection (October 2021).
- 5.2 The core vision of the YJB as set out in the YJB Strategic Plan 2019-2022 is:
“A youth justice system that sees children as children, treats them fairly and helps them to build on their strengths so they can make a constructive contribution to society. This will prevent offending and create safer communities with fewer victims.”
- 5.3 The youth justice plan 2022-2023 seeks to achieve this vision and some of the key areas that will be given significant priority include:
- Building upon the work with Children and Young People in Care (CYPIC) to further reduce their risks of criminalisation.

- Improving the educational engagement and outcomes for all young people at the YOT, ensuring young people with SEND/ EHCP have access to high quality provision
- Extending the whole family / carer offer within the service
- Addressing areas of disproportionality and promoting wider partnership engagement to reduce areas of significant disproportionality
- Ensuring YOT staff are appropriately trained and confident in having conversations to understand Black, Asian and other minority ethnic children's experiences
- Improving the quality of contingency planning in all cases, when managing and mitigating a child's risk of harm to others
- Continuing the delivery of the DIVERT scheme to further promote the decriminalisation of young people and divert them from the criminal justice system
- Ensuring the integrated health offer is fully embedded in DIVERT scheme in order to promote the commitment that a child will not enter the criminal justice system as a result of an unmet health need
- Expanding the YOT prevention offer
- Promoting the voice of the victim in both preventative and statutory intervention
- Contributing to the co-ordination and proactive response to youth violence, both strategically and operationally
- Empowering young people to share their views and genuinely have an influence on service design and delivery

6.0 Financial implications

- 6.1 The gross partnership provisional pooled budget for 2022-2023 for the Youth Offending Service is £2.3 million. Following the deduction of partnership income contributions, grants and other in-kind contributions of £887,000 from partners the approved net budget for the Council for the Youth Offending Service is £1.4 million.
- 6.2 A breakdown of the partnership pooled budget for the Youth Offending Service is shown in the attached Youth Justice Plan 2022-2023.
[JG/16062022/B]

7.0 Legal implications

- 7.1 Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, each Local Authority is required to have in place arrangements for the delivery of Youth Justice services usually via a YOT.
- 7.2 YOT services are mandated in legislation and oversee Statutory Court Orders. It is a requirement for every area in England and Wales to provide YOT services.
- 7.3 A condition of the grant provided by central government is the provision of satisfactory services outlined in the production of an annual Youth Justice Plan.
[TC/16062022/A]

8.0 Equalities implications

- 8.1 The YOT provides services for some of the most vulnerable young people both as offenders, but also as victims of youth crime. There is on-going work to address the potential for disproportionality in the Youth Justice System.
- 8.2 YOT performance data indicates a disproportionate representation of males from Black Asian and mixed heritage ethnic groups. The YOT cannot solely influence and address this disproportionality as the police and the courts are also key in the decisions made when a Black Asian and other Minority Ethnic young person commits an offence.
- 8.3 The introduction of the DIVERT scheme in YOT is innovative practice in seeking to address the decriminalisation of Black, Asian and other Minority Ethnic groups through an improved partnership response between the police and the YOT.
- 8.4 There is also a key role for universal services, e.g. health and education, to deliver early intervention support to prevent Black Asian and other Minority Ethnic young people entering the youth justice system.
- 8.5 Current data suggests that black and mixed heritage males are the key groups to focus on, and the YOT is committed to developing practice and interventions that positively engage young people from Black Asian and other Minority Ethnic communities. Work will continue to identify ways in which the YOT can have influence and impact upon the disproportionality and this will be underpinned by a disproportionality action plan that is overseen by the YMB. The disproportionality action plan will include ongoing equality analysis.
- 8.6 In addition to the issue of race disproportionality, YOT data also identifies an over-representation of young people in the criminal justice system who have special educational needs and disabilities. The YOT will be integral in the citywide work to develop and improve the SEND system in order to ensure early identification of need and access high quality, suitable education provision.

9.0 All other implications

- 9.1 In relation to human resources implications, the YOT is a multi-agency team made up of City of Wolverhampton employees as well as staff who are seconded from other services. YOT employees work to City of Wolverhampton terms and conditions and policies, or those of their seconding agency.
- 9.2 During 2021 - 2022 the YOT moved from its office space at Beckminster house to a newly refurbished office space in Retreat Street. From July 2021 onwards, in line with covid guidance, the YOT has been gradually increasing its use of the building and increasing face to face contact with young people and families. This has enhanced the YOT's interactions with young people and improved the quality of service delivery.

- 9.3 It is known that young people in the youth justice system experience poorer health outcomes. From a health and well being perspective there is therefore a need to ensure all health issues are identified as early as possible There needs to be a focus on ensuring health issues, for example mental health and substance misuse, do not pre-dispose a young person to becoming involved in the criminal justice system.
- 9.4 More broadly, it is important to consider the wider determinants of health and wellbeing. Almost all of the causes of childhood offending lie outside of the direct influence of the youth justice system. For example, within the YOT cohort it is evident that a number of young people have Special Education Needs and experience barriers to engaging in education. Therefore, it is crucial that health, education, social care and other services form a collaborative approach alongside law enforcement agencies, to prevent the offending and reoffending behaviour in children.
- 9.5 The strong strategic representation at YMB provides an opportunity to develop cross-sector partnerships aimed at reducing health and social inequalities.
- 9.6 It is recognised that during 2021-2022, the impact of the covid pandemic and the cost of living crisis has presented a number of challenges including:
- The reengagement of young people back into education/training
 - Loss of family income and increase in financial hardship for many families, creating additional strain within households and parental relationships
 - The long-term impact on young people’s emotional health and wellbeing. Alongside this, the impact on social development, including speech and language, emotional intelligence and resilience.
 - The increase and changing risks associated with exploitation and gang involvement. This includes online methods of grooming and targeting local young people, rather than recruitment of them to go “out of town” for county drug lines.
 - Increased risk of gang and public place violence, due to “pent up” aggression.
- 9.7 The YJB plan for 2022-2023 seeks to address these challenges.

10.0 Schedule of background papers

10.1 Youth Justice Plan 2021-2022

11.0 Appendices

11.1 Appendix 1 – Youth Justice Plan 2022-2023.



Appendix 1



Youth Justice Plan 2022 – 2023

Service	Wolverhampton
Service Manager/ Lead	Celia Payne
Chair of YJS Board	Bal kaur

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1. Introduction, vision and strategy

Wolverhampton Youth Offending Team (YOT) continues to be a forward thinking and ambitious organisation, committed to improving outcomes for young people, their victims and creating a safer community. This reflects the core vision of the Youth Justice Board (YJB) as set out in the YJB Strategic Plan 2021 2024:

“A youth justice system that sees children as children, treats them fairly and helps them to build on their strengths so they can make a constructive contribution to society. This will prevent offending and create safer communities with fewer victims.”

Our recent Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP) inspection published in February 2022 found

... “an effective service, with strengths apparent across assessment and service delivery for both court and out-of-court disposals. Reviewing was also robust in post-court cases. The YOT has an excellent understanding of what is required to deliver services and interventions to children and families, and work to promote this was evident”. (Pg4)

It also commented that:

“Staff know the children very well and go ‘over and above’ what is expected of them to ensure children are engaged and receiving the appropriate provision”.

These findings and the commitment, creativity and passion of our team has been fundamental to the continuing drive for excellence. At the heart of our future strategy will remain Positive Youth Justice, Child First, Offender Second principles. It’s our pledge to ensure that a child never enters the CJS as a result of an unmet health need. Our approach will continue to seek to prioritise the best interest of the child, ensure our services are child-focussed and developmentally informed. In addition, our work will promote children’s strengths and capabilities as a means of developing their pro-social identity for sustainable desistance. This will continue to be implemented within a blended approach to public protection, in which the needs and the voice of victims will be at the heart of promoting individual and community safety.

In addition, Wolverhampton YOT and the youth justice partnership’s future strategy will continue to promote the decriminalisation of young people where appropriate, by diverting them from the criminal justice system (CJS) and mobilising a partnership response to identified need and risk. Connected with this, Wolverhampton YOT are strategically committed to ensuring custody and the use of the secure estate is reserved for the critical few. Alongside this, future strategy will collaborate work with a range of partnership organisations to develop and support genuine early prevention projects, specifically focussing on school exclusions, exploitation and serious youth violence. This will be strategically aligned with Wolverhampton’s legal duty to support a multi-agency response to preventing and tackling serious violence; Safer Wolverhampton partnership (SWP) and the regional Violence Reduction Unit (VRU). Overarching all of this, Wolverhampton and its youth justice partnership will work tirelessly at both a strategic and operational level to address the disproportionality which continues to exist within our CJS, with a specific lens on the lived experience of people of colour, young women and young people with special education needs.

This plan for Wolverhampton YOT will also contribute to the City of Wolverhampton Council's "Our City, Our Plan working together to be a city of opportunity, a city for everyone" contributing towards many of its priorities including "strong families where children grow up well and achieve their full potential; and healthy, inclusive communities".

The YMB has played an instrumental role in guiding and scrutinising the team's work and priorities in the last 12 months. The continued partnership contribution to the YOT shows the genuine local commitment from the youth justice partnership to support a multi-agency response to young people at risk or involved in the CJS in Wolverhampton.

This plan has been developed following a number of consultation events with the strategic members of the YMB. This provided an opportunity to review what had been learnt in the last 12 months, achievements, performance, priorities, and risks going forward. In addition, team members within the YOT; community panel volunteers and young people were asked to reflect on what had gone well, issues facing young people in Wolverhampton and priorities going forward. This feedback has been incorporated within the plan and the priorities for Wolverhampton going forward.

Executive summary:

Achievements: 2021-2022

- HMIP overall rating "good" with Staff, Partnership and Services, information and facilities, court and out of court implementation and delivery and resettlement rated as "outstanding".
- Launch of the DIVERT scheme (November 2021) in which young people who commit offences which are not indictable only and where they accept responsibility, are referred to a partnership Joint Decision-making Panel (JDP) to agree a pathway for support. Initial evaluation between November 2021 – January 2022 showed 27 young people had been through JDP, 89% received Outcome 22 and 11% Youth Conditional Cautions, resulting in a 78% reduction in first time entrants (FTE) in the CJS for quarter 3 2021-2022. Outcome 22 pathway is part of the Deferred Prosecution Scheme and once a young person completes their intervention it is recorded by the Police as No Further Action (NFA) therefore they are not formally criminalised.
- (Based on local data) Only **2** custodial sentences were recorded during the 2021-2022 year; a reduction of 4 when compared to the previous year, a reduction of 67%
- The Wolverhampton Reoffending live tracker toolkit, rolling 12-months cohort in quarter 4 data in 2020-2021, reported a **18.20%** overall binary rate, compared to national rate of 37.9%.
- The Reoffending live tracker toolkit, rolling 12-months cohort in quarter 4 data in 2020-2021 for Out of Court disposals, reported an overall binary rate of **9.10%** compared to national rate of 37.9%.
- Our continued development of our trauma informed practice and developmentally sensitive approaches to interventions. HMIP commented that:

“Staff were creative when delivering interventions and used language and techniques that support the trauma-informed approach promoted by the YOT”. (pg 9)

- Excellent work in our Restorative Justice unit recognised within our HMIP report:
“The YOT has an impressive restorative justice unit, which takes a holistic approach to working with children and victims”. (pg8)
- Our strategic and operational involvement in the city's response to the legal duty to support a multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling serious violence. YOT is a strategic member on the Violence Prevention Group, co-chair of the Partnership Gang Forum and is an active member of the Exploitation Hub. Alongside this, the YOT has developed a Creating safety Project targeted at early intervention for young people at risk of exploitation.

Challenges/Risks 2022-2023

- Disproportionality within our cohort for young people from an ethnicity perspective and the continued lived experience challenges facing young people of colour.
- Escalation and overrepresentation of young people with special educational needs and Educational and Health Care Plans (EHCP) into the CJS
- Increase in youth violence and exploitation within Wolverhampton and the continued need for a public health response to the systemic issues facing young people and families within the city, especially during a “cost of living crisis” and the ongoing impact of COVID on the mental wellbeing of children and families.
- Continued commitment to appropriately funding the YOT and the broader youth justice partnership and ensuring local youth justice services are, from a governance perspective, still able to be delivered in the best possible way for the local population.

Opportunities 2022-2023

- Continued learning and practice development for the team, focusing on trauma informed practice, including neurodiversity, learning from the HMIP thematic report on the experiences of Black and Mixed Heritage boys in the CJS and the continued development of bespoke packages of interventions and resources.
- Continued improvement in the team's quality of assessment, management of risk, contingency planning for all interventions.
- YJB proposed uplift in funding for the “Turnaround Programme” to support YOT's to develop an early intervention offer with child and families, offering voluntary, needs-driven, family-focussed support to de-escalate of behaviour and to get their lives back on track.

Regional collaboration on cross boundary issues, such as exploitation, county lines and gang, including a blueprint for positive youth justice in the west Midlands.

2. Local context

Wolverhampton, a city in the West Midlands has a population of 262,000 based on 2018 mid-term estimates: an increase of almost 5% from the 2011 census. As of 2019 9.5% of the population comprises of young people aged 10 to 17 years. Based on the 2011 census data 61% of the 10 – 17 population are White and 39% Black, Asian, Minority and Ethnic young people. Wolverhampton was ranked 28 out of 354 Local Authority Districts (with 1 being the most deprived) in 2007, having slipped from 35 in 2004. It has two Super Output Areas (SOA) within most deprived 1% in the country, and 15 in the top 5%. This demonstrates the need for significant intervention, strengthening the argument for intelligent investment to support economic growth and reduce deprivation in the City.

The City of Wolverhampton – One Council has a senior leadership team responsible for key themes including Families, Organisations and Community and Place. YOT is aligned and its corporate governance structure sits within the Families theme.

Demographic and offending Profile:

This plan and the analysis used to inform judgements around performance and priorities are underpinned by an explicit understanding of the YOT's cohort of young people for 2021-2022. To this end, 89% of all disposals and 100% of custodial outcomes relate to young men. 50% of all disposals relate to Black Asian and other Minority Ethnic young people. Offences of violence against the person accounts for 49% of all offences and 14.6% of the cohort relate to Children and Young People in Care (CYPIC). (9% Wolverhampton and 5.6% Out of Borough CYPIC)

Offence Profile 2021-22	No/%	Disposals 2021-22	No/%	Interventions Started	No/%
Violence against the Person	88 (49%)	Outcome 22	53 (36%)	Substantive Outcomes:	
Drugs Offences	15 (8%)	Community Resolutions (CR)	9 (6%)	Youth Caution	16 (7%)
Theft and Handling Stolen Goods	14 (8%)	Youth Cautions (YC)	14 (9%)	YCC	20 (9%)
Criminal Damage	13 (7%)	Youth Conditional Cautions (YCC)	19 (13%)	Referral Order	18 (8%)
Motoring Offences	10 (6%)	Referral Orders	35 (23%)	YRO	13 (6%)
Robbery	9 (5%)	Community: YRO	17 (11%)	YRO Intensive Supervision and Surveillance	4 (2%)
Arson	5 (3%)	Custody	2 (1%)	Detention Training Order/Custody	1 (0.5%)
Domestic Burglary	5 (3%)	Total Disposals	149	Through Care Programme	1 (0.5%)
Public Order	5 (3%)	No of offences	180	Other Outcomes:	
Vehicle theft/Unauthorised Taking	4 (29%)	No of Young People	75	Outcome 22	56 (25%)
Breach of Statutory Order	3 (2%)			Community Resolution	9 (4%)
Other	3 (2%)			Prevention Programme	77 (34%)
Non-Domestic Burglary	2 (1%)			Voluntary Support Programme	1 (0.5%)
Racially Aggravated	2 (1%)			Bail Support Programme	5 (2%)
Breach of Bail	1 (.5%)			Remand in Custody (YDA) SCH	1 (0.5%)
Fraud and Forgery	1 (.5%)			Remand in Custody (YDA) YOI	2 (1%)
Total	180			Total Interventions Started:	224

		Out of Court Disposals						Court Disposals						Combined	
		Community Resolution		Youth Caution		Youth Conditional Caution		First Tier Disposals		Youth Rehabilitation Orders		Custody Disposals		Overall Disposals	
		2020/21	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2021/22
Gender	Male	83%	67%	81%	79%	92%	89%	94%	94%	100%	94%	100%	100%	90%	89%
	Female	17%	33%	19%	21%	8%	11%	6%	6%		6%			10%	11%
Ethnicity	White	38%	56%	62%	79%	19%	37%	54%	49%	54%	47%	17%		44%	50%
	Mixed	10%	22%	5%	21%	50%	37%	22%	23%	23%	18%	50%	50%	22%	25%
	Asian	12%				8%	5%							4%	1%
	Black	24%	22%	29%		12%	21%	22%	20%	23%	35%	33%	50%	22%	21%
	Other Ethnic Group	2%				12%		2%	9%					3%	3%
	Unknown	14%		5%										4%	
Age	10														
	11	7%		5%										2%	
	12	5%	33%	19%	7%	8%	16%							5%	7%
	13	7%		14%		12%		2%	9%					6%	3%
	14	19%	33%	10%	7%	8%	16%	19%	3%		6%			14%	9%
	15	21%		5%	50%	19%	16%	35%	34%	23%	35%	17%		23%	29%
	16	21%	11%	19%	21%	19%	21%	17%	26%	62%	18%	50%	100%	23%	23%
	17	14%	22%	29%	14%	31%	26%	28%	29%	15%	41%			23%	27%
	18	5%				4%	5%					33%		3%	1%
Offence Type	Arson				7%	8%	11%		2%		1%			1%	3%
	Breach of Bail										1%				1%
	Breach of Conditional Discharge														
	Breach of Statutory Order										3%				2%
	Criminal Damage	7%		24%				5%	2%	12%	14%			8%	7%
	Death or Injury by Reckless Driving														
	Domestic Burglary							1%	5%		3%				3%
	Drugs Offences	12%	11%	10%	7%	8%		9%	12%	4%	7%		29%	8%	8%
	Fraud and Forgery											14%			1%
	Motoring Offences							5%	5%	6%	9%			3%	6%
	Non-Domestic Burglary	5%			7%	4%		3%			1%			2%	1%
	Other	26%	11%		7%	4%	5%	2%			16%		13%	10%	2%
	Public Order	10%	11%	5%	7%	4%	5%				3%	1%	13%	3%	3%
	Racially Aggravated		11%									1%			1%
	Robbery	2%					5%	3%	9%	6%	5%			3%	5%
	Sexual Offences	5%						3%			4%			3%	
	Theft and Handling Stolen Goods	10%	11%	5%	7%	4%	5%	3%	7%		1%	9%		4%	8%
Vehicle theft/Unauthorised Taking			14%		8%		8%	2%	3%	3%		13%	6%	2%	
Violence against the Person	24%	44%	43%	57%	62%	68%	57%	56%	45%	41%	63%	43%	48%	49%	
CYPIC	CYPIC - Wolverhampton	0%	0%	0%	7%	4%	5%	6%	6%	8%	12%	17%	50%	4%	7%
	CYPIC - Caretaking	0%	0%	0%	7%	0%	0%	4%	6%	57%	12%	0%	0%	6%	5%

3. Child First

Wolverhampton YOT has embraced the concept of Child First Offender Second and has built its vision, strategy and practice on “Positive youth justice” (K.Haines & S Case 2015). The YOT Management Board (YMB) terms of reference enshrine these principles. Throughout this plan it will be evident how the 4 tenets below are embedded in current practice and a focus for future development:

1. Prioritise the best interests of children and recognise their particular needs, capacities, rights and potential. All work will be child-focused, developmentally informed, acknowledge structural barriers and meet responsibilities towards children
2. Promote children’s individual strengths and capacities to develop their pro-social identity for sustainable desistance, leading to safer communities and fewer victims. All work will be constructive and future-focused, built on supportive relationships that empower children to fulfil their potential and make positive contributions to society
3. Encourage children’s active participation, engagement and wider social inclusion. All work will be a meaningful collaboration with children and their carers
4. Promote a childhood removed from the justice system, using pre-emptive prevention, diversion and minimal intervention. All work will minimise criminogenic stigma from contact with the system

Some examples of how the 4 tenets are being delivered include:

1. Development of trauma informed practice and developmentally sensitive interventions, emphasising the uniqueness of each child informing assessment and delivery of bespoke packages of support.
2. Strength based models of practice, building on the factors for desistance and promoting the Good Lives Model in which the intervention trauma informed framework of Attachment, Regulation and Competencies (ARC) promotes support that builds resilience. HMIP recognised this approach, including a quote from one child who said:

“The best thing about my YOT worker was that they didn’t make me feel like a bad person and listened to me.” (pg25)
3. The YOT’s participation forum, opportunities for co-creation, and the feedback and evaluation framework used to improve and make practice responsive to the needs of the young people.
4. Strategic and operational commitment to the discrimination of all children and the launching of the DIVERT scheme in Wolverhampton.

4. Voice of the child

Our Participation Strategy sets out key aims for the next year, including the intention to dovetail with the City of Wolverhampton Participation Strategy and the Youth Justice Board Strategy.

Principles:

Voice of our Children and Young People

- We operate the 'Child First, Offender Second' principles. At its heart it encourages young people to actively participate, engage and feel supported to co-create their programmes.
- We use the ladder of participation as a way of benchmarking participation progress

Evaluation and Feedback

- We routinely gather feedback for all our activities and interventions at the YOT including work in the secure estate.
- Analysis of this feedback is summarised in our 6-monthly participation and evaluation reports allowing us to prioritise, monitor and review progress, informing our participation action plan for 2022-2023. One recent example has been a young person's involvement with the re-design of the HUB within viewpoint with the external designer programmer - "You asked, we did" This will be complete by July 2022.

"You asked, we did" (From our 'Have your say' events)

- ❖ Re-naming the forum 'Have your Say' group replacing the previous name of Voices from Youth justice and helping to design leaflets and other resources for young people.
- ❖ Public health responding to a concern raised by a young person in a forum about knife crime and the number of knife bins in the city centre. The positioning and number of knife bins is now currently being reviewed.
- ❖ Creating an additional boxing activity after school hours to allow young people in school to attend and development of more art-based projects.
- ❖ Developing an online presence at the YOT, including an Instagram account, as well as all evaluations to be accessed via an online app.
- ❖ A notice board in reception to show the staff structure of the YOT with photos and avatars to help young people to understand who is who, within the team.

YOT Management Board (YMB)

Regular opportunities are created to ensure the voice of our children are heard at the most strategic level in the YOT. At YMB in April 2022 members heard the voices of two young people who presented their journeys through the YOT by the medium of short films. On a previous occasion a child in custody joined the YMB virtually and shared their experiences and outlined what would have helped when he was younger to avoid the path he had taken into custody. Most recently, the chair and vice chair of the YMB spent a day at Werrington YOI meeting and talking to young people about their experiences of custody and resettlement.

Future focus, includes:

- Girl's consultation to hear their voices and views on how we should shape a bespoke girls programme and other identified support for girls work.
- Black and mixed heritage boys lived experience in Wolverhampton YOT and the broader CJS.
- Developing the voice of the child within the court arena
- Community & strategic partners attending 'Have Your Say' participation events

22 young people participated in a YJB Plan consultation exercise asking the questions below. The responses are a sample that illustrate the themes:

What do you think the YOT has done well in the last 12 months (if anything?)

- The young people reported they had built meaningful relationships with staff at the YOT and liked the regularity of the sessions.
- One young person mentioned that their worker helped them to access CAMHS and 360
- One young person mentioned how workers helped them within the school environment
- YOT practitioners helped access activities such as boxing and music

Direct quotes

- "Helped me see what I do affects others"
- "Listened to me and helped me think differently about the situation"
- "Settled me down in my weekly session.
- " Liked the ' Have your say' group-It was small and chilled"
- "Explained things to me so I understood"
- "YOT were 'on my side' and made me a better person"

What are the key issues facing young people, like you living in Wolverhampton?

- Knife crime was a feature for most YP alongside their concerns in relation to the use of social media (Bullying, grooming, getting messaged late at night)
- There was a strong view that there is a lack of activities and that youth clubs/skate parks are lacking and means YP get into trouble as they are just wandering the streets
- Social media was considered problematic by many YP's- harassment, exploitation, bullying etc
- Some environmental concerns in relation to rubbish and pollution

Direct quotes

- "There are gangs in every area'-Postcodes and 'Repping'
- "Carrying weapons to protect ourselves
- "Feeling safe on the streets"
- "It's a normal city, not enough for YP to do"
- "Need to feel protected so walk around in groups"
- "Social media is the problem-it never stops"

What should be the YOT's focus on/priority in the next 12 months?

- More community based and YOT based activities. -Comments included that it keeps young people busy and occupied and safe.
- YOT to work on having safe spaces in the city
- Continued work on gang crime.
- Work on social media and its influences.
- Some young people enjoyed group work.
- Continue to help families.

Direct Quotes

- "Would like to have worked longer with YOT" (Back on Track young person)
- " Getting older people who have been in trouble to speak to us younger young people about their lives"
- "I think we should get to visit a prison"
- "Help us find jobs so we are not wandering the streets"

5. Governance, leadership and partnership arrangements

The work of the YOT is overseen by a well-attended strategic quarterly YOT Management Board (YMB), chaired by a Consultant in Public Health, with the local Police Superintendent as vice chair (see appendix 1). It has developed a robust set of Terms of Reference (TOR) which were reviewed in 2022 using the YJB guidance on “Youth justice service governance and leadership”. The TOR explicitly incorporate the requirements to set the strategic direction of Youth Justice services in Wolverhampton, promotes the principles of ‘child first offender second’; oversees, supports and holds to account the work of the team; ensuring services are being delivered in line with the 2019 Standards in Youth Justice. The YMB is a learning meeting where partners can share collective wisdom and experience in order to shape the future of Youth Justice in Wolverhampton.

In order for the Board to effectively undertake these functions it continues to receive regular reports on:

- Resourcing: both finance and staffing including holding partners to account for any proposed changes
- Compliance with YJB grant conditions for example the timely submission of this plan and data returns
- A performance data report which is detailed in respect of key factors such as age, gender, race, offence type, Focus is on the three key national drivers and other local priorities – reducing reoffending; first time entrants to youth justice; custody rates and engagement of young offenders in education training and employment. The re-offending live tracker data is also presented to board along with a specific report on knife crime.
- Report and scrutiny over the action plan addressing issues of disproportionality
- National standards Self-Assessments, action plans and reviews
- Safeguarding briefing paper to allow any other Strategic or Operational safeguarding issues to be raised within this forum. Focus on Exploitation; custodial safeguarding practice and responses to serious incidents in order to ensure appropriate opportunities for operational and strategic learning.
- Focus on Practice - Operational practice presentations which bring alive the work of the YOT, including attendance of young people at YMB to share experiences of custody and working with the team.
- Progress against the key priority areas identified within the YJB plan and outcomes of case audits and quality assurance processes

A key part of the function of Board remains the holding to account its strategic partners in order to drive system improvement for children to achieve better outcomes (YJB Strategic Plan 2021-2024); and providing an escalation forum for any resourcing or operational issues. In addition, the YMB ensures that its members strategically embed the work and priorities of the YOT within their partnership agency, with a specific focus on promoting desistance, keeping young people and others safe and disproportionality.

The YOT is managed by the City of Wolverhampton Council (CWC) within Children’s Services and is well placed to contribute to the wider agenda of CWC and the broader Safer Wolverhampton Partnership (SWP). Reports about the work of the YOT are regularly presented to the CWC Children’s Senior Leadership Team (CSLT), the Strategic Executive

Board (SEB), the Wolverhampton Safeguarding Together partnership (WST) and through Scrutiny and Cabinet. This Youth Justice Plan is approved and endorsed by CWC Cabinet and the SWP.

The Youth Offending Team has strong links with key partnerships within the Children's Services and Community Safety areas of work. The YOT Head of Service has a broad portfolio within Children's Services including edge of care support services, residential children's homes, Partnership Exploitation and Missing Hub. This broad remit fits well with the work of the YOT and has also assisted in strengthening the working relationship with Social Care. The YOT's key priorities will be identified and included in the Children's and Young People Service Plan 2022 - 2023.

Within the Safer Wolverhampton Partnership, the YOT participates in the Partnership Board and attends the Delivery Board. In addition, the YOT is also represented at a number of other key operational and strategic meetings and boards including the Violence Prevention Group, Child Exploitation and Missing Operational Group (CEMOG), the Exploitation Priority Group (a sub-group of WST), the Children and Young People Emotional, Mental Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board, Children and Families Together Board and the Clinical Commissioning Group Risk Register meetings.

HMIP rated the arrangements for governance and leadership as "good" and partnership and services as "outstanding"

6. Resources and services

Wolverhampton YOT partnership receives a variety of resources both financial and in kind from its partners all of which are overseen and understood within the strategic YOT Management Board. The YJB Practice Grant is a key source of financial income that is used to finance staffing to support the wide range of Youth Justice functions undertaken across the partnership. Unfortunately, the YJB grant has not been confirmed, other than an indication that it will not be less than 2021-22. This Practice Grant is supported by the Local Authority contribution which has allowed the continued investment in Social Workers to undertake assessments, reporting and intervention planning and delivery within the Criminal Justice setting, enhancing safeguarding and risk management practice.

Partner contributions to the youth offending partnership pooled budget 2022-2023 is outlined below. This indicates the finance and in-kind contributions made by local partners. This funding and the in-kind contributions enable the YOT and the youth justice partnership to concentrate on its strategic aims to divert young people from the CJS safely, reduce reoffending, promote the best outcomes for young people and protect victims and communities from future harm. In accordance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Wolverhampton YOT receives contributions from all statutory partners – Police, Education, Health, Probation and Social Care. Any proposal to change the levels of resourcing are presented at YMB for discussion and ratification.

For 2022-2023 the YOT will receive direct funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) of £66k and this funding is specifically used to support the DIVERT scheme. The use of this budget and its aligned performance indicators are reported back to the PCC on a quarterly basis. The DIVERT delivery continues to be supported by the police contribution,

alongside its work with high-risk young people, Partnership Gang Forum, Deter Young Offender (DYO) scheme and the Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA). Additional funding is being sought by the Police Offender Management Unit to provide a second Youth Crime officer for the YOT to support the delivery of DIVERT. The National Probation Service (NPS) contributions to Wolverhampton YOT for 2022- 2023 will be a full-time Probation Officer (PO). The PO role will focus on the transition to adulthood work for 17-year-olds and working with our high-risk young people.

The combined health budget has allowed the YOT to develop a sophisticated health offer within the service, which triages all young people for health issues. The aim of the YOT health offer is to ensure that no young person enters the Criminal Justice System with unmet health needs. The integrated health team consists of a school nurse from Royal Wolverhampton Trust (RWT), a Psychologist from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS), a Substance Misuse from Wolverhampton W360) and a Speech and Language therapist from RWT. The School Nurse and Substance Misuse posts are commissioned by Public Health. In our recent HMIP inspection the report indicated that further funding was required to increase the Speech and Language offer within the team. The YMB are exploring potential pathways for this funding. A performance framework has been established with the health providers and via a quarterly health summit, performance and outcomes are reviewed. In addition, alternative resourcing is being finalised to fund the Back on Track (BoT) project for 2022-23 following the funding from Headstart ending in 2022.

Partner contributions to the youth offending partnership pooled budget 2022-2023

Agency	Staffing costs (£)	Payments in kind – revenue (£)	Other delegated funds (£)	Total (£)
Local authority*	1,06,180	18,660	375,880	1,454,720
Police Service	27,360	74,100	0	101,460
National Probation Service	5,000	50,496	0	55,496
Health Service School Nurse/ CAMHS/Substance Misuse /Speech and Language		144,207	0	144,207
Police and crime commissioner**	66,000	0	0	66,000
YJB Practice Grant	520,900 (TBC)	0	0	520,900
Total	1,679,440	268,047	375,880	2,323,367

7. Progress on previous plan

The progress against the YOT Business plan for 2021-22 has been monitored and reported at the YMB. It's been supported by a number of operational actions plans in which key operations managers have held responsibility for delivery with the team. The final review of the plan was completed and agreed at the last YMB in April 2022.

Actions completed include:

- Reshaping and incorporating lessons learnt from the pandemic into the delivery model of the YOT going forward
- Reviewing the ToR for the YMB
- Ensure all partnership Service Level Working Together Arrangements are fit for purpose.
- Embedding diversion at the point of arrest – launching a new criteria for police referral to the OOCJ Joint Decision Panel (JDP)
- Embedding the work of the Speech & Language therapist in all areas of YOT practice
- Review YOT intervention offers to fully align with the ARC trauma informed framework and continue to embed trauma informed practice, with a specific focus on offences of violence, weapon related offending and gang/exploitation support
- Development of YOT Peer mentoring Programme
- Embed the work of the Partnership Exploitation and Missing Hub and the Partnership Gang Forum in order to develop an effective response to contextualised safeguarding
- Promote the voice of the child and encourage meaningful participation.
- Continuing to promote Resettlement Support Panels and the proactive engagement of young people within the secure estate.

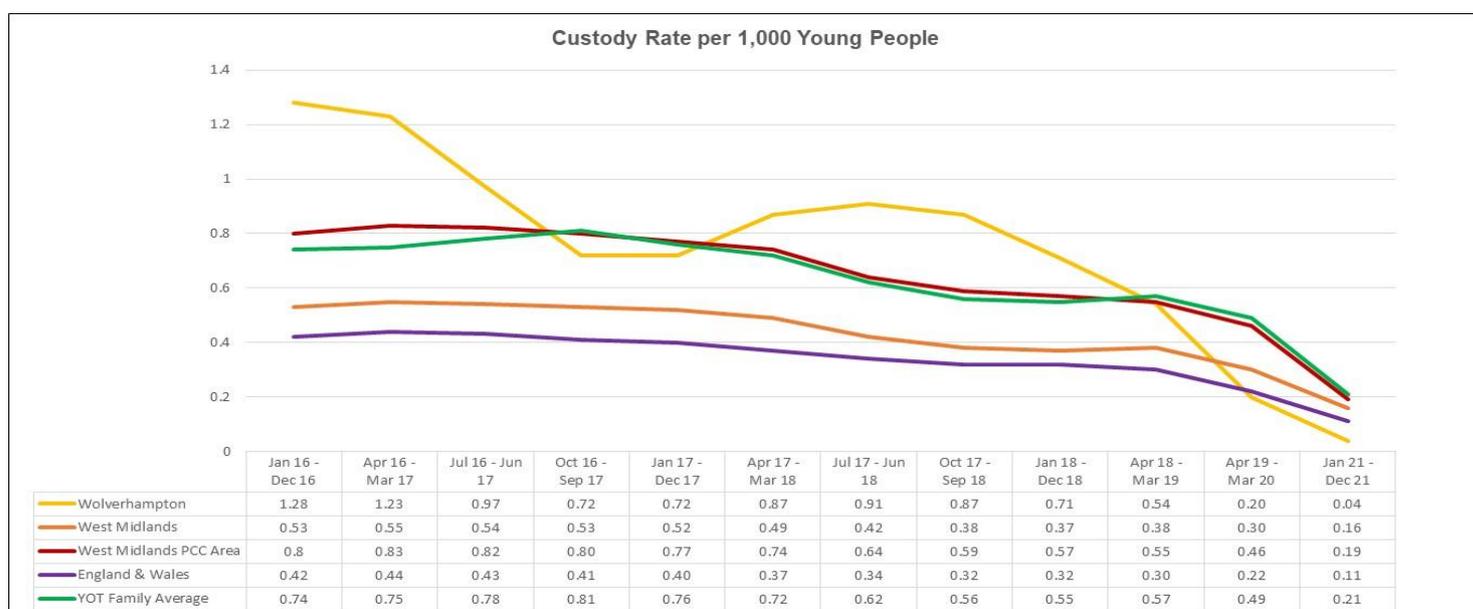
Actions to carry forward into the YOT Business Plan 2022-2023, include:

- Building upon the work with Children and Young People in Care (CYPIC) to further reduce their risks of criminalisation.
- Improving the educational engagement and outcomes for all young people at the YOT
- Extension of the whole family / carer offer within the service
- Addressing areas of disproportionality and promoting wider partnership engagement to reduce areas of significant disproportionality.

8. Performance and priorities

Use of Custody and constructive resettlement:

(Based on local data) two custodial sentences were recorded during 2021-2022; a reduction of four when compared to the previous year, equating to a reduction of 67%. Both sentences were received by males aged between 16 and 17 years. Both sentences were received by males from an ethnic minority group. One male was black and one male mixed ethnicity.



The custody rate for Wolverhampton has recorded year on year reduction since October 2017, and has fallen below the national average, West Midlands average and YOT family average since 2020.

Youth Detention Accommodation

Four young people were subject to youth detention accommodation throughout 2021-2022, consistent with the previous year, however, the collective days on remand were more than double the number from the previous year, with an increase of 130% when compared to 2020-2021.

2020/21			2021/22		
Number of young people on remand	Collective days spent on remand	Annual Remand Costs (£)	Number of young people on remand	Collective days spent on remand	Annual Remand Costs (£)
4	347	£97,905	4	798	£381,018

Throughout 2021-2022 three of the four young people were remanded in a YOI and the other in a SCH. During 2021-2022 there has been an increase of 289% (£283,113) in remand costs predominantly linked to the YP remanded to a SCH which attracts a higher daily fee of £438 more than a YOI remand. The young person remanded to a SCH was aged 14 years with the three young people remanded to YOI aged 16 years (one YP) and 17 years (two YP). Two of the young people were black and two were white. At the end of 2021-2022 two of the YP remain on remand with one YP receiving a six-month custodial sentence and the 14-year-old found not guilty during his trial after a period of 296 days on remand. All of the young people were on remand for offences of violence against the person as their most serious offence. Other offences included drugs offences, driving motoring offences and robbery.

The use of custody within Wolverhampton continues to be extremely low, lower than all its comparators. This aligns with the YOT's ambition to ensure that the secure estate is only used for the critical few, in which the risks cannot be adequately managed in the community and the impact on the victim has been significant.

However, the YOT will endeavour to keep working to ensure that use of custody remains low by:

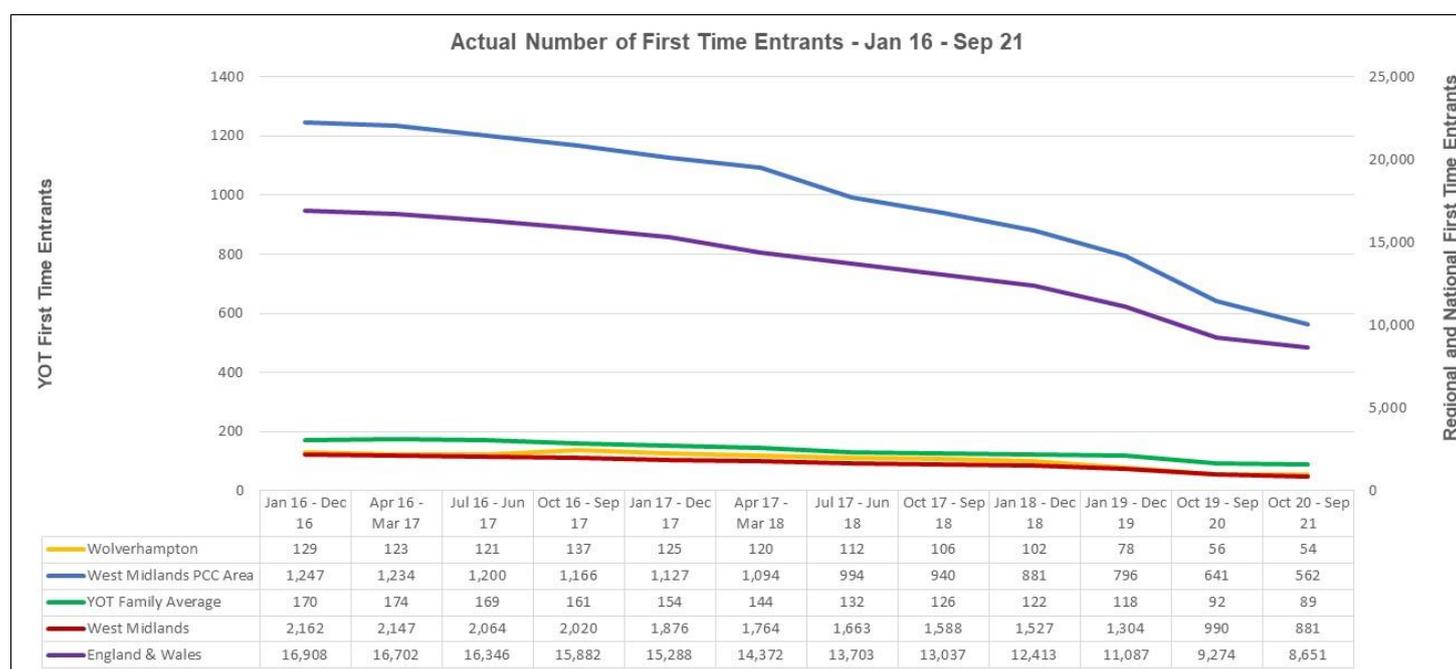
- Producing quality gatekept reports to the court, supported by proportionate and credible community sentence recommendations
- The maintenance of a robust Intensive Supervision and Surveillance scheme (ISS) offering oversight and creative interventions to address risky offending and offer real alternatives to custody and secure remands
- Provision of high-quality court officers that are responsive and proactive in tailoring bail alternatives for court, including weekends
- Maintaining the confidence of the court in all tiers of interventions and bail options e.g., Referral Order panels by offering shadow visits, presentations to Youth Court Panel meetings etc
- Clear and credible compliance and, where necessary, enforcement procedures
- A clear risk management policy that reviews and maintains management oversight
- Working closely with voluntary and community sector partners to ensure our service is relevant and responsive to all of Wolverhampton's diverse communities
- Working closely with Children's Services in the response and management of remand bail requests to avoid, where appropriate, secure remands

With regard to constructive resettlement, Wolverhampton has an established system of Resettlement Support Panels based on the YJB's '7 pathways of resettlement'. This has resulted in the development of Education Training and Employment (ETE) and mentoring support via YOT resettlement support and partnership organisations. Werrington YOI operational lead for resettlement is also an active YMB member and the YOT are represented on Werrington's Safeguarding board. HMIP rated resettlement as "outstanding" and commented:

"The YOT has had a resettlement policy in place for a number of years, which includes guidance on the operation of resettlement panels. The policy has been reviewed and updated. There is a local agreement with children's social care that all children will be released into appropriate accommodation. There is a representative from the secure estate on the management board, and evidence that the YOT appropriately escalates concerns about children in custody". (pg10)

First Time Entrants

(Based on local data) The First Time Entrant rate for Wolverhampton throughout 2021-2022 has recorded a 38.6% reduction in young people during 2021-2022 and a 21.6% reduction in the number of offences committed amongst FTE when compared to the previous year. 2020-2021 recorded 44 young people, reducing to 27 during 2021-2022. YJB available data (October 2020 – September 2021) reflects a reduction of 8.5%, higher than the -5.9% recorded by Wolverhampton’s YOT family Group (made up of comparative YOTs). The data available from the YJB precedes the introduction of Outcome 22 within Wolverhampton YOT, which has further impacted on FTE numbers throughout 2021-2022.



The actual number of FTE as displayed in the YJB charts reflects the downward trend within Wolverhampton since 2016 also mirroring the overall downward trend across all regions since this period.

The YOT performance report year to date identified that offences of violence against the person (55%), drugs offences (15%) and theft and handling stolen goods (13%) are the most common for FTEs. The rate of violence against the person has remained consistent with the 2020-2021 rate of 58%, but this was a notable increase after recording 32% amongst FTE during 2019-2020.

It must be noted that the impact of DIVERT and the use of Outcome 22 on the YOT’s First Time Entrants Data has for Quarter 3 in 2021-2022 shown a significant impact already. The data produced for the Safer Wolverhampton Partnership (SWP) showed that FTE comparative rates for Quarter 3 2020-2021 (18 young people) and 2021-2022 (4 young people) reported a reduction of 78%, primarily as a result of the use of Outcome 22. We would expect this trend to continue, and as long as young people successfully complete their Outcome 22

interventions, this will have a significant impact on the formal decriminalisation of young people in Wolverhampton.

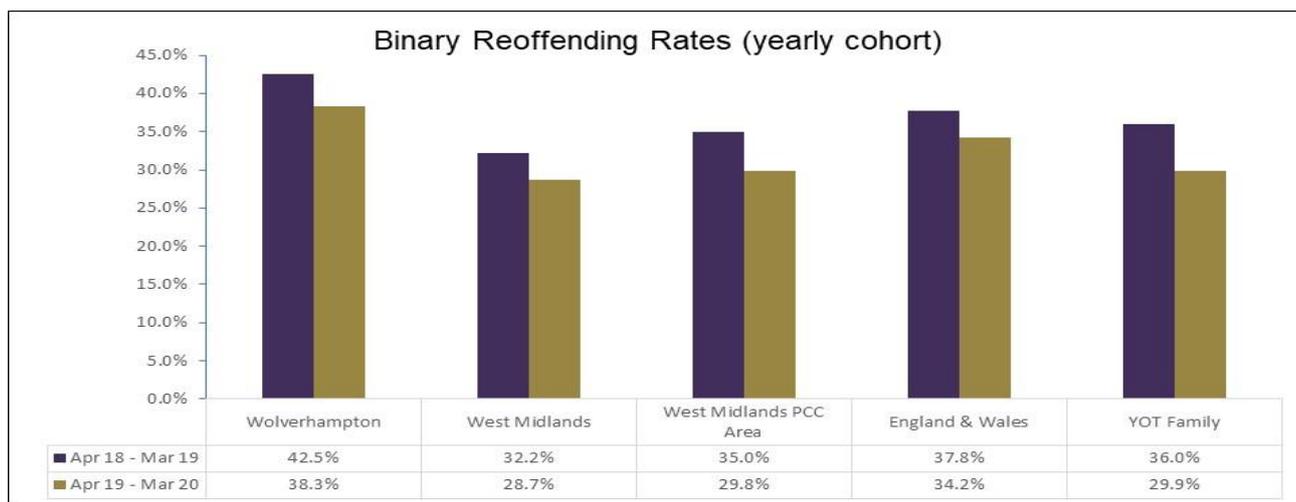
Further initiatives to continue to reduce FTE include:

- Exploitation and Missing Hub and the Partnership gang’s forum providing a vehicle for earlier identification of young people at risk of exploitation and offering early intervention packages of support to prevent young people entering the CJS
- Development and delivery of the new YOT Creating Safety Project targeted at young people at risk of exploitation prior to involvement in the CJS
- Explore the proposed YJB funding for the “Turnaround” programme to support YOTs to develop an early help offer.
- Continued funding to support the Back on Track Project aimed at providing early intervention for years 7, 8 and 9 pupils at risk of school exclusion due to criminogenic related behaviours i.e., knife and/or drug possession at school
- Work with the Schools and Police Panel to reduce the criminalisation of young people involved in offence related behaviours within the school setting.
- Embedding of Restorative Practice within identified Residential Units to promote the “making it right” programme to mediate and prevent criminalisation in residential settings. In addition, working with youth justice partners in the delivery of the National Protocol for the discrimination of young people in care.

Reducing Reoffending

Binary rates of reoffending (YJB Data April 2019 – March 2020)

During 2019-2020 Wolverhampton recorded a decrease in the reoffending rate from 42.5% to 38.3%. All other areas regionally and nationally recorded slight reductions in the yearly cohort rates.

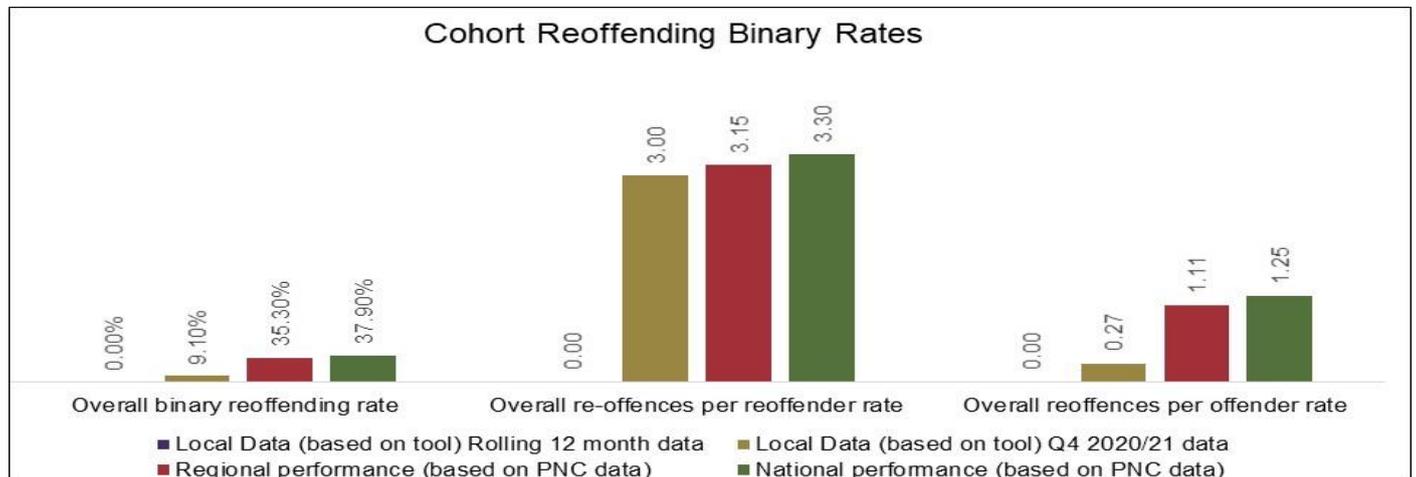


Reoffending Live Tracker Tool (local data)

Tracking in quarter 4 during 2020-2021 recorded a 18.2% overall binary rate, with 4.50 reoffences per reoffender rate. The overall reoffences rate across the cohort was at a rate of

0.82. With the exception of the overall re-offences per reoffender rate, all rates fall below both the regional and national performance for reoffending.

Within Wolverhampton YOT the 'Reoffending Tracker tool' is also used to track young people who receive an OOC. This tracks the reoffending rates of young people who receive Community Resolutions, Youth Cautions and Youth Conditional Cautions and all young people are tracked for a 12-month period.



The data shows that for quarter 4 in 2020-2021, the overall binary rate for OOC was 9.1%, with significantly lower reoffending occurring compared to national rate of 37.90%. Overall re-offences per re-offender for Wolverhampton was 3.00 compared to national 3.30, and the overall reoffences rate across the cohort was 0.27 compared to 1.25 national rate.

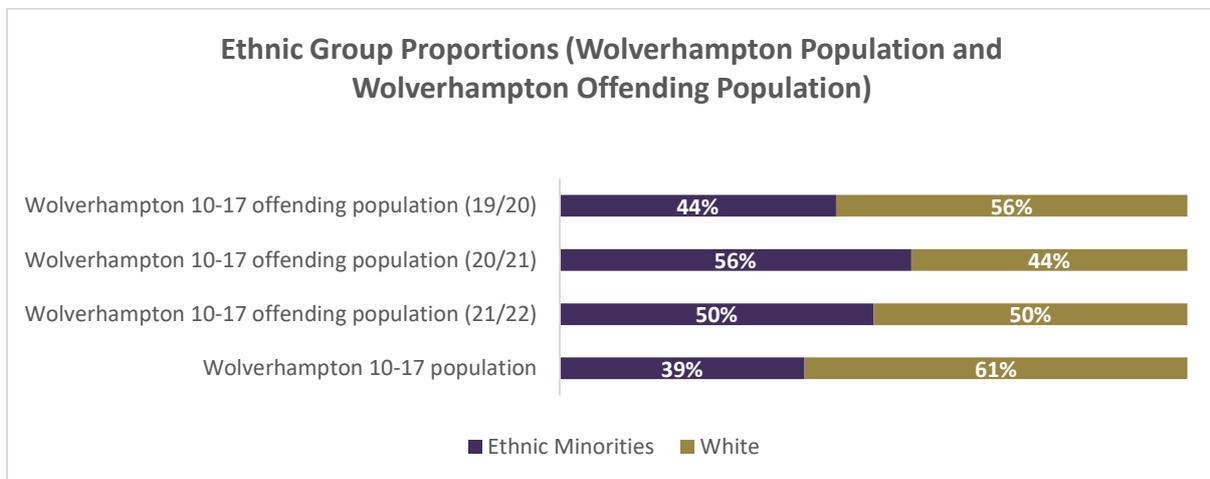
Key initiatives to further reduce reoffending in the YOT:

- Continued use of the Reoffending Live Tracker information to target our resources on the areas of most significant reoffending
- Continued training and investment in improving the quality of assessments, planning, delivery and reviewing with regard to desistance, keeping young people and others safe. In line with our HMIP recommendation improve the quality of contingency planning and managing and mitigating a child’s risk of harm to others.
- Further embedding trauma informed practice and the development of the ARC framework to target and develop interventions designed to adopt a more Public Health and systemic approach to reducing reoffending
- Development of bespoke projects and programmes designed to engage young people into activities to build attachments, learn to self-regulate and develop their own social competencies
- Specific focus and resources to improve Education, Training and Employment opportunities and support
- Maintaining scaled approach contact levels to ensure intensity of interventions match assessed risks and needs, to allow greater scope for non-statutory engagement.
- Seven day per week services for our most challenging and risky service users
- Compliance meetings with young people and their carers to ensure that any deterioration in their response to YOT programmes of intervention is quickly understood, addressed, and improved
- Resettlement Support Panels to co-ordinate and deliver effective provision to reduce risks of reoffending on release from custody

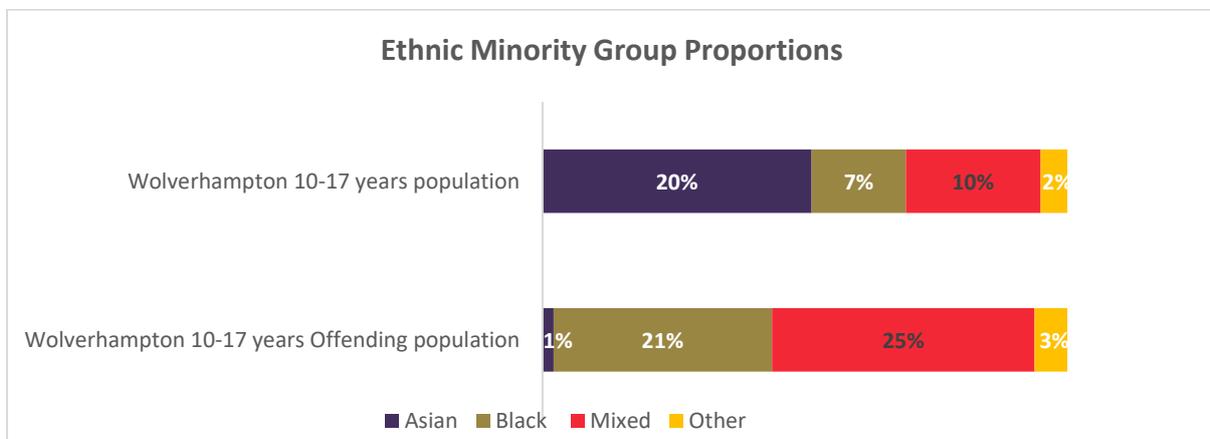
- YOT led partnership 6 -weekly gang forum to identify and map young people most at risk of exploitation and gang involvement to promote a multi-agency response to managing risks.
- Proactive Police/YOT offender management for you people identified as part of the Deter Young Offenders (DYO) scheme
- Work with families and parents to ensure the ‘whole family’ approach is embedded with a focus on an understanding of therapeutic approaches to parenting to support developmentally informed intervention for sustainable desistence

Overrepresentation within our cohort:

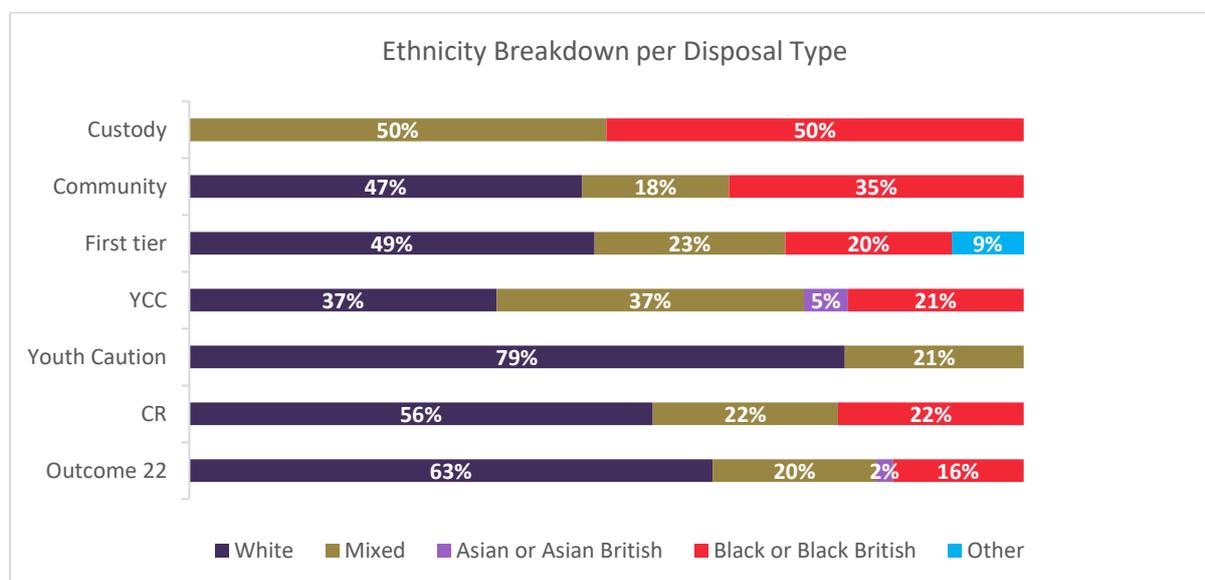
The 2011 Census data reported that the split of ethnic groups between 10 – 17-year-olds was split by 39% ethnic minorities and 61% white. The mid-year estimates (April 2019) predict the ratio is now approximately 46% for Black, Asian and other minority Ethnic groups and 54% white British amongst 10-17 years olds in Wolverhampton. For the purposes of direct and accurate comparison this report uses the 2011 census data in relation to ethnicity.



The data continues to reveal a level of disproportionality within the Wolverhampton cohort when compared to the general population. 2021-2022 data is showing a modest reduction of 6% when compared to 2020-2021. The breakdown by ethnicity for 2021-2022 reveals that the 50% cohort represents 1% Asian, 21% Black, 25% mixed heritage and 3% other young people, highlighting the larger disproportionality for black and mixed heritage young people.



The analysis by ethnicity for disposals reflects the over-representation of Black and Mixed Heritage within the overall cohort, apart from the pre-court disposals. The custody data only represents 2 young people.



Wolverhampton YOT has developed a detailed and comprehensive action plan to address its issues of disproportionality, focussed primarily on Black, Asian and other Minority Ethnic young people. This work will also ensure that young people with other protective characteristics or overrepresented in the CJS are also within scope, including embedding a regional standard of practice for working with girls; decriminalisation of children young people in care; closing the education gap for young people with Special Education Needs; ensuring our services are responsive to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered young people.

With regard to the experiences of Black and Mixed Heritage boys in the CJS, the YOT will be responding to the key findings and recommendations from the HMIP thematic report, which included areas of practice that enhanced the quality of work with Black and mixed heritage boys, including:

- A clear anti-racist stance taken by leaders raises staff’s confidence to advocate for black and mixed heritage boys in their work.
- Well-coordinated work with third sector and community organisations enhances the quality of service delivery.
- Providing effective support to parents and carers of black and mixed heritage boys promotes their engagement.
- The effective use of data is reflected in better quality service delivery

In addition, our action plan will address the recommendation within our HMIP report which stated that the YMB should “ensure that staff are appropriately trained and confident in having conversations to understand black, Asian and minority ethnic children’s experiences in order to improve the quality and suitability of service provision” (pg 10)

Other initiatives and headlines from the Disproportionality Action plan 2022-2023 include:

- DIVERT scheme, embracing the Lammy findings on breaking the cycle of mistrust with the Police and removing the barriers for Black and Mixed Heritage boys accessing pre-court pathways for support.
- Cultural competence training scheduled for the whole team.
- The established YOT Equality forum to continue to provide the opportunity for team reflection, discussion and practice change.
- Embedding the understanding that young people who have experienced racism have had a trauma journey, which has been intergenerational and reflect it within our assessments, reports and interventions.
- YMB to have greater opportunity to understand the needs of our over-represented groups.
- YMB to be the focal platform for the youth justice partnership to understand the system areas of disproportionality and collaborate on a collective response to issues of disproportionality “down-stream” in the system i.e., education engagement, access to preventative support, including mental wellbeing services.
- Consultation forum for Black, Asian and other ethnic minorities to understand the lived experiences and shape what future delivery should look like.
- “Levelling the Playing Field” YJB project to promote and develop our work collaboratively with local third sector and community organisations
- Provision of specialist whole family working for parents of Black and Mixed Heritage boys
- Regional project for girls in CJS to establish a standard of practice
- Specific additional resourcing and Education, Employment and Training (EET) specialist within the team to support young people. Alongside this, the identification of a dedicated SEN officer within the education inclusion team.

Local Performance targets

Education Training and Employment (ETE)

	2020/21					2021/22				
	Q1 2020/21	Q2 2020/21	Q3 2020/21	Q4 2020/21	FY 2020/21	Q1 2021/22	Q2 2021/22	Q3 2021/22	Q4 2021/22	FY 2021/22
% Overall Performance	60%	63%	40%	40%	54%	89%	38%	77%	50%	64%
% School Age met 25 hours target	80%	50%	50%	100%	70%	75%	67%	100%	0%	61%
% Over School Age met 16 hours target	40%	67%	33%	25%	44%	100%	20%	73%	57%	63%

Between 2020-2021 and 20212022 that has been a 10% increase in overall ETE performance, increasing from 54% to 64%. There has also been a notable increase to 63% from 44% within the over school age cohort. However, there has been a reduction in the engagement rates for school aged children from 70% to 61%

Across the full cohort 27 (30.3%) were recorded as young people with SEND. 20 (22.5%) YP had an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and seven (7.87%) recording SEN Support. 15 (75%) of the YP with an EHCP recorded a court disposal. The over-representation of young people with either SEND and EHCP within our cohort was recognised within our HMIP inspection recommendation in which it required the YMB to make sure these young people had access to high-quality education and training services that are matched to their needs. It

has been acknowledged that the YOT does not have the commissioning role nor the governance over the provision of services for young people with SEND/EHCPs, however the YMB will be working with the Head of Service for Inclusion and Empowerment, including SENSTART and the Head of Skills to advocate and oversee the future provision of services.

Future improvement will be driven by:

- Broadening the data analysis to all young people open on an intervention, as well as those closing their statutory order, to provide a richer source of analysis to identify trends and patterns in ETE engagement and inform practice priorities
- Devise a role in SENSTART for a specific SEND officer to have an operational link to YOT for a single point of contact for all EHCP reviews
- Review Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) and Alternative Provision (AP) to consider Early Intervention options and therapeutic educational placements to reduce the number of young people requiring longer term placements in AP and PRU placements
- YOT to be included within the SEND provision quality assurance framework. This will be co-produced with young person, parent carers, health, education and social care colleagues. This will include requirements for audit and moderation panels and include a themed audit test cycle
- YMB to monitor development and implementation of the vulnerability Matrix to be developed across the council by Head of Inclusion & Empowerment
- Identification of continued funding for the Back on Track Project to provide support to Years 7, 8 and 9 pupils at risk of exclusion
- Revision of the practice of reviewing EHCP only after release from custody to ensure they are completed in preparation of release, and SEND officer to attend Resettlement Support panels.
- YOT representation on the CWC Secondary School Inclusion Support and Alternative Provision Panel (ISAPP) to provide bespoke support to young people at risk of exclusion
- YOT attendance at the CWC Culture of Inclusion Steering group and project groups to influence and set the direction of future education practice
- Attendance at the Police and Schools Panel to establish closer working relationships with schools
- Monthly YOT multi-agency pre-16 and post-16 panels to plan and identify resources to support young people to maintain ETE and/or identify a placement
- Educational Psychologist (EP) support to provide support, advice & guidance on SEND and EHCP processes
- Speech and Language therapist to assess and support young people into ETE
- Partnership secondment of post 16 Connexions Advisor within the YOT to provide bespoke support to young people. Dedicated YOT officer providing further post-16 support
- Dedicated ETE YOT Officer to provide additional resource and support.
- Roll out of ASDAN to support pathways back into mainstream learning

Prevention:

Wolverhampton YOT have developed 2 bespoke prevention programmes in collaboration with 4 schools (Back on Track) and with the Children Services and the Exploitation Hub (Creating

Safety Project). Future opportunities will be explored in expanding our early prevention offer, in line with the YJB proposals for the “Turnaround programme”

Back on Track (BOT): This project was initiated following small-scale funding (£50k) being made available to the Youth Offending Team from the Early Intervention Youth Fund (part of the Safer Wolverhampton Partnership) in July 2019. It focuses on the prevention of young people becoming permanently excluded from mainstream education. Evidence based research has highlighted the correlation between young people who have been permanently excluded from education and the increased risk of becoming involved in anti-social/offending behaviour.

The project focuses on early intervention and providing support for young people in year 7,8 & 9, parents/carers, and schools. We are currently working within 4 schools, across Wolverhampton. Back on Track provides holistic intervention by assessing the individual's needs, in school, at home and within the wider community. Once established, support is provided to address areas of need through a trauma informed lens. Young people can access support from a wide range of services to address a variety of areas including SEND, social and emotional mental health, substance misuse as well as positive activities.

The project promotes joint working with schools, collaborating with the young person and their family to identify interventions together that will improve engagement at school and avoid exclusion and offending.

Creating Safety Project (CSP): This project was launched in 2022 as a response to the increasing levels of young people at risk of exploitation and therefore at risk of entering the criminal justice system. The project has been designed to use the frameworks of contextualised safeguarding and through a case formulation process work with the young person to identify their safety issues, understand what safety means to them in regard to physical, emotional, financial and location/place. It's a project designed to work with young people and their families to support them to create and maintain their own and others safety.

Diversion:

Our HMIP Inspection identified National Standards 1 “Out of Court” as being good for the Assessment, Planning, disposal policy and Provision. They also identified the implementation and delivery of this area of work as Outstanding. HMIP were informed of the plan to address some of the improvements identified from the National standards self-assessment audit (2020) completed by YOT Managers and YOT Management Boards Members. This identified the need for improvements in relation to our Diversion offer to systemically address areas of disproportionality, through a public health and partnership approach. It also identified the need to incorporate work with community/third sector partners, and to create a diversion at the point of arrest pathway, alongside the formal out of court route.

The Youth Justice Plan 2021 – 2022 and the NS1 “Out of Court” Action Plan 2021-2022 identified key actions regarding improving the YOTs diversion offer which was developed through support from the Centre for Justice Innovation and the YJB Pathfinder. DIVERT, which is Wolverhampton YOTs diversion at the point of arrest scheme, has a working agreement between the YOT and West Midlands Police, in using a deferred prosecution Outcome 22 (DIVERT Pathway) to promote diversion into a child focused system that promotes constructive behaviour through multi-agency intervention.

An audit and evaluation report were presented to the Children Services Senior Leadership Team and YMB in February 2022, the highlights within this report include:

- A disproportionately high number of referrals are known to SENSTART, with 18% having an Educational and Health Care Plan (EHCP) and 50% with SEN support needs.
- Assaults accounted for 54% of the offences heard at the JDP and the majority (87%) of those had a ACPO Gravity Matrix score of 1 and 2 after adjustments
- Of the cohort, 89% of the young people received a DIVERT Pathway (Outcome 22)
- Of the cohort, over half of the victims (64%) gave their consent and provided their details, but only 54% were willing to engage in restorative justice work, with 43% having an ongoing piece of restorative work between the YP and the victim

The YOT 6 monthly participation report October 2021- March 2022, used data from 62 JDP evaluations completed by young people and their parent/carers who received outcomes through DIVERT. Some of highlights include:

- 93% of young people were able to give their view about the help and support they needed
- 95% reported that the decision-making panel was explained to them
- 76% of the young people 'definitely' agreed with the outcome of the panel and 18% 'sort of' agreed.
- 90% of young people were either definitely (84%) or sort of (6%) happy with the plan of support offered.

Overall, the feedback provided in relation to the delivery of the DIVERT Scheme was positive, there were some areas of development identified around police information.

Priorities moving forwards

- Ongoing review of the collaboration of Health partners within the DIVERT Scheme, to ensure young people with unmet health needs are identified at the earliest opportunity.
- Continue to quality assure Police Referrals to DIVERT to ensure all information such as victim consent, offence detail, and interview summary has been completed
- Continue to develop a mechanism with the Police and Courts that enables the YOT to identify and divert young people from court to the JDP at the earliest opportunity if eligible.
- Build links with third sector organisations to support the diversion intervention offer, this includes embedding the local YJB Levelling the playing field providers within the YOTs core intervention offer.
- Continue to gather data to analyse cost savings and avoidance of the scheme. Also, to evidence the impact of the scheme on the rate of First Time Entrants entering the CJS.

Serious Violence and Exploitation

Using the YJB definitions of serious youth violence the below 5-year comparison shows there has been a huge reduction. Overall serious violence offences reduced by -76% in the five years between 2020-2021 and 2016-2017. Levels increased slightly in 2021-2022 but remain much lower than the pre-pandemic levels recorded. In 2020-2021 robbery levels had reduced by 73% when compared to 2016-2017, this reduced level has continued into 2021-2022.

Violence against the person offences saw a reduction of -81% over the comparative five years (2016-2017 – 2020-2021), with just 4 offences recorded in 2020-2021, this has increased slightly in 2021-2022 recording 6 offences.

This data and the YJB definitions of serious youth violence does not reflect the fact that for 2021-2022, 49% of all offences coming through the YOT were for violence against the person, primarily Section 39 and Section 47 assaults. This reflects the increase in interpersonal violence, public place violence, reported incidences in schools and a noticeable increase in young women committing offences of violence.

Alongside this, the concerns of exploitation, specifically Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE), County Lines (CL) and gang association continue to be managed through the city-wide Exploitation Hub and the Partnership Gang Forum. This has enabled the continued mapping and identification of young people at risk, ensuring appropriate pathways of support are in place. In addition, using the Contextualised Safeguarding framework, locations, potential perpetrators, disruption actions and city trends are also identified. The recent Wolverhampton Partnership Youth Gang report April 2022 indicated:

- There were currently 12 young people identified with being affiliated with gangs in Wolverhampton, however a total of 67 have been discussed since the gang forum started in December 2020
- Of the current cohort, 6 (50%) are currently open to Multi-agency Criminal Exploitation (MACE) meetings; 1 at Serious risk, 5 are Significant Risk and 1 is awaiting their initial MACE meeting. A further 3 were previously open to MACE but their risks have reduced and are now closed. The remaining 3 have been deemed 'At Risk' after receiving an Exploitation toolkit but did not meet MACE threshold.

The Violence Prevention Subgroup:

There are already strong partnership responses to violence prevention in Wolverhampton driven by the Tackling Violence and Exploitation Strategy, delivery of which is overseen jointly by Safer Wolverhampton Partnership (SWP) and Wolverhampton Safeguarding Together (WST). This strategy sets out Wolverhampton's ambition to take a public health approach to addressing the causes of violence in their entirety to deliver change at population level. Delivery against this strategy has included activity such as a contextual safeguarding review and development of Wolverhampton's Partnership Exploitation Hub.

In order to build on existing successes, ensure that there is a robust violence prevention offer within Wolverhampton and ensure that Wolverhampton is compliant against the new serious violence duty, a new violence prevention subgroup has been established to progress the below activity:

- Mapping of current violence prevention/support provision.
- Mechanism for monitoring, reviewing, and implementing (where appropriate) best practice around violence prevention and reduction.
- Review of area specific data and services with a focus on prevention and early intervention.
- Oversee production of a violence needs assessment and annually refreshed problem profile.
- Ensure that the Serious Violence and Exploitation Strategy is reflective of the needs assessment.
- Action plans and performance frameworks to be developed to monitor delivery of the strategy.

The subgroup will report into SWP and provide regular updates to WST and YOT Management Board. YOT will make a significant contribution to this group and will continue to implement its response to serious youth violence and exploitation will include:

- Delivery of early prevention via DIVERT and Creating Safety Project
- Strong risk management and disruption responses to protect young people and communities
- YOT and Police DYO (Deter Youth Offenders) scheme to be expanded to include all young people committing offences of violence
- Ensuring interventions around weapons, exploitation and gangs are fit for purpose
- Recognise the impact of trauma and latent vulnerability for both victims and perpetrators in our intervention responses
- Develop our CAMHS forensic response to young people involved in the cycle of violence
- Embedding the use of Structured Assessment of Violent Youth (SAVRY) to inform assessments and interventions.
- Promote participation and young people's involvement in the responses, including lived experienced mentors.
- Develop a collaboration with key community organisations and third sector

Serious Violence (five-year trend):		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	% Change	% Change
								2016/17-2020/21	2016/17-2021/22
Offence									
Robbery	Attempt Robbery (6)	7	3	5	3	3	2		
	Assault with intent to rob (6)	2	0		3	0			
	Robbery (6)	31	39	19	6	8	8		
	Robbery Total	40	42	24	12	11	10	-73%	-75%
Violence Against the Person	Air weapon - possession with intent to cause fear of violence	2	1	1					
	Damage / destroy property with intent to endanger life	1							
	Attempt Murder (8)	0		1					
	Murder (8)	0		2					
	Possess an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear of violence (5)	2	2						
	Possess a firearm with intent to endanger life (7)	1			1		1		
	Section 18 - grievous bodily harm with intent (7)	2	1	1	1	3	1		
	Section 18 - wounding with intent (7)	7	2	6		1			
	Public Order – Other (5)	0	2	1			1		
	Rape of a female (8)			1					
	Violent Disorder (5)	4	1	1					
	Wound / inflict grievous bodily harm without intent (6)	2	1	1	1		3		
Violence Against the Person Total	21	10	15	3	4	6	-81%	-71%	
Drugs Offences	Concerned in supply of heroin (6)		1				1		
	Possess with intent to supply a controlled drug of Class A - Cocaine (6)		3	1	1	1	1		
	Possess with intent to supply a controlled drug of Class A - Crack Cocaine (6)	2	4	4	3		2		
	Possess with intent to supply a controlled drug of Class A - Heroin (6)	1	6	5	4		2		
	Possess with intent to supply a controlled drug of Class A - Other (6)	4			1				
	Drugs Total	7	14	10	9	1	6	-86%	-14%
Overall Total		68	66	49	24	16	22	-76%	-68%

Restorative Justice & Victims

In July 2021 an audit tool was created to look at the work of the YOT in respect to victims and restorative justice. In August of the same year an internal audit was undertaken, and a number of areas identified for action. There was a significant overhaul in the administrative aspects of the Restorative Justice Unit (RJU) in particular with some of the actions arising including;

- All victim related paperwork/documents to be saved on individual IP ChildView records on notes and attachments.
- Review RJU involvement in updating the RJ Module on ASSETPLUS i.e Priorities for Repairing Harm section
- Referral Reports / PSR reports / ASSETPLUS & corresponding Victim Reports gatekept by the same manager to ensure RJU & victim represented within reports and assessments.
- RJU direct involvement in DIVERT – Joint Decision-Making Panel to ensure victim identification/contact/recording and co-ordination with case managers will improve communication and involvement in contract/intervention plans.

The benefits of the above and other measures ensured that there was recorded evidence of the work within RJU and, most importantly, that the victims voice could be heard throughout the process and the wider YOT became more consistently adherent to the victims' code.

HMIP inspection of Wolverhampton YOT (published Feb 2022) saw the fruit of the work of the RJU, the improvements as a consequence of auditing, and the feedback provided by volunteer Community Panel Members (CPM). Inspectors commented that the YOT has an *'impressive restorative justice unit, which takes a holistic approach to working with children and victims.*

HMIP also fed back on an area requiring improvement pertaining to the assessment of young people in relation to any risk they may pose to specific victims, how and who would address that risk and any considerations appropriate in terms of contingency planning. Prior to the inspection, and within the NS3 2021-2022 action plan, some of these areas were identified for input and this will continue in this year's action plan. External and in-house training, resources, supervision and team meetings have already been utilised to this end and will continue going forward.

Volunteer Community Panel members (CPM) also provided their views and there was a consensus amongst them regarding the positive improvements and delivery of services throughout the pandemic and thereafter. This included the pre-panel discussions with case managers, facilitation of virtual panels with home support, the increase in work with victims that made the difference to conversations CPMs had with young people at panel, and the increased diversity of volunteers which better represented the community in which they serve. In recent months volunteers, most young people and their families have also appreciated the work undertaken in transitioning from virtual to face to face panels.

The challenges going forward include;

- Further embedding of face-to-face panels and the provision of consistent CPMs at review/final panels.
- Development and training to achieve 'co-created' contracts. Moving in a collaborative way to a more co-creational way of reaching mutually agreeable 'contracts' between panel and YPs and Case Managers which are reflective of that YPs journey through their Referral Order, whilst still remaining cognisant of the 'victim voice'

- Identify routes to encourage male volunteers.
- Work on plans to offer community-based panels.
- Management oversight to support case managers effective risk assessment to actual and potential victims, utilisation of the Assetplus matrix and appropriate contingency planning .

9. National standards (NS)



The Initial self-assessment was completed in July 2020 and each NS has had an action plan “owned” by a specific YOT Operational Manager and YMB member. Our HMIP inspection recognised that our *“Board members were fully involved with the Youth Justice Board (YJB) National Standards self-assessment and were allocated roles in specific areas of practice”*. (Pg8). All NS action plans have been reviewed on a quarterly basis with the YMB leads and have been presented to YMB for monitoring and oversight.

Standard 1 – Out of Court Disposals (OOC)

Initial self-assessment judged both the strategic and operational practice as good. Our recent HMIP inspection has rated OOC assessment “good”, planning “good”, implementation and delivery as “outstanding” and reviewing as “good”.

Key areas identified in Initial NS1 Action Plan:

- To assist in the de-criminalisation of CYPIC
- Trauma informed practice is embedded within assessment process and interventions using ARC framework.
- Revise/review Police/YOT protocol to incorporate Covid-19 restrictions for OOC
- Improve victim involvement in OOC work

Progress against key areas:

- ✓ Development of DIVERT scheme has radically changed the provision of OOC with over 80% of young people receiving Outcome 22.
- ✓ Reduced number of CYPIC entering formal CJS, currently 8% of YOT cohort.
- ✓ Protocol and working agreements with Police finalised
- ✓ RJU representation at all JDP and significant increase in victim contact
- ✓ Assetplus and bespoke packages of support incorporating trauma informed practice and ARC.

NS1 action plan priorities going forward:

- Assessments of children's risk of harm to others need to identify more clearly who is at risk and the nature of the risk.
- Contingency planning needs to be evident so that the arrangements for managing a child's risk of harm to others is clear.
- Embed and evaluate the impact of DIVERT

Standard 2 – at court

Initial self-assessment judged both the strategic and operational practice as good.

Key areas identified in Initial NS2 Action Plan:

- Review and agree regional Black Country Youth Court protocol.
- Monitor the quality of court reports and the use of developmentally sensitive language.
- Establish court process/mechanism to re-divert YP eligible for OOCB back into the DIVERT scheme.
- Promote support available for parents and carers during pre-sentence and court stages.
- Implement 'Common Platform' within the admin team – lead by HMCTS

Progress against key areas:

- ✓ Black Country Youth Court protocol agreed
- ✓ Quality Assurance of reports benched marked and outcome evidence the use of developmental sensitive language, particularly around young person's experience and impact of trauma and exploitation.
- ✓ Mechanism in place to divert young people back into the OOCB (DIVERT) scheme.
- ✓ Court information leaflet completed.
- ✓ Wolverhampton YOT ready for the roll out of the new Common Platform, which will assist in obtaining court updates.

NS2 action plan priorities going forward :

- Analysis of pre-sentencing report (PSR)/Outcome strike rates
- Understanding disproportionality in court and supporting young people from Black, Asian and other ethnic minority groups through the process.
- Improvement in parental engagement in assessment and at court
- Improve the screening and process for referrals back to JDP.

Standard 3 – in the community:

Initial self-assessment judged both the strategic and operational practice as good. Our recent HMIP inspection has rated court disposals assessment "good", planning "requires improvement", implementation and delivery as "outstanding" and reviewing as "good".

Key areas identified in Initial NS3 Action Plan:

- Management oversight and decision making is clearly evidenced

- Improve the quality of ASSETPLUS reviews
- Victim work is appropriately evidenced and effectively utilised throughout the YOT
- Health Team staff utilise health consultations to identify health needs from the onset, ensure a co-ordinated response across health provision
- YOT intervention offers to fully align with the ARC trauma informed framework, with a specific focus on offences of violence, weapon related offending and gang/exploitation support
- Promote the young person's voice within practice
- Refresh of written information/leaflets for YP and families on core YOT services.

Progress against key areas:

- ✓ HMIP outcome reported "*the quality of management oversight in both post-court and out-of-court cases was a significant strength*". pg6
- ✓ Quality of reviewing judged as good by HMIP and extensive team training developed covering ASSETPLUS quality improvement.
- ✓ HMIP reported "*Health provision to the YOT is good and staff consider the health needs of all of the children and decide who is best to work with them*" (pg6)
Requirement to ensure health provision is fully embedded in JDP.
- ✓ YOT intervention reviewed and Intervention Index being developed with a range of activities matched to ARC framework.
- ✓ Evidence of a strong participation offer within the YOT
- ✓ All leaflets refreshed.

NS3 action plan priorities going forward :

- When assessing a child's risk of harm to others, staff need to identify and analyse more clearly the risks that the child poses, including who is at risk and the nature of that risk.
- Staff do not regularly take account of a child's diversity needs when completing assessments.
- The concerns and risks related to actual and potential victims are not consistently considered when planning to address the risk of harm to others.
- Staff do not consistently set out the contingency arrangements to manage the child's safety and wellbeing and their risk of harm to others in the cases inspected.
- Continued development of interventions.

Standard 4 – in secure accommodation

Initial self-assessment judged all sections in the strategic and operational practice as good, apart from the section below that were rated as required improvement:

- The environment that children live in is rehabilitative and safe and one where there is a culture that enables children to develop, grow and learn
- Communication between professionals is in line with Youth Custody Service requirements
- Services, plans and interventions take account of diverse needs and promote equality

Key areas identified in Initial NS4 Action Plan:

- Ensure ASSETPLUS assessments are completed in line with YCS recommendations.
- To ensure that children are protected and feel safe.
- Improve resettlement outcomes for young people in the secure estate.
- Review members of the YOT Resettlement Panels.
- Review the EHCP review process for young people entering and leaving custody.
- Review YOT/Social Care processes and practices for young people remanded into secure accommodation.
- Provide additional case management support for all YP within the Secure Estate.
- Promotion of the YOT and secure estate Equality and Diversity Policies.

Progress against key areas:

- ✓ Comprehensive custody and resettlement policy guidance launched, which includes the social care process and commitments to accommodation
- ✓ Agreement reached with SENSTART for EHCP's to be reviewed prior to release
- ✓ Resettlement Support panels now have representation from the secure estate, SENSTART, CAMHS and Social Care
- ✓ Resettlement Support Panels ensuring secure estate are making available appropriate interventions and preparation for release. Additional YOT resources identified to work with young people in custody.
- ✓ Safeguarding Performance – Key indicators (Werrington) monitored by YMB, Resettlement and Safeguarding managers from Werrington attend YMB. YOT operational manager on Werrington Safeguarding board. Children Services Safeguarding lead on YMB works closely with YOT to escalate concerns. Individual safeguarding concerns escalated to Werrington Safeguarding Manager, YOT social workers actively involved in custody review meetings and oversight maintained via Resettlement Support Panels

NS4 action plan priorities going forward :

- Continued improvement in ASSETPLUS and the use of YJAF
- Promotion of Secure Estate Equality & Diversity Policies
- Use of appropriate escalation measures to address concerns within the secure estate
- Ensuring Resettlement Support Plans are effective multi-agency forums to co-ordinate the support for young people
- Education provision and EHCP reviews and SEN support in custody.

Standard 5 – On transition and resettlement:

Initial self-assessment judged all sections in the strategic and operational practice as good, apart from the section below that were rated as required improvement:

- Is the plan subject to regular or joint review?

HMIP inspection has rated Resettlement policy and provision as “outstanding”

Key areas identified in Initial NS5 Action Plan:

- Transition to adulthood (T2A) probation process to have a clear transition / recording process that can be replicated within a plan
- Establish an operational relationship with CYPIC services to ensure transition relationships are in place
- Understand the experience of our young people when their placement changes, and in turn the YOT supervising them does

Progress against key areas:

- ✓ Internal processes for T2A reviewed and revised. Regional T2A meeting convened between YOT and NPS.
- ✓ Joint action plan in place with CYPIC service. Practice champions identified in YOT and CYPIC teams and a 6-weekly review of all CYPIC involved with the YOT.
- ✓ Transition within the secure estate to the adult estate supported by both YOT and NPS

NS4 action plan priorities going forward :

- T2A to have a clear transition/recording process
- 18-25 mental health transitions, establishment of 18-25 community hubs to support transitions.

10. Challenges, risks and issues

- Disproportionality within our cohort of young people from an ethnicity perspective and the continued lived experience challenges facing young people of colour.
- Escalation and overrepresentation of young people with special educational needs and Educational and Health Care Plans (EHCP) into the CJS
- Increase in youth violence and exploitation within Wolverhampton and the continued need for a public health response to the systemic issues facing young people and families within the city, especially during a “cost of living crisis” and the ongoing impact of COVID on the mental wellbeing of children and families.
- Continued commitment to appropriately funding the YOT and the broader youth justice partnership and ensuring local youth justice services are, from a governance perspective, still able to be delivered in the best possible way for the local population.

11. Service improvement plan

The YOT service improvement plan for 2022-2023 will include specific actions to address the HMIP recommendations, as well as specific practice areas carried forward from the 2021-2022 plan and new priority practice actions:

HMIP recommendations:

- YMB to make sure that all YOT children with SEND, and especially those with an EHCP, have access to high quality education and training services that are matched to needs.
- YMB to ensure that staff are appropriately trained and confident in having conversations to understand black, Asian and other minority ethnic children's experiences in order to improve the quality and suitability of service provision.
- Service manager to improve the quality of contingency planning in all cases, when managing and mitigating a child's risk of harm to others.

Actions to carry forward into the YOT Service improvement Plan:

- Building upon the work with Children and Young People in Care (CYPIC) to further reduce their risks of criminalisation.
- Improving the educational engagement and outcomes for all young people at the YOT
- Extension of the whole family / carer offer within the service, with a specific focus on supporting families with black and mixed heritage boys.
- Addressing areas of disproportionality and promoting wider youth justice partnership engagement to reduce areas of significant disproportionality.

New priority practice actions 2022-2023

- Continued delivery of the DIVERT scheme to further promote the decriminalisation of young people and divert them from the CJS. Evaluate impact and outcomes from the scheme with regards outcomes for young people, reoffending and First time Entrants rates including a cost avoidance analysis.
- Expansion of prevention offer and the continued delivery and development of BoT and CSP.
- Ensure the integrated health offer is fully embedded in the JDP process to promote the commitment that a child will not enter the CJS as a result of an unmet health need.
- Restorative practice and the voice of the victim being central to JDP and statutory intervention promoting opportunities for mediation.
- Co-ordinated and proactive response to youth violence, both strategically and operationally, promoting a public health response by all youth justice partnerships.
- Continue our work within the Exploitation Hub, CEMOG and the Partnership Gang Forum to promote the early identification of exploitation and gangs' risks and develop and deliver appropriate responses, co-ordinated with communities and the youth justice partnership.

- Ensuring all our work, embodies the child first offender second principles, with a specific focus on our continued development of trauma informed practice, case formulation and the delivery of interventions within the Attachment, Regulations and Competency framework (ARC)
- Development of a comprehensive Interventions Index and delivery of creative activities to support our Child First Offender Second and ARC approaches.
- Empower young people to share their views and genuinely have an influence on service design and delivery in the future through our participation offer, with a specific focus on Black and Mixed Heritage boys and young women.
- Continue to improve the experience of young people in transition to National Probation Service, including those in custody and other youth justice partnerships, specifically Leaving Care and adult mental health.
- Workforce Development – continue to invest in appropriate training, encourage staff creativity and input of future practice developments. HMIP commented that:

“Training is prioritised and staff are encouraged to find new ways of working with children. The YOT has considered the views of staff regarding their working conditions, practice skills, and appropriately adapted their learning and development to ensure wherever possible the impact of Covid-19 has been minimised” (pg8)
- YMB development, as reflect in the HMIP report, to ensure members have appropriate levels of knowledge of the profile, needs and experiences of the children to ensure that services are delivered which effectively support their needs.

12. Evidence-based practice and innovation

Our recent HMIP inspection reported that:

“There is evidence that the service is continually learning and uses research to develop the services it provides.” “The service manager is committed to delivering services that are research-led and evidence-based”. (pg8)

At the heart of all our practice developments and innovations remains current research, academic insights and policy guidance’s. Two examples include:



Trauma Informed Practice Project 2018 – On-going

In 2018 Wolverhampton YOT participated in the Alex Chard research leading to the publication of “Punishing Abuse” identifying the level of trauma experienced by our young people. We worked with Betsey De Thierry from the Trauma Recovery Centre (TRC) and with a Social Worker Consultant, Steve Bore, and developed a framework for trauma informed practice in Wolverhampton. Children Services funded a whole team training schedule in 2019-2020, including an introduction to attachment, developmental and rational trauma; ARC model,

specialist trauma-based screening tools, case formulation, intervention planning and delivery. A practice working group reviewed all practice processes and adapted them to work within this new framework, including the development of all interventions to map against the ARC model. Refresher training, staff consultations and continued practice development has been ongoing. The recent HMIP commented:

“The trauma-informed approach is reflected in the range of interventions available. These were personalised to best meet the needs of the child”. (pg8)



Following working with the Centre for Justice Innovation in 2019 (6 YOS identified in the country) and with Cheshire YOS as part of the YJB pathfinder programme, we have developed our Divert Scheme, which is based on Child First principles of diversion and proportionate intervention. These are grounded in labelling theory (O’Brien, 2019); the idea that the more contact a young person has with criminal justice services the more likely they are to reoffend. Tyrell et al (2017) found that diversion programmes were effective in reducing recidivism compared to when no further action was taken. Haines and Case (2018) found that a focus on the child’s unmet needs is seen to provide the best chance of reducing recidivism. This is in line with the Youth Justice Boards child first, offender second focus.

13. Looking forward

The future is bright for Wolverhampton YOT, it has a clear vision and a strategy to achieve its strategic and practice ambitions. It is well supported by the City of Wolverhampton Council and its Children Services. The wider youth justice partnership is engaged and committed to the same vision, most admirably evidenced in the joint work with the Police to develop and launch DIVERT.

The opportunities and support will be available for our children, but it must be acknowledged that there will be challenges. The impact of COVID; the rise of youth violence and the risks of exploitation; combined with the city’s levels of deprivation. In addition, the education and learning needs identified for our young people will require a team committed, dedicated, and motivated to not only support our young people to improve their outcomes but also agitate and advocate for system change, where system change is needed.

14. Sign off, submission and approval

Chair of YJS Board	Bal Kaur
Signature	
Date	13.6.22

Appendix 1 Outline of full board membership, including attendance, job title of the board member and dates of board meetings

NAME	STATUTORY AGENCY	ROLE	20/10/21	26.1.22	27.4.22	29.06.22
Bal Kaur	PUBLIC HEALTH (Chair)	Consultant in Public Health		y	y	
Simon Inglis	POLICE (Chair)	Si West Midlands Police	y	y	y	
Clare Reardon	PUBLIC HEALTH	Senior Public Health Specialist	y	y	y	
Hazel Hawkins-Dady	HEALTH	0 - 19 Manager	y		y	
Donna Hamilton	HEALTH (CAHMS)	Regional Manager				
Mags Court	HEALTH (CAHMS)	Commissioning Group	y	y	y	
James Reeley	HEALTH (CAHMS)	CAHMS Service Manager	y			
Hannah Pawley	LOCAL AUTHORITY (SWP)	Community Safety Manager	y			
Celia Payne	LOCAL AUTHORITY	YOT Service Manager	y	y	y	
Niginder Kaur	LOCAL AUTHORITY (Connexions)	Lead Practioner NEET		y	y	
Rachel King	LOCAL AUTHORITY	Head of Specialist Support	y	y	y	
Sonia Mahey	LOCAL AUTHORITY	Service Manager Safeguarding/Exploitation	y	y		
Lynsey Kelly	LOCAL AUTHORITY SWP	Community Safety Manager		y		
Darren Martindale	LOCAL AUTHORITY	Virtual School Head	y	y	y	
Kate Luchessi	PROBATION	Head of Probation	y	y		
	OTHER AGENCY					
Steve Dodds	VOLUNTARY SECTOR	Wolverhampton Voluntary Sector Council	y	y	y	
Sarah Mellor	WERRINGTON YOI	Head of Case Management	y			
Helen Kilgallon	SUBSTANCE MISUSE SERVICE	Operations Manager	y			
Parmajit Bains Singh	YOUTH BENCH CHAIR			y		
Deb Thompson	WOLVERHAMPTON HOMES	Head of Homeless Services	Y	y		
Catherine Draycott	The Royal Wolverhampton Trust		Y	y		
	GUESTS					
Winston Carnegie	WERRINGTON YOI	Head of Safeguarding	y	y		
Amanda Chamber	Werrington YOI	Werrington Resettlement Manager		Y		
Amanda Sherrard	LOCAL AUTHORITY	Senior Analyst	Y	y	Y	
Lucy Wedge	LOCAL AUTHORITY	Analyst			Y	
Balraj Juss	LOCAL AUTHORITY	Service Development Officer	Y			
Julie Hancox	LOCAL AUTHORITY	Business Support Administrator	y		Y	
John Denley	PUBLIC HEATH	Director of Public Heath	Y			
Emily Hacket	PUBLIC HEATH	Senior Public Health Specialist	y			
Gill Mamps	YOUTH JUSTICE BOARD	Head of Innovation & Engagement	y			

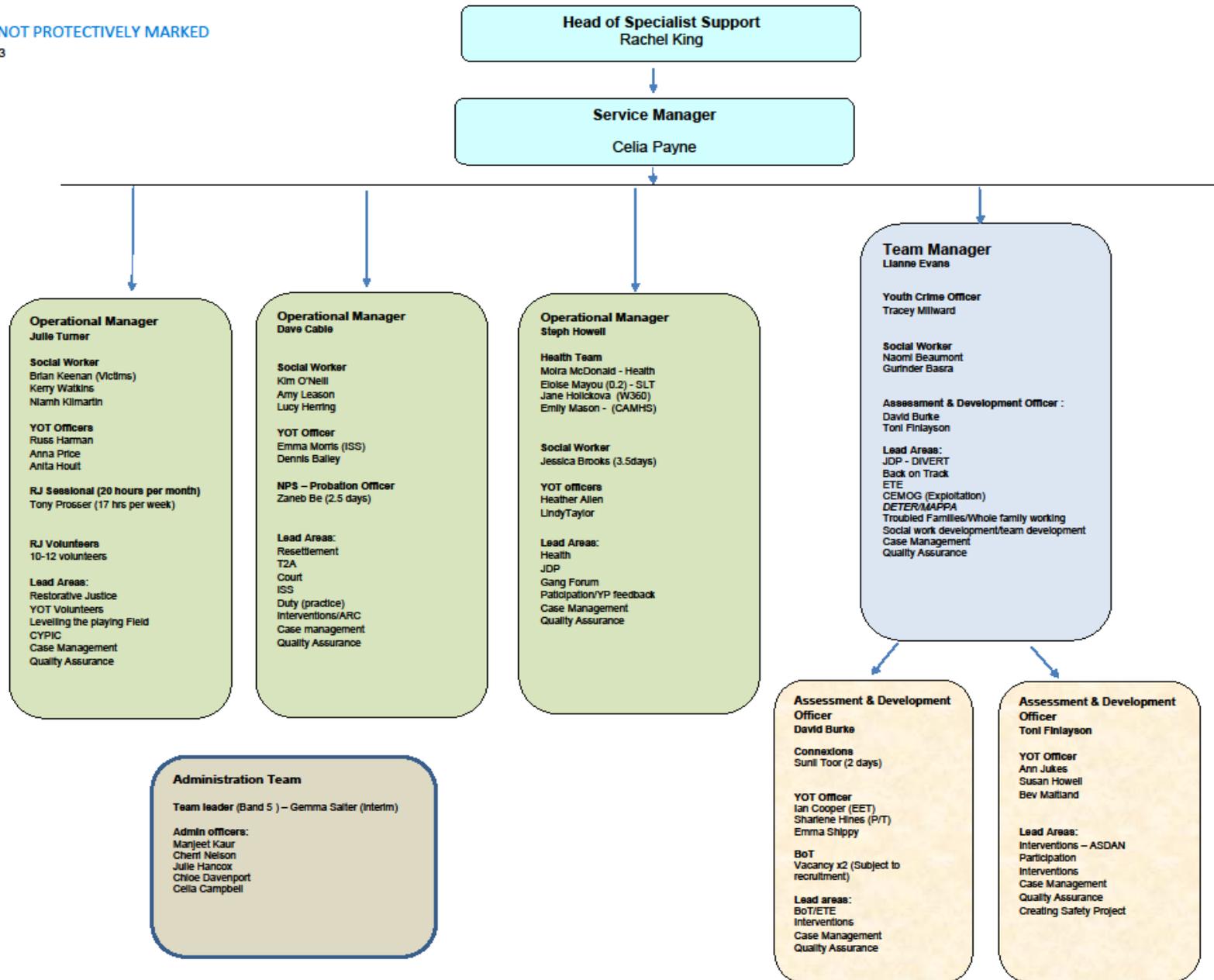
Appendix 2 – Service Structure Chart should include details of the staff roles in the YJS and the reporting arrangements for the Head of Service. Information on the links to the data analyst should also be included. There should be a separate table in the appendix recording the ethnicity, sex and known disability of staff.

Staffing analysis 2021-22

B8: Staffing of the YOT by gender and ethnicity; No. of individual people

Ethnicity	Managers Strategic		Managers Operational		Practitioners		Administrative		Sessional		Student		Referral Order Panel Volunteer		Other Volunteer		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Asian								1						2			0	3
Black				1	2	3		2	1					5			3	11
Mixed														1			0	1
White		1	2	3	3	17		3					2	10			7	34
Any other ethnic group					1												1	0
Not known					4												4	0
Total	0	1	2	4	10	20	0	6	1	0	0	0	2	18	0	0	15	49

3 members of staff have a recorded disability.



CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Cabinet 6 July 2022
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Report title	Draft Black Country Plan – Additional Housing Sites in Walsall	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Stephen Simkins Deputy Leader: Inclusive City Economy	
Key decision	Yes	
In forward plan	Yes	
Wards affected	All Wards	
Accountable Director	Richard Lawrence, Director of Regeneration	
Originating service	Planning	
Accountable employee	Michele Ross	Lead Planning Manager (Sub-Regional Strategy)
	Tel	01902 554038
	Email	Michele.ross@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report has been considered by	Regeneration Leadership Team	7 June 2022
	Strategic Executive Board	14 June 2022

Recommendations for decision:

The Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Approve the Draft Black Country Plan – Additional Housing Sites in Walsall (Appendix 1) and Sustainability Appraisal Report (Appendix 2), for consultation during summer 2022.
2. Delegate authority to the Deputy Leader: Inclusive City Economy, in consultation with the Director of Regeneration, to approve any necessary minor amendments to the Draft Black Country Plan – Additional Housing Sites in Walsall and Sustainability Appraisal Report prior to commencement of the consultation process.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To gain approval for consultation on Draft Black Country Plan - Additional Housing Sites in Walsall, as an extension to the Draft Black Country Plan (Regulation 18) consultation which took place in summer 2021.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Black Country Core Strategy (BCCS), which was adopted in 2011, is the key strategic planning and regeneration document covering the Black Country authorities of Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton. The BCCS covers the period to 2026 and contains a commitment to a review in 2016. Work on the review began with the production of key evidence in 2016, followed by consultation on an Issues and Options Report in summer 2017. On 17 October 2018, Cabinet received a report summarising key issues raised during the consultation and agreed to widen the scope of the review to include detailed site allocations and to change the name of the document to the Black Country Plan (BCP). This Plan will identify where new employment and housing development will be located and where investment for new infrastructure such as transport, schools and health facilities will be made and will set out policies to guide development.
- 2.2 On 7 July 2021, Cabinet approved consultation on the Draft Black Country Plan (Regulation 18) during summer 2021. The Draft Plan included proposed site allocations for housing and employment development.

3.0 Regulation 18 Consultation on Additional Housing Sites in Walsall

- 3.1 Following a review of the consultation responses and completion of new evidence, three additional sites in Walsall are now considered potentially suitable for housing. These sites need to be subject to formal public consultation (an additional Regulation 18 consultation) before the Black Country Plan can move to the next stage of consultation (Regulation 19). One of these sites (WAH257) was subject to site assessment at Draft Black Country Plan stage and considered not suitable for development – new evidence has changed the site assessment for this site. The remaining two sites are new sites which were not previously subject to site assessment. There are five further new sites in Walsall which have been subject to site assessment and considered not suitable for housing.
- 3.2 The additional sites are listed below:

Site Reference	Site Name	Housing Capacity
WAH257	Land West of Chester Road North of Little Hardwick Road, Streetly	655 homes
WAH258	Land east of Skip Lane and North of Woodfield Close	135 homes
WAH259	Pacific Nurseries (extension to area already proposed in Draft Plan)	30 homes

The sites have a significant housing capacity of 820 homes, which will make a welcome contribution towards meeting the housing needs of the Black Country over the Plan period up to 2039. The sites are located some distance from the Walsall boundary with Wolverhampton and will have no immediate planning implications for Wolverhampton.

- 3.3 Further details, including a map showing the location of the sites, are provided in the Draft Black Country Plan – Additional Housing Sites in Walsall (Regulation 18) consultation document attached as Appendix 1 to this report. The Sustainability Appraisal prepared for the new sites (both suitable and not suitable for development) is attached as Appendix 2. Further evidence, including site assessment reports, will be published alongside these documents when public consultation commences in July.
- 3.4 The consultation will take place for eight weeks and will be limited to seeking views on the additional sites only, with consultation activities focused on affected communities and stakeholders in Walsall. Responses to the consultation will be analysed and, together with responses to the 2021 Regulation 18 consultation, will feed into preparation of the Publication (Regulation 19) Black Country Plan.

4.0 Next Steps

- 4.1 The Black Country Plan (BCP) timetable has been adjusted to allow for the additional stage of Regulation 18 consultation, and to allow delegated approval to be sought for Submission of the BCP in spring 2023. The new timetable, which is reflected in the amended Wolverhampton Local Development Scheme 2022-25, is as follows:

Consultation on Draft Plan (Regulation 18ii)

– Additional Housing Sites in Walsall	July – Sept 2022
Consultation on Publication Plan (Regulation 19)	Nov – Dec 2022
Submission of Plan to Secretary of State	March – May 2023
Examination in Public	Date of Submission - Feb 2024
Adoption	March 2024

5.0 Evaluation of alternative options

- 5.1 City of Wolverhampton Council is committed to the Black Country Plan preparation process. The alternative option would be to make no change to the existing Wolverhampton Local Plan. This would mean that the City would not have an up-to-date Local Plan in place for a number of years.
- 5.2 Failure to have a Local Plan that is based on sound evidence could result in the City having insufficient land to meet the need for housing, employment and other land uses that are necessary to support the economic and environmental well-being of the area. It could also result in development taking place in the wrong locations, leading to an

inefficient use of resources, traffic congestion and other harm. Having an up-to-date Local Plan in place is also essential to defend the Council's position at planning appeals. Lack of an up-to-date Plan risks intervention from central government and may compromise our ability to make decisions locally.

6.0 Reasons for decisions

6.1 It is important that Wolverhampton is covered by an up-to-date Local Plan and Local Development Scheme, in order to meet statutory requirements and to support regeneration and investment in the City and protect areas of value from development. Cabinet approval is required for each consultation stage of the Black Country Plan preparation process.

7.0 Financial implications

7.1 The costs of preparing the Black Country Plan are shared on an equal basis between the four Black Country Local Authorities with Sandwell taking the lead role in procurement. Costs incurred by Wolverhampton during 2021-2022 totalled £77,672, which was met from Planning revenue budgets for 2021-2022 and planning grant. Based on current estimated costs for 2022-2024, these could be met through Planning revenue budgets including approved budgets for 2022-2023 and future budgets subject to budgetary approval processes. An indicative breakdown is provided in the table below:

	2022-2023	2023-2024	Total
	£000	£000	£000
Black Country cost	460	200	660
Of which Wolverhampton cost	115	50	165

7.2 The numbers in the table above are estimated and are subject to change. The recurrent budget for this area is circa £70,000, however, where the forecast suggests costs will be in excess of this budget, planning grant is available to fund the additional costs.
[VS/07062022/M]

8.0 Legal implications

8.1 The legal implications are set out in the body of this report and its appendices. The Black Country Plan will form part of the adopted Local Plan for the City.
[TC/09062022/F]

9.0 Equalities implications

9.1 Preparation of the Draft Black Country Plan includes the carrying out of an integrated Sustainability Appraisal at each formal stage, and at later stages an Equality Impact Assessment. The Black Country Plan seeks to ensure that sufficient homes, shops and employment, social and recreational facilities are planned and provided for in that time to meet the needs of the communities in the City. This will include meeting the needs of

children and young people by seeking to provide sufficient facilities for them as well as having a positive effect for future generations.

- 9.2 The Issues and Options consultation involved engagement with a wide range of organisations and individuals and information from this will be used to inform the Equality Analysis. On-going equality analysis will be undertaken and completed in a phased manner as the development of the Review progresses, with a particular focus on housing and employment issues to ensure that the needs of the people and the City are addressed.

10.0 All other implications

- 10.1 A Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is being carried out throughout the plan preparation process. SA is a process for evaluating the environmental consequences of proposed policies and proposals to ensure sustainability issues are fully integrated and addressed at the earliest appropriate stage. The overall aim of the SA process is to inform and influence the development of the Plan and maximise its sustainability value.
- 10.2 The review is being produced by a team of officers working across the four Black Country Councils. Within Wolverhampton, around two full time equivalent posts are currently dedicated to the review, with further support from colleagues in City Development and City Environment and Housing. Delivery of the timetable will to a large extent be dependent upon the retention of key staff and maintenance of staffing resource up to adoption.

11.0 Schedule of background papers

- 11.1 Black Country Core Strategy 2006-26, adopted February 2011
- 11.2 Cabinet – 27 June 2017 '[Black Country Core Strategy Review – Issues and Options Report](#)'
- 11.3 Cabinet – 17 October 2018 '[Progress on Black Country Core Strategy Review](#)'
- 11.4 Cabinet – 7 July 2021 '[Black Country Plan Draft for Consultation](#)'
- 11.5 Wolverhampton Local Development Scheme 2022-25 ([Local Development Scheme | City Of Wolverhampton Council](#))

12.0 Appendices

- 12.1 Appendix 1 – Draft Black Country Plan – Additional Housing Sites in Walsall
- 12.2 Appendix 2 – Sustainability Appraisal of Additional Housing Sites in Walsall

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Black Country | Plan

Planning for the future of the Black Country



HOUSING



ENVIRONMENT



EMPLOYMENT



TRANSPORT

Draft Plan Consultation: Additional Housing Sites in Walsall

July - September 2022

Introduction

In the summer of 2021 the Black Country Authorities of Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton consulted on a Draft Black Country Plan (the Regulation 18 Plan). This Plan identified where all new employment and housing development would be located and where investment for new infrastructure such as transport, schools and health facilities would be made.

Following a review of the consultation responses and completion of new evidence, three additional sites in Walsall are now considered potentially suitable for housing. These three sites are now subject to a formal public consultation (an additional Regulation 18 consultation) before the Black Country Plan can move to the next stage of consultation - Regulation 19. One of these sites was subject to site assessment and considered not suitable for development at Draft Black Country Plan stage – new evidence has changed the site assessment for this site. Two of the sites are new sites which were not subject to site assessment at Draft Black Country Plan stage.

Five new sites in Walsall which were submitted during the 2021 consultation have also been subject to site assessment and are considered not suitable for housing. Further information is available in an addendum to the Site Assessment report. A Sustainability Appraisal of all new sites (both potentially suitable and not suitable) has also been completed.

This document should be read in conjunction with the Draft Black Country Plan published for consultation in 2021. No decision has been taken at this stage about the sites or policies proposed in that document.

What is a Local Plan?

All Local Planning Authorities (including Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton) are required by Government to write a Local Plan that describes how the necessary development over the next 20 years or so will be handled and where it will be located.

The Local Plan is a planning document which is used to help decide planning applications. It considers the amount of land required to support future jobs, new housing and where additional retail, office and leisure development is needed. In addition, the Local Plan considers whether any additional supporting infrastructure (e.g. schools, utilities, health provision, public transport, cycle routes and highway improvements) is required.

What is the Black Country Plan?

The Black Country Plan is a joint Local Plan being prepared by the four Black Country Authorities (Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton). The Plan will direct where new development will be located for the Black Country up to 2039.

It will guide key issues like:

- **New Housing** – where will it go? How many new homes are needed? What type of new homes will be required and how many affordable houses will be needed?
- **Provision for new employment** – how much employment land is needed and where should it go?
- **What supporting infrastructure and services** (e.g. transport, schools, health) will be needed and where will these be located?
- **In the face of new development** how will the natural environment be protected?

Why are we reviewing the Black Country Plan?

The Government requires Local Authorities to have Local Plans that are based on up-to-date information. If a Local Plan is not up to date it will have less weight at Planning Appeals and will mean that the local planning authorities are less able to control new development. Having an up-to-date Plan in place helps local planning authorities to turn down development proposed by landowners and developers where it considers the proposal to be inappropriate.

We need to review the Black Country Plan to ensure that we can plan for new homes and jobs in the right places. If we don't review the plan, we risk seeing unplanned development which might not be supported by the right services and facilities.

Do we have a Plan in place now?

Yes - our current Plan, called the Black Country Core Strategy, was formally adopted in 2011. This Plan provided the framework to allocate enough housing and employment land to meet the Black Country's development needs up to 2026. Sites to ensure these targets are met are allocated through other local plan documents - in Walsall these are the Walsall Site Allocation Document and Walsall Town Centre Area Action Plan.

When we have finished the new Black Country Plan and it is adopted (after it has been examined by an Independent Planning Inspector and approved by Councillors) it will replace the Black Country Core Strategy and most of the Walsall Site Allocation Document.

When did we start preparing the Black Country Plan?

We started to prepare the Black Country Plan in 2017. We held a public consultation in July – September 2017 on the issues facing the Black Country and some possible solutions. Following the Issues and Options consultation we consulted on the Draft Black Country Plan (Regulation 18) for eight weeks in August – October 2021. The Draft Plan considered the responses we received to the Issues and Options consultation along with a range of other technical studies produced on planning issues.

The next stage is the production of a Regulation 19 Plan. The Regulation 19 Plan will be informed by the Regulation 18 consultation responses and any new evidence. The Regulation 19 consultation will seek representations only on the soundness and legality of the Plan preparation process, which is the main criteria considered by the Planning Inspectorate at the future examination in public, rather than the content of the Plan. For this reason, new proposed site allocations cannot be added at Regulation 19 stage and therefore an additional Regulation 18 consultation is required for the three additional sites in Walsall now considered potentially suitable for housing.

Location of the additional housing Draft Black Country Plan (Regulation 18) sites in Walsall.

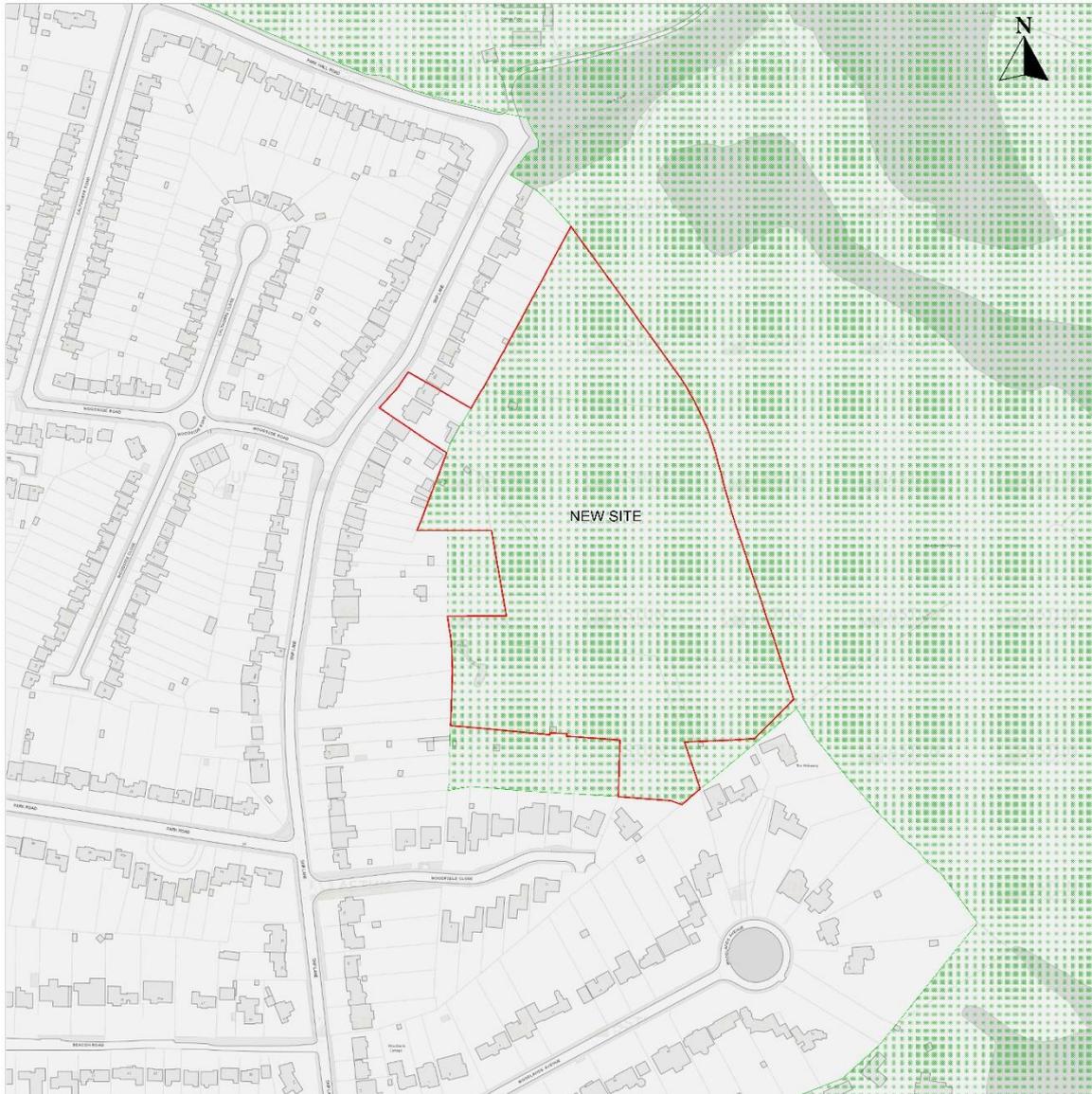
Site Ref	Policy in Previous Local Plan (Site Allocation Document)	Site Name and Address	Indicative Housing Capacity	Gross Site area (ha)	Indicative Net Developable Area (ha)	Net Density (dwellings per hectare)
WAH257	GB1	Land West of Chester Road North of Little Hardwick Road, Streetly	655	25.98	18.73	35
WAH258	GB1, EN5 (part)	Land East of Skip Lane and North of Woodfield Close	135	5.16	3.87	35
WAH259	GB1	Pacific Nurseries, East of Chester Road	30	1.15	0.86	35



Key

-  Current Proposed Allocation (HOU1)
-  New Proposed Allocation (HOU1)
-  Local Authority Boundary
-  Green Belt (GB1)

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Key

- Current Proposed Allocation (HOU1)
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- Local Authority Boundary
- Green Belt (GB1)

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WAH258 Land East of Skip Lane and North of Woodfield Close

Why are we proposing to develop in the Green Belt?

The green belt around the Black Country forms part of the West Midlands Green Belt which has been in place since 1975. Green belt is a national planning designation and national policy strictly controls which types of development can take place within it.

The Black Country councils attach great importance to the green belt. However, the green belt boundary is drawn tightly around the urban edges. To help meet our future housing and employment land needs, there is an exceptional circumstance to alter the green belt boundaries through the Black Country Plan review process, to release land for housing and employment development. It is proposed to remove 6% of the green belt area in the Black Country for development.

The Councils have undertaken an extensive review of the green belt, taking into account evidence on historical, ecological and landscape value and local character. A comprehensive site assessment process has taken place to ensure that all sites selected for removal from the green belt can deliver sustainable development and the necessary supporting infrastructure by 2039 and will not cause harm to the natural or historic character of the Black Country or breach any other planning policies. Where sites are removed from the green belt, developers will be required to pay for improvements to the environmental quality and accessibility of remaining green belt land nearby

Are we able to build all future housing and employment land in the Black Country?

No. We need to find enough land to build 76,076 homes and provide 565 ha of new employment land. The land we identified in the Draft Plan document in 2021 made provision for 47,837 homes and 354ha of employment land, allowing most of our housing and employment land needs to be met in the Black Country. However, there was a shortfall of 28,239 homes and 211 ha of employment land as we do not have enough land available to accommodate all of our development needs.

The Government requires neighbouring local authorities to work together to meet housing and employment land needs when producing Local Plans – this is called the “Duty to Cooperate”. Under the Duty to Cooperate, we are asking neighbouring authorities, such as South Staffordshire, Lichfield, Cannock Chase, Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin, to provide additional housing and employment land in their areas to meet the needs of the Black Country. Currently there have been offers from neighbouring authorities of between 8,000 to 9,500 homes and 102- 173 ha of employment land to be tested through their own Local Plan reviews.

What does this mean for Walsall?

The 2021 Draft Plan (Regulation 18) consultation for Walsall proposed land to provide an additional 13,344 new homes and 164ha of employment land over the period to 2039.

As part of the additional sites consultation to be held in July – September 2022, we are proposing an additional 820 new homes over the period to 2039.

What happens next?

We want your views

You can view copies of the Draft Plan documents and a map of proposed land allocations at the following venues in Walsall:

Walsall First Stop Shop

Bloxwich Library

Darlaston Library

Willenhall Library

Lichfield Street Hub

Brownhills Library

Streetly Community Library

Mobile Library Services

Aldridge Library

In addition, copies of the documents will be available at key council buildings across the wider Black Country:

Dudley	Sandwell	Wolverhampton
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dudley Council House, 1 Priory Road, Dudley • Dudley Council Plus, 259 Castle Street, Dudley • Brierley Hill Library • Coseley Library • Dudley Library • Dudley Wood Neighbourhood Learning Centre and Library Link • Gornal Library • Halesowen Library • Kingswinford Library • Market • Long Lane Library Halesowen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandwell Council House Freeth Street, Oldbury • Central Library West Bromwich • Blackheath Library • Cradley Heath Library • Great Barr Library • Great Bridge Library • Oldbury Library Sandwell Council House, • Smethwick Library • Tipton Library • Wednesbury Library • Bleakhouse Library, Oldbury • Brandhall Library, Oldbury • Glebefields Library, Tipton • Hamstead Library, Great Barr • Hill Top Library West Bromwich • Langley Library Oldbury • Oakham Library Tividale • Rounds Green Library, Oldbury 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wolverhampton Civic Centre St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton • Wolverhampton Central Library • Bilston Library • Wednesfield Library

- Lye Library
- Netherton Library
- Quarry Bank Library (subject to this library being open)
- Sedgley Library
- Stourbridge Library
- Wordsley Library
- Stone Cross Library
Beverley Road, West Bromwich
- Thimblemill Library,
Smethwick

Have your say

Visit the website:

Complete our online response form at: <https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/t2/p5/>

Email: blackcountryplan@dudley.gov.uk

Write to us: Black Country Plan Planning & Regeneration, 4 Ednam Road, Dudley DY1 1HL

You can also fill in a response form and leave it at the library or Walsall Council First Stop Shop Receptions.

If you need assistance to explain the documents or fill in your response form, please contact the Walsall Planning Policy Team at: planningpolicy@walsall.gov.uk or 01922 658020.

Please note that, at this stage, we are only seeking views on the three additional sites in Walsall now considered potentially suitable for housing. We have noted and analysed all consultation responses submitted in summer 2021 on the Draft Black Country Plan – these responses do not need to be submitted again.

The deadline for responses is: 5:00 pm on Monday 5th September 2022

Plan Timetable

Stage	Date
Consultation on the Publication Plan (Regulation 19)	November - December 2022
Submission of Plan to Secretary of State for Examination	March - May 2023
Examination in Public	Submission – early 2024
Adoption	March 2024

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Sustainability Appraisal of the Black Country Plan

Regulation 18 (II) SA Report

June 2022



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LANDSCAPE, ECOLOGY, PLANNING & URBAN SUSTAINABILITY
Page 187



Sustainability Appraisal of the Black Country Plan

Regulation 18 (II) SA Report

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Approved	ND

Front cover: Walsall Canal by Elliott Brown (flickr - <https://tinyurl.com/4xnapyvp>)

About this report & notes for readers

Lepus Consulting Ltd (Lepus) has prepared this report for the use of the Black Country Authorities (Dudley Metropolitan Council, Sandwell Metropolitan Council, Walsall Council and City of Wolverhampton Council). There are a number of limitations that should be borne in mind when considering the results and conclusions of this report. No party should alter or change this report whatsoever without written permission from Lepus.

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The conclusions below are based on the best available information, including information that is publicly available. No attempt to verify these secondary data sources has been made and they have been assumed to be accurate as published.

This report was prepared during May and June 2022 and is subject to and limited by the information available during this time. This report has been prepared with reasonable skill, care and diligence within the terms of the contract with

the client. Lepus Consulting accepts no responsibility to the client and third parties of any matters outside the scope of this report. Third parties to whom this report or any part thereof is made known rely upon the report at their own risk.

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Acronyms & Abbreviations

A&E	Accident and Emergency
AHHTV	Area of High Historic Townscape Value
ALC	Agricultural Land Classification
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
AOS	Area of Search
APA	Archaeological Priority Area
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area
BCA	Black Country Authorities
BCP	Black Country Plan
BMV	Best and most versatile
CA	Conservation Area
CaBA	Catchment Based Approach
CF	Carried Forward
DBEIS	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DLHHV	Designed Landscape of High Historic Value
EU	European Union
GI	Green Infrastructure
GIS	Geographical Information System
GP	General Practitioner
ha	Hectare
HEAD	Historic Environment Area Designation
HGV	Heavy Goods Vehicle
HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment
IMD	Index of Multiple Deprivation
IRZ	Impact Risk Zone
km	Kilometre
LA	Local Authority
LCT	Landscape Character Type
LGS	Local Geological Site
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
LSOA	Lower Super Output Area
LTP	Local Transport Plan
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
LWS	Local Wildlife Site
m	Metre
MBC	Metropolitan Borough Council
MHCLG	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
MSA	Minerals Safeguarding Area
NCA	National Character Area
NERC	Natural Environment Research Council
NHS	National Health Service
NNR	National Nature Reserve
NO₂	Nitrogen Dioxide

NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
ONS	Office of National Statistics
OS	Ordnance Survey
PM₁₀	Particulate Matter (10 micrometres)
PPG	Planning Practice Guidance
PPP	Policies Plans and Programmes
PRoW	Public Rights of Way
RA	Reasonable Alternative
RPG	Registered Park and Garden
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SINC	Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
SLINC	Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation
SM	Scheduled Monument
SPA	Special Protection Area
SPZ	Source Protection Zone
SSSI	Sites of Special Scientific Interest
SuDS	Sustainable Drainage System
SWFR	Surface Water Flood Risk
ZOI	Zone of Influence

Executive Summary

Sustainability Appraisal process

- E1 Lepus Consulting is conducting an appraisal process for the Black Country Authorities (BCA) of Dudley Metropolitan Council, Sandwell Metropolitan Council, Walsall Council and City of Wolverhampton Council to help them prepare the Black Country Plan (BCP). The appraisal process is known as Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and is prepared during a number of different stages to facilitate iteration between the Plan makers (the BCA) and the appraisal team (Lepus Consulting).
- E2 SA is the process of informing and influencing the preparation of a development plan to optimise its sustainability performance. SA considers the social, economic and environmental performance of the development plan, as the plan is prepared over several distinct stages.

Purpose of this report

- E3 This SA report has been prepared as part of a focused consultation exercise to appraise eight additional reasonable alternative sites identified by the BCA since the Regulation 18 Preferred Options Consultation (August – September 2021), to identify their likely sustainability impacts on each objective of the SA Framework.
- E4 These sites have been assessed as part of the SA within the Regulation 18 (II) focused consultation stage. These sites have been identified following responses received from the Regulation 18 consultation, which included seven new sites submitted which were not previously assessed because of land ownership constraints which prevented them being considered reasonable alternatives, and one site where the net developable area has been revisited.

Summary findings

- E5 A total of eight reasonable alternative sites for residential use have been identified in Walsall since the Regulation 18 Preferred Options Consultation (July, 2021) and have been assessed in this report as part of the SA process.
- E6 These eight reasonable alternative sites have been considered in addition to 723 reasonable alternative sites assessed within the Regulation 18 SA (2021)¹, where potential future land uses included residential, employment and Gypsies, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople sites.

¹ Lepus Consulting (2021) Sustainability Appraisal of the Black Country Plan: Regulation 18 SA Report, July 2021. Available at: <https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/t2/p4/t2p4d/> [Date Accessed: 25/05/22]

-
- E7 The SA has identified a range of positive and negative potential impacts of the reasonable alternative sites on the objectives within the SA Framework. Negative impacts were mainly related to issues associated with development located in the Green Belt outside of the existing urban areas, including the loss of previously undeveloped land, soil and mineral resources, impacts on biodiversity and landscape features, potential pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions associated with a large scale of development, and the access of site end users to a number of social facilities including healthcare services, local shops, schools and transport services.
- E8 Some (but not all) of these negative impacts may be mitigated through policy and site design.
- E9 Reasons for selection / rejection of the reasonable alternative sites considered in the plan making process have been informed by the detailed site assessment process undertaken by the BCA and includes consideration of the SA findings.
- E10 The Regulation 18 SA Report (2021) presented an outline of the reasons for selection or rejection of the reasonable alternative site locations which were identified and described as part of the July 2021 SA appraisal process.

Next steps

- E11 This Regulation 18 (II) SA Report is subject to consultation alongside the BCA's 'Draft Plan Consultation: Additional Housing Sites in Walsall July-September 2022' document and existing evidence base that accompanied the earlier Regulation 18 Consultation for the Draft BCP.
- E12 This report represents the latest stage of the SA process. The SA process will take on board any comments on this report and use them to furnish the next report with greater detail and accuracy.
- E13 Once the BCA have reviewed consultation comments which arise through the R18(II) consultation, the plan making process will commence with the Publication Version of the plan and a new SA report will be prepared to report on all aspects of the SA and SEA process that have been undertaken to inform the emerging BCP (see **Table 1.1**).

1 Introduction

1.1 This report

1.1.1 The Black Country Authorities (BCA), which include Dudley Metropolitan Council, Sandwell Metropolitan Council, Walsall Council and City of Wolverhampton Council, are in the process of writing the Black Country Plan (BCP), previously referred to as the Black Country Core Strategy Review.

1.1.2 As part of this process, a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is being undertaken that incorporates the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations 2004 (SI 1633). The purpose of SA is to assess the likely social, environmental and economic consequences of a plan from the outset, and throughout its iterative development, to ensure that sustainability considerations are taken into account.

1.1.3 The BCA prepared an Issues and Options document in June 2017² as part of the plan-making process, which set out to review the adopted Black Country Core Strategy in light of these challenges and opportunities. In 2021 the BCA prepared the Draft BCP³, setting out draft planning policies and allocations to support the growth and regeneration of the Black Country over the plan period. This Regulation 18 (II) SA Report follows on from the SA Scoping Report⁴ and SA Issues and Options Report⁵ prepared by Lepus Consulting in 2017 alongside the BCA's Issues and Options document, and the Regulation 18 SA Report⁶ prepared by Lepus Consulting in 2021 alongside the draft BCP.

1.1.4 This Regulation 18 SA Report has been prepared as the third stage of the SA process in order to inform the environmental assessment of the BCP, following on from the SA outputs to date. This report will be published for consultation with the statutory consultation bodies as required by Regulation 13 of The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004⁷ (SEA Regulations).

² BCA (2017) Issues & Options Consultation. Available at: <https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/t2/p2/> [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

³ BCA (2021) Draft Black Country Plan, July 2021. Available at: <https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/t2/p5/> [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

⁴ Lepus Consulting (2017) Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report. Available at: <https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/media/11545/sa-scoping-report-feb-2017.pdf> [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

⁵ Lepus Consulting (2017) SA of the Black Country Core Strategy review - Issues and Options Report. Available at: https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/media/11544/lc-309_bccs_sa_report_17_130617rc.pdf [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

⁶ Lepus Consulting (2021) Sustainability Appraisal of the Black Country Plan – Regulation 18 SA Report. Available at: <https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/t2/p4/t2p4d/> [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

⁷ Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004). Available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2004/1633/contents/made> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

1.1.5 The purpose of this SA report is to provide an appraisal of eight additional reasonable alternative sites identified by the BCA since the Regulation 18 Preferred Options Consultation (August – September 2021), to identify their likely sustainability impacts on each objective of the SA Framework. This will help the BCA to identify the most sustainable options and prepare a BCP which is economically, environmentally, and socially sustainable.

1.2 The Black Country

1.1.1 The Black Country is a predominantly urban sub-region of the West Midlands, located to the north west of Birmingham (see **Figure 1.1**). The sub-region includes the boroughs of Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and the City of Wolverhampton. The Black Country covers an area of 35,728ha and has a combined population of approximately 1,202,500⁸. The sub-region is culturally diverse, and home to a greater proportion of people of people from Asian ethnic groups (14.64%) and Black ethnic groups (4.19%) in comparison to the national averages (7.5% and 3.3% respectively)^{9,10}.

1.2.1 The area has a rich industrial heritage, including its extensive canal network, which opened up the mineral wealth of the area for exploitation during the Industrial Revolution. The area owes its name to black smoke, particularly from iron and coal industries, during a time when the Black Country became one of the most heavily industrialised areas in Britain.

1.2.2 Mining ceased in the area in the late 1960s, but manufacturing continues today, although on a much smaller scale. There is a total of 435,000 employee jobs across the Plan area¹¹. In addition to manufacturing, which equates to approximately 13.8% of employee jobs in the Black Country, the biggest employment sectors include wholesale and retail trade (19.3%) and human health and social work activities (15.6%)¹².

1.2.3 Today, the Black Country contains four Strategic Centres (the towns of Brierley Hill, Walsall and West Bromwich and the City of Wolverhampton), as well as a network of smaller towns and local centres. The major centres provide a wide range of employment, leisure, retail and tourism opportunities to serve the Black Country and the wider area.

⁸ Nomis (2020) Labour Market Profile – Black Country. Available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/lep/1925185537/report.aspx> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁹ Office of National Statistics (2020) Population of England and Wales. Available at: <https://www.ethnicity-facts-figures.service.gov.uk/uk-population-by-ethnicity/national-and-regional-populations/population-of-england-and-wales/latest> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

¹⁰ Office of National Statistics (2020) Regional ethnic diversity. Available at: <https://www.ethnicity-facts-figures.service.gov.uk/uk-population-by-ethnicity/national-and-regional-populations/regional-ethnic-diversity/latest#download-the-data> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

¹¹ Nomis (2020) Labour Market Profile – Black Country. Available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/lep/1925185537/report.aspx> [Date Accessed: 25/05/22]

¹² Ibid

1.2.4 Due to its large and growing population, the Black Country faces a challenging task to deliver good quality housing to meet the needs of the population and support the economy, whilst protecting its environmental assets and making provisions for climate change.

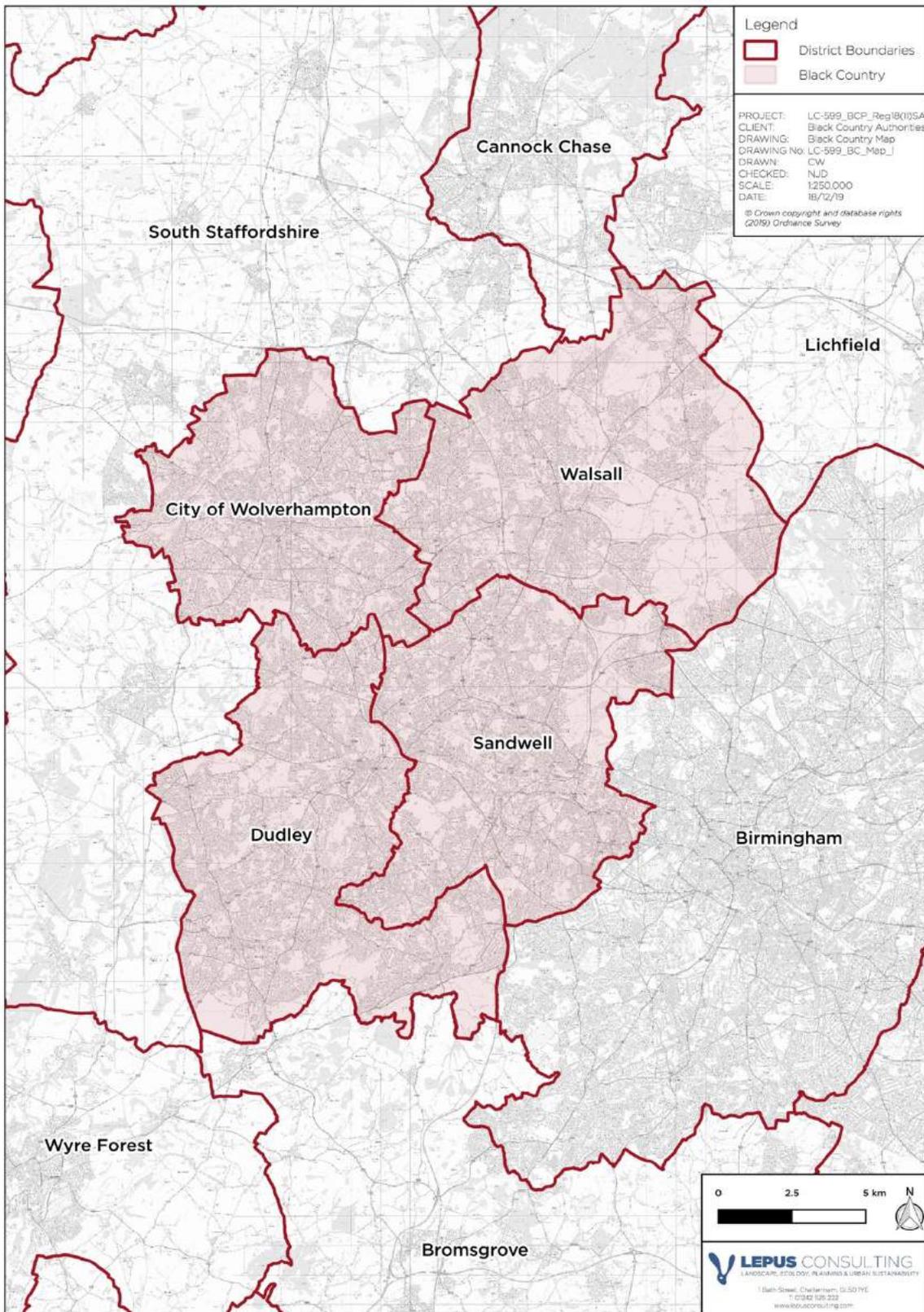


Figure 1.1: City of Wolverhampton, Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall authority boundaries

1.3 The BCP Review

1.3.1 The Black Country covers the areas of Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council (MBC), Sandwell MBC, Walsall Council and the City of Wolverhampton Council. The four authorities worked together to produce the Black Country Core Strategy¹³, which was adopted in 2011.

1.3.2 The Draft Black Country Plan (referred to as the BCP throughout this document) contains planning policies and land allocations to support the growth and regeneration of the Black Country over the next 20 years.

1.3.3 The BCP, which includes both strategic and local policies, will provide a policy framework to:

- Facilitate the delivery of the right development types to meet identified and emerging needs in the most sustainable places;
- Prevent uncoordinated development;
- Provide certainty over the types of development that is likely to be approved;
- Meet housing needs between now and 2039;
- Attract new businesses and jobs and offer existing businesses the space to grow by meeting employment land needs;
- Increase employment opportunities to support the delivery of the Black Country and West Midlands Combined Authority Strategic Economic Plans (SEP), Local Industrial Strategy and Covid-19 recovery plans;
- Address the issue of climate change;
- Promote and enhance health and well-being in accordance with the four local authorities' health and well-being strategies;
- Protect and enhance designated areas; and
- Ensuring infrastructure, such as roads, public transport, new schools, new healthcare facilities, upgraded utilities and broadband, waste and sewage disposal, is provided at the right time to serve the new homes and employment provision it supports.

1.3.4 When adopted, the Black Country Plan will replace the Black Country Core Strategy (2011) and substantial elements of 'Tier 2' Plans in the form of Area Action Plans and Site Allocations Documents.

¹³ Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council, Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, Walsall Council and Wolverhampton City Council (2011) Black Country Core Strategy. Available at: <https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/t1/p2/> [Date Accessed: 25/05/22]

1.4 Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 1.4.1 The requirements to carry out SA and SEA are distinct, although it is possible to satisfy both obligations using a single appraisal process.
- 1.4.2 The European Union Directive 2001/42/EC¹⁴ (SEA Directive) applies to a wide range of public plans and programmes on land use, energy, waste, agriculture, transport etc. (see Article 3(2) of the Directive for other plan or programme types). The objective of the SEA procedure can be summarised as follows: *“the objective of this Directive is to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development”*.
- 1.4.3 The SEA Directive has been transposed into English law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004¹⁵ (SEA Regulations). Under the requirements of the SEA Directive and SEA Regulations, specific types of plans that set the framework for the future development consent of projects must be subject to an environmental assessment. Therefore, it is a legal requirement for the BCP to be subject to SEA throughout its preparation.
- 1.4.4 SA is a UK-specific procedure used to appraise the impacts and effects of development plans in the UK. It is required by S19(5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004¹⁶ and should be an appraisal of the economic, social and environmental sustainability of development plans. The present statutory requirement for SA resides in The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012¹⁷. SEA is a systematic process for evaluating the environmental consequences of proposed plans or programmes to ensure environmental issues are fully integrated and addressed at the earliest appropriate stage of decision-making.
- 1.4.5 Public consultation is an important aspect of the integrated SA/SEA process.

¹⁴ European Commission (2018) SEA. Available at: <https://ec.europa.eu/environment/eia/sea-legalcontext.htm> [Date Accessed: 03/07/20]

¹⁵ The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. Available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2004/1633/contents/made> [Date Accessed: 25/04/22]

¹⁶ Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004). Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/5/contents> [Date Accessed: 25/04/22]

¹⁷ Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations (2012). Available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/767/contents/made> [Date Accessed: 25/04/22]

1.5 Best Practice Guidance

1.5.1 Government policy recommends that both SA and SEA are undertaken under a single process, which incorporates the requirements of the SEA Regulations. This is to be achieved through integrating the requirements of SEA into the SA process. The approach for carrying out an integrated SA and SEA is based on best practice guidance:

- European Commission (2004) Implementation of Directive 2001/42 on the assessment of the effects of certain plan and programmes on the environment¹⁸;
- Office of Deputy Prime Minister (2005) A Practical Guide to the SEA Directive¹⁹;
- Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (2021) National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)²⁰;
- Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (2021) Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)²¹; and
- Royal Town Planning Institute (2018) Strategic Environmental Assessment, Improving the effectiveness and efficiency of SEA/SA for land use plans²².

1.6 Sustainability Appraisal

1.6.1 This document is a component of the SA of the BCP. It provides an assessment of the likely effects of reasonable alternatives, as per Stage B of SA presented in **Figure 1.2**, according to the PPG on Sustainability Appraisal²³.

¹⁸ European Commission (2004) Implementation of Directive 2001/42 on the assessment of the effects of certain plan and programmes on the environment. Available at: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/archives/eia/pdf/030923_sea_guidance.pdf [Date Accessed: 25/04/22]

¹⁹ Office of Deputy Prime Minister (2005) A Practical Guide to the SEA Directive. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/7657/practicalguidesea.pdf [Date Accessed: 25/04/22]

²⁰ Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (2021) National Planning Policy Framework. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2> [Date Accessed: 25/04/22]

²¹ Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities & Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (2021) Planning practice guidance. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance> [Date Accessed: 25/04/22]

²² Royal Town Planning Institute (2018) Strategic Environmental Assessment, Improving the effectiveness and efficiency of SEA/SA for land use plans. Available at: <https://www.rtpi.org.uk/media/1822/sea-sappracticeadvicefull2018c.pdf> [Date Accessed: 25/04/22]

²³ Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (2021) Planning practice guidance. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance> [Date Accessed: 25/05/22]

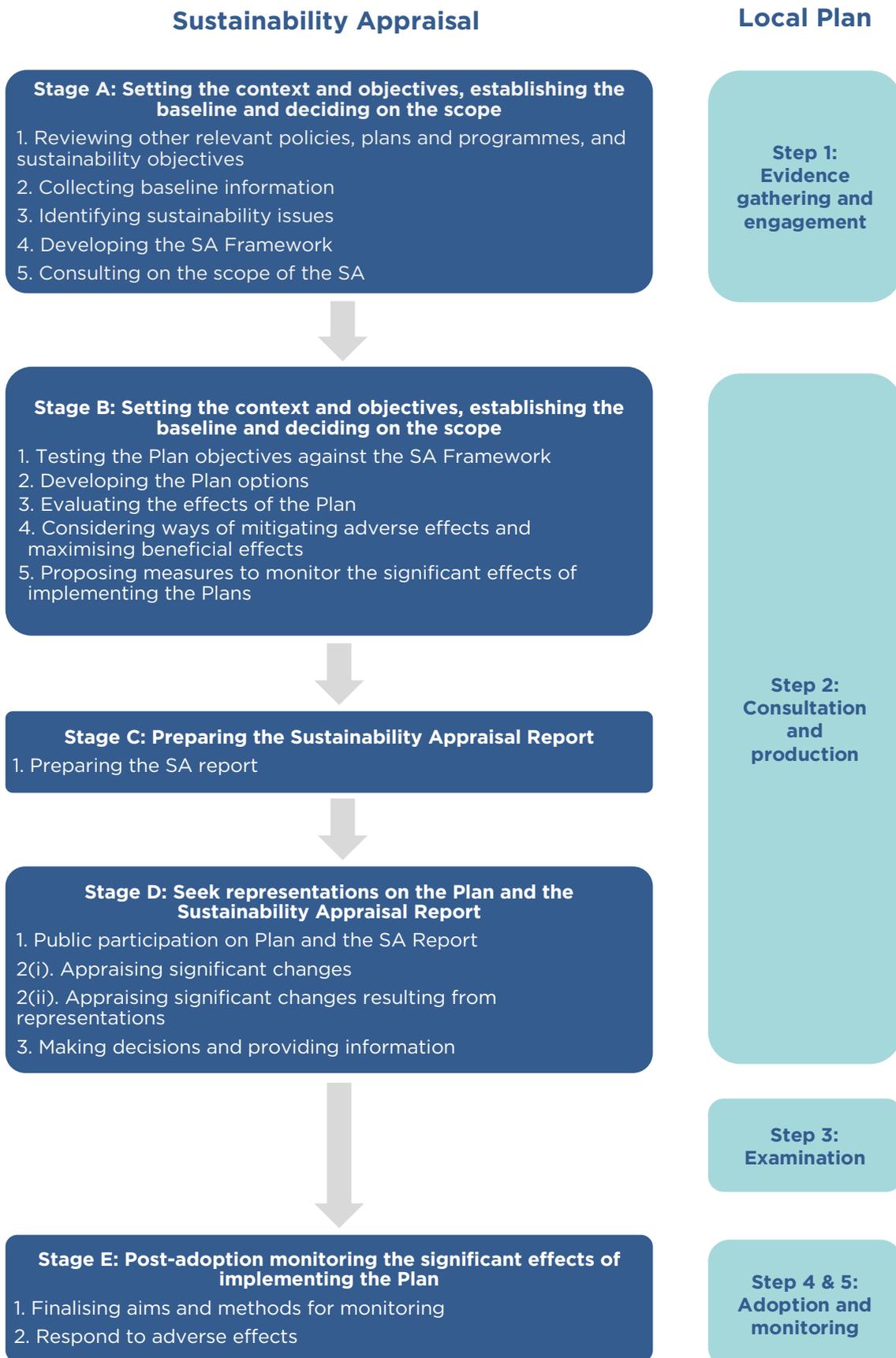


Figure 1.2: Sustainability Appraisal process

1.7 The SA process so far

1.7.1 **Table 1.1** below presents a timeline of stages of the BCP and SA process so far. This represents Stages A and B set out in **Figure 1.2**. Detail on these SA stages are presented in **sections 1.8 – 1.11** below.

Table 1.1: The BCP and SA process to date

Date	BCP Stage	Sustainability Appraisal
February 2017	N/A	SA Scoping Report²⁴ The Scoping Report set out the key issues in relation to sustainability across the Black Country. It also presents the SA Framework against which future sustainability appraisals will be based on.
June 2017	Issues and Options Report²⁵ The report considered nine key challenges and opportunities across the Black Country, which focused on housing and employment need, protecting the environment, providing infrastructure and close working with neighbouring authorities.	Issues and Options SA Report²⁶ The Issues and Options SA Report assessed eight strategic options, five strategic policies and eight policy areas.
July 2021	Draft Black Country Plan 2039 (Regulation 18: Preferred Options)²⁷ The Draft BCP contained planning policies and land allocations, as well as a vision, strategic objectives and priorities, to support the growth and regeneration of the Black Country over the plan period to 2039.	Regulation 18 SA Report²⁸ This SA report contains an assessment of 723 reasonable alternative sites, 77 draft policies, five housing options, five employment options and eleven spatial options.
June 2022	Regulation 18 (II) Additional Housing Sites in Walsall The BCA prepared a site assessment report for each of the additional sites, to be consulted on alongside the existing evidence base that accompanied the Draft BCP Consultation.	Regulation 18 (II) SA Report (this report) This SA report contains an assessment of eight additional reasonable alternative sites and updated selection / rejection information.

²⁴ Lepus Consulting (2017) Sustainability Appraisal of the Black Country Core Strategy: Scoping Report. Available at: <https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/media/11545/sa-scoping-report-feb-2017.pdf> [Date Accessed: 25/05/22]

²⁵ Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council, Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, Walsall Council and City of Wolverhampton Council (2017) Black Country Core Strategy: Issues and Options Report. Available at: https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/media/11458/cs_final_amended_200717.pdf [Date Accessed: 25/05/22]

²⁶ Lepus Consulting (2017) Sustainability Appraisal of the Black Country Core Strategy Review 2016 – 2036. Issues and Options Report: Regulation 18 Report. Available at: https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/media/11544/lc-309_bccs_sa_report_17_130617rc.pdf [Date Accessed: 25/05/22]

²⁷ Black Country Authorities (2021) Draft Black Country Plan, July 2021. Available at: <https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/t2/p5/> [Date Accessed: 25/05/22]

²⁸ Lepus Consulting (2021) Sustainability Appraisal of the Black Country Plan: Regulation 18 SA Report, July 2021. Available at: <https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/t2/p4/t2p4d/> [Date Accessed: 25/05/22]

1.8 Scoping Report

1.8.1 In order to identify the scope and level of detail of the information to be included in the SA process, an SA Scoping Report was produced by Lepus²⁹. The SA Scoping Report represented Stage A of the SA process (see **Figure 1.2**), and presents information in relation to:

- Identifying other relevant plans, programmes and environmental protection objectives;
- Collecting baseline information;
- Identifying sustainability problems and key issues;
- Preparing the SA Framework; and
- Consultation arrangements on the scope of SA with the consultation bodies.

1.8.2 The Scoping report was consulted on with the statutory bodies Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency, as well as other relevant parties and the public. Following consultation, the Scoping report was updated in light of the comments received.

1.8.3 Each of the reasonable alternatives or options appraised in the SA process have been assessed for their likely impacts on each SA Objective of the SA Framework. The SA Framework, which is presented in its entirety in **Appendix A**, is comprised of the following 14 SA Objectives:

- **SA1 (Cultural Heritage):** Protect, enhance and manage sites, features and areas of archaeological, historical and cultural heritage importance.
- **SA2 (Landscape):** Protect, enhance and manage the character and appearance of the landscape and townscape, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place.
- **SA3 (Biodiversity, flora, fauna and geodiversity):** Protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and geodiversity.
- **SA4 (Climate change mitigation):** Minimise the Black Country's contribution to climate change.
- **SA5 (Climate change adaptation):** Plan for the anticipated levels of climate change.
- **SA6 (Natural resources):** Protect and conserve natural resources.
- **SA7 (Pollution):** Reduce air, soil, water and noise pollution.
- **SA8 (Waste):** Reduce waste generation and disposal and achieve the sustainable management of waste.
- **SA9 (Transport and accessibility):** Improve the efficiency of transport networks by increasing the proportion of travel by sustainable modes and by promoting policies which reduce the need to travel.

²⁹ Lepus Consulting (2017) Sustainability Appraisal of the Black Country Core Strategy: Scoping Report. Available at: <https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/media/11545/sa-scoping-report-feb-2017.pdf> [Date Accessed: 25/05/22]

- **SA10 (Housing):** Provide affordable, environmentally sound and good quality housing for all.
- **SA11 (Equality):** Reduce poverty, crime and social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.
- **SA12 (Health):** Safeguard and improve community health, safety and wellbeing.
- **SA13 (Economy):** Develop a dynamic, diverse and knowledge-based economy that excels in innovation with higher value, lower impact activities.
- **SA14 (Education, skills and training):** Raise educational attainment and develop and maintain a skilled workforce to support long-term competitiveness.

1.8.4 The SA Framework is comprised of SA Objectives and decision-making criteria. Acting as yardsticks of sustainability performance, the SA Objectives are designed to represent the topics identified in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004)³⁰ (derived from Annex 1(f) of the SEA Directive). Including the SEA topics in the SA Objectives helps ensure that all of the environmental criteria of the SEA Regulations are represented. Consequently, the SA Objectives reflect all subject areas to ensure the assessment process is transparent, robust and thorough.

1.8.5 It is important to note that the order of SA Objectives in the SA Framework does not infer prioritisation. The SA Objectives are at a strategic level and can potentially be open-ended. In order to focus each objective, decision making criteria are presented in the SA Framework to be used during the appraisal of policies and sites.

1.9 Issues and Options (June, 2017)

1.9.1 The Issues and Options Report consultation formed the first stage of the formal review of the BCP. The Issues and Options Report considered nine key challenges and opportunities across the Black Country, which focused on housing and employment need, protecting the environment, providing infrastructure and close working with neighbouring authorities. The Report then set out to review the adopted Black Country Core Strategy in light of these challenges and opportunities.

³⁰ The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 – Schedule 2 (6) identifies: “the likely significant effects on the environment, including short, medium and long-term effects, permanent and temporary effects, positive and negative effects, and secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects, on issues such as – (a) biodiversity; (b) population; (c) human health; (d) fauna; (e) flora; (f) soil; (g) water; (h) air; (i) climatic factors; (j) material assets; (k) cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage; (l) landscape; and (m) the inter-relationship between the issues referred to in sub-paragraphs (a) to (l)”. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2004/1633/schedule/1/made> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

1.9.2 The Issues and Options SA Report³¹ assessed eight strategic options, five strategic policies and eight policy areas. The assessment of strategic options indicated that the likely strategy for growth within the Black Country has the potential to place pressure on existing infrastructure and resources. It was concluded that the overall approach which underpins the BCP policies is appropriate.

1.9.3 The consultation was held for ten weeks between July and September 2017. The comments received during the consultation period are presented in the Regulation 18 SA Report (2021).

1.10 Regulation 18: Preferred Options (July, 2021)

1.10.1 The Regulation 18 SA Report (2021)³² provided an appraisal of housing and employment growth options, spatial options, reasonable alternative sites and policies contained in the Draft BCP.

1.10.2 The Regulation 18 SA Report was subject to consultation with a range of stakeholders and the public alongside the Draft BCP between August and October 2021. The consultation enabled interested persons to comment on the preferred planning strategy and preferred sites intended to help achieve the strategy. Comments received during the consultation period will be addressed in the Regulation 19 SA Report, where necessary.

1.11 Regulation 18 (II): Additional Housing Sites in Walsall

1.11.1 This Regulation 18 (II) SA Report provides an appraisal of eight reasonable alternative sites located within the Walsall Borough of the Plan area.

1.11.2 This SA Report will be subject to consultation with a range of stakeholders and the public alongside the BCA's site assessment report and existing evidence base that accompanied the earlier Regulation 18 Consultation on the Draft BCP. It will enable interested persons to comment on the preferred sites intended to help achieve the strategy. Comments received will provide a basis of any changes that may need to be made to the preferred sites.

1.12 Assessment of reasonable alternatives

1.12.1 The purpose of this document is to provide an appraisal of the reasonable alternatives (RAs), also known as 'options' (in this Regulation 18 (II) SA report, consisting only of reasonable alternative sites), in line with the SEA Regulations.

³¹ Lepus Consulting (2017) Sustainability Appraisal of the Black Country Core Strategy Review 2016 – 2036. Issues and Options Report: Regulation 18 Report. Available at: https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/media/11544/lc-309_bccs_sa_report_17_130617rc.pdf [Date Accessed: 25/05/22]

³² Lepus Consulting (2021) Sustainability Appraisal of the Black Country Plan: Regulation 18 SA Report, July 2021. Available at: <https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/t2/p4/t2p4d/> [Date Accessed: 25/05/22]

- 1.12.2 Regulation 12 of the SEA Regulations³³ states that the Environmental Report “*shall identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects of the environment of – (a) implementing the plan or programme; and (b) reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan or programme*”.
- 1.12.3 PPG Paragraph: 018 Reference ID: 11-018-20140306 states that “*Reasonable alternatives are the different realistic options considered by the plan-maker in developing the policies in its plan. They must be sufficiently distinct to highlight the different sustainability implications of each so that meaningful comparisons can be made. The development and appraisal of proposals in plans needs to be an iterative process, with the proposals being revised to take account of the appraisal findings*”.
- 1.12.4 As outlined within **sections 1.9** and **1.10**, a number of different types of reasonable alternatives have been considered previously in the SA process, including housing and employment growth options, spatial options, reasonable alternative sites and policies. This Regulation 18 (II) SA Report focuses only on reasonable alternative sites, in addition to those considered within the previous Regulation 18 SA Report.
- 1.12.5 The key aspects both the BCP and Regulation 19 SA reporting outputs will need to consider in respect to RA are:
- What reasonable alternatives have been identified and on what basis?
 - How they have been assessed and compared (including consideration of sustainability issues)?
 - What are the preferred alternatives and why they are preferred over other alternatives?
- 1.12.6 This report also provides information in relation to the likely characteristics of effects, as per the SEA Regulations (see **Box 1.1**).

³³ The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. Regulation 12. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2004/1633/regulation/12/made> [Date Accessed: 26/05/22]

Box 1.1: Schedule 1 of the SEA Regulations³⁴

Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects (Schedule 1 of the SEA Regulations)

- 1. The characteristics of plans and programmes, having regard, in particular, to:**
 - (a) the degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources;
 - (b) the degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy;
 - (c) the relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development;
 - (d) environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme; and
 - (e) the relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (e.g. plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection).
- 2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to:**
 - (a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects;
 - (b) the cumulative nature of the effects;
 - (c) the transboundary nature of the effects;
 - (d) the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents);
 - (e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);
 - (f) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:
 - i. special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;
 - ii. exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values;
 - iii. intensive land-use; and
 - (g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.

1.13 Structure of this SA Report

1.13.1 This chapter has provided background information to the BCP and the accompanying SA and SEA work. The remainder of the Regulation 18 SA Report is structured as follows:

- **Chapter 2** – methodology and summary of the appraisal of reasonable alternative sites by SA Objective.
- **Chapter 3** – updates to the reasons for selection / rejection of reasonable alternative sites.
- **Chapter 4** – sets out the next steps for the SA and the BCP.
- **Appendix A** – the full SA Framework against which all appraisals are based.
- **Appendix B** – the appraisal of the eight reasonable alternative sites assessed at this stage, with assessments set out per SA Objective, per receptor.

³⁴ EU Council (2001) Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council. Available at: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32001L0042&from=EN> [Date Accessed: 20/01/20]

2 Assessment of Sites

2.1 Preface

2.1.1 The Black Country Call for Sites request first opened in July 2017 and re-opened from 9th July – 20th August 2020³⁵. Each of the four authorities have carried out a Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) of sites within which have the potential to accommodate new housing development and an Employment Development Land Review for sites with potential to accommodate employment development. Some sites have been assessed for both potential uses within the SA process to date.

2.1.2 Across the Black Country, a total of eight additional residential sites located within Walsall were identified by the BCA as reasonable alternatives to be assessed as part of the SA within the Regulation 18 (II) focused consultation stage (see **Table 2.1**).

2.1.3 These sites have been identified following responses received from the Regulation 18 consultation, which included seven new sites submitted which were not previously assessed because of land ownership constraints which prevented them being considered reasonable alternatives, and one site where the net developable area has been revisited.

Table 2.1: Reasonable alternative sites assessed within this SA Report

Site Reference	Site Address	Local Authority	Site Use	Gross Area (ha)	Net Area (ha)	No. of Dwellings
SA-0037-WAL	Land West of Chester Road, North of Little Hardwick Road, Streetly	Walsall	Residential	25.98	18.73	655
SA-0318-WAL	Site A, Poultry Farm to The Rear of 187 - 231 Pelsall Lane, Walsall	Walsall	Residential	1.03	1.03	36
SA-0319-WAL	Land West and South of Oakwood Close	Walsall	Residential	0.65	0.65	7
SA-0320-WAL	Land at Rushall Hall, Leigh Road	Walsall	Residential	2.81	2.81	98
SA-0321-WAL	Pacific Nurseries	Walsall	Residential	1.15	1.15	30
SA-0322-WAL	Land East of Skip Lane and North of Woodfield Close	Walsall	Residential	5.19	5.19	135
SA-0323-WAL	Site B, Poultry Farm to The Rear of 187 - 231 Pelsall Lane, Walsall	Walsall	Residential	0.16	0.16	6
SA-0324-WAL	Site C, Poultry Farm to The Rear of 187 - 231 Pelsall Lane, Walsall	Walsall	Residential	1.84	1.84	64

³⁵ Available at <https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/t2/p3/> [Date Accessed: 26/05/22]

2.1.4 The BCA have undertaken a filtering process (or ‘gateway check’) of all potential sites identified through the evidence base for the BCP in order to determine which sites should be considered as reasonable alternatives for the purpose of the SA.

2.1.5 If the following receptors were obviously present at a site, the BCA have generally rejected such sites from inclusion as a reasonable alternative to be appraised through the SA process:

- Ancient Woodland
- Burial Grounds
- Existing residential
- Flood Risk Zone 3
- HSE Inner Zone (for residential)
- Landowner has expressed unwillingness
- Local authority land with no “call for site” submitted
- Local Nature Reserve
- Open Space not surplus against current standards
- Operational sites (education, leisure, utilities, places of worship, canal network, transport infrastructure)
- Registered Parks & Gardens
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Site of Special Scientific Interest
- Sites <0.25 ha with no “call for site” submitted
- Special Area of Conservation

2.1.6 Identification of a site as a reasonable alternative does not imply that the site is not subject to other constraints or indeed that any receptor listed in **para 2.1.4** will not in some way be potentially affected by a reasonable alternative site. Further potential constraints are assessed as part of the SA and plan making process for identified reasonable alternatives, using available evidence derived from publicly accessible data sources and information supplied by the BCA.

2.1.7 **Section 2.2** sets out the methodology used to appraise the reasonable alternative sites in the SA process and presents a summary of the appraisal against each SA Objective.

2.2 SA Assessment Methodology

2.2.1 Topic-specific methodologies have been established which reflect the differences between the SA Objectives and how different receptors should be considered in the appraisal process.

- 2.2.2 The receptors considered for each SA Objective have been discussed within the local context and assumptions set out in the Baseline (Chapter 2) of the Regulation 18 SA Report (2021)³⁶. As no changes to the baseline have been identified following the publication of the 2021 SA Report, the baseline and local context has not been replicated in this report. The appraisal of reasonable alternative sites should be read in conjunction with the previous SA Report.
- 2.2.3 The topic-specific methodologies set out in **Boxes 2.1 to 2.14** below set out how the likely impact per receptor has been identified in line with the local context and the impact symbols presented in **Table 2.2**.
- 2.2.4 All distances stated in site assessments are measured ‘as the crow flies’ from the closest point of the site/receptor in question, unless otherwise stated.

Table 2.2: Presenting likely impacts

Likely Impact	Description	Impact Symbol
Major Positive Impact	The proposed option contributes to the achievement of the SA Objective to a significant extent.	++
Minor Positive Impact	The proposed option contributes to the achievement of the SA Objective to some extent.	+
Negligible/ Neutral Impact	The proposed option has no effect or an insignificant effect on the achievement of the SA Objective.	0
Uncertain Impact	The proposed option has an uncertain relationship with the SA Objective or insufficient information is available for an appraisal to be made.	+/-
Minor Negative Impact	The proposed option prevents the achievement of the SA Objective to some extent.	-
Major Negative Impact	The proposed option prevents the achievement of the SA Objective to a significant extent.	--

- 2.2.5 **Appendix B** sets out the detailed appraisal of each reasonable alternative site proposed. The appraisal evaluates the likely significant effects of each reasonable alternative against the 14 SA Objectives.
- 2.2.6 The following sections of this report set out the topic-specific methodologies used to appraise the reasonable alternative sites and provides a summary of the likely significant effects of the reasonable alternative sites.

³⁶ Lepus Consulting (2021) Sustainability Appraisal of the Black Country Plan: Regulation 18 SA Report, July 2021. Available at: <https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/t2/p4/t2p4d/> [Date Accessed: 25/05/22]

2.3 SA Objective 1: Cultural heritage

2.3.1 **Box 2.1** sets out the specific methodology used to appraise the reasonable alternative sites against SA Objective 1: Cultural heritage.

Box 2.1: SA Objective 1: Cultural heritage strategic assessment methodology

Likely Impact		Notes
Grade I Listed Buildings		
--	Development proposal coincides with, is located adjacent to, or could significantly impact the setting of, a Grade I Listed Building.	Grade I Listed Buildings are considered to be those of exceptional interest. Data for heritage assets ³⁷ , including the Heritage at Risk Register ³⁸ , available from Historic England.
-	Development proposal located within the wider setting of a Grade I Listed Building.	
0	Development proposal is not considered likely to affect the setting or character of a Grade I Listed Building.	
+	Development proposal which could potentially enhance a Grade I Listed Building or its setting.	
Grade II* Listed Buildings		
--	Development proposal coincides with, or could significantly impact the setting of, a Grade II* Listed Building.	Grade II* Listed Buildings are considered to be those of more than special interest. Data sourced from Historic England as above.
-	Development proposal located within the setting of a Grade II* Listed Building.	
0	Development proposal not considered likely to impact a Grade II* Listed Building or its setting.	
+	Development proposal which could potentially enhance a Grade II* Listed Building or its setting.	
Grade II Listed Buildings		
--	Development proposal coincides with a Grade II Listed Building.	Grade II Listed Buildings are considered to those of special interest. Data sourced from Historic England as above.
-	Development proposal located within the setting of a Grade II Listed Building.	
0	Development proposal not considered likely to impact a Grade II Listed Building or its setting.	
+	Development proposal which could potentially enhance a Grade II Listed Building or its setting.	
Scheduled Monuments		
--	Development proposal coincides with a SM.	Scheduling is the selection of a sample of nationally
-	Development proposal located within the setting of a SM.	

³⁷ Historic England (2020) Download Listing Data. Available at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/data-downloads/> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

³⁸ Historic England (2020) Search the Heritage at Risk Register. Available at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/heritage-at-risk/search-register/> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

Likely Impact		Notes
0	Development proposal not considered to impact an SM or its setting.	important archaeological sites. Data sourced from Historic England as above.
+	Development proposal which could potentially enhance an SM or its setting.	
Registered Parks and Gardens		
--	Development proposal coincides with an RPG.	The main purpose of the Register is to celebrate designed landscapes of note and encourage appropriate protection. Data sourced from Historic England as above.
-	Development proposal located within the setting of an RPG.	
0	Development proposal not considered likely to impact an RPG or its setting.	
+	Development proposal which could potentially enhance an RPG or its setting.	
Conservation Areas		
-	Development proposal located within a Conservation Area or considered to be located within the setting of a Conservation Area.	Conservation Area data provided by the BCA.
0	Development proposal not considered to impact a Conservation Area or its setting.	Information available for Dudley ³⁹ , Sandwell ⁴⁰ , Walsall ⁴¹ and Wolverhampton ⁴² authorities.
+	Development proposals which could potentially enhance the character or setting of a Conservation Area.	
Archaeological Priority Area		
-	Development proposal coincides with an APA.	Archaeology data provided by the BCA and detailed within the HLC report ⁴³ .
0	Development proposal does not coincide with an APA.	
+	Development proposal which could potentially enhance an APA.	
Historic Landscape Characterisation		
-	Development proposal located within an area of high historic landscape or townscape value and/or area designed landscape of high historic value	

³⁹ Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council (2022) Conservation Areas. Available at: <https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/planning/historic-environment/conservation-areas/> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁴⁰ Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council (2022) Listed buildings and conservation areas. Available at: http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200275/planning_and_buildings/444/listed_buildings_and_conservation_areas [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁴¹ Walsall Council (2022) Conservation areas. Available at: https://go.walsall.gov.uk/conservation_areas [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁴² City of Wolverhampton Council (2021) Conservation. Available at: <https://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/planning/conservation> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁴³ Oxford Archaeology (2019) Black Country Historic Landscape Characterisation Study. Available at: https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/media/13895/comp_black-country-hlc-final-report-30-10-2019-lr_redacted.pdf [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

Likely Impact		Notes
0	Development proposal located outside of areas of high historic landscape or townscape value and designed landscapes	HLC data provided by the BCA and detailed within the HLC report ⁴⁴ .
+	Development proposal which could potentially enhance historic character.	

⁴⁴ Oxford Archaeology (2019) Black Country Historic Landscape Characterisation Study. Available at: https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/media/13895/comp_black-country-hlc-final-report-30-10-2019-lr_redacted.pdf [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

2.4 SA Objective 2: Landscape

2.4.1 **Box 2.2** sets out the specific methodology used to appraise the reasonable alternative sites against SA Objective 2: Landscape.

Box 2.2: SA Objective 2: Landscape strategic assessment methodology

Likely Impact		Notes
Cannock Chase AONB		
-	Development proposals which could potentially alter views experienced of or from the AONB and/or alter its setting.	Development within the Black Country would not be anticipated to result in direct adverse impacts on the special qualities of the AONB. Data available from Natural England ⁴⁵ . Further information and specific objectives for the AONB are available within the Cannock Chase AONB Management Plan 2019-2024 ⁴⁶ .
0	Development proposals are not located in close proximity to the AONB, or the nature of development is determined not to affect the character or setting of the AONB.	
+	Development proposals which would increase the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the AONB.	
Landscape Sensitivity Assessment		
--	Development proposals located within areas of 'moderate-high' or 'high' landscape sensitivity.	Appraisal of sites informed by the Black Country Landscape Sensitivity Assessment ⁴⁷ .
-	Development proposals located within areas of 'low-moderate' or 'moderate' sensitivity.	
0	Development proposals located within areas of 'low' sensitivity, or those not assessed in the study.	
+	Development proposals which would protect or enhance features of the landscape as identified within the study.	
Views for Local Residents		
-	Development proposals which may alter views of a predominantly rural or countryside landscape experienced by local residents.	Views and proximity to existing residential development have been identified through the use of aerial photography and Google Maps ⁴⁸ . Potential positive impacts would be dependent upon the current views, and level of detail of the proposed development.
0	Development proposals are not considered to significantly alter views experienced by local residents.	
+	Development proposals which could potentially improve the views experience by some local residents.	

⁴⁵ Natural England (2020) Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (England). Available at: <https://data.gov.uk/dataset/8e3ae3b9-a827-47fi-b025-f08527a4e84e/areas-of-outstanding-natural-beauty-england> [Date Accessed: 24/05/22]

⁴⁶ Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (2020) Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan 2019 – 2024. Available at: <https://cannock-chase.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/AONB-Cannock-Chase-Management-Plan-2019-24.pdf> [Date Accessed: 16/06/21]

⁴⁷ LUC (2019) Black Country Landscape Sensitivity Assessment. Available at: https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/media/13883/black-country-lsa-front-end-report-final-lr_redacted.pdf [Date Accessed: 16/06/21]

⁴⁸ Google Maps (2022) Available at: <https://www.google.co.uk/maps> [Date Accessed: 25/05/22]

Likely Impact		Notes
Views from the PRoW Network		
-	Development proposals which may alter views of a predominantly rural or countryside landscape experienced by users of the PRoW network.	PRoW data provided by the BCA. Views have been identified through the use of aerial photography and Google Maps ⁴⁹ .
0	Development proposals are not considered to significantly alter views experienced by users of the PRoW network.	
+	Development proposals which could potentially improve the views experienced from the nearby PRoW network.	
Green Belt		
--	Development proposals located within areas of 'moderate-high', 'high' or 'very high' Green Belt harm.	Appraisal of sites informed by the Black Country Green Belt Study ⁵⁰ . It should be noted that, as stated in the Green Belt Study, " <i>landscape quality is not a relevant factor in determining the contribution to Green Belt purposes, or harm to those purposes resulting from the release of land</i> ".
-	Development proposals located within areas of 'low-moderate' or 'moderate' Green Belt harm.	
0	Development proposals located within areas of 'very low' or 'low' Green Belt harm, or those not assessed in the study.	
+	Development proposals which would protect or enhance features of the landscape as identified within the study.	

⁴⁹ Ibid

⁵⁰ LUC (2019) Black Country Green Belt Study. Available at: https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/media/13882/bcgb-0919-black-country-gb-stage-1-and-2-plus-app1-final-reduced_redacted.pdf [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

2.5 SA Objective 3: Biodiversity, flora, fauna and geodiversity

2.5.1 **Box 2.3** sets out the specific methodology used to appraise the reasonable alternative sites against SA Objective 3: Biodiversity, flora, fauna and geodiversity.

Box 2.3: SA Objective 3: Biodiversity, flora, fauna and geodiversity strategic assessment methodology

Likely Impact		Notes
European site e.g. SAC, SPA or Ramsar site		
--	Development proposal coincides with, or is located in close proximity to, a SAC. Likelihood of direct impacts.	Data for SACs from Natural England ⁵¹ . It should be noted that the HRA will provide further detail relating to potential impacts on European sites within and surrounding the Plan area.
-	Development proposal is located within a recognised Zol or similar spatial catchment relative to the European site. Likelihood of direct or indirect impacts.	
+/-	Development located outside of a recognised Zol where, in absence of HRA conclusions, the effect of development is uncertain.	
0	Development not anticipated to result in adverse impacts on SACs.	
+	Development proposals which would be expected to enhance features within a European site.	
SSSI		
--	Development coincides with, or is located adjacent to, an SSSI.	Data for SSSIs and IRZs from Natural England ⁵² .
-	Within an IRZ which indicates proposed development should be consulted on with Natural England. Likelihood of direct or indirect impacts.	
0	Development within an IRZ which does not indicate the proposed development need to consult with Natural England.	
+	Development proposals which would enhance features of an SSSI.	
NNR		
--	Development coincides with an NNR. Likelihood of direct impacts.	Data for NNRs from Natural England ⁵³ .
-	Development could potentially result in adverse impacts on an NNR. Likelihood of direct or indirect impacts.	
0	Development not anticipated to result in adverse impacts on NNRs.	
+	Development proposals which would enhance or create an NNR.	

⁵¹ Natural England (2022) Special Areas of Conservation (England). Available at: https://naturalengland-defra.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/e4142658906c498fa37f0a20d3fdcff_0 [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁵² Natural England (2022) Natural England's Impact Risk Zones for Sites of Special Scientific Interest, 22 November 2019. Available at: <https://data.gov.uk/dataset/5ae2af0c-1363-4d40-9d1a-e5a1381449f8/ssi-impact-risk-zones> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁵³ Natural England (2022) National Nature Reserves (England). Available at: <https://data.gov.uk/dataset/726484b0-d14e-44a3-9621-29e79fc47bfc/national-nature-reserves-england> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

Likely Impact		Notes
Ancient woodland		
--	Development proposal coincides with a stand of ancient woodland. Likelihood of direct impacts.	Data for ancient woodlands from Natural England ⁵⁴ .
-	Development proposal anticipated to result in adverse impacts on a stand of ancient woodland. Likelihood of direct or indirect impacts.	
0	Development proposal would not be anticipated to impact ancient woodland.	
+	Development proposals which would enhance ancient woodland.	
SINC		
--	Development proposal coincides with a SINC. Likelihood of direct impacts.	Data for SINCS provided by the BCA.
-	Development proposal anticipated to result in adverse impacts on a SINC. Likelihood of direct or indirect impacts.	
0	Development not anticipated to result in adverse impacts on a SINC.	
+	Development proposals which would enhance or create a SINC.	
LNR		
-	Development proposal could potentially result in adverse impacts on an LNR, such as those which coincide or are located in close proximity. Likelihood of direct or indirect impacts.	Data for LNRs from Natural England ⁵⁵ .
0	Development proposal not anticipated to result in adverse impacts on an LNR.	
+	Development proposals which would enhance or create an LNR.	
SLINC		
-	Development proposal anticipated to result in adverse impacts on a SLINC, such as those which coincide or are located in close proximity. Likelihood of direct or indirect impacts.	Data for SLINCS provided by the BCA.
0	Development not anticipated to result in adverse impacts on a SLINC.	
+	Development proposals which would enhance or create a SLINC.	
Geological Conservation		
-	Development proposal anticipated to result in adverse impacts on a geological site, due to location or proximity. Likelihood of direct or indirect impacts.	Data for geological sites provided by the BCA and data for underlying

⁵⁴ Natural England (2022) Ancient Woodland (England). Available at: <https://data.gov.uk/dataset/9461f463-c363-4309-ae77-fdcd7e9df7d3/ancient-woodland-england> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁵⁵ Natural England (2022) Local Nature Reserves (England). Available at: <https://data.gov.uk/dataset/acdf4a9e-a115-41fb-bbe9-603c819aa7f7/local-nature-reserves-england> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

Likely Impact		Notes
0	Development proposal not anticipated to result in adverse impacts on a Geological Site.	geological context provided by British Geological Survey.
+	Development proposal anticipated to enhance a geological site.	
Priority Habitat		
-	Development proposal coincides with a priority habitat.	Data for priority habitats from Natural England ⁵⁶ .
0	Development proposal does not coincide with a priority habitat.	
+	Development proposals which enhance or create a priority habitat.	

⁵⁶ Natural England (2021) Priority Habitat Inventory (England). Available at: <https://data.gov.uk/dataset/4b6ddab7-6c0f-4407-946e-d6499f19fcde/priority-habitat-inventory-england> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

2.6 SA Objective 4: Climate change mitigation

2.6.1 **Box 2.4** sets out the specific methodology used to appraise the reasonable alternative sites against SA Objective 4: Climate change mitigation.

Box 2.4: SA Objective 4: Climate change mitigation strategic assessment methodology

Likely Impact	Notes
Carbon Emissions	
--	Residential-led development which could potentially result in an increase in CO ₂ emissions by 1% or more in comparison to current levels.
-	Residential-led development which could potentially result in an increase in CO ₂ emissions by 0.1% or more in comparison to current levels.
0	Development would be expected to result in a negligible increase in CO ₂ emissions.
+/-	Non-residential development where the carbon emissions produced as a result of the proposed development is uncertain.
+	Development proposals which include energy saving or renewable energy technologies. Development proposals which would reduce reliance on personal car use, encourage active travel or the use of public transport.

Figures calculated using UK local authority CO₂ emissions data⁵⁷ and the number of people per dwelling⁵⁸, such that proposals for the following housing numbers are expected to increase carbon emissions by 1% or more in comparison to the current estimates:

- Dudley – 963 homes;
- Sandwell – 1,346 homes;
- Walsall – 1,165 homes; and
- Wolverhampton – 1,095 homes.

Proposals for the following housing numbers are expected to increase carbon emissions by 0.1% or more in comparison to current estimates:

- Dudley – 96 homes;
- Sandwell – 135 homes;
- Walsall – 117 homes; and
- Wolverhampton – 110 homes.

⁵⁷ UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics: 2005-2017. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-to-2017>
 [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁵⁸ People per Dwelling has been calculated using the population estimates (Available at: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/populationestimatesforukenglandandwalescotlandandnorthernireland>) and dwellings stock (Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-dwelling-stock-including-vacants>)

2.7 SA Objective 5: Climate change adaptation

2.7.1 **Box 2.5** sets out the specific methodology used to appraise the reasonable alternative sites against SA Objective 5: Climate change adaptation.

Box 2.5: SA Objective 5: Climate change adaptation strategic assessment methodology

Likely Impact		Notes
Fluvial Flooding		
--	Development proposals which coincide with Flood Zones 3a and/or 3b.	Data for fluvial flooding produced by JBA Consulting as part of the Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) ⁵⁹ , such that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flood Zone 3b: Functional Floodplain – land where water has to flow or be stored in times of flood; Flood Zone 3a: Greater or equal to 1% chance of river flooding in any given year or greater than 0.5% chance of sea flooding in any given year; Flood Zone 2: Between 1% and 0.1% chance of river flooding in any given year or 0.5% and 0.1% chance of sea flooding in any given year; and Flood Zone 1: Less than 0.1% chance of river and sea flooding in any given year.
-	Development proposals which coincide with Flood Zone 2.	
+	Development proposals which are located wholly within Flood Zone 1.	
Surface Water Flooding		
--	Development proposals which coincide with areas at high risk of surface water flooding.	Based on the Environment Agency surface water flood risk data ⁶⁰ , such that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High risk: 3.3+% chance of flooding each year; Medium risk: between 1% - 3.3% chance of flooding each year; and Low risk: between 0.1% - 1% chance of flooding each year.
-	Development proposals which coincide with areas at low and/or medium risk of surface water flooding.	
0	Development proposals which are not located in areas determined to be at risk of surface water flooding.	
+	Development proposals which include the integration of GI, open space, SUDS or other surface water flood risk alleviating measures	
Indicative Flood Zone		
--	Development proposals which coincide with Indicative Flood Zone 3b.	Data for Indicative Flood Zones produced by JBA Consulting as part of the Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) ⁶¹
0	Development proposals which do not coincide with Indicative Flood Zone 3b.	

⁵⁹ JBA Consulting (2020) The Black Country Authorities Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Final Report 25th June 2020. Available at: <https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/t2/p4/t2p4h/> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁶⁰ Environment Agency (2013) Risk of flooding from surface water. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/297429/LIT_8986_eff63d.pdf [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁶¹ JBA Consulting (2020) The Black Country Authorities Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Final Report 25th June 2020. Available at: <https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/t2/p4/t2p4h/> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

2.8 SA Objective 6: Natural resources

2.8.1 **Box 2.6** sets out the specific methodology used to appraise the reasonable alternative sites against SA Objective 6: Natural resources.

Box 2.6: SA Objective 6: Natural resources strategic assessment methodology

Likely Impact	Notes
Previously Developed (Brownfield) Land / Land with Environmental Value	
--	Development proposal located on previously undeveloped land of environmental value comprising 20ha or more.
-	Development proposal located on previously undeveloped land of environmental value comprising less than 20ha.
+	Development proposal located on previously developed land with no environmental value.
ALC	
-	Development proposals which are situated on Grade 1, 2 or 3a ALC land.
0	Development proposals located on previously undeveloped land with no environmental value.
+	Development proposals which are situated on Grade 4 and 5 ALC land, or land classified as 'urban' or 'non-agricultural'.
Mineral Safeguarding Areas / Areas of Search	
-	Development proposal coincides with an MSA or AOS.
0	Development proposal does not coincide with an MSA or AOS.
+	Development proposals for the extraction of mineral resources.

⁶² Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (2021) National Planning Policy Framework. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁶³ Natural England (2009) Agricultural Land Classification: protecting the best and most versatile agricultural land. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/35012> [Date Accessed: 22/01/20]

⁶⁴ Natural England (2019) Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) (England). Available at: https://naturalengland-defra.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/5d2477d8d04b41d4bbc9a8742f858f4d_0?geometry=-3.131%2C52.513%2C-0.667%2C53.094 [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁶⁵ wood (2020) Review of the Evidence Base for Minerals to support preparation of the Black Country Plan. Available at: <https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/t2/p4/t2p4f/> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

2.9 SA Objective 7: Pollution

2.9.1 **Box 2.7** sets out the specific methodology used to appraise the reasonable alternative sites against SA Objective 7: Pollution.

Box 2.7: SA Objective 7: Pollution strategic assessment methodology

Likely Impact	Notes
AQMA	
-	All development proposals in the Black Country are located within an AQMA.
	UK AQMA data available from Defra ⁶⁶ .
Main road	
-	Development proposals located within 200m of a main road.
	Road data available from the Ordnance Survey ⁶⁷ . A 200m buffer distance from main roads (motorways and A-roads) has been used, in line with the Department for Transport guidance ⁶⁸ .
0	Development proposals located over 200m from a main road.
+	Development proposals which would help to reduce the number of cars used, promote the use of public transport and active travel and reduce congestion on nearby roads.
Water quality	
-	Development proposals located within 10m of a watercourse.
	Watercourse mapping data available from the Ordnance Survey ⁶⁹ . A 10m buffer zone from a watercourse in which no works, clearance, storage or run-off should be permitted has been used as per Defra guidance ⁷⁰ .
0	Development proposals located over 10m from a watercourse.
+	Development proposal includes integration of GI or the naturalisation of watercourses.

⁶⁶ Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (2019) UK Air Information Resource. Available at: <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/maps/> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁶⁷ Ordnance Survey (2019) OS Open Roads. Available at: <https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/business-government/products/open-map-roads> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁶⁸ Department for Transport (2021) TAG unit A3 Environmental Impact Appraisal. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/825064/tag-unit-a3-environmental-impact-appraisal.pdf [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁶⁹ Ordnance Survey (2022) OS Open Rivers. Available at: <https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/business-government/products/open-map-rivers> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁷⁰ Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (2019) Advice and Information for planning approval on land which is of nature conservation value. Available at: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/advice-and-information-planning-approval-land-which-nature-conservation-value> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

Likely Impact		Notes
Groundwater SPZ		
-	Development proposal coincides with a groundwater SPZ.	SPZ data available from the Environment Agency ⁷¹ . Groundwater source catchments are divided into three zones: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inner Zone (Zone I) – 50-day travel time from any point below the water table to the source; • Outer Zone (Zone II) – 400-day travel time; and • Total Catchment (Zone III) – within which all groundwater recharge is presumed to be discharged at the source.
0	Development proposal does not coincide with a groundwater SPZ.	
Increase in Air Pollution		
--	Development proposals which could potentially result in a significant increase in air pollution.	It is assumed that development would result in an increase in traffic and thus traffic generated air pollution. Residential sites proposed for the development of between ten and 99 dwellings would therefore be expected to have a minor negative impact on local air pollution ⁷² . Residential sites proposed for the development of 100 dwellings or more would be expected to have a major negative impact. Employment sites which propose the development of between 1ha and 9.9ha of employment space would be expected to have a minor negative impact and sites which propose 10ha or more would be expected to have a major negative impact. Where a site is proposed for the development of nine dwellings or less, or for 0.99ha of employment floorspace or less, a negligible impact on local air quality would be anticipated.
-	Development proposals which could potentially result in a minor increase in air pollution.	
0	Development would be expected to result in a negligible increase in air pollution.	
+/-	The air pollution likely to be generated as a result of development proposals is uncertain. Residential-led development sites for which the net housing capacity was unknown at the time of writing.	

⁷¹ Environment Agency (2022) Source Protection Zones. Available at: <https://data.gov.uk/dataset/09889a48-0439-4bbe-8f2a-87bba26fbbf5/source-protection-zones-merged> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁷² Institute of Air Quality Management (2017) Land-Use Planning & Development Control: Planning for Air Quality. Paragraph 5.8.

2.10 SA Objective 8: Waste

2.10.1 **Box 2.8** sets out the specific methodology used to appraise the reasonable alternative sites against SA Objective 8: Waste.

Box 2.8: SA Objective 8: Waste strategic assessment methodology

Likely Impact	Notes
Waste	
--	Residential-led development which could potentially result in an increase in household waste generation by 1% or more in comparison to current levels.
-	Residential-led development which could potentially result in an increase in household waste generation by 0.1% or more in comparison to current levels.
0	Development would be expected to result in a negligible increase in household waste generation.
+/-	The waste generated as a result of development proposals for non-residential use is uncertain.
+	Development proposals which include provision of waste and recycling storage.
++	Development proposals for waste or recycling facilities.

Figures calculated using UK local authority waste data⁷³ and the number of people per dwelling⁷⁴, such that proposals for the following housing numbers are expected to increase household waste generation by 1% or more in comparison to the current estimates:

- Dudley – 1,251 homes;
- Sandwell – 1,313 homes;
- Walsall – 1,089 homes; and
- Wolverhampton – 1,082 homes.

Proposals for the following housing numbers are expected to increase household waste generation by 0.1% or more in comparison to current estimates:

- Dudley – 125 homes;
- Sandwell – 131 homes;
- Walsall – 109 homes; and
- Wolverhampton – 108 homes.

⁷³ Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (2019) Local Authority Collected Waste Statistics. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/env18-local-authority-collected-waste-annual-results-tables> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁷⁴ People per Dwelling has been calculated using the population estimates (Available at: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/populationestimatesforukenglandandwalescotlandandnorthernireland>) and dwellings stock (Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-dwelling-stock-including-vacants>)

2.11 SA Objective 9: Transport and accessibility

2.11.1 **Box 2.9** sets out the specific methodology used to appraise the reasonable alternative sites against SA Objective 9: Transport and accessibility.

Box 2.9: SA Objective 9: Transport and accessibility strategic assessment methodology

Likely Impact		Notes
Bus Stop		
-	Development proposals are located over 400m from a bus stop	Bus stop data available from Transport for West Midlands ⁷⁵ . Target distance of 400m to a bus stop in line with Barton <i>et al.</i> sustainable distances ⁷⁶ .
+	Development proposals are located within 400m of a bus stop	
Railway or Metro Station		
-	Development proposals are located over 2km from a railway or metro station.	Railway station data available from Transport for West Midlands. Target distance of 2km to a railway station in line with Barton <i>et al.</i> sustainable distances.
+	Development proposals are located within 2km of a railway or metro station.	
Pedestrian Access		
-	Development proposals located in areas which currently have poor access to the surrounding footpath network.	Assessment of proximity to existing footpaths has been made through reference to aerial photography and the use of Google Maps ⁷⁷ .
+	Development proposals which are well connected to the existing footpath network and would be expected to provide safe access for pedestrians.	
Road Access		
-	Development proposals located in areas which currently have poor access to the surrounding road network.	Assessment of proximity to existing roads has been made through reference to aerial photography and the use of Google Maps ⁷⁸ .
+	Development proposals which are adjacent to an existing road.	
Pedestrian Access to Local Services		
-	Development proposals are located over a 15-minute walk to local services.	Data on fresh food centre locations and accessibility modelling (travel

⁷⁵ Transport for West Midlands (2021) Transport for West Midlands Data Portal. Available at: <https://data-tfwm.opendata.arcgis.com/> [Date Accessed: 24/05/22]

⁷⁶ Barton, H., Grant. M. & Guise. R. (2010) Shaping Neighbourhoods: For local health and global sustainability, January 2010

⁷⁷ Google Maps (2022) Available at: <https://www.google.co.uk/maps> [Date Accessed: 15/05/22]

⁷⁸ Ibid

Likely Impact		Notes
+	Development proposals are located within a 15-minute walk to local services.	time to fresh food and centres) provided by BCA.
Public Transport Access to Local Services		
-	Development proposals are located over a 15-minute travel time via public transport to local services.	Data on fresh food centre locations and accessibility modelling (travel time to fresh food centres) provided by BCA.
+	Development proposals are located within a 15-minute travel time via public transport to local services.	

2.12 SA Objective 10: Housing

2.12.1 **Box 2.10** sets out the specific methodology used to appraise the reasonable alternative sites against SA Objective 10: Housing.

Box 2.10: SA Objective 10: Housing strategic assessment methodology

Likely Impact		Notes
Provision of Housing		
--	Development proposals which result in a significant net decrease in housing.	Housing numbers provided by the BCA.
-	Development proposals which result in a minor net decrease in housing.	
0	Development proposals would not impact housing provision.	
+/-	It is uncertain whether the proposed development would result in a net change in housing provision. Residential-led development sites for which the net housing capacity was unknown at the time of writing.	
+	Development proposals resulting in a minor net gain in housing (of between one and 99 dwellings).	
++	Development proposals resulting in a significant net gain in housing (of 100 dwellings or more).	

2.13 SA Objective 11: Equality

2.13.1 **Box 2.11** sets out the specific methodology used to appraise the reasonable alternative sites against SA Objective 11: Equality.

Box 2.11: SA Objective 11: Equality strategic assessment methodology

Likely Impact		Notes
Index of Multiple Deprivation		
-	Development proposals within most deprived 10 percent LSOAs in England. Development proposals would result in the loss of affordable housing, community services or could potentially increase crime/the fear of crime in the area.	UK Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) available from MHCLG ⁷⁹ .
0	Development proposals outside most deprived 10 percent LSOAs in England. Development proposals would be expected to have no significant impact on equality.	
+	Development proposals would result in the provision of affordable housing, community services or would reduce crime/the fear of crime in the area.	

⁷⁹ Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (2021) Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). Available at: <http://data-communities.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/indices-of-multiple-deprivation-imd-2019-1?geometry=-2.688%2C52.422%2C-1.456%2C52.714>
 [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

2.14 SA Objective 12: Health

2.14.1 **Box 2.12** sets out the specific methodology used to appraise the reasonable alternative sites against SA Objective 12: Health.

Box 2.12: SA Objective 12: Health strategic assessment methodology

Likely Impact		Notes
AQMA		
-	All development proposals in the Black Country are located within an AQMA.	UK AQMA data available from Defra ⁸⁰ .
Main Road		
-	Development proposals located within 200m of a main road.	Road data available from the Ordnance Survey ⁸¹ .
+	Development proposals located over 200m from a main road.	A 200m buffer distance from main roads (motorways and A-roads) has been used, in line with the Department for Transport guidance ⁸² .
NHS Hospital		
-	Development proposals located over 5km from an NHS hospital providing an A&E service.	NHS hospital department data available from the NHS website ⁸³ , and local hospital data provided by the BCA.
+	Development proposals located over 5km from an NHS hospital providing an A&E service.	The target distance of 5km to an NHS hospital with and A&E service has been used in line with Barton et al. sustainable distances ⁸⁴ .
Pedestrian Access to GP Surgery		
-	Development proposals are located over a 15-minute walk to a healthcare location.	Data on healthcare locations and accessibility modelling (travel time to healthcare) provided by BCA.
+	Development proposals are located within a 15-minute walk to a healthcare location.	

⁸⁰ Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (2019) UK Air Information Resource. Available at: <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/maps/> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁸¹ Ordnance Survey (2019) OS Open Roads. Available at: <https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/business-government/products/open-map-roads> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁸² Department for Transport (2021) TAG unit A3 Environmental Impact Appraisal. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/825064/tag-unit-a3-environmental-impact-appraisal.pdf [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁸³ NHS (2020) NHS hospitals overview. Available at: <https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/other-services/Accident-and-emergency-services/LocationSearch/428> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁸⁴ Barton, H., Grant. M. & Guise. R. (2010) Shaping Neighbourhoods: For local health and global sustainability, January 2010

Likely Impact		Notes
Public Transport Access to GP Surgery		
-	Development proposals are located over a 15-minute travel time via public transport to a healthcare location.	Data on healthcare locations and accessibility modelling (travel time to healthcare) provided by BCA.
+	Development proposals are located within a 15-minute travel time via public transport to a healthcare location.	
Access to / Net Loss of Greenspace		
-	Development proposals which coincide with greenspace. Development proposals located over 600m from greenspace.	Assessment of proximity to/net loss of greenspaces based on Ordnance Survey Open Greenspaces ⁸⁵ . It is assumed that these greenspaces are publicly accessible. The SA has not referred to other locally designated green spaces or recreational facilities due to inconsistency of data availability across the BCA. The target distance of 600m to a public greenspace has been used in line with Barton <i>et al.</i> sustainable distances ⁸⁶ .
0	Development proposals do not coincide with greenspace.	
+	Development proposals located within 600m of a greenspace.	
Access to PRow / Cycle Routes		
-	Development proposals which are located over 600m from a PRow and cycle route.	PRow data provided by BCA. Strategic cycle route data available from Transport for West Midlands ⁸⁷ . The SA has not referred to other locally designated cycle paths due to inconsistency of data availability across the BCA. The target distance of 600m to a footpath or cycle path has been used in line with Barton <i>et al.</i> sustainable distances.
+	Development proposals which are located within 600m from a PRow and/or cycle route.	

⁸⁵ Ordnance Survey (2018) OS Open Greenspace. Available at: <https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/business-government/products/open-map-greenspace> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

⁸⁶ Barton, H., Grant. M. & Guise. R. (2010) Shaping Neighbourhoods: For local health and global sustainability, January 2010

⁸⁷ Transport for West Midlands (2022) Transport for West Midlands Data Portal. Available at: <https://data-tfwm.opendata.arcgis.com/> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

2.15 SA Objective 13: Economy

2.15.1 **Box 2.13** sets out the specific methodology used to appraise the reasonable alternative sites against SA Objective 13: Economy.

Box 2.13: SA Objective 13: Economy strategic assessment methodology

Likely Impact		Notes
Pedestrian Access to Employment Opportunities		
-	Residential development proposals are located over a 30-minute walk to a key employment location.	Data on key employment locations and accessibility modelling (travel time to employment) provided by BCA.
0	Development proposals for non-residential use.	
+	Residential development proposals are located within a 30-minute walk to a key employment location.	
Public Transport Access to Employment Opportunities		
-	Residential development proposals are located over a 30-minute travel time via public transport to a key employment location.	Data on key employment locations and accessibility modelling (travel time to employment) provided by BCA.
0	Development proposals for non-residential use.	
+	Residential development proposals are located within a 30-minute travel time via public transport to a key employment location.	
Employment Floorspace		
--	Development proposals which result in a significant net decrease in employment floorspace.	Assessment of current land use has been made through reference to aerial photography and the use of Google Maps ⁸⁸ .
-	Development proposals which result in a minor net decrease in employment floorspace.	
0	Development proposals would not impact employment floorspace.	
+/-	It is uncertain whether the proposed development would result in a net change in employment floorspace.	
+	Development proposals which result in a minor net increase in employment floorspace.	
++	Development proposals which result in a significant net increase in employment floorspace.	

⁸⁸ Google Maps (2022) Available at: <https://www.google.co.uk/maps> [Date Accessed: 23/05/22]

2.16 SA Objective 14: Education, skills and training

2.16.1 **Box 2.14** sets out the specific methodology used to appraise the reasonable alternative sites against SA Objective 14: Education, skills and training.

Box 2.14: SA Objective 14: Education, skills and training strategic assessment methodology.

Likely Impact		Notes
Pedestrian Access to Primary School		
-	Residential development proposals are located over a 15-minute walk to a primary school.	Data on primary school locations and accessibility modelling (travel time to primary schools) provided by BCA.
0	Development proposals for non-residential use.	
+	Residential development proposals are located within a 15-minute walk to a primary school.	
Pedestrian Access to Secondary School		
-	Residential development proposals are located over a 25-minute walk to a secondary school.	Data on secondary school locations and accessibility modelling (travel time to secondary schools) provided by BCA.
0	Development proposals for non-residential use.	
+	Residential development proposals are located within a 25-minute walk to a secondary school.	
Public Transport Access to Secondary School		
-	Residential development proposals are located over a 25-minute travel time via public transport to a secondary school.	Data on secondary school locations and accessibility modelling (travel time to secondary schools) provided by BCA.
0	Development proposals for non-residential use.	
+	Residential development proposals are located within a 25-minute travel time via public transport to a secondary school.	

2.17 Overview of Site Assessments Pre-Mitigation

- 2.17.1 **Appendix B** provides an appraisal of each reasonable alternative site considered by the BCA at this stage within Walsall. No reasonable alternative sites for Dudley, Sandwell and Wolverhampton have been assessed within this report.
- 2.17.2 A summary of the impact matrices for the eight reasonable alternative site assessments pre-mitigation are presented in **Table 2.3**. These impacts should be read in conjunction with the assessment text narratives in **Appendix B** as well as the topic specific methodologies and assumptions presented in **Boxes 2.1 - 2.14**.
- 2.17.3 It should be noted that the site assessments include an overall impact symbol, summarised in **Table 2.3**, for each of the 14 SA Objectives. The appendices document likely impacts on receptors within each SA Objective, which have been included to provide the reader with contextual information that is relevant to each SA Objective. The overall impact symbol in **Table 2.3** for each SA Objective is always represented by the lowest common denominator. It may be possible that positive or negligible receptor impacts are relevant to an SA Objective, however, if one of the receptor impacts is identified as a major negative impact, the SA Objective will be identified as major negative overall.
- 2.17.4 Each appraisal includes an SA impact matrix which provides an indication of the nature and magnitude of impacts **pre-mitigation**. Assessment narratives follow the impact matrices for each site, within which the findings of the appraisal and the rationale for the recorded impacts are described.
- 2.17.5 All assessment information excludes consideration of detailed mitigation i.e. additional detail or modification to the reasonable alternative that has been introduced specifically to reduce identified environmental effects of that site. Presenting assessment findings 'pre-mitigation' facilitates transparency to the decision makers.
- 2.17.6 The appraisal of the eight reasonable alternative sites is in addition to the 723 reasonable alternative sites assessed at previous stages within the SA process. The appraisal of the eight reasonable alternative sites demonstrated that all development proposals would be likely to result in a range of sustainability impacts as shown in **Table 2.3**.

Table 2.3: Impact matrix of the eight reasonable alternative sites assessed within this report

Site Ref	SA Objective													
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Cultural Heritage	Landscape	Biodiversity	CC Mitigation	CC Adaptation	Natural Resources	Pollution	Waste	Transport	Housing	Equality	Health	Economy	Education
Reasonable Alternative Sites														
SA-0037-WAL	-	--	-	-	--	-	--	-	-	++	0	-	+	-
SA-0318-WAL	0	--	-	0	+	-	-	0	-	+	0	-	+	+
SA-0319-WAL	0	--	-	0	+	-	-	0	-	+	0	-	+	-
SA-0320-WAL	--	--	-	0	+	-	-	0	-	+	0	-	+	-
SA-0321-WAL	0	--	+/-	0	+	-	-	-	-	+	0	-	-	-
SA-0322-WAL	-	--	+/-	-	+	-	--	0	-	++	0	-	-	-
SA-0323-WAL	0	--	-	0	+	+	-	0	-	+	0	-	-	-
SA-0324-WAL	0	--	-	0	--	-	-	0	-	+	0	-	-	-

2.17.7 The following paragraphs provide an overall summary of the findings per SA Objective, as set out in **Table 2.3**. The full assessment narrative and impacts per receptor within each SA Objective can be found in **Appendix B**.

SA1: Cultural Heritage

2.17.8 The majority of the sites assessed are not located in close proximity to any heritage assets, and as such, negligible impacts have been identified. However, two sites (SA-0037-WAL and SA-0322-WAL) have been identified as having minor negative impacts on cultural heritage due to their location within areas identified by the HLC as Archaeological Priority Areas, and SA-0322-WAL also being within an area of High Historic Landscape Value. Site SA-0320-WAL is located within the Old Rushall Conservation Area and coincides with two Listed Buildings and two Scheduled Monuments, with potential to result in a major negative impact on cultural heritage.

SA2: Landscape

2.17.9 All sites have been identified as having potential to result in a major negative impact on the landscape, primarily due to their location within undeveloped areas of the Black Country and within land parcels identified as ‘Moderate-High’ or ‘High’ landscape sensitivity and/or ‘Moderate-High’, ‘High’ or ‘Very High’ Green Belt harm.

SA3: Biodiversity

- 2.17.10 A minor negative impact has been identified for the majority of proposed sites, owing to the potential for development related threats and pressures to some biodiversity designations such as SLINCs and priority habitats. Sites SA-0321-WAL and SA-0322-WAL have not been identified as resulting in significant effects on nearby biodiversity designations but have currently been assessed as uncertain overall with regard to potential impacts on Habitats sites.

SA4: Climate Change Mitigation

- 2.17.11 All sites are proposed for residential development, with potential to increase carbon emissions to some extent and contribute to a cumulative increase in carbon emissions, associated with the construction and occupation of development as well as traffic generation. The majority of sites are proposed for relatively small amounts of development and would result in a negligible contribution to Walsall's total carbon emissions, whereas the larger sites with higher residential capacity (SA-0037-WAL and SA-0322-WAL) could result in a minor negative impact on carbon emissions.

SA5: Climate Change Adaptation

- 2.17.12 The majority of sites are located wholly within Flood Zone 1 and do not coincide with any areas of surface water food risk (SWFR), resulting in a potential minor positive impact overall. However, development at Site SA-0324-WAL could potentially result in a major negative impact on climate change adaptation owing to its location within Flood Zone 2/3a and Indicative Flood Zone 3b. Site SA-0037-WAL and SA-0324-WAL also coincide with some extents of high SWFR within the site, with potential for a major negative impact.

SA6: Natural Resources

- 2.17.13 The majority of sites assessed comprise previously undeveloped land, with potential to result in a minor negative impact on natural resources due to the loss of ecologically and/or agriculturally valuable soils associated with development. Four sites (SA-0037-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0321-WAL and SA-0322-WAL) also coincide with a MSA, with a minor negative impact identified owing to the potential for sterilisation of mineral resources. Only Site SA-0323-WAL has been identified as having a minor positive impact on this objective overall as it does not coincide with a MSA and comprises previously developed land.

SA7: Pollution

- 2.17.14 All sites have been identified as having adverse impacts on pollution, to some extent, owing to their location within Walsall AQMA with the proposed residential development potentially exacerbating existing air quality issues within the area following construction and occupation of the development. Sites SA-0037-WAL and SA-0322-WAL are proposed for a significant amount of development (over 100 dwellings), with potential for a major negative impact on pollution overall. Some sites have also been identified as having minor negative impacts on water pollution associated with nearby watercourses or coinciding with groundwater SPZs.

SA8: Waste

- 2.17.15 All sites are proposed for residential development, with potential to increase household waste generation to some extent. The majority of sites are proposed for relatively small amounts of development and would result in a negligible contribution to Walsall's total household waste generation, whereas the larger sites with higher residential capacity (SA-0037-WAL and SA-0322-WAL) could result in a minor negative impact on waste generation.

SA9: Transport

- 2.17.16 All sites are identified as having potential for a minor negative impact on transport overall, owing to their location outside of a sustainable target distance to train stations, and/or other public transport receptors.

SA10: Housing

- 2.17.17 All sites are proposed for residential development, with likely positive impacts associated with the development of new housing to contribute towards the identified needs across the Black Country.

SA11: Equality

- 2.17.18 None of the proposed development sites are located within the 10% most deprived LSOAs, and therefore, the proposed development may have a negligible impact on equality. However, it should be noted that there is a degree of uncertainty regarding the impacts of each site on equality, which will be dependent on site-specific circumstances that are unknown at the time of writing.

SA12: Health

- 2.17.19 All sites are identified as having a minor negative impact on health overall, due to the majority of the sites being located outside of a sustainable distance / travel time to one or more healthcare receptors, and all sites being located within Walsall AQMA where associated poor air quality could potentially result in adverse implications for human health.

SA13: Economy

- 2.17.20 Three sites (SA-0321-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL) coincide with existing businesses and could potentially result in a minor negative impact on the economy overall, associated with the loss of small amounts of employment floorspace. All sites are located within a sustainable travel time to employment opportunities, with the remaining sites identified as having a minor positive impact on sustainable access to employment, except for SA-0322-WAL where a minor negative impact could occur due to its location outside of this travel time.

SA14: Education

- 2.17.21 All sites are located outside of the identified sustainable travel times to primary and/or secondary schools, with potential for a minor negative impact on sustainable access to education, except for Site SA-0318-WAL which is located within the travel time to both primary and secondary schools with likely positive impacts overall.

3 Selection and Rejection of Sites

3.1 Overview

3.1.1 As outlined in **Section 1.12**, PPG states that the SA process should outline the reasons why alternatives were selected and the reasons the rejected options were not taken forward. An outline of reasons for selection and rejection of the 723 reasonable alternative site locations that were appraised at the previous SA stage are summarised in Chapter 6 of the Regulation 18 SA Report (2021).

3.1.2 Reasons for selection and rejection of the reasonable alternative sites proposed in the plan making process have been informed by the detailed site assessment process undertaken by the BCA and includes consideration of the SA findings.

3.2 Updates to selection / rejection since Regulation 18 (2021)

3.2.1 **Table 3.1** presents selection and rejection information for the eight sites which have been identified in Walsall, which form the basis of this Regulation 18(II) SA report and consultation. The table does not replicate the information presented in the Regulation 18 SA Report (2021), which related to reasonable alternative site locations considered at that stage.

3.2.2 The information presented in **Table 3.1** provides an outline of the reasons for selecting or rejecting the reasonable alternatives dealt with, in accordance with the requirements of the SEA Regulations. The decision making of the BCA in relation to the sites taken forward reflects the findings of the evidence base documents prepared to support the preparation of the BCP, including the findings of the SA, and has been accompanied by detailed site assessment proformas.

Table 3.1: Updated Selected / Rejected Sites in Walsall

Site Reference	Site Name	Selection/ Rejection status in 2021 SA Report	Selection/ Rejection status in this SA Report	Reason for Selection/Rejection provided by BCA
WALSALL				
SA-0037-WAL	Land West of Chester Road, North of Little Hardwick Road, Streetly	Rejected	Selected for housing	Originally rejected because there would be a significant impact on the character of Streetly. Since the original assessment, Water Works Farms has been completed and so the wider visual amenity impact of proposed urban development when travelling along Chester Road North to South is less than significant.
SA-0318-WAL	Site A, Poultry Farm to The Rear of 187 - 231 Pelsall Lane, Walsall	N/A - new site	Rejected	Site submitted for assessment via Reg 18 consultation representations. Site Assessment Methodology requires this site to be rejected as it is in an area classed as 'High Harm' in Green Belt Study
SA-0319-WAL	Land West and South of Oakwood Close	N/A - new site	Selected for housing	Site submitted for assessment via Reg 18 consultation representations. This site has been rejected as it is in an area classed as 'Very High Harm' in the Green Belt Study.
SA-0320-WAL	Land at Rushall Hall, Leigh Road	N/A - new site	Rejected	Site submitted for assessment via Reg 18 consultation representations. Rejected as it is unsuitable for allocation for development as it contains two scheduled monuments which are a Gateway Constraint. It is an area that has an exceptionally high level of heritage assets, including below ground archaeological remains
SA-0321-WAL	Pacific Nurseries	N/A - new site	Selected for housing	Site submitted for assessment via Reg 18 consultation representations. This is a previously developed site currently in use as a garden centre, and is considered to be suitable for allocation for housing. In addition there are further sites already proposed for BC Plan housing allocations through the Reg18 Draft Plan directly adjacent to this site and it would form part of Strategic Allocation WSA9 - Land to the east of Chester Road, north of Pacific Nurseries, Hardwick.
SA-0322-WAL	Land East of Skip Lane and North of Woodfield Close	N/A - new site	Selected for housing	Site submitted for assessment via Reg 18 consultation representations. Site appears to be suitable for development but there are issues around accessibility to health care and primary schools that need to be resolved. Character of the surrounding area is lower density than we are looking to use in BC Plan. Conservation Area issue needs to be resolved.

Site Reference	Site Name	Selection/ Rejection status in 2021 SA Report	Selection/ Rejection status in this SA Report	Reason for Selection/Rejection provided by BCA
SA-0323-WAL	Site B, Poultry Farm to The Rear of 187 - 231 Pelsall Lane, Walsall	N/A - new site	Rejected	Site submitted for assessment via Reg 18 consultation representations. This site has been rejected as it is in an area classed as 'High Harm' in Green Belt Study.
SA-0324-WAL	Site C, Poultry Farm to The Rear of 187 - 231 Pelsall Lane, Walsall	N/A - new site	Rejected	Site submitted for assessment via Reg 18 consultation representations. Site Assessment Methodology requires this site to be rejected as it is in an area classed as 'High Harm' in Green Belt Study and part of the site lies in Flood Zone 3, including the point of access.

4 Next steps

4.1 Sustainability Appraisal and Publication/Submission

4.1.1 This Regulation 18 (II) SA Report is subject to consultation alongside the BCA's 'Draft Plan Consultation: Additional Housing Sites in Walsall July-September 2022' document and existing evidence base that accompanied the earlier Regulation 18 Consultation for the Draft BCP.

4.1.2 This report represents the latest stage of the SA process. The next stage of the SA will involve assessing the Regulation 19 (Publication) version of the BCP. An assessment of all policies and proposals presented in the BCP will be undertaken through the SA process. Findings will be presented in an SA Report that meets the requirements of the SEA Regulations.

4.1.3 Amongst the various requirements, cumulative, indirect and synergistic effects will be identified and evaluated during the assessment. An explanation of these is as follows:

- Cumulative effects arise where several developments each have insignificant effects but together have a significant effect, or where several individual effects of the BCP have a combined effect
- Indirect effects are effects that are not a direct result of the BCP but occur away from the original effect or as a result of a complex pathway
- Synergistic effects interact to produce a total effect greater than the sum of the individual effects

4.1.4 The assessment of these effects will be presented in tabular format and show where the different effects arise when two or more draft policies operate together.

4.1.5 Wherever possible, throughout the appraisal process, GIS will be used as an analytical tool to examine the spatial distribution of identified effects.

4.2 Consultation of the Regulation 18 (II) SA Report

4.2.1 This Regulation 18 (II) SA Report will be published by the BCA for consultation. Consultation findings will be used to inform subsequent stages of the SA process.

4.2.2 All responses on this consultation exercise should be sent to:

Black Country Plan
Planning & Regeneration
4 Ednam Road
Dudley
DY1 1HL

Tel:
Dudley: 01384 814136
Sandwell: 0121 569 4249
Walsall: 01922 658020
Wolverhampton: 01902 554038

Email: blackcountryplan@dudley.gov.uk

4.2.3 Responses can also be left in all the libraries and council buildings in each local authority area.

4.2.4 Following consultation on the SA Report, any amendments that are made to the BCP will be appraised before preparing the final version of the SA Report to accompany the Publication version of the BCP.

Habitat Regulations Assessments

Sustainability Appraisals

Strategic Environmental Assessments

Landscape Character Assessments

Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments

Green Belt Reviews

Expert Witness

Ecological Impact Assessments

Habitat and Ecology Surveys



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CHELTENHAM

Appendix A: SA Framework

SA Objective		Decision making criteria: Will the option/proposal...		Indicators (this list is not exhaustive)
1	Cultural heritage: Protect, enhance and manage sites, features and areas of archaeological, historical and cultural heritage importance.	Q1a	Will it preserve features of architectural or historic interest and, where necessary, encourage their conservation and renewal?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number and type of features and areas of historic designations in the Core Strategy area. Statutory and non-statutory sites in the Historic Environment Record (HER). Number of historic assets on the Heritage at Risk register.
		Q1b	Will it preserve or enhance archaeological sites/remains?	
		Q1c	Will it preserve or enhance the setting of cultural heritage assets?	
2	Landscape: Protect, enhance and manage the character and appearance of the landscape and townscape, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place.	Q2a	Will it safeguard and enhance the character of the landscape and local distinctiveness and identity?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Character Area. Tranquillity rating of area. Re-use of derelict buildings or re-use of buildings in a prominent location. Landscape sensitivity.
		Q2b	Will it protect and enhance visual amenity, including light and noise pollution?	
		Q2c	Will it reuse degraded landscapes/townscapes?	
		Q2d	Will it compromise the purpose of the Green Belt e.g. will it lead to coalescence of settlements and/or urban sprawl?	
3	Biodiversity, flora, fauna and geodiversity: Protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and geodiversity.	Q3a	Will it maintain and enhance features and assets of nature conservation value including biodiversity and geodiversity?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number and diversity of European Protected Species, and NERC Act Section 41 species in the area. Area and condition of priority habitats. Area and condition of sites designated for biological and geological interest.
		Q3b	Will it support positive management of local sites (SLINCs and SINCs) designated for nature conservation and geodiversity value?	
		Q3c	Will it link up areas of fragmented habitat contribute to habitat connectivity?	
		Q3d	Will it increase awareness of biodiversity assets?	

SA Objective		Decision making criteria: Will the option/proposal...		Indicators (this list is not exhaustive)
4	Climate change mitigation: Minimise the Black Country's contribution to climate change.	Q4a	Will it help reduce the per capita carbon footprint of the Black Country?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proximity to public transport links. Frequency of nearby public transport services. Distance to local services and amenities. Energy efficiency of buildings and transport. Percentage of energy in the area generated from renewable sources.
		Q4b	Will it encourage renewable energy generation or use of energy from renewable sources?	
5	Climate change adaptation: Plan for the anticipated levels of climate change.	Q5a	Will it avoid development in areas at high risk of flooding?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of properties at risk of flooding. Area of new greenspace created per capita. Connectivity of GI. Implementation of adaptive techniques, such as SUDS and passive heating/cooling.
		Q5b	Will it increase the area and connectivity of Green Infrastructure (GI)?	
		Q5c	Will it promote use of technologies and techniques to adapt to the impacts of climate change?	
6	Natural resources: Protect and conserve natural resources.	Q6a	Will it utilise previously developed, degraded and under-used land?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-use of previously developed land. Area of best and most versatile agricultural land lost to development. Groundwater Source Protection Zone. Proposed Mineral Safeguarding Area(s).
		Q6b	Will it lead to the loss of the best and most versatile agricultural land?	
		Q6c	Will it lead to the loss or sterilisation of mineral resources, or affect mineral working?	
7	Pollution: Reduce air, soil, water and noise pollution.	Q7a	Will it maintain and improve air quality?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of GI. Remediation of contaminated land. Proximity to watercourses with poor quality status. Percentage change in pollution incidents. Development with potential to generate a significant increase in road traffic emissions or other air pollutants.
		Q7b	Will it maintain soil quality or help to remediate land affected by ground contamination?	
		Q7c	Will it maintain and improve water quality?	
		Q7d	Will it help to reduce noise pollution and protect sensitive receptors from existing ambient noise?	

SA Objective		Decision making criteria: Will the option/proposal...		Indicators (this list is not exhaustive)
8	Waste: Reduce waste generation and disposal and achieve the sustainable management of waste.	Q8a	Will it encourage recycling/re-use/composting of waste?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number and capacity of waste management facilities. Re-use of recycled and recyclable materials. Management of local authority collected waste.
		Q8b	Will it minimise and where possible eliminate generation of waste?	
9	Transport and accessibility: Improve the efficiency of transport networks by increasing the proportion of travel by sustainable modes and by promoting policies which reduce the need to travel.	Q9a	Will it reduce the need to travel and/or reduce travel time?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distance to place of work. Distance to local amenities and key services. Distance to existing or proposed bus routes. Frequency of bus services. Proximity and connectivity of walking and cycling links. Distance to train or metro station.
		Q9b	Will it provide adequate means of access by a range of sustainable transport modes (i.e. walking/cycling/public transport)?	
10	Housing: Provide affordable, environmentally sound and good quality housing for all.	Q10a	Will it provide a mix of good-quality housing, including homes that are suitable for first-time buyers?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Varied housing mix. Percentage of dwellings delivered as affordable housing. Number of extra care homes.
		Q10b	Will it provide housing suitable for the growing elderly population?	
		Q10c	Will it provide decent, affordable and accessible homes?	
11	Equality: Reduce poverty, crime and social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	Q11a	Will it help achieve life-long learning and increase learning participation and adult education??	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of people with NVQ2 qualifications. Percentage of adults surveyed who feel they can influence decisions affecting their own local area. % respondents very or fairly satisfied with their neighbourhood. Crime Deprivation Index. Education, Skills & Training Deprivation Index. Availability of libraries. Index of Multiple Deprivation
		Q11b	Will it enable communities to influence the decisions that affect their neighbourhoods and quality of life?	
		Q11c	Will it eliminate unlawful discrimination, victimisation and harassment?	
		Q11d	Will it reduce crime and the fear of crime?	
		Q11e	Will it advance equality of opportunity?	
		Q11f	Will it foster good community relations?	

SA Objective		Decision making criteria: Will the option/proposal...		Indicators (this list is not exhaustive)
		Q11g	Is there any negative impact on individuals or groups in the community including consideration of age, disability, gender, race, religion, gender re-assignment, maternity, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, and human rights?	
12	Health: Safeguard and improve community health, safety and wellbeing.	Q12a	Will it improve access for all to health, leisure and recreational facilities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel time by public transport to nearest health centre and sports facilities. Provision and accessibility of open greenspace and GI. Accessibility to sports facilities e.g. football pitches, playing fields, tennis courts and leisure centres.
		Q12b	Will it improve and enhance the Black Country's GI network?	
		Q12c	Will it improve road safety?	
		Q12d	Will it reduce obesity?	
		Q12e	Does it consider the needs of the Black Country's growing elderly population?	
13	Economy: Develop a dynamic, diverse and knowledge-based economy that excels in innovation with higher value, lower impact activities.	Q13a	Will it increase accessibility of suitable employment within the Black Country?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of residents working within the Black Country. Number of employment opportunities in professional occupations. Number of new business start-ups as a result of the development. Total amount of employment land. Number of vacant units in strategic centres. Amount of additional retail, office and leisure floorspace completed in established centres.
		Q13b	Will it encourage business start-ups in the area?	
		Q13c	Will it support the health of established centres?	
		Q13d	Will it protect and create jobs?	
14	Education, skills and training: Raise educational attainment and develop and maintain a skilled workforce to support long-term competitiveness.	Q14a	Will it improve access for all to education and training opportunities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distance to education and training, particularly primary schools and secondary schools. Provision of new education and training facilities and opportunities. Accessibility of education and training facilities by public transport. Capacity of local schools to meet demand from new development.
		Q14b	Will it encourage a diversity of education and training opportunities?	

Appendix B: Reasonable Alternative Site Assessments

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B.1 Introduction

B.1.1 Overview

B.1.1.1 This appendix provides an appraisal of eight proposed residential sites within the Black Country, located within the Walsall District, considered at the Regulation 18(II) stage (see **Table B.1.1**). These eight reasonable alternative sites have been considered in addition to 723 sites assessed within the Regulation 18 SA (2021)¹.

B.1.1.2 Each of the sites appraised within this report have been assessed for likely impacts on each of the 14 SA Objectives, as outlined in the SA Framework (see **Appendix A**). Likely sustainability impacts have been set out in **Tables B.2.1 – B.14.1** within each SA Objective chapter, in accordance with the methodology set out in **Chapter 3** of the main SA Report.

B.1.1.3 At this stage, only a baseline assessment has been carried out. Baseline assessment is the receptor-only site assessment of the red line boundary. The receptor-only impacts help to identify the potential impacts on site if there were no policy or mitigation.

B.1.1.4 It should be noted that whilst every effort has been made to predict effects accurately, the sustainability impacts have been assessed at a high level and are reliant upon the current understanding of the baseline. These assessments have been based on information provided by the Black Country Authorities (BCA), as well as expert judgement.

Table B.1.1: Reasonable alternative sites

Site Reference	Site Address	Local Authority	Site Use	Gross Area (ha)	Net Area (ha)	No. of Dwellings
SA-0037-WAL	Land West of Chester Road, North of Little Hardwick Road, Streetly	Walsall	Residential	25.98	18.73	655
SA-0318-WAL	Site A, Poultry Farm to The Rear of 187 - 231 Pelsall Lane, Walsall	Walsall	Residential	1.03	1.03	36
SA-0319-WAL	Land West and South of Oakwood Close	Walsall	Residential	0.65	0.65	7
SA-0320-WAL	Land at Rushall Hall, Leigh Road	Walsall	Residential	2.81	2.81	98
SA-0321-WAL	Pacific Nurseries	Walsall	Residential	1.15	1.15	30
SA-0322-WAL	Land East of Skip Lane and North of Woodfield Close	Walsall	Residential	5.19	5.19	135
SA-0323-WAL	Site B, Poultry Farm to The Rear of 187 - 231 Pelsall Lane, Walsall	Walsall	Residential	0.16	0.16	6
SA-0324-WAL	Site C, Poultry Farm to The Rear of 187 - 231 Pelsall Lane, Walsall	Walsall	Residential	1.84	1.84	64

¹ Lepus Consulting (2021) Sustainability Appraisal of the Black Country Plan: Regulation 18 SA Report, July 2021. Available at: <https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/t2/p4/t2p4d/> [Date Accessed: 25/05/22]

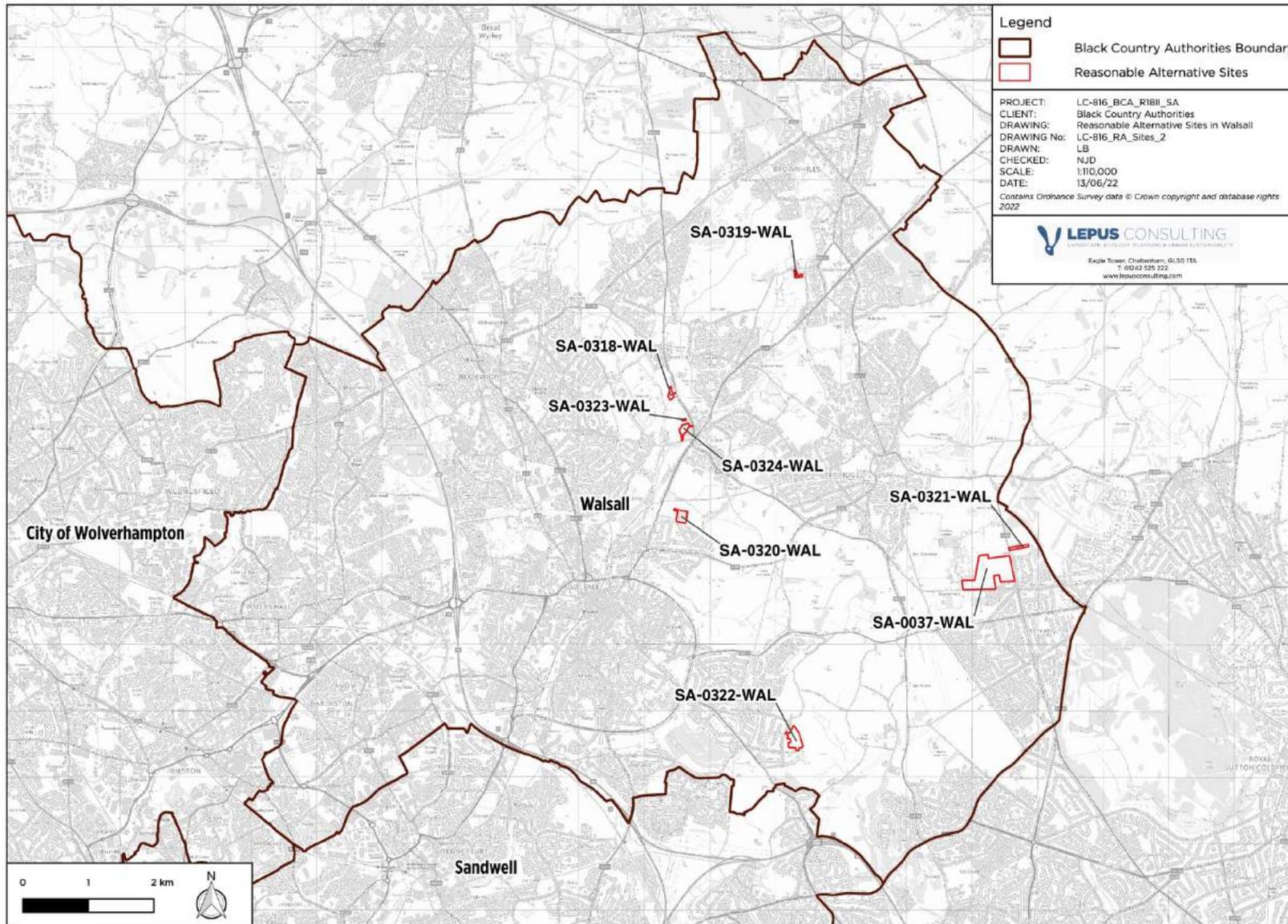


Figure B.1.1: Location of the eight R18 (II) reasonable alternative sites, within Walsall Borough

B.2 SA Objective 1: Cultural Heritage

B.2.1 Grade I Listed Buildings

B.2.1.1 There are no Grade I Listed Buildings located within Walsall. The proposed development at all eight sites would be unlikely to significantly impact any Grade I Listed Buildings, therefore a negligible impact has been identified across all sites.

B.2.2 Grade II* Listed Buildings

B.2.2.1 There are five Grade II* Listed Buildings within Walsall, mostly concentrated in Walsall town centre. Site SA-0320-WAL coincides with the Grade II* Listed Building 'Gatehouse and Curtain Walls at Rushall Hall'. The proposed development at this site could potentially have direct adverse effect on this Listed Building, resulting in a major negative impact.

B.2.2.2 The remaining proposed sites are not located in close proximity to these Grade II* Listed Buildings. The proposed development at Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0321-WAL, SA-0322-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0323-WAL would be unlikely to significantly impact the setting of Grade II* Listed Buildings, and as such, a negligible impact has been identified across these seven sites.

B.2.3 Grade II Listed Buildings

B.2.3.1 There are many Grade II Listed Buildings throughout the borough, generally clustered within the built-up areas and particularly within Walsall and Willenhall town centres. Site SA-0320-WAL coincides with the Grade II Listed Building 'Rushall New Hall', and is adjacent to 'Church of St Michael' and 'Barn approximately 30m south west of Gatehouse at Rushall Hall'. The site is also located approximately 70m from 'Rushall War Memorial' and 40m from 'Cross Base approximately 3m south of Church of St Michael'. The proposed development at Site SA-0320-WAL could potentially have a direct adverse effect on 'Rushall New Hall', resulting in a major negative impact, as well as result in adverse impacts on the other nearby listed buildings and their settings.

B.2.3.2 The remaining proposed sites are not located in close proximity to these Grade II Listed Buildings. The proposed development at Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0321-WAL, SA-0322-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0323-WAL would be unlikely to significantly impact the setting of Grade II Listed Buildings, and as such, a negligible impact has been identified across these seven sites.

B.2.4 Conservation Area

B.2.4.1 Walsall contains 18 Conservation Areas (CA), the majority of which cover sections of the urban area and historic open spaces including the large 'Great Barr' CA in the south east of

the borough. A large proportion of Site SA-0322-WAL is located within ‘Great Barr’ CA. Site SA-0320-WAL is located wholly within ‘Old Rushall’ CA. The proposed development at these two sites could therefore have a minor negative impact on the character of these CAs. Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0321-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are not located in close proximity to any CA and therefore the proposed development at these six sites would be expected to have a negligible impact.

B.2.5 Scheduled Monument

B.2.5.1 There are five Scheduled Monuments (SMs) within Walsall, generally covering small historically important areas or features. Site SA-0320-WAL coincides with two SMs, ‘Medieval fortified house at Rushall Hall’ and ‘Hlaew 12m north west of Rushall Hall’. The proposed development at this site could potentially have direct adverse effect on these SMs, resulting in a major negative impact.

B.2.5.2 The remaining proposed sites are not located in close proximity to SMs. The proposed development at Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0321-WAL, SA-0322-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0323-WAL would be unlikely to significantly impact the setting of SMs, and as such, a negligible impact has been identified across these seven sites.

B.2.6 Registered Park and Garden

B.2.6.1 Three Registered Parks and Gardens (RPGs) can be found within Walsall: ‘Walsall Arboretum’, ‘Walsall Memorial Garden’, ‘Great Barr Hall’, with ‘Sutton Park’ located adjacent to the borough to the south east. None of the proposed sites are located in close proximity to Registered Parks and Gardens (RPGs). The proposed development at all eight sites would be unlikely to significantly impact the setting of RPGs, and as such, a negligible impact has been identified across all sites.

B.2.7 Archaeological Priority Area

B.2.7.1 Archaeological Priority Areas (APAs) have been identified throughout Walsall’s urban and undeveloped areas. Site SA-0037-WAL is located adjacent to ‘Bourne Pool Area’ APA which contains prehistoric remains, and the Black Country Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) Study² notes that “*unsympathetic development ie. Groundworks associated with quarrying or housing development would detrimentally affect any surviving archaeological remains within the APA*”. Site SA-0320-WAL is located wholly within ‘Rushall Moated Manor Site’ APA which contains a nationally rare moated site and burial mound, where the HLC notes that “*development within the surrounds of the scheduled monument could impact upon*

² Oxford Archaeology (2019) Black Country Historic Landscape Characterisation Study. Available at: https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/media/13895/comp_black-country-hlc-final-report-30-10-2019-lr_redacted.pdf [Date Accessed: 13/06/22]

its setting". Therefore, the proposed development at these two sites could potentially have a minor negative impact on the setting of these heritage assets.

B.2.7.2 Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0321-WAL, SA-0322-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are not in close proximity to identified APAs and therefore the proposed development at these six sites would be likely to have negligible impacts on these heritage assets.

B.2.8 Historic Landscape Characterisation

B.2.8.1 The Black Country HLC Study³ has identified a range of Historic Environment Area Designations within the Black Country, covering Walsall's parkland and Green Belt as well as a number of features within the urban areas, including along the canal network.

B.2.8.2 A large proportion of Site SA-0322-WAL is located within 'Great Barr Deer Park' area of High Historic Landscape Value (HHLV). The proposed development at this site could potentially result in a minor negative impact on the surrounding historic environment.

B.2.8.3 The remaining seven sites do not coincide with any identified areas of high historic value, and therefore, would be expected to have a negligible impact on the historic environment.

Table B.2.1: Sites impact matrix for SA Objective 1 – Cultural heritage

Site Ref	Grade I Listed Building	Grade II* Listed Building	Grade II Listed Building	Conservation Area	Scheduled Monument	Registered Park and Garden	Archaeological Priority Area	Historic Landscape Characterisation
Reasonable Alternative Sites								
SA-0037-WAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0
SA-0318-WAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA-0319-WAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA-0320-WAL	0	--	--	-	--	0	-	0
SA-0321-WAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA-0322-WAL	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	-
SA-0323-WAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA-0324-WAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

³ Oxford Archaeology (2019) Black Country Historic Landscape Characterisation Study. Available at: https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/media/13895/comp_black-country-hlc-final-report-30-10-2019-lr_redacted.pdf [Date Accessed: 13/06/22]

B.3 SA Objective 2: Landscape

B.3.1 Cannock Chase AONB

B.3.1.1 The closest proposed site to Cannock Chase AONB is Site SA-0319-WAL, which is located approximately 7.3km south of the AONB. The proposed development at all eight sites would be unlikely to significantly impact the AONB, in terms of altering views of/from the AONB or altering the setting of the AONB. Therefore, a negligible impact has been identified across all eight sites.

B.3.2 Landscape Sensitivity

B.3.2.1 The Black Country Landscape Sensitivity Assessment⁴ identified the extent to which the character and quality of Black Country Green Belt land is susceptible to change as a result of future development. Of the four BCA, Walsall has the largest proportion of Green Belt, which is generally in the north and east of the borough, where all eight proposed sites are located.

B.3.2.2 Sites SA-0037-WAL and SA-0321-WAL are located within areas of ‘Moderate’ landscape sensitivity, and therefore, the proposed development at these two sites could potentially result in minor negative impacts on the local landscape. Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0322-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are located within areas of ‘Moderate-High’ landscape sensitivity, and therefore, the proposed development at these six sites could potentially result in a major negative impact on the local landscape.

B.3.3 Views for PRow Network Users

B.3.3.1 The Black Country’s Public Right of Way (PRow) network is fragmented, with the majority of footpaths restricted to the Green Belt and areas of parkland/open space within the urban areas.

B.3.3.2 Site SA-032-WAL is located adjacent to a PRow, and the majority of the site is currently undeveloped. The proposed development at this site would be likely to alter the views of woodland and Rushall Hall heritage assets experienced from this PRow, resulting in a minor negative impact on the landscape.

B.3.3.3 The remaining sites contain existing development and/or are separated from nearby PRows by existing built form or trees. Therefore, the proposed development at these seven sites would be unlikely to significantly alter views and are assessed as negligible.

⁴ LUC (2019) Black Country Landscape Sensitivity Assessment. Available at: https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/media/13883/black-country-lsa-front-end-report-final-lr_redacted.pdf [Date Accessed: 20/05/22]

B.3.4 Views for Local Residents

B.3.4.1 The proposed development at Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0322-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL could potentially alter the views currently experienced by local residents, primarily due to their location adjacent to existing residential zones. A minor negative impact could therefore be expected following development at these seven sites.

B.3.4.2 Site SA-0321-WAL currently comprises ‘Pacific Nurseries’ garden centre and parking area. As such, the proposed development at this site would not be expected to significantly change views from surrounding residential properties.

B.3.5 Green Belt

B.3.5.1 The Green Belt Study⁵ classified parcels of Green Belt land into different ‘harm’ ratings, based on the assessment of potential harm caused by removing each parcel from the Green Belt based on a range of criteria.

B.3.5.2 According to the Green Belt Study, Site SA-0321-WAL is located within an area where ‘Moderate-High’ Green Belt harm could be expected if developed. Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and the majority of Sites SA-0324-WAL and SA-0037-WAL are located within an area where ‘High’ Green Belt harm could be expected if developed. Sites SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL and a small proportion of Site SA-0037-WAL are located within an area where ‘Very High’ Green Belt harm could be expected upon development. Therefore, the proposed development at these seven sites could potentially result in a major negative impact on the landscape objective.

B.3.5.3 Site SA-0322-WAL is located within an area where ‘Moderate’ Green Belt harm could be expected upon development, therefore the proposed development at this site could result in a minor negative impact on the landscape objective.

⁵ LUC (2019) Black Country Green Belt Study. Available at: https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/media/13882/bcab-0919-black-country-gb-stage-1-and-2-plus-app1-final-reduced_redacted.pdf [Date Accessed: 20/05/22]

Table B.3.1: Sites impact matrix for SA Objective 2 – Landscape

Site Ref	Cannock Chase AONB	Landscape Sensitivity	Views for PRow Network Users	Views for Local Residents	Green Belt Harm
Reasonable Alternative Sites					
SA-0037-WAL	0	-	0	-	--
SA-0318-WAL	0	--	0	-	--
SA-0319-WAL	0	--	0	-	--
SA-0320-WAL	0	--	-	-	--
SA-0321-WAL	0	-	0	0	--
SA-0322-WAL	0	--	0	-	-
SA-0323-WAL	0	--	0	-	--
SA-0324-WAL	0	--	0	-	--

B.4 SA Objective 3: Biodiversity, Flora, Fauna and Geodiversity

B.4.1 Habitats Sites

B.4.1.1 Habitats sites (previously referred to as European sites) are a network of nature protection areas which include Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs). One Habitats site, 'Cannock Extension Canal' SAC, is located partially within the borough of Walsall, in the north. Additionally, 'Cannock Chase' SAC is located approximately 7.5km north of Walsall, with an identified Zone of Influence (ZoI) of 15km where recreational impacts could potentially arise as a result of new development.

B.4.1.2 Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are located within 15km of 'Cannock Chase SAC', and therefore, the proposed development at these five sites could potentially result in a minor negative impact on this SAC. No ZoI has currently been identified for 'Cannock Extension Canal' SAC or other surrounding Habitats sites, and therefore, the impact that development at Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0321-WAL and SA-0322-WAL may have on Habitats sites is uncertain. The emerging HRA will provide more detailed analysis of likely impacts and identification of impact pathways beyond those considered in the SA.

B.4.2 Sites of Special Scientific Interest

B.4.2.1 There are eight Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) located within Walsall, generally found towards the east of the borough, including 'Daw End Railway Cutting', 'Swan Pool & The Swag' and 'Jockey Fields' SSSIs. 'Sutton Park' SSSI is also located adjacent to the south eastern boundary of Walsall.

B.4.2.2 Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are located within an IRZ which states that "*residential development of 50 units or more*" should consult Natural England. Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL and SA-0323-WAL are proposed for the development of 36, seven and six dwellings respectively, and as such, a negligible impact on nearby SSSIs would be expected at these three sites. Sites SA-0320-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are proposed for the development of 98 and 64 dwellings respectively, and as such, development at these two sites could potentially result in a minor negative impact on SSSIs.

B.4.2.3 Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0321-WAL and SA-0322-WAL are located within IRZs which do not indicate the proposed residential use as a threat to nearby SSSIs, and as such, the proposed development at these three sites would be likely to have a negligible impact.

B.4.3 National Nature Reserves

B.4.3.1 Walsall does not contain any National Nature Reserves (NNRs), however, 'Sutton Park' NNR is located adjacent to the east of the borough. None of the sites within Walsall are considered likely to result in significant impacts on the NNR, primarily due to the presence of existing residential development and roads surrounding the NNR. Therefore, a negligible impact has been identified across all sites.

B.4.4 Ancient Woodland

B.4.4.1 Ancient woodlands are sparsely distributed throughout the Black Country. Areas of ancient woodland within Walsall include 'Rough Wood' in the west, and 'Cuckoos Nook' and 'Towers Covert' in the south east. Site SA-0037-WAL is located adjacent to 'Towers Covert' and therefore the proposed development at this site could potentially have a minor negative impact on this ancient woodland, due to an increased risk of disturbance. Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0321-WAL, SA-0322-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are located further away from ancient woodlands and/or are separated from nearby ancient woodlands by existing built form, and as such, a negligible impact would be expected.

B.4.5 Local Nature Reserves

B.4.5.1 There are ten Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) within Walsall largely located within areas of Green Belt, including 'Rough Wood Chase', 'Shire Oak Park' and 'Pelsall North Common' LNRs. Site SA-0320-WAL is located approximately 120m from 'Park Lime Pits' LNR. The proposed development at this site could potentially result in a minor negative impact on this LNR due to an increased risk of development related threats and pressures. The remaining seven proposed sites are deemed unlikely to significantly impact nearby LNRs, primarily due to being separated by existing built form.

B.4.6 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation

B.4.6.1 Within Walsall there are 37 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs), primarily comprised of small woodland areas and mainly clustered within the Green Belt parcels. Site SA-0320-WAL is located adjacent to 'Park Lime Pits' SINC. The proposed development at this site could potentially result in a minor negative impact on this SINC due to an increased risk of development related threats and pressures. The remaining seven sites are located further away from SINCs and therefore are less likely to significantly impact any SINC if developed.

B.4.7 Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

B.4.7.1 There are approximately 98 Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation (SLINCs) within Walsall covering a range of habitats, hedgerows and semi-natural spaces including ‘Corporation Wood’, ‘Jockey Fields’ and ‘Daw End Canal’. Site SA-0037-WAL is located adjacent to ‘Corporation Wood and Tower’s Covert’ SLINC, and Site SA-0319-WAL is located adjacent to ‘Jockey Fields’ SLINC. Site SA-0324-WAL coincides with ‘Ford Brook’ SLINC. The proposed development at these three sites could potentially result in a minor negative impact on these SLINCs, due to an increased risk of development related threats and pressures.

B.4.7.2 Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0321-WAL, SA-0322-WAL and SA-0323-WAL are located further away from SLINCs, and as such, the proposed development at these two sites would be less likely to significantly impact any SLINC.

B.4.8 Geological Sites

B.4.8.1 Geological sites have been identified throughout the borough, which form part of the Black Country Global Geopark⁶. These sites include a range of notable geological features and formations, including a number of SSSIs and SINC. None of the proposed sites coincide with any identified geological sites, and therefore, a negligible impact would be expected.

B.4.9 Priority Habitats

B.4.9.1 Priority habitats, protected under the 2006 NERC Act⁷, can be found in small sections throughout Walsall, although the majority are restricted to the Green Belt. These habitats include ‘good quality semi-improved grassland’, ‘deciduous woodland’ and ‘traditional orchard’. A large proportion of Site SA-0320-WAL coincides with deciduous woodland priority habitat. The proposed development at this site could potentially result in the loss of this habitat, and therefore, have a minor negative impact on the overall presence of priority habitats in the Plan area.

B.4.9.2 The remaining sites do not coincide with priority habitat, and therefore the proposed development at these seven sites would be likely to have a negligible impact on the overall presence of priority habitats within the Plan area.

⁶ Black Country Geopark (2021) Black Country Geopark. Available at: <https://blackcountrygeopark.dudley.gov.uk/bcg/> [Date Accessed: 20/05/22]

⁷ Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. Available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/16/contents> [Date Accessed: 20/05/22]

Table B.4.1: Sites impact matrix for SA Objective 3 – Biodiversity, flora, fauna and geodiversity

Site Ref	Habitats Sites	SSSIs and IRZs	NNRs	Ancient Woodland	LNRs	SINCs	SLINCs	Geological Sites	Priority Habitats
Reasonable Alternative Sites									
SA-0037-WAL	+/-	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0
SA-0318-WAL	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA-0319-WAL	-	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0
SA-0320-WAL	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	0	-
SA-0321-WAL	+/-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA-0322-WAL	+/-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA-0323-WAL	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA-0324-WAL	-	-	0	0	0	0	-	0	0

B.5 SA Objective 4: Climate Change Mitigation

B.5.1 Potential Increase in Carbon Footprint

B.5.1.1 Residential-led development is likely to result in an increase in carbon emissions, to some extent. Sites SA-0037-WAL and SA-0322-WAL are proposed for the development of 655 and 135 dwellings, respectively. The proposed development at these two sites could potentially increase carbon emissions, as a proportion of Walsall's total, by more than 0.1%, which could have a minor negative impact on Walsall's carbon emissions.

B.5.1.2 Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0321-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are proposed for residential development ranging between six and 98 dwellings. The proposed development at these six sites would be likely to result in a negligible contribution to Walsall's total carbon emissions.

Table B.5.1: Sites impact matrix for SA Objective 4 – Climate change mitigation

Site Ref	Potential Increase in Carbon Footprint
Reasonable Alternative Sites	
SA-0037-WAL	-
SA-0318-WAL	0
SA-0319-WAL	0
SA-0320-WAL	0
SA-0321-WAL	0
SA-0322-WAL	-
SA-0323-WAL	0
SA-0324-WAL	0

B.6 SA Objective 5: Climate Change Adaptation

B.6.1 Flood Zones

B.6.1.1 Watercourses that pass through the Black Country include the River Tame, River Stour and Ford Brook, as well as 15 canals. Flood Zones 2, 3a and 3b within Walsall are most prevalent within the centre and south west of the borough, associated with watercourses such as the River Tame. Approximately half of Site SA-0324-WAL coincides with Flood Zone 2 and 3a, alongside the Ford Brook. The proposed development at this site could potentially have a major negative impact on flooding in the area and exacerbate existing issues of flooding in Walsall.

B.6.1.2 Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0321-WAL, SA-0322-WAL and SA-0323-WAL proposed sites are located wholly within Flood Zone 1. Development at these seven sites would be expected to have a minor positive impact on flooding, as the proposed development would be likely to locate site end users away from areas at risk of fluvial flooding.

B.6.2 Indicative Flood Zone 3b

B.6.2.1 Indicative Flood Zone 3b is present in areas where flooding will potentially worsen in future due to climate change. In Walsall this covers existing areas of Flood Zone 3a but is also shown to affect some areas within or close to the existing built-up settlements where flood risk is not currently significant. Site SA-0324-WAL partially coincides with Indicative Flood Zone 3b, and as such, the proposed development at this site could potentially have a major negative impact on flooding and may exacerbate existing issues of flooding in the future.

B.6.2.2 The remaining proposed sites do not coincide with Indicative Flood Zone 3b and therefore these seven sites may have a negligible impact on contributing to flooding issues in the future, although further site-specific assessments and reference to emerging data would help to provide a more accurate picture of changing flood risk due to climate change.

B.6.3 Surface Water Flood Risk

B.6.3.1 Surface Water Flood Risk (SWFR) is categorised into low (1/1000), medium (1/100) and high (1/30) in relation to the probability of surface water flooding occurring in a given area. Areas affected by surface water flooding in Walsall is extensive, and broadly affects roads and pathways with some significant localised pockets of particularly high risk throughout the borough, such as around Fishley and Brownhills in the north.

B.6.3.2 A small proportion of Sites SA-0037-WAL and SA-0324-WAL coincide with areas of high SWFR, and therefore, the proposed development at these two sites could potentially have a major negative impact, as development would be likely to locate site end users in areas at high risk of surface water flooding as well as exacerbate pluvial flood risk in surrounding locations.

B.6.3.3 The remaining six sites which do not coincide with any significant areas of SWFR would be expected to have a negligible effect on surface water flooding.

Table B.6.1: Sites impact matrix for SA Objective 5 – Climate change adaptation

Site Ref	Flood Zones	Indicative Flood Zone 3b	Surface Water Flood Risk
Reasonable Alternative Sites			
SA-0037-WAL	+	0	--
SA-0318-WAL	+	0	0
SA-0319-WAL	+	0	0
SA-0320-WAL	+	0	0
SA-0321-WAL	+	0	0
SA-0322-WAL	+	0	0
SA-0323-WAL	+	0	0
SA-0324-WAL	--	--	--

B.7 SA Objective 6: Natural Resources

B.7.1 Previously Undeveloped Land / Land with Environmental Value

B.7.1.1 The Black Country is predominately urban with some scattered pockets of undeveloped land and greenspace found throughout the area, including parcels of Green Belt land in the outskirts of the Plan area. Walsall has the largest proportion of Green Belt land out of the four BCA, and consequently contains a large proportion of previously undeveloped land.

B.7.1.2 Sites SA-0321-WAL and SA-0323-WAL comprise previously developed land which would be likely to have little or no environmental value. The proposed development at these two sites would be expected to have a minor positive impact on natural resources as development would be classed as an efficient use of land.

B.7.1.3 Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0322-WAL and SA-0324-WAL comprise (in entirety or majority) previously undeveloped land, and contain areas likely to be of environmental value such as hedgerows, trees and scrub that may be lost or further fragmented if developed. The proposed development at these six sites would be expected to have a minor negative impact on natural resources due to the loss of less than 20ha of previously undeveloped land.

B.7.2 Agricultural Land Classification

B.7.2.1 In relation to Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) within Walsall, the borough is largely 'Urban' and 'Non-Agricultural' however there are also some significant areas of Grade 3 and 4 land towards the west in particular, with a very small area of Grade 2 land at the eastern edge. Grade 2, and potentially Grade 3, land represents some of the 'best and most versatile' (BMV) land within Walsall.

B.7.2.2 Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are located upon 'Urban' land, and therefore, the proposed development at these three sites could potentially have a minor positive impact on natural resources as development at these sites would help to prevent the loss of BMV land across the Plan area.

B.7.2.3 The majority of Site SA-0037-WAL and a small proportion of Sites SA-0320-WAL and SA-0322-WAL are located upon ALC Grade 3 land, and therefore, the proposed development at these three sites could potentially have a minor negative impact due to the loss of this important natural resource.

B.7.2.4 The proposed development at Sites SA-0321-WAL and SA-0323-WAL, which are located wholly on previously developed land, would be likely to have a negligible impact on agricultural land.

B.7.3 Mineral Safeguarding Areas / Areas of Search

- B.7.3.1 The Black Country contains potentially important mineral resources, which should be safeguarded against loss or sterilisation by non-mineral development⁸. The mineral resources of local and national importance in accordance with the definition set out in the NPPF include sand, gravel, brick clay and fireclay. The Review of the Evidence Base for Minerals⁹ recommended the BCA to adopt more tightly defined MSAs focused on these resources.
- B.7.3.2 Mineral Safeguarding Areas (MSAs) have been proposed across a large proportion of Walsall borough, in the east. These include sand and gravel, brick clay and fireclay resources. Development proposals that are located within an MSA may therefore result in a minor negative impact on the accessibility of the mineral resources they contain.
- B.7.3.3 Four proposed sites are located within MSAs. Sites SA-0037-WAL and SA-0321-WAL are located within an MSA for sand and gravel, and Sites SA-0319-WAL and SA-0322-WAL are located within an MSA for brick clay. Therefore, a minor negative impact on natural resources could be expected at these four sites.
- B.7.3.4 The remaining four sites are not located within MSAs and the proposed development at these sites would be expected to have a negligible impact on mineral resources.

Table B.7.1: Sites impact matrix for SA Objective 6 – Natural resources

Site Ref	Previously Undeveloped Land / Land with Environmental Value	ALC Grade	Mineral Safeguarding Areas / Areas of Search
Reasonable Alternative Sites			
SA-0037-WAL	-	-	-
SA-0318-WAL	-	+	0
SA-0319-WAL	-	+	-
SA-0320-WAL	-	-	0
SA-0321-WAL	+	0	-
SA-0322-WAL	-	-	-
SA-0323-WAL	+	0	0
SA-0324-WAL	-	+	0

⁸ wood (2020) Review of the Evidence Base for Minerals to support preparation of the Black Country Plan. Available at: <https://blackcountryplan.dudley.gov.uk/t2/p4/t2p4f/> [Date Accessed: 20/05/22]

⁹ “Minerals resources of local and national importance: Minerals which are necessary to meet society’s needs, including aggregates, brickclay (especially Etruria Marl and fireclay), silica sand (including high grade silica sands), cement raw materials, gypsum, salt, fluorspar, shallow and deep-mined coal, oil and gas (including conventional and unconventional hydrocarbons), tungsten, kaolin, ball clay, potash, polyhalite and local minerals of importance to heritage assets and local distinctiveness”.

B.8 SA Objective 7: Pollution

B.8.1 Air Quality Management Area

B.8.1.1 All four districts are designated as Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs); ‘Dudley AQMA’, ‘Sandwell AQMA’, ‘Walsall AQMA’ and ‘Wolverhampton AQMA’. All sites are wholly within the ‘Walsall AQMA’. The proposed development at all eight proposed sites would be likely to locate site end users in areas of existing poor air quality and have a minor negative impact on air pollution.

B.8.2 Main Road

B.8.2.1 There are a large number of motorways and A-roads which cross the Plan area, each of which represent traffic-related sources of air pollution. Walsall’s major road network includes the A461, A452 and the M6 Motorway which passes through the west of the borough. Sites SA-0037-WAL and SA-0321-WAL are located adjacent to the A452. A proportion of Site SA-0324-WAL is located within 200m of the A461. The proposed development at these three sites could potentially expose site end users to higher levels of transport associated air and noise pollution. Traffic using these main roads would be expected to have a minor negative impact on air quality and noise at these sites.

B.8.2.2 Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0322-WAL and SA-0323-WAL are located over 200m from a main road and therefore the proposed development at these five sites would be expected to have a negligible impact on air and noise pollution associated with main roads.

B.8.3 Watercourse

B.8.3.1 There are many watercourses within Walsall, including the River Tame, Ford Brook and various canals and smaller watercourses. Construction activities in or near watercourses have the potential to cause pollution, impact upon the bed and banks of watercourses and impact upon the quality of the water. Site SA-0324-WAL coincides with the Ford Brook. The proposed development at this site could potentially increase the risk of contamination of this watercourse, and therefore have a minor negative impact on water quality.

B.8.3.2 The remaining seven proposed sites are located over 10m from watercourses and are therefore less likely to have a significant impact on the quality of watercourses however each site would need to be evaluated according to land use type, size of development and exact location.

B.8.4 Groundwater Source Protection Zone

B.8.4.1 Source Protection Zones (SPZs) for groundwater within Walsall are located to the east of the borough and are grouped from 1 to 3 based on the level of protection that the groundwater requires.

B.8.4.2 Sites SA-0037-WAL and SA-0321-WAL are located within the outer catchment (zone 2) and total catchment (zone 3) of a SPZ. The proposed development at these two sites could potentially increase the risk of groundwater contamination within the SPZs and have a minor negative impact on the quality or status of groundwater resources.

B.8.4.3 Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0322-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL do not coincide with the catchment of on any SPZ, and therefore, the proposed development at these six sites may have a negligible impact on groundwater quality.

B.8.5 Potential Increase in Air Pollution

B.8.5.1 Residential-led development is likely to result in an increase in air pollution, to some extent. Sites SA-0037-WAL and SA-0322-WAL are proposed for the development of 655 and 135 dwellings, respectively. The proposed development at these two sites could potentially result in a significant increase in local air pollution; therefore, a major negative impact would be expected.

B.8.5.2 Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0321-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are proposed for the development of between ten and 99 dwellings, therefore, the proposed development at these four sites could potentially have a minor negative impact on air pollution in the local area.

B.8.5.3 Sites SA-0319-WAL and SA-0323-WAL are proposed for the development of seven and six dwellings respectively. The proposed development at these two sites would be expected to have a negligible impact on local air pollution.

Table B.8.1: Sites impact matrix for SA Objective 7 – Pollution

Site Ref	AQMA	Main Road	Watercourse	Groundwater SPZ	Potential Increase in Air Pollution
Reasonable Alternative Sites					
SA-0037-WAL	-	-	0	-	--
SA-0318-WAL	-	0	0	0	-
SA-0319-WAL	-	0	0	0	0
SA-0320-WAL	-	0	0	0	-
SA-0321-WAL	-	-	0	-	-
SA-0322-WAL	-	0	0	0	--
SA-0323-WAL	-	0	0	0	0
SA-0324-WAL	-	-	-	0	-

B.9 SA Objective 8: Waste

B.9.1 Potential Increase in Household Waste Generation

B.9.1.1 Residential-led development is likely to result in an increase in household waste generation, to some extent. Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0321-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are proposed for the development of less than 108 dwellings. The proposed development at these six sites would be expected to have a negligible impact on household waste generation in comparison to current levels.

B.9.1.2 Sites SA-0037-WAL and SA-0322-WAL are proposed for the development of 655 and 135 dwellings, respectively. The proposed development at these sites could potentially increase household waste generation by more than 0.1% in comparison to current levels. Therefore, the proposed development at these two sites could potentially result in a minor negative impact on household waste generation.

Table B.9.1: Sites impact matrix for SA Objective 8 – Waste

Site Ref	Increase in household waste generation
Reasonable Alternative Sites	
SA-0037-WAL	-
SA-0318-WAL	0
SA-0319-WAL	0
SA-0320-WAL	0
SA-0321-WAL	-
SA-0322-WAL	0
SA-0323-WAL	0
SA-0324-WAL	0

B.10 SA Objective 9: Transport and Accessibility

B.10.1 Bus Stop

B.10.1.1 The Black Country is served by regular bus links across the area provided by a number of bus operators acting within the West Midlands Bus Alliance. Within Walsall, bus stops are regularly distributed throughout the built-up areas and would generally be expected to provide good public transport access. However, some areas of the borough would be likely to have more restricted access to bus services, particularly in the eastern outskirts of the borough and the Green Belt.

B.10.1.2 Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0322-WAL, SA-0323-WAL, SA-0324-WAL and the majority of Site SA-0037-WAL are situated within 400m of a bus stop; therefore, the proposed development at these six sites would be expected to have a minor positive impact on access to sustainable transport. Site SA-0321-WAL and the majority of Site SA-0320-WAL are located outside of the sustainable distance of 400m from a bus stop providing regular services, and therefore, the proposed development at these two sites could potentially have a minor negative impact on site end users' access to sustainable transport.

B.10.2 Railway Station

B.10.2.1 Within Walsall, there are three railway stations: Walsall Station, Bloxwich Station and Bloxwich North Station. All three stations are located towards the west of the borough. Reflecting on this, all eight proposed sites are located outside of the sustainable distance of 2km from a railway station, and therefore, the proposed development at these sites could potentially have a minor negative impact on site end users' access to rail services.

B.10.3 Pedestrian Access

B.10.3.1 Sites with good pedestrian access can be described as those with existing pavements or pathways which are segregated from traffic use in the area, which are found throughout the majority of built-up areas of Walsall but are more sparse towards the Green Belt and undeveloped areas.

B.10.3.2 Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0321-WAL, SA-0322-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are well connected to the existing footpath networks, and therefore, the proposed development at these five sites would be likely to have a minor positive impact on local transport and accessibility, by encouraging travel by foot and reducing the requirement for new pedestrian access to be created. However, the majority of Site SA-0037-WAL is situated in an area which currently has poor access to the existing footpath network, and Sites SA-0320-WAL and SA-0323-WAL are not connected to the existing footpath network. Therefore, the

proposed development at these three sites could potentially have a minor negative impact on local accessibility for pedestrians.

B.10.4 Road Access

B.10.4.1 There are many major and minor roads which run through the Black Country allowing for good transport and accessibility in the local area and nationally. Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0321-WAL, SA-0322-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are adjacent to existing roads, and therefore the proposed development at these six sites would be expected to provide site end users with good access to the existing road network, resulting in a minor positive impact on transport and accessibility.

B.10.4.2 Sites SA-0320-WAL and SA-0323-WAL are not accessible from the current road network, and therefore, the proposed development at these two sites could potentially have a minor negative impact on transport and accessibility.

B.10.5 Pedestrian Access to Local Services

B.10.5.1 Accessibility modelling data indicates the distribution of local fresh food and services within Walsall and considers sustainable pedestrian access to these services to be within a 15-minute walking distance. The data shows that most of the western side of the borough would be expected to have good pedestrian access to services, whereas a large proportion in the east has more limited access. Sites with sustainable pedestrian access to local fresh food and services are considered to be those within a 15-minute walking distance.

B.10.5.2 Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are identified to be within a 15-minute walking distance to local services, and therefore, the proposed development at these five sites would be expected to have a minor positive impact on pedestrian access to local services. Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0321-WAL and SA-0322-WAL are located outside of a 15-minute walking distance to these services, and therefore, the proposed development at these three sites could potentially have a minor negative impact on the access of site end users to local services, based on current infrastructure.

B.10.6 Public Transport Access to Local Services

B.10.6.1 Accessibility modelling data indicates that although pedestrian access to local services in Walsall is limited in some areas as discussed above, in general public transport access to these services is good. Only small sections of the borough are situated over a 15-minute travel time via public transport to local services.

B.10.6.2 Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0322-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL meet these criteria, and therefore the proposed development at these six sites could potentially have a minor positive impact on the sustainable access of site end users to local services, based on existing infrastructure.

B.10.6.3 Site SA-0321-WAL and the majority of Site SA-0037-WAL are located outside of this sustainable travel time, and therefore a minor negative impact on sustainable access to local services could be expected upon development of these two sites.

Table B.10.1: Sites impact matrix for SA Objective 9 – Transport and accessibility

Site Ref	Bus Stop	Railway Station	Pedestrian Access	Road Access	Pedestrian Access to Local Services	Public Transport Access to Local Services
Reasonable Alternative Sites						
SA-0037-WAL	+	-	-	+	-	-
SA-0318-WAL	+	-	+	+	+	+
SA-0319-WAL	+	-	+	+	+	+
SA-0320-WAL	-	-	-	-	+	+
SA-0321-WAL	-	-	+	+	-	-
SA-0322-WAL	+	-	+	+	-	+
SA-0323-WAL	+	-	-	-	+	+
SA-0324-WAL	+	-	+	+	+	+

B.11 SA Objective 10: Housing

B.11.1 Housing Provision

B.11.1.1 Residential-led development is likely to result in a net gain in housing. The sites in Walsall proposed for residential use would therefore be expected to result in positive impacts under this objective.

B.11.1.2 Sites which have been identified as having capacity for 100 or more dwellings (SA-0037-WAL and SA-0322-WAL) would be expected to make a significant contribution towards meeting housing needs if developed, and as such, result in a major positive impact on housing provision.

B.11.1.3 Sites which have been identified as having capacity for 99 dwellings or less (SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0321-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL) would be expected to result in a minor positive impact on housing provision.

Table B.11.1: Sites impact matrix for SA Objective 10 – Housing

Site Ref	Housing provision
Reasonable Alternative Sites	
SA-0037-WAL	++
SA-0318-WAL	+
SA-0319-WAL	+
SA-0320-WAL	+
SA-0321-WAL	+
SA-0322-WAL	++
SA-0323-WAL	+
SA-0324-WAL	+

B.12 SA Objective 11: Equality

B.12.1 Index of Multiple Deprivation

- B.12.1.1 The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) measures the relative levels of deprivation in 32,844 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in England¹⁰. Out of 317 Local Authorities in England, Walsall is ranked as the 25th most deprived¹¹. Overall deprivation is relatively high across the Black Country, with 42 of the LSOAs in Walsall ranked among the 10% most deprived in England.
- B.12.1.2 Deprivation levels within the borough of Walsall varies throughout the community, although generally the more deprived areas are within the central and western parts of the borough, such as Walsall and Bloxwich town centres.
- B.12.1.3 None of the proposed development sites are located within the 10% most deprived LSOAs, and therefore, the proposed development at these eight sites may have a negligible impact on equality.
- B.12.1.4 It should be noted that there is a degree of uncertainty in regard to the impacts of each site on equality, which will be dependent on site-specific circumstances that are unknown at the time of writing.

Table B.12.1: Sites impact matrix for SA Objective 11 – Equality

Site Ref	IMD 10% Most Deprived
Reasonable Alternative Sites	
SA-0037-WAL	0
SA-0318-WAL	0
SA-0319-WAL	0
SA-0320-WAL	0
SA-0321-WAL	0
SA-0322-WAL	0
SA-0323-WAL	0
SA-0324-WAL	0

¹⁰ Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (2019) English indices of deprivation 2019. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2019> [Date Accessed: 06/05/21]

¹¹ Black Country Consortium (2019) The English Indices of Deprivation 2019. Available at: <https://www.the-blackcountry.com/upload/BC%20IMD%202019.pdf> [Date Accessed: 06/05/21]

B.13 SA Objective 12: Health

B.13.1 NHS Hospital with Accident & Emergency Department

B.13.1.1 Within Walsall, Manor Hospital is the only NHS Hospital with an Accident & Emergency department although there are several other hospitals within and surrounding the Black Country providing these services such as Sandwell General Hospital approximately 3.5km to the south, and Good Hope Hospital approximately 4.5km to the east of the borough. The majority of the built-up areas of Walsall are located within a sustainable 5km distance to one or more hospitals, however, a large proportion to the north and east of the borough would be likely to have more restricted access.

B.13.1.2 Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0322-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are located within 5km of Manor Hospital, and therefore, the proposed development at these five sites could potentially have a minor positive impact on access to emergency healthcare. However, Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0319-WAL and SA-0321-WAL are located over 5km from a hospital, and therefore, the proposed development at these three sites could potentially more restricted sustainable access to emergency healthcare and result in a minor negative impact.

B.13.2 Pedestrian Access to GP Surgery

B.13.2.1 The BCA have provided Lepus with information regarding the location of local healthcare facilities and accessibility modelling data. According to this data, there are 68 GP Surgeries within Walsall serving the existing local communities, although the distribution of these facilities is mainly towards the western half of the borough.

B.13.2.2 Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0323-WAL, SA-0324-WAL and the majority of Site SA-0319-WAL are located within a 15-minute walking distance from a GP surgery. The proposed development at these four sites would be expected to have a minor positive impact on pedestrian access to healthcare, based on existing infrastructure. However, Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0321-WAL and SA-0322-WAL are located outside of this travel time to a GP and are therefore identified as potentially having a minor negative impact on sustainable access to healthcare.

B.13.3 Public Transport Access to GP Surgery

B.13.3.1 Sustainable public transport access to a local GP surgery is identified to be within a 15-minute journey. Accessibility modelling data indicates that the majority of Walsall falls within this distance, except some small pockets within the Green Belt in the east where accessibility is likely to be somewhat restricted.

B.13.3.2 Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are located within this travel time to a GP surgery via public transport, and therefore, the proposed development at these five sites would be expected to have a minor positive impact on sustainable access to healthcare. However, Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0321-WAL and SA-0322-WAL are located outside of the sustainable distance to a GP surgery, therefore a minor negative impact on sustainable access to these healthcare facilities would be expected at these three sites.

B.13.4 Air Quality Management Area

B.13.4.1 All four districts are designated as AQMAs; 'Dudley AQMA', 'Sandwell AQMA', 'Walsall AQMA' and 'Wolverhampton AQMA'. All proposed development sites are wholly within 'Walsall AQMA'. The proposed development at all eight sites would be likely to expose site end users to poor air quality associated with these AQMAs, and therefore, have a minor negative impact on health.

B.13.5 Main Road

B.13.5.1 There are a large number of motorways and A-roads which cross the Plan area, each of which represent traffic-related sources of air pollution. Walsall's major road network includes the A461, A452 and the M6 Motorway which passes through the west of the borough.

B.13.5.2 Sites SA-0037-WAL and SA-0321-WAL are located adjacent to the A452. A proportion of Site SA-0324-WAL is located within 200m of the A461. The proposed development at these three sites could potentially have a minor negative impact on site end users' health, due to the vicinity of the main roads and likely higher levels of transport associated air pollution. On the other hand, the proposed development at Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0322-WAL and SA-0323-WAL, which are over 200m from a main road, could potentially have a minor positive impact on health, as site end users in these locations would be situated away from major sources of traffic related air pollution.

B.13.6 Access to Greenspace

B.13.6.1 Greenspaces are distributed throughout Walsall, including parks, allotments and playing field, as well as Roughwood Country Park in the north west of the borough. All proposed sites are located within 600m of one or more greenspaces. Therefore, a minor positive impact would be expected at these eight sites, as the proposed development would be likely to provide site end users with good access to outdoor space and a diverse range of natural habitats, which is known to have physical and mental health benefits.

B.13.7 Net Loss of Greenspace

B.13.7.1 None of the proposed sites are identified as coinciding with a greenspace. A negligible impact would be expected as a result of development at these eight sites.

B.13.8 Public Right of Way / Cycle Path

B.13.8.1 There is an extensive PRoW and cycle network in the Black Country. This includes many routes along the canal network and disused railway lines, which provide a recreational resource as well as links to other modes of transport.

B.13.8.2 Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0321-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are located within 600m of the PRoW network. The proposed development at these seven sites would be likely to provide site end users with good pedestrian access and encourage physical activity, and therefore, have a minor positive impact on the health and wellbeing of local residents. The majority of Site SA-0322-WAL is located outside of this target distance to the PRoW and cycle network, and therefore a minor negative impact on the health and wellbeing of local residents could be expected.

Table B.13.1: Sites impact matrix for SA Objective 12 – Health

Site Ref	NHS Hospital with A&E Department	Pedestrian Access to GP Surgery	Public Transport Access to GP Surgery	AQMA	Main Road	Access to Greenspace	Net Loss of Greenspace	PRoW/ Cycle Path
Reasonable Alternative Sites								
SA-0037-WAL	-	-	-	-	-	+	0	+
SA-0318-WAL	+	+	+	-	+	+	0	+
SA-0319-WAL	-	+	+	-	+	+	0	+
SA-0320-WAL	+	-	+	-	+	+	0	+
SA-0321-WAL	-	-	-	-	-	+	0	+
SA-0322-WAL	+	-	-	-	+	+	0	-
SA-0323-WAL	+	+	+	-	+	+	0	+
SA-0324-WAL	+	+	+	-	-	+	0	+

B.14 SA Objective 13: Economy

B.14.1 Employment Floorspace Provision

- B.14.1.1 Employment floorspace provision has been assessed with consideration of current land use and the proposed development at each site.
- B.14.1.2 Site SA-0321-WAL coincides with ‘Pacific Nurseries’ garden centre. Site SA-0323-WAL coincides with buildings/kennels associated with ‘K9 Kuts’. Site SA-0324-WAL coincides with ‘Aristocats Luxury Cattery’. Therefore, the proposed residential development at these three sites could potentially result in a net loss of employment floorspace, resulting in a minor negative impact on employment floorspace provision due to the possible loss of a small areas of employment land.
- B.14.1.3 Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL and SA-0322-WAL do not coincide with any identified employment sites and would not be expected to result in a net change in employment floorspace. Therefore, the proposed development at these five sites would be likely to have a negligible impact on the provision of employment opportunities.

B.14.2 Pedestrian Access to Employment Opportunities

- B.14.2.1 Accessibility modelling data has been provided to Lepus by the BCA, mapping key employment locations and areas within a sustainable travel time. The majority of employment locations are clustered in the south west and north east of the borough. According to the modelling data, almost the entirety of the borough is within a 30-minute walk to an employment location, however, some small areas located within Green Belt areas in the south eastern corner of the borough are outside of this.
- B.14.2.2 Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0321-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are located within this identified sustainable travel time to employment opportunities, and therefore, a minor positive impact on pedestrian access to employment could be expected at these seven sites.
- B.14.2.3 The majority of Site SA-0322-WAL is located outside of this sustainable travel time to employment opportunities and therefore the proposed development at this site could potentially have a minor negative impact on pedestrian access to employment opportunities, based on current infrastructure.

B.14.3 Public Transport Access to Employment Opportunities

B.14.3.1 Accessibility modelling data indicates that the majority of borough, except for a very small area in the east, is located within a sustainable travel time via public transport to employment opportunities, identified as being within a 30-minute journey.

B.14.3.2 All eight of the proposed sites are located within this identified sustainable travel time to employment opportunities, and therefore, a minor positive impact on public transport access to employment could be expected.

Table B.14.1: Sites impact matrix for SA Objective 13 – Economy

Site Ref	Employment Floorspace Provision	Pedestrian Access to Employment Opportunities	Public Transport Access to Employment Opportunities
Reasonable Alternative Sites			
SA-0037-WAL	0	+	+
SA-0318-WAL	0	+	+
SA-0319-WAL	0	+	+
SA-0320-WAL	0	+	+
SA-0321-WAL	-	+	+
SA-0322-WAL	0	-	+
SA-0323-WAL	-	+	+
SA-0324-WAL	-	+	+

B.15 SA Objective 14: Education, Skills and Training

B.15.1 Pedestrian Access to Primary School

B.15.1.1 Accessibility modelling data has been provided to Lepus by the BCA, mapping the location of primary schools and areas within a sustainable travel time to these schools. There are 87 primary schools within Walsall, although these are mainly distributed within the west of the borough where current residential areas are most dense. The majority of the built-up areas are located within a 15-minute walk to a primary school, however, a large proportion towards the east of the borough is likely to have more restricted access, including the Green Belt where the majority of proposed sites are located.

B.15.1.2 As such, Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0319-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0321-WAL and SA_0322-WAL are located outside of a 15-minute walk to a primary school. Therefore, the proposed development at these five sites could potentially have a minor negative impact on pedestrian access to primary schools, based on current infrastructure. Residents in these areas may be reliant on less sustainable travel methods to reach primary schools.

B.15.1.3 Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are located within a 15-minute walk to a primary school, and therefore, the proposed development at these three sites could potentially have a minor positive impact on pedestrian access to primary schools.

B.15.2 Pedestrian Access to Secondary School

B.15.2.1 Accessibility modelling data has been provided to Lepus by the BCA, mapping the location of secondary schools and areas within a sustainable travel time to these schools. Most secondary schools within Walsall are located within the built-up areas in the west of the borough, and therefore serve those communities well. Sites within existing settlements are likely to have better pedestrian access compared to the outskirts of settlements or Green Belt.

B.15.2.2 Sites SA-0318-WAL, SA-0319-WAL and SA-0320-WAL are located within a 25-minute walk to a secondary school, and therefore, the proposed development at these three sites could be expected to encourage pedestrian access to secondary schools and have a minor positive impact on education, skills and training. However, Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0321-WAL, SA-0322-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are situated in the areas outside of a 25-minute walk to a secondary school, and as such, the proposed development at these five sites could potentially have a minor negative impact on sustainable access to secondary schools, based on current infrastructure.

B.15.3 Public Transport Access to Secondary School

- B.15.3.1 Public transport provision within Walsall is extensive and would be likely to ensure that the majority of residents have sustainable travel options to secondary schools in the local and wider area. Accessibility modelling data indicates only localised pockets of the borough where public transport access to secondary schools is limited, for example in Shortheath in the west, and Druid’s Heath in the east.
- B.15.3.2 Sites SA-0037-WAL, SA-0318-WAL, SA-0320-WAL, SA-0321-WAL, SA-0322-WAL, SA-0323-WAL and SA-0324-WAL are located within a 25-minute public transport journey to a secondary school, and therefore, the proposed development at these seven sites would be expected to have a minor positive impact on sustainable access to education, based on current infrastructure. However, Site SA-0319-WAL is located outside of this sustainable travel time to a secondary school, and therefore, the proposed development at this site could potentially have a minor negative impact on new residents’ sustainable access to education, based on current infrastructure.

Table B.15.1: Sites impact matrix for SA Objective 14 – Education, skills and training

Site Ref	Pedestrian Access to Primary School	Pedestrian Access to Secondary School	Public Transport Access to Secondary School
Reasonable Alternative Sites			
SA-0037-WAL	-	-	+
SA-0318-WAL	+	+	+
SA-0319-WAL	-	+	-
SA-0320-WAL	-	+	+
SA-0321-WAL	-	-	+
SA-0322-WAL	-	-	+
SA-0323-WAL	+	-	+
SA-0324-WAL	+	-	+



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CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Cabinet 6 July 2022
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Report title	Helping our Children and Young People to be Healthier and Happier – what we learnt from Headstart	
Decision designation	AMBER	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Beverley Momenabadi Children and Young People	
Key decision	Yes	
In forward plan	Yes	
Wards affected	All Wards	
Accountable Director	Emma Bennett, Executive Director of Families	
Originating service	Children Services	
Accountable employee	Kush Patel	Children’s Innovation Lead
	Tel	01902 550354
	Email	Kush.patel@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	Directorate Leadership Team	13 June 2022
	Strategic Executive Board	21 June 2022

Recommendation for decision:

The Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Endorse the learning from Headstart into future planning of wellbeing services for children and young people.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 Wolverhampton have been part of a Lottery Funded programme to test and learn from a range of interventions that support improved resilience and emotional well-being. This report sets out how this learning will be embedded within the future offer for children, young people and their families.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 City of Wolverhampton Council is the lead partner for HeadStart Wolverhampton (HW), one of six partnerships across the country to receive National Lottery funding to run a series of test and learn programmes in developing new ways of supporting children and young people aged 10 to 16 and their families with emotional mental health and wellbeing.
- 2.2 HeadStart is a wide-ranging programme, offering different ways to support mental and emotional wellbeing. Children and young people are integral to the programme, working with us on its design, governance, delivery and evaluation.
- 2.3 HeadStart Wolverhampton was initiated as an emergent programme in 2016 following a successful bid, delivered to the National Lottery by the young people of Wolverhampton, for grant funding totalling £9.5 million. From the outset a key factor was the involvement of children and young people in the bid, design, governance, delivery, and evaluation processes.
- 2.4 In line with its 'test and learn' ethos, by 2018, it was evident that the original delivery model would not be sustainable beyond the life of the programme. This was partly due to the emergence of private sector competition and its potential impact on the planned 'earned income' aspects of the programme.
- 2.5 Between 2018 and 2021, HeadStart Wolverhampton restructured and re-aligned its priorities to focus more on joint working with partners in the Council, schools, and communities. This was to ensure the learning and experiences gained from the programme, could be used to positively influence system change via participation in the City's decision-making forums.
- 2.6 A key part of this re-alignment was the emphasis on upskilling those involved with children, young people, and families to recognise and appropriately respond to emotional, mental health and wellbeing issues in their schools and communities.
- 2.7 This led to the development of wellbeing tools, workforce training (e.g., the anti-bullying charter; coproduction charter, Leading Mental Health in Schools (LMHis) Master's module, bid writing, consortium building etc.
- 2.8 Following the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic and a countrywide 'lockdown' in March 2020, National Lottery Community Fund (NLCF) offered a further grant of £1.3 million to extend the HW to July 2022 (the original closure date was July 2021). This additional

funding has further cemented the already established links within (and between) schools and communities.

3.0 HeadStart Fundamentals

- A six-year program from 2016 to 2022 with an overall NLCF investment of £10.8 million
- Led by the City of Wolverhampton Council and managed by multi-stakeholders
- Used a test and learn approach to evidence and inform future policy and practice
- Well over 13,000 young people in the city accessed HeadStart support
- 700+ parents and carers also accessed support
- 75 community organisations involved in the design and delivery of the Programme
- Community organisations generated income of more than £500,000
- Young people (aged 10-16) remain at the heart of the city's wellbeing initiatives.
- Ongoing evaluation to collect evidence of impacts and what works

4.0 HeadStart learning

- 4.1 We have tested, we have learnt, and since 2020, we have started to embed the learning and the successes that we have made on our journey. Some of our learning successes and improvements are outlined in appendix 1.
- 4.2 The Council's close involvement in the governance of the programme has allowed its aims and influences to seamlessly merge with new and existing strategic decision-making forums in the city e.g. The Emotional Mental Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board; The Children and Families Together Board and The Children's Services Transformation Board.
- 4.3 The learn and embed phase was aligned to the city's Youth Engagement Strategy #YES as well as other key strategies such as, the local Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHS) plan Refresh Plan 2018-20, Children, Young People and Families (CYPF) Plan.

Being You	<p>The learning has informed and enhanced; city-wide co-production offer as demonstrated by the commitment made at the 2020 launch of the Youth Engagement Strategy (#YES). This has 'opened the door' for young people to have a voice in key areas of the city's strategic decision-making forums. This input not only empowers the young people, but it is also helping to increase awareness about the importance of individual and collective emotional and mental wellbeing. This involvement has included young people's membership and participation in the development of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Co-production Charter as part of #YES,✓ Refresh of Children Young People's Participation and Co-Production Strategy 2019/21
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Wolverhampton's Junior Safeguarding Children Board, ✓ Youth Council ✓ Children in Care and Care Leavers Forum ✓ The 'Town Deal Fund' a £25 million programme with Actors of Urban Change.
Being Healthy	<p>The development of an emotional and mental well-being toolkit based on the modules delivered within HeadStart schools, was accredited by the personal, social, health and economic (PHSE) Association in 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ This is now available nationally for all schools to include in their PHSE Curriculum. <p>Black Country and West Birmingham Sustainability and Transformation Plan (BCWBSTP) has been successful in its application to become a trailblazer for Mental Health Support teams in Schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Learning from HeadStart is informing the shaping of a localised approach
Being Connected	<p>The ambition for HeadStart community groups was for them to become self-sustaining. Since the life of the programme the community groups have successfully secured over £700,000 additional funding to complement and enhance the HeadStart offer. This ensures the fantastic community work developed through HeadStart can continue to be integrated as part of the 'City Vision for 2030'</p> <p>'A vibrant civic society focused on the future, empowers local communities and is supported by local businesses and institutions.'</p>
Being Trained	<p>Liaison with colleagues across the Council's Organisation Development Service, the University of Wolverhampton and Black Country and West Birmingham STP has ensured that the regional workforce has access to a Continued Professional Development (CPD) framework that enables them to continue offering effective support to children and young people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The Department for Education (DfE) assured, HeadStart funded, 'Leading Mental Health in Schools (LMHis) Master's Award' is now a key CPD training opportunity for school staff with a leading role to play in developing the social, emotional, and mental health (SEMH) support and provision for children and young people in school. The first cohort (Class of 20-21)

	received their certificates at an award ceremony on 9 December 2021.
Being Informed	<p>Elements of the Well-being Measurement Framework (WMF) have now been integrated within the bi-annual Health-Related Behaviours Survey(HRBS) (led by Public Health) to give a longitudinal understanding of emotional wellbeing in the city.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ From the WMF the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) was added to the HRBS for all ages. The HRBS for students aged 11 will now contain Trait Emotional Intelligence Questionnaire – Adolescent Short Form (teique-asf) and the HRBS for younger students will include the Me and My Feeling (M&MF) survey.✓ These extra surveys on mental health and wellbeing will give further insight into the mental health of young people in the city and allow this to be tracked by cohorts over the two year periods of the HRBS. <p>Examples of key findings up to 2020 include: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Over the past four years (no WMF survey in 2021 due to Covid) seven secondary schools and two special schools have taken part in the national HeadStart annual WMF survey to gather data about the emotional health of young people.✓ The findings from the 2018-2019 SDQ survey showed that there are comparable proportions of young people with emotional, behavioural and attention difficulties in Wolverhampton and nationally.✓ Overall young people in Wolverhampton reported less emotional and attention difficulties compared to the National HeadStart average, but higher levels of behaviour problems and less inclination to help others.✓ This fits with the other surveys that showed less understanding of empathy in Wolverhampton along with young people feeling less of a sense of connection to their communities.✓ Pupils showed higher than average levels of difficulties with peers, suggesting that on average they are less able to interact successfully with peers than with others.✓ In the local evaluation, primary children felt more resilient than secondary children, with girls being more resilient than boys✓ Among the secondary children, girls were both less resilient than the norm and less resilient than boys.

5.0 Embedding the HeadStart learning

- 5.1 Between 2018 and 2021 the WHSP focus shifted away from “direct” delivery of classroom interventions towards supporting new and existing initiatives, that would ‘upskill & equip’ the HeadStart community and school cohorts in the four identified areas of the city. The whole programme was re-profiled to gradually reduce intervention related staffing, delivery and rental costs and increase spend on the development and delivery of training modules, courses, charters, train the trainer sessions, consortium building and school holiday specific activities.
- 5.2 The first strategic step towards ensuring the programme’s continued ability to influence decision making at the strategic level was the merging in November 2019, of the HeadStart Partnership Board with the City’s CYP Emotional Mental Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board. This enabled HeadStart Wolverhampton to directly participate in and/or report to, the city’s CWC Cabinet; CYP Scrutiny Panel; Health and Wellbeing Together Board; Children and Families Together Board; SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) Partnership Board as well as the CYP Emotional Mental Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board

6.0 Current Achievements of learn and embed

- 6.1 The prioritisation within the CAMHS transformation plan of WHSP’s key driver to build a confident, accessible, and responsive workforce for Young People with staff who share a common language and common approaches through a transformed system of cross-disciplinary, multi-agency and multi-layered working partnerships.
- 6.2 The agreement by Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group (WCCG) and the City of Wolverhampton Council (CWC) to joint fund of the Emotional Wellbeing Service going forward (initiated as a pilot in 2019 with ⅓ funding from HeadStart).
- 6.3 A central coproduction team. This aligned the HW coproduction goals with Wolverhampton Council’s and strengthened the voice of young people in key areas of development work in the city through the embedding of the Coproduction Charter
- 6.4 Utilisation of the community offer to act as a ‘seed bed’ for Wolverhampton’s growing commitment to supporting its community organisations, children, young people, and parent/carers. This is most clearly evidenced in the current Council Plan (2019 – 2024) and City Vision for 2030 which puts the community at the heart of the plan’s primary objectives, ‘A vibrant civic society focused on the future, empowers local communities and is supported by local businesses and institutions.’
- 6.5 The commissioned community providers ‘capitalisation’ of their growing visibility and voice, to successfully access monies from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) Household Support Grant and DfE and Holiday Activity (HAF (Holiday Activity Fund)) Grant.

7.0 Evaluation of alternative options

- 7.1 Options were considered in relation to the National Lotteries requirement that learn and embed is based on the evidence from the test and learn of the HeadStart programme. The evidence from national surveys, local surveys, community feedback, young people.

8.0 Reasons for decision(s)

- 8.1 The decision has been based on evidence of what works in relation to improving wellbeing and resilience in young people. The National Lottery funding requires local areas to have a learn and embed plan based on the test and learn of the programme. Budgets have been realigned to reflect the plan.

9.0 Financial implications

- 9.1 The Council was awarded a grant of £10.8 million from the National Lottery to cover the period of 2016 to 2022 for the Headstart programme.
[JG/27062022/L]

10.0 Legal implications

- 10.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.
[SB/24062022/H]

11.0 Equalities implications

- 11.1 The programme is subject to an equality impact assessment and an equalities group has been established to ensure compliance and consideration to all protected characteristics with an emphasis on identified vulnerable groups; young carers, black and minority ethnic background, those at risk of gangs/crime, those witnessing domestic violence, family history of mental ill health, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT), Roma and new arrivals.

12.0 All other implications

- 12.1 HeadStart Programme is a test and learn programme in developing new ways of supporting children and young people aged 10-16 and their families with emotional mental health and wellbeing.

13.0 Schedule of background papers

- 13.1 None

14.0 Appendices

- 14.1 Appendix 1: Table of lesson learnt and areas for improvements.

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Appendix 1 : Lesson learnt and areas of improvement

Areas of Success		
Theme	Situation	Evidence to support the lesson
Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Delivery of wellbeing programmes b) Accreditation of the Wellbeing Toolkit by the PSHE Association c) Train the Trainer programme d) Additional staff were recruited to the Back on Track intervention to meet the higher-than-expected level of demand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Reach figures/feedback from pupils after programme completion b) Accreditation achieved in 2022 c) Feedback from schools on how the wellbeing toolkit has been implemented. d) Schools referred a significantly higher number of young people than originally anticipated because of the early successes achieved in terms of improved student/school engagement.
Co-Production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Commissioning of #YES grant and HAF by the young people b) Young people's involvement in the Town Deal Fund with Actors of Urban Change. c) Co-produced service specification and evaluation of tender for Emotional Health and Wellbeing service d) Youth Unemployment Design Jam – evaluating and analysing youth unemployment in the city 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) #YES board has commissioned £250,000 this year b) The council was awarded £25 million c) The service specification, questions, and evaluation of tenders by young people d) Learning from sessions with young people used to develop youth unemployment strategy
Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Completion of the annual LEM surveys 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Publication of the 'So What' report by Wolverhampton University

Areas of Success		
Theme	Situation	Evidence to support the lesson
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) School partnerships b) Successful mix of on-line and face-to-face delivery c) Emotional wellbeing offers in the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The development of key relationships with schools facilitated the promotion of community work. This included delivering taster sessions in schools, which led to higher attendance at community sessions/activities. This then supported our work with young people and parents about challenges related to school attendance and attainment. b) Future local delivery is likely to be provided using a hybrid model of face to face and online delivery. c) High reach figures of all commissioned providers Some providers exceeded contracted numbers as evidenced in contract monitoring returns
Workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 50% of schools/education settings have so far accessed an element of the live training offer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Course Registers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) The 'Leading Mental Health in Schools' Masters Award, written by the Educational Psychology Service, is now a DfE assured training course and demand from schools/colleges has been high. Over 30% of settings in Wolverhampton have accessed or booked onto the LMHiS Award. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Department of Education assurance was received in December 2021 b) Cohort 1 have graduated c) Cohort 2 commenced in January 2022 and is fully booked d) Cohort 3 scheduled to start in April 2022

Areas of Success		
Theme	Situation	Evidence to support the lesson
Parenting	a) Provide early parenting support	<p>a) Case studies of successful outcomes for 81 families supported by the HeadStart community providers, were used to evidence progress against the DLUC Supporting Families Programme, Payment by Results target for 2021/22.</p> <p>b) All 81 families met the DLUC SFP payment by results criteria</p>

Table 2

Areas for Improvement		
Theme	Situation	Recommendation for Future projects
Schools	Local support planning or the Work Ready Intervention was impacted by late notification from Anna Freud and a lack of clarity about the criteria for the randomisation exercise. This resulted in a lot of 'last minute effort' to meet the deadlines set by Manchester University and Anna Freud	When commissioning evaluation work from universities and other research bodies, ensure sufficient attention is paid to the local delivery support required before entering into any agreements
	Delivery of the Back on Track intervention was impacted by the higher than anticipated number of referrals received.	Ensure there is sufficient data available to inform demand estimates and delivery planning
Co-Production	Always focus on Co-Production	To imbed Co-Production timelines into all service development/policy and tender process for services that effect young people in the city
	The Profile of co-production should have been higher in the project deliverables	In future all funding applications should be co-produced with young people
	The characteristic of those who participate are not always those that benefit coproduced services	To work with the targeted organisation to enable engagement from the young people needing services

Areas for Improvement		
Theme	Situation	Recommendation for Future projects
Evaluation	Setting of measurable milestones	Consult analysts and data owners in the process of setting deliverable goals
	Managing workload being placed on partners	More consultation with schools/communities with the level of involvement/ work required when collecting data
	Analytical and data collection support for the Work Ready Evaluation by Manchester University on behalf of Anna Freud	Notification of the local analytical support required for the 'Work Ready' intervention was not timely or at least initially, clearly defined. This resulted in a lot of 'last minute effort' to meet deadlines set by Manchester University and Anna Freud
Community	Identification of the 4 HeadStart areas and commissioning of local provider organisations sometimes led to confusion for young people and their families e.g., parents in Areas A and B were supported by Bushbury Hill Estate Management Board but their children were only supported by this provider if they lived in Area A. Children who lived in Area B were supported by YMCA Black Country Group	Consider implications of this on individuals and families when employing geographical splits based on needs analysis, to determine what and how commissioned services are to be offered
	Number of activities, contract, and other monitoring tools in use as part of the HeadStart project	Consider using fewer, more streamlined monitoring tools to capture the required data/information at key points of the project
	Low levels of access to and engagement with people from black and ethnic minority backgrounds'	Consider more targeted work with people from black and ethnic minority backgrounds 'specific services and activities

Areas for Improvement		
Theme	Situation	Recommendation for Future projects
Equality	Demand for 'LGBTQ+ Train the Trainer' sessions far exceeded original expectations resulting in the delivery offer being widened to include multi-agency partners, education settings and the third sector.	Consider 'market testing' to identify the demand for any future Equality specific training.
	Criteria for the commissioned activity was limited to 30 children with a disability. Overall, parents understood that sessions would not be suitable for children with high needs but there were many complaints about the exclusion of siblings.	Further embed co-production with parents when developing externally funded commissioning intentions
Workforce	Uptake of the live YMHFA training sessions has not been as high as hoped and not all spaces on the YMHFA training have been filled.	The literature and research review into the most effective CPD may help with planning a range of delivery methods. Increasing face-to-face opportunities, particularly for the YMHFA sessions would be helpful – this was hindered due to Covid.
	There has been some non-attendance to both EP-led training sessions and the YMHFA sessions	Whilst we want the training to be accessible, a small charge may increase the sustainability and commitment to the training and increase attendance following bookings.

Areas for Improvement		
Theme	Situation	Recommendation for Future projects
Digital	<p>WHSP procured a dedicated website, HeadStart FM an online platform to promote services of HeadStart and provide wellbeing resources. Initially, the website attracted several views however,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Of the 11,000 visits to the site only 3184 were Wolverhampton residents. • Usage of the website rose only during school holidays because people wanted to find out about holiday activities. #YES will be promoting activities through WV Holiday Squad. • Views of the podcasts were low. • The online resources were accessed, but this declined year on year. <p>The model for the 'Getting Ahead' intervention was economically unsustainable and may have been subject to intellectual property rights issues going forward.</p> <p>Also, without clear links to the Ofsted outcomes framework, HeadStart's school-based interventions may not have been seen by school funding decision makers as 'essential.'</p>	<p>The small numbers can be attributed to KOOOTH an online counselling service commissioned by the CCG. Kooth is a transformational digital mental health support service. It gives children and young people easy access to an online community of peers and a team of experienced counsellors. Wolverhampton CCG have committed to continued funding of KOOOTH</p> <p>Ensure that intellectual property rights and links to the Ofsted Outcomes Framework are clearly researched when considering any future interventions</p>