

# Public Document Pack



**North East  
Derbyshire**  
District Council

Contact: Tom Scott

Tel: 01246 217045

Email: [thomas.scott@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:thomas.scott@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk)

Date: Monday, 19 February 2024

To: **Members of the Services Scrutiny Committee**

Please attend a meeting of the Services Scrutiny Committee to be held on **Tuesday, 27 February 2024 at 10.00 am in Meeting Rooms 1 & 2**, District Council Offices, 2013 Mill Lane, Wingerworth, Chesterfield S42 6NG.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Steuberg".

**Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer**

## **Members of the Committee**

<b><u>Labour Group</u></b>	<b><u>Conservative Group</u></b>	<b><u>Liberal Democrat Group</u></b>
Councillor Mick Smith – Chair Councillor Kathy Clegg Councillor Carol Lacey Councillor Derrick Skinner Councillor Christine Smith	Councillor Heather Liggett Councillor Michelle Emmens Councillor Mark Foster	Councillor Ross Shipman

**For further information about this meeting please contact: Tom Scott 01246 217045**

# **AGENDA**

## **1 Apologies for Absence**

## **2 Declarations of Interest**

Members are requested to declare the existence and nature of any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or other interests, 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 Last Meeting (Pages 5 - 8)**

To approve as a correct record and the Chair to sign the Minutes of the Services Scrutiny Committee held on 21 November 2023.

## **4 Draft Notes of the Local Plan Review Working Group (Pages 9 - 11)**

Following the announcement at full Council the notes of the meeting are being shared with Scrutiny Committees for their information.

## **5 Q3 Budget Monitoring Report (Pages 12 - 26)**

To consider the current budget monitoring Report.

Justine Wells, Corporate Finance Manager (Deputy S151 Officer)

## **6 Performance Management (Pages 27 - 33)**

To consider progress made against the Council Plan Targets and Objectives relevant to the Committee and any issues where further progress is required.

Kath Drury, Information, Engagement and Performance Manager and Amar Bashir, Improvement Officer.

## **7 Residents Survey (Pages 34 - 40)**

Committee to discuss the outcomes of the Residents Survey and to determine if they want to look at any areas as part of their Work Programme.

Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer / Kath Drury, Information, Engagement and Performance Manager and Richard Shaw, Improvement Officer

## **8 Cabinet Business (Pages 41 - 54)**

To inform Committee of recent and forthcoming Cabinet business.

A digest of Cabinet decisions taken since 29 June 2023. This information is published by Cabinet meeting on the Council's website. Cabinet Agendas, Decisions and Minutes can be viewed at: [Cabinet](#)

The Forward Plan of Executive decisions.

## Plans

These plans are updated to include new business.

Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer

### **9 Work Programme** (Pages 55 - 59)

To consider the Committee's Work Programme.

Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer

### **10 Additional Urgent Items**

To consider any other matter which the Chair of the Committee is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.

### **11 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Services Scrutiny Committee is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 7 May 2024 at 10.00 am.

---



**North East  
Derbyshire  
District Council**

**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 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
- **Visiting** our [offices](#) at Wingerworth – 2013 Mill lane, [S42 6NG](#)

## SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 21 NOVEMBER 2023

#### **Present:**

Councillor Mick Smith (Chair) (in the Chair)

Councillor Heather Liggett (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Michelle Emmens  
Councillor Carol Lacey  
Councillor Derrick Skinner

Councillor Mark Foster  
Councillor Ross Shipman  
Councillor Christine Smith

#### **Also Present:**

L Hickin	Managing Director - Head of Paid Service
J Dethick	Director of Finance and Resources & (Section 151 Officer)
A Bashir	Improvement Officer
A Maher	Governance Manager
T Scott	Governance and Scrutiny Officer

#### **SSC/ Apologies for Absence**

22/2

3-24 An apology for absence was received from Councillor K Clegg.

#### **SSC/ Declarations of Interest**

23/2

3-24 No Declarations of Interest were submitted.

#### **SSC/ Minutes of Last Meeting**

24/2

3-24 RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Services Scrutiny Committee held on 19 September 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

#### **SSC/ The Performance Management Framework**

25/2

3-24 The Improvement Officer presented a report setting out progress on the strategies underpinning the Council Plan objective 'A great place to access good public services' for the period ending 30 September 2023.

Members were updated on progress under the following objective sub-categories in Appendix 1 of the report:

- 1) Assist and influence other public partners to improve their services in the District.
- 2) Continually improve Council services to deliver excellence and value for money.

Members referred to the part of the Appendix that mentioned "testing taken place

within various departments including for the Residents Survey and Armed Forces community bulletins” and asked how the Residents Survey would be approached. The Director of Finance and Resources explained that officers originally sent out paper copies of the Survey to 2,500 households randomly selected, but this did not generate the targeted number of responses. Officers subsequently sent out e-mails of the Survey to those registered on our e-mail service and this generated a better response, so this would be the approach going forward.

Members stated they would like to see more precise mentions in the Appendix of what strategies had been delivering or tangible investments being made into various areas. The Managing Director responded that these update reports would soon follow a different format which would explicitly set out what the Council Plan objectives want to achieve.

Members referred to the sentence in the Appendix which stated “consultation on 2 play parks in Killamarsh and 1 play park in Clay Cross were undertaken” and asked when the results of the consultation would be made available. The Managing Director agreed to investigate when it would be available with officers.

Members discussed the sentence in the Appendix which stated “new Derbyshire Police Safer Neighbourhood Team Headquarters being progressed on Council owned site at Bridge St Clay Cross” and asked how much was going to be spent on this. The Director of Finance and Resources stated that this would be completely funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner. The Managing Director added that the plan had a number of ambitions and a list of them would be circulated to the Committee.

RESOLVED – That progress against the Council Plan ‘A great place to access good public services’ objective was noted.

## **SSC/** Revised Budgets

**26/2**

**3-24**

The Director of Finance and Resources presented a report with revisions to the 2023/24 budget for the Services Scrutiny Committee to consider.

Members were informed of the revisions, which included moving £170,000 from the Medium Term Financial Plan because of an increase in temporary accommodation fees.

Members considered the budgets of the Council’s leisure facilities, and asked why some had not achieved a budget surplus. The Managing Director explained that the primary reason had been increasing energy costs.

Members were concerned that there appeared to be a large budget variance for Killamarsh Leisure Centre. The Managing Director explained that the soft play area had not been as popular as predicted, because it was often difficult to market a leisure facility without a pool.

Members shared anecdotal evidence of why some residents did not use Killamarsh Leisure Centre, which was due to parking restrictions. The Director of Finance and Resources agreed to investigate if this was the case.

The Committee considered the damp and mould provisions in place for residents. The Director of Finance and Resources explained that Rykneld Homes had a rigorous damp and mould process, and officers in Environmental Health were trying to work with private landlords on the same subject.

RESOLVED – That the Services Scrutiny Committee noted the report concerning the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan - Revised Budgets 2023/24.

**SSC/** **The Council's Financial Resilience**

**27/2**

**3-24**

The Director of Finance and Resources delivered a presentation to Members about the Council's Financial Resilience, which meant its ability to remain viable, stable and effective over a sustained period, and being able to face pressures and demands and adapt to unforeseen changes.

The presentation went into detail on areas like the current financial climate and the warning signs of not maintaining good financial health. It concluded that the Council showed strong and stable financial health.

RESOLVED – That the update was noted.

**SSC/** **The Council's Talent Pipeline Strategy**

**28/2**

**3-24**

The Managing Director delivered a presentation to Members about the Talent Pipeline Strategy 2023. The aim of the Strategy was a longer term approach to recruitment and development.

The presentation summarised aspects of the Strategy such as the Council's workforce profile and how the Strategy would be promoted.

Members asked exactly how much of the Government's Apprenticeship Levy was given to the Council. The Director of Finance and Resources stated that an exact figure would be investigated and circulated to the Committee.

Members discussed the advantages and disadvantages of using volunteers. The Managing Director explained that there were some departments (like Leisure Services) who found using them very helpful depending on circumstance.

Members asked what the Council was doing to encourage work experience applications. Members were informed that Human Resources officers made contact with a number of schools and colleges.

Members felt the steps being taken in the Strategy were very positive.

RESOLVED – That the update was noted.

**SSC/** **Cabinet Business**

**29/2**

**3-24**

The Governance Manager presented a digest of Cabinet decisions taken since 29 June 2023. The digest set out key information for each decision, including information on how each decision would contribute towards the delivery of the Council Plan.

The Governance Manager notified Members that there had been complaints about reading the .pdf digest file on an iPad, so Governance would seek to find alternative methods of including it in the agenda.

The Governance Manager suggested that future digests could be colour coded to set out the decisions relevant to the Services Scrutiny Committee remit.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

**SSC/ Work Programme**

**30/2**

**3-24**

The Governance Manager suggested that two areas that could be included in the Work Programme were Performance and Policy Development.

Members were advised that suggestions for topics to add to the Work Programme should be directed towards the Vice-Chair and Chair of the Committee.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

**SSC/ Additional Urgent Items**

**31/2**

**3-24**

None.

**SSC/ Date of Next Meeting**

**32/2**

**3-24**

The next meeting of the Services Scrutiny Committee was scheduled to take place on 27 February 2024 at 10.00am.

## 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/ Date and Time of Next Meeting**

**5/23-  
24**

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

**North East Derbyshire District Council**

**Services Scrutiny Committee**

**27 February 2024**

<p><b>Medium Term Financial Plan</b></p> <p><b>Budget Monitoring Report April – December 2023 (Q3)</b></p>
--

**Report of the Corporate Finance Manager (Deputy S151 Officer)**

Classification: This report is public

Report By: Justine Wells, Corporate Finance Manager (Deputy S151 Officer)

Contact Officer: Justine Wells

---

**PURPOSE/SUMMARY**

To present to Members of the Services Scrutiny Committee a summary of the budget position for the third quarter of 2023/24 which will be presented to Cabinet at its meeting on 29 February 2023.

---

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That the Services Scrutiny Committee note the report concerning the Council's budget monitoring for Quarter 3 and make any comments that they believe to be appropriate concerning these matters.
- 

**IMPLICATIONS**

**Finance and Risk**

**Yes ✓**

**No**

These are detailed in the attached report.

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

---

**Legal (including Data Protection)**

**Yes**

**No ✓**

There are no legal issues arising directly from this report.

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

<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</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>	None
<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>
All

## REPORT DETAILS

### 1 Background

- 1.1 To update Members of the Services Scrutiny Committee concerning the current budget position in respect of quarter three, April to December 2023.
- 1.2 The report to be taken to Cabinet on 29 February 2024 is accordingly brought to the Services Scrutiny Committee for its consideration.

**2 Reasons for Recommendation**

2.1 To ensure that the Services Scrutiny Committee is kept informed of the latest position concerning budget monitoring.

**3 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

3.1 This report is concerned with monitoring the position against the Council’s previously approved budget. Accordingly, the report does not set out any options where a decision is required by Members.

---

**DOCUMENT INFORMATION**

<b>Appendix No</b>	<b>Title</b>
1	Cabinet Q3 Budget Monitoring 2023/24 29 February 2024
<b>Background Papers</b>	

**North East Derbyshire District Council**

**Cabinet**

**29 February 2024**

**Medium Term Financial Plan  
Budget Monitoring Report April – December 2023 (Q3)**

**Report of the Deputy Leader with Responsibility for Finance**

Classification: This report is public

Report By: Justine Wells, Corporate Finance Manager (Deputy S151 Officer)

Contact Officer: Justine Wells

**PURPOSE/SUMMARY**

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

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That Cabinet note the quarter one budget monitoring position outlined in this report and detailed in **Appendices 1-4**.

Approved by the Portfolio Holder – Deputy Leader with responsibility for Finance.

**IMPLICATIONS**

<b><u>Finance and Risk</u></b>	<b>Yes ✓</b>	<b>No</b>
--------------------------------	--------------	-----------

It is important that the Council maintains robust budgetary control and monitoring processes in order to safeguard both its reserves and its financial resilience.

The issue of financial risk and resilience is covered throughout the report. In addition, it should be noted that not achieving a balanced budget is outlined as a key risk within the Council's Strategic Risk Register.

All other financial implications are covered in the relevant sections throughout the report.

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

<b><u>Legal including Data Protection</u></b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No ✓</b>
---	------------	-------------

There are no legal issues arising directly from this report.

**Staffing**

Yes

No ✓

There are no staffing issues arising directly from this report.

On Behalf of the Head of Paid Service

**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</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>	None
<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:

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

All

**REPORT DETAILS**

**1 Background**

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

## **2 General Fund**

- 2.1 The position in respect of the General Fund as at 31 December 2023 is summarised in **Appendix 1** attached to this report. The appendix shows the Original Budget that was set in January 2023, together with the Current Budget compared to the 31 December position.
- 2.2 As at quarter three the overall forecast is for the General Fund to underspend by (£0.580m). Variances of note by Directorate are detailed at 2.4 – 2.6 below. **Appendix 2** provides a more detailed breakdown by directorate.
- 2.3 The revised budget approved by Council in January 2024 reduced the required contribution from the Resilience Reserve from £0.784m to £0.331m, the details of which are contained in the Medium Term Financial Plan report to Council. Further, the report stated that subsequent under spends be transferred to the Resilience Reserve to “pay back” contributions this year, increasing resilience for future years. Based on these forecasts the under spend of £0.580m reduces the use of the reserve to nil and forecasts a contribution back to the reserve of £0.336m at outturn this year. This will depend on the actual financial performance out-turning in line with the revised budgets as the year progresses.
- 2.4 The Organisation and Place Directorate is £0.423m lower than the original forecast. The main variances are in relation to salary underspends of £0.101m, vehicle fuel underspends of £0.042m as well as underspends for members allowances of £0.019m and district election costs of £0.024m. There is also increased income from planning fees (£0.186m), burial fees (£0.019m) and licensing fees (£0.018m) along with several smaller variances but nothing of note.
- 2.5 The Finance and Resources Directorate is £0.091m lower than the original forecast. The main variances are in relation to underspends on salaries of £0.048m and lower than forecast software costs of £0.042m.
- 2.6 The Growth and Assets Directorate is £0.068m lower than the original forecast. Across the directorate salary, maintenance and utility costs are lower than forecast by £0.027m, £0.024 and £0.041m respectively. This is partially offset by lower than forecast income of £0.039m as well as several smaller variances but nothing of note.

### **Financial Reserves**

#### **2.7 Transfers from Earmarked Reserves**

The use of earmarked reserves in 2023/24 to date is £1.589m comprising:

- £0.605m from revenue grants
- £0.984m from earmarked reserves

#### **2.8 Transfers to Earmarked Reserves**

The transfers to earmarked reserves in 2023/24 to date is £1.607m comprising:

- £1.261m to revenue grants
- £0.346m to earmarked reserves

The majority of the transfer to earmarked reserves relate to resilience reserves, see 2.11 below.

- 2.9 There are ongoing commitments against the earmarked reserves which will continue in 2023/24 and future years. Should any of the reserves prove unnecessary in the light of subsequent events then they will be moved back into unallocated General Fund resources.

#### Invest to Save

- 2.10 The Invest to Save Reserve had an opening balance £2.700m at 1 April 2023. Commitments already made against this reserve for 2023/24 and future years amount to £0.799m leaving £1.901m currently uncommitted and available for future innovations and spend to save initiatives.

#### Resilience Reserve

- 2.11 The Resilience Reserve had an opening balance of £2.270m at 1 April 2023, and planned commitments in the current financial year were forecast to reduce this to £1.734m. However, the revised budget reduced use of the reserve to £0.331m by the end of year. The Q3 forecast underspend now reduces this use to nil and forecasts a contribution of £0.336m to the Resilience Reserve. This will be utilised to provide financial resilience to the General Fund in future years as required by Medium Term Financial Plan.

#### General Fund Balances

- 2.12 The level of General Fund Balances has been maintained at £2.000m. The General Fund balances are considered to be at an acceptable level rather than generous. The General Fund balance needs to be considered against the background of ongoing reductions in the level of Government funding together with the range of risks facing the Council. With only a limited level of General Fund reserves it is crucial that the Council continues to maintain robust budgetary control while securing its ongoing savings targets in order to safeguard both its reserves and its financial sustainability.

#### Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

- 2.13 **Appendix 3** shows the HRA position at quarter one. To date the HRA has remained relatively stable with income above budget by £0.124m and expenditure below budget by £0.033m resulting in an overall income position of £0.158m. The expenditure variance is due to the cost of insurance claims awaiting settlement by the insurers offset by £0.033m of general expenses not spent and £0.021m of salary underspends. The income variance is due to lower than forecast right to buy sales and an increase in non-dwelling rents for commercial property and garage rents of £0.033m and £0.038m respectively.

#### Capital Investment Programme

- 2.14 **Appendix 4** shows the capital position at quarter three which is currently £8.850m lower than the forecast.
- 2.15 The HRA capital programme is currently under budget by £8.881m largely due to the North Wingfield New Build (£3.606m). HRA Capital Works are also lower than profile at Q3 (£2.267m) but this is not unusual at this point in the year and the stock purchase programme is also showing a current underspend (£2.173m) but is committed. The General Fund capital programme is higher by £0.031m for Eckington Pool due to

additional expenditure not known about at the time of the approval of the capital programme.

- 2.16 The Council has sufficient capital resources in place to finance the actual expenditure and commitments of the capital programme this year.

### **3 Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 The report summarises 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.

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

- 4.1 This report is concerned with monitoring the position against the Council's previously approved budget. Accordingly, the report does not set out any options where a decision is required by Members.

---

## **DOCUMENT INFORMATION**

<b>Appendix No</b>	<b>Title</b>
1	General Fund Summary Monitoring Q3 2023/24
2	General Fund Detail Monitoring Q3 2023/24
3	HRA Monitoring Q3 2023/24
4	Capital Expenditure Monitoring Q3 2023/24
<b>Background Papers</b>	

## APPENDIX 1

## GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT - SUMMARY BUDGET MONITORING 2023/24 (QUARTER 3)

	Original Budget 2023/24 £	Current Budget 2023/24 £	Q3 Profiled Budget 2023/24 £	Actuals £	Variance £
Organisation and Place Directorate	7,098,395	7,926,480	6,594,063	6,170,843	(423,220)
Finance and Resources Directorate	4,620,372	4,281,525	3,307,236	3,215,845	(91,391)
Growth and Assets Directorate	3,736,445	3,247,273	267,204	201,442	(65,762)
Recharges to Capital and HRA	(618,350)	(618,350)	(463,825)	(463,763)	62
<b>Net Cost of Services</b>	<b>14,836,862</b>	<b>14,836,928</b>	<b>9,704,678</b>	<b>9,124,367</b>	<b>(580,311)</b>
Investment Properties	(449,920)	(473,095)	(384,803)	(405,987)	(21,184)
Bad Debt Provision	40,000	40,000	30,000	30,000	0
Interest	(479,180)	(801,564)	(601,256)	(667,005)	(65,749)
Debt Repayment Minimum Revenue Provision	56,000	56,000	42,000	42,000	0
Parish Precepts	3,467,459	3,556,306	2,667,230	2,667,230	0
Transfer To Earmarked Reserves	20,000	1,270,546	1,270,546	1,270,546	0
Transfer From Earmarked Reserves	(232,064)	(1,589,551)	(1,589,551)	(1,589,551)	0
Transfer Shortfall From Resilience Reserve	(977,011)	(331,241)	(331,241)	0	331,241
Transfer To Resilience Reserve	0	0	0	336,003	336,003
<b>Total Spending Requirement</b>	<b>16,282,146</b>	<b>16,564,329</b>	<b>10,807,603</b>	<b>10,807,603</b>	<b>0</b>
Business Rates	(5,297,035)	(5,297,035)	(3,972,776)	(3,972,776)	0
New Homes Bonus	(602,080)	(602,080)	(451,560)	(451,560)	0
3% Funding Guarantee	(259,008)	(259,008)	(63,629)	(63,629)	0
Services Grant	(108,841)	(108,841)	(28,329)	(28,329)	0
Collection Fund (Surplus)/Deficit - Council Tax	(81,168)	(81,168)	0	0	0
Collection Fund (Surplus)/Deficit - NNDR	0	0	0	0	0
NEDDC Council Tax Requirement	(6,659,905)	(6,659,905)	(4,994,929)	(4,994,929)	0
Parish Council Council Tax Requirement	(3,556,306)	(3,556,306)	(2,667,230)	(2,667,230)	0
<b>Council Tax Requirement</b>	<b>(16,564,343)</b>	<b>(16,564,343)</b>	<b>(12,178,453)</b>	<b>(12,178,453)</b>	<b>0</b>

## GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT - DETAILED BUDGET MONITORING 2023/24 (QUARTER 3)

	Profiled Budget 2023/24 £	Actuals 2023/24 £	Variance £
<b><u>Organisation &amp; Place Directorate</u></b>			
<b>Managing Director &amp; Head Of Paid Service</b>			
4500	107,715	106,840	(875)
5720	112,348	112,240	(108)
	<u>220,063</u>	<u>219,081</u>	<u>(982)</u>
<b>Assistant Director Environmental Health</b>			
3400	132,141	135,850	3,709
3401	139,314	129,788	(9,527)
3402	155,296	156,518	1,222
3403	19,912	22,242	2,330
3404	44,230	38,714	(5,516)
3405	131,175	134,201	3,026
3407	49,848	43,772	(6,076)
3408	15,432	16,016	584
3409	259,468	264,313	4,845
3410	88,173	82,801	(5,372)
3419	1,751	2,675	924
3420	3,000	0	(3,000)
3426	26,850	22,630	(4,220)
3427	0	2,236	2,236
3429	45,499	41,371	(4,128)
3430	(8,784)	(11,710)	(2,926)
3726	(1)	740	741
	<u>1,103,304</u>	<u>1,082,157</u>	<u>(21,147)</u>
<b>Assistant Director Streetscene</b>			
3174	224,152	203,446	(20,706)
3227	819,731	796,531	(23,200)
3282	111,991	114,011	2,020
3285	2,754	3,668	914
3511	(27,358)	(38,128)	(10,770)
3513	(4,302)	(4,386)	(84)
3514	(46,642)	(47,621)	(979)
3516	(14,256)	(22,422)	(8,166)
3918	(48,903)	(47,680)	1,224
3921	464,541	439,826	(24,715)
3943	492,817	500,997	8,180
3944	325,871	324,448	(1,423)
3945	1,315,431	1,294,207	(21,224)
3946	(599,888)	(605,691)	(5,803)
3947	60,302	59,939	(363)
	<u>3,076,241</u>	<u>2,971,145</u>	<u>(105,096)</u>
<b>Assistant Director Planning</b>			
4111	(354,049)	(561,350)	(207,301)
4113	27,963	27,963	(0)
4116	202,636	180,355	(22,281)
4119	12,759	12,759	0
4311	17,880	15,630	(2,250)
4511	44,077	40,040	(4,037)
4513	660,234	641,258	(18,976)
4515	39,000	39,000	0
	<u>650,500</u>	<u>395,655</u>	<u>(254,845)</u>
<b>Assistant Director Governance</b>			
1121	379,544	360,407	(19,137)
1123	5,552	2,648	(2,904)
1131	190,000	166,410	(23,590)

		<b>Profiled Budget 2023/24</b>	<b>Actuals 2023/24</b>	<b>Variance</b>
1133	Parish Elections	68,195	68,195	(0)
1137	Parliamentary Elections	0	2,655	2,655
1138	Police & Crime Commissioner Elections	19,420	19,420	(0)
1139	County Council Elections	0	2,024	2,024
1231	Corporate Training	41,465	41,719	254
1259	Corporate Groups	5,628	6,526	898
1311	Human Resources	248,887	247,704	(1,183)
3121	Health & Safety Advisor	27,637	22,994	(4,643)
5273	Brass Band Concert	0	0	0
5313	Register Of Electors	111,578	109,689	(1,889)
5321	Assistant Director Governance	72,496	71,943	(553)
5353	Legal Section	160,542	175,591	15,049
5354	Land Charges	(2,564)	798	3,362
5392	Scrutiny	29,639	16,898	(12,741)
5711	Democratic Services	185,936	187,185	1,249
		<b>1,543,955</b>	<b>1,502,805</b>	<b>(41,150)</b>
<b>Total for Organisation &amp; Place Directorate</b>		<b>6,594,063</b>	<b>6,170,843</b>	<b>(423,220)</b>

### **Finance & Resources Directorate**

#### **Director of Finance & Resources**

1312	Payroll	83,808	86,275	2,467
1315	Design & Print	98,834	95,499	(3,335)
1321	Communications & Marketing	95,911	93,843	(2,068)
1323	NEDDC News	28,502	24,764	(3,738)
1329	Corporate Web Site	1,764	2,039	275
3512	CBC Crematorium	200,000	200,000	0
5113	Unison Duties	6,464	116	(6,348)
5611	External Audit	(23,809)	(23,809)	0
5615	Bank Charges	108,763	105,295	(3,468)
5621	Contribution to/from HRA	0	0	0
5713	Audit	106,189	108,020	1,831
5714	Financial Support Services	2,627	1,521	(1,106)
5715	Procurement	16,210	17,438	1,228
5716	Director of Finance & Resources	52,472	52,087	(385)
5721	Financial Services	275,304	277,615	2,311
5724	Insurance	393,412	389,406	(4,006)
5725	Apprenticeship Levy	33,753	38,626	4,873
5727	Cost Of Ex-Employees	94,743	94,742	(1)
5728	Covid-19 Response	32,395	35,263	2,868
5745	Covid New Burdens	(13,098)	(17,460)	(4,362)
		<b>1,594,244</b>	<b>1,581,280</b>	<b>(12,964)</b>

#### **Assistant Director ICT**

5215	Telephones	32,750	27,808	(4,942)
5216	Mobile Phones and Ipads	19,225	16,107	(3,118)
5701	Joint ICT Service	2,748	2,748	0
5734	NEDDC ICT Service	485,019	482,997	(2,022)
5735	Cyber Security	0	3,000	3,000
5736	Business Development	288,032	239,254	(48,778)
5737	Corporate Printing Costs	15,497	11,333	(4,164)
		<b>843,271</b>	<b>783,247</b>	<b>(60,024)</b>

#### **Assistant Director Communities**

1218	Community Safety	(15,854)	(15,830)	24
1220	Assistant Director Communities	36,319	36,768	449
3165	Housing Options Team	256,262	250,937	(5,325)
3176	Pool Car	377	161	(216)
3740	Strategic Housing	87,005	85,427	(1,578)
3745	Household Support Fund	52,905	52,906	1
3747	Homeless Temp Accomodation	(45,514)	(45,601)	(87)
3748	Homelessness Grant	(192,680)	(192,680)	0

		<b>Profiled Budget 2023/24</b>	<b>Actuals 2023/24</b>	<b>Variance</b>
3749	Empty Properties	1,125	8	(1,117)
3750	Housing Growth	26,807	26,084	(723)
3754	Rough Sleepers	(18,767)	(28,811)	(10,043)
3756	Supported Housing Improvement Programme	(122,790)	(129,135)	(6,345)
3759	Emergency Welfare Assistance Grant	20,002	22,192	2,190
5221	Customer Services	266,593	256,818	(9,775)
5223	Franking Machine	35,778	39,849	4,071
5741	Housing Benefit Service	297,307	301,998	4,691
5742	Test & Trace	(79,419)	(79,419)	0
5747	Debtors	49,154	48,573	(581)
5751	NNDR Collection	53,261	57,787	4,527
5759	Council Tax Administration	497,491	499,593	2,102
5775	Council Tax Rebate	(11,400)	(11,400)	0
5778	Energy Bills Support AF	(324,240)	(324,240)	0
5825	Concessionary Bus Passes	0	(667)	(667)
		<b>869,721</b>	<b>851,317</b>	<b>(18,403)</b>
<b>Total for Finance &amp; Resources Directorate</b>		<b>3,307,236</b>	<b>3,215,845</b>	<b>(91,391)</b>

### Growth & Assets Directorate

#### **Director of Growth & Assets**

1283	Emergency Planning	17,141	16,392	(749)
4600	Director of Transformation	87,637	72,708	(14,929)
		<b>104,778</b>	<b>89,100</b>	<b>(15,678)</b>

#### **Assistant Director Property, Estates & Assets**

3135	Drainage	40,387	35,233	(5,154)
3172	Engineers	99,273	88,326	(10,947)
3241	Car Parks	44,059	35,867	(8,192)
3247	Street Names/Lights	2,624	1,852	(772)
3249	Footpath Orders	(301)	(916)	(615)
3265	Dams And Fishing Ponds	38	(449)	(487)
3281	Clay Cross Depot	504	(167)	(671)
3283	Northwood	0	(2,715)	(2,715)
4412	Midway Business Centre	(53,639)	(57,781)	(4,142)
4425	Coney Green Business Centre	(68,273)	(63,250)	5,023
4519	The Avenue, Wingerworth	0	0	0
4523	Estates Administration	251,157	253,138	1,981
4525	Miscellaneous Properties	31,319	34,818	3,499
5204	Assistant Director Property, Estates & Assets	60,358	60,335	(23)
5205	Mill Lane	219,976	217,567	(2,409)
5209	Facilities Management	65,602	61,780	(3,822)
5210	Pioneer House	15,448	11,973	(3,475)
		<b>708,532</b>	<b>675,611</b>	<b>(32,920)</b>

#### **Assistant Director Regeneration & Programmes**

1255	Strategy and Performance	94,680	94,708	28
1256	Corporate Consultation	0	3,073	3,073
1331	Strategic Partnerships	146,612	137,280	(9,332)
1333	Healthy North East Derbyshire	(167,806)	(168,395)	(589)
1336	UK Shared Prosperity Fund	(706,160)	(706,535)	(374)
3284	Wingerworth OPE	11,695	15,592	3,897
4211	Tourism Promotions	27,677	25,957	(1,720)
4238	Working Communities Strategy	64,404	62,964	(1,440)
4443	Elderly Peoples Clubs	3,001	3,461	460
4512	Growth Agenda	11,700	14,826	3,126
4517	Economic Development	113,484	116,065	2,581
4524	New Towns Fund - Clay Cross	(1,231,500)	(1,231,500)	0
5748	Ukrainian Guests	303	554	251
5750	Assistant Director Economic Development, Regeneration & Housing	61,806	61,632	(174)
5785	Contributions	131,336	126,105	(5,231)

	<b>Profiled Budget 2023/24</b>	<b>Actuals 2023/24</b>	<b>Variance</b>	
	(1,438,768)	(1,444,213)	(5,445)	
<b>Assistant Director Leisure</b>				
4561	Leisure Centre Management	(99,894)	(124,186)	(24,292)
4720	Sportivate	(27,028)	(27,058)	(30)
4722	Physical Inactivity Fund	(27,851)	(27,977)	(127)
4723	Generation Games	1	1,017	1,016
4724	Walking into Communities	(4,001)	(4,494)	(493)
4726	Walking For Health	(14,420)	(14,420)	0
4727	Five 60	(5,681)	(5,749)	(68)
4729	Active Neighbourhood Pilot	0	(1,139)	(1,139)
4731	Promotion Of Recreation And Leisure	26,883	26,802	(81)
4732	Schools Promotion	6,455	6,455	0
4736	Derbyshire Sports Forum	0	0	0
4742	Arts Development	1,928	2,569	641
8441	Eckington Swimming Pool	97,926	147,426	49,500
8445	Eckington Pool Cafe	(7,936)	(13,844)	(5,908)
8451	Dronfield Sports Centre	52,904	51,759	(1,145)
8455	Dronfield Café	(690)	(7,847)	(7,157)
8461	Sharley Park Sports Centre	541,020	541,888	868
8465	Sharley Park Sports Centre Outdoor	(938)	(382)	556
8471	Killamarsh Leisure Centre	336,953	319,538	(17,414)
8475	Killamarsh Outdoors	(8,401)	(10,067)	(1,666)
8476	Killamarsh Café	25,432	20,654	(4,778)
	<b>Total for Growth &amp; Assets Directorate</b>	<b>267,204</b>	<b>201,442</b>	<b>(65,762)</b>
<b>Corporate Charges</b>				
5790	Savings Target	0	0	0
0001	Recharges to Capital and HRA	(463,825)	(463,763)	63
	<b>Total for Corporate Charges</b>	<b>(463,825)</b>	<b>(463,763)</b>	<b>63</b>
	<b>Net Cost of Services</b>	<b>9,704,678</b>	<b>9,124,368</b>	<b>(580,311)</b>
<b>Investment Properties</b>				
4411	Stonebroom Industrial Estate	(41,376)	(44,468)	(3,092)
4413	Clay Cross Industrial Estate	(69,197)	(70,264)	(1,067)
4415	Norwood Industrial Estate	(166,303)	(166,840)	(537)
4417	Eckington Business Park	1,052	(3,531)	(4,583)
4418	Rotherside Court Eckington Business Unit	(20,809)	(23,060)	(2,251)
4423	Pavillion Workshops Holmewood	(74,598)	(76,195)	(1,597)
4432	Miscellaneous Properties	(13,572)	(21,629)	(8,057)
	<b>Total for Investment Properties</b>	<b>(384,803)</b>	<b>(405,987)</b>	<b>(21,184)</b>

## HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT: SUMMARY BUDGET MONITORING 2023/24 (QUARTER 3)

	Current Budget 2023/24 £	Profiled Qtr 3 Budget £	Actuals with Accruals £	Variance £
<b>INCOME</b>				
Dwelling Rents	(33,687,136)	(25,265,352)	(25,323,583)	(58,231)
Non-Dwelling Rents	(443,038)	(332,279)	(390,672)	(58,393)
Charges for Services and Facilities	(113,130)	(84,848)	(92,648)	(7,801)
Contributions Towards Expenditure	(50,000)	(37,500)	(37,500)	0
<b>INCOME TOTAL</b>	<b>(34,293,304)</b>	<b>(25,719,978)</b>	<b>(25,844,403)</b>	<b>(124,425)</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Repairs & Maintenance	5,983,875	4,487,906	4,506,387	18,481
Supervision and Management	7,906,296	5,929,722	5,877,789	(51,933)
Rents, Rates & Taxes	112,000	84,000	84,000	0
Capital Charges - Depreciation	8,322,072	6,241,554	6,241,554	0
Provision for Bad Debts	250,000	187,500	187,500	0
Debt Management Expenses	11,500	8,625	8,625	0
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>	<b>22,585,743</b>	<b>16,939,307</b>	<b>16,905,854</b>	<b>(33,453)</b>
<b>NET COST OF SERVICES</b>	<b>(11,707,561)</b>	<b>(8,780,671)</b>	<b>(8,938,549)</b>	<b>(157,878)</b>
Corporate & Democratic Core	185,450	139,088	139,088	0
<b>NET COST OF HRA SERVICES</b>	<b>(11,522,111)</b>	<b>(8,641,583)</b>	<b>(8,799,461)</b>	<b>(157,878)</b>
Interest Payable	7,024,746	5,268,560	5,268,560	0
Interest Receivable	(2,784,808)	(2,088,606)	(2,088,606)	0
Revenue Contribution to Capital	7,532,928	5,649,696	5,649,696	0
Contribution to Development Reserve	0	0	0	0
Contribution to/(from) Resilience Reserve	(300,755)	(225,566)	(225,566)	0
Contribution to Insurance Reserve	50,000	37,500	37,500	0
Capital Grant	0	0	0	0
<b>(Surplus)/Deficit on HRA Services</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(157,878)</b>	<b>(157,878)</b>

Project/Scheme	Current Programme 2023/24 £000	Profiled Budget £000	Actual and Commitments £000	Variance £000
<b>Housing Investment</b>				
HRA Capital Works	21,337	16,003	13,736	(2,267)
Garage Demolitions	83	62	0	(62)
Pine View Danesmoor	110	83	110	28
Parking Solutions	703	527	0	(527)
LADS 3 Scheme	437	328	53	(275)
Stonebroom Regeneration Project	0	0	1	1
North Wingfield New Build	7,402	5,552	1,946	(3,606)
Stock Purchase Programme	4,964	3,723	1,550	(2,173)
Private Sector Spending	820	569	569	0
<b>Total Housing Investment</b>	<b>35,856</b>	<b>26,846</b>	<b>17,965</b>	<b>(8,881)</b>
<b>Other Capital Projects</b>				
Asset Refurbishment - General	566	103	103	0
Asset Refurbishment - Mill Lane	870	642	642	0
Roller Shutter Doors	1	1	1	0
Eckington Pool Carbon Efficiencies Programme	4	4	34	30
Killamarsh Leisure Centre Refurbishment	36	6	6	0
Dronfield LC Carbon Efficiencies Programme	98	10	10	0
Coney Green Telephony System	36	13	13	0
Clay Cross Football Pitch	9	0	0	0
Replacement Vehicles	3,786	1,740	1,740	0
Contaminated Land	42	0	0	0
ICT Schemes	519	79	79	0
CX Town Market Street Regeneration	5,871	1,115	1,115	0
CX Town Sharley Park Active Community Hub	12,655	7,013	7,013	0
CX Town Low Carbon Housing Challenge Fund	1,300	77	77	0
CX Town Rail Station Feasibility	150	106	106	0
CX Town Programme Management	423	237	237	0
CX Acc Fund School Demolition	0	0	1	1
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	1,534	442	442	0
<b>Total Other Capital Projects</b>	<b>27,900</b>	<b>11,588</b>	<b>11,619</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Total Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>63,756</b>	<b>38,434</b>	<b>29,584</b>	<b>(8,850)</b>
<b>Housing Investment Funding</b>				
Major Repairs Reserve	(15,974)	(11,980)	(13,736)	(1,756)
HRA Capital Investment Reserve	(886)	(665)	(110)	555
Usable Capital Receipts	(2,916)	(2,187)	0	2,187
External Grant	(5,632)	(4,224)	(53)	4,171
Prudential Borrowing	(9,628)	(7,221)	(3,497)	3,724
	(35,036)	(26,277)	(17,396)	8,881
Private Sector Spending				
Disabled Facilities Grant	(820)	(569)	(569)	0
<b>Total Housing Investment Funding</b>	<b>(35,856)</b>	<b>(26,846)</b>	<b>(17,965)</b>	<b>8,881</b>
<b>Other Capital Projects Funding</b>				
Prudential Borrowing	(8,846)	(1,979)	(1,979)	0
External Grant	(15,094)	(7,887)	(7,888)	(1)
RCCO	(803)	(14)	(14)	0
Useable Capital Receipts	(3,157)	(1,708)	(1,738)	(30)
<b>Other Capital Project Funding</b>	<b>(27,900)</b>	<b>(11,588)</b>	<b>(11,619)</b>	<b>(31)</b>
<b>Total Capital Financing</b>	<b>(63,756)</b>	<b>(38,434)</b>	<b>(29,584)</b>	<b>8,850</b>

**North East Derbyshire Council**

**Services Scrutiny Committee**

**Council Plan Objective – A Great Place to Access Good Public Services -  
Update October to December 2023**

**27<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

**Report of the Information, Engagement & Performance Manager**

Classification: This report is public

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

Contact Officer: As above

---

**PURPOSE / SUMMARY**

To report progress on the strategies underpinning the Council Plan objective - “A great place to access good public services” for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

---

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That progress against the Council Plan “A great place to access good public services” objective be noted.
- 

**IMPLICATIONS**

---

**Finance and Risk:** Yes  No

**Details:**

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

---

**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

<b>Decision Information</b>	
<p><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:</p> <p><b>NEDDC:</b> Revenue - £100,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £250,000 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please indicate which threshold applies</p>	No
<p><b>Is the decision subject to Call-In?</b> (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</p>	No
<p><b>District Wards Significantly Affected</b></p>	None
<p><b>Consultation:</b> Leader / Deputy Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Cabinet <input type="checkbox"/> SMT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/></p>	Details: Ward Members

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

A great place to access good public services:

- Assist and influence other public partners to improve their services in the district.
- Continually improve Council services to deliver excellence and value for money.

## REPORT DETAILS

### 1 Background

1.1 The Council plan 2023-27 has four objectives:

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

Information on progress on what the Council has done for the *access good public services* objective is contained at appendix one and will be brought to the committee quarterly.

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 wrath of activities that in combination will help us to deliver the objectives.

- 1.3 Under the good public services objective there are two strategies – Assist and influence other public partners to improve their services in the district and Continually improve Council services to deliver excellence and value for money. There are three and five tactics under the respective strategies.

**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 strategy and tactic.
- 2.3 The report was taken to Senior Management team on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024 for consideration and oversight.
- 2.4 No specific concerns or issues have been raised under this objective for this period.

**3 Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 This is an information report to keep Members informed of progress against the council plan objective for the good public services.

**4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

- 4.1 Not applicable to this report as providing an overview of progress against the council plan objective for the good public services.

**DOCUMENT INFORMATION**

Appendix No	Title
1	A summary of progress for the Council Plan objective – A Great Place to Access Good Public Services – 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)	

## Council Plan 2023-2027 – A summary of progress by objective for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

### A Great Place to Access Good Public Services

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

*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

## Council Plan 2023-2027 – A summary of progress by objective for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

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

#### *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)

## **Council Plan 2023-2027 – A summary of progress by objective for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

### *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*

3 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)

## Council Plan 2023-2027 – A summary of progress by objective for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

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. Roll out across the Council continues (Customer services)

An Equalities TEAMS channel has been set up and departmental representatives sought in December to cascade information, share learning, and receive comments/suggestions (Performance)

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)

Prepared a report for 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 7 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)

Several staff across the organisation are undertaking L3 and L5 ILM apprenticeship courses including a degree apprenticeship (Leisure, Environmental Health, Planning and Programmes).

Team Meetings now in place for Contracts & Facilities Management, Estates and Engineers. One Estates officer now on day release on MSc. Property Valuation & Management. One engineer now on HNC in Land Engineering (Property and Estates)

## RESULTS FROM RESIDENTS SURVEY

### Services Scrutiny

The Council undertook a Residents Survey in November 2023 to help further understand resident perceptions of their local area and local services.

A total of 3,269 responses were received.

The results will help the Council improve our services and communications and provide valuable resident insight to help shape priorities for making North East Derbyshire a great place.

The results have been broken down to fit into each Committees remit.

The Committee now need to determine if there are elements from the survey findings that they wish to explore further and include on the Work Programme going forward.

#### Executive Summary

- 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.
- 2,108 respondents (64.5%) felt that they 'belong' to their local neighbourhood, 864 respondents (26.4%) neither agreed nor disagreed.
- 2,251 respondents (68.9%) agreed that people in their local area treat one another with respect, 638 respondents (19.5%) neither agreed nor disagreed.
- 1,953 respondents (59.7%) agreed that people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area, 1,044 respondents (31.9%) neither agreed nor disagreed.
- 3,007 respondents (92.0%) felt safe when outside in their local area during the day, with 2,003 respondents (61.3%) stating they feel safe outside during the evening after dark and a further 595 respondents (18.2%) stating neither safe nor unsafe.
- From the 16 options provided within the survey, the respondents felt that the top 5 most important things in making somewhere a great place to live were 'feeling safe/low crime rate' (69.8%), 'access to nature/open spaces' (62.2%), 'access to health services' (57.3%), 'shops' (36.8%) and 'clean streets' (33.7%).
- From the 16 options provided within the survey, the respondents felt that the top 5 areas where improvement is required are: 'public transport provision' (41.8%), 'activities for older children/teenagers' (40.0%), 'shops' (32.2%), 'access to health services' (31.0%), 'feeling safe low crime rate' (29.4%).

- In respect of public services, most respondents were satisfied with their Local Hospital (62.1%), followed by Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service (61.6%) and GP Service/Family Doctor (54.7%). Respondents were least satisfied with Derbyshire Police (44.2%), Local Bus Services (34.0%) and NHS Dental Services (28.6%).
- 2,135 of 3,050 respondents who expressed an opinion (70.0%), felt either 'very well' or 'fairly well' informed by North East Derbyshire District Council in respect of keeping residents informed about the services and benefits it provides.
- The top 5 methods respondents use to find out about the council's services and benefits provision are Council's 'The News' magazine (47.9%), Council's website (36.2%), Council's email bulletin (20.7%), Council's social media (18.0%) and Local newspaper/magazine (17.3%).
- 1,891 respondents (57.9%) were satisfied with the way North East Derbyshire District Council runs things, with 940 respondents (28.8%) being neutral and 438 respondents (13.4%) being dissatisfied. This would rank the council third in the list of local public service providers.

## Findings

The findings from the survey have been extracted to what is potentially relevant to this Committee, and are below.

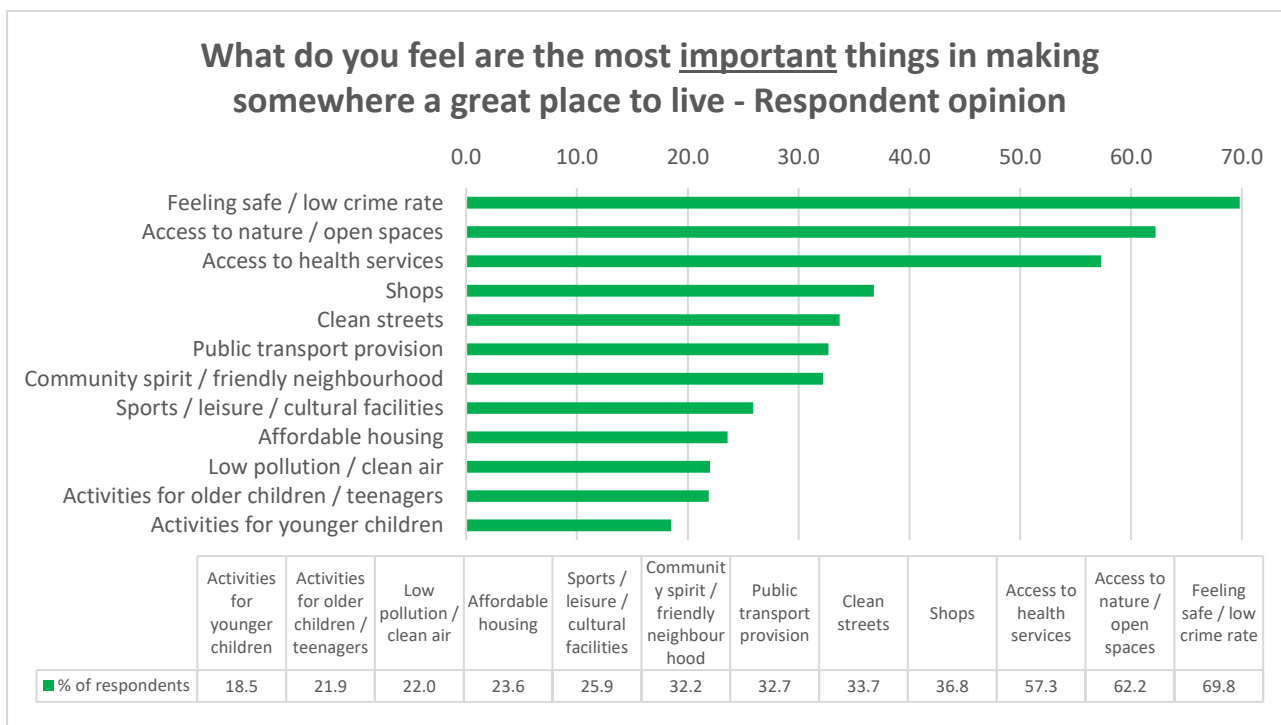
### **Quality of life**

Respondents were given a list of 16 options and asked to select up to five that they felt were the most important in terms of making somewhere a great place to live.

For the purpose of this Committee, one of the top 5 options from the respondents' replies included *access to health services*, with *public transport provision* coming in as 6<sup>th</sup> most important. The table and graph below highlight the top 12 options selected by respondents.

<b>Quality of Life Options</b>	<b>No. of respondents</b>	<b>% of respondents</b>
Feeling safe / low crime rate	2282	69.8
Access to nature / open spaces	2032	62.2
<b>Access to health services</b>	1874	57.3
Shops	1203	36.8
Clean streets	1103	33.7
<b>Public transport provision</b>	1070	32.7
Community spirit / friendly neighbourhood	1052	32.2
Sports / leisure / cultural facilities	846	25.9
Affordable housing	771	23.6

Low pollution / clean air	718	22.0
Activities for older children / teenagers	715	21.9
Activities for younger children	606	18.5

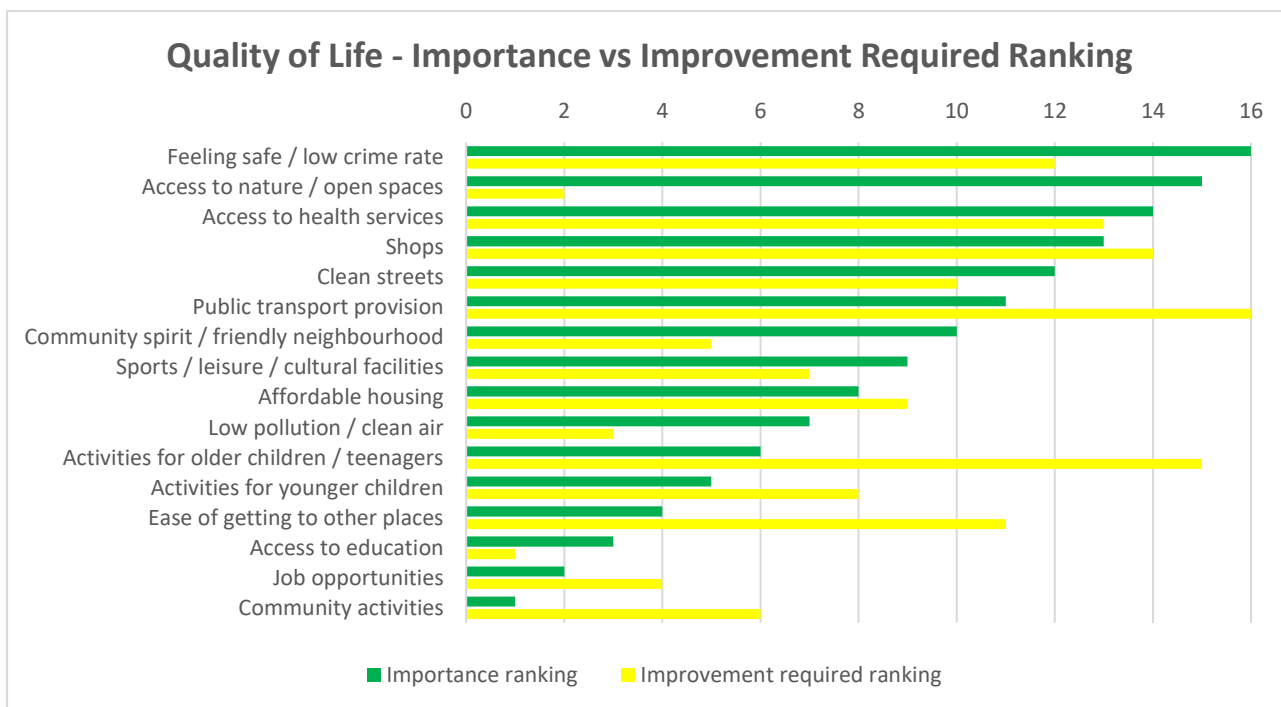


Respondents were also asked to consider which, if any, of the list of 16 options where they felt improvement was required. Both areas highlighted as important areas fell within the top 5 as areas needing improvement.

The table and graph below give an indication of the difference between the importance placed against the options criteria and the improvement required ranking.

Options	Importance ranking	Improvement required ranking	Differential
Feeling safe / low crime rate	1	5	4
Access to nature / open spaces	2	15	13
Access to health services	3	4	1
Shops	4	3	-1
Clean streets	5	7	2
Public transport provision	6	1	-5
Community spirit / friendly neighbourhood	7	12	5
Sports / leisure / cultural facilities	8	10	2
Affordable housing	9	8	-1
Low pollution / clean air	10	14	4
Activities for older children / teenagers	11	2	-9
Activities for younger children	12	9	-3
Ease of getting to other places	13	6	-7

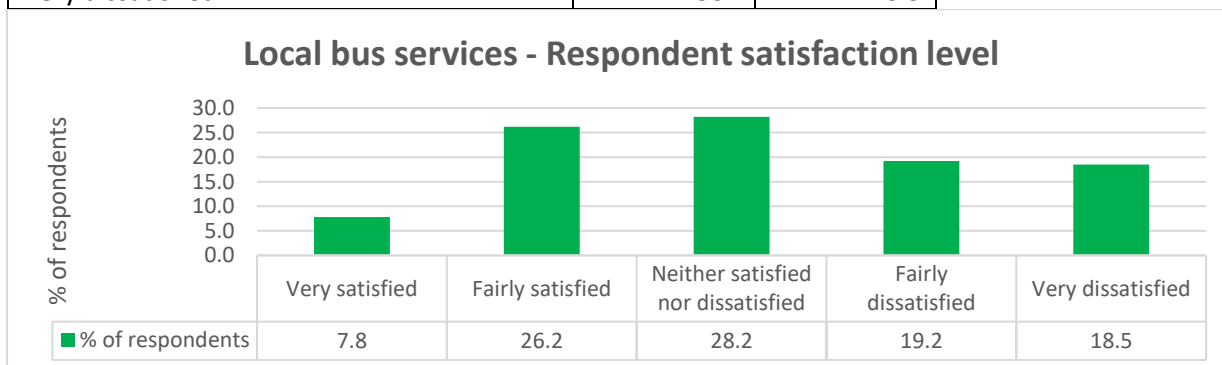
Access to education	14	16	2
Job opportunities	15	13	-2
Community activities	16	11	-5



## Local public services

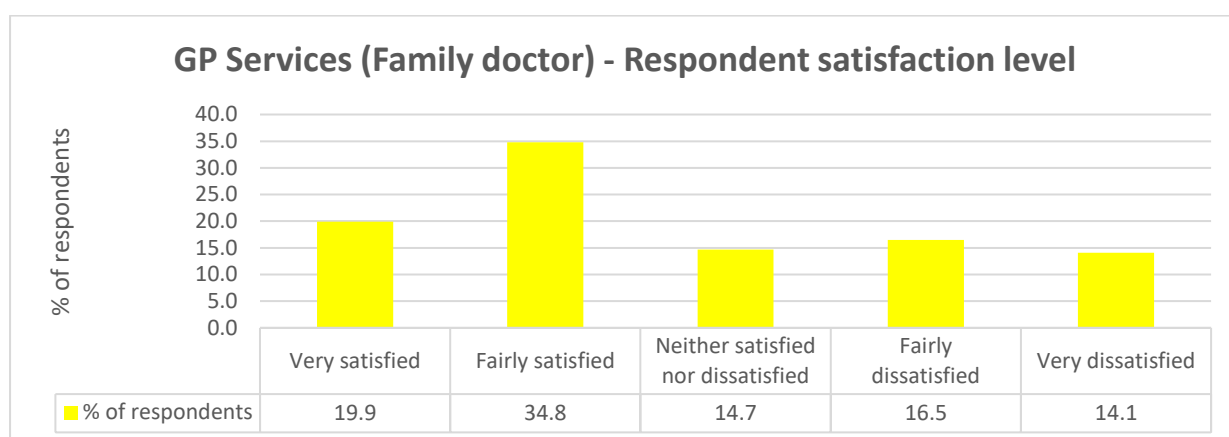
Respondents were asked to consider their satisfaction with various public services. Firstly, looking at local bus services, 34.0% were either 'very' or 'fairly' satisfied, 28.2% of respondents were neutral and 37.7% of respondents were either 'fairly' or 'very' dissatisfied.

	No. of respondents	% of respondents
<b>Local bus services</b>		
Very satisfied	226	7.8
Fairly satisfied	757	26.2
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	814	28.2
Fairly dissatisfied	554	19.2
Very dissatisfied	534	18.5



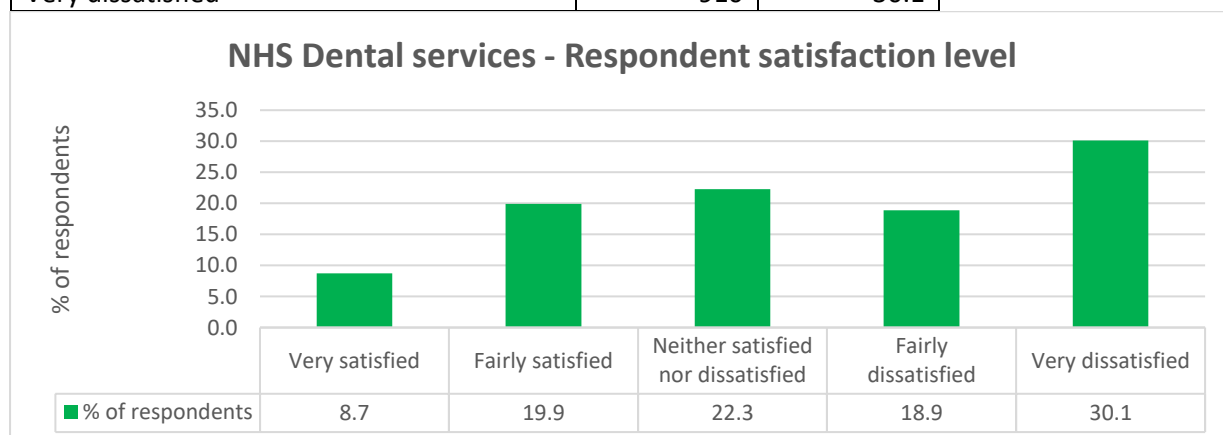
In respect of GP services/family doctor, 54.7% were either 'very' or 'fairly' satisfied, 14.7% of respondents were neutral and 30.6% of respondents were either 'fairly' or 'very' dissatisfied.

GP Services (Family doctor)	No. of respondents	% of respondents
Very satisfied	641	19.9
Fairly satisfied	1122	34.8
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	474	14.7
Fairly dissatisfied	533	16.5
Very dissatisfied	456	14.1



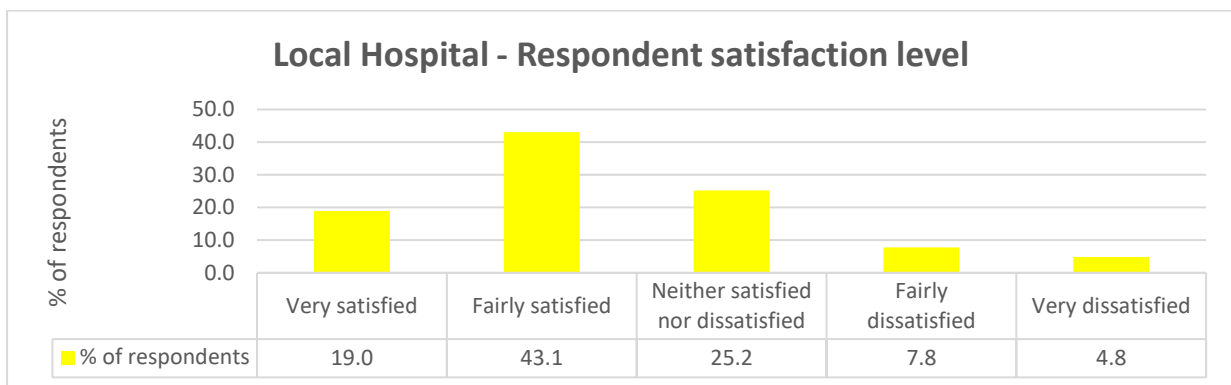
Looking at NHS Dental services, 28.6% were either 'very' or 'fairly' satisfied, 22.3% of respondents were neutral and 49.0% of respondents were either 'fairly' or 'very' dissatisfied.

NHS dental services	No. of respondents	% of respondents
Very satisfied	264	8.7
Fairly satisfied	600	19.9
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	674	22.3
Fairly dissatisfied	571	18.9
Very dissatisfied	910	30.1

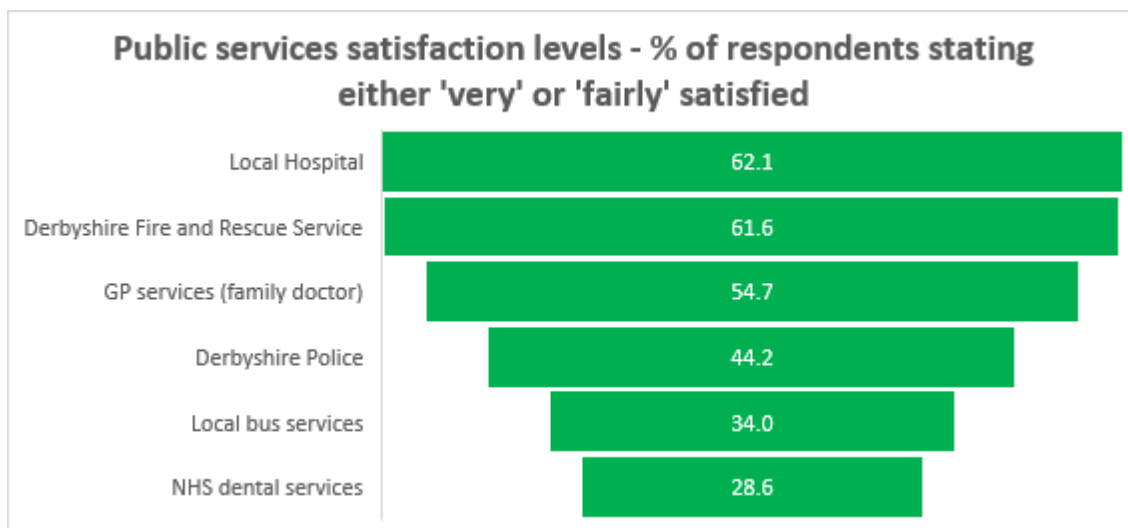


In respect of their Local hospital, 62.1% were either 'very' or 'fairly' satisfied, 25.2% of respondents were neutral and 12.6% of respondents were either 'fairly' or 'very' dissatisfied.

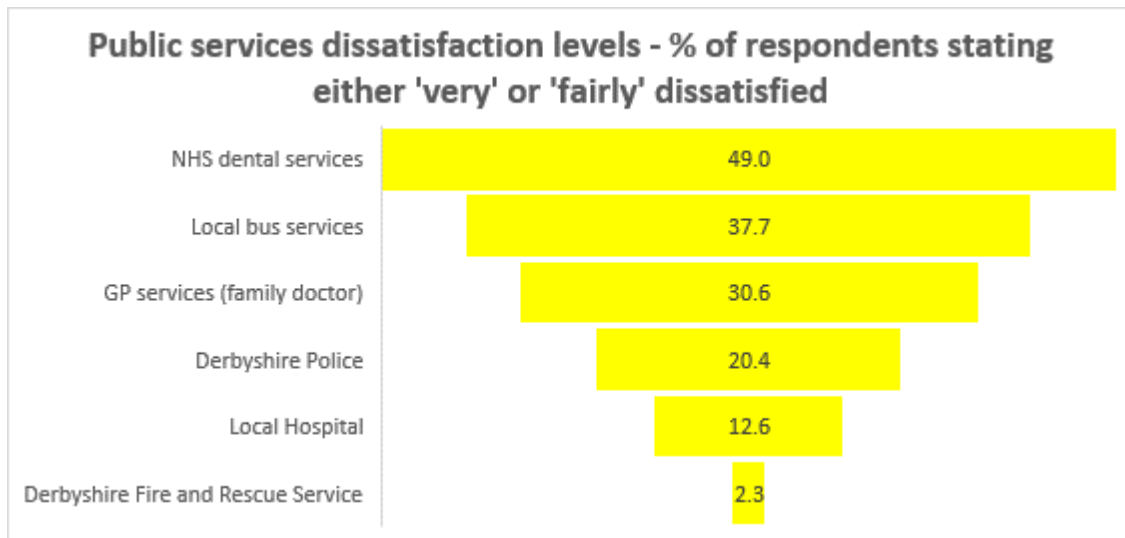
Local hospital	No. of respondents	% of respondents
Very satisfied	600	19.0
Fairly satisfied	1359	43.1
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	796	25.2
Fairly dissatisfied	247	7.8
Very dissatisfied	153	4.8



In terms of satisfaction comparisons of the six public service areas reviewed, respondent satisfaction was highest with the Local hospital, followed by Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service and GP services/family doctor.



Conversely, of the six public service areas reviewed, respondent dissatisfaction was highest with NHS Dental services, followed by Local bus services and GP services.



### Items for Consideration

Given the remit of this Committee, the areas that have been flagged up in the survey as an area of importance were:

- Access to health services (with *NHS dental services* and *GP services/family doctor* being high on the list)
- Public transport provision

The Committee need to determine whether they want to actively progress these areas as part of the future Work Programme.

**CABINET DECISIONS 2023/24**

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
29 June 2023	Planning/Environmental Enforcement Scrutiny Review	Report of the Previous Administration's Organisation Scrutiny Committee	Non-Key & Open	<p>That Cabinet noted the recommendations of the previous Administration's Organisation Scrutiny Committee, as set out in the review report.</p> <p>That these recommendations be considered as part of the development process for the new Council Plan</p>	To appraise Cabinet of the Scrutiny Committee's review and recommendations.
29 June 2023	Engagement with Business Scrutiny Review	Report of the Previous Administration's Growth Scrutiny Committee	Non-Key & Open	<p>That Cabinet noted the recommendations of the previous Administration's Growth Scrutiny Committee, as set out in the review report.</p> <p>That these recommendations be considered as part of the development process for the new Council Plan.</p>	To appraise Cabinet of the Scrutiny Committee's review and recommendations.
29 June 2023	Leisure Provision for Older Residents Scrutiny Review	Report of the Previous Administration's Communities Scrutiny Committee	Non-Key & Open	<p>That Cabinet noted the recommendations of the previous Administration's Communities Scrutiny Committee, as set out in the review report.</p> <p>That these recommendations be considered as part of the development process for the new Council Plan.</p>	To appraise Cabinet of the Scrutiny Committee's review and recommendations

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
29 June 2023	Adoption of the Revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)	Councillor S Pickering - Portfolio Holder for Environment & Place	Non-Key & Open	<p>That Cabinet approved the Officer responses to the representations received to the public consultation on the Draft Revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), as set out in the Consultation Statement in Appendix 1 to the report.</p> <p>That Cabinet adopted and brought into effect the Revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) in Appendix 2 to the report to replace the current SCI (2014).</p>	To formalise the Council's response to the comments received during the consultation on the draft SCI, and to enable the document to be formally adopted as the Council's Statement of Community Involvement.
29 June 2023	Purchase of Property in North Wingfield	Councillor N Barker – Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance	Key & Exempt	That Cabinet endorsed the purchase of the property in North Wingfield to help reduce hotel costs and to safeguard the property and local community.	By acquiring the property, the Council will be able to significantly reduce the use of hotels by its Homelessness Service and the associated costs, whilst also increasing its emergency housing capacity, at a time when pressures on the Homelessness Service are greater than ever before.

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
29 June 2023	Housing at North Wingfield (Whiteleas) Development	Councillor N Barker – Leader of the Council & Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership and Finance	Non-Key & Exempt	That Cabinet agreed to the proposed change of tenure mix required on the Whiteleas development at North Wingfield.	Developing the vacant Council owned land at Whiteleas supports the delivery of new homes in the District. Changing the mix supports the Council's commitment to the delivery of high-quality affordable housing for rent in the District.
27 July 2023	The Council Plan 2023 - 2027	Councillor N Barker – Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership and Finance	Non-Key & Open	That Cabinet recommended to Council to approve the draft Council Plan for 2023 to 2027.	To ensure that the Council's work is carefully planned and structured.
27 July 2023	Five Year Housing Land Supply - Position Statement	Councillor S Pickering – Portfolio Holder for Environment & Place	Non-Key & Open	That Cabinet noted the annual assessment of the five-year land supply of deliverable sites for Housing.	To ensure Members are aware of the Council's latest position on the Five Year Housing Land Supply, prior to publication of the information on the Council's website.

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
27 July 2023	Council Plan Targets Performance Update, January to March 2023 (Quarter 4)	Councillor J Barry – Portfolio Holder for Growth & Assets	Non-Key & Open	That Cabinet noted the outturns against the Council Plan 2019-2023 targets.	This was an information report to keep Members informed of progress against the Council Plan targets. This was the last report on performance on the previous Council Plan, and work was ongoing in relation to the new Council Plan performance framework.
27 July 2023	Medium Term Financial Plan - Financial Outturn 2022/23	Councillor N Barker – Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance	Non-Key & Open	That Cabinet noted the outturn position in respect of the 2022/23 financial year.  That Cabinet approved the proposed carry forward of capital budgets detailed in Appendix 4 totalling £10.783m.	To appraise Cabinet of the Council's financial management during 2022-23, and to enable specific capital budgets to be carried forward into the current financial year.
27 July 2023	Funding to Voluntary and Community Sector Infrastructure Support Organisations - Summary of Outcomes for 2022/23	Councillor J Barry – Portfolio Holder for Growth & Assets	Non-Key & Open	That Cabinet noted the report.	To ensure that the Council maximises efficiencies and outcomes through commissioning voluntary sector organisations to help achieve the Council's Priorities.

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
21 Sept 2023	Medium Term Financial Plan: Budget Monitoring Report April-June 2023 (Q1)	Councillor P R Kerry – Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership and Finance	Non-Key & Open	That Cabinet noted the Quarter One budget monitoring position outlined in the report and detailed in Appendices 1-4 of the report.	The report summarised the financial position of the Council following the first quarter's budget monitoring exercise for the General Fund, the Housing Revenue Account and Capital Programme.
21 Sept 2023	Establishment of Local Plan Review Working Group	Councillor S Pickering – Portfolio Holder for Environment & Place	Non-Key & Open	That Cabinet recommend to Council at its meeting on 25 September 2023, the establishment of a Local Plan Review Working Group, in accordance with the structure in Option 4 of the report, and the terms of reference detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.	To establish a Local Plan Review Working Group in order to undertake the review of the Local Plan. Based on the benefits and risks assessment of the 4 options, officers were of the view that Option 4 was the most appropriate course of action and struck the best balance. The Member Working Group would provide regular feedback to officers during the Local Plan review process.

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
21 Sept 2023	Decision on the Brampton Parish Neighbourhood Plan	Councillor S Pickering – Portfolio Holder for Environment & Place	Non-Key & Open	<p>That Cabinet accepted the Examiner’s report and recommended modifications to the Plan as set out in the Decision Statement at Appendix 1 of the report in their entirety, and that the Plan, as amended, be taken forward to a referendum within the Parish as outlined in the report.</p> <p>That following a successful referendum, if more than half of those voting in the referendum vote in favour of the Neighbourhood Plan, the Managing Director should bring the Neighbourhood Plan into effect ('Made').</p>	The Brampton Neighbourhood Plan has been subject to examination by an independent examiner. The Examiner’s view is that subject to specified modifications the Plan meets the Basic Conditions and other relevant legal requirements. It is considered that, subject to the modifications set out in the Decision Statement, the Draft Neighbourhood Plan would meet the legal requirements and Basic Conditions as set out in legislation, and that the Plan should proceed to Referendum.
21 Sept 2023	North East Derbyshire UK Shared Prosperity Fund Update	Councillor J Barry – Portfolio Holder for Growth & Assets	Non-Key & Open	That Cabinet noted the report.	To note progress of the activity funded by UK Shared Prosperity Fund.
21 Sept 2023	Funding to Voluntary and Community Sector Infrastructure Support Organisations - Summary of Outcomes for 2022/23	Councillor J Barry – Portfolio Holder for Growth & Assets	Non-Key & Open	That Cabinet noted the report.	To ensure that the Council maximises efficiencies and outcomes through commissioning voluntary sector organisations to help achieve the Council's Priorities.

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
21 Sept 2023	Clay Cross Town Centre Regeneration Scheme	Councillor J Barry – Portfolio Holder for Growth & Assets	Non-Key & Exempt	<p>That the Council retains legal ownership of the new commercial units and public realm areas that will be developed as part of the Clay Cross Town Centre Regeneration Scheme.</p> <p>That the Council adopts the ongoing management responsibilities of the new commercial business units and the public realm area within the Clay Cross Town Centre Regeneration Scheme.</p> <p>That the Council secures a Planning Approval and then seek further assurance from Derbyshire County Council in relation to their participation in the Clay Cross Town Centre Regeneration Scheme, and if necessary to report this response to Cabinet for further consideration.</p>	The proposals allowed the Council to retain ownership and management control of the asset to ensure the long-term success of the regeneration project.
26 Oct 2023	Equality Plan and Objectives 2023 - 2027	Councillor J Barry – Portfolio Holder for Growth & Assets	Non-Key & Open	<p>That Cabinet approved and adopted the Equality Plan and objectives for 2023-2027.</p> <p>That Cabinet noted the achievements and progress made under the last two years of the previous plan (2019-2023).</p>	To put into place the proposed Equality Plan and objectives 2023-2027, which will provide the framework for implementing the Council's obligations regarding the general and specific equality duties. The proposed Equality Plan and objectives have received broad support.

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
26 Oct 2023	Safeguarding Policy and Procedures - Protecting Children and Adults at Risk	Councillor N Barker – Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance	Non-Key & Open	That Cabinet approved and adopted the final draft of the Derbyshire-wide policy (Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, Protecting Children and Adults at Risk).	The Derbyshire-wide policy will subsequently replace the current Adult and Child Safeguarding policies. The Policy complies with legislation and provides a framework for Safeguarding.
26 Oct 2023	Purchase of 3 New Build Homes at Woolley Moor	Councillor N Barker – Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance	Key & Exempt	That Cabinet approved the purchase of 3 new build affordable rent homes, recognising the need for affordable housing in this area.	Purchasing these homes will help to meet the housing need in this area, where there is a limited number of homes for rent at affordable levels.

**Cabinet Decisions since the last cycle of Scrutiny Committee Meetings.**

23 Nov 2023	<p>Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) Revised Budgets 2023-24</p> <p><b>Relevant to all Scrutiny Committees</b></p>	Councillor P R Kerry – Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership and Finance	Key & Open	<p>That Cabinet recommend to Council:</p> <p>The budget in respect of the General Fund as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be approved as the Current Budget for 2023/24.</p> <p>The budget in respect of the HRA as set out in Appendix 3 of the report be approved as the Current Budget for 2023/24.</p> <p>The Capital Programme as set out in Appendix 4 of the report be approved as the Current Budget for 2023/24</p>	To prepare revised budgets as early as possible within the financial year to provide sufficient time to allow any planned changes to be delivered. The Council has faced financial challenges this year, putting pressure on the ability to set a balanced General Fund budget but careful budget management, use of reserves ringfenced for providing resilience when needed, and the ongoing progression of the transformation agenda has mitigated this.
-------------	--	--	------------	--	---

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
23 Nov 2023	Council Plan Objectives - Update April to September 2023  <b>Relevant to all Scrutiny Committees</b>	Councillor N Barker – Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance	Non Key & Open	That Cabinet noted progress against the Council Plan 2023-2027 objectives.	This is an information report to keep Members informed of progress against the Council Plan objectives.
23 Nov 2023	Planning Policy Annual Monitoring Reports for Publication  <b>Potentially relevant to Environment Scrutiny Committee</b>	Councillor S Pickering – Portfolio Holder for Environment & Place	Non Key & Open	That Cabinet noted the contents of the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR19) for the period of 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023, and approved its publication on the Council's website.	This report set out the key findings of the 2023 Authority Monitoring Report, Brownfield Land Register Update and Infrastructure Funding Statement. This enabled the Council to understand the effectiveness of its policies and trends over time. Publication of these documents on the Council's website would fulfil the Council's statutory duties to prepare and publish the required annual monitoring datasets.
23 Nov 2023	South Yorkshire Combined Authority Statement of Common Ground  <b>Potentially relevant to Environment Scrutiny Committee</b>	Councillor S Pickering – Portfolio Holder for Environment & Place	Non Key & Open	That Cabinet endorsed the contents of the South Yorkshire Combined Mayoral Authority Statement of Common Ground.  Cabinet authorised the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Place to sign the document on behalf of North East Derbyshire District Council.	The Council will be able to demonstrate that it has addressed the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 with regards to the duty to co-operate.

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
23 Nov 2023	<p>Proposed Social Housing Regeneration Scheme – Stonebroom</p> <p><b>Potentially relevant to Communities Scrutiny Committee</b></p>	Councillor N Barker – Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance	Non Key & Exempt	<p>That Cabinet agreed to the proposed redevelopment of non-traditional homes around the Cleveland Road area at Stonebroom.</p> <p>That Cabinet recommended to Council the approval of the necessary borrowing to fund the above the scheme.</p> <p>That Cabinet recommended to Council the inclusion of this scheme in the HRA Capital Programme.</p>	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.
25 Jan 2024	<p>Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/24 to 2027/28</p> <p><b>Relevant to all Scrutiny Committees</b></p>	Councillor P R Kerry – Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership and Finance	Key & Open	<p><b><u>RESOLVED</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Council is recommended at its meeting on 29 January 2024</u></b></p> <p>That the view of the Director of Finance &amp; Resources, that the estimates included in the Medium-Term Financial Plan 2023/24 to 2027/28 are robust and that the level of financial reserves are adequate at this time, be accepted.</p> <p>That officers report back to Cabinet and the Services Scrutiny Committee on a quarterly basis regarding the overall position in respect of the Council’s budgets.</p>	To recommend budgets to Council in respect of the General Fund, the Housing Revenue Account, and the Capital Programme.

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
				<p><b><u>General Fund</u></b></p> <p>That a Council Tax increase of £6.11 will be levied in respect of a notional Band D property (2.99%).</p> <p>That the Medium Term Financial Plan in respect of the General Fund as set out in <b>Appendix 1</b> to the report be approved as the Current Budget 2023/24, as the Original Budget 2024/25, and as the financial projections in respect of 2025/26 to 2027/28.</p> <p>That the shortfall in the General Fund budget for 2024/25 as set out in <b>Appendix 1</b> to the report be met from the Resilience Reserve.</p> <p>That the General Fund Capital Programme as set out in <b>Appendix 4</b> to the report be approved as the Current Budget in respect of 2023/24, and as the Approved Programme for 2024/25 to 2027/28.</p> <p>That any under spend in respect of 2023/24 be transferred to the Resilience Reserve to provide increased financial resilience for future years of the plan.</p>	

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
				<p><b><u>Housing Revenue Account (HRA)</u></b></p> <p>That Council sets its rent levels for 2024/25 in consideration of the Social Housing Rent Standard increasing rents by 6% from 1 April 2024.</p> <p>That the Medium Term Financial Plan in respect of the Housing Revenue Account, as set out in <b>Appendix 3</b> to the report, be approved as the Current Budget in respect of 2023/24, as the Original Budget in respect of 2024/25 and the financial projection in respect of 2025/26 to 2027/28.</p> <p>That the HRA Capital Programme as set out in <b>Appendix 4</b> be approved as the Current Budget in respect of 2023/24, and as the Approved Programme for 2024/25 to 2027/28.</p> <p>That the Management Fee for undertaking housing services at £12.05m and the Management Fee for undertaking capital works at £1.1m to Rykneld Homes in respect of 2024/25 be approved</p>	

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
				<p>That Members endorse the section in the financial framework within the Management Agreement which enables the Council to pay temporary cash advances to Rykneld Homes to help meet cash flow requirements of the company should unforeseen circumstances arise in any particular month.</p> <p>That Members note the requirement to provide Rykneld Homes with a 'letter of comfort' to the company's auditors and grant delegated authority to the Council's Director of Finance &amp; Resources (S151 Officer) in consultation with the Leader of the Council to agree the contents of that letter.</p>	
25 Jan 2024	<p>Publication of the first Biodiversity Net Gain report</p> <p><b>Potentially relevant to the Environment Scrutiny Committee</b></p>	Councillor S Pickering – Portfolio Holder for Environment & Place	Non Key & Open	That the first Biodiversity Net Gain report be now published on the Council's website.	To comply with Section 103 of the Environment Act in relation to the publication of annual reports, demonstrating that the Council is meeting its statutory duty.

Date	Title	Portfolio Holder	Status	Decision	Reasons for Decision
25 Jan 2024	<p>Delegating authority to officers to enter into Planning Performance Agreements with Developers</p> <p><b>Potentially relevant to the Business Scrutiny Committee</b></p>	Councillor S Pickering – Portfolio Holder for Environment & Place	Non Key & Open	<p>That Cabinet approved the use of powers delegated to the Assistant Director of Planning to set up a mechanism allowing applicants to enter into Planning Performance Agreements (PPAs); and</p> <p>That Cabinet agreed the publication of a document on the Council’s website explaining the purpose of Planning Performance Agreement to applicants and members of the public, based on the contents of <b>Appendix 1</b> to the report.</p>	The use of PPAs will allow the Council to recoup a large part of the costs associated with officer time spent on proactively dealing with the large-scale planning applications received by the Council and reduce the cost of the Planning Service to the Council’s General Fund.
25 Jan 2024	<p>Purchase of 15 units for affordable rent - Oaks Farm, Calow</p> <p><b>Potentially relevant to the Communities Scrutiny Committee</b></p>	Councillor N Barker – Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance	Key & Exempt	That Cabinet approved the proposed purchase of the 15 units at Oaks Farm, Calow.	Purchasing these units will help to meet the affordable housing need in this area and the District.
25 Jan 2024	<p>Implementation of a Council Tax Premium for Empty Homes</p> <p><b>Potentially relevant to the Services Scrutiny Committee</b></p>	Councillor N Barker – Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance	Key & Exempt	<p>That Cabinet endorsed the implementation of an Empty Homes Premium, as set out in the report.</p> <p>That the implementation of the Empty Homes Premium commences from 1 April 2024.</p>	The introduction of an Empty Homes Premium will help to reduce the number of current empty homes in the District.

**SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2023/24**

**TUESDAY AT 10AM**

**CHAIR: CLLR M SMITH**

**VICE-CHAIR: CLLR H LIGGETT**

<b>MEETING DATE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>WHAT IT WILL COVER</b>	<b>WHO IT INVOLVES</b>
<b>11 July 2023</b>	Remit of the Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Briefing on Scrutiny :<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Setting the scene</li><li>- The terms of reference for the Committee</li><li>- How the Committee operates, ways of working– Discussion</li><li>- The Council’s new Council Plan and Scrutiny arrangements - discussion</li></ul></li></ul>	Lee Hickin – Managing Director  Jayne Dethick – Director of Finance & Resources and S151 Officer  Sarah Sternberg – Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer  Damon Stanton – Senior Scrutiny Officer
	Medium Term Financial Plan	MTFP Financial Outturn 2022/23	Jayne Dethick – Director of Finance & Resources and S151 Officer  Tina Frost Morris – Chief Accountant

	Draft Scrutiny Work Programme	To consider the Committee's Draft Work Programme	Committee Members/ Damon Stanton – Senior Scrutiny Officer
<b>19 SEPTEMBER 2023</b>	Performance Management	Developing the Performance Framework to support the new Council Plan	Amar Bashir – Improvement Officer
	Policy Development	NEDDC Equalities Plan 2023-2027	Amar Bashir – Improvement Officer
	Cabinet Reports and the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions	To review recent Cabinet Reports, receive an overview of Cabinet business, and review the Forward Plan	Portfolio Holder Senior Officer Leader/Deputy Leader
	'Horizon Scanning'	Four day working week – trial by South Cambridgeshire District Council and Government response	Sarah Sternberg – Assistant Director of Governance & Monitoring Officer
	'Horizon Scanning'	Annual Ombudsman Report 2022/23	Sarah Sternberg – Assistant Director of Governance & Monitoring Officer
	Scrutiny Work Programme	To consider the Committees' work programme	Damon Stanton – Senior Scrutiny Officer
<b>21 NOVEMBER 2023</b>	Medium Term Financial Plan	MTFP Financial Outturn 2022/23	Jayne Dethick – Director of Finance & Resources and S151 Officer  Tina Frost Morris – Chief Accountant
	Performance Management	Council Plan Targets Performance Update	Q&A with the Portfolio Holder

			<p>Relevant Service Managers/Directors</p> <p>Kath Drury – Information, Engagement and Performance Manager</p> <p>Amar Bashir – Improvement Officer</p>
	Cabinet Reports and the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions	To review recent Cabinet Reports, receive an overview of Cabinet business, and review the Forward Plan	Portfolio Holder Senior Officer Leader/Deputy Leader
	Policy Development	To contribute to major Policies being considered by the Council	Lead Officer
	'Horizon Scanning'	To consider and contribute to potential changes in the operating environment which may include legislation, regulation and key projects being undertaken by the Council, for example	Lead Officer
	Scrutiny Work Programme	To consider the Committees' work programme	Damon Stanton – Senior Scrutiny Officer
<b>27 FEBRUARY 2024</b>	Performance Management	Council Plan Targets Performance Update	<p>Q&amp;A with the Portfolio Holder</p> <p>Relevant Service Managers/Directors</p>

			Kath Drury – Information, Engagement and Performance Manager  Amar Bashir – Improvement Officer
	Cabinet Reports and the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions	To review recent Cabinet Reports, receive an overview of Cabinet business, and review the Forward Plan	Portfolio Holder Senior Officer Leader/Deputy Leader
	Scrutiny Work Programme	To consider the Committees’ work programme	Senior Scrutiny Officer
	Residents Survey	Committee to discuss the outcomes of the Residents Survey and to determine if they want to look at any areas as part of their Work Programme	Senior Scrutiny Officer
	Q3 Budget Monitoring Report	To receive a report on current budget position	Jayne Dethick – Director of Finance & Resources and S151 Officer – <b>ACCEPTED</b>
<b>07 MAY 2024</b>	Medium Term Financial Plan	MTFP Financial Outturn 2022/23	Jayne Dethick – Director of Finance & Resources and S151 Officer  Tina Frost Morris – Chief Accountant
	Performance Management	Council Plan Targets Performance Update	Q&A with the Portfolio Holder  Relevant Service Managers/Directors

			Kath Drury – Information, Engagement and Performance Manager  Amar Bashir – Improvement Officer
	Cabinet Reports and the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions	To review recent Cabinet Reports, receive an overview of Cabinet business, and review the Forward Plan	Portfolio Holder Senior Officer Leader/Deputy Leader
	Policy Development	To contribute to major Policies being considered by the Council	Lead Officer
	'Horizon Scanning'	To consider and contribute to potential changes in the operating environment which may include legislation, regulation and key projects being undertaken by the Council, for example	Lead Officer
	Council Plan Tactics Performance	To review progress made against Council Plan objectives at year's end	
	Scrutiny Work Programme	To consider whether the Committees' work programme has been completed at year end	Senior Scrutiny Officer