

# Public Document Pack



**North East  
Derbyshire**  
District Council

Contact: Alan Maher  
Tel: 01246 217391  
Email: [Alan.maher@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:Alan.maher@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk)  
Date: Wednesday, 20 March 2024

To: **Members of the Cabinet**

Please attend a meeting of the Cabinet to be held on **Thursday, 28 March 2024, at 2.00 pm in the District Council Offices, Mill Lane, Wingerworth, Chesterfield, S42 6NG**  
2013 Mill Lane, Wingerworth, Chesterfield, S42 6NG.

Yours sincerely

Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer

<b><u>Cabinet Members</u></b>	
Councillor N Barker (Chair) Councillor J Birkin Councillor S Pickering	Councillor J Barry Councillor P Kerry (Vice-Chair) Councillor K Rouse

**For further information about this meeting please contact Alan Maher, 01246 217391**

## **Notice of Meeting to be held in Private**

It is intended that part of this meeting will be held in private under the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012. The matters to be considered in private are listed under the heading Private Session. The categories of exempt information that are likely to be disclosed during the discussion of these items, as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, are listed below each item.

No representations have been received requesting that these items be open to the public.

# **A G E N D A**

## **Public Session**

**1     Apologies for Absence**

**2     Declarations of Interest**

Members are requested to declare the existence and nature of any disclosable pecuniary interest and/or other interest, not already on their register of interests, in any item on the agenda and withdraw from the meeting at the appropriate time.

**3     Minutes of the Last Meeting (Pages 5 - 11)**

To approve as a correct record and the Leader to sign the attached Minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 29 February 2024.

**4     NEDDC Climate Change Strategy 2024-2030 - NOW PUBLISHED (Pages 12 - 53)**

Report of Councillor S Pickering, Portfolio Holder for Environment and Place.

**5     Council Plan Objectives Update - October to December 2023 (Pages 54 - 76)**

Report of Councillor N Barker, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership and Finance.

**6     Local Plan Review - Local Plan Evidence Base and Position Statement (Pages 77 - 112)**

Report of Councillor S Pickering, Portfolio Holder for Environment and Place.

**7     Discretionary Power to Reduce Council Tax - Section 13 (a) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (Pages 113 - 124)**

Report of Councillor J Birkin, Portfolio Holder for Council Services.

**8     Stonebroom Redevelopment Update - NOW PUBLISHED (Pages 125 - 132)**

Report of Councillor N Barker, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership and Finance.

**9     Urgent Items (Public)**

To consider any other matter which the Leader is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency, in accordance with the provisions of Statutory Instrument 2012 No 2089, Regulation 11.

**10     Exclusion of Public**

The Leader to move:-

That the public be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of the following items of business to avoid the disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006). [The category of exempt information is stated after each item].

**Private Session**

**11     Rykneld Homes Ltd Senior Management Team Review - Now Published**  
(Pages 133 - 139)

Report of Councillor N Barker, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership and Finance.

Paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 5

**12     The Management of Corporate Debt - Write-off of Outstanding Amounts - NOW PUBLISHED** (Pages 140 - 145)

Report of Councillor P Kerry, Deputy Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership and Finance.

Paragraphs 3 and 5

**13     Urgent Items (Private)**

To consider any other matter which the Leader is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency, in accordance with the provisions of Statutory Instrument 2012 No 2089, Regulations 5 and 11.

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### **Access for All statement**

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- **BSL Video Call** – a three way video call with us and a BSL interpreter. It is free to call North East Derbyshire District Council with [Sign Solutions](#) or call into the offices at Wingerworth.
- Call with [Relay UK](#) via textphone or app on [0800 500 888](tel:0800500888)– a free phone service
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## **CABINET**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 29 FEBRUARY 2024**

#### **Present:**

Councillor Nigel Barker (Chair) (in the Chair)  
Councillor Pat Kerry (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Jayne Barry  
Councillor Stephen Pickering

Councillor Joseph Birkin  
Councillor Kathy Rouse

#### **Also Present:**

M Broughton	Director of Growth and Assets
J Dethick	Director of Finance and Resources & (Section 151 Officer)
L Hickin	Managing Director - Head of Paid Service
S Sternberg	Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer
D Johnson	Assistant Director - Property, Estates and Assets
L Pepper	Assistant Director Communities
A Maher	Governance Manager

#### **CAB/ Apologies for Absence**

**70/2**

**3-24** None.

#### **CAB/ Declarations of Interest**

**71/2**

**3-24** None.

#### **CAB/ Minutes of the Last Meeting**

**72/2**

**3-24** RESOLVED That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2024 were approved as a true record.

#### **CAB/ Medium Term Financial Plan Budget Monitoring Report April - December 2023 (Q 3)**

**73/2**

**3-24** The report to Cabinet updated Members on the Council's General Fund, Housing Revenue Account and the Capital Programme for the third quarter of the 2023-24 financial year.

Cabinet heard how the General Fund was currently forecast to be underspent by £0.580M. The report explained the reasons for this. In particular, Members were informed about lower employment expenditure, due to staffing vacancies, lower than expected utility and fuel costs, as well as greater than expected income received from Planning Service and other fees. As a consequence of the underspend, Council should not now have to use of any of its Resilience Reserve in order to balance the budget. Members welcomed this.

Cabinet discussed how many local authorities were finding it difficult to fill vacancies. Members were reminded of how the Council was trying to address the

problem and in particular, how the Talent Pipeline was being used to develop and retain staff and how the Council's Agile Working Policy was helping to make the Council more attractive to new staff. Cabinet welcomed the progress which had been made.

### RESOLVED

That Cabinet noted the Quarter Three Budget Monitoring position as outlined in the report and detailed in **Appendices 1-4** to the report.

### REASONS FOR DECISION

To inform Cabinet of the financial position of the Council, following the third quarter's budget monitoring exercise for the General Fund, the Housing Revenue Account and Capital Programme.

### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED

No other options were considered. The report provided monitoring information for Members on the financial position against the Council's previously approved budget.

#### **CAB/ Derby and Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Board**

**74/2**

**3-24**

The report to Cabinet sought approval for North East Derbyshire District Council to form and participate in the Derby and Derbyshire Strategic leadership Board (SLB). Members were reminded that Council had considered this issue at its meeting on 29 January 2024. Members had been informed at this meeting of the work taking place with Derby and Derbyshire Councils to develop a revised approach to collaborative and partnership working. Following on from this, Council had recommended to Cabinet that it approve the establishment, and participation in, a new Joint Committee of Derby and Derbyshire's Councils, the 'D2' Strategic Leadership Board (SLB).

Cabinet reflected on the benefits of the proposed new Leadership Board, and especially the way in which it could help the different local authorities to collaborate, co-ordinate and drive forward agendas, so that they could achieve more by working together and improve outcomes for people and places across Derbyshire. There was general agreement that Cabinet should accept the recommendation from Council and approve the establishment of, and participation in, the proposed new Strategic Leadership Board.

### RESOLVED

That Cabinet:

1. Approved the proposals for the establishment of the Derby and Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Board (SLB) and the delegation of functions to this Joint Committee as set out in the Functions and Responsibilities document in **Appendix 2** of the Council report.
2. Noted the draft the Terms of Reference, including the Introduction and

Context, Functions and Responsibilities, Procedural Rules, and Information Procedure Rules for the SLB as set out at **Appendix 2** of the Council report and the position detailed in those documents regarding scrutiny and co-option.

3. Appointed the Leader of the Council as the Council's representative on the SLB and the Deputy Leader of the Council, as substitute.
4. Noted the intention that the SLB be the body for the nomination of District and Borough representatives to the East Midlands Combined County Authority (the CCA), when established, further noting that this was subject to the CCA's agreement that this be the mechanism.
5. Agreed that the County Council act as the host authority for the Joint Committee.
6. Noted and agreed the dissolution of the D2 Joint Committee for Economic Prosperity, the enactment of which is subject to the establishment of the SLB and recommends that the Constitution is amended accordingly.
7. Noted and agreed the dissolution of the Vision Derbyshire Joint Committee, the enactment of which was subject to the establishment of the SLB and recommends that the Constitution is amended accordingly.
8. Agreed with the Council's active participation in the SLB and the associated costs of taking forward the programme of work, the maximum cost of which currently stands at £12,500 for NEDDC (assuming all Districts and Boroughs are members of the SLB) which is funded until at least March 2025 via the Business Rates pool.
9. Noted that as the functions of the SLB are executive functions, Derbyshire County Council would not have the opportunity to co-opt additional members onto the SLB and the ability to co-opt is restricted within the Terms of Reference.
10. Noted that, in accordance with section 9F of the Local Government Act 2000, constituent authorities who operate executive arrangements would need to make formal scrutiny arrangements to review or scrutinise decisions made in connection with the exercise of the functions of the D2 Strategic Leadership Board, and that the Council's existing scrutiny arrangements would apply.
11. Delegated authority to the Managing Director and Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Leader to agree the final terms of reference for the SLB and all other arrangements.

### REASONS FOR DECISION

To establish the Derby and Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Board with robust governance arrangements in place and secure the Council's future involvement and participation in new governance arrangements as they develop and emerge.

To ensure that the Council has appropriate lead Elected Member representation on the proposed Strategic Leadership Board, via the appointment of suitable Cabinet Members.

To ensure that the Council has appropriate delegations in place to enable the Council to participate in finalising the details of the Strategic Leadership Board governance.

#### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED

The option of not creating a successor committee to the former joint committees was considered but rejected, as there would still need to be an alternative vehicle to make nominations to the CCA when established.

The option of the Council not participating in the SLB once established was considered but rejected as not desirable. The SLB is a merger of two successful Joint Committees to support effective and efficient decision making. There is also significant interest in continuing to work collaboratively with Derby and Derbyshire Councils and to work collectively in partnership to tackle the county's challenges and speak as a collective where possible.

#### **CAB/ Shared Ownership Allocations Policy**

**75/2**

**3-24**

Cabinet was asked to approve and adopt the proposed new Shared Ownership Allocations Policy. The existing policy, it was explained, had now expired and a renewed Policy would have to be put in place.

Members discussed the proposed Policy. Cabinet reflected on the experience of shared ownership schemes in the District and the limited impact which they had had in terms of extending home ownership. Members welcomed the proposed Policy, which would ensure that the Council's existing Shared Ownership properties were offered for sale in a clear, fair, and transparent manner. They also noted how the Council was not currently seeking to build any new properties for Shared Ownership unless this was seen as the only option to ensure viability and progression of a housing development scheme.

#### RESOLVED

That the revised Shared Ownership Allocations Policy is approved.

#### REASONS FOR DECISION

The previous Shared Ownership Policy has now expired, and a revised Policy needs to be put in place.

#### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED

The option of not revising the Policy was considered but rejected as the revised Policy gives clear procedures on how Council owned shared properties are sold. It also sets out the Council's stance on building or acquiring this type of tenure in the future for inclusion in the Council Housing Stock.

**CAB/ 'Unlocking' The Avenue Southern Access**

**76/2**

**3-24**

Cabinet received an update on recent progress towards 'unlocking' the 'Southern Access' to The Avenue site. As part of this, Cabinet was recommended that the project continues to be a Regeneration Priority for the Council. Members were also reminded in this context of its status as one of the most ambitious and effective remediation projects of a former industrial site ever undertaken in the UK.

The report explained the progress which had been made to secure 'Northern Access' to the site. It also explained the action which had been taken to date to try and make the site accessible from its southern end. Members were then informed about how the Council, as a major landholder at this part of site may be able to help 'unlock' and deliver the 'Southern Access' to it.

Cabinet discussed the report. Members reflected on the extensive progress which had been made on regenerating The Avenue. They accepted the need for the Council to provide further officer time and investment on a case-by-case basis to complete its re-development, including work with the Planning department to ensure that all planning considerations are appropriately accounted for.

Cabinet recognised the contribution which a Southern Access to the site, via Mill Lane, could play in achieving further development. Members were reminded of the recent work carried out by the Council to develop a possible alternative to the use of a roundabout as a traffic management measure at Mill Lane, in order to enable a Southern Access to The Avenue. This work had been carried out with support from Derbyshire County Council. Members hoped that the Southern Access issue could be resolved as soon as possible.

**RESOLVED**

1. That Cabinet noted the recent progress in 'unlocking' The Avenue Southern Access.
2. That Cabinet approved further officer resource and undoubtedly further investment from the Council (on a business case by business case basis), to complete The Avenue development, as outlined in the report, as a regeneration priority.
3. That Cabinet supported The Avenue being discussed and promoted to partners and funders as the Council's priority regeneration scheme.

**REASONS FOR DECISION**

To approve further officer resources and further investment from the Council (on a case-by-case basis to complete The Avenue development as a regeneration priority for the Council.

**OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED**

The option of not completing the Southern Access to The Avenue as outlined in the Local Plan and various consultations was considered but rejected. To do so

could be considered negative and inflict reputational damage on the Council.

**CAB/ Urgent Items (Public)**

**77/2**

**3-24** None.

**CAB/ Exclusion of the Public**

**78/2**

**3-24** RESOLVED – That the public be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of the following items of business to avoid the disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006).

**CAB/ Report on the Future of the Housing Revenue Account Car Parking Strategy**

**79/2**

**3-24** The report to Cabinet summarised the current position with the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Car Parking Strategy. Members were asked to agree that solutions to parking problems across the District continue be brought forward, but that there be a renewed focus directly on the Council Housing Stock, through regeneration schemes and also specific intervention on void Rykneld properties where possible.

Members discussed the report and welcomed the proposed approach.

**RESOLVED**

1. That the initial pilot parking schemes at Kelstedge and Holymoorside be no longer progressed, due to the numerous issues around delivery of the individual sites.
2. That the three 'Phase One' sites at Killamarsh, Grassmoor and Ashover, which have now successfully received planning permission, be progressed to completion on site where feasible.
3. That the three Phase One sites which have currently been unsuccessful through the planning process or withdrawn, Littlemoor, Renishaw and Ridgeway, be not progressed.
4. As part of the ongoing estate management process Rykneld Homes Limited review the void specification to include the installation of hardstanding parking areas and Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points, where affordable and viable.
5. That parking improvements be incorporated, whenever feasible, in future estate regeneration/redevelopment schemes.
6. The budget allocation be utilised for future regeneration projects.

**REASONS FOR DECISION**

A significant amount of officer time and resources have been expended in order to develop specific schemes through to the Planning stage. The decision will allow action to now be taken to take forward appropriate schemes in the near

future and so enable improvements through the Housing Revenue Account to be achieved.

#### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED

As specified in the report.

#### **CAB/ Clay Cross Town Deal - Town Centre Contractor Procurement**

**80/2**

**3-24**

Cabinet was asked to approve entering into a contract with a procured construction company to deliver the Clay Cross Town Centre Regeneration Scheme. This scheme, it was explained, was a core element of the Clay Cross Town Deal programme. Members discussed the report and agreed to the proposed approach.

#### RESOLVED

That Cabinet agreed to enter a contract with Inside Limited to deliver the construction elements for the Clay Cross Town Centre Regeneration Scheme, as well as undertaking any other required associated ancillary agreements, subject to outstanding contract negotiation and due diligence requirements.

#### REASONS FOR DECISION

Agreeing to contract with the identified construction company will mean that a quality, experienced provider can be commissioned within budget to meet the objectives and delivery timescale of the Clay Cross Town Centre Regeneration Scheme.

#### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED

As specified in the report.

#### **CAB/ Urgent Items (Private)**

**81/2**

**3-24**

None.

## North East Derbyshire District Council

### Cabinet

28 March 2024

### NEDDC Climate Change Strategy 2024-2030

#### Report of Councillor Steve Pickering, Portfolio Holder for Environment and Place

Classification: Public

Report By: Sylvia Moffatt, Sustainability Officer

Contact Officer: Sylvia Moffatt, Sustainability Officer

#### **PURPOSE / SUMMARY**

To provide an overview of the Climate Change Strategy, which has been refreshed to better align to the Council Plan 2023-2027.

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#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. With regard to the updated Climate Change Strategy, Members are asked to comment on the following:
  - 1.1 That the Strategy reflects the current Council Plan's vision and priorities in a concise and clear manner.
  - 1.2 That the updated Strategy title 'Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' better reflects the Council's commitment to sustainable thinking.
  - 1.3 To note that the monitoring approach now aligns with Government guidelines to aid transparency and cohesiveness.

Approved by the Portfolio Holder – Cllr. Steve Pickering

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#### **IMPLICATIONS**

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**Finance and Risk:** Yes ☐ No ☒

##### **Details:**

There are no current financial implications. The Sustainability Officer position has been established to work closely with Service Managers to creatively develop Climate Change interventions, using existing budgets and accessing external funds.

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On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer



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**Legal (including Data Protection):**

Yes ☐

No ☒

**Details:**

There are no current legal implications.

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

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**Staffing:** Yes ☐

No ☒

**Details:**

There are no human resource implications as a result of this report.

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

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## DECISION INFORMATION

Decision Information	
<b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b> A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:  <b>NEDDC:</b> <b>Revenue - £100,000</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Capital - £250,000</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i>	No
<b>Is the decision subject to Call-In?</b> (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)	No
<b>District Wards Significantly Affected</b>	All
<b>Consultation:</b> <b>Leader / Deputy Leader</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Cabinet / Executive</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>SMT</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Relevant Service Manager</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Members</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Public</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes  Details: Cllr. Steve Pickering and Steve Lee, Assistant Director, Regeneration and Programmes.

Links to Council Plan (NED) priorities or Policy Framework including Climate Change, Equalities, and Economics and Health implications.
Key Council Plan priority of 'A great place that cares for the environment', increase biodiversity across the District and reduce carbon emissions and pollution across the District. Responding to Climate Emergency declared by the Council in 2019 and delivery of Council's commitment to sustainability, local communities and biodiversity.

Links to Council Plan (NED) priorities or Policy Framework including Climate Change, Equalities, and Economics and Health implications.

## REPORT DETAILS

### 1 Background

- 1.1 The original Climate Change Strategy was published in 2019 and revised in 2022. With the approval of the new Council Plan 2023-27, a light touch refresh has taken place in order to re-align the current Strategy with the new Council Plan.
- 1.2 The Strategy was presented to SMT and Environmental Scrutiny Committee as part of the consultation process and was well received. SMT and Environmental Scrutiny Committee recommended no further changes to the Strategy.
- 1.3 The Strategy is being presented to the Cabinet as a final step in the consultation process. Once the refreshed Climate Change Strategy has been approved by the Cabinet, the final version will be published.

### 2. Details of Proposal or Information

- 2.1. Whilst the review considered a breadth of emerging information and policy, there were no fundamental changes to the subject matter and the existing ten themes remain. The refresh ensures consistency of language and thinking with the current 2023-2027 Council Plan.
- 2.2 The Strategy title has been slightly modified, with 'Rethink' aspect being moved to the forefront, in order to emphasise the golden thread of the Strategy – the behavioural change needed in the ways we do things, which starts with rethinking current practices and operations.
- 2.3 The latest figures from SCATTER and Tyndall have been updated. The Council's emissions arising from fossil fuels have been updated to include years 2021 and 2022, including Killamarsh Active, which was acquired from Killamarsh Parish Council after the current Strategy had been published.

Killamarsh Active is the only commercial property not on a 100% renewable electricity tariff, due to property being tied into current energy provider's contract for a further 5 years.

- 2.4 The 'Monitoring our Progress' section now offers the alignment with the reporting guidance applicable to central government.
- 2.5 The Strategy will be underpinned with an action plan which is currently being drafted with input from Assistant Directors and Service Managers. This will be a working document which will enable delivery of the Strategy.

### 3 Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 To present the Council's approach on tackling climate change and enabling the Council to be more sustainable.

### 4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 No alternative options are considered appropriate as the aim of the refresh was to align the Strategy with the Council Plan 2023/27.

## DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
1	North East Derbyshire District Council Climate Change Strategy, 2024-2030
<b>Background Papers</b> (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet (NEDDC) you must provide copies of the background papers)	
n/a	

# Climate Change Strategy

*Rethink, Reduce,  
Reuse, Recycle*



North East  
Derbyshire  
District Council



2024 - 2030

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# Foreword

**Understanding climate change as a serious challenge, we officially declared a climate emergency in July 2019 and committed to taking decisive action to reduce our carbon footprint. As climate change is already affecting our ecosystems, communities and infrastructures, the need to mitigate these effects and strengthen our resilience is constantly growing.**

We are aware that this requires a systematic behavioural change, however, we have already demonstrated, throughout the recent pandemic, our capability to successfully change and adapt our behaviours to manage a global emergency.

Last year we published our Council Plan 2023 - 2027 which sets out our ambition for the District to be a place that is clean and promotes long, joyful, and healthy lives, focusing on safety and caring for the environment. We want to create an excellent community that describes the District as a great place to live, work and prosper. We recognise, that in order to achieve this aim, balancing economic, social and environmental well-being is crucial. Our first priority was to recruit a dedicated Sustainability Officer, which we have achieved. We have also committed to undertaking a review of our management of natural land assets, which is underway.

As an organisation, the Council is committed to achieving an 80% reduction in our carbon emissions by 2030 and helping the District to achieve Net Zero by 2050.

This strategy sets out how through decisive action and effective collaboration, we can create positive communities that embrace sustainability, resilience and prosperity - a truly great place for us all to share and enjoy.

We believe, that as a Local Authority, we are well-placed to deliver this change, by leading the way, sharing best practices and working together with our partners, residents, businesses, communities and stakeholders, ensuring a collaborative approach throughout our activities.

Our approach emphasises using our resources efficiently, providing cost-effective services, and adopting a lifestyle that helps to reduce our carbon footprint.

To achieve this, we will continue to explore and embrace economically viable solutions and technological advances that allow us to move away from fossil fuels and environmentally harmful operational practices and shift towards cleaner, sustainable alternatives.



**Cllr Nigel Barker**  
Council Leader



**Cllr Steve Pickering**  
Cabinet Member for  
Environment and  
Place

# Our Vision

The Council's 2023-27 vision is simple:

*'Putting strong community leadership at the heart of everything we do, we will create a Great Place. A place where people can earn a decent living and have a comfortable home. A place where people can live a long, happy, and healthy life. A place where people feel safe within communities that are full of pride and a place that is conscious of and cares for its environment.'*

**The vision of this strategy is:**

*'A greener, cleaner and safer District, with strong, prosperous communities and businesses, that cares for the environment and natural beauty of the District.'*



# Introduction

**The primary driver behind climate change and its negative impacts is the increase in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, which are causing the rise in global average temperatures.**

As the global average temperatures are increasing, we are already seeing the effects of climate change, such as melting polar ice caps, coastal erosion, rise of sea levels and changes in vegetation growth. These changes are threatening entire ecosystems of our planet, not only affecting the feeding patterns of many animals, such as birds, mammals, fish and insects, but also our own food supply.

In order to reverse the effects of a climate change, there is a growing global understanding for a need to stop greenhouse gas emissions and countries around the world are setting their own targets to reduce their carbon footprint, which is the total amount of greenhouse gas emissions tied to an individual, organisation or activity.

This challenge of a fundamental shift towards more sustainable approach also presents new opportunities for energy security and creation of green industries and jobs, that in turn, would generate many economic benefits.

As this cannot be achieved in silos and requires a joint global effort, everyone can play their part in ensuring future prosperity for generations to come and Local Authorities are well placed to influence and inspire change. By working collaboratively, leading by example and raising awareness about sustainable solutions.

In fact, sustainable solutions can emerge in almost every scenario by asking questions and applying the following guiding principles:

- **RETHINK** - can we do something different? Do we need to do it at all?
- **REDUCE** - consumables, energy, travel, waste;
- **REUSE** - renewable energy, materials, products, equipment;
- **RECYCLE** - water, waste, by-products.

As a strategic community leader and a major employer, the Council will apply these principles in regulatory functions, operations, and the services we deliver to drive the positive change. This will help to preserve our District and its biodiversity, and ensure a clean and safe environment, so that our present and future communities and businesses can thrive.



***‘We recognise that in order  
to be successful in  
reducing our carbon  
footprint, we  
cannot act in  
isolation.’***



# Policy Drivers

As the recognition for behavioural change needed continues to rise globally, we will reflect on the best practice, guidance, activities and principles identified in other international, national, and local policy documents. This strategy and our approach are informed and driven by the following policy drivers:

- The Kyoto Protocol  
[https://unfccc.int/kyoto\\_protocol](https://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol)
- The Paris Agreement  
<https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>
- COP28 UAE - United Nations Climate Change Conference  
<https://www.cop28.com>
- The Climate Change Act 2008  
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/contents>
- The Carbon Plan  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-carbon-plan-reducing-greenhouse-gas-emissions--2>
- A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment 2018  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf)
- The Resources and Waste Strategy 2018  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/resources-and-waste-strategy-for-england>
- The Clean Air Strategy 2019  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/clean-air-strategy-2019>
- The UK Circular Economy Package Policy July 2020  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/circular-economy-package-policy-statement>
- The Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution 2020  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-ten-point-plan-for-a-green-industrial-revolution>
- UK Hydrogen Strategy 2021  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-hydrogen-strategy>
- Derbyshire County Council Climate Change Strategy 2021-2025: Achieving Net Zero  
<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/site-elements/documents/pdf/environment/climate-change/climate-change-strategy.pdf>
- Derbyshire Environment and Climate Change Framework  
<https://data.climateemergency.uk/media/data/plans/derbyshire-county-council-3a14855.pdf>
- Vision Derbyshire Climate Change Strategy: 2022 - 2025  
<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/site-elements/documents/pdf/environment/climate-change/vision-derbyshire-climate-change-strategy.pdf>
- North East Derbyshire District Council - Council Plan 2023 - 2027  
<https://www.ne-derbyshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/council-plan-2023-2027>

# Current Emissions and Targets

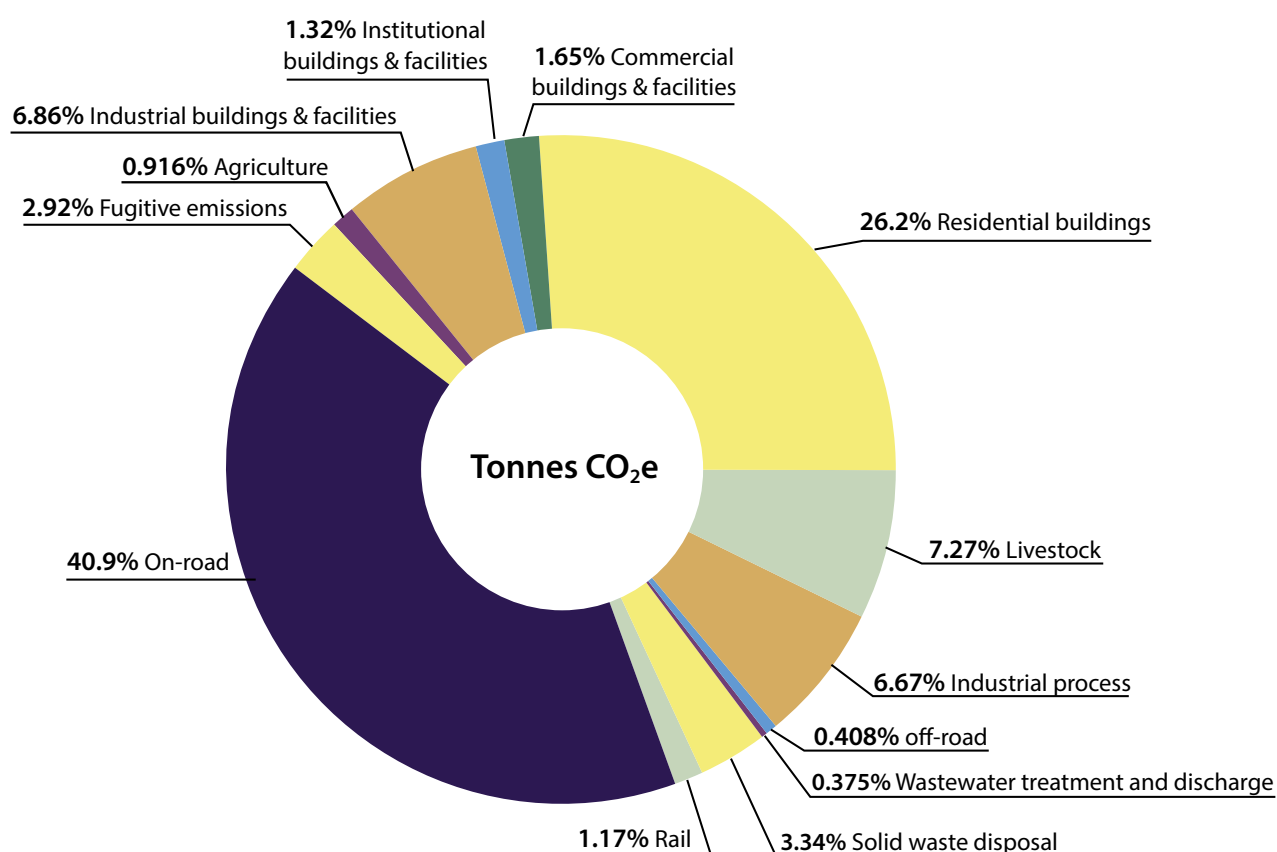
The UK has legal targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 78% by 2035 compared to 1990 levels as set out in the sixth carbon budget and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050.

Greenhouse gas emissions for the District were measured annually by BEIS (up to 2023) whose data shows that 67.1% of the District's CO<sub>2e</sub> emissions are generated by

road transport and residential buildings. To stay on track to meet the UK's 2050 net zero greenhouse gas emissions target there is an urgent need to move away from using fossil fuels in our vehicles and homes. The choices we make and the action we take can all have a positive impact on reducing the emissions we generate in our daily lives, which in turn will contribute to bringing down emissions across the District.

## NED District Emissions Sources

Subsector inventory summary for North East Derbyshire with Scope 1 (Direct) 2019



Source SCATTER



In line with the global carbon budgets set out in the Paris Agreement, under Derbyshire's decarbonisation plans NED District has its own suggested budget for 2018 - 2100 which reflects the District's particular profile and ability to make a fair contribution. This has been determined as follows:

## Energy only recommended carbon budget (million tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>)

Local Authority Area	2018 - 2022	2023 - 2027	2028 - 2032	2033 - 2037	2038 - 2042	2043 - 2047	2048 - 2100	Total 2018 - 2100
North East Derbyshire	2.2	1.1	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	4.4
Derbyshire	27.3	12.9	5.9	2.7	1.2	0.6	0.5	51.2

1: Source BEIS actual from 2014 to 2019 and Tyndall recommended for 2020 to 2050.

## Internal Target

The Council is aiming to achieve an 80% reduction in our carbon emissions by 2030 and is committed to supporting the District to meet the Tyndall Centre's suggested carbon budgets. We additionally set ourselves an internal target to reduce our own carbon emissions by 750 tonnes by 2023/24 by adopting a fabric first approach.

Through investment in renovation and new technology at Eckington Swimming Pool and Fitness Centre, and working with our housing partner, Rykneld Homes Ltd, to install external wall insulation into more than 400 properties in the District, we have met and exceed this target by permanently removing 892 tonnes of CO<sub>2e</sub> from the air in the last year. We will continue to look for opportunities to further reduce emissions as funding schemes become available.

# Our Approach

## Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan

Understanding the sources of our emissions has allowed us to develop our Climate Change Strategy and its supporting Climate Change Action Plan to identify ways to reduce the carbon footprint of our organisation and the wider District and will underpin this Strategy.

The Climate Change Strategy and Climate Change Action Plan draw together a range of strategic, tactical and operational activities being undertaken by many partners in many different areas of influence, in order to collaboratively reduce carbon emissions in the District.

Taking a One Council and One Team approach, considerations of Climate Change mitigation and expectations to monitor and evidence contributions are included in all service plans as part of everyday Council planning, operations and delivery, thereby embedding in the organisation's corporate consciousness and a fundamental element of the Council Plan, in particular the following sections:

### Reduce carbon emissions and pollution across the district

- Assist and influence other public partners, residents, and businesses to reduce their carbon emissions.

- Continually reduce the Council's own carbon emissions.
- Assist and influence other public partners, residents, and businesses to reduce pollution.
- Develop policies and plans which encourage alternatives to car usage.
- Directly, and with partners and residents, reduce litter and pollution from waste.

### Increase biodiversity across the district

- Assist and influence other public partners, residents, and businesses to utilise their assets to improve biodiversity.
- Where appropriate utilise Council assets to improve biodiversity.

We also recognise that with our One Council approach, Climate Change mitigations can also be a driver and a recipient to other core tactics across the Council Plan, for example: "Assist residents in ensuring their homes are suitable and meet their health needs," "Develop and continually improve the quality and range of housing, providing comfortable homes for residents that meet their needs," being "Financially responsible and efficient" and "Directly assist residents and businesses to access all available public services and support."

To ensure transparency and effectiveness our Cabinet Member for Environment and Place, and Environment Scrutiny Committee provide ongoing strategic oversight and governance, whilst our Sustainability Officer co-ordinates the delivery of the Climate Change Strategy and the Climate Change Action Plan.

We will use our influence across a range of issues, including waste collection and disposal, housing, environment, and transport. We have a large stock of buildings and workplaces, and we are the custodians of many parks, open spaces, and semi-rural land. We are also responsible for the production of Local Development Plans (LDPs) and play a major role in driving economic growth and local regeneration.

By exercising our statutory functions and having influence in these areas in a way that results in reduced emissions, there is the opportunity for a range of economic and social benefits for our organisation and our communities.

Schemes we are already implementing, such as fitting external wall insulation to our housing stock or rebuilding our properties that cannot be effectively improved, will ensure homes are more energy efficient and thus contribute to reductions in the wider sense. Other activities we undertake, such as clearing and cleaning drains and waterways to prevent flooding, and encouraging biodiversity in our green spaces, all help to mitigate the effects of changing weather patterns.

We are also working with our partners to inform and promote actions that will enable residents and businesses to contribute to reducing these emissions and, whilst there is always more to be done, we can clearly demonstrate that the Council is reducing its carbon emissions and providing community leadership on the topic.

The Climate Change Strategy sets out 10 thematic areas by which our organisation aims to reduce our own and our District's carbon emissions by 2030:

**Theme 1 - Operational Practices and Procurement**

**Theme 2 - Sustainable Buildings and Workplaces**

**Theme 3 - Low Carbon Transport**

**Theme 4 - Renewable Energy**

**Theme 5 - Planning**

**Theme 6 - Biodiversity**

**Theme 7 - Waste, Recycling and Pollution**

**Theme 8 - Housing**

**Theme 9 - Local Economy**

**Theme 10 - Community Collaboration**

Knowledge, awareness, technology, products, and regulation across these themes are evolving rapidly, therefore this strategy and the targets within it will be reviewed and updated regularly. It will be a dynamic plan that will change and flex as new opportunities arise, which will support and potentially further our ambition for carbon reduction.

A woman with brown hair in a ponytail, wearing a red polo shirt and glasses, is seated at a wooden desk. She is looking at a smartphone held in her left hand, while her right hand rests on the laptop trackpad. A laptop is open in front of her. In the background, there is a window with light-colored curtains and a white box on the desk.

***‘We will  
continue our  
agile working  
approach.’***



# Theme 1 - Operational Practices and Procurement

## Context:

We recognise that the Council has a broad role to play across a range of activities to reduce carbon emissions, both within the Scopes for this Authority as well as for the wider District area.

We will continuously review the ways we use our resources and assets in order to deliver our services in a smarter, more efficient way. We will also ensure that carbon reduction is embedded as a core part of decision-making and commissioning. This will help us achieve our net zero aspirations as well as improve our financial sustainability and outcomes for our customers and residents. Whether we are transforming our working practices and behaviours, or influencing our partners and suppliers, we are committed to embed sustainability into everything we do. This Theme is central to our ambition of *Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle*.

## Priorities:

- It is important to maximise the reductions in emissions with the resource available. We will continually reduce the Council's own carbon emissions by adapting the initiatives that provide the best value for money. This way we will ensure that the carbon reduction benefit achieved is reasonable and proportional to the cost of implementation.
- Our Procurement Policy complies with environmental protocols for deliverers of

large commissions and already includes the use of local contractors for goods and services wherever practical. In order to further our commitment to sustainable procurement practices, we will also adopt procurement evaluation, which considers environmental impact.

- We will continue our agile working approach, increasing the availability of online services, reducing the need for staff and customer related travel to conduct business. Where financially feasible, we will invest in new technology to transform how and where we work, to further reduce our carbon emissions and be more sustainable.
- To ensure that carbon management becomes the responsibility of everyone within the organisation, Elected Members and senior management will understand and drive the culture of 'carbon consideration,' recognising it as a key element of prudent financial management, which is aligned with the Council's drive for cost reduction, income generation, and service re-design.

## Challenges:

Resource implications, such as cost of new technology, staffing implications resulting from changes to working practices, procured services not being locally available, and the practicalities involved in delivering some actions, may limit what we are able to achieve at the pace and intensity we wish to deliver.



***‘We are focusing  
on reducing  
our carbon  
emissions.’***



# Theme 2 - Sustainable Buildings and Workplaces

## Context:

The Council's buildings and workplaces account for a significant proportion of our carbon emissions, therefore having a focus on these will be key to our carbon reduction ambition.

## Priorities:

- Adopt a fabric first approach to our buildings, seek and bid for available grant funding to insulate our commercial properties, and install new technologies to provide a good foundation for future mitigations as they become more affordable.
- Reduce energy and water usage, minimise waste through our operations, use renewable energy and energy efficient technology and practices to gain improved efficiency, reduced operating costs, and reduced environmental impact.
- Seek and maximise grant funding to facilitate upgrades on our commercial and operational properties.

## Challenges:

The cost of major renovations means that these are largely reliant on the availability of grant funding. Embedding energy saving thinking in the organisation requires buy-in from staff. A consistent message is required to ensure that the necessary behavioural changes happen.





***‘Encourage  
alternatives  
to car use  
and promote  
more  
sustainable  
travel.’***





# Theme 3 - Low Carbon Transport

## Context:

There are three elements within our remit: service vehicles, grey fleet and travel to work.

Our service fleet - refuse collection vehicles, road sweepers, vans and cars, and vehicles used by Rykneld Homes Ltd (RHL), is an integral part of our operations to deliver services such as waste collection, grounds maintenance.

Our grey fleet includes staff using their own cars for business travel. By reducing the need to travel, our fleet management has the potential to contribute significantly towards our overall carbon reduction ambition.

We employ around 500 staff and their commuting represents significant emissions.

## Priorities:

- Continue to undertake regular reviews of our fleet to see how advances in low emissions vehicle technology and fuel options could be integrated.
- Continue to carry out regular route optimisation and journey rationalisation exercises to reduce our service delivery related fuel consumption, costs, and the impact of our fleet upon the environment.
- Our agile working policies provide digital alternatives to reduce travel requirements. Whilst we continue to



work in a hybrid way, we will also develop policies and plans which encourage alternatives to car use and promote more sustainable travel.

- Continue to look at more sustainable fuel options as production and technology advances.

## Challenges:

At this point in time, it is not feasible to replace some vehicles with electric vehicles due to the topography of the District and the mileage range of the new vehicles currently available. We also have a large number of new homes being built in the District, which will extend refuse collection routes. Operational challenges with charging an electric fleet will also be a consideration.



*‘Installing  
Air Source  
Heat Pumps  
at our leisure  
centres.’*

# Theme 4 - Renewable Energy

## Context:

We use gas and electricity to heat and power our buildings and also use petrol and diesel to power our fleet. Although nearly all of the Council's commercial properties use electricity from 100% certified renewable sources since April 2021, due to technical limitations, this was not feasible in a small amount of properties. We need to increase generation of renewable energy, actively seek out new technological solutions, and continue to investigate low-carbon alternatives to allow us to power our buildings and fleet sustainably.

## Priorities:

- Install Air Source Heat Pumps and Solar Photovoltaics at our Leisure Centres and continue to look for more opportunities to have renewable energy sources installed on Council owned properties.
- Support and promote the use of renewable energy in Council's commercial properties, including supporting electric vehicle use for our grey fleet.
- Monitor future developments in power sources.

## Challenges:

Rising fuel costs, finding suitable places to site installations, and striking a balance with developers to build homes that are above the minimum standard and also give sufficient financial return.





# *‘Improving cycle routes and greenways.’*



# Theme 5 - Planning

## Context:

The planning process has the potential to make a major contribution by shaping new and existing developments in ways that reduce carbon emissions and tackle the effects of climate change by delivering the right development in the right place, informed by the ambition for sustainable development.

We can direct the siting and types of developments through the planning process and work with developers to achieve the best standards to future proof the District's housing stock.

## Priorities:

- Work to develop appropriate guidance, policy, and frameworks to ensure that planning measures for net zero buildings and biodiversity are integrated into the Local Plan and wider planning activities, using Local Design Codes as guidance.
- Review the Local Plan to reflect the increased focus on climate change and reducing carbon emissions.
- Protect and improve the Green Infrastructure Network and other linear recreation routes, cycle routes, and greenways.



- Work with the highways authority to influence the local transport plan and expand the greenways network.

## Challenges:

Government legislation and Local Plan ambitions can restrict what is realistically achievable.





***‘Encourage  
wildflower verges  
to improve  
biodiversity.’***



# Theme 6 - Biodiversity

## Context:

Our parks, open spaces and green spaces, are central to the lives of our communities, providing opportunities for leisure, play, relaxation, exercise, community cohesion, physical and mental health and wellbeing. They are also an opportunity to increase biodiversity, mitigate climate change, and support local economic growth.

By taking a holistic approach to managing these spaces, such as our mowing strategy to leave grass clippings in situ, they can become a haven for wildlife as well as a valuable community asset.

## Priorities:

- Develop local policies and produce a robust Green Infrastructure Strategy to connect settlements with their surrounding area and nature, increase biodiversity net gain, and maximise the eco-system benefits provided by trees in reducing carbon emissions.
- Encourage re-wilding and wildlife corridors for public open spaces and wildflower verges to improve biodiversity using pollinator-friendly plants in planting schemes.
- Where appropriate utilise natural land and other Council assets and review their management to improve biodiversity.
- Assist and influence other public partners, residents, and businesses to utilise their assets to improve biodiversity.



- Develop the co-operation with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust to provide advice and guidance.
- Support Derbyshire County Council's Tree and Woodland Strategy by contributing to their one million tree target.

## Challenges:

The cost implications of major tree and hedge planting schemes may be prohibitive, and initiatives such as leaving grass cuttings in situ may not be seen as attractive to everyone, therefore explanations may be necessary to ensure that the reasons and biodiversity benefits are fully understood.

***‘Rethink,  
Reduce,  
Reuse,  
Recycle.’***



# Theme 7 - Waste, Recycling and Pollution

## Context:

We operate a service that provides kerbside waste and recycling collection across the District for a wide range of items, a commercial refuse service for both general waste and recycling, and a clinical waste collection service. This ensures that all collected waste is disposed of in line with legislation and reduces the amount going to landfill and associated contamination as well as helping maintain a safe, clean and attractive environment.

All of our refuse collection vehicles are now featuring 'Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' slogan with an aim to promote and convey our commitment to circular economy and waste reduction.

## Priorities:

- Increase the levels of recycling by residents and businesses, encourage and promote composting of food waste and garden waste.
- Provide and promote effective and efficient waste collection service.
- Directly, and with partners and residents, reduce litter and pollution from waste.
- Support, empower and enable community-led litter picks.
- Use our enforcement powers to investigate and tackle environmental and domestic pollution and fly-tipping.

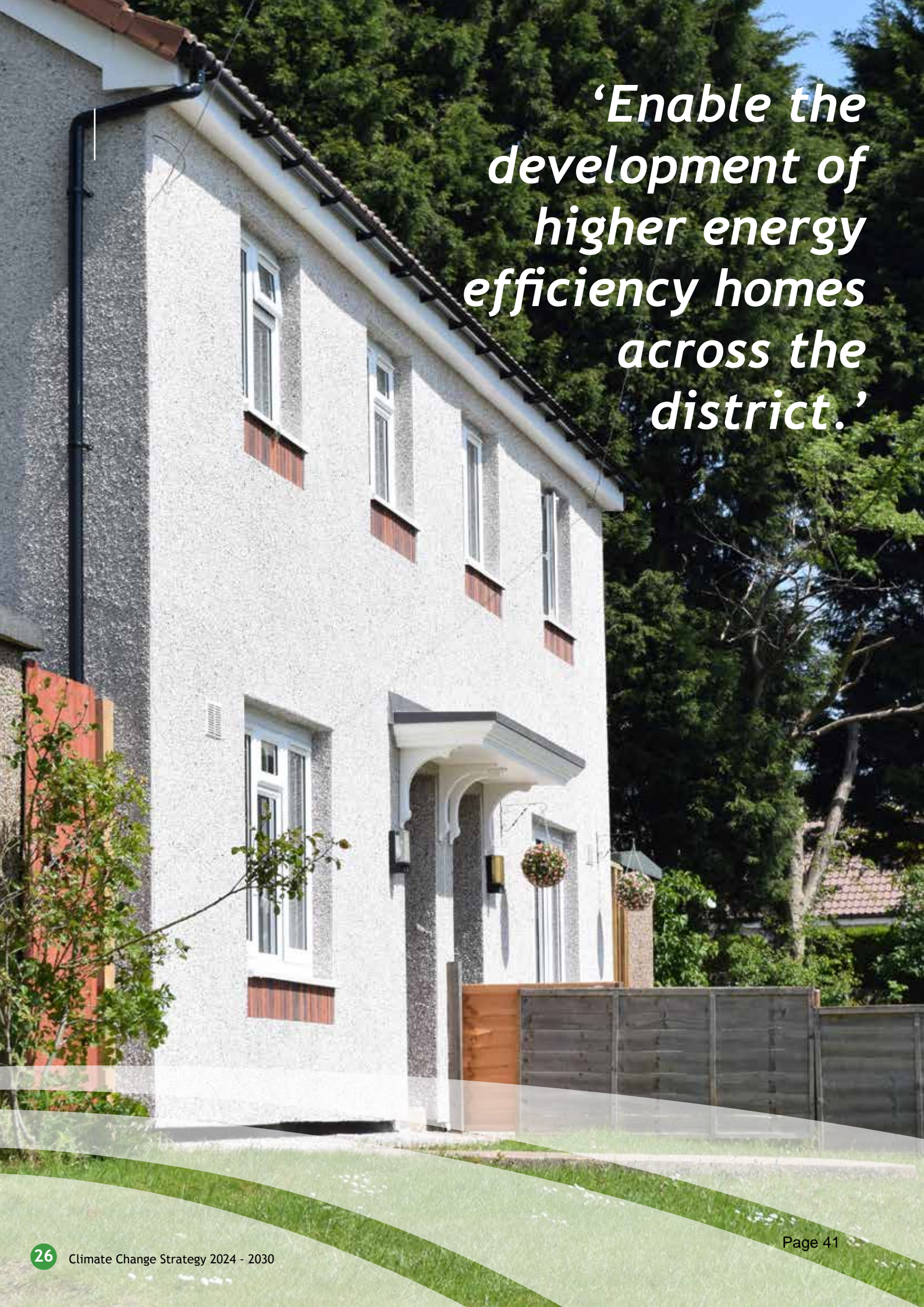
- Remove fly-tipping deposits in line with targets.
- Investigate new recycling opportunities for our residents.
- Monitor and take action where appropriate to reduce dust, air pollution, odour, noise, light, pests and smoke.
- Assist and influence other public partners, residents, and businesses to reduce pollution.
- Regulate industrial processes.

## Challenges:

Some bins are used incorrectly resulting in contamination and the contents having to go to landfill. The cost of dealing with fly tipping is an ongoing concern.







*‘Enable the development of higher energy efficiency homes across the district.’*



# Theme 8 - Housing

## Context:

The Council is a landlord for over 7,500 dwellings. In addition, there are around 41,000 other dwellings in the District. The Council can influence the sustainability of the local housing stock through investment and raising awareness of emerging opportunities. We are continually adding properties, new build and existing, to our housing portfolio and selling others.

## Priorities:


- Enable the development of higher energy efficiency homes across the district.
- Asset rationalisation programmes.
- Ongoing delivery programme improving the energy efficiency and appearance of our Council houses in partnership with RHL.
- Explore housing development and regeneration opportunities.
- Act to reduce empty homes.
- Build, acquire, and facilitate delivery of sustainable and affordable homes across the District.
- Continue Home Assistance Co-ordinator visits to residents to assist them in reducing their carbon footprint and energy bills.



- Continue working with our tenants to help them reduce their energy and water usage and carbon footprint.

## Challenges:

The cost of renovation schemes means that these are partially reliant on the availability of grant funding. Embedding energy saving thinking amongst residents requires buy-in and a time investment to explain how the best benefits are achieved.

A young Black woman with her hair in braids, wearing a white t-shirt and a dark blue apron, is smiling warmly while handing three stacked aluminum food containers to a customer. The customer's hands and a portion of their blue shirt are visible in the foreground. The background shows a kitchen environment with various items on a counter, including a red cup, a yellow cup, and some food preparation equipment. The lighting is bright and natural, creating a positive and welcoming atmosphere.

*‘Encouraging  
staff and  
residents to  
shop locally.’*

# Theme 9 - Local Economy

## Context:

Our local economy needs to work towards net zero in a timely manner. The District has a wide variety of commercial activities which all present their own challenges. By working with partners as part of the countywide approach, we want to develop our local economy by engaging with and influencing local businesses, education, public, and third sector organisations. Having a wide range of locally provided products and services will reduce travel associated with transporting goods, workers, and customers.

## Priorities:

- Support a more diverse local economy via the Local Plan and NEDDC Talent Pipeline to identify quality employment and provide volunteering, work placement, and workforce development opportunities.
- Further stipulate economic growth by working with local craftspeople to promote local building traditions and materials, encourage the adoption of the Talent Pipeline within the local business community, and encourage staff and residents to shop locally.
- Reduce the need to travel by supporting community focussed cultural activity such as “Live and Local” and community touring schemes.
- Promote local leisure centres, activities, and events by providing and facilitating good quality outdoor spaces and public footpath walking routes.



- Seek, access, and utilise external funding to renovate our towns and villages, and develop local initiatives.
- Provide information to raise awareness and advice to promote the opportunities and benefits of the local economy.
- Support innovation and growth in our businesses to enable them to reduce their carbon footprint and operate more sustainably.

## Challenges:

Developing the local economy requires external investment and grants. The success of any scheme is dependent on ‘buy-in’ from its businesses, residents, and workers, who can choose where to spend their money.



***‘Promoting green  
social prescribing  
for mental health  
and wellbeing.’***





# Theme 10 - Community Collaboration

## Context:

By working collaboratively with residents and businesses, we can collectively have a significant beneficial impact on our environment.

## Priorities:

- Raise awareness about initiatives and projects that enable individuals, groups, families, businesses, and organisations to recognise their role in contributing to a more sustainable future, and encourage people of all ages to engage more fully in carbon reduction and sustainable living.
- Work with partners to engage with the local and wider community to help them understand climate change, how it impacts upon them directly, and how they can make a difference.
- Lead by example through improving our own operation through campaigns and highlight decarbonisation projects and reduced CO<sub>2</sub> through our media channels.
- Provide accurate information, advice, and support to our businesses and residents to help them make informed choices.
- Use the *Thanks a Tonne* initiative to raise awareness and promote behaviour change to demonstrate



how lots of small actions add up to a significant contribution in mitigating climate change.

- Promote green social prescribing for mental health and wellbeing.

## Challenges:

The cost of upgrading homes and cars may be prohibitive for many people. Running the campaigns and initiatives which can help families to embed new behaviors and achieve savings will require financial investment from the Council.

# Monitoring our Progress

By far, the most important goal is to achieve real reductions in carbon emissions. It is important that the decision-making process is strongly based upon the principle of achieving the largest reductions for the money used. Monitoring and assessing the impact of individual interventions, is crucial to making the most effective decisions. The monitoring process will be co-ordinated by the Sustainability Officer, whilst our Cabinet Member for Environment and Place and the Environmental Scrutiny Committee will oversee and provide the governance to the process.

There are three strands to our monitoring:

- **Internal Operations** - all aspects of our operations.
- **Indirect Control** - things we are partly responsible for, such as our housing and planning.
- **Influence** - community engagement, education, etc.

## Internal Operations

With no definitive monitoring and reporting frameworks currently mandatory for Local Authorities, as the best practice solution, for our internal operations, where possible, we will adopt Greening Government Commitments 2021-2025 framework, which sets out the principles and standards underpinning sustainability reporting for use in Central Government.

This will ensure cohesion, efficiency, transparency, and alignment with national net zero policy.

We will monitor and report:

- Greenhouse gas emissions

There is a national approach to monitoring some aspects of carbon footprint, referred to as Scopes. These are defined as:

**Scope 1** - Direct emissions that result from the Council's day to day activities within our control, including fuel combustion on site, such as gas boilers, fleet vehicles, and grey fleet business travel.

**Scope 2** - Indirect emissions that result from the generation of electricity that the Council purchases.

**Scope 3** - All other indirect emissions from sources that result from the Council's operations, but are outside its control, such as employee travel to work, procurement, consumables, waste disposal, and water treatment.

We will monitor and report all our Scope 1 and 2 emissions, as well as those Scope 3 emissions that arise from business travel.

- Waste minimisation and management:
  - total waste arising
  - total waste recycled
  - total waste to landfill
- Paper and Single Use Consumer Plastic use
- Finite resource consumption
- Sustainable procurement

- Nature Recovery and Biodiversity
- Climate Change Adaptation
- Reducing environmental impacts from ICT and Digital
- Sustainable Construction

## Indirect Control

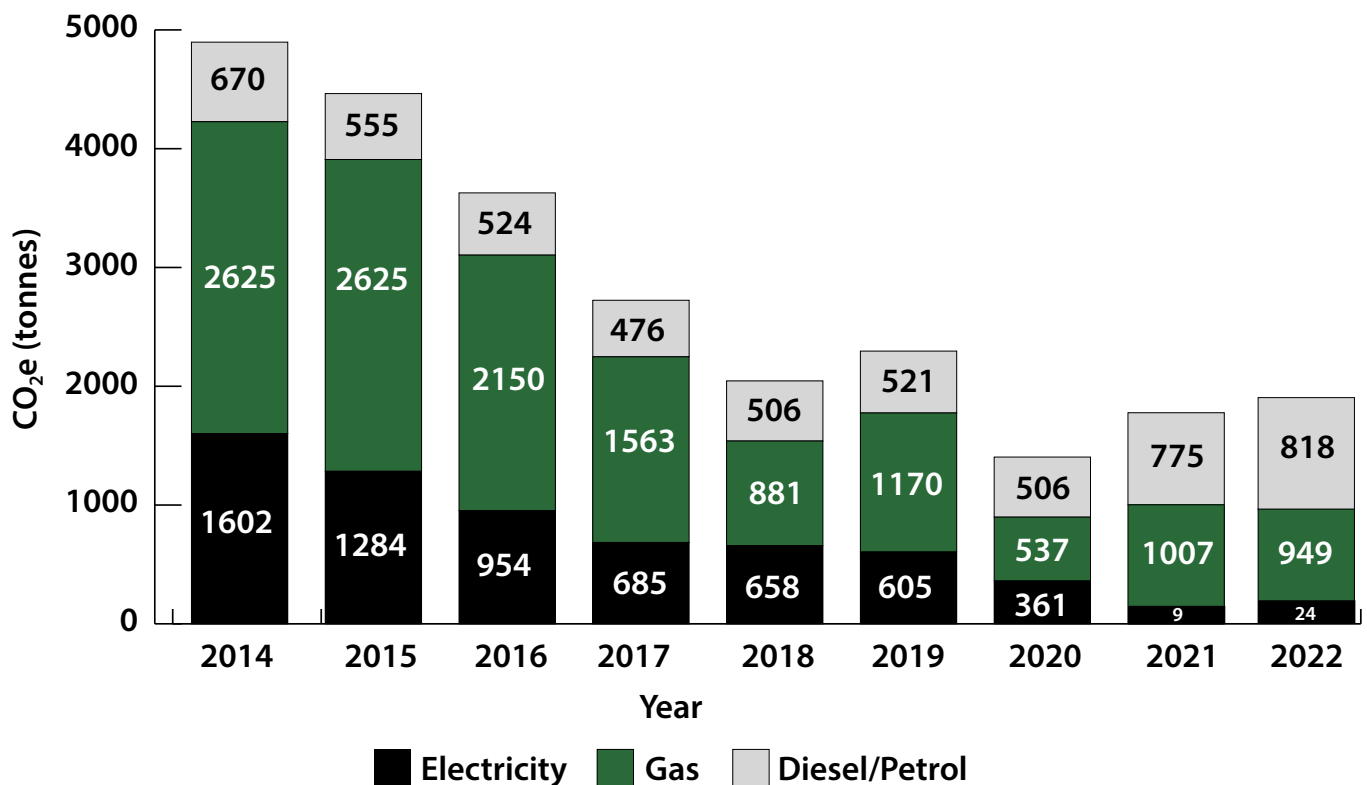
- Council Housing quality - insulation, energy efficiency etc.
- Planning policy

- Business and retail units
- Specific projects can be hard to directly assess, but a 'log' of projects undertaken, and estimated impact, will be maintained.

## Influence

- Local economy
- Local communities
- Policy

## North East Derbyshire District Council's Emissions arising from consumption of fossil fuels



Source: NEDDC internal data

Notes: 2020 figures impacted by COVID-19. All commercial building electricity, except for Killamarsh active, is from 100% certified renewable sources since 2021. Gas includes RHL Ltd. Diesel consumption increased in 2021 due to taking recycling in-house.

# Annex A - Policy Drivers

## Kyoto Protocol

The UK is committed to the Kyoto Protocol - an international treaty which considers climate change. The protocol commits countries to adopt an urgent approach to reducing their greenhouse gas emissions. The aim of the protocol was to provide countries upholding the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) the option to execute methods of setting targets to control and measure the production of greenhouse gases within the country.

[https://unfccc.int/kyoto\\_protocol](https://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol)

## The Paris Agreement

The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty on climate change and was adopted by almost every nation in 2015 to address climate change and its negative impacts. The agreement aims to substantially reduce global greenhouse gas emissions in an effort to limit the global temperature increase in this century to 2 degrees Celsius above preindustrial levels, while pursuing the means to limit the increase to 1.5 degrees.

<https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>

## COP28

The COP28 summit brought parties together to accelerate action towards the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. It enabled countries to revisit climate pledges made under the 2015 Paris Agreement and sets

the global agenda on climate change for the next decade with the goal to keep cutting emissions until they reach net zero by 2050.

<https://www.cop28.com>

## The Climate Change Act 2008

The Climate Change Act 2008 makes the UK the first country to have a legally binding long-term framework to cut carbon emissions. It also creates a framework for building the UK's ability to adapt to climate change. Initially committing to an 80% reduction in emissions by 2050 set against 1990 levels, in 2019 a more ambitious target was set to achieve net zero emissions by 2050.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/contents>

## The Carbon Plan

In December 2011 the Government developed the Carbon Plan with proposals for achieving reductions and meeting the 2050 target. This Plan is in accordance with the Climate Change Act 2008 and determines the ways in which the emission reduction targets will be achieved through carbon budgets, which provide legally binding limits on the amounts of emissions that may be produced in successive 5 year periods.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-carbon-plan-reducing-greenhouse-gas-emissions--2>

## A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment 2018

This document details the Government's comprehensive and long-term approach to protecting and enhancing the natural environment in England. Its goals are cleaner air and water, plants and animals which are thriving and a cleaner, greener country for the next generation.

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5ab3a67840f0b65bb584297e/25-year-environment-plan.pdf>

## The Resources and Waste Strategy 2018

This Strategy is linked to the 25 Year Environment Plan and sets out the Government's plan to preserve the country's stock of material resources by minimising waste, promoting resource efficiency, and moving towards a circular economy.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/resources-and-waste-strategy-for-england>

## The Clean Air Strategy 2019

This Strategy sets out how the Government will tackle all sources of air pollution, making our air healthier to breathe, protecting nature, and boosting the economy.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/clean-air-strategy-2019>

## The UK Circular Economy Package Policy July 2020

The UK is committed to moving towards a more circular economy, which will seek to keep resources in use as long as possible, extracting maximum value from them, minimizing waste, and promoting resource efficiency. The Circular Economy Package (CEP) introduces a revised legislative framework, identifying steps for the reduction of waste, and establishing an ambitious and credible long-term path for waste management and recycling.

The UK's commitment is to recycle 65% of municipal waste and send no more than 10% municipal waste to landfill by 2035.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/circular-economy-package-policy-statement/circular-economy-package-policy-statement>

## The Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution 2020

This Plan sets out how the Government will mobilise £12 billion of government investment, and potentially three times as much from the private sector, to create and support up to 250,000 green jobs.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5fb5513de90e0720978b1a6f/10-POINT\\_PLAN\\_BOOKLET.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5fb5513de90e0720978b1a6f/10-POINT_PLAN_BOOKLET.pdf)

## UK Hydrogen Strategy 2021

The UK Hydrogen Strategy and supporting policy package lay the foundations for a thriving hydrogen economy, one that can support our trajectory to achieving our world leading Sixth Carbon Budget and net zero commitments.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-hydrogen-strategy>

## Derbyshire County Council Climate Change Strategy 2021 - 2025: Achieving Net Zero

This document sets out Derbyshire County Council's ambition to be a net zero organisation by 2032 or sooner, and what it will do to help the county to be net zero by 2050.

<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/site-elements/documents/pdf/environment/climate-change/climate-change-strategy.pdf>

## Derbyshire Environment and Climate Change Framework

The Framework sets out Derbyshire's carbon budgets and trajectories and the key strategies which partners will develop and implement to achieve collective ambitions.

<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/site-elements/documents/pdf/environment/climate-change/derbyshire-environment-and-climate-change-framework.pdf>

## Vision Derbyshire Climate Change Strategy: 2022 - 2025

The purpose of this Strategy is to present a vision for Derbyshire to thrive and prosper as a net zero county. It has been developed through collaborative working between the county, district, and borough councils across Derbyshire under the shared commitment of Vision Derbyshire, which seeks to strategically improve outcomes for people and places, speak with one voice as a county, and coordinate our resources better and more sustainably.

The five key themes of the Strategy are:

- Local Authority Estate, Operations and Services
- Strengthening the Low Carbon Economy
- Decarbonising Derbyshire's Housing
- Sustainable Transport, Travel and Infrastructure
- Waste and Resources

<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/site-elements/documents/pdf/environment/climate-change/vision-derbyshire-climate-change-strategy.pdf>

## North East Derbyshire District Council Plan 2023 - 2027

The Council Plan 2023 - 2027 sets out the ambition and aims of the Council. Key priorities include the protection and enhancement of our environment and tackling the causes and effects of climate change.

<https://www.ne-derbyshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/council-plan-2023-2027>



# Annex B - Glossary

## Glossary

<b>BEIS</b>	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
<b>CO<sub>2</sub></b>	Carbon dioxide is a natural, colourless and odourless greenhouse gas that is emitted when fossil fuels (i.e., natural gas, oil, coal, etc.) are burnt.
<b>CO<sub>2e</sub> emissions</b>	Carbon dioxide equivalent emissions is a term for describing different greenhouse gases in a common unit. For any quantity and type of greenhouse gas, CO <sub>2e</sub> signifies the amount of CO <sub>2</sub> which would have the equivalent global warming impact.
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>NED</b>	North East Derbyshire
<b>NEDDC</b>	North East Derbyshire District Council
<b>ICT</b>	Information and communications technology

# Annex C - Sources

## BEIS UK GHG emissions

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-greenhouse-gas-emissions-statistics>

## Department for Transport - Transport and Environment Statistics 2021 Annual report

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/transport-and-environment-statistics-2021>

## GHG reporting conversion factors

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2022>

## SCATTER

<https://scattercities.com/>

## Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research

<https://tyndall.ac.uk/>

## Equalities Statement

North East Derbyshire District Council is committed to equalities as an employer and when delivering the services it provides to all sections of the community.

The Council believes that no person should be treated unfairly and is committed to eliminating all forms of discrimination, advancing equality and fostering good relations between all groups in society.

## Access for All statement

You can request this document or information in another format such as large print or language or contact us by:

- Phone: [01246 231111](tel:01246 231111)
- Email: [connectne@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:connectne@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk)
- Text: [07800 00 24 25](tel:07800 00 24 25)
- BSL Video [Call](#): a FREE, three way video call with us and a BSL interpreter.
- Call with [Relay UK](#) via textphone or app on [0800 500 888](tel:0800 500 888). FREE phone service for anyone who has difficulty hearing or speaking.
- Visiting our [offices](#) at Wingerworth: 2013 Mill Lane, [S42 6NG](tel:01246 231111).



## North East Derbyshire Council

### Cabinet

## Council Plan Objectives - Update October to December 2023

28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

### Report of the Leader

Classification: This report is public

Report By: Kath Drury, Information, Engagement and Performance Manager

Contact Officer: As above

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### **PURPOSE / SUMMARY**

To report progress on the objectives underpinning the Council plan for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

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### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That progress against the Council Plan 2023-2027 objectives be noted.

Approved by The Leader

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### **IMPLICATIONS**

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Finance and Risk: Yes ☐ No ☒

Details:

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

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Legal (including Data Protection): Yes ☐ No ☒

Details

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

---

Staffing: Yes ☐ No ☒

Details:

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

## DECISION INFORMATION

Decision Information	
<b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b> A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:  <b>NEDDC:</b> <b>Revenue - £100,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £250,000 <input type="checkbox"/></b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i>	No
<b>Is the decision subject to Call-In?</b> (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)	No
<b>District Wards Significantly Affected</b>	None
<b>Consultation:</b> <b>Leader / Deputy Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Cabinet <input type="checkbox"/></b> <b>SMT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/></b> <b>Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/></b>	Details: Ward Members

### Links to Council Plan priorities, including Climate Change, Equalities, and Economics and Health implications.

The report links to all Council plan 2023-27 objectives and priorities.

## REPORT DETAILS

### 1 Background

The Council plan 2023-27 has four objectives:

- A great place that cares for the environment.
- A great place to work.
- A great place to live well.
- A great place to access good public services.

Information on progress on what the Council has done on the four objectives are contained at appendix one.

1.2 Under each objective there are several strategies which prioritise what the Council is setting out to achieve by March 2027. Under each strategy there are specific tactics or commitments that will shape our approach and under those a range of activities that in combination will help us to deliver the objectives.

1.3 The appendix is set out to reflect the structure of the Council plan.

## **2. Details of Proposal or Information**

- 2.1 The appendix lists what has been done and achieved by those service areas with contributions to make for this period. These are noted under each objective, strategy, and tactic.
- 2.2 The report was taken to Senior Management team on 29th January 2024 and the Scrutiny committees for consideration and oversight.
- 2.3 No specific concerns or issues have been raised under the objectives for this period.
- .

## **3 Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 This is an information report to keep Members informed of progress against the council plan objectives.

## **4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

- 4.1 Not applicable to this report as providing an overview of progress against the council plan objectives.

## **DOCUMENT INFORMATION**

<b>Appendix No</b>	<b>Title</b>
1	A summary of progress for the Council Plan objectives– for the period ending December 2023
<b>Background Papers</b> (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet you must provide copies of the background papers)	





**North East  
Derbyshire**  
District Council

# Council Plan 2023 - 2027

A summary of progress for the period  
October to December 2023 (Q3)





## A great place to live well

### A Community with Lifelong Good Health



- Completed Skate Park at Killamarsh Active.



- A total of **4880 attendances** to community-based activity.
- **14 housing disrepair cases** involving private landlords were resolved. 18 cases were dealt with giving energy efficiency advice.
- The new Environmental Health Outreach team dealt with **69 service requests**.



### A place where people enjoy spending time



- £250k grant funding secured for leisure centre upgrades and two further bids submitted for decarbonation work
- Developed the Food and Drink Trail with business partners.



### A place to live that people value



- **48 social houses being built** in Whiteleas.
- Worked commissioned on Improvements to the 'public realm' at Clay Cross and Dronfield.



- The Enforcement team responded to **112 service requests** from partners and residents to act on environmental issues including abandoned vehicles, fly tipping / litter accumulations, and dog related issues (strays, lost, fouling).





# A great place to work



## A community with a diverse range of commutable employment that match the skills of residents



- Working with Chesterfield Borough Council to increase 'Green Skills'



- Active partner, working with stakeholders to shape East Midlands Combined County Authority.
- Shop Front Enhancement Scheme funded 13 sites to date, with 5 under appraisal and 23 in the pipeline.

## A community with growing, commutable employment opportunities



- Procured construction partner for **16 new build commercial units** as part of the Clay Cross town centre.





# A great place to access good public services



## Assist and influence other public partners to improve their services in the district



- Voluntary and community grants issued to advice agencies.
- Supported residents with **£53k grant funding** following Storm babet.
- Armed Forces Community (AFC) Service Providers Consultation event held to consult on AFC needs in the District.



- Of the **3,269 responses** to the survey, 2,732 respondents (83.6%) stated they were satisfied with their local area as a place to live.



## Continually improve Council services to deliver excellence and value for money



- Revs and Bens exceeding targets in processing new claims for housing benefit and council tax benefit processed in 17 days (target 20 days) and changes in 9 days (target 10 days).
- The S151 Officer has confirmed in the MTFP that estimates are robust and reserve levels adequate at this time.
- Positive staff feedback. 75% of employees feel like they belong at North East Derbyshire District Council and 94% of employees understand how their work contributes to the success of North East Derbyshire District Council.
- 26 staff across the organisation are undertaking L3 and L5 ILM apprenticeship courses including a degree apprenticeship.







# A great place that cares for the environment



## Reducing carbon emissions and pollution across the district



- Employed a sustainability officer to deliver the climate change strategy.
- Held several events to promote energy efficiency and carbon reduction.
- Air quality monitoring carried out, indicating a reduction in NO<sub>2</sub>.
- Conditions being applied to planning conditions to mitigate against climate change.
- Feasibility study procured on the more sustainable new depot.
- Accumulatively a total of **146 external wall insulation installed.**
- Feasibility study being carried out into EV charging points and PV panels at Mill Lane.



## Increasing biodiversity across the district



- Community led initiatives encouraged including engaging with Derbyshire County Council regarding the development of the Heartwood Community Forest.
- Working with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust to deliver against biodiversity duty.
- **£50k agreed to be invested** to improve biodiversity for the Clay Cross Active development.

# Comprehensive update against tactics

*A great place to live well*

Appendix

The following progress has been made on  
*a community with lifelong good health*



## Tactics

- Maximise opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities to participate in physical and social activity.
- Directly or in partnership, reducing health inequality supporting Public Health, DCC and other partners to deliver targeted programmes in the district.
- Assist residents in ensuring their homes are suitable and meet their health needs.



### Maximise opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities to participate in physical and social activity

- Secured S106 contributions of £38,124.50 to be spent on Recreation ground/cricket ground, Birkinstyle lane, Stonebroom. Plus, a £13,393.82 10-year maintenance fee (22/00886/OL) (Planning).
- Leisure participation was 48,234 visits through this period which is 8,338 above the target.

### Directly or in partnership, reducing health inequality supporting Public Health, DCC and other partners to deliver targeted programmes in the district

- Secured S106 contributions towards Chesterfield Royal hospital of £66,000 as part of application at Stonebroom (22/00886/OL) (Planning).
- In December a Stay Well, Check In on relatives, keeping health partner campaign was launched (Communications).
- Funded Parkinson's project finished December 2023, sessions continue at Eckington and Killamarsh centres. A total of 4880 attendances to community-based activity e.g., health intervention this quarter against a target of 4,800 (Leisure).

### Assist residents in ensuring their homes are suitable and meet their health needs

- Secured conditions requiring accessible and adaptable homes in line with Policy LC4, including applications at Stonebroom (22/00886/OL). Approved application 23/00834 to amend the layout of Ellen House, Holmewood scheme to provide support space for residents (Planning).
- 30 External Wall Insulation (EWI) measures have been completed on the Council's housing stock in December. The total for Q3 (Year to date) is now 146. Service Delivery performance information for the management and maintenance of the Council's housing stock for Q3 was reported to the Board of Rykneld Homes in December. No variances or exceptions to report in Q3 and service delivery is being maintained. Performance data is being produced in line with the Regulator for Social Housing's Tenant Satisfaction Measures. (Housing).
- During this quarter works have been completed at 5 premises to facilitate adaptations to meet health needs to the value of £34,050. Six Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) applications were approved to the value of £86,863 and 19 new applications were received.





- 14 housing disrepair cases involving private landlords were resolved. 18 cases were dealt with giving energy efficiency advice. The new Outreach team dealt with 69 service requests.
- 2 private landlords were served notice to bring housing up to standard, 1 landlord was served notice to clear debris relating to an empty property; 2 premises owners were served notice to provide information regarding investigation of suspected unlicensed Homes in Multiple Occupation (HMO).
- 108 pest control treatment courses were completed, and 143 new Pest Control requests were received (Environmental health).
- Property & Estates assist Rykneld in the delivery of several disabled adaptations across the Council Housing estate. One scheme in Dronfield ongoing for 2023/24.
- Included conditions on CCTD (planning permission ref. 23/00601/FL) decision to ensure acceptable living conditions for adjacent residents. (Planning).
- The Commercial Team received 22 infectious disease notifications including 1 for legionella which is currently still under investigation due to the patient still being in hospital and a total of 104 food hygiene inspections/ audits were carried out with 7 revisits. 9 complaints were received regarding food hygiene; 10 H&S at work visits at business premises took place and 2 H&S related complaints were investigated resulting in actions (Environmental Health).
- 88 business enquiries were received of which 76% were responded to within 3 working days and 39 domestic pollution service requests were dealt with (Environmental Health).
- The Licensing Team issued 213 new licences (4 animal welfare, 10 House to House collections, 2 gambling, 4 small lotteries, 25 premises, 8 personal, 31 temporary events, 106 vehicle, 22 drivers, 1 operator) and issued 8 notices for either driver or vehicle suspensions (no taxi licences were revoked) on the grounds of public safety. (Environmental Health).

## The following progress has been made on *a place to live that people value*

### Tactics

- Develop and continually improve the quality and range of housing providing a nice home and area for all residents to meet all needs.
- Directly and with partners, improve where people live to ensure they are safe, clean, functional, and attractive.
- Well maintained public realm that connects our communities.



### Develop and continually improve the quality and range of housing providing a nice home and area for all residents to meet all needs

- As part of approved application ref. 23/00708/FL at North Wingfield we approved a variation to increase the numbers of affordable rent to adapt scheme to demand/need of local residents. (Planning).
- We have committed to 2 properties as part of the safe and legal route consultation for a max of 8 people for Asylum Dispersal. At the end of December eleven families were in B&B accommodation including three because of winter provision. This is down by four from November. 23 households were in temporary accommodation in December, down from 35 in November. New measures have been introduced including senior sign off for placements and 2 weekly reviews of occupants in temporary accommodation. Service delivery performance information for the management and maintenance of the Council's housing stock for Q3 was reported to the Board of Rykneld Homes in December. No variances or exceptions to report in Q3 and service delivery is being maintained. Performance data is being produced in line with the Regulator for Social Housing's Tenant Satisfaction Measures. (Housing).

### Directly and with partners, improve where people live to ensure they are safe, clean, functional, and attractive

- Worked with police and Environmental Health to approve new and upgraded public realm with a scheme of CCTV as part of CCTD application (planning permission ref. 23/00601/FL). (Planning)
- Community Safety events planned with the Police, Schools and Extreme Wheels. Currently working indoors at Clay Cross, Killamarsh, and Holmesfield. New community safety officer commenced in role and this increased capacity has allowed the team to have a more visible presence in key district areas. Target Hardening currently in place for over 20 households.
- Working in Dronfield and Unstone to increase awareness of ASB and Serious Acquisitive Crime. 5 "cuppa with a copper visits" carried out in December x2 Killamarsh x1 Dronfield x1 Eckington. 50 community door knocks carried out at Pilsley and Clay Cross and 70 households door knocked during burglary week too.
- Gully and sweeping schedules have been adjusted following requests from DCC for areas of known flooding. Full review will commence in April 2024 (Streetscene).





- The Enforcement team responded to 112 service requests from partners and residents to act on environmental issues including abandoned vehicles, fly tipping / litter accumulations, and dog related issues (strays, lost, fouling), and proactively carried out 4 patrols in town centres to tackle littering and dog fouling. 18 targeted proactive littering/dog fouling patrols were undertaken, and CCTV was placed in a fly tipping hotspot for evidence gathering.
- 9 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) were issued for littering (3), fly abandoned vehicles (3), Failure to produce (2) and Breach of Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) (1). (Environmental Health).
- Campaign was run in December to promote making resident's houses safe from burglars over the festive season. This was run as a website and social media campaign (Communications).

### **Well maintained public realm that connects our communities**

- Approved new and upgraded public realm as part of CCTD application. Discussions with Economic Development regarding improvements to Dronfield Civic Centre Public Realm (Planning).
- Working with Sport England to explore opportunities through the Active Parks/ Environment for Clay Cross Active. A list of items with costs has been sent for potential project to improve connectivity to Clay Cross Town Centre (Leisure).

## The following progress has been made on *a place where people enjoy spending time*

### Tactics

- Improve and promote places and attractions to spend leisure time.
- Develop and promote the local 'offer' to ensure high quality and a diverse range of activities and places to spend time.



### Improve and promote places and attractions to spend leisure time

- Promotion at Killamarsh Active of 7-4-1 soft play offer, trampolining promoted at Killamarsh Active too. Both were run as social media and website campaigns (Comms).
- Promotion of excellent customer satisfaction results. Leisure rebranding is progressing well and the creation of a new Leisure website (Leisure).

### Develop and promote the local 'offer' to ensure high quality and a diverse range of activities and places to spend time

- Food and Drink trail being finalised in order to launch at the beginning of the 2024 tourist season.

The following progress has been made on  
***A community with growing, commutable employment opportunities***

## Tactics

- Support existing businesses (including the Council) to maintain and grow workforce.
- Support new business to start creating employment.
- Attract new businesses to the area which brings new jobs.



### Support existing businesses (including the Council) to maintain and grow workforce

- Shop Front Enhancement Scheme funded 13 sites to date, with 5 under appraisal and 23 in the pipeline (Regeneration and Programmes).
- Approved app 23/00333/FL (old Colliery Yard, Morton) for new building at existing business to increase storage space (Planning).
- Prompt payment of invoices aids the supply chain especially for smaller local businesses so it important that we pay suppliers on time. In December 99% of invoices were paid promptly (Target 98%) (Finance).

### Support new business to start creating employment

- UKSPF supporting Vision Derbyshire Business Start-Up project (Regeneration and Programmes).
- Approved CCTD (23/00601/FL) redevelopment which will potentially create 16 new build commercial units and bring back into use two historic buildings in the town centre (Planning).
- Instagram campaign held in December supporting local businesses which was run as a Christmas calendar, highlighting a new business for each of the 24 days (Communications & Finance).

- Environmental Health officers provided advice to businesses and potential new business owners on a range of issues including creation of Houses in Multiple Occupation, new developments requiring permitting under Environmental Pollution regulations, setting up of new food premises etc. During the next quarter the service will be exploring ways to better capture this to demonstrate our impact.

### Attract new businesses to the area which brings new jobs

- Participated in the consultation and development of the forthcoming Derbyshire (D2) Inward Investment Strategy (Regeneration and Programmes).
- Disposal of land specifically brought forward for Employment Uses could be prioritised through the Asset Management process. The sites should be attractive to developers so they will be built out and new businesses are then attracted to the area. Land at Rotherwood Rd Killamarsh under review to be brought forward - 3.3acre site zoned General Employment Area in Local Plan (Property and Estates).



The following progress has been made on *a community with a diverse range of commutable employment that match the skills of residents*



## Tactics

- Work with partners to match and develop local skills with local business employment need.

### Work with partners to match and develop local skills with local business employment need.

- Developing a joint procurement exercise for the Green Skills project with Chesterfield Borough Council (£100k UKSPF) - (Regeneration and Programmes).
- Ensure major developments encourage local training and employment opportunities in line with condition requested by Economic Development Team e.g., condition 2 of planning permission 23/00708/FL (Whiteleas Avenue) - (Planning).
- Clay Cross Active Social Value initiative: Local labour 52%, 1 local employee who was previously unemployed, Local apprentice started 4th September, 2x t-level students to start on January 2024 (Leisure).



## The following progress has been made on continually improve Council services to deliver excellence and value for money

### Tactics

- Fiscally responsible and efficient.
- Listen to customers (Residents and Businesses) to improve services.
- Ensure good governance and transparency in all we do.
- Modernise and innovate services to continually improve.
- Maintain a motivated and skilled workforce.



### Fiscally responsible and efficient

- Processed new Housing Benefit (HB) & Council Tax Reduction (CTR) claims in 16.8 days (target 20). Processed change of circumstances for HB & CTR in 4.2 days, against a target of 6. Council Tax collection rate is 83.5% (on track - 97% by 31.3.24). Business rates 82.8% (on track 97% by 31.3.24). (Revs and Bens).
- Implemented improved workflow procedures to enable more accurate tracking of payments for Environmental Permitting, and to take enforcement action where necessary for non-payment. (Environmental Health).
- Capital receipts received in December totalled £166k. To date this year, we have generated £1.775m. The Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) is now drafted and going forward for approval. The budget position through to the end of 2025/26 is manageable. Future years become more challenging due to the uncertainty around national funding. Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2023 requires the Council's S151 Officer to comment on the robustness of estimates and adequacy of reserves on an annual basis. The S151 Officer has confirmed in the MTFP that estimates are robust and reserve levels adequate at this time. (Finance).
- In ICT, the production server hosts have been replaced. The next estimated replacement will be in 5 years' time, although move to Cloud hosting may be viable by then and costs will be re-evaluated. (ICT).
- Working on tender process through Orbit 4 for gym equipment replacement. We have secured an additional £250k from Sport England towards Clay Cross Active to de-risk the project (financially). Secured £130k from the swimming pool support fund via Sport England to off-set Gas/ electric costs. Submitted a second bid for capital funding of £105k for efficiency improvements at Dronfield Sports Centre and awaiting decision. A further bid submitted to Town Deal for £110k for 240 additional solar panels. Developing a 5-year capital investment programme (Leisure).
- Bid submitted for Protec funding that will use Virtual Reality to showcase Dronfield public realm works in conjunction with private sector works in the town as a way of showcasing what the finished works will look like. Awaiting outcome (Programmes).
- Ongoing Disposals/Capital Receipts Programme; £552,410 - completed to date this year, £101,500 with legal pending completion, £279,000 approval obtained, £8m actively being reviewed and brought through Asset Management Board process. Major disposals now being brought forward are Pioneer House Wingerworth and Manor Farm Dronfield - both for 100% affordable housing schemes. Eckington Depot Relocation - ongoing



with target date to be operational in new premises by end of 2025. (Property and Estates).

### **Listen to customers (Residents and Businesses) to improve services**

- Customer satisfaction survey analysis showed just under 60% of clients were satisfied with the Environmental Health service overall. The area with highest satisfaction was the way officers explained initially what could or could not be done, however customers were least satisfied with how well they were kept informed of progress. Areas for improvement will be explored during Q4 and inform the service improvement plan. (Environmental Health).
- Customer Services team visiting communities to promote Self Service. Elections and Revenues also participating in these drop-in sessions. (Customer services).
- Customer Satisfaction Survey completed with over 361 responses. The service achieved a score of 88.69% which is 5% higher than 2022 and far higher than the public sector benchmark of 76.6% (Leisure).
- AD for Planning is attending introductory meetings with Parish Council chairs and clerks (approximately 10 to date) and collating feedback on the performance of the Planning Service. (Planning).
- 3,269 residents completed the Residents' Survey, analysis commenced. (Performance).

### **Ensure good governance and transparency in all we do**

- Three complaint Internal reviews received, all dealt with in standard. 48 formal complaints received this quarter, 85% dealt with in standard. 1 upheld Ombudsman complaint. (Customer services).
- Ombudsman reports reviewed by the Monitoring Officer have been referred to the Standards Committee for oversight. The Annual Constitution review got underway in this period, expected completion for May Council meeting. Scrutiny work plan currently being worked up following work done in the first half of the year and

successful recruitment of a Scrutiny Officer. Electoral Services have completed a Polling Place review in this period and are undergoing preparations for several elections in 2024. Work has also commenced on cyber preparedness as this will be a high-profile target during 2024. (Governance).

- ICT are currently testing Exchange Online, and the rollout of mobile device management is continuing. Training exercise with ICT staff has fed into this year's work plan / forward schedule of change to make resilience improvements, including moving to cloud Exchange online and M365 security products.
- Cyber event preparedness is a strategic risk for the Council. Work is ongoing in this area; current focus is on high-risk areas including elections. Gloucester cyber event lessons learned report has been taken to SMT. (Finance).
- ICT are currently testing Exchange Online which provides more resilience along with Microsoft Defender End point security and Web filtering also being tested.
- Internal Audits completed: VAT and Treasury Management. Both received substantial assurance (Finance). IT for Members - Reasonable Assurance (ICT).
- Equalities and data protection training for Streetscene operatives commenced on 05/12/23, to continue until February 2024 (9 sessions). A series of communications were put together to mark International Day of People with Disabilities (03/12/23). (Performance).

### **Modernise and innovate services to continually improve**

- Hybrid Mail now live in several departments and proving highly effective and delivering significant savings. Roll out across the Council continues (Customer services).
- A review of all website information and e-forms for Food Safety has been undertaken and improvements will be progressed in Q4 to improve the customer journey when





looking for information and reporting issues etc. (Comms & Environmental Health)

- Further development of the integration between online webforms to the Licensing back-office system has taken place enabling Taxi Renewal applications to be completed online. Compared to this period last year we have seen an increase in the number of electronic Taxi Licensing applications. This integration has increased efficiency, avoiding double entry of application information (Environmental Health).
- Cabinet considering the use of Planning Performance Agreements to recover the cost of processing applications (Planning).

### **Maintain a motivated and skilled workforce**

- Ongoing training for Streetscene staff and good discussions taking place. Improvements suggested by workforce. (Streetscene).
- Ongoing CPD training is taking place within the Environmental Health Service. We are supporting seven colleagues to completed training and gain the necessary experience to become qualified EHOs. In this quarter 1 of the 7 became the first officer in many years to successfully complete the qualification. (Environmental Health).

- The Biennial staff event took place in December which was incredibly well attended and successful. Work continues on the People Strategy and Talent Pipeline and new connections have been established with local universities. The annual appraisal process concludes at the end of December (Human resources).
- 26 staff across the organisation are undertaking L3 and L5 ILM apprenticeship courses including a degree apprenticeship (Leisure, Environmental Health, Planning and Programmes).
- One Estates officer now on day release on MSc. Property Valuation & Management. One engineer now on HNC in Land Engineering (Property and Estates).



## The following progress has been made on *assist and influence other public partners to improve their services in the district*

### Tactics

- Actively participate, nurture relationships, and maximise benefits for NEDDC residents in partnerships such as Health, Economy, Resilience, etc.
- Collate and analyse district wide data to inform improvements.
- Directly assist residents and businesses to access all available public services and support.



### Actively participate, nurture relationships, and maximise benefits for NEDDC residents in partnerships such as Health, Economy, Resilience, etc.

- Voluntary and community grants recommendations approved by panel; provisional offer letters sent to meet Derbyshire Compact. NEDDC Housing Strategy have agreed to contribute £13k towards the Derbyshire Unemployed Workers' Centre grant (£22,377). (Programmes).
- Sale of former Bridge St Depot Site completed on 10.01.24 to Derbyshire Police for new SNT Headquarters. New NHS Health Clinic being considered on remaining Council owned land at Bridge St Clay Cross. (Property & Estates).

### Collate and analyse district wide data to inform improvements

- Derbyshire Observatory area profiles dated from 2014 being used to inform of trends in a range of local indicators. Residents Survey (3269 respondents) being analysed. (Performance Team).

### Directly assist residents and businesses to access all available public services and support

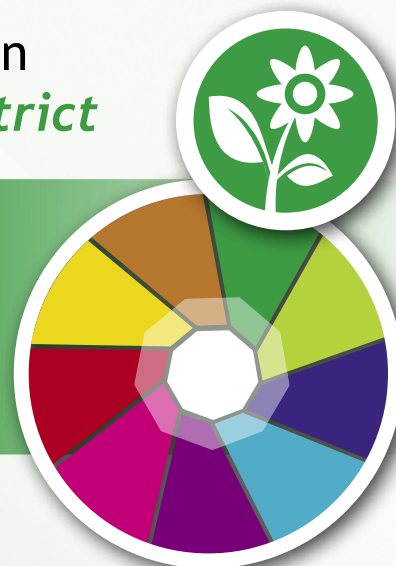
- Armed Forces Community (AFC) Service Providers Consultation event held on 05/12/23 to consult on AFC needs in the District. This was supported by a social media campaign.

- Administering £500 Community Recovery Grants to residents affected by Storm Babet. As at 21/12/23 98 grants awarded, totalling £53,000. 138 applications received to date, 31 not eligible. 4 business applications processed each receiving £2,500. This has been supported by a communications strategy (Economic development & Communications).
- Contact Centre calls answered at first point of contact 81% (target 90%). 772 in person visits which is a significant increase on previous quarter, due to RHL moving into Mill Lane (Customer services).
- Legal continue to support other teams in addressing ASB throughout the district. A closure order was made in December in Pilsley and 2 tree Preservation Orders were also made (Legal).
- Revised promotional material and website information available to the public regarding damp and mould, changed the procedure for receipt of complaints where damp and mould is identified and devised a landlord checklist and guidance to address. (Environmental Health).
- Refuse collection dates and times including Christmas collections all promoted by social media in December, email sign up campaign carried out as part of the campaign. Web pages have been developed. Calendar dates now provided in the NEWS have seen missed bins drop over Christmas catch up period from 387 in 2023 to 262 in 2024 (Streetscene).

## The following progress has been made on *increasing biodiversity across the district*

### Tactics

- Assist and influence other public partners, residents, and businesses to utilise their assets to improve biodiversity.
- Where appropriate, utilise Council assets to improve biodiversity.



### Assist and influence other public partners, residents, and businesses to utilise their assets to improve biodiversity

- Engaging with DCC regarding the development of the Heartwood Community Forest following its approval in November. Potential for Community Action Grant support for community-led initiatives and using redundant NEDDC sites (Regeneration & Programmes).
- Working with planning colleagues on identifying patches to be used of Biodiversity net gain. Derbyshire Wildlife Trust (DWT) have submitted draft proposal for nature recovery plan for NEDDC (Streetscene).
- Derbyshire Wildlife Trust have produced a draft Nature Recovery Plan and NEDDC's first Biodiversity Report has been drafted (Cabinet to consider before publication in Jan 2024) - (Planning).

### Where appropriate, utilise Council assets to improve biodiversity

- Sustainability Officer engaging with Planning for Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) work to ensure synergy on approach to deliver new legislation (Regeneration & Programmes).
- Planning permission ref. 23/00601/FL (Clay Cross Town Deal) to preserve and enhance bat mitigation on existing historic buildings (Planning).
- A sum of up to £50k will be invested to improve biodiversity for the Clay Cross Active development. This will include planting of trees, edgeways, etc and will be complete by December 2024 (Leisure).



## The following progress has been made on *reducing carbon emissions and pollution across the district*

### Tactics

- Assist and influence other public partners, residents, and businesses to reduce their carbon emissions.
- Continually reduce the Council's own carbon emissions.
- Assist and influence other public partners, residents, and businesses to reduce pollution.
- Develop policies and plans which require and encourage alternatives to car usage.



### Assist and influence other public partners, residents, and businesses to reduce their carbon emissions

- Sustainability Officer commenced in post on 27th November 2023 to co-ordinate the delivery of the Climate Change Strategy (Regeneration & Programmes)
- Clay Cross Low Carbon Challenge Fund business engagement event held 16th November 2023. 10 Expressions of Interest and 4 full approvals for the commercial scheme received by end of quarter (Regeneration & Programmes).
- 18 cases of delivering efficiency advice to households for vulnerable people and providing signposting where eligible for assistance (Environmental Health).
- The 2023 Annual Status Report, which documents the air quality monitoring data from the calendar year of 2022 has been compiled, submitted, and approved. During 2022 there were no reported exceedances of any Air Quality Objectives, including the annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> objective. This continues the trend of no exceedances over the last 6 years and therefore there remains no requirement to declare a Local Air Quality Management Area. The maximum reported NO<sub>2</sub> concentration in 2022 was 36.6µg/m<sup>3</sup> recorded at a new monitoring location (the annual mean objective for NO<sub>2</sub> is 40µg/m<sup>3</sup>).

A decrease in annual mean concentrations from 2021 to 2022 was observed at 14 out of the 16 monitoring sites. The continued decrease in annual mean concentrations could be due to the establishment of a 'new normal' in traffic volumes, with organisations maintaining 'Working from Home' (WFH) patterns, thus reducing the number of vehicles comparative to pre-pandemic periods. Reductions can also be attributed to 'natural' compliance as the development of vehicles is seeing an increase in cleaner vehicles on the roads. (Environmental Health).

- A media campaign was run throughout October, highlighting the safe and clean use of wood burners (Environmental Health).
- Nox tubes were exchanged monthly at all sites and an order placed with the supplier for tubes for 2024, so the monitoring of Nitrogen Dioxide can continue throughout the year (Environmental Health).
- Working with Authorities such as Wakefield Leisure Services to provide support on facility development and sharing best practice through APSE performance networking sessions (Leisure).
- Attaching a condition on major planning permissions for major developments mitigating climate change condition e.g., 23/00708/FL (Whiteleas Avenue) - (Planning).





### **Continually reduce the Council's own carbon emissions**

- Sustainability Officer undertaking a light touch review of the Climate Change Strategy to ensure alignment with the new Council Plan (Regeneration & Programmes).
- Technical and financial audits underway for Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Round 3 (PSDS3) (Dronfield Leisure Centre), documentation submitted (Regeneration & Programmes).
- AD has submitted an Expression of Interest to Town Board for a further 240 solar PV to be located on the pool roof (Clay Cross Active. Awaiting decision (Leisure).
- District Council Office - options being looked at for EV charging points and PV panels at Mill Lane. Coney Green Business Centre - Low Carbon Challenge Fund application progressing. Streetscene depot (feasibility currently underway) should be significantly less than the existing facility at Eckington. EV fleet is also a further consideration (Property and Estates).
- Meeting room and desk booking software setup and being utilised by Rykneld Homes and NEDDC staff to enable hotdesking and sharing of office spaces. Council Chamber Audio visual equipment project complete, providing large, hybrid meeting space for future meetings which could reduce travel requirements for staff, Members and members of the public (ICT)
- 30 External Wall Insulation (EWI) measures have been completed on the Council's housing stock in December. The total for Q3 (Year to date) is now 146 (Housing).
- The project to replace hardware phones with softphones is continuing. This is an ongoing project; phones are not being taken away but not replaced when they break (Finance).
- Most meetings, webinars and training with outside bodies and providers now take place online. This has allowed the finance team to interact on a more frequent basis and attend many more sessions than when travelling to an event but without increasing carbon emissions associated with travelling (Finance).

### **Assist and influence other public partners, residents, and businesses to reduce pollution**

- Encourage and condition need for car charging points and renewable energy provision on major development approvals e.g., condition 13 of planning permission ref. 23/00601/FL at Clay Cross - (Planning).
- Pollution control team dealt with over 150 service requests including responding to over 100 planning/licensing consultations and over 40 requests for advice on or complaints about industrial or commercial air/noise/ odour/light pollution; 4 risk assessments of industrial premises were completed, and 3 check inspections carried out in respect of medium to high-risk premises (Environmental Health).
- Parish council visits going well - making useful contacts and discussing Biodiversity Nett Gain (BNG) options (Streetscene).

### **Develop policies and plans which require and encourage alternatives to car usage**

- Economic Development working with Network Rail, DfT and DCC to consider next steps for the feasibility for Clay Cross Railway Station (Regeneration & Programmes)
- Working with the Barrow Hill Line Restore Your Railways initiative regarding potential Killamarsh Rail Station (Regeneration & Programmes)
- Secured travel plans on major developments in this quarter. Bus station improvements as part of CCTD approval (ref. 23/00601/FL) - (Planning).
- Directly and with partners and residents, reduce litter and pollution from waste.
- DEFRA initial settlement has been released which was under the amount needed to purchase all the vehicles required. Further meetings programmed to discuss procurement options (Streetscene).



- Attach waste management plan conditions on planning permissions for major development e.g., condition 22 of planning permission 23/00708/FL - (Planning).
- 16 business waste compliance inspections were carried out across the district to ensure commercial waste is disposed of legally and correctly and 9 Fixed Penalty Notices were issued for: littering (3), fly abandoned vehicles (3), Failure to produce (2) and Breach of PSPO (1). High profile social media campaign and press release re renewal of dog control PSPO which will deter dog fouling. Communications on a littering Fixed Penalty Notice and a business waste compliance offence have been issued. (Environmental Health).
- Sustainable Christmas campaign on social media and website targeting reducing litter has been undertaken in December (Communications).

## **North East Derbyshire District Council**

### **Cabinet**

**28 March 2024**

#### **Local Plan Review – Local Plan Evidence Base & Position Statement**

#### **Report of Councillor S Pickering, Portfolio Holder for Environment and Place**

**Classification:** This report is public

**Report By:** Planning Policy & Environment Manager

**Contact Officer:** Helen Fairfax

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#### **PURPOSE / SUMMARY**

- To advise Cabinet of the issues and alternatives relating to a Review of the Local Plan taking account of the provisions of both the current plan-making system and the changes proposed through the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (LURA);
- To seek approval to issue a Position Statement to clarify the Council's intentions for Reviewing the Local Plan

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- That Cabinet agree the decision not to formally progress with a full Review of the Local Plan at this stage;
- That Cabinet approve the evidence base Action Plan at Appendix 2;
- That Cabinet approve the 'Position Statement' for publication on the Council's website and
- That the notes from the first Local Plan Working Group meeting on 01 November 2023 (Appendix 3) are noted.

Approved by the Portfolio Holder – Cllr Pickering

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#### **IMPLICATIONS**

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**Finance and Risk:** Yes ☒ No ☐

#### **Details:**

The course of action set out in this report is based upon a balanced assessment of the risk of delaying a formal start on the preparation of a new Local Plan against the



risk of doing abortive work (and potentially associated delays) pending the introduction of the Government's planning reforms. These risks will be mitigated by commencing evidence base work on key strategic matters that will enable the Council to pick up plan-making under the new system and deliver against truncated timescales for Plan preparation.

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

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**Legal (including Data Protection):**

**Yes** ☒

**No** ☐

**Details:**

The Council has a statutory duty to keep under review the matters which may be expected to affect the development of their area. There are no specific data protection issues arising from the content of this report.

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

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**Staffing:**

**Yes** ☒

**No** ☐

**Details:**

The preparation of a Local Plan and supporting evidence has a significant impact upon staff resources. Staff resources are in place to effectively undertake the work outlined in this report. It will be important to maintain these resource levels.

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

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**DECISION INFORMATION**

<b>Decision Information</b>	
<b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b> A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds: <b>NEDDC:</b> <b>Revenue - £100,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £250,000 <input type="checkbox"/></b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i>	No
<b>Is the decision subject to Call-In?</b> (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)	No
<b>District Wards Significantly Affected</b>	None
<b>Consultation:</b> <b>Leader / Deputy Leader <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cabinet / Executive <input type="checkbox"/></b> <b>SAMT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></b> <b>Members <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/></b>	Yes  Details: The matters addressed by this report have been agreed with members of the Local Plan Review Working Group.
<b>Links to Council Plan priorities or Policy Framework including Climate Change, Equalities, and Economics and Health implications.</b>	
All	

## REPORT DETAILS

### 1 **Background** (reasons for bringing the report)

- 1.1 The Council's Local Plan was adopted in November 2021 and sets out policies and proposals for the use and development of land for the period up to 2034. Under the current planning system, Regulation 10A of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended) requires local planning authorities to review Local Plans at least once every five years from their adoption date, to ensure that policies remain relevant and effectively address the needs of the local community. If the review identifies a need for updating, they should then be updated as necessary. A review of the North East Derbyshire Local Plan must therefore be completed by November 2026.
- 1.2 There is also an ongoing annual requirement to monitor the implementation of policies to ensure they are being effective. This process can help to identify if an early review of the Plan is necessary.
- 1.3 When considering a Local Plan Review, changes in local and national policy, the efficacy of the Local Plan and any significant changes to local housing need

should be taken into account. The Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)<sup>1</sup> sets out the following types of information local authorities may wish to consider when determining whether a Plan or the policies within a plan should be updated:

- conformity with national planning policy;
- changes to local circumstances, such as a change in Local Housing Need;
- their performance against the Housing Delivery Test;
- whether the authority can demonstrate a 5 year supply of deliverable sites for housing;
- whether issues have arisen that may impact on the deliverability of key site allocations;
- their appeals performance;
- success of policies against indicators in the Development Plan as set out in their Authority Monitoring Report;
- the impact of changes to higher tier plans;
- plan-making activity by other authorities, such as whether they have identified that they are unable to meet all their housing need;
- significant economic changes that may impact on viability; and
- whether any new social, environmental or economic priorities may have arisen.

- 1.4 The Planning Advisory Service (PAS) has developed an assessment tool to support Councils with the Review process. The tool has been designed to help users understand which policies may be out of date for the purposes of decision making or where circumstances may have changed and whether policies in the Plan continue to be effective in addressing the specific local issues that are identified the Plan. This in turn can help the Council focus on whether and to what extent, an update of Local Plan policies is required, providing the evidence to support any formal decision of the council.
- 1.5 It should be noted that any decision not to update any policies in the Local Plan should also be clearly evidenced and justified. This process accords with national guidance and supports the principle of openness and transparency of decision making by public bodies.
- 1.6 Local Plan Reviews can take one of two forms, consisting of either a Partial Review looking at only a few strategic policies in the Plan, with the majority of the Plan untouched; or a Full Review that considers the Plan in its entirety and allows for much greater scope of change.

## **Planning Reforms**

- 1.7 The Government is proposing several changes to the form and content of Local Plans and methods to speed up the plan-making system, including the introduction of National Development Management Policies, and a 30-month timeframe for Local Plan preparation and examination.

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<sup>1</sup> Paragraph: 065 Reference ID: 61-065-20190723



- 1.8 In July 2023 when the Government published its consultation on the plan-making reforms, it also set out its long-term plan for housing. This was followed up with a letter to Leaders & Chief Planning Officers highlighting the principal elements of their long-term plan and setting out their expectations for Local Planning Authorities.
- 1.9 In this letter the Government states that it remains committed to building more homes in the right places with a focus on development and regeneration in and around existing town and city centres; explaining that this will be facilitated by their proposed reforms to the plan making system, which will make plans simpler, shorter and faster to prepare.
- 1.10 The [Levelling Up and Regeneration Act](#) received royal ascent on 23 October 2023. We are however still awaiting draft regulations to provide the detail and timeframes for changes to Plan making as provided for in the Act. It is at this point we will know the full and detailed nature of changes to the planning regime.
- 1.11 A revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published on 19th December 2023, this introduces various reforms including:
- changes to the five-year housing land supply and delivery requirements;
  - changes to the assessment of housing supply and greater flexibility for local authorities in assessing local housing need;
  - new drafting on protection from “out of character” residential development;
  - Green Belt alterations suggesting local authorities may choose to (but are not required to) review and alter Green Belt boundaries to meet housing need; and
  - requiring local authorities to consider the availability of agricultural land used for food production when allocating sites for development.

## **2. Details of Proposal or Information**

### **Progress with updating the Local Plan evidence base:**

- 2.1 Although the Council's Local Plan was adopted just two and a half years ago, it was submitted for Examination several years prior in May 2018, having been prepared in line with the provisions of the 2012 NPPF. Since that time there has been a number of changes to the NPPF, including the introduction of the national design guide and local design codes, the standard method for calculating local housing need, changes to the definition of affordable housing and biodiversity net gain. There has also been increased emphasis on climate change, with the Council declaring a climate emergency in July 2019
- 2.2 These factors prompted officers to undertake a desk top review of the Local Plan utilising the PAS assessment tool to identify if an early update of the Local Plan is likely to be necessary. This was informed by the Council's most up to date monitoring data, the latest Housing Delivery Test results, the 5-year

housing land supply position, and the latest standard methodology housing needs information.

- 2.3 The draft results of this process were also shared with POS Enterprises, appointed in a Critical Friend capacity, who provided an independent sense check of the review process. The Critical Friend advised some limited amendments to the assessment, which are included in the latest draft appended to this report (Appendix 1).
- 2.4 In summary the answers given to the Plan Review factors suggest that the Local Plan is working quite well overall, with the exception of a couple of areas of concern that align with the findings of the annual monitoring, i.e.
- Maintaining a 5-year housing land supply in the medium term;
  - Meeting affordable & specialist housing targets (including Custom & self build); and
  - Ensuring the effective delivery against Climate Change and Biodiversity priorities within the Council's Climate Change Strategy (Dec. 2022), the new Council Plan (2023) and the Biodiversity Action Plan approved in January 2024.
- 2.5 If the Local Plan were already 5 years old the findings of the assessment would clearly signal a need to Review the Local Plan. It is, however, a matter of judgement whether these considerations necessitate an early update and roll forward of the Plan at this point in time. The Critical Friend concurs with this finding.
- 2.6 In deciding whether to Review the Plan, it is important to consider the current uncertainty around the procedures for plan making and likely timescales for the implementation of the new system and associated transitional arrangements. The Government's letter to the Council (referred to at paragraph 1.8 above) states that the regulations, policy and guidance necessary for the preparation of the first new-style local plans will be in place by Autumn 2024; and that '*in the interim, local authorities should continue adopting ambitious local plans, under proposed transitional arrangements.*'
- 2.7 Under current proposals such plans would need to be submitted for Examination by 30 June 2025. That would give the Council just 15 months to secure the relevant evidence, prepare documentation and undertake the necessary consultation. Officers advise that a Plan review in this timeframe is not realistic based upon the current requirements of the system.
- 2.8 At its meetings in November 2023 and February 2024, the Local Plan Review Working Group discussed the results of the desktop review, the merits of progressing to a formal Local Plan Review under the current system and the implications of the Government's Planning Reforms.
- 2.9 The Working Group concludes that given the need to update strategic policies, including those relating to housing land supply and climate change, that there is insufficient time before summer 2025 to undertake a full Review and update of the current Local Plan under the current system; and recommends that the

Council should not formally progress with a full Review of the Local Plan at this stage.

- 2.10 However, this does not mean that the Council should adopt a 'do nothing' approach. It is important that preparatory work continues in the background, so that we are in a position to press ahead once there is certainty on the 'new style' plan making process. The gathering of evidence would be a key component of the first phase of a formal Review and Update and would help ensure that we are well placed to either pick up plan making under the current system if there is a change in Government direction; or slot into the new planning making system with its challenging 30-month timeframe for plan preparation and examination.
- 2.11 Officers have undertaken an initial review of the current evidence base to identify those documents that require updating, along with a review of national policy to identify any new areas of evidence that may be required. Evidence that is required at the outset, either to inform other subsequent evidence or strategy, or because we are working with others who require the information more urgently, will be undertaken in the first phase. The Action Plan at Appendix 2 provides details of the Phase 1 evidence, setting out the steps that are required along with an indicative timetable.
- 2.12 Where appropriate the Planning Team will work with other departments within the Council and with neighbouring authorities to commission evidence jointly. More precise timings will be provided as we start to make progress on the various studies. For example, we have already commissioned the Housing Needs Study jointly with the Housing Strategy team and we have a detailed timetable for the various stages of the work.
- 2.13 It is important to note that the table of evidence and associated steps and timings are subject to change as we will need to respond to any new requirements and opportunities as they arise. Officers will provide the Local Plan Working Group with regular updates on progress.

#### Position Statement to Update Members of the Public & Stakeholders.

- 2.14 The Working Group recommends that the Council may wish to consider publishing a statement of its decision and reasoning in the interests of openness and transparency. Cabinet is asked to approve the following wording for the position statement:
- i. *"North East Derbyshire District Council adopted its current Local Plan in November 2021. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requires Local Plans to be reviewed every five years in order to be considered 'up to date' and for its policies to be given full weight in the assessment of planning applications.*
  - ii. *The government has recently consulted on changes to the plan making process that are referred to in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act, but will require secondary legislation to be implemented. The transition arrangements require Plans that are to*



*be considered under the existing arrangements to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for examination by the summer of 2025.*

- iii. Officers have undertaken a scoping exercise to consider the areas of the current Local Plan that are likely to require updating, utilising a 'toolkit' produced by the Planning Advisory Service – which is a nationally advised approach.*
- iv. The result of that scoping exercise was discussed at the first meeting of the Council's Local Plan Working Group in November 2023. This is a cross party group to which officers provide advice and elected Members provide a steer, following a debate of the issues.*
- v. Officers reported to that meeting that the results of the scoping exercise (verified by an external consultant with significant experience in the Plan making process) indicated that a number of strategic policies would need to be reviewed, including the supply of housing and employment land and the implications of the Environment Act 2021 and biodiversity net gain.*
- vi. Given the need to update these strategic policies, officers advised the Working Group that there is insufficient time before summer 2025 to undertake a full review and update of the current Local Plan under the current system.*
- vii. The agreed outcome of the November meeting of the Working Group was therefore that officers would provide a timetable for the gathering of evidence that would underpin the review of the strategic policies of the current Local Plan, in advance of the changes that are currently expected in late 2024.*
- viii. This is considered to be a prudent approach that will avoid potentially abortive work and will allow for public consultation in accordance with the awaited 'new style' Local Plan making process. We consider that this approach is supported by the revision to the National Planning Policy Framework meaning that the policies relating to housing supply in our current Local Plan will remain up to date until November 2026. We also believe it likely (although not confirmed to date) that the transitional arrangements to the 'new style' system will extend the period for which our Plan will be considered 'up to date,' whilst we develop our next iteration of the Local Plan.*
- ix. We are committed to keeping local communities up to date. Parish and Town Councils will be informed in advance of external evidence gathering exercises and will be asked to contribute to specific areas, including flood risk and land for delivering biodiversity net gain”.*

#### Notes of the meeting of the Local Plan Working Group held on 01 November 2023

- 2.15 In accordance with the Terms of Reference that were approved at Full Council in September 2023, where the decision was taken to establish the Local Plan Working Group, the notes of the meeting of the Working Group held on 01 November 2023 have been circulated to each of the Scrutiny Committees (held in February 2024) and the Assistant Director for Planning

has attended and answered questions at each of those meetings. The notes of the November meeting are attached to this report at Appendix 3.

- 2.17 The notes from the meeting of the Working Group held on 22 February 2024 will need to be approved at the next meeting of the Working Group, the date of which is yet to be arranged. Once approved, those notes will be circulated to the Cabinet and Scrutiny Committees, in accordance with the approved Terms of Reference for the Group.

### **3 Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 To enable the Council to progress with evidence base work so that it is in the best position to adopt the new plan making processes that are expected to come into force later this year.
- 3.2 To agree a statement in this regard that sets out the Council's position and updates members of the public on the approach being taken and the reasons for that approach.

### **4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

- 4.1 The main body of this report summarises why officers and the Local Plan Working Group consider that progressing evidence gathering now is the most effective use of time, in advance of the anticipated changes to the Local Plan making process later this year. This approach recognises the challenges of achieving the work required within the timeframe for submission of an updated Local Plan under the current national arrangements.
- 4.2 One alternative is to announce a formal Review of the Local Plan now. This option is not recommended by officers or the Working Group due to the likely duplication/delays that would be caused by the anticipated changes to the plan making process. It is also the case that announcing a formal Review would not change the focus of the initial phase from an officer perspective i.e. updating the evidence base.
- 4.3 The main difference with a formal Review would be the need to produce an updated timetable for the various stages of the process, including public consultation. The ability to commit to that at this stage is difficult given the anticipated changes outlined above, hence why this option has been rejected.
- 4.4 The other main alternative would be to 'do nothing' i.e. neither progress the tasks outlined in the Action Plan appended to this report, nor announce a formal Review. For the reasons identified in this report, officers are of the view that the evidence base behind a number of the strategic policies within the Local Plan needs to be updated.
- 4.5 As evidenced by the Action Plan, updating the information that underpins the policies of the Plan is not a short process. Delaying commencement will reduce our ability to act quickly once there is clarity on the plan making process at national level and thereby increase the risk that our Plan becomes 'out of date.'

That scenario makes the District more vulnerable to speculative development.

- 4.6 Regarding the publication of a Position Statement, officers consider that this would demonstrate openness and transparency around the matter of plan making. It is considered that this transparency would not be achieved if such a Statement was not produced, hence why officers and the Working Group discounted that option.

## DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
1	PAS Toolkit Pt. 1 – Local Plan Assessment - DRAFT
2	Action Plan Table: Phase 1 Evidence
3	Notes of the meeting of the Local Plan Working Group held on 01 November 2023
<b>Background Papers</b> (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet (NEDDC) or Executive (BDC) you must provide copies of the background papers)	
Adopted NEDDC Local Plan National Planning Policy Framework National Planning Practice Guidance	



PAS LOCAL PLAN ROUTE MAPPER TOOLKIT PART 1: LOCAL PLAN REVIEW ASSESSMENT			
	Matters to consider	Agree / Disagree	Extent to which the local plan meets this requirement
A	PLAN REVIEW FACTORS		
A1.	<p>The plan policies still reflect current national planning policy requirements.</p> <p><b>PROMPT:</b></p> <p>As set out above in the introductory text, in providing your answer to this statement consider if the policies in your plan still meet the 'content' requirements of the current NPPF, PPG, Written Ministerial Statements and the National Model Design Code (completing Part 2 of the toolkit will help you determine the extent to which the policies in your plan accord with relevant key requirements in national policy).</p>	Agree	<p><b>Reason (with reference to plan policies, sections and relevant evidence):</b></p> <p>The current Local Plan was adopted under the 2012 version of the NPPF. Since then the NPPF has been updated several times with revisions made in 2018, 2019 and 2021.</p> <p>It is considered that the Local Plan remains in compliance with the 2021 NPPF. There are new national policy requirements which are not directly addressed in the Adopted Local Plan. These relate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ the need to be explicit about which local plan policies are strategic and non-strategic i.e. strategic policies are those with which neighbourhood plans must be in general conformity. <i>(Whilst not explicit, Chapter 4: Spatial Strategy of the Local Plan contains the relevant strategic policies that Neighbourhood Plans need to comply with)</i></li> <li>○ the revised definition of affordable housing including the requirement for First Homes. (Local Plan affordable housing policy does not include this new definition, however the NPPF is a material consideration in decision making and is being applied appropriately by the Council).</li> <li>○ the implications of the Environment Act and requirements for biodiversity net gain. <i>(we are still awaiting regulations and the preparation of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy which will give a clear steer to what is needed from a plan review. Also the requirement for BNG will apply to planning applications irrespective of the Local Plan)</i></li> <li>○ the introduction of the new National Design Guide and use of local design codes to support beauty and placemaking.</li> </ul> <p>An update of the Local Plan would provide the opportunity to bring it more fully into line with these new requirements in the 2021 NPPF and any subsequent Framework revisions. However, these factors are not sufficient in their own right or cumulatively to necessitate an early review of the Plan.</p>
A2.	<p>There has not been a <u>significant</u> change in local housing need numbers from that specified in</p>	Agree	<p><b>Reason (with reference to plan policies, sections and relevant evidence sources):</b></p> <p>The standard method for calculating housing need was first introduced in the revised NPPF (July 2018) after the Local Plan had been submitted for examination. The latest local housing need figure, using the standard method calculation, is 228 dwellings per annum (using the 2022 affordability ratio published in March 2023).</p>

PAS LOCAL PLAN ROUTE MAPPER TOOLKIT PART 1: LOCAL PLAN REVIEW ASSESSMENT			
	Matters to consider	Agree / Disagree	Extent to which the local plan meets this requirement
	<p><b>your plan (accepting there will be some degree of flux).</b></p> <p><b>PROMPT:</b></p> <p>Look at whether your local housing need figure, using the standard methodology as a starting point, has gone up significantly (with the measure of significance based on a comparison with the housing requirement set out in your adopted local plan).</p> <p>Consider whether your local housing need figure has gone down significantly (with the measure of significance based on a comparison with the housing requirement set out in your adopted local plan). You will need to consider if there is robust evidence to demonstrate that your current housing requirement is deliverable in terms of market capacity or if it supports, for example, growth strategies such as Housing Deals, new strategic infrastructure investment or formal agreements to meet unmet</p>		<p>The adopted Local Plan target is 6,600 dwellings (2014-2034) or 330 dwellings per annum. This target is a 'policy-on' figure that reflects the Plan's 'regeneration' scenario; and takes account of the potential for higher than baseline job growth in the district in line with the Council's and wider LEPs' growth strategies.</p> <p>The 2017 SHMA used to inform the Adopted Local Plan also included a demographic need of 248 dwellings per annum, which was uplifted to 273 dwellings per annum to take account of affordability. The latter accounted for affordability and market factors alone and is therefore most comparable to the local housing need figure calculated by the standard method.</p> <p>The latest baseline local housing need figure calculated using the standard method is below the adopted Local Plan requirement. Furthermore, there is no indication that there is an issue with current delivery of a higher than standard method generated local housing need. For example, delivery in 2022/23 was triple the standard method generated local housing need (776dw delivery vs 228dw need). Delivery rates have been higher than expected, reducing the allocated supply much earlier than was anticipated (see supply matters below).</p> <p>On this basis it is not considered that there has been significant change in local housing need in the district.</p>

PAS LOCAL PLAN ROUTE MAPPER TOOLKIT PART 1: LOCAL PLAN REVIEW ASSESSMENT			
	Matters to consider	Agree / Disagree	Extent to which the local plan meets this requirement
	need from neighbouring authority areas.		
A3.	<p><b>You have a 5-year supply of housing land</b></p> <p><b>PROMPT:</b></p> <p>Review your 5-year housing land supply in accordance with national guidance including planning practice guidance and the Housing Delivery Test measurement rule book.</p>	Agree	<p><b>Reason (with reference to plan policies, sections and relevant evidence sources):</b></p> <p>The 2023 Five Year Housing Land Supply Statement published in July 2023 shows a housing land supply of 5.7 years against the Local Plan housing target of 330 dwellings per annum.</p> <p>However, the updated housing trajectory for the remainder of the plan period in the Draft 2023 AMR predicts that future housing land supply will fall just below 5 years by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 (if current sites with planning permission continue to be built-out and no new sites are introduced). This will be closely monitored through the annual monitoring.</p>



## PAS LOCAL PLAN ROUTE MAPPER TOOLKIT PART 1: LOCAL PLAN REVIEW ASSESSMENT

	Matters to consider	Agree / Disagree	Extent to which the local plan meets this requirement																				
A4.	<p><b>You are meeting housing delivery targets.</b></p> <p><b>PROMPT:</b></p> <p>Use the results of your most recent Housing Delivery Test, and if possible, try and forecast the outcome of future Housing Delivery Test findings. Consider whether these have/are likely to trigger the requirement for the development of an action plan or trigger the presumption in favour of sustainable development. Consider the reasons for this and whether you need to review the site allocations that your plan is reliant upon. In doing so you need to make a judgement as to whether updating your local plan will support delivery or whether there are other actions needed which are not dependent on changes to the local plan.</p>	Agree	<p>The Government published the results of the Housing Delivery Test (HDT) in January 2022 for the period 2018-21, see table below.</p> <p>This shows that although annual housing completions fell short in 2018/19, cumulative figures over the three-year period exceed the Local Housing Need Figure by 429 dwellings. This means the Council achieved 165% in the HDT which indicates that there are no issues with regards to the delivery of housing.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>Completions</th><th>HDT housing need figure</th><th>Under/Oversupply</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>2018/19</b></td><td>189</td><td>266</td><td>-77</td></tr> <tr> <td><b>2019/20</b></td><td>436</td><td>227</td><td>+209</td></tr> <tr> <td><b>2020/21</b></td><td>465</td><td>168</td><td>+297</td></tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL</b></td><td><b>1,090</b></td><td><b>661</b></td><td><b>+429</b></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Source: Figure 2, AMR 2023</p> <p>The 2022 and 2023 Housing Delivery Test results have not been published by the Government yet, but given the high numbers of net housing completions over the last few years we expect the delivery of housing to significantly outstrip the local housing need figure. Additional years are likely to be higher too, because the HDT is calculated against the standard method generated local housing need figure, which is lower than the Local Plan requirement.</p>		Completions	HDT housing need figure	Under/Oversupply	<b>2018/19</b>	189	266	-77	<b>2019/20</b>	436	227	+209	<b>2020/21</b>	465	168	+297	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,090</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>+429</b>
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A5.	<p>Your plan policies are on track to deliver other plan objectives including any (i) affordable housing targets, (ii) specialist housing, (iii) self and custom build homes, (iv) commercial floorspace/jobs targets over the remaining plan period.</p> <p><b>PROMPT:</b></p> <p>Use (or update) your Authority Monitoring Report to assess delivery.</p>	Agree	<p>i) <u>Affordable Housing</u></p> <p>The SHMA Update 2017 which supported the preparation of the Local Plan indicated the affordable housing need in the district is 172 dwellings per year up to 2035, or 3,440 dwellings over the plan period.</p> <p>However, the SHMA update acknowledged that not all of that provision is realistically deliverable or justified through the planning system alone. There are other ways affordable housing needs can be met (such as by bringing existing housing stock into AH use).</p> <p>Policy LC2 of the Local Plan expects all new housing proposals for 10 or more dwellings, or with a site area of 0.5 hectares to provide 30% affordable housing in the defined high value area and 20% in the remaining area of the district.</p> <table><tr><th>Years</th><th>AH Completions (net)</th><th>% of total Completions</th></tr><tr><td>2014/15</td><td>129</td><td>49%</td></tr><tr><td>2015/16</td><td>165</td><td>38%</td></tr><tr><td>2016/17</td><td>0</td><td>0%</td></tr><tr><td>2017/18</td><td>96</td><td>24%</td></tr><tr><td>2018/19</td><td>-17</td><td>-9%</td></tr><tr><td>2019/20</td><td>91</td><td>21%</td></tr><tr><td>2020/21</td><td>58</td><td>12%</td></tr><tr><td>2021/22</td><td>111</td><td>20%</td></tr><tr><td>2022/23</td><td>138</td><td>18%</td></tr><tr><td><b>TOTAL</b></td><td></td><td><b>20%</b></td></tr></table>	Years	AH Completions (net)	% of total Completions	2014/15	129	49%	2015/16	165	38%	2016/17	0	0%	2017/18	96	24%	2018/19	-17	-9%	2019/20	91	21%	2020/21	58	12%	2021/22	111	20%	2022/23	138	18%	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>20%</b>
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		Disagree	<p>The table above shows an overall net gain of 771 affordable homes which equates to 20% of the total number of dwellings (3,787 net) delivered between 2014 and 2023. Since the plan was adopted there have been no schemes forthcoming in the higher value area, therefore the evidence indicates that the policies are currently on track</p> <p><b>ii) <u>Specialist Housing</u></b></p> <p>The 2017 SHMA identified a need for 61 specialist housing units for older people per annum, or 1,220 dwellings over the plan period; and 23 registered care bed-spaces per annum, or 460 bed-spaces over the plan period.</p> <p>The AMR 2022/23 indicates that overall, since 2014, there have been 90 housing with care completions, 39 new nursing and residential care bed-spaces for older people, 22 new nursing and residential care bed-spaces for younger people or people with learning disabilities, 20 accessible and adaptable homes completions and 6 wheelchair adaptable home completions.</p> <p>here is a limited number of specialist homes being built in the district and there remains significant unmet need of housing for older and disabled people. In order to meet future demand there may be need for a stronger policy approach to the delivery of specialist housing in any update of the Local Plan.</p>
		Disagree	<p><b>iii) <u>Self and Custom Build Homes</u></b></p> <p>At 30 October 2022, the demand for self and custom build housing was evident through 124 entries on the Council's Self and Custom Build Register.</p> <p>Latest monitoring shows that whilst there is slight shortfall of 8 Self and Custom Dwellings to meet demand as at October 2022, this would increase further without the supply of any further Self and Custom Build dwellings. The Council is working to identify suitable Council owned sites for self and custom build housing. However, in order to meet future demand there may be a need for a stronger policy approach to the delivery of Self and Custom Build dwellings in any update of the Local Plan.</p>
		Agree	<p><b>iv) <u>Floorspace targets / jobs growth</u></b></p> <p>Policy SS2 of the Local Plan sets out a requirement for 43 hectares of employment land over the plan period. This was based upon forecasts of job growth under the Regeneration scenario in the 2017 Employment Land Review.</p> <p>At 31 March 2023, the supply of new employment land in the District is approximately 57 hectares i.e. 41.17 hectares on sites allocated in the Local Plan, 11.05 hectares already built and a further 5.01 hectares of employment</p>



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		Agree	<p>land which remains part of the supply due to losses being lower than predicted in the Employment Land Review evidence base. Notably the supply includes approximately 15 hectares of employment land at the Coalite Priority Regeneration Area which was not relied upon to meet the Plan's employment land requirements, but which is now expected to come forward for employment development within the plan period.</p> <p>There is therefore no shortfall of employment land to trigger a review of the Local Plan now.</p> <p><b>v) <u>Retail and social infrastructure floorspace</u></b></p> <p>The Local Plan encourages the regeneration and enhancement of the District's town centres, as well as maintaining and enhancing the level of service provision in the District's villages. There should be no net loss in retail floorspace and social infrastructure within Town Centre boundaries.</p> <p>The AMR 2022/23 shows that there has been no overall net loss of retail and infrastructure floor space since monitoring of this commenced in 2018.</p>
A6.	<p><b>There have been no significant changes in economic conditions which could challenge the delivery of the Plan, including the policy requirements within it.</b></p> <p><b>PROMPT:</b></p> <p>A key employer has shut down or relocated out of the area.</p> <p>Unforeseen events (for example the Covid-19 Pandemic) are impacting upon the delivery of the plan.</p> <p>Up-to-date evidence suggests that jobs growth is likely to be</p>	Disagree	<p><b>Reason (with reference to plan policies, sections and relevant evidence sources):</b></p> <p>No significant employers have recently shut down or moved out of the area.</p> <p>However, the latest available evidence on current economic conditions and jobs growth forecasts is set out in the Employment Land Review Updates, Final Report, 2017 and the Economic Growth Analysis, 2018 . Both these studies were prepared prior to the UK exiting the EU, Covid-19 and the recent cost of living crisis including rising energy prices. The implications of these events on anticipated future employment land requirements is not known and will need to be considered in detail through a new Economic Needs Assessment.</p>

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	<p>significantly more or less than is currently being planned for.</p> <p>Consider if there is any evidence suggesting that large employment allocations will no longer be required or are no longer likely to be delivered.</p> <p>You will need to consider whether such events impact on assumptions in your adopted local plan which have led to a higher housing requirement than your local housing need assessment indicates.</p> <p>Consider what the consequences could be for your local plan objectives such as the balance of in and out commuting and the resultant impact on proposed transport infrastructure provision (both capacity and viability), air quality or climate change considerations.</p>		

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A7.	<p><b>There have been no significant changes affecting viability of planned development.</b></p> <p><b>PROMPT:</b></p> <p>You may wish to look at the Building Cost Information Service (BCIS) All-in Tender Price Index, used for the indexation of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), or other relevant indices to get a sense of market changes.</p> <p>Consider evidence from recent planning decisions and appeal decisions to determine whether planning policy requirements, including affordable housing, are generally deliverable.</p> <p>Ongoing consultation and engagement with the development industry may highlight any significant challenges to delivery arising from changes in the economic climate.</p>	Agree	<p><b>Reason (with reference to plan policies, sections and relevant evidence sources):</b></p> <p>The delivery of housing is coming forward as planned and there is no current evidence to suggest that affordable housing or other policy requirements are generally a barrier to development viability or act as a deterrent to planning applications being submitted.</p> <p>Policy LC2 of the Adopted Local Plan requires all new housing proposals of 10 or more dwellings, or with a site area of 0.5 hectares or more, to provide a proportion of on-site affordable housing. The proportion is 30% within the defined high value area, and 20% in the remaining area of the District.</p> <p>Since the Plan's adoption no major applications have been forthcoming within the high value area. However, within the remaining area of the district there have been 8 permissions granted for major housing development since the Plan was adopted, albeit some of which are applications for reserved matters.</p> <p>In 6 out of 8 of the schemes the 20% affordable housing requirement was met and S106 contributions secured towards all relevant social mitigation measures. Following an independent viability review of the other 2 schemes it was agreed they would only be viable with a lower level of affordable housing and reduced S106 contributions pot.</p> <p>In terms of commercial development there has been recent examples of speculative employment development coming forward at Coney Green, Clay Cross and at Callywhite Lane, Dronfield. New discount stores in Clay Cross, Eckington and Dronfield have been brought forward and / or are planned to expand their retail offer.</p>



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A8.	<p><b>Key site allocations are delivering, or on course to deliver, in accordance the local plan policies meaning that the delivery of the spatial strategy is not at risk.</b></p> <p><b>PROMPT:</b></p> <p>Identify which sites are central to the delivery of your spatial strategy. Consider if there is evidence to suggest that lack of progress on these sites (individually or collectively) may prejudice the delivery of housing numbers, key infrastructure or other spatial priorities. Sites may be deemed to be key by virtue of their scale, location or type in addition to the role that may have in delivering any associated infrastructure.</p>	Partially disagree	<p><b>Reason (with reference to plan policies, sections and relevant evidence sources):</b></p> <p>Most of the Local Plan housing allocations have been developed as predicted, are under construction, or have planning permission. In terms of the strategic mixed-use allocations at The Avenue, and the former Biwaters site both of these sites are delivering market and affordable homes to contribute towards meeting the district's identified housing requirements, albeit at a lower dwelling yield than predicted at the former Biwaters site. The comprehensive development of the Avenue site is dependent upon a second principal access to the site.</p> <p>Other non-strategic allocation sites are also delivering housing that has contributed towards a completion rate over the last couple of years well in excess of the Local Plan's housing target of 330 dwellings per annum.</p> <p>In terms of employment land provision, no proposals for employment development have yet been submitted at the Avenue strategic site, whilst at Biwaters there is a planning application pending to reduce the level of employment land provision from that granted under the outline consent and allocated in the Plan.</p> <p>The lack of delivery of employment development on the Avenue and Biwaters strategic site allocations is a matter of some concern. Although given the relatively small scale of the employment targets for these sites, the concern is in the context of the local employment market and seeking to secure a sustainable mix of uses on site; rather than concern over the delivery of employment land in a strategic context. Furthermore, additional land has recently come forward at the Principal Regeneration Area: former Coalite Chemical Works site with a recent planning permission for two large industrial units c.15ha. This land was not relied upon to meet the Plan's housing and employment land requirements due to significant uncertainties over delivery arising from the Government's proposals for HS2 cutting through the eastern part of the site. The proposal is on land outside of the HS2 safeguarding zone and can therefore contribute to supply. The scale of which is sufficient to address any shortfall identified in the Local Plan such that there is currently a quantitative surplus against the Local Plan's employment land requirement of 43 ha.</p>

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A9.	<p><b>There have been no significant changes to the local environmental or heritage context which have implications for the local plan approach or policies.</b></p> <p><b>PROMPT:</b></p> <p>You may wish to review the indicators or monitoring associated with your Sustainability Appraisal (SA) / Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) / Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).</p> <p>Identify if there have been any changes in Flood Risk Zones, including as a result of assessing the effects of climate change.</p> <p>Consider whether there have been any changes in air quality which has resulted in the designation of an Air Quality Management Area(s) or which would could result in a likely significant effect on a European designated site which could impact on the ability to deliver housing or employment allocations.</p>	Agree	<p><b>Reason (with reference to plan policies, sections and relevant evidence sources):</b></p> <p>North East Derbyshire declared a climate emergency and adopted its Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan in 2019 after the Local Plan was submitted for examination. Whilst the current Local Plan includes policies to address climate change an update of the Local Plan would provide the opportunity to more fully address the climate change agenda.</p> <p>The recently enacted Environment Bill 2021 introduces a mandatory requirement for development to deliver biodiversity net gain. Whilst the current Local Plan seeks to increase the quantity and quality of biodiversity and geodiversity through Policy SCD4, it would be useful to update the Local Plan in the light of the new BNG requirements. In particular, there will be the opportunity to incorporate local strategy and priorities to drive nature's recovery and provide wider environmental benefits in North East Derbyshire, once the Derbyshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy is in place.</p> <p>The threat of air pollution at the Peak District Dales SAC: South Pennine Moors SAC: and Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) SPA was a cross boundary issue raised in preparing the current Local Plan. The Council along with other neighbouring authorities assessed impacts and these were recorded in the respective Habitats Regulation Assessment documents. These assessments concluded that taking into account the mitigation measures within the respective Local Plans for Bolsover District, Chesterfield Borough, and North East Derbyshire there would be no adverse effects on the integrity of any of the European sites, alone or in combination with other plans and projects. However, through the DtC and in consultation with Natural England it was agreed that further monitoring of the impacts on the Peak District Dales SAC: South Pennine Moors SAC: and Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) SPA should be carried out by jointly re-running the traffic modelling in 3-5 years to establish whether there are any changes to predicted traffic flows which may have implications upon air quality and to help ensure a comprehensive assessment of any likely significant effects on these European sites. The traffic count data was originally collected in 2018, and will require re-running in the near future.</p> <p>Changes in Flood Risk Zones have only affected one small housing allocation: site CC3 at land off Holmgate Road, Clay Cross, which has been allocated for approximately 15 dwellings. A small frontage area of the site is now covered by flood risk zone 2. Some remaining employment sites are also covered by flood risk zone 2, but this was known when the sites were allocated and as such there has been no significant change in circumstance.</p>

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	<p>Consider whether there have been any changes to Zones of Influence / Impact Risk Zones for European sites and Sites of Special Scientific Interest or new issues in relation to, for example, water quality.</p> <p>Consider whether there have been any new environmental or heritage designations which could impact on the delivery of housing or employment / jobs requirements / targets.</p> <p>Consider any relevant concerns being raised by statutory consultees in your area in relation to the determination of individual planning applications or planning appeals which may impact upon your plan - either now or in the future.</p>		<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p>

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A10.	<p><b>No new sites have become available since the finalisation of the adopted local plan which require the spatial strategy to be re-evaluated.</b></p> <p><b>PROMPT:</b></p> <p>Consider if there have been any new sites that have become available, particularly those within public ownership which, if they were to come forward for development, could have an impact on the spatial strategy or could result in loss of employment and would have a significant effect on the quality of place if no new use were found for them.</p> <p>Consider whether any sites which have now become available within your area or neighbouring areas could contribute towards meeting any previously identified unmet needs.</p>	Agree	<p><b>Reason (with reference to plan policies, sections and relevant evidence sources):</b></p> <p>No new strategic scale sites, either in public or private ownership, have become available that would suggest that the Local Plan strategy requires a review on this basis.</p>



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A11.	<p><b>Key planned infrastructure projects critical to plan delivery are on track and have not stalled / failed and there are no new major infrastructure programmes with implications for the growth / spatial strategy set out in the plan.</b></p> <p><b>PROMPT:</b></p> <p>You may wish to review your Infrastructure Delivery Plan / Infrastructure Funding Statement, along with any periodic updates, the Capital and Investment programmes of your authority or infrastructure delivery partners and any other tool used to monitor and prioritise the need and delivery of infrastructure to support development.</p> <p>Check if there have been any delays in the delivery of critical infrastructure as a result of other processes such as for the Compulsory Purchase of necessary land.</p>	Agree	<p><b>Reason (with reference to plan policies, sections and relevant evidence sources):</b></p> <p>To assist the delivery of the Spatial Strategy in Policy SS2 of the Local Plan, the Plan allocates strategic sites which are considered critical to achieving the Plan's strategy, namely at the Avenue, Wingerworth; former Biwaters Site, Clay Cross, and Markham Vale, Long Duckmanton.</p> <p>Local transport infrastructure improvements integral to the development of these strategic sites including new roundabouts and highway junctions have already been delivered to enable development.</p> <p>Land for education and community use forms part of the approved masterplan for the Avenue site, and a reserved matters application for a new primary school is expected to be submitted in due course. Planning permissions for a new roundabout junction on the A61 and a new spine road to provide a second principal access to the Avenue strategic site were granted, but have now lapsed. Alternative highway options are currently being explored which is causing some delay to the delivery of further housing on part of the site.</p> <p>Land adjacent Callywhite Lane industrial Estate, Dronfield, and the former Coalite Works, Long Duckmanton are identified as Priority Regeneration Areas (although these are not relied upon to meet the Plan's development requirements in Policy SS2). The former Coalite works has been granted planning permission for employment development i.e. large scale logistics and is now expected to be delivered during the plan period. But issues over access to the land adjacent Callywhite Lane remains and is dependent upon the electrification of the Midland Main Line – see below.</p> <p>There are no new major strategic infrastructure programmes with implications for the delivery of the Plan's spatial strategy, and no Compulsory Purchase Orders are being pursued in relation to the strategic sites which are causing delays to delivery of the Plan's strategy.</p> <p>In terms of HS2, the Government has confirmed that following on from the work done on strategic alternatives to the Eastern Leg for the Integrated Rail Plan a new 'HS2 to Leeds Study' will be carried out to assess the different options for HS2 services to Leeds. Safeguarding on the full Eastern leg will remain until the government is in a position to definitively confirm any alternative choice, and whether any part of the existing safeguarded route is still needed under any revised plans. The safeguarding impacts just under half of the Coalite Priority Regeneration Area which renders development of this part of the site unviable.</p>

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	Identify whether any funding announcements or decisions have been made which materially impact upon the delivery of key planned infrastructure, and if so, will this impact upon the delivery of the Local Plan.		<p>There are also unresolved issues with highway access across the railway line to the Dronfield Regeneration Area which are associated with the options for HS2. Development of this site is therefore still only likely towards or beyond the end of the plan period.</p> <p>In March 2021 the town of Clay Cross was awarded £24.1M as part of the Government's Towns Fund. The funding will enable several regeneration projects in the town. This includes the Clay Cross Connections project to look at various transport and connections improvements such as converting the one-way section of Market Street from Bridge Street to High Street into a pedestrian zone. In addition, a feasibility study into the potential to create a railway station at Clay Cross has been completed which confirms the strategic viability of the proposal. The projects generally align with the Plan's vision to regenerate areas in and around Clay Cross town centre, but may benefit from stronger support through specific policies in the update of the Local Plan.</p>
A12.	<p><b>All policies in the plan are achievable and effective including for the purpose of decision-making.</b></p> <p><b>PROMPT:</b></p> <p>Consider if these are strategic policies or those, such as Development Management policies, which do not necessarily go to the heart of delivering the Plan's strategy.</p> <p>Identify if there has been a significant increase in appeals that have been allowed and /or appeals related to a specific policy area that suggest a policy or policies should be reviewed.</p>	Agree	<p><b>Reason (with reference to plan policies, sections and relevant evidence sources):</b></p> <p>The policies in the Local Plan are generally considered to be working well with no significant issues in relation to applications or appeals. However, there are some policies which may be able to work more effectively if amended, this includes feedback received from colleagues in Development Management.</p> <p>Policies SS7 - SS9 (SDLs and Countryside) should be reviewed to ensure they remain fit for purpose. There is also a need to revisit the development categories listed in Policy SS9 to ensure compatibility with the NPPF and other policies within the plan. In addition there has been some feedback from colleagues in Development Management over the implementation of Policy SS9 – Development in the Countryside and interpretation of whether the list of development types suitable for a countryside location is an open or closed list.</p> <p>Policies WC2 and WC3 will need to be reviewed to clarify the reference to the term 'ancillary to the main use on site'; in particular whether the entire site is referred to, or the specific plot.</p> <p>Policy WC4 will need to be reviewed due to changes in permitted development rights since the submission of the draft Local Plan to the Secretary of State in May 2018. The current permitted development rights would allow some changes of use from town centre uses to other uses, which are not compatible with policy WC4. The Government published further proposed changes for consultation in July 2023.</p> <p>Policy LC5 will need to be reviewed to consider whether any outbuildings should be located within the curtilage of the main dwellinghouse. An Inspector's appeal decision at Carr Barn Farm, Wessington found that there was no</p>

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	Consider whether there has been feedback from Development Management colleagues, members of the planning committee, or applicants that policies cannot be effectively applied and / or understood.		<p>requirement under the policy for an extension or alteration to dwellings or outbuildings to be within the curtilage of the property. Provided that such extensions, alterations or outbuildings were ancillary to the main residential use they saw no reason why they could not be out-with of a curtilage yet remain compliant with the policy. Officers believe that was not the intention of the policy.</p> <p>None of the above policies are critical strategic policies that go to the heart of delivering the plan's strategy.</p>
A13.	<p><b>There are no recent or forthcoming changes to another authority's development plan or planning context which would have a material impact on your plan / planning context for the area covered by your local plan.</b></p> <p><b>PROMPT:</b></p> <p>In making this assessment you may wish to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review emerging and adopted neighbouring authority development plans and their planning context.</li> <li>Review any emerging and adopted higher level strategic plans including, where relevant, mayoral/ combined authority Spatial</li> </ul>	Agree	<p><b>Reason (with reference to plan policies, sections and relevant evidence sources):</b></p> <p>North East Derbyshire wraps around Chesterfield and adjoins five other local authorities' areas comprising Amber Valley to the south, Derbyshire Dales to the west, Bolsover to the east, and Sheffield and Rotherham to the north.</p> <p>Under the Duty to Cooperate, on-going engagement has taken place with neighbouring authorities in relation to their own plan preparation.</p> <p>At the current time there are no outstanding requests for North East Derbyshire to meet any unmet housing or employment needs arising in neighbouring areas. No other significant issues have arisen that would materially impact on the North East Derbyshire Local Plan.</p> <p>Sheffield City Council, whilst preparing its Local Plan had asked NEDDC if it could assist in meeting any of Sheffield's housing needs. However, the Sheffield Plan has since been submitted for Examination and confirms that the City is not relying on other local authorities in the City Region to meet any of its housing needs.</p> <p>We will however continue to monitor the progress of emerging Local Plans in neighbouring authorities' areas and engage with our neighbours, under the requirements of the duty to co-operate, in relation to any matters of a strategic and/or cross-boundary nature.</p>

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	Matters to consider	Agree / Disagree	Extent to which the local plan meets this requirement
	<p>Development Strategies e.g. The London Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review any relevant neighbourhood plans</li> <li>Consider whether any of the matters highlighted in statements A1- A12 for their plan may impact on your plan - discuss this with the relevant authorities.</li> <li>Consider any key topic areas or requests that have arisen through Duty to Cooperate or strategic planning discussions with your neighbours or stakeholders - particularly relating to meeting future development and /or infrastructure needs</li> </ul>		
A14.	<p><b>There are no local political changes or a revised / new corporate strategy which would require a change to the approach set out in the current plan.</b></p> <p><b>PROMPT:</b></p> <p>In making this assessment you may wish to:</p>	Disagree	<p><b>Reason (with reference to plan policies, sections and relevant evidence sources):</b></p> <p>The Council has recently produced a new Council Plan for 2023-2027. It sets out 9 key aims under 4 main themes as follows:</p> <p><u>A great place to live well</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A community with lifelong good health</li> <li>A place to live that people value</li> <li>A place where people enjoy spending time</li> </ul> <p><u>A great place to work</u></p>



PAS LOCAL PLAN ROUTE MAPPER TOOLKIT PART 1: LOCAL PLAN REVIEW ASSESSMENT			
	Matters to consider	Agree / Disagree	Extent to which the local plan meets this requirement
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review any manifesto commitments and review the corporate and business plan.</li> <li>Engage with your senior management team and undertake appropriate engagement with senior politicians in your authority.</li> <li>Consider other plans or strategies being produced across the Council or by partners which may impact on the appropriateness of your current plan and the strategy that underpins it, for instance, Growth Deals, economic growth plans, local industrial strategies produced by the Local Economic Partnership,</li> <li>housing/ regeneration strategies and so on.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A community with growing commutable employment opportunities</li> <li>A community with a diverse range of commutable employment that matches the skills of residents</li> </ul> <p><u>A great place to access good public services</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continually improve services to deliver excellence and value for money</li> <li>Assist and influence other public partners to improve their services in the District</li> </ul> <p><u>A great place that cares for the environment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase biodiversity across the District</li> <li>Reduce pollution across the District</li> </ul> <p>The aims of the Council Plan are compatible with the Adopted Local Plan's vision and objectives, although there are actions for planning that could provide the impetus for additional targeted policies in the Local Plan, e.g. in relation to biodiversity.</p> <p>In addition, in December 2022 the Council adopted the North East Derbyshire Climate Change Strategy 2022-2030, which sets out the following priorities for planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work to develop appropriate guidance, policy and frameworks to ensure that planning measures for net zero buildings are integrated into the Local Plan and wider planning activities;</li> <li>Use the development planning process to influence the development of better public transport and cycling routes and look for opportunities to introduce initiatives to promote uptake of low carbon vehicles;</li> <li>Influence significant carbon reduction and cost savings in the wider area through the planning process;</li> <li>Work with our neighbouring authorities to develop Countywide planning policies to promote low carbon lifestyles.</li> </ul> <p>A review of the Plan would be desirable to enable early delivery of these policies.</p> <p>As part of the Governments towns fund, Clay Cross has been successful in securing £24.1M to deliver vision of the Clay Cross Town Investment Plan. The Town Investment Plan is focussed on five main themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Centre Regeneration;</li> <li>Connectivity;</li> </ol>

PAS LOCAL PLAN ROUTE MAPPER TOOLKIT PART 1: LOCAL PLAN REVIEW ASSESSMENT			
	Matters to consider	Agree / Disagree	Extent to which the local plan meets this requirement
			iii. Skills and Enterprise; iv. Health, Wellbeing and Leisure; and v. Clean Growth.  These themes are aligned with the policy objectives set out in the Adopted Local Plan.

	ASSESSING WHETHER OR NOT TO UPDATE YOUR PLAN POLICIES	YES/NO (please indicate below)	
A15.	<b>You AGREE with <u>all</u> of the statements above</b>	NO	<p><b><u>If no go to question A16.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>If yes</u>, you have come to the end of the assessment. However, you must be confident that you are able to demonstrate and fully justify that your existing plan policies / planning position clearly meets the requirements in the statements above and that you have evidence to support your position.</b></p> <p><b>Based on the answers you have given above please provide clear explanation and justification in section A17 below of why you have concluded that an update is not necessary including references to evidence or data sources that you have referenced above. Remember you are required to publish the decision not to update your local plan policies. In reaching the conclusion that an update is not necessary the explanation and justification for your decision must be clear, intelligible and able to withstand scrutiny.</b></p>
A16.	<b>You DISAGREE with one or more of the statements above and the issue can be addressed by an update of local plan policies.</b>	YES	<p><b>If yes, based on the above provide a summary of the key reasons <u>why</u> an update to plan policies is necessary in section A17 below and complete Section B below.</b></p>

A17.	<p><b><u>Decision:</u></b></p> <p>Reasons for decision on whether or not to update plan policies (clear evidence and justification will be required where a decision not to update has been reached): XXXXXXXXXX</p> <p>Other actions that may be required in addition to or in place of an update of plan policies: XXXXXXXXXX</p>		

## Local Plan Review Action Plan – Phase 1 Evidence

1c	Constraints Mapping – Eastern Sub Area	
Original baseline work to be updated and analysed in the context of any decisions around the extent of a Plan Review and strategy options – Summer 2024		
2a	Housing Need Study	
Consultants appointed December 2023 to produce this evidence with the following key milestones:		
<div>1. <b>Inception Phase (Dec 2023)</b> Inception Meeting, Review of Policy &amp; Evidence, HMA &amp; Sub-Geographies, Housing Stock &amp; Supply Trends and Housing Market Dynamics</div> <div>2. <b>Overall Housing Need (Jan – end April 2024)</b> Demographic Review, Overlay of Econ &amp; Affordable Need Finalising Conclusions <i>Interim Report &amp; Meeting</i></div> <div>3. <b>Affordable Housing Need (Jan - end March 2024)</b> Household survey Survey Response Analysis Affordable Need Modelling</div> <div>4. <b>Housing Mix &amp; Market Segments (Mid Feb – early April 2024)</b> Size/Type of Homes Older Persons &amp; Specialist Needs Other Specific Groups</div> <div>5. <b>Reporting (April – end May 2024)</b> Update Parish/Town Councils on the outcomes of the above evidence gathering Finalising Draft Report &amp; <i>Meeting</i> Engagement on Draft Findings Final Report &amp; Summary</div>		
2b	Housing Land Availability Assessment (LAA)	Undertake jointly
2f	Gypsy and Traveller LAA	
3c	Employment LAA	
5?	Biodiversity off-setting – call for sites	
Bid submitted to PropTech innovation fund for fully automated site assessment software. If successful we will benefit from significant time savings in assessment work, so work on this theme is on hold until Mid February.		
Timescales for the following tasks will be dependent upon the success of the bid, but aim to complete the task by end of 2024:		
<div>• Update joint LAA methodology with neighbouring authorities (BDC/ BaDC /CBC) (Feb - March 2024)</div> <div>• Either update inhouse automated site assessment tool or integrate Urban Intelligence system through Prop Tech Fund (March – May 2024)</div> <div>• Inform Parish/Town Councils of call for sites process and timescales</div>		



- Undertake a public call for sites (May/June 2024 if manual process or August/Sept with automated system) - to include Parish/Town Councils
- Data entry for site assessment (July – November 2024)
- Produce LAA report

## 2d Five Year Housing Land Supply

Following changes to the NPPF (Dec 2023) LPA's with an adopted Local Plan that is less than 5 years old are not required to demonstrate a five year supply of housing land in order for the Plan to carry full weight in decision making. This will remain the case for NEDDC until November 2026. However, in the interests of monitoring housing delivery (as required by the Council's Annual Monitoring Report) and understanding the ongoing supply position officers intend to continue to undertake this work.

- Undertake survey work to monitor housing delivery on a site-by-site basis (March – April 2024)
- Input data to SMART monitoring package (April – May 2024)
- Contact site owners to identify anticipated build out on larger sites (i.e. over 50 dwellings) (May-June 2024)
- Communicate the outcome of this exercise to Parish and Town Councils
- Report on supply position and housing trajectory for plan period (June-July 2024)

## 3a Employment Study - incorporating Employment Land Need Assessment, Assessment of Existing Sites, Strategic Warehousing & Logistics Study and possibly Retail/Town Centres Study

Evidence to be commissioned jointly with Bolsover District Council and Chesterfield Borough Council. Timescales below are indicative and subject to change given joint working arrangements.

- Review national policy changes and local economic environment.
- Prepare specification and undertake invitation to tender to appoint specialist consultant (February – May 2024).
- Initial output to agree extent of employment study required, i.e. light touch update or wholesale review (July-August 2024).
- Subject to above:
  - Inform Parish and Town Councils of the scope and timescales for the review
  - Agree methodology for economic forecasting (Autumn 2024)
  - Undertake study elements (Autumn/Winter 2024)
  - Review outputs and relationship with housing needs
  - Final report (Spring 2025??)

## 5c Biodiversity

Appoint consultants to prepare an evidence-based, strategic 'Plan for Nature' comprising:

- Nature Recovery Network (NRN) modelling to bring together existing habitat data.
- Identifying the key strategic gaps and opportunities for enhancement in biodiversity in the district.
- Reviewing the Council's land assets to identify those suitable for BNG.
- Consider the case for 15% and 20% net gain requirements and how this could be achieved in light of the baseline net gain evidence.

Key stages (indicative):

- Prepare specification and undertake tender process (February - March 2023)
- Consultant to undertake research modelling and site assessments (April – July 2023)

- Interim Report (August 2024)
- Final Report (September 2024)

<b>6a</b>	<b>Design Codes</b>
<p>Design Codes are a key element of the government’s reforms for plan-making. There are also linkages with the council’s Successful Places Guidance, which will require updating.</p> <p>The Council has been successful in securing government ‘Skills Funding’, the successful bid was based upon upskilling members of staff in the area of conservation and design and included the preparation of design codes. A detailed project programme will be prepared once we have received further details on the funding arrangements and timeframes.</p> <p>The information that we have to date indicates that the funding will be provided from April 2024 and the programme will last for 12 months. We are currently awaiting a Memorandum of Understanding from DHLUC and confirmation of any phasing arrangements to the payment. Consultants will be produced to lead the drafting codes for 2 areas of the District over the 12 month programme. After the 12 months, the drafts will need to be taken through to adoption and coding undertaken of other parts of the District.</p>	
<b>7a</b>	<b>NEDDC Climate Change Action Plan</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review evidence – national &amp; local (including DCC outputs) (May – August 2024)</li> <li>• Work with Climate Change officer to identify actions that can be embedded in the Local Plan (tbc)</li> </ul>	
<b>7c</b>	<b>Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)</b>
<p>Evidence to be commissioned jointly with Bolsover District Council and Chesterfield Borough Council. Timescales below are indicative and subject to change given joint working arrangements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consult with Parish/Town Councils (local data), Environment Agency (EA) and Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) to identify the scope of review and extent of new modelling required (March 2024)</li> <li>• Prepare specification and undertake invitation to tender to appoint specialist consultant (April – May 2024).</li> <li>• Key modelling and assessment work undertaken (June – September 2024).</li> <li>• Interim Report and consultation (if required) (October 2024).</li> <li>• Final SFRA report for sign off by the three LPAs.</li> </ul>	

## APPENDIX 3

### LOCAL PLAN REVIEW WORKING GROUP

#### NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 1 NOVEMBER 2023

##### **Present:**

Councillor Stephen Pickering (Chair) (in the Chair)

Councillor Caroline Smith  
Councillor Stephen Clough  
Councillor Michael Durrant  
Councillor Lee Hartshorne  
Councillor Heather Liggett

Councillor Frank Adlington-Stringer  
Councillor Andrew Cooper  
Councillor David Hancock  
Councillor Tony Lacey  
Councillor Mick Smith

##### **Also Present:**

D Thompson	Assistant Director of Planning
H Fairfax	Planning Policy & Environment Manager
A Maher	Governance Manager
A Bond	Governance Officer

##### **LPR/ Apologies for Absence**

**1/23-**

**24** Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Suzy Cornwell and Stuart Fawcett.

##### **LPR/ The Purpose of the Review Group**

**2/23-**

**24** Members of the Group introduced themselves before viewing a presentation by The Assistant Director Planning and the Planning Policy & Environment Manager. The presentation outlined the Terms of Reference and the purpose of the Local Plan Review Working Group.

Councillor S Pickering explained that the aim had been to ensure that all political groups across the Council had involvement with the Group and would be able to influence the work that it conducted. He stressed that the process would not be rushed and that it would be both constructive and collaborative.

##### **LPR/ Discussions Based on the Attached Papers**

**3/23-**

**24** Group were presented with a report which outlined the issues and alternatives relating to a review of the Local Plan, the effectiveness of policies in the Adopted Local Plan and the outcome of a desk top review of the Local Plan.

Members heard that although the Council's Local Plan was adopted two years ago, it had been submitted for examination in May 2018 and had been prepared in line with the provisions of the 2012 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Since that time, the NPPF has had numerous changes

including the introduction of the national design guide, the standard method for calculating local housing need and an increased emphasis on climate change.

Officers had undertaken a desk top review of the Local Plan, which utilised the PAS assessment tool to identify if an early update of the Local Plan was likely to be necessary. The review suggested that the local plan was working well overall with the exception of a couple of areas of concern.

Group were also informed that new regulations, policy and guidance necessary for the preparation of the first new style of local plans would be in place by Autumn 2024. Plans would need to be submitted for examination by 30 June 2025. This would leave Council 20 months to secure the relevant evidence, prepare documentation and undertake the necessary consultation.

Members discussed the report at length. They considered the interim findings of the review and the RAG rating associated with each of the monitoring indicators: Green, to indicate that the relevant policies were being implemented effectively. Amber to indicate that there were some issues but these were being managed, and Red to highlight any serious issues.

Working Group discussed whether it would be best to begin work on a new local plan or to focus on a partial update of the current plan.

Councillor H Liggett raised concerns with regard to overloaded sewer systems and Group agreed to consider how best to address this issue as the work of the Group progressed.

Members discussed Neighbourhood Plans and if it would be beneficial for these to be updated at the same time as the Local Plan. They heard that these could be produced at any time and would depend on the needs of each individual Parish.

Group discussed the timeframe of a new Local Plan and heard the current Government proposals were that 'new style Local Plans' should not take more than 30 months to complete.

Group were reminded that the Local Plan must be reviewed every five years, in accordance with current national planning policy.

Members considered that evidence should be gathered so that Group could take an informed decision on how to proceed once there was clarity around the 'new style' plan making system.

#### **LPR/ Next Steps**

**4/23-  
24**

Group discussed the next steps and considered the merits of progressing to a formal review under the current system. Officers advised Members that given the likely scope of the review (including the strategic matters of housing and employment land and the need to reflect the Environment Act 2021 biodiversity requirements), a partial review would likely take a similar length of time to a full review, due to the impact on the strategic policies of the current



Local Plan.

Officers advised that, in light of the above discussion, there would not be sufficient time to complete a full review by June 2025 and that there was a risk of abortive work/having to re-do stages of the process if a formal review was commenced before the anticipated changes to the Plan process were introduced later in 2024. This assessment had been corroborated by an experienced planning professional who represented the Planning Officers Society Enterprise, who advise Local Planning Authorities on matters such as Local Plan preparation and reviews.

Officers also advised that the first substantive stage of a formal review would be evidence gathering in any case. The recommendation to progress with updating the evidence that would underpin an updated Plan/future Local Plan would address this requirement. The only difference from a formal Regulation 18 stage would be setting specific timeframes for public consultation.

Members were reminded that the Government consulted on the proposed 30 month system at the end of 2023 and the suggested process (to which officers provided a written response) would introduce a new 'gateway' system with associated consultation periods.

The Working Group heard that rather than duplicate consultation exercises, officers considered it prudent to issue a statement informing members of the public about the evidence gathering process that would be commencing in 2024 and explain the reasons for waiting for certainty on the 'new style' system before undertaking formal consultation.

At the conclusion of the discussion Members agreed –

1. To proceed with evidence gathering in advance of certainty regarding national requirements.
2. To prepare a statement that explains that a formal review is not going to commence until we have that certainty but that we have commenced evidence gathering.

**LPR/ 5/23-24     Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Members agreed that the next meeting of the Local Plan Review Working Group would take place in January 2024.

**North East Derbyshire District Council**

**Cabinet**

**March 28<sup>th</sup> 2024**

**Council Tax – Section 13A Reduction Policy**

**Report of Councillor J Birkin, Portfolio Holder for Council Services**

Classification: This report is public

Report By: Lee Pepper – Assistant Director – Communities

Contact Officer: Lee Pepper

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**PURPOSE/SUMMARY**

Section 13A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 provides the Council with a discretionary power to reduce the amount of Council Tax bill to a nil balance.

Legislation states that each Council Tax billing authority in England must create a scheme specifying the terms and eligibility for the reduction.

This Policy will set out the framework for eligibility, its application and implementation.

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**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That cabinet endorses the implementation of the Section 13A Council Tax reduction scheme.

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**IMPLICATIONS**

**Finance and Risk**

Yes ✓

No

**Finance**

There is a financial implication to the council when reducing the amount of Council Tax liability, therefore any award will only be made in extreme circumstance where it is reasonable to do so and all other options have been exhausted. The cost implications will be minimal and overall insignificant.

**Legal including Data Protection**

Yes ✓

No

The Council Tax – Section 13A Reduction Policy is developed within a legislative framework and reflects national statutory guidance and wider local policies and initiatives. Data protection will be in conjunction with the Councils existing policy and procedures and will be compliant with legislation, including data protection laws.

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

## **Staffing**

Yes ✓

No

This will be included within existing officer workloads.

On Behalf of the Head of Paid Service

## **DECISION INFORMATION**

<b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b>  A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:  <i>NEDDC: Revenue - £100,000 <input type="checkbox"/></i>  <i>Capital - £250,000 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please indicate which threshold applies	No
<b>Is the decision subject to Call-In?</b> (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)	No
<b>Has the relevant Portfolio Holder been informed</b>	Yes
<b>District Wards Affected</b>	All - indirectly
<b>Links to the Council Plan</b>	A great place to access good public services

## **REPORT DETAILS**

### **1 Background**

- 1.1 Section 13A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 states liable Council Taxpayers are entitled to make an application for a discretionary Section 13A Council Tax Reduction.
- 1.2 To comply with legislation a Section 13A Council Tax Reduction Scheme needs to be put in place by Local Authorities responsible for Council Tax liability.

- 1.3 The Council Tax – Section 13A Reduction Policy is the Council’s framework for the scheme.
- 1.4 The Policy will ensure Council Tax reductions are implemented to those who are eligible and in most financial hardship when all other options have been exhausted.
- 1.5 The Council will consider making a Section 13A Reduction to persons who meet the qualifying criteria, as specified in this policy. All applications will be assessed on their individual merits.
- 1.6 Reductions will only be granted to Council Taxpayers in exceptional circumstances and will normally be for a short-term period.
- 1.7 All decisions will be made by the Revenues and Benefits Manager or a senior nominated officer within the Revenues and Benefits Team.
- 1.8 The policy also provides scope to recover any overpayments and seek to recover the value of any reduction that has been granted fraudulently.

### **3 Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 To implement the Section 13A Council Tax Reduction, the legislation states that each Council Tax billing authority in England must make a scheme specifying the terms and eligibility for the reduction.
- 3.2 The Policy complies with legislation and provides a framework for the Section 13A Reduction Scheme.

### **4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

- 4.1 An alternative option was not to have a policy, this was rejected as the Council would fail to comply with legislation and would not be able to implement the Section 13A Council Tax Reduction

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## **DOCUMENT INFORMATION**

Appendix No	Title	
1	Council Tax – Section 13A Reduction Policy	
Background Papers		
None		
Report Author		Contact Number
Di Parker		01246 217292





**North East  
Derbyshire**  
District Council

# **Council Tax – Section 13A Reduction**

**28 – March 2024**

## **Equalities Statement**

North East Derbyshire District Council is committed to equalities as an employer and when delivering the services it provides to all sections of the community.

The Council believes that no person should be treated unfairly and is committed to eliminating all forms of discrimination, advancing equality and fostering good relations between all groups in society.

### **Access for All statement**

You can request this document or information in another format such as large print or **language** or contact us by:

- **Phone** - [01246 231111](tel:01246231111)
- **Email** - [connectne@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:connectne@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk)
- **Text** - [07800 00 24 25](tel:07800002425)
- **BSL Video Call** – a three way video call with us and a BSL interpreter. It is free to call Northeast Derbyshire District Council with Sign Solutions, you just need Wi-Fi or mobile data to make the video call, or call into the offices at Wingerworth.
- Call with [Relay UK](#) – it is a free phone service provided by BT for anyone who has difficulty hearing or speaking. It's a way to have a real time conversation with us by text.
- **Visiting** our [offices](#) at Wingerworth – 2013 Mill lane, [S42 6NG](#)

<b>CONTROL SHEET FOR [Section 13A Council Tax Reduction]</b>
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<b>Policy Details</b>	<b>Comments / Confirmation (To be updated as the document progresses)</b>
Policy title	Section 13A Council Tax Reduction
Current status – i.e. first draft, version 2 or final version	First Draft
Policy author (post title only)	Housing Policy and Intelligence Officer
Location of policy (whilst in development)	S Drive
Relevant Cabinet Member (if applicable)	
Equality Impact Assessment approval date	
Partnership involvement (if applicable)	
Final policy approval route i.e. Cabinet/ Council	Cabinet
Date policy approved	
Date policy due for review (maximum three years)	June 2026
Date policy forwarded to Performance & Communications teams (to include on Intranet, and website if applicable to the public)	

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## 1. Introduction

[Section 13A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992](#) provides the Council with a discretionary power to reduce the amount of Council Tax which a person is liable to pay. This also includes power to reduce a Council Tax bill to a nil balance.

To implement the Section 13A Council Tax reduction, the legislation states that each Council Tax billing authority in England must make a scheme specifying the terms and eligibility for the reduction.

Requests for a reduction will be through an application process and is discretionary determined by the Council's Revenues and Benefits department.

There is a financial implication to the council if reducing the amount of Council Tax liability, therefore any award will only be made in extreme circumstance where it is reasonable to do so and all other options have been exhausted. This will have due regard to the interest of Council Tax payers, who ultimately fund any reduction.

## 2. Scope

Any resident living in the district of North East Derbyshire who is liable for Council Tax billing can make a request for a Council Tax reduction in line with this policy.

An advocate/appointee or a recognised third party acting on a residents behalf will also adhere to this policy.

The Policy will provide guidance for Council Officers advising, assessing and making decisions on Section 13A Council Tax Reduction applications.

The Policy will have due regard to the following national legislation:

- Equalities Act 2010
- GDPR
- The Local Government Finance Act 1992
- The Council Tax (Administration and Enforcement) Regulations 1992

## 3. Principles

The policy links to the Council's corporate vision as follows:

- A place where people will prosper
- A place where people will feel safe, happy and healthy

The policy links to the Council's corporate aims by;

- Enhancing our residents' quality of life, including;
  - Protecting the most vulnerable, and
  - Actively preventing homelessness

## **4. Statement**

Every liable Council Taxpayer is entitled to make an application for a discretionary Section 13A Council Tax reduction. Although, the reduction will only be granted to Council Taxpayers in exceptional circumstances and will normally be for a short-term period.

The Council will consider making a Section 13A reduction to persons who meet the qualifying criteria, as specified in this policy. All applications will be assessed on their individual merits.

### **4.1 Eligibility Criteria**

The Council has the discretion to reduce or remit the Council Tax payable in respect of dwellings in its area, by either a;

- (a) Persons whom the authority considers to be in financial need, or
- (b) Persons in classes consisting of persons whom the authority consider to be, in general, in financial need.

All applications will be considered on its own merits, however when assessing an application, the following factors will be considered

- There must be evidence of financial hardship or unforeseen, exceptional circumstances to justify any reduction.
- Establish if the difficulties are short term that can be resolved by the rescheduling of instalment payments
- All other eligible discounts/exemptions must have been explored prior to the application being made.
- Whether the Council Tax Payer/s have access to other funds/assets that could be used to pay the Council Tax
- The historical payment record of the Council Tax Payer.
- The Council must be satisfied that the amount outstanding must not be the result of wilful refusal to pay or culpable neglect.
- The Council will not allow any reduction for a Council Tax empty property charge if the property is not being used as anyone's sole or main residence.

### **4.2 Applying for a Section 13A Reduction**

Applications should be made using the form that is available on the North East Derbyshire District Council's website at [www.ne-derbyshire.gov.uk](http://www.ne-derbyshire.gov.uk) or by telephoning 01246 217600.

All relevant supporting information will need to be supplied either with the application or within 28 days from the date of a request for supporting evidence from the Council.

Failure to provide the evidence as requested may result in the application being refused.

Council Tax accounts with more than one liable party must make a joint application and evidence must be supplied in respect of all parties.

As Council Tax liability is determined by legislation the Council is unable to amend the names of the liable person/s for the purpose of the application.

### **4.3 Evidence Requirements**

The Council reserves the right to undertake any enquiries considered necessary, which may include verification of the information provided or a home visit.

The evidence required will be determined by the circumstances of the applicant/s but may include the following, however the list is not exhaustive;

- A detailed explanation of the circumstances that have given rise to the application.
- An indication of the amount of reduction that the applicant is requesting and frequency of the reduction, for example, one instalment or the whole balance.
- A full breakdown of the applicant's household income and expenditure.
- An explanation of the steps already taken to resolve difficulties to help meet the applicant's Council Tax liability.
- A declaration of any substantial assets owned by the applicant/s, for example, property, motor vehicles, boats (the list is not exhaustive).
- Bank statements for the last 12 months (or longer).
- Savings accounts.
- Letters from the landlord, or mortgage provider, showing that the applicant may lose their home.
- If evidence cannot be provided, details of why this cannot be provided will be required.

### **4.4 Decision Making**

All decisions will be made by the Revenues and Benefits Manager or a senior nominated officer within the Revenues and Benefits Team.

The applicant will be notified of the decision in writing within 7 working days from the date the decision has been made.

Where a reduction is awarded the notification will include;

- The amount of reduction
- The applicable period of the reduction
- When the award will be applied

If the Council Tax reduction application is successful it will be credited to the council tax account to which it applies.

If the Council Tax reduction application is refused the notification will include;

- The reason for the refusal

- Appeals process

## **4.5 Appeals Process**

If an applicant does not accept the decision to refuse the reduction an appeal must be submitted in writing to the Revenues and Benefits Manager clearly explaining the reasons for the appeal. All appeals must be submitted within one calendar month of the decision being made.

If the reward is still refused and the applicant thinks the council has made the wrong decision the applicant has a right to appeal to the Valuation Tribunal Service which is an independent judicial body. Further information can be found at [www.valuationtribunal.gov.uk](http://www.valuationtribunal.gov.uk)

## **4.6 Change of Circumstances**

Any applicant's change of circumstances must be reported to the Revenues and Benefits Manager to re assess the awarded reduction and/or the agreed timeframes.

The award will end if:

- The liable person/s change
- The council tax payer enters any form of formal insolvency
- The council tax payer's financial circumstances significantly alter

## **4.7 Overpayments**

If the Council becomes aware of any information provided that is incorrect or are aware of information that has not been declared then the Revenues and Benefits Department may seek to recover the value of any reduction that has been granted.

The value of the reduction may be removed from the Council Tax account which may result in an outstanding balance. This will be subject to the Council's normal methods of collection and recovery.

Any suspicion that a fraudulent act has been committed may lead to criminal proceedings.

## **4.8 Fraudulent Applications**

If a reduction has been made because of a false or fraudulent application the Council reserves its right to withdraw the reduction award. The Council will consider prosecuting any applicant who makes a false statement or provides fraudulent evidence in support of an application.

## **5. Responsibility for Implementation**

Revenues and Benefits Manager – Revenues and Benefits department  
Revenues and Benefits Officers – Revenues and Benefits department



**6. Appendices (if applicable)**

DRAFT

**North East Derbyshire District Council**

**Cabinet**

**28 March 2024**

**Stonebroom Regeneration Update – March 2024**

**Report of Councillor N Barker, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder and Finance, with responsibility for Housing**

Classification: This report is public

Report By: Jayne Dethick, Director of Finance and Resources (S151 Officer)

Contact Officer: as above

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**PURPOSE/SUMMARY**

To update Cabinet on progress of the redevelopment of fifty non-traditional prefabricated bungalows around the Cleveland Road area at Stonebroom.

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**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That Cabinet note the progress on the project to regenerate the Prefabricated Bungalows at Stonebroom, including the option to consider delivery of a new community building to replace existing provision.
2. That Cabinet approve demolition notices be issued to 40 tenancies of the bungalows.
3. That Cabinet approve RHL's request to award Band 1 priority housing application status to seven tenancies of the bungalows, who have expressed an interest in relocating away from the project.
4. That Cabinet approve further detailed design, engineering and construction planning works be undertaken for the project with a budget cost of £0.5m (from within the approved budget) in advance of the main construction contract.
5. That Cabinet note temporary decants of existing customers will be required into current voids on the development. This is necessary to facilitate the construction programme and ensure the scheme is viable.
6. That Cabinet note existing gardens, access paths and open grass spaces will need to be incorporated into the construction area in a flexible manner, to provide sufficient storage, access and working space for the construction team during redevelopment.

Approved by the Leader of the Council - Cllr Nigel Barker

## **IMPLICATIONS**

### **Finance and Risk**

**Yes ✓**

**No**

The overall budget for the main regeneration of the bungalows remains as approved. However, the proposal for a replacement community building, to be constructed as part of the project was not within the original brief and therefore is not yet funded.

Work is ongoing to finalise the proposal for this facility and to develop a budget for this which will be presented to a future Cabinet for a decision.

There is a requirement as detailed at 1.10 to expend £0.5m of the approved budget prior to the main construction contract commencing. This is required to undertake the mobilisation works required to facilitate start on site.

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

### **Legal including Data Protection**

**Yes ✓**

**No**

There will be legal considerations as the scheme progresses. Any specialist advice required in relation to the scheme will be procured as required

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

### **Staffing**

**Yes**

**No ✓**

There are no staffing issues arising directly from this report.

On Behalf of the Head of Paid Service

## **DECISION INFORMATION**

Decision Information	
<b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b> A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:  <b>NEDDC:</b> <b>Revenue - £100,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £250,000 <input type="checkbox"/></b> <b><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please indicate which threshold applies</b>	No

<b>Is the decision subject to Call-In?</b> (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)	No
<b>District Wards Significantly Affected</b>	Shirland & Stonebroom
<b>Consultation:</b> <b>Leader / Deputy Leader</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Cabinet</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>SMT</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Relevant Service Manager</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Members</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Public</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes  Details:
<b>Links to Council Plan priorities, including Climate Change, Equalities, and Economics and Health implications.</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect the most vulnerable people in our communities.</li> <li>• Ensure residents have safe and good quality homes.</li> <li>• Increase the number of homes for rent in the district.</li> <li>• Reduce the environmental impact of housing in the district</li> </ul>	

## 1. **REPORT DETAILS**

- 1.1 This report is to update Cabinet on the progress of the project to regenerate the 50 prefabricated bungalows at Stonebroom and to investigate the option to develop a community building to replace the existing provision.
- 1.2 In November 2023 the Council approved borrowing of £15.4m for the delivery of this project in the HRA Capital Programme. The total indicative gross cost of the scheme is £17.8m with the remainder funded from grants.
- 1.3 As part of the scheme brief, Cabinet agreed in November that redevelopment or relocation of the community facility at Cleveland Road would also be considered as part the regeneration scheme. The existing building needs substantial investment, so it does makes sense to include as part of the wider regeneration scheme proposals. Feasibility and consultation work has commenced and will be the subject of a future report to Cabinet. The Council and RHL have also begun discussions with Stonebroom Parish Council regarding the option to replace the community facility.
- 1.4 Preplanning application advice for the scheme has been sought from the Council and detailed work is ongoing in preparation for submitting a full planning application in April 2024.
- 1.5 The project incorporates a proposal to construct seven new homes on a garage site located approximately 500m away from the main site. (see appendix 1) To reduce the risk of the planning application for the main site being affected by this secondary element of the project, a separate planning application will be submitted for these homes simultaneously.
- 1.6 Consultation with the residents of the bungalows has been ongoing for over 18 months and their views are being considered in developing the project. Further home visits to seven residents who have expressed a preference to move away from the location prior to the works starting on site are arranged in this month. An



open consultation meeting for all residents and family /carers is arranged for 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

- 1.7 Letters to 32 residents immediately surrounding the garage site on Byron Grove, Kingsley Crescent and Cleveland Road, including a plan of the proposed new homes on the site have been issued with a request for any comments/feedback and the offer of a face-to-face meeting to discuss the plans. At the date of publication comments have been received from three residents which have been discussed with them. These views will be considered when finalising the planning application.
- 1.8 As mentioned in 1.3 above, options surrounding the community facility are being considered including replacement. There is an opportunity to build a new community facility on the site currently forms part of the gardens to three of our homes and eight of our flats, as well as a parking area off Cleveland Road. A separate consultation has taken place and feedback has been largely positive. Some concerns regarding parking were raised along with questions as to how the boundaries of the site would be dealt with. Where part of the large existing gardens are required to facilitate the proposal, residents were happy to agree for their gardens to be reduced, pending final detailed plans being issued and conformation of the new fencing to their gardens.
- 1.9 RHL attended the Stonebroom Parish Council Meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024 to provide an update on the project and to respond to any questions. A further update will be provided to the Parish Council in the summer following submission of the full planning application.
- 1.10 In preparation for submitting a full planning application for the project, detailed work is being undertaken to finalise the layout of the proposed new housing. This work includes engineering and drainage designs, developing a phasing plan to take account of the current occupancy of the site, site traffic/materials, utility strategies to meet the needs of both current residents and the construction programme. This work needs to be undertaken in advance of the main construction contract at a budget cost of £0.5m (from within the already approved budget).
- 1.11 In order to facilitate the construction of the new homes, phased demolition of some existing homes is required to create vacant land. Whilst we are seeking to minimise this, there will be a need to temporarily relocate some existing residents, from their current home into a decant property until their new permanent home is ready for occupation. Residents of the existing bungalows, who remain on site during the project, have been guaranteed a new bungalow in the development.
- 1.12 There are currently 10 void homes spread across site, (see appendix 2) one of which was heavily adapted to meet the needs of the previous resident, who has now moved into care, and one is being used under lease by the local food pantry. The properties have been inspected and with some minor improvements can be used as temporary decants for other residents.
- 1.13 In addition to these properties, the seven residents who have indicated they want to leave the site and take up a tenancy in a Council owned home elsewhere, will also release homes for either early demolition or for use as decants.
- 1.14 There is a requirement under the 1984 Building Act to issue a section 80 demolition notice with a minimum of 6 weeks' notice before any planned demolition. In addition, the issuing of a demolition notice to affected residents is a key step in the

process of ensuring their tenancy is correctly managed and they have continuity of rights during any decant and/or direct relocation to a new home.

- 1.15 Demolition notices are part of the process to trigger statutory home loss payments, assisted move payments and ensure the correct legal process for dealing with the existing tenancies is followed.
- 1.16 The current project timeline anticipates commencing full works on site around November 2024. Site investigations, demolition and diversion of services, access routes etc are likely to commence prior to this. To maximise the notice of intended demolition and ensure residents are fully supported through this process, the legal process will be discussed with them during the consultation meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> April. Allowing for further one to one support time for residents as required, the demolition notices will be issued during w/c 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024.
- 1.17 There will also be a requirement to use the gardens of occupied bungalows, access land and open spaces within the site for materials storage, access and working space. To facilitate this, temporary fencing, access routes and robust safety systems will be developed and put into place in consultation with affected residents. This approach will be kept to a minimum and take full account of the individual circumstances of residents.
- 1.18 In order to reduce the need for decants and disruption to residents whilst facilitating the works, options to rent adjoining agricultural land for use as a site management area, storage and welfare facilities is being explored.
- 1.19 The project timetable, below, has been updated to reflect progress to date:

Milestone	Forecast
Cabinet Approval	Approved
Full Council	Approved
Procure Contractor to progress the scheme through planning	Ongoing via EN Procure
Surveys and designs	From January 2024
Planning application submitted	April 2024
Planning determined (16 weeks)	August 2024
Demolition notices to be served (minimum six weeks statutory notice)	May 2024
Mobilisation works commence (Demolition, decants, site investigations)	June 2024
Appoint construction contract	September 2024
Main start on site	November 2024
Phased handover of new homes, further demolition, and construction phases	July 2025 – Nov 2026
Completion	March 2027

Council and RHL will continue to engage with residents, stakeholders and ward members at each key milestone. It will be essential to ensure both the demolition and

construction is phased, to allow existing residents to decant and then where possible move straight into their new home. This will require careful planning and working closely with current residents to fully support them and manage expectations. A dedicated liaison officer will be onsite throughout to manage the scheme, decants and support residents through the regeneration period.

1.20 Current consultation plans include:

- One to one meetings/inductions
- Consultation events and scheme meetings
- Newsletters and letters
- Customers and the wider community

A newsletter was circulated to all residents in February updating on progress

### **Reasons for Recommendation**

2.1 The regeneration scheme at Stonebroom supports the Council's commitment in its Council Plan to build, acquire and facilitate the delivery of more high-quality social housing for rent in the district.

### **3 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

3.1 Not applicable this is an update.

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### **DOCUMENT INFORMATION**

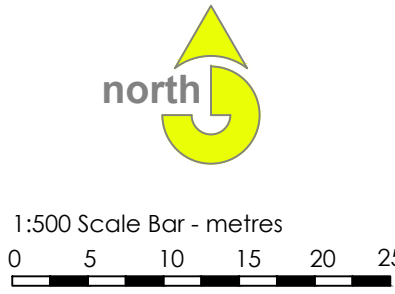
Appendix No	Title
1	Site plan
2	Location of voids
<b>Background Papers</b>	





Schedule of accommodation			
Ref	Type	Area m <sup>2</sup>	No
2BB1	2 Bed Bungalow	63.5	49
2BB2	2 Bed Bungalow	63.5	19
2BB3	2 Bed Bungalow	63.5	2
2BBW	2 Bed Bungalow M4(3)	71.4	6
Total			76








- Key
- Existing trees retained
  - Existing trees removed
  - New trees (indicative)



**POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL DWELLINGS**  
Access to former garage site may need widening subject to highways comments and land ownership. Justification may be required based on Trips data.

B	Attenuation pond added and plots adjacent reconfigured.	15.12.23	RL
A	Plots 65-69 reconfigured. Plot 55-56 changed. Hall site and land adjacent No. 68 included within development boundary. Additional plots added.	07.11.23	CP



Vulnerable Below 60 60+ 70+ 80+ 90+ VOID 

138.1m

Track

THE BUNGALOWS

BRIERLEY ROAD

Hall

# Agenda Item 11

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1, 2, 3, 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1, 2, 3, 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

# Agenda Item 12

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3, 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted