

County Hall West Bridgford Nottingham NG2 7QP

SUMMONS TO COUNCIL
date Thursday, 15 October 2020 venue Virtual Meeting commencing at 10:30
You are hereby requested to attend the above Meeting to be held at the time/place and on the date mentioned above for the purpose of transacting the business on the Agenda as under.
Ar ann .
Chief Executive

#### 1 Minutes of the meeting held on 23 July 2020

7 - 30

- 2 Apologies for Absence
- 3 Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers:- (see note below)
  - (a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests
  - (b) Private Interests (pecuniary and non-pecuniary)
- 4 Chairman's Business
- 5 Constituency Issues (see note 4)
- 6a Presentation of Petitions (if any) (see note 5 below)
- 6b Responses to Petitions Presented to the Chairman of the County 31 38Council

7	Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Strategy 2020-23	39 - 58
8	Governance and Ethics Committee Annual Report 2019/20	59 - 72
9	Appointment of Committee Chairman and Vice-Chairman	73 - 74

10 Questions

a) Questions to Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire Authority

b) Questions to Committee Chairmen

11 NOTICE OF MOTIONS

## MOTION ONE

This Council notes that the infrastructure in Hucknall is already struggling from a lack of medical provision, school places and the roads are gridlocked. In recent years, there has been huge number of housing developments in the area.

We therefore call for the Leader of Nottinghamshire County Council to hold an urgent meeting with the Leaders of Ashfield District Council and Gedling Borough Council to work together to ensure the local infrastructure in Hucknall and Gedling is improved in the area affected by any future developments.

## Councillor Tom HollisCouncillor Jason ZadroznyMOTION TWO

In May 2019, a motion calling for Nottinghamshire County Council to set a carbon neutral target, and implement an associated governance structure to closely monitor carbon emissions, received unanimous support from all Members of this Chamber.

This Council notes the time that has since passed, and believes it is now imperative to commit to carbon neutrality in all its activities by 2030.

## Councillor Jim CreamerCouncillor Alan RhodesMOTION THREE

This Council abhors modern slavery and human trafficking, and has taken an active role in raising awareness of these crimes - which are often hiding in plain sight - with members, officers, and partners. This Council welcomes measures undertaken by our Trading Standards, Contracts Management and Procurement departments to prevent Modern Slavery, but acknowledges the importance of remaining vigilant against such appalling crimes.

This Council therefore instructs the Chief Executive to undertake work confirming that all of the council's service providers, partners, and suppliers comply with our values, and further requests that the Chief Executive brings a report to update members on this work to a future meeting of the Policy Committee.

## Councillor Richard Jackson Councillor Phil Rostance

## NOTES:-

## (A) For Councillors

- (1) Members will be informed of the date and time of their Group meeting for Council by their Group Researcher.
- (2) Lunch will usually be taken at approximately 12.30pm.
- (3) (a) Persons making a declaration of interest should have regard to the Code of Conduct and the Procedure Rules for Meetings of the Full Council. Those declaring must indicate whether their interest is a disclosable pecuniary interest or a private interest and the reasons for the declaration.
  - (b) Any member or officer who declares a disclosable pecuniary interest in an item must withdraw from the meeting during discussion and voting upon it, unless a dispensation has been granted. Members or officers requiring clarification on whether to make a declaration of interest are invited to contact the Monitoring Officer or Democratic Services prior to the meeting.
  - (c) Declarations of interest will be recorded and included in the minutes of this meeting and it is therefore important that clear details are given by members and others in turn, to enable Democratic Services to record accurate information.
- (4) At any Full Council meeting except the budget meeting and an extraordinary meeting Members are given an opportunity to speak for up to three minutes on any issue which specifically relates to their division and is relevant to the services provided by the County Council. These speeches must relate specifically to the area the Member represents and should not be of a general nature. They are constituency speeches and therefore must relate to constituency issues only. This is an opportunity simply to air these issues in a Council meeting. It will not give rise to a debate on the issues or a question or answer session. There is a maximum time limit of 15 minutes for this item.

- (5) At any Full Council meeting except the budget meeting and an extraordinary meeting Members may present a petition to the Chairman of the County Council on any matter affecting the residents of their division, and in relation to which the County Council has powers or duties. The Member presenting the petition can introduce and speak about the petition for up to one minute. Members are reminded that there is a time limit of 15 minutes for the presentation of petitions, after which any petitions not yet presented will be received en bloc by the Chairman.
- (6) In relation to questions to the Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire Authority and Committee Chairmen; after receiving an answer to their question, the Councillor asking the original question may ask one supplementary question on the same matter. There will be no additional supplementary questions.
- (7) Members are reminded that these papers may be recycled. Appropriate containers are located in the respective secretariats.
- (8) <u>Commonly used points of order</u>
  - 26 Constituency issues must be about issues which specifically relate to the Member's division and is relevant to the services provided by the County Council
  - 51 Only 1 supplementary question per question is allowed from the Councillor who asked the original question and supplementary questions must be on the same matter
  - 61 The Mover or Seconder has spoken for more than 10 minutes when moving the motion
  - 64 The Member has spoken for more than 5 minutes
  - 66 The Member is not speaking to the subject under discussion
  - 67 The Member has already spoken on the motion
  - 86 Points of Order and Personal Explanations
  - 96 Disorderly conduct
- (9) <u>Time limit of speeches</u>

#### <u>Motions</u>

64 – no longer than 5 minutes (subject to any exceptions set out in the Constitution)

Constituency Issues

26 – up to 3 minutes per speech allowed 29 – up to 15 minutes for this item allowed

**Petitions** 

 $\overline{33}$  – up to one minute per petition allowed

37 – up to 15 minutes for this item allowed

Questions 45 – up to 60 minutes for this item allowed

## (B) For Members of the Public

(1) Members of the public wishing to inspect "Background Papers" referred to in the reports on the agenda or Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act should contact:

Customer Services Centre 0300 500 80 80.

- (2) The papers enclosed with this agenda are available in large print if required. Copies can be requested by contacting the Customer Services Centre on 0300 500 80 80. Certain documents (for example appendices and plans to reports) may not be available electronically. Hard copies can be requested from the above contact.
- (3) This agenda and its associated reports are available to view online via an online calendar <u>http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Meetings.aspx</u>



## Nottinghamshire County Council

Meeting COUNTY COUNCIL

Date

Thursday, 23 July 2020 (10.30 am – 4.33 pm)

Membership

Persons absent are marked with 'A'

#### **COUNCILLORS**

Stuart Wallace (Chairman) Andy Sissons (Vice-Chairman)

**Reg Adair** Pauline Allan Chris Barnfather Joyce Bosnjak **Ben Bradley** Nicki Brooks Andrew Brown **Richard Butler** Steve Carr John Clarke **Neil Clarke MBE** John Cottee **Jim Creamer** Mrs Kay Cutts MBE Samantha Deakin Maureen Dobson Dr John Doddy **Boyd Elliott** Svbil Fielding Kate Foale Stephen Garner Glynn Gilfoyle Keith Girling **Kevin Greaves** John Handley **Tony Harper Errol Henry JP** Paul Henshaw Tom Hollis Vaughan Hopewell **Richard Jackson** Roger Jackson

Eric Kerry John Knight **Bruce Laughton** John Longdon **Rachel Madden David Martin Diana Meale** John Ogle Philip Owen Michael Payne John Peck JP Sheila Place Liz Plant Mike Pringle Francis Purdue-Horan Mike Quigley MBE Alan Rhodes **Kevin Rostance** Phil Rostance Mrs Sue Saddington Helen-Ann Smith Tracey Taylor Parry Tsimbiridis **Steve Vickers** Keith Walker **Muriel Weisz** Andy Wetton Gordon Wheeler Jonathan Wheeler Yvonne Woodhead Martin Wright Jason Zadrozny

## **OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Anthony May	(Chief Executive)
Marjorie Toward	(Chief Executives)
Sara Allmond	(Chief Executives)
Adrian Smith	(Place)

Plus, additional officers were present to provide technical support to Members.

#### **OPENING PRAYER**

Upon the Council convening, prayers were led by the Chairman's Chaplain.

#### 1. MINUTES

#### **RESOLVED: 2020/008**

That the minutes of the previous meetings of the County Council held on 27 February and 11 June 2020 be agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

## 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

## 4. CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

## PRESENTATION AND AWARDS

None

## CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS SINCE THE LAST MEETING

The Chairman updated members on the business he had carried out since the last meeting and provided an update on how he planned to carry out business during the current situation.

## 5. CONSTITUENCY ISSUES

None

## 6a. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

The following petitions were presented to the Chairman as indicated below: -

- (1) Councillor Philip Owen regarding parking issues on Newdigate Street, Kimberley
- (2) Councillor Sybil Fielding regarding a memorial on Gateford Road, Worksop
- (3) Councillor Andrew Brown requesting removal of parking restrictions outside the Post Office and Spa shop in Gotham
- (4) Councillor Andrew Brown requesting a 20mph mandatory speed restriction on Lantern Lane, East Leake
- (5) Councillor Boyd Elliott requesting the resurfacing of Park Road East, Calverton
- (6) Councillor Richard Butler requesting cycle ways and tracks in and around Cotgrave
- (7) Councillor Maureen Dobson requesting a one way system near Coddington School
- (8) Councillor John Ogle requesting action on and around North Leverton Crossroads
- (9) Councillor Keith Girling requesting a 30 mph speed limit on Hawton Road, Newark
- (10) Councillor Nicki Brooks requesting the adoption of the upper part of Bridle Road, Burton Joyce and to carry out road repairs
- (11) Councillor Errol Henry JP requesting a residents parking scheme on part of Standhill Road, Carlton

## RESOLVED: 2020/009

That the petitions be referred to the appropriate Committees for consideration in accordance with the Procedure Rules, with a report being brought back to Council in due course.

## <u>6b. RESPONSE TO PETITION PRESENTED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE</u> <u>COUNTY COUNCIL</u>

## RESOLVED: 2020/010

That the contents and actions taken as set out in the report be noted.

## 7. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Councillor Richard Butler introduced the report and moved a motion in terms of resolution 2020/011 below.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts MBE.

Following the debate, the motion was put to the meeting. The Chairman agreed to take the vote as a recorded vote and it was ascertained that the following 36 members voted '**For'** the motion:-

Reg Adair Chris Barnfather Ben Bradlev Andrew Brown **Richard Butler** Neil Clarke MBE John Cottee Kay Cutts MBE Dr John Doddy Boyd Elliott Stephen Garner Keith Girling John Handley Tony Harper Vaughan Hopewell **Richard Jackson** Roger Jackson Eric Kerry

John Knight Bruce Laughton John Longdon John Ogle Philip Owen Francis Purdue-Horan Mike Quigley Kevin Rostance Phil Rostance Sue Saddington Andy Sissons Tracey Taylor Steve Vickers Keith Walker Stuart Wallace Gordon Wheeler Jonathan Wheeler Martin Wright

No members voted "Against" the motion.

The following 30 Members voted to 'Abstain':-

Pauline Allan Joyce Bosnjak Nicki Brooks Steve Carr John Clarke Jim Creamer Samantha Deakin Maureen Dobson Sybil Fielding Kate Foale Glynn Gilfoyle Kevin Greaves Errol Henry JP Paul Henshaw Tom Hollis Rachel Madden David Martin Diana Meale Michael Payne John Peck Sheila Place Liz Plant Mike Pringle Alan Rhodes Helen-Ann Smith Parry Tsimbiridis Muriel Weisz Andy Wetton Yvonne Woodhead Jason Zadrozny The Chairman declared that the motion was carried and it was:-

### RESOLVED: 2020/011

To appoint Councillor Tony Harper as the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board until the annual meeting in 2021.

## 8. MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS 2019/20

Councillor Richard Jackson introduced the report and moved a motion in terms of resolution 2020/012 below.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Roger Jackson.

Following the debate, the motion was put to the meeting. The Chairman agreed to take the vote as a recorded vote and it was ascertained that the following 60 members voted '**For'** the motion:-

**Reg Adair** Pauline Allan Chris Barnfather Joyce Bosnjak **Ben Bradley** Nicki Brooks Andrew Brown **Richard Butler** Steve Carr John Clarke Neil Clarke MBE John Cottee Jim Creamer Kay Cutts MBE Samantha Deakin Maureen Dobson Dr John Doddv Boyd Elliott Sybil Fielding Kate Foale Stephen Garner **Glynn Gilfoyle** Keith Girling **Kevin Greaves** John Handley Tony Harper Errol Henry JP Paul Henshaw Vaughan Hopewell **Richard Jackson** Roger Jackson

Eric Kerry John Knight Bruce Laughton John Longdon Diana Meale John Ogle Philip Owen Michael Payne John Peck Sheila Place Liz Plant Mike Pringle Francis Purdue-Horan Mike Quigley Alan Rhodes Kevin Rostance Phil Rostance Sue Saddington Andy Sissons Tracey Taylor Parry Tsimbiridis Steve Vickers Keith Walker Stuart Wallace Muriel Weisz Andy Wetton Gordon Wheeler Jonathan Wheeler Yvonne Woodhead Martin Wright

No members voted "Against" the motion.

The following 6 Members voted to 'Abstain':-

Samantha Deakin	David Martin
Tom Hollis	Helen-Ann Smith
Rachel Madden	Jason Zadrozny

The Chairman declared that the motion was carried and it was:-

#### **RESOLVED: 2020/012**

- 1) That the level of County Fund Balances as set out in section 6.2 and Appendix A of the report be approved.
- 2) That there were no further comments arising from the report

#### <u>9a. QUESTIONS TO NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE</u> <u>AUTHORITY</u>

None

#### 9b. QUESTIONS TO COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Ten questions had been received as follows: -

Questions 1 and 2 were taking together

- 1) from Councillor Steve Carr concerning investigation of a member into an allegation (Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts MBE replied)
- 2) from Councillor Alan Rhodes regarding investigation of a member into an allegation (Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts MBE replied)
- 3) from Councillor Muriel Weisz concerning the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on BAME community (Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts MBE replied)
- 4) from Councillor Mike Pringle about the Robin Hood Line (Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts MBE replied)
- 5) from Councillor Joyce Bosnjak regarding deaths in care homes (Councillor Tony Harper replied)
- 6) from Councillor Keith Girling about the Nottinghamshire COVID-19 Community Fund (Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts MBE replied)

Questions 7, 8 and 9 were taken together

- 7) from Councillor Steve Carr regarding the Emergency Active Travel Fund (Councillor John Cottee replied)
- 8) from Councillor Andrew Brown concerning the Emergency Active Travel Fund (Councillor John Cottee replied)
- 9) from Councillor Liz Plant regarding the Emergency Active Travel Fund (Councillor John Cottee replied)
- 10) from Councillor Alan Rhodes about funding to cover Council's cost in relation to COVID-19 (Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts MBE replied)

Council adjourned for lunch from 12.42pm to 1.15pm.

## 10. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

#### Motion One

A Motion as set out below was moved by Councillor Tom Hollis and seconded by Councillor Rachel Madden:

"Nottinghamshire County Council notes the paper 'Clarifying and Strengthening Trustees' Investment Duties' published by the Department for Work and Pensions. The paper recommended giving pension fund trustees more confidence to divest from environmentally damaging fossil fuels and put their cash in green alternatives. Until now many pension trustees have been hamstrung by fiduciary duties that they feel requires them to seek the best returns irrespective of the threat of climate change.

This Council further notes that according to recent estimates – Nottinghamshire County Council's Pension Fund's total Fossil Fuel investment amounts to  $\pounds$ 327,312,727 or 7% of the total fund.

This Council calls for Nottinghamshire County Council's Pension Fund to investigate divestment from direct ownership of equities and corporate bonds, as well as any comingled funds, of companies engaged in fossil fuel extraction and others that do not align with this Council's moral objectives.

This Council notes that once money has been divested from fossil fuels it can be reinvested in more environmentally sustainable and socially beneficial assets such as renewable energy, energy efficient and socially beneficial housing to address fuel poverty, low carbon transport systems and investment in the transition to a zerocarbon local economy."

Following the debate, the motion was put to the meeting. The Chairman agreed to take the vote as a recorded vote and it was ascertained that the following 32 members voted '**For'** the motion:-

Pauline Allan Joyce Bosnjak Nicki Brooks Steve Carr John Clarke Jim Creamer Samantha Deakin Maureen Dobson Sybil Fielding Kate Foale Glynn Gilfoyle **Kevin Greaves** Errol Henry JP Paul Henshaw Tom Hollis Vaughan Hopewell Rachel Madden David Martin Diana Meale Michael Payne John Peck Sheila Place Liz Plant Mike Pringle Alan Rhodes Helen-Ann Smith Parry Tsimbiridis Muriel Weisz Andy Wetton Yvonne Woodhead Martin Wright Jason Zadrozny

The following 34 members voted "Against" the motion.

Reg Adair Chris Barnfather Ben Bradley Andrew Brown Richard Butler Neil Clarke MBE John Cottee Kay Cutts MBE Dr John Doddy Boyd Elliott Stephen Garner Keith Girling John Handley Tony Harper **Richard Jackson** Roger Jackson Eric Kerry

John Knight Bruce Laughton John Longdon John Ogle Philip Owen Francis Purdue-Horan Mike Quigley Kevin Rostance Phil Rostance Sue Saddington Andy Sissons Tracey Taylor Steve Vickers Keith Walker Stuart Wallace Gordon Wheeler Jonathan Wheeler

No Members voted to 'Abstain'.

The Chairman declared that the motion was lost.

## Motion Two

A Motion as set out below was moved by Councillor Alan Rhodes and seconded by Councillor Jim Creamer:

"This Council welcomes the Government's commitment to the much needed A46 Newark by-pass in the recent budget.

However, this council is disappointed that the equally important and much delayed electrification of the Midland Mainline through Nottinghamshire continues to be ignored by the Government.

Therefore this Council resolves to write to the Secretary of State for Transport, the Rt. Hon Grant Shapps, to further emphasise the necessity for this project to go ahead and receive appropriate funding. "

An amendment to the Motion as set out below was moved by Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts MBE and seconded by Councillor Reg Adair:

"This Council welcomes the Government's commitment to the much needed A46 Newark by-pass in the recent budget.

However, t This council also urges the Government to prioritise is disappointed that the equally important and much delayed electrification of the Midland Mainline through Nottinghamshire continues to be ignored by the Government <u>as highlighted in the</u> <u>Midlands Engine Rail plan published last year by Midlands Connect</u>.

Therefore t <u>This</u> Council resolves to write to the Secretary of State for Transport, the Rt. Hon Grant Shapps <u>MP</u>, <u>in support of the work being conducted by the</u> <u>Midlands Engine and Midlands Connect and</u> to further emphasise the necessity for this project to go ahead and receive appropriate funding. "

The amendment was accepted by the mover of the motion and therefore the motion was altered.

Following the debate, the motion was put to the meeting. The Chairman agreed to take the vote as a recorded vote and it was ascertained that the following 66 members voted '**For'** the motion:-

Reg Adair Pauline Allan Chris Barnfather Joyce Bosnjak **Ben Bradley** Nicki Brooks Andrew Brown Steve Carr John Clarke Neil Clarke MBE John Cottee Jim Creamer Kay Cutts MBE Samantha Deakin Maureen Dobson Dr John Doddy

Boyd Elliott Sybil Fielding Kate Foale Stephen Garner Glynn Gilfoyle Keith Girlina Kevin Greaves John Handley Tony Harper Errol Henry JP John Knight Bruce Laughton John Longdon Rachel Madden David Martin **Diana Meale** 

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John Ogle Philip Owen Michael Payne John Peck Sheila Place Liz Plant Mike Pringle Francis Purdue-Horan Mike Quigley Alan Rhodes Kevin Rostance Phil Rostance Sue Saddington Andy Sissons Helen-Ann Smith Tracey Taylor Parry Tsimbiridis Steve Vickers Keith Walker Stuart Wallace Muriel Weisz Andy Wetton Gordon Wheeler Jonathan Wheeler Yvonne Woodhead Martin Wright Jason Zadrozny

No Members voted 'Against' the motion or voted to 'Abstain'.

The Chairman declared that the motion was carried and it was:-

#### **RESOLVED: 2020/013**

This Council welcomes the Government's commitment to the much needed A46 Newark by-pass in the recent budget.

This council also urges the Government to prioritise the equally important and much delayed electrification of the Midland Mainline through Nottinghamshire as highlighted in the Midlands Engine Rail plan published last year by Midlands Connect.

This Council resolves to write to the Secretary of State for Transport, the Rt. Hon Grant Shapps MP, in support of the work being conducted by the Midlands Engine and Midlands Connect and to further emphasise the necessity for this project to go ahead and receive appropriate funding. "

#### Motion Three

A Motion as set out below was moved by Councillor David Martin and seconded by Councillor Helen-Ann Smith:

"This Council believes greater investment in repairing Nottinghamshire's roads and pavements is urgently needed and that long term, more sustainable solutions must also be found including earlier detection, intervention and better, more sustainable repair materials and technologies.

This Council notes that Nottinghamshire has the highest number of potholes across the whole of the country - with more than 250,000 reported in the space of two years.

This Council further notes that between January 2017 and June 2019, Nottinghamshire County Council received 253,920 reports of potholes. This is 100,000 more than any other County in the Country.

This Council also believes that the use of 'Viafix' has been an abject failure. Whilst being used to carry out emergency road repairs – the product is clearly failing with many pot-holes left in an even worse condition.

This Council further notes the impact that the Coronavirus Lockdown has had on the Highways Capital and Revenue Programme.

This Council therefore calls for:

- (1) An urgent investigation into the use of 'Viafix' and its effectiveness across Nottinghamshire.
- (2) A report to come before the Communities and Place Review and Development Committee reviewing this Council's performance. Further to this, we call for a long-term plan to deal effectively with resident's complaints.
- (3) A review into whether the 2020/21 Highways Capital and Revenue Programme is equitable for each Borough and District in Nottinghamshire.
- (4) The Communities and Place Committee to receive a report into the deliverability of the 2020/2021 Highways Capital and Revenue Programme and the failure of this Council to complete the 2019/2020 programme."

Following the debate, the motion was put to the meeting. The Chairman agreed to take the vote as a recorded vote and it was ascertained that the following 28 members voted '**For'** the motion:-

Pauline Allan	David Martin
Joyce Bosnjak	Diana Meale
Nicki Brooks	Michael Payne
John Clarke	John Peck
Jim Creamer	Sheila Place
Samantha Deakin	Liz Plant
Sybil Fielding	Mike Pringle
Kate Foale	Alan Rhodes
Glynn Gilfoyle	Helen-Ann Smith
Kevin Greaves	Parry Tsimbiridis
Errol Henry JP	Muriel Weisz
Paul Henshaw	Andy Wetton
Tom Hollis	Yvonne Woodhead
Tom Hollis	Yvonne Woodhead
Rachel Madden	Jason Zadrozny

The following 37 members voted "Against" the motion.

Reg Adair Chris Barnfather Ben Bradley Andrew Brown Richard Butler Neil Clarke MBE John Cottee Kay Cutts MBE Maureen Dobson Dr John Doddy Boyd Elliott Stephen Garner Keith Girling John Handley Tony Harper Vaughan Hopewell Richard Jackson Roger Jackson Eric Kerry John Knight Bruce Laughton John Longdon John Ogle Philip Owen Francis Purdue-Horan Mike Quigley Kevin Rostance Phil Rostance Sue Saddington Andy Sissons Tracey Taylor Steve Vickers Keith Walker Stuart Wallace Gordon Wheeler Jonathan Wheeler Martin Wright

Councillor Steve Carr voted to 'Abstain'.

The Chairman declared that the motion was lost.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 4.33 pm.

#### **CHAIRMAN**

## APPENDIX A

#### COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 23 JULY 2020 QUESTIONS TO COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

#### Question to the Leader of the Council from Councillor Steve Carr

At the Council on meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2020, the Leader of the Council said the following in relation to the investigation into allegations about Cllr Steve Vickers that "the Group has received a full apology" and "the Party has received a full apology and the matter is now closed."

Would the Leader of the Council provide the following information;

- 1. Why were many councillors in her group not aware of the apology that had been made to them;
- 2. Has the national Conservative party finalised its investigations? If that is the case can the decision document be shared with the residents of this county;
- 3. Is Cllr Vickers still a member of the Conservative and Mansfield Independent Group.

Given that at the meeting you gave your unqualified support for Cllr Vickers in his role as Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board and that your support caused huge offense to many up and down the county, will you now concede that you exhibited poor leadership and judgement as Leader of this council.

#### Question to the Leader of the Council from Councillor Alan Rhodes

The Labour Group welcomes the resignation of County Councillor Steve Vickers who had previously expressed Islamophobic views on social media for which he was suspended by the Conservative Party, from his recently appointed post of Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The appointment of Councillor Vickers caused widespread anger and offence among partners in other local authorities and within the health community, and members of the public were outraged.

Will the Leader of the County Council take this opportunity to apologise for the offence caused by her appointment of Councillor Vickers and for the subsequent damage to the reputation of Nottinghamshire County Council?

#### Response from Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts MBE, Leader of the Council

At the Full Council meeting, on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June I explained the reasons why I and my Group had chosen to accept the apology from Councillor Steve Vickers for any offence caused by comments he made in a social media post before he became a County Councillor.

I recognised that he had made those remarks in the immediate aftermath of a sickening attack in Nice in France where a lorry was deliberately driven into families enjoying a day out on a French Bank Holiday. This caused the death of 86 people and injured 458 others. Steve has a number of French friends and therefore he felt especially shocked at this appalling event.

It was Councillor Vickers' own decision to write to the Chief Executive and step down from his position rather than become a distraction from the business of the Council. In light of the resignation I asked the Chairman of the Adult Social Care & Public Health Committee to assume this task, as much of the work he does is closely aligned with the Health & Wellbeing Board.

There has been no decision by the Conservative Party and I can only assume the investigation is still ongoing. Steve Vickers remains a member of the Conservative Group.

I will inform the Council if this situation chases and at this stage I have nothing further to add.

## **Question to the Leader of the Council from Councillor Muriel Weisz**

Given the very broad recommendations emerging from the government's review of the disproportionate impact of COVID- 19 on the BAME community, what are your own current priorities for exploration and consultation, to improve matters in the County?

## Response from Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts MBE, Leader of the Council

From early in the Covid-19 emergency, national and international research and data has identified the potential additional impact of the pandemic on people from black, asian and minority ethnic (BAME) backgrounds as well as those with certain long-term health conditions.

The Council has met with the recognised trade unions weekly and the self-managed groups supporting BAME and Disabled employees fortnightly and held discussions through the Corporate Equalities Group to ensure that there is a consistent understanding of the impact across the Council's workforce and services and emerging evidence in relation to the potential underlying causes of the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on certain groups.

The Council has taken a number of specific actions aimed at supporting BAME colleagues as well as those with additional vulnerabilities. These were recently reported to Personnel Committee and received unanimous support from Members of that Committee. These actions include:

- The development of a specific risk assessment for people with additional vulnerabilities, including those from BAME communities.
- Increasing the number of mental health first aiders, including training an additional 6 colleagues nominated by the Black Workers Group.

- Extending the existing counselling provision to operate telephone support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week as part of the Council's extensive employee health and well-being support package available to every employee.
- Commissioning additional trauma counselling in response to a request from the Black Workers Group.
- Introducing specialist bereavement training for colleagues experiencing death in their professional capacity.
- Updating the Council's learning and development offer to give renewed focus to equality matters and to ensure managers are effectively supporting all their team members, including BAME colleagues.
- Undertaking an employee survey to understand how our workforce are feeling about working for the Council and the support they were receiving. This received an overwhelmingly positive response from across the Council's workforce. I will repeat that; they received an overwhelmingly positive response from across the Council's work force.

The Adult Social Care and Health Department has recently launched a programme of service improvement to consider the adverse impact of COVID-19 on social care staff from BAME communities and the wider population from different racial and ethnic backgrounds.

This work is being led by the Principal Social Worker and Chair of the Black Workers Group involving practice leaders, staff and people who have experienced social care to better understand the impacts and co-produce solutions to improve the working environment and culture and improve outcomes for people receiving support from the Council.

The Corporate Leadership Team is working with our partners in the Local Resilience Forum and Integrated Care System to implement the recommendations contained within Public Health England's latest report on the disparities in the impact of COVID-19 on particular groups.

This includes:

- The Director of Public Health commissioning the Data Cell of the LRF to undertake more detailed local analysis of the impact and underlying reasons and working with local Universities to use this information to develop solutions.
- Through the recently established Health Protection Board, chaired by the Director of Public Health, work is also being undertaken to develop and implement education and prevention campaigns involving BAME and faith communities; to target health promotion and disease prevention programmes and to ensure that recovery strategies reduce inequalities and bring about sustainable change.

- Working across the ICS to improve equity, access and experience of services and improve outcomes.
- Developing additional culturally appropriate occupational risk assessment tools for a variety of occupations.

I think I have covered all of the point raised in the question very fully, because the question was only four lines long, but Councillor Weisz if there are any further questions I am happy to try and answer them for you.

#### Question to the Leader of the Council from Councillor Mike Pringle

Despite the Conservative MP for Newark and Sherwood being in post for 10 years, and expressing frequent claims to be pursuing the issue of reinstating the Robin Hood line, it appears that very little has been achieved in this regard, and in fact the only action to date has been a feasibility study undertaken in 2016 by the then Labour administration at NCC.

Can the Leader update Members on the current state of progress with regard to reinstatement of the Robin Hood line?

#### Response from Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts MBE, Leader of the Council

Given that my administration has vocally and proactively advocated for infrastructure investment in our county throughout our term of office, I am surprised at Councillor Pringle's suggestion that 'very little has been achieved' since the Labour Group went into opposition. Nevertheless, the situation has changed considerably since they called for a feasibility study into the Robin Hood Line's extension, and I am happy to update the opposition on how this Conservative-led administration has worked hard and hand-in-hand with a Conservative Government to bring forward these long-deserved changes.

In August 2019, the Robin Hood Line was refranchised to East Midlands Railways. This Council actively contributed to the refranchising process, pressing the Department for Transport to require that whichever company assumed control of the line would update and enhance the work which we had previously undertaken. As a result, when East Midlands Railways took over the franchise, they were obliged to put together and fund a business case to Government outlining their plans by August this year, which – if accepted by the Department for Transport – would be funded by the 'Restoring Your Railways' fund.

Though the COVID-19 pandemic has unsurprisingly delayed this process, we have maintained the pressure on East Midlands Railways and the Department for Transport through both the franchise's steering group, as well as regional bodies including Transport for the East Midlands and Midlands Connect, in which I play a leading role and am a member of both those boards.

Councillor Pringle is right to note the support of our Members of Parliament, which should be valued by all members of this Council. It is not only Robert Jenrick who has

supported us in this matter, but also Mark Spencer, Lee Anderson, and our very own Ben Bradley – each of whom have met with ministers, raised debates in Parliament, and championed our communities in Westminster after years of being overlooked by their Labour Party predecessors. I have no doubt that, without their intervention, we would have had a much harder task on our hands. I would like to thank them for the work they have done on our behalf – true working in partnership.

I have made the case throughout my time as Leader of the Council that Nottinghamshire deserves its fair share of Government funding, and that we should unlock the potential of those communities left behind by years of Labour rule.

Though extending the Robin Hood Line is an important part of this 'levelling up', it must be taken alongside other measures such as the improvements to the A614/A6097, increased capacity of the Ollerton Roundabout, and development of sites such as Top Wighay Farm. This is to say nothing of the regional investment we will see from HS2, and the wider work that is being done to maximise the benefits of that flagship project.

Our Nottinghamshire communities deserve an ambitious council that will champion their needs, and I am pleased to say that this is exactly what this administration does.

## Question to the Chairman of Adult Social Care & Public Health Committee from Councillor Joyce Bosnjak

The Prime Minister said recently and I quote *"too many care homes have not been following procedures"* effectively blaming the care home owners, their management and staff for the COVID-19 deaths that have occurred in care homes.

Does the Chairman of the Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee agree with the comments of the Prime Minister or should the Prime Minister apologise for the extreme offense that his comments caused to people working in the care sector?

## Response from Councillor Tony Harper, Chairman of the Adult Social Care & Public Health Committee

Councillor Bosnjak, I know you're very passionate about care homes and I know that you do visit them regularly.

But virtually every day there is a debate about what one politician or another at national level has said on a particular matter, what did the mean, whether it has been misinterpreted, and how people are reacting.

That is a matter for them to deal with, not for me.

I'm happy explaining or answering for things I've said with regard to my responsibilities in Nottinghamshire, but I'm not here to judge, justify or clarify the comments of others.

Councillor Bosnjak has selected a quote from one sentence from the Prime Minister. I'll quote another sentence which came out of Downing Street, stating that

"throughout the pandemic, care homes have done a brilliant job under very difficult circumstances".

As Chairman of Nottinghamshire County Council's Adult Social Care & Public Health Committee, that's the description I believe applies to the care homes across Nottinghamshire, and that's where my focus is and I am happy to be quoted on that.

I have spent a great deal of time during this COVID-19 outbreak focusing on the needs of the residents of this County, including those living and working in care homes.

As Members will be aware from the regular bulletins that have been circulated to them, there have very sadly been deaths in Nottinghamshire care homes due to COVID-19 and my deepest sympathy goes out to those families affected.

I am proud, however, of the preventative work this authority has done with care home providers to keep the number of cases and deaths as low as we can. We have built our local response with partners to prevent outbreaks and respond rapidly when these occur, helped by increasing amounts of national support becoming available.

Our care homes have been outstanding, supporting people who are ill, relatives who are stressed and bereaved, and making sure staff are confident in managing infection prevention.

Since the start of the pandemic, Nottinghamshire County Council's Quality and Market Management Team (QMMT) have been working to support care homes in every way we can.

As well as providing a daily bulletin updating them about guidance from central government, we have also backed them financially. Care home providers have received a set amount per bed at their home from the Infection Control Grant fund provided by central government, as well as being able to claim for additional costs from COVID-19 on a monthly basis.

Following a local Webinar which was attended by almost 100 people we also made a 5% payment of two weeks' fees to assist providers with their cash flow. This was in addition to the annual fee increase that we paid in April 2020. Members may wish to note that a number of local authorities have not had the same proactive approach to fees as we have in this County.

We were especially concerned about infection in care homes and early on worked hard to supply Personal Protective Equipment to providers free of charge when there was an issue sourcing supplies nationally. To date, we will still have a healthy supply of PPE and we make that available when it is needed. We have also worked with Health Partners to support care homes to make sure they were well trained in infection control.

The department have also worked with partners, including from public health, through the Local Resilience Forum LRF), a Cell of which is chaired by the Group Manager of the QMMT. They have been able to recruit relief staff and deploy them to support a local care home that had a shortage of personnel following their staff group being swabbed for the virus. The staff team was able to support the service until their own staff were fit enough to return to work.

We even had a contingency plan to be able to use the military should it be necessary, by way of a MACA, which means a Military Response to a Civil Authority. There is currently a shortage of nurses in care homes, that's nationally, so to mitigate any such problem occurring locally, our officers worked with partners to establish a contingency plan. Thankfully that has not been necessary to date.

Without exception, social care providers across the County have worked tirelessly to support people living in Nottinghamshire, whether that be in a residential or nursing care home or in their own home environment. We are very grateful to all of them. That's the message coming loud and clear from me on behalf of the members of my committee and this authority. It's a local message for local people.

## Question to the Leader of the Council from Councillor Keith Girling

Regarding the proactive Nottinghamshire COVID-19 Community Fund launched in March, would the Leader of the Council state the total number of bids received from organisations in each district area, including voluntary organisations. Would she please list the total amount of money paid out in each district area, and how many bids came from countywide organisations?

## Response from Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts MBE, Leader of the Council

The current total number of applications received from each district area is as follows:-

Ashfield	46
Bassetlaw	48
Broxtowe	34
Gedling	35
Mansfield	37
Newark & Sherwood	63
Rushcliffe	48

Some were also received from Nottingham City outside our boundary.

This amounts to 450 bids with a total ask of just over £2.72 million (£2,724,927)

All applications have gone through a rigorous assessment process in line with the criteria of the Fund, after which funding support totalling £605,494 has been issued. This figure includes £197,104 of funding for countywide projects.

In order to calculate the total amount of funding awarded to each district, the amounts awarded to countywide projects have been equally divided between the districts to which the service is being provided.

The total amounts of funding awarded to each district are therefore as follows:-

-	£93,125
-	£92,201
-	£82,471
-	£59,172
-	£73,537
-	£115,217
-	£89,771
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## Question to the Chairman of Communities and Place Committee from Councillor Steve Carr

Nottinghamshire County Council was able to bid under the Government's Emergency active travel fund. The bids had to be ambitious for the reduction of carbon emissions by encouraging less motorised traffic and greater use of bicycles and walking.

Given this information will the Chair explain;

- 1. Why given our indicative allocation in Phase 1 was £573,000, did we only receive £263,250 i.e. 45.94%
- 2. What plans are in place to identify projects to utilise the £2,039,000 Phase 2 monies.
- 3. What discussions have taken place with District and Borough Councils to identify projects
- 4. What projects have been identified on a district by district basis including the cost.

## Question to the Chairman of Communities and Place Committee from Councillor Andrew Brown

Would the Chairman of the Communities & Place Committee explain the reasons why Nottinghamshire County Council did not receive the maximum allocation from Tranche One of the Government's Emergency Active Travel Fund and provide some context, regarding how councils with similar transport and highways infrastructures fared with their bids?

Would the Chairman further explain what measures are being taken to secure as much funding as possible through Tranche Two and what type of schemes we will be prioritising, in broad terms?

## Question to the Chairman of Communities and Place Committee from Councillor Liz Plant

Does the Chair of the Communities and Place Committee appreciate the disappointment felt by many residents and community groups due to the fact that Nottinghamshire County Council received approximately half the amount they were eligible to bid for in the first Tranche of the Department for Transport's Emergency Active Travel scheme?

## Response from Councillor John Cottee, Chairman of the Communities and Place Committee

The Emergency Active Travel Fund is divided into two tranches.

Tranche One, with a total allocation of £45 million, is for temporary changes to the highway, to be in place between 12 weeks and one year from receiving the funding. These changes are to be removed when no longer required for social distancing, when traffic levels return to pre-lockdown levels, or if they cause congestion or safety concerns on the network.

Allocations of the first tranche were announced early in July, through which Nottinghamshire County Council received just over £263,000 of the maximum £573,000 available.

As an authority we were disappointed to receive only a proportion of the indicative allocation but we were not alone in this. In total, 24 authorities received less than their indicative allocations and of those, 16 were Counties. The amount received by Nottinghamshire was actually the average allocation for a shire authority within the East Midlands.

Feedback from the Department suggested some parts of our Tranche One bid did not score sufficiently in terms of value for money and deliverability, which is perhaps not surprising given the scale and complexity of the highway in such a large, rural county.

Our programme to allocate the first round of funding was debated by the COVID-19 Resilience, Recovery and Renewal Committee last week and includes a detailed breakdown of schemes and costs, including by district and town.

Authorities who received less than they were indicatively allocated in Tranche One are welcome to reassess their proposals and put forward revised bids for those schemes as part of Tranche Two, providing those proposals meet the criteria. We intend to work closely with the Department for Transport to this effect.

The guidance for Tranche Two was only published on 10<sup>th</sup> July and includes prescriptive guidance that will require significant work ahead of the deadline for submission on the 7<sup>th</sup> August. This tight timescale leaves insufficient time for detailed discussions with districts, but the County Council as the highways authority is after all responsible for this policy area.

We recognise that some parts of our community have a strong desire for comprehensive schemes to improve cycling, but it will be challenging to offer for example, segregated schemes that include cycling infrastructure improvements on a constrained rural network.

It is also worth noting that £2.3m will not provide extensive new facilities. Typical national costs of cycle super-highways can be up to £1 million per kilometre and Nottinghamshire maintains 4,853 kilometres of road network, so nobody should be under the illusion that this will be a 'wish-list for cyclists.

I am inclined to be just a little bit critical of the ministers - or is it the Civil Servants - for being so ideologically prescriptive in their distribution of this funding. I've had first-hand

experience of how enthusiastic the cycling lobby can be, and maybe they currently have the "ear" of Government more than the walkers, but in my view, elected local authorities are better placed to judge the cycling and walking priorities in their particular area than Whitehall mandarins, especially at this time.

We will make our Tranche two bid as strong as possible, but we will only bid for schemes where we have strong evidence that these will be beneficial to significant numbers of walkers and cyclists and will contribute positively to our local infrastructure and economy. Whether public money is raised locally or nationally, this is not an administration that will spend public money just because it is there. We will not build white elephant routes that would rarely be used. I sincerely hope a good Conservative Government would not expect us to do that at a time of local and national challenge.

Thank you, Chairman, I will provide further updates in relation to both tranches of the Emergency Active Travel Fund at the appropriate time.

## Question to the Leader of the Council from Councillor Alan Rhodes

Given the increased revenue deficit that Nottinghamshire County Council have incurred since this crisis began, and the Chancellor's assurances that all COVID – 19 associated costs to local government would be met, can she demonstrate to Members how much pressure she has been putting on her own government to ensure that this Council's additional COVID- 19 costs are covered?

## Response from Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts MBE, Leader of the Council

On 6 July myself, the Deputy Leader and the Chairman of the Finance & Major Contracts Management Committee received a briefing from the Chief Executive and our Section 151 Officer on the new financial challenges facing the Council as a direct result of Coronavirus.

We agreed that the contents of the briefing should be shared with the Leaders of the Opposition Groups, and that the information should then be published in a report to the Finance & Major Contracts Management Committee, which met on Monday this week.

The report is available on the Nottinghamshire County Council website for all to read, but to summarise, the estimated additional cost of responding to the Coronavirus crisis across all of our departments amounts to a total £49.5 million, a figure that is likely to increase given that the impact of COVID-19 is still ongoing.

On that basis, and given the fortunate coincidence that the Secretary of State for Communities & Local Government happens to be one of our local MPs, I have taken the opportunity in my discussions with him to emphasise the pressure we are under, and to insist that the Treasury must honour its previous commitment to reimburse our councils for the costs of the COVID-19.

I have also taken advantage of speaking to the six other Nottinghamshire Conservative MPs, urging them to make the same case not just to their fellow politicians but also to the senior civil servants.

I have been fully supportive of the lobbying by the County Councils Network and the Local Government Association, whose members sensed in mid-May that some of the messaging coming out of the Treasury was becoming more equivocal than it had previously been regarding COVID-19 funding support to Councils. Regardless of political control, all Council Leaders heard the original message and acted upon it. We are therefore absolutely entitled to expect those commitments to be honoured. I have not been remiss in rattling the cage of the MHCLG or the Treasury to reinforce that message.

The situation with COVID-19 is constantly developing and the Government is reviewing the Delta returns it receives on an ongoing basis. Some councils have not helped their cause by inflating their cost projections by including factors that should not have been included. The Treasury is sifting out those errant claims and this could prove beneficial in due course for those like ourselves who have played it straight down the line.

The current situation is that the Council has received a total of £37 million in two tranches of funding from Government towards our additional costs and lost income. An initial tranche of £1.6 billion of additional funding was announced in March 2020 of which the Nottinghamshire County Council share was £22.3 million. A second tranche of a further £1.6 billion was announced by Government on  $20^{th}$  April, of which this Council received £14.6 million.

The Government has also announced a further £600 million to support infection control in care homes, this Council's share of which is £11.4 million, but this must be passported to care homes based on Government criteria and cannot be used to fund additional costs.

This distribution of the second main tranche of funding was determined on a per capita basis, with a 65/35 per cent split between county and district authorities, reflecting the current local government system in which we operate. This does compel me to point out that if we create a unitary council for Nottinghamshire, at least £27 million per year currently tied up in the bureaucracy of the two-tier system would be released to spend on services.

You cannot artificially separate the issue of the quantity of funding we receive from the issue of the system and structure through which it is deployed. This point holds true at any time, but even more so at the current time.

On 16<sup>th</sup> July Councillor Rhodes tweeted, and I quote:

"We need local councils working together for the benefit of our communities during these very difficult times rather than arguing about their own future structures and ignoring the needs of Nottinghamshire people." First of all, this administration is not ignoring the needs of Nottinghamshire people, as evidenced by the amount of money we are currently spending on services to them, and frankly Councillor Rhodes is capable of a better level of debate here.

But more importantly, that Tweet either betrays an astounding level of financial naivety, or an incredibly cynical level of political expediency, and knowing you as I do Councillor Rhodes, I know full well that you are not financially naïve.

Contrary to his claim, there has never - ever – been a more important time to review the structure of local government, precisely because we need to make every pound and penny we have count for the benefit of our local communities in Nottinghamshire.

Councillor Rhodes' perpetual "go to" line is that we must press the Government for more money, and at this moment I do not disagree with him, but he needs to remember that whether that money comes from central government or local government taxation it ultimately comes from the same place and that's the taxpayer's pocket.

It is therefore incumbent upon this County Council and the borough and district councils in Nottinghamshire to get together and behind a local government reorganisation project that would see at least £27 million redirected from bureaucracy into services, making taxpayers money go further, whether it raised locally or nationally.

The case has never been as strong before, but it is now irrefutable in light of the new financial pressures that have emerged, and if Councillor Rhodes or any other colleagues refuse to acknowledge the reality, then I have to conclude that they prioritising the interests of someone other than the Nottinghamshire public and the services that they are elected to serve and elected to protect and I look forward to you support Councillor Rhodes on this and not the constant complaining that we can't make any changes to the system, because we can. It lies in the will of the Councillors elected to this Council.



**Report to Full Council** 

15 October 2020

Agenda Item: 6b

## **REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMUNITIES AND PLACE COMMITTEE**

# RESPONSES TO PETITIONS PRESENTED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

## **Purpose of the Report**

- The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the decisions made by the Communities and Place Committee concerning issues raised in petitions presented to the Chairman of the County Council on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2020.
- 2. It should be noted that where responses refer to undertaking specific traffic surveys, in most cases there will be delays in undertaking these surveys. Traffic surveys were suspended in early March 2020 due to the impact of COVID-19 restrictions on highways service delivery but also the significant impact on 'normal' traffic flows and behaviours. Surveys are due to commence again this month but may need to be delayed further until new traffic patterns have become established following the reopening of schools. Given that no surveys have been undertaken since March 2020 there is also a six months backlog of surveys which will be undertaken as quickly as possible but means that, unfortunately, new requests will take longer than usual to carry out.

## Information

## A. Road safety measures at North Leverton Crossroads (Ref:2019/0389)

- 3. A 1,029 signature petition was submitted to the County Council by Councillor John Ogle requesting measures to address safety concerns with regard to traffic at this crossroads.
- 4. This is a slightly offset crossroads with Main Street being the through route (east/west) with 'Stop' signage and road markings for traffic approaching the junction from both Southgore Lane and Sturton Road.
- 5. There are no recent injury accidents recorded for this location; the most recent in 2007.
- 6. The previous school crossing patrol resigned and a new patrol was advertised for in June 2019, but there was no interest in the vacancy, local contacts assisted with advertising. The site is on a crossroads, away from the school in the centre of the village. It operates as a dog-leg and it's a difficult location to recruit to. It has had long periods of time with no patrol in the past. This site would be prioritised for fresh recruitment advertising once the Council is sure it can be operateed safely as the footways are too narrow to allow social distancing.
- 7. The site was inspected on 29 August 2020 and the road markings/Stop lines were slightly worn but still clearly visible.

- 8. There are 'School' signs as well as advisory 20mph lit signs during school times. Enforceable 'Keep Clear' markings are present outside the school. The school also has signage on the private front boundary fence, near to the entrance, requesting considerate parking. There is yellow line junction protection in good condition on all four corners of the crossroads.
- 9. There are footpaths on both sides for all approaches to this junction though as a historic rural village it is noted that some of these are narrower than would be required to meet current recommendations.
- 10. It is considered there is insufficient room for either traffic signals or a roundabout even if this location met the criteria for such intervention. Also, the layout here would not be suitable for a formal pedestrian crossing even if pedestrian/vehicle numbers were to justify it.
- 11. It was noted during the recent site visit that some private vegetation is partially obscuring the left side southbound (Sturton Road) 'Stop' sign. A letter would be sent to the property owner to request this vegetation be cut back without delay.
- 12. There are currently no 'Crossroad' traffic signs on Main Street for east and west bound traffic and this would be given consideration for future installation.
- 13. A traffic survey would be commissioned for vehicles and pedestrians through this crossroads. When the results are available a meeting can be arranged with members of the community to discuss their concerns and what further intervention can reasonably be considered for this location.
- 14. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

## B. Resurfacing of Park Road East, Calverton (Ref:2019/0386)

- 15. A 177 signature petition was submitted to the County Council by Councillor Boyd Elliott, requesting the resurfacing of Park Road East in Calverton.
- 16. Park Road East was originally planned to be included in the capital maintenance programme before the resurfacing of Park Road, but the initial feasibility study identified the presence of coal tar in the construction layers on Park Road East. Coal tar was used extensively in road construction up until the early 1980s and has since been identified as a carcinogenic substance which carries specific rules as to how it is treated. It is safe whilst undisturbed, but the resurfacing process would be highly likely to expose this substance. It is with this in mind that alternative ways to resurface Park Road East are being investigated which retains the safe treatment of the coal tar in-situ.
- 17. It is currently planned to deliver part, if not all, of this scheme during the 2021/22 financial year although programmes are subject to alteration for numerous reasons and require approval from the County Council's Communities & Place Committee.
- 18. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

## C. Gateford Road, Worksop, Memorial (Ref:2019/0383)

19. A 542-signature petition was submitted to the County Council by Councillor Sybil Fielding titled 'Keep Chelsea's Memories Alive! SAVE HER SITE!!'

- 20. Following a tragic fatal accident in December 2018 memorial items were placed on Gateford Road in Worksop near to the junction with Kingfisher Walk, by Chelsea Elliott's family. It is clearly visible from Gateford Road, the B6041, on a highway verge to the rear of a wide footway within a street lit 30mph speed limit. Following concerns raised, Via EM Ltd officers contacted the Family in 2019.
- 21. In order to minimise the items on site and to honour the wishes of the Family a concrete base was provided for a commemorative bench which has been installed. Planters and two other items (a painting and a floral tribute) were also permitted to remain as they held particular sentimental value.
- 22. Subsequently complaints have been received citing the memorial as a distraction to motorists, an obstruction to sight lines and access to a footway. Comments have also been made saying that the site is untidy. Working with the Family Via requested certain loose items were removed such as dead flowers and lanterns. The petition requests that these items can be replaced and the Memorial remains untouched.
- 23. The Highway Network Management Plan states that memorials may be erected on the highway. Although this offers guidance the memorial currently has items attached to the guard rail that may not legally be permitted on the highway. As such, the recommendation was to permit the bench and the planters and all other items be removed, including from the guard rail which is kept clear. This was necessary in order to preserve traffic sight lines and to prevent obstruction to highway users.
- 24. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

## D. Introduction of one-way system near Coddington School (Ref:2019/0388)

- 25. A 15 signature petition was submitted to the County Council by Councillor Maureen Dobson requesting the introduction of a one-way system running along Main Street from its junction with Beckingham Road near The Plough Public House to the junction of Brownlow's Hill with Beckingham Road near Coddington School, to reduce the risk of accidents.
- 26. Several site visits to Brownlows Hill, Coddington, have been conducted over recent years in response to concerns and comments regarding inconsiderate parking during the peak schoolrun periods and particularly at the junction of Brownlows Hill with Beckingham Road (C3) and along Beckingham Road. Concerns regarding the volume of traffic travelling north from the Fernwood development along Balderton Lane to and through Coddington and vice-versa have also previously been received.
- 27. There have been no reported injury collisions recorded along Brownlows Hill or Main Street in the last three-years. Three reported injury collisions have been recorded in the same period at the junction of Main Street with Beckingham Road (C3). A one-way system as proposed would direct all southbound local and transient traffic along Main Street and similarly northbound traffic along Brownlows Hill past the school and so place additional pressure on Brownlows Hill and at the junction of Brownlows Hill with Beckingham Road. Similarly, additional pressure would be placed at the junction of Beckingham Road with Main Street. All residents using vehicles will be required to comply with a one-way order. Anecdotal evidence indicates speed tends to increase along one-way streets. One-way streets are normally not used as measures to improve road safety.

- 28. A traffic survey to establish traffic volumes and speed along Brownlows Hill and Main Street Coddington would be undertaken, following which a site meeting with the Lead Petitioner should be arranged.
- 29. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

#### E. Amendment of parking restrictions outside Gotham Convenience Store, No. 3 Nottingham Road, Gotham, NG11 0JJ (Ref: 2019/0384)

- 30. A 991 signature petition was submitted to the County Council by Councillor Andrew Brown, requesting that the existing single yellow line outside of the convenience store (No Waiting Monday to Saturday 8am to 6pm) be amended to a 15 minute limited waiting parking bay, with capacity for up 4 cars.
- 31. Last year the single yellow line at this location was renewed as it was very faded and preventing enforcement of the restrictions. As a result of the lining renewal and subsequent enforcement of the restrictions, it is reported that trade at the store has been affected.
- 32. The restrictions were originally implemented in 1976 (predating the construction of the Gypsum Way Bypass) and were implemented to allow the free passage of HGVs to the British Gypsum plant.
- 33. It is acknowledged that this convenience store is the only one in the village of Gotham and residents are keen to see that it remains open. Given that the original purpose of the restrictions is now negated, the community would therefore benefit from the 'No Waiting' restrictions being amended directly outside of the convenience store to limited waiting bays.
- 34. It was agreed that the site be put forward for a scheme to introduce parking bays directly outside of the convenience store with a 30 minute no return restriction.
- 35. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

## F. Adoption and repair of upper part of Bridle Road, Burton Joyce (Ref:2019/0391)

- 36. A 33-signature petition was submitted to the County Council by Councillor Nicki Brooks requesting the adoption and professional re-surfacing and maintenance of the upper part of Bridle Road, Burton Joyce, to maintain this part of Bridle Road in good order.
- 37. The surface is currently of a compacted construction with a mixture of crushed limestone and road planings used over the years. It is typical of a route mainly used for farm access and the occasional residential property. It is not an adopted carriageway and therefore cannot be maintained by the Authority as part of the tarmacked vehicular highway network. A public bridleway (Burton Joyce Bridleway No. 1) also runs over the road.
- 38. A bridleway is a public highway, maintained at the public expense, to the level that the public have a legal right to use it. Therefore, the County Council may currently only maintain it to a standard suitable for the public to use on foot, horseback or leading a horse. The residents using the road in vehicles do so under private rights of access, either by legal deed or prescriptive/historical rights. The owner(s) of the road and those holding such private rights can, with the prior written legal approval of the highway authority, improve the surface to a standard suitable for their vehicular use, as long as there is no detrimental effect on the public's use of it.

- 39. The damage occurring to the surface is as a result of the residents' use and their visitors (which includes refuse lorries, royal mail, couriers, delivery lorries, taxis, emergency vehicles, etc.) all of which is private access. The public on foot, horseback or pedal cycle will not cause this damage. There have been no complaints from the general public regarding the state of the surface as their use is not impacted and it is in line with a rural countryside route where the surface may be uneven.
- 40. To 'adopt' the road as a vehicular carriageway NCC certain criteria must be met, the principal one being that the route must be made up to adoptable standards by the owners before adoption. Roads leading to a development of less than 5 properties are not generally required to be adopted and the owners and residents have a joint duty to maintain the surface for their use. However the piecemeal development over the years on this road has led to 11 properties now accessing off the bridleway. In these circumstances, a 'road' committee is often formed by the affected properties to agree a maintenance regime for the surface. It is possible for NCC can contribute to this but only to a level commensurate with the public's use.
- 41. Historically, permission to develop areas off the adopted highway often lead to intensification of a route and its subsequent problems. Officers are speaking with the District planners to ensure that they consider this when deciding future planning applications for small scale developments of this type.
- 42. The bridleway is regularly inspected for safety and is suitable as a rural bridleway, therefore it is not intended to take any action to alter the surface for the public.
- 43. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

## G. Newdigate Street, Kimberley – Resident Parking and related parking/speed limit changes (Ref:2019/0382)

44. A questionnaire regarding potential alterations to the traffic management on Newdigate Street was submitted as a petition by Councillor Philip Owen. It features responses from 24 residents. The submission suggests three modifications:

## A residents' parking permit scheme

- 45. Requests for residents' parking schemes are prioritised in locations where residents do not have off-street parking and rely on the availability of on-street parking to access their properties without detrimentally affecting the highways network.
- 46. A residents' permit scheme would not be prioritised on Newdigate Street between the school entrance and Victoria Street because most properties (87%) have access to off-street parking.
- 47. It is also considered that a residents' permit scheme is not the most appropriate response to the problems set out in the petition. A permit scheme bans motorists from parking but not from loading/unloading (which includes people). A scheme would potentially reduce the amount of time parents park while they wait to collect their children but moving vehicles on outside schools is considered counter-productive because it increases the amount of circulating traffic.

48. If residents find that their driveway's access is being obstructed, they can purchase an advisory white H-bar marking from the Council to help highlight the access to their off-street parking.

#### Removal of parking charges in the Victoria Street car park:

49. This car park is owned and operated by Broxtowe Borough Council. County Council officers have passed the request on to the Borough Council for their consideration.

#### 20 mph speed limit:

- 50. Newdigate Street is already subject to traffic calming features along its length, so it is not considered necessary to introduce a 20mph limit along the length of the road. However, it has been confirmed that Kimberley School was omitted from the programme of works that introduced advisory 20mph limits outside schools. This error is being addressed, and signing will be installed in due course.
- 51. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed.

## H. Request for a 20mph mandatory speed restriction on Lantern Lane, East Leake (Ref:2019/0385)

- 52. A petition containing 372 signatures was submitted by Councillor Andrew Brown. The petition requested that the speed limit be reduced to 20mph on Lantern Lane.
- 53. There is an existing advisory 20mph limit along the road.
- 54. Advisory limits were introduced because it was not considered appropriate to introduce mandatory limits. This was based partly on national guidance regarding setting speed limits and partly because the accident record outside schools is extremely good, meaning that reducing the speed limit would offer no improvement.
- 55. In order to determine whether a mandatory 20mph limit should be considered, a full assessment will be undertaken in accordance with national guidance. If it is considered that a mandatory 20mph limit is appropriate it will be considered for inclusion in a future year's programme of works.
- 56. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed.
- I. New Infrastructure for Active Transport between Cotgrave and Plumtree (Ref:2019/0387)
- 57. A petition containing 39 signatures has been submitted by Councillor Richard Butler requesting that the Council considers implementing a new segregated cycle way and path along Plumtree Road and Cotgrave Road between Cotgrave and Plumtree.
- 58. This is a long-standing request that the Council has considered previously.
- 59. The length of road in question is approximately 1.8km (from Cotgrave Lane to Mensing Lane) and it is that makes it prohibitively expensive to construct to an appropriate standard.
- 60. The County Council will retain this proposal on file and will continue to seek to identify potential funding sources that may enable a path to be constructed.

61. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed.

### J. Stop speeding along Hawton Road, Newark by placing road signs as awareness of not to speed (Ref:2019/0390)

- 62. A petition containing 200 signatures has been submitted by Councillor Keith Girling requesting that the Council considers implementing measures to enforce the 30mph speed limit on Hawton Road.
- 63. The speed limit was reduced to 30mph on this section of road from 40mph in 2018. Due to the presence of carriageway lighting, the Council was obliged by law to remove the repeater signs along the road because they are not permitted in areas subject to a 30mph speed limit.
- 64. In anticipation that motorists would be used to travelling at higher speeds on the road "It's 30 for a Reason" signs were installed to encourage compliance. The County Council will ensure that these signs are still in place and, where they are missing, will endeavour to replace them.
- 65. In addition, the County Council will add Hawton Road to its list of locations for the installation of a temporary vehicle-activated speed sign; and traffic surveys will also be undertaken to determine whether the road meets the criteria for the installation of a permanent sign.
- 66. In the meantime, enforcement of speed limits is the responsibility of the Police, so residents may wish to raise concerns with their local officers if they haven't done so already.
- 67. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed.

### K. Resident Parking Scheme - Standhill Road, Carlton (Ref:2019/0392)

- 68. A petition containing 23 signatures has been submitted by Councillor Errol Henry requesting that the Council implements a residents' parking permit scheme on Standhill Road between Carlton Hill and Highfield Drive.
- 69. This section of Standhill Road features residential properties on the eastern side, none of which have access to off-street parking. On the western side, there is a small number of retail properties and an infants' school. The road is located near to the Carlton Top district centre and, as a result, is likely to be used by staff working in local shops and offices.
- 70. It is not known what the cause of the concern is, but it should be noted that residents' permit schemes are not effective at removing parent parking at drop-off and pick-up times because this is classed as loading and unloading, which is still allowed with permit areas.
- 71. The introduction of a permit scheme on Standhill Road is likely to transfer any intrusive nonresident parking to other nearby streets which have also been subject to requests for permit schemes as a result of similar concerns. The only solution to this issue would be to introduce

an area-wide permit scheme. This would adversely impact local businesses because staff would have nowhere nearby to park.

- 72. As a result, it is not considered appropriate to introduce a permit scheme at this time.
- 73. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

74. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

It is recommended that the contents of the report be noted.

### Councillor John Cottee – Chairman of Communities and Place Committee

### For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Adrian Smith, Corporate Director, Place adrian.smith@nottscc.gov.uk

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

 Responses to Petitions Presented to the Chairman of the County Council – Communities and Place Committee, 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020

### Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- Calverton Councillor Boyd Elliott
- Carlton East Councillor Nicki Brooks
- Carlton West Councillor Errol Henry and Councillor Jim Creamer
- Collingham Councillor Maureen Dobson
- Cotgrave Councillor Richard Butler
- Leake and Ruddingon Councillor Andrew Brown and Councillor Reg Adair
- Newark West Councillor Keith Girling
- Nuthall and Kimberley Councillor Philip Owen
- Tuxford Councillor John Ogle
- Worksop West Councillor Sybil Fielding



**Report to Full Council** 

15<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Agenda Item: 7

# REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE

### **NOTTINGHAMSHIRE YOUTH JUSTICE STRATEGY 2020-23**

### **Purpose of the Report**

1. This report presents the Youth Justice Strategy 2020 for approval by Full Council. An annual Youth Justice plan is a statutory requirement under the Crime and Disorder Act (1998). A copy of the full plan is attached as **Appendix 1**.

### Information

- 2. Youth Justice Services (YJS) in Nottinghamshire are made up of three multi-agency Locality Teams and a county wide Interventions Team. The Service meets all the statutory requirements of a YJS as set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and includes seconded staff from Police, Probation, Health, and Futures (Education, Training and Employment).
- 3. The aims of the YJS are to:
  - o reduce the number of young people entering the criminal justice system
  - $\circ\;$  reduce the frequency and rate of re-offending by children and young people who are already within the youth justice system
  - keep the numbers of young people experiencing custody either on remand or as a sentence of the court - to a minimum.
- 4. Over the last year, performance against these measures has been good with data showing that Nottinghamshire is performing better than the national average. First time entrants have again fallen, and Nottinghamshire has seen a 32% reduction on last year figures which is below the national average.
- 5. Rates of re-offending and numbers of re-offences committed by re-offenders has reduced steadily over the last few years and, whilst there have been some local fluctuations, figures show that Nottinghamshire is performing better than the national average.

- 6. Numbers of young people remanded and sentenced to custody means that, both nationally and locally, fewer young people are experiencing a period of incarceration. Locally, the total numbers of young people remanded/sentenced to custody is reduced from last year and is currently lower than the national average. In addition to the multi-agency make-up of the teams, the Service works closely with partners and commissioned providers at a strategic and operational level to try to ensure that the needs of children and young people are met and to achieve its outcomes and aims. The Youth Justice Partnership Board works with strategic partners to ensure that the health provision offered to young offenders provides them with equality of access, which the general population experiences and it will continue to work in a multi-disciplinary way to ensure that children are not criminalised or remanded unnecessarily.
- 7. Nottinghamshire YJS has maintained its commitment to working with children and young people in need of help, on a non-statutory basis. It delivers a high-quality service in relation to diversion, outreach and detached services, thus keeping a focus on reducing the numbers of First Time Entrants (FTEs). The Service links closely with the Troubled Families agenda and acts as the lead professional where the young person committing crime or antisocial behaviour meets the triggers to ensure a holistic whole family approach.
- 8. The YJS continue to monitor activities via quality assurance and quality assurance processes are closely linked with those which are operating in other areas of Children's Services. Its quality management framework is reviewed to closely align with standards which have been adopted by HMI Probation to ensure that assessments, plans and work with children and young people remains of a high quality regardless of what stage they are at within the YJS.
- 9. In its new three year plan, the Nottinghamshire YJS have identified five key areas to provide focus over the next three years:
  - to work with partners to promote a more holistic approach to meeting children and young people's needs in the Youth Justice System
  - to increase the number of children and young people who are accessing early intervention aimed at reducing the potential of them entering the criminal justice system
  - every child and young person in contact with Nottinghamshire YJS has appropriate Education, Training and Employment (ETE) provision in place
  - $\circ\;$  to ensure that children and young people have the best support available to meet their needs when leaving custody
  - to ensure that robust consultation processes are in place to enable all children and young people and parents and carers to have an opportunity to shape Nottinghamshire YJS.
- 10. The plan provides an overview of the work that has been completed so far in relation to these areas and outlines the work that the YJS intends to deliver over the following year (2020/21).

11. This year's plan demonstrates the Service's continuing commitment to better involving young people and their families in the development of the Service. The strategy features artwork, photography, and poems which have been created by young people working with the Service. Quotes from young people and parent/carers can be found throughout the document.

### **Other Options Considered**

12. An annual Youth Justice plan is a statutory requirement under the Crime and Disorder Act (1998).

### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

13. The Youth Justice Strategy requires the approval of Full Council.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

14. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

### **Crime and Disorder Implications**

15. An annual Youth Justice plan is a statutory requirement under the Crime and Disorder Act (1998) which requires the local authority with its partners to prevent offending and reoffending by children and young people and to deliver an effective local youth justice system.

### **Financial Implications**

16. Statutory Youth Justice plans must be fully costed; this year's plan has no additional costs associated with it.

### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

1) That the Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Strategy 2020-23, attached as **Appendix 1**, is approved.

### Councillor Philip Owen Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee

### For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Rachel Miller Group Manager, Early Help Services. T: 0115 993 4371 E: <u>rachel.miller@nottscc.gov.uk</u>

### Constitutional Comments (EP 17/09/20)

17. Full Council is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

### Financial Comments (SAS 28/09/20)

18. Statutory Youth Justice plans must be fully costed and the total funding available from Nottinghamshire and partners is £2.049m for 2020-21.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

None.

### Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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### **Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Strategy 2020-23**



### Executive Summary

Youth Justice Services (YJS) in Nottinghamshire are made up of three multi-agency locality teams and a county wide Interventions team. The service meets all the statutory requirements of a YJS as set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and includes seconded staff from Police, Probation, Health, and Futures (Education, Training and Employment).

### The aims of the YJS are to:

- Reduce the number of young people entering the criminal justice system;
- Reduce the frequency and rate of re-offending by children and young people who are already within the youth justice system; and
- Keep the numbers of young people experiencing custody – either on remand or as a sentence of the court – to a minimum.

Over the past year, performance against these measures has been good with data showing that Nottinghamshire is performing better than the national average.

- The number of first time entrants has, again, fallen and Nottinghamshire has seen a 32% reduction on last year's figures.
- Rates of re-offending and numbers of re-offences committed by re-offenders has reduced steadily over the past few years and, whilst there have been some local fluctuations, as indicated, figures show that Nottinghamshire is performing better than the national average.
- Numbers of young people remanded and sentenced to custody means that, both nationally and locally, fewer young people are experiencing a period of incarceration. Locally, the total numbers of young people remanded/sentenced to custody is reduced from last year.

In addition to the multi-agency team set up, the service works with partners and commissioned providers to support children and young people, and to achieve the strategy's outcomes. The Board works with partners to ensure that the health provision for young people who offend is equal to those of the general population. Partners also strive to work together to ensure that children are not criminalised or remanded unnecessarily.

Nottinghamshire YJS has maintained its commitment to working with children and young people in need of help, on a non-statutory basis. It delivers a high-quality service in relation to its youth diversion and detached services, thus, keeping a focus on reducing the numbers of First Time Entrants (FTEs). The service links closely with the Troubled Families agenda and acts as the lead professional where the young person committing crime or anti-social behaviour requires a whole family approach.

The YJS continues to monitor its activities and progress with quality assurance processes that are closely linked with other areas of children's services in Nottinghamshire. The quality management framework is closely aligned to the standards adopted by HMI Probabtion. This ensures that the standard of work with children and young people, assessments, and plans remains of high quality, regardless of their stage within the youth justice service.

### Introduction

The Youth Justice Service (YJS) in Nottinghamshire meets all the statutory requirements of a YJS as set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and includes seconded staff from Police, Probation, Health, and Futures (Education, Training and Employment advisers). It is made up of three multi-agency locality teams and a county wide interventions team, which provides support with interventions to the locality teams, in addition to carrying out early prevention intervention and targeted detached youth work in areas where there is identified anti-social behaviour.

In addition to the multi-agency teams, the service commissions specialist external providers to help it deliver key statutory functions, such as substance misuse, reparation and victim services and appropriate adult work.

#### The key aims of the YJS are to:

- Reduce the number of young people entering the criminal justice system;
- reduce the frequency and rate of re-offending by children and young people who are already within the youth justice system; and
- keep the numbers of young people experiencing custody – either on remand or as a sentence of the court – to a minimum.

Nottinghamshire YJS continues to monitor performance through its internal quality assurance processes and via quarterly case audits completed on a wide range of cases. Relevant learning is fully utilised across the service and actions are set and reviewed to improve service delivery.

Nottinghamshire Youth Justices Services (YJS) are part of the Local Authority's Children and Families service department. Line management of the service comes under the Corporate Director for Children's Services. The activities of the YJS are monitored and directed by the Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Partnership Board, which is chaired by the Service Director for Youth, Families and Social Work.

In addition to statutory partners, Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Partnership Board also benefits from having representatives from Education, Commissioning (Accommodation), the Community Safety Partnership and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC). The Board reports to the Safer Nottinghamshire Board, which feeds into the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Partnership Board meets on a quarterly basis with good attendance from all key partners who are represented at a senior level.

As part of YJ Diversion work, young people took part in a photo shoot, expressing their feelings with creative compositions. Their photos have been used throughout this strategy.

### Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Partnership Board holds the YJS to account, ensuring that it meets its statutory aims. The Board:



Receives quarterly performance reports, identifying areas of opportunity and actively discussing potential risks to future performance.



Reviews every Youth Justice Incident Report along with details of any subsequent progress made against actions set.

Is actively involved in the quality assurance processes embedded within the YJS; thus, assisting in increasing individual board members' understanding of the work of the YJS.

Agrees improvement/action plans; actively monitoring progress against these plans.

Has a forward plan in place to ensure that the agenda of the Board is focused on strategic Youth Crime Issues which are specifically relevant to Nottinghamshire and have the potential to impact performance and resources.

Receives regular service delivery updates from Team Managers, and other staff involved in operational service changes, which enables the Board to retain oversight and monitor progress.

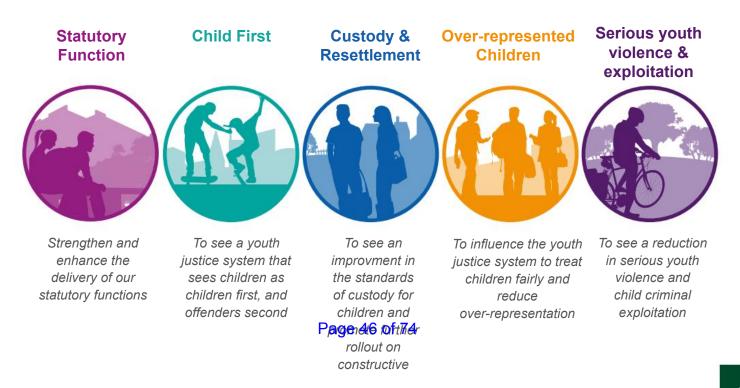
Has strengthened how it connects with staff by a YJ staff representative being an active member of the Board.

Holds partner agencies to account for any deficits in their operations or practice which is impacting upon the YJS and hindering effective multi-agency working.

Has consistent cross representation from the YJ Leadership Team; providing an effective link into the Management Board and supporting effective service delivery.

Nottinghamshire YJS has identified five key areas to provide focus over the next three years. This plan provides an overview of the work that has been completed so far in relation to these areas and outlines the work that the YJS intends to deliver over the following year (2020/21).

As well as supporting the YJS to carry out its statutory functions and meet its key aims, this plan also supports the work of the YJB in relation to their identified strategic objectives; these being;

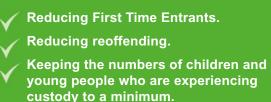


# Target 1

### To work with partners to promote a more holistic approach to meeting children and young people's needs in the Youth Justice System

Working closely with other teams, departments and partners is key to ensuring that every child or young person can achieve the best outcomes regardless of their place within the criminal justice system. This applies whether they are a child on the cusp of offending, or a young person in youth custody. A case manager will work with the child or young person to tailor an individual programme of intervention. They will identify ways to build on the young person's strengths and develop their potential. They will also identify ways to reduce the negative factors in the young person's life which may be pulling them into offending, or increasing the risk of harm to either themselves or others.

Nottinghamshire YJS is committed to working with a wide range of partners to provide a more holistic approach to meeting the needs of children and young people in the YJS. In the last year, improving outcomes for children and young people with Speech Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) has continued to be an area of priority. Similarly, developing trauma informed practices has also been a key area of focus.



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#### We have...

- Developed staff's knowledge and skills regarding SLCN, and understanding what adjustments need to be made to improve the effectiveness of their work with children and young people.
- Enabled children and young people with complex SLCN to undergo an assessment and access specialist intervention.
- Developed staff's knowledge regarding trauma and how this impacts the children and young people they work with.
- Introduced one-to-one consultation and group supervision sessions, led by the clinical psychologist; providing staff with time for reflection on their current practice, with a focus on trauma.
- Continued to make direct referrals to Head2Head to access emotional wellbeing and mental health services for children and young people.
- Continued to work closely with Change Grow Live (CGL), the commissioned provider of substance misuse services, to ensure that our children and young people are accessing the most appropriate level of support.
- Recruited mentors to provide individual support to children and young people identified as requiring a long term/enhanced level of support.
- Had a key role in strengthening multi agency approaches to tackling Youth Violence and Child Criminal Exploitation; YJS is regularly represented at multi agency panels focussing on Youth Violence and has contributed to wider NCC staff training.

Nottinghamshire YJS promotes the principle of working that sees children as children first, and offender second. There will be a continued commitment to working with partners to promote this guiding principle; we will be reviewing and adopting ways of working to ensure there is a continued holistic approach to meeting the needs of children and young people in the youth justice system.

#### Next steps...

- To strengthen staff's capability to developing a needs led holistic approach to intervention planning.
- To support partners to ensure that all children and young people, including those in custody, have a co-created intervention plan which can meet their individual needs.
- To work with the Liaison and Diversion team; to increase the accessibility of specialist assistance for children, young people and their families in relation to meeting their emotional and mental health needs at the earliest opportunity.
- Continue to work with partners to highlight how SLCN affects children and young people in the YJS and what improvements can be made across services.
- Continue to work with partners within health to increase staff's knowledge in relation to trauma and how best to work with children and young people who are impacted within the YJS.

Talking about working with the YJS, young people said...

I feel I am getting the support that I need

I feel like I am being listened to for the first time

# Target 2

### To increase the number of children and young people who are accessing early intervention aimed at reducing the potential of them entering the criminal justice system

Nottinghamshire YJS outreach and interventions team has a preventative agenda. Staff work evenings, weekends and holiday periods targeting group work interventions to children and young people aged 10-18 that have been identified by agencies as being at risk of, or involved in, ASB within their community. Using outreach and detached youth work they are working to divert young people into meaningful and sustainable activities; creating informal education opportunities; encouraging individuals to explore and develop alternative ways of thinking is also an important aspect of this work.

Nottinghamshire has again seen a reduction in the number of First Time Entrants (FTEs), and this number is reduced by over 32% on the number of FTEs that were recorded last year. From April 2019 to March 2020 the actual number of FTEs was 171. This is also much lower than the national average of 276.

Efforts to reduce the criminalisation of young people at the Out of Court Disposal panels (OOCD) also appears successful and the YJS is now working with a greater proportion of children and young people on a voluntary OOCD basis. The service has recently reviewed and updated its offer of crime prevention to increase the number of children and young people who are able to access early intervention. The aim is that children and young people at risk of 'emerging threats' (including Child Criminal Exploitation) will be appropriately identified, supported and protected and, as part of this revised approach, there will be more children and young people able to access a broad range of positive activities underpinned by general youth work principles.

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age 4

 Reducing First Time Entrants.
 Reducing reoffending.
 Keeping the numbers of children and young people who are experiencing custody to a minimum.

### We have...

- Rebranded the 'Crime Prevention' programme, with the assistance of children and young people ('My Future' Youth Support Programme).
- Revised the referral, allocation and intervention pathway within the YJS.

Revised the referral pathway to broaden the cohort of children and young people eligible to access the 'Youth Support Programme' intervention.

- Communicated the revised criteria and referral pathway to partners (internal and external to NCC).
- Worked with partners to enable us to review the needs of children and young people named within Public Protection Notices (PPNs) at the earliest opportunity.

### Next steps...

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74

- To continue to promote the 'My Future' Youth Support Programme across services.
- To establish pathways to ensure that children and young people at risk of emerging threats are being identified and supported to access suitable provision.
- Exploring how we can support children and young people longer term; establishing/ strengthening their community links.
- To further embed the youth work mentor scheme within Nottinghamshire YJS, considering this as part of an ongoing model for engagement with children and young people.
- To develop pathways for children and young people to access longer term youth support.

As part of the YJS mentor project young people have taken part in a build-a-bike project, which allows them to build their skills and confidence. They receive an recognised Asdan Award on completion.



### Every child and young person in contact with Nottinghamshire YJS has appropriate education, training and employment provision in place

Meaningful full-time engagement in Education, Training and Employment (ETE) remains one of the most significant protective factors to reduce re-offending for young people. Qualified specialist advisers, seconded from Futures Careers Service, provide a bespoke package of support for young people involved with the YJS who are not accessing full time ETE provision. The ETE team's policies and procedures are aligned with the wider NCC's Children Missing Education policy and they take an active role in the Vulnerable Children's Education Commissioning group, providing multi agency solutions in relation to the education provision of vulnerable groups.

The ETE team has previously focused on children and young people engaged with the YJS on a statutory basis. In the next year, the service will work with children and young people who become known to the service on a statutory or voluntary basis. This is part of the service's aim for fewer children and young people not in education, employment or training (NEET). Increasing the support available for individuals, who are on a part time timetable or at risk of becoming NEET, will contribute towards improving the educational outcomes for vulnerable children and young people within Nottinghamshire.



Reducing First Time Entrants. Reducing reoffending.

Keeping the numbers of children and Page 51 of 74 young people who are experiencing custody to a minimum.

### We have...

- Secured funding for an additional worker to run a programme known as 'unlocking potential'; this targets young people aged 15-24 who are at risk of becoming NEET.
- Met with post 16 providers to identify, and start to address barriers to securing suitable provision for children and young people known to the YJS.
- Developed clear partnership agreements with organisations who support our young people in post/pre16 provision.
- Specifically focused on the service's cohort of children and young people who are NEET; identifying areas of practice that can be improved.
- Provided targeted ETE support to all children and young people who were on a part-time timetable or identified as being at risk of becoming NEET.
- Commenced providing in-depth analysis on NEET cases (including data on gender, ethnic groups, historical FT exclusions, identified SEN etc) to the YJ Partnership Board; this enables the Board to maintain oversight of current practice and react to local issues and trends.
- Been making better use of the available data; providing a full individual analysis of all children and young people who are NEET; and a more detailed analysis of minority groups, to enable the identification of any areas of disproportionality.
  - Worked with 'UNLOCK' to develop an information booklet regarding disclosure.
  - Implemented group supervision to enable the team to share good practice and ensure the delivery of high-quality Information Advice and Guidance (IAG).

### Next steps...

- To ensure that every child and young person receiving an OOCD or statutory Order is allocated an ETE adviser.
- To develop an ETE specialist post to engage with local employers to promote the appointment of young people who have offended for employment/work experience opportunities.
- To ensure that ETE is considered as an integral part of intervention planning; and SEN is clearly identified and addressed within the planning of interventions.
- To have an ETE adviser attend all youth crime panels to provide relevant and up to date information regarding the individual's ETE provision/identified need.
- To offer an enhanced level of support to children and young people at key ETE transition points.
- To apply for further 'Life Chances' funding; this will support two additional YJ ETE posts to support NEET young people aged 16 to 24 in the longer term.

When talking about the support his son had received from the youth justice team, one parent said

I wish all services had this level of communication and support

# Target 4

### To ensure that children and young people have the best support available to meet their needs when leaving custody

In April 2020 the YJS completed a National Standards Self-Assessment against the five domains as identified by the YJB (Out of Court Disposals, In the Community, At Court, In Secure and Transitions). Following this process, the areas of resettlement and transitions have been identified for further targeted work. There is a focus on the support offered to children and young people whilst in custody and on the planning for when children and young people leave custody. Constructive Resettlement aims to support individuals in developing a pro-social identity and focusses on their journey towards a positive future; something Nottinghamshire is committed to achieving with its children and young people.

### When asked about what had changed in their life, one young person said;

I have a job now. Working is keeping me busy and helping me stay out of trouble

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Reducing re offending.

Keeping the numbers of children and young people who experience custody to a minimum.

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The key principles of Constructive Resettlement have been promoted across the service and a detailed improvement plan has been produced. This has been presented to the YJ Partnership Board to ensure continued oversight.

### We have...

- Identified a manager to have responsibility for Constructive Resettlement across Nottinghamshire YJS.
  - Improved joint working with Children's Social Care (CSC); being influential in them identifying a resettlement lead.
  - Been proactive in ensuring that placement request forms are being jointly completed with CSC.
  - Jointly agreed an escalation process should a young person not have an address confirmed prior to their release from youth custody. Developed processes to ensure that young people and their parents and carers have access to relevant information in a timely manner.
- Increased staff's awareness of the principles of Constructive Resettlement; reinforcing the importance of individualised planning and support.
- Supported staff to contact children and young people using different methods of communication e.g. letter, email.

#### Next steps...

- Continue to work with partners to secure a suitable release address for every young person at the earliest opportunity.
- To ensure adherence with the LAC custody placement agreement for relevant young people.
- To work with Resettlement leads within the Youth Custody Service to improve joint working and align plans in relation to Constructive Resettlement.
- To support staff to use Release on Temporary Licence (ROTL) to improve resettlement outcomes for young people.
- To routinely capture and use feedback from young people leaving youth custody.
- To increase contact with children and young people in custody.
- To improve how we engage with children and young people whilst they are in YCS. ensuring that all contacts are purposeful and meaningful.
- To improve our work with parents and carers in relation to Constructive Resettlement
- To complete case audits to review service performance in relation to Constructive Resettlement.

Of the 47 children/young people who have been supported by the YJS mentors, only 2 have gone on to reoffend which is a significant difference from the general offending population and feedback from young people and parents has been positive...

A - it's made me feel a bit more confident in myself

### "

B - before I wouldn't put myself out there and do things on my own, but now I feel I've got the confidence

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Mum – he was very up and down, totally different now, very calm, knows what he wants now. Yeh! He's more positive

### "

Mum – "she's done brilliant with him, to how he is now, to how he used to be. He's a completely changed lad

# Target 5

To ensure that robust consultation processes are in place to enable all children and young people and parents and carers to have an opportunity to Shape Nottinghamshire YJS

Talking about the reparation work that they completed, one young person said...

I did enjoy doing the work as it was a good positive thing to do for me and the community. I think it has got me on the straight and narrow and I don't want to get into trouble again.

Of 16 young people questioned, all said that they thought reparation was a good thing.

# NO BALL GAMES ALLOWED

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In the last year the YJS has started to develop processes for seeking the views of children and young people, and their parents and carers, on the YJ Service. The overall aim is that the voice of the child / young person and their parents/ carers features in all aspects of service provision.

### We have...

- Gathered feedback from young people whose cases have been chosen for learning audits; gaining their views of the service.
- Gathered feedback from all children and young people who have taken part in reparation to help review outcomes.
- Gathered feedback from victims of Youth Crime who have engaged in Restorative Justice intervention to review the quality of service which is being provided.
- Facilitated focus groups with young women; giving them an opportunity to tell the Service Manager what they think about the service.
- With the help of the Speech and Language Therapist, revised the Self-Assessment Questionnaire that is used with children and young people.

Implemented a new end of Order feedback form to enable children and young people to provide feedback to the service.

- Gathered young people's views on the use of social media which was used to improve the knowledge of staff.
- Sought the views of young people on the new name for our 'Crime Prevention' programme.
- Sought the views of young people in custody to gauge our progress in relation to resettlement practice.

In the coming year, the YJS will build on the work that has begun to take place to ensure that we are regularly consulting with young people, parents/carers and are being responsive, using the feedback in the design and delivery of the service.

### Next steps...

- The YJ Partnership Board is to be made aware of what children and young people and their parents and carers are saying about the work of the YJ Service; increasing the level of oversight that is provided by the Board; this will involve a young persons' representative attending the Board regularly.
- Young people will be invited to the Board to provide direct feedback on the service they have received.
- All children and young people will be asked about their experience of the service at the end of their intervention.
- All parents and carers will be asked about their experience of the service.
- Young people and parents and carers will be consulted about the work of the service in conjunction with cases that are chosen for quarterly audits.
- Focus groups will be held to gather feedback from children and young people on specific areas of practice which can be used to measure progress against existing improvement plans e.g. Transitions, Resettlement etc.
- Processes will be developed to ensure that the service routinely consults with children and young people, parents and carers in relation to key operational changes that are being considered.

# Other areas receiving focus in 2020/21



 There will continue to be a focus on disproportionality within Nottinghamshire YJS.

### Disproportionality

- The service has a Disproportionality Action Plan; progress against which is being reported on and continues to be monitored by the YJ Partnership Board;
- Disproportionality is included within quarterly performance reporting which is presented to the Board.
- So far, Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) has been the primary focus of the YJS approach to addressing disproportionality; however, moving forward the intention is to broaden this to other areas of potential disproportionality, including Looked After Children.
- Recognising that transition for children and young people in the YJS can be frequent; Nottinghamshire YJS is striving to ensure that they are fully supported at all points of transition, be it education, housing or adulthood.
- The service has developed a detailed improvement plan to support effective transitions with an identified service lead responsible for monitoring progress.
- The service will continue to work closely with Children's Social Care and the National Probation Service, improving the experience of children and young people who transition between and within these services.
- The YJS will continue to assist partner services in the development of pathways / processes to support young people upon their transition across services/into adult hood.
- Serious Youth Violence and Exploitation

Transitions

- The YJS will continue working with the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) exploring ways to reduce Serious Youth Violence and Child Criminal Exploitation.
- In collaboration with the police and other partners, there will be a focus on FTEs for knife crime for young people under 16s.
- As indicated, the YJS will further embed the youth work mentor scheme within Nottinghamshire, considering this as part of an ongoing model for engagement with children and young people who are at risk of criminal exploitation.
- To work in collaboration with the police and partner agencies to further develop processes in relation Public Protection Notices (PPN) and Early Police Alert System (EPAS) to ensure children and young people in need of early intervention, those at risk of emerging threats, are appropriately identified and supported. Page 57 of 74





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**Report to County Council** 

15 October 2020

Agenda Item: 8

### **REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GOVERNANCE & ETHICS COMMITTEE**

### **GOVERNANCE & ETHICS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20**

### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To report to the County Council the work of the Governance & Ethics Committee in 2019/20.

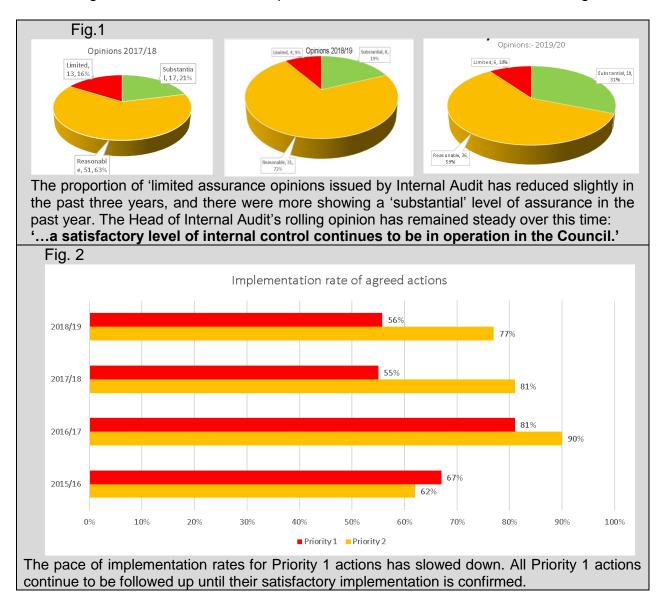
### Information

- 2. The Governance & Ethics Committee was established following the County Council elections in May 2017, and it held its first meeting in June 2017. It is comprised of 11 County Councillors who meet 8 times per year.
- 3. The Committee's terms of reference are set out in the County Council's constitution. It is serviced regularly by professional officers working mostly in the Chief Executive's Department in the key functional areas of finance, internal audit, legal and democratic services, information management and corporate risk management. The Committee's role subsumed that of the former Audit Committee and it now extends further to incorporate wider responsibilities, for example relating to codes of conduct and dealing with alleged breaches of the codes.
- 4. At its meeting in July 2018, the Committee agreed to implement an annual report on how effectively it has discharged its key roles and responsibilities. This is the Committee's second annual report and it also sets out proposed priorities for the Committee in 2020/21.
- 5. The work of the Committee was unaffected by COVID-19 in 2019/20. The Committee's final meeting of the year was completed in early March 2020, just prior to the imposition of national lockdown restrictions. However, the suspension of the Council's Committee schedule from late March 2020 is having an inevitable impact on the Committee's work in the current financial year. This will compress the work of the Committee for the remainder of the year, and will necessitate careful prioritisation of its coverage in 2020/21.

### Achievements against the Committee's terms of reference

- 6. **Appendix 1** presents a matrix of the key business dealt with by the Committee, mapped against each of its roles and responsibilities set out in the County Council Constitution. There are a number of notable achievements, summarised as follows:
  - a) **Internal control framework**: the Committee has maintained its strong focus on supporting the work of Internal Audit, and it has received regular assurance from the service regarding the effectiveness of the Council's arrangements for governance, risk management and control. The follow-up of Internal Audit's recommendations has been flagged as a potential area of concern, as the implementation rate for Priority 1 recommendations has seen a

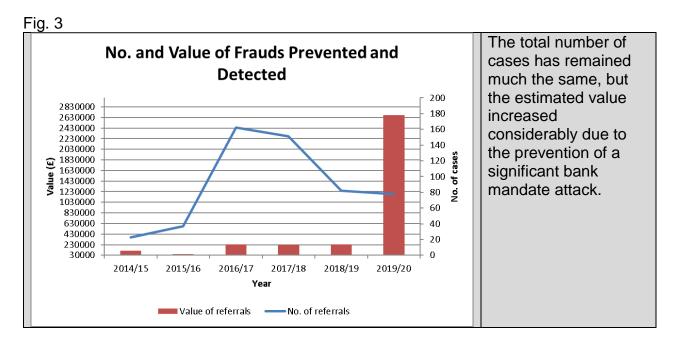
decline compared with previous years. The reasons for this are often concerned with the complexity of the improvements being implemented, resulting in a slower than anticipated pace of delivery rather than a lack of commitment to the changes. The Committee renewed its resolve to drive agreed improvements through to implementation, continuing its practice of receiving both written and verbal updates to the Committee from senior managers.



The Committee has been similarly supportive of the work of the Council's external auditors, again receiving updates on progress with the annual audit, and confirming an appropriate response from management to the findings and recommendations reported.

b) **Development of the internal audit function**: The Committee approved a proposal for the restructure of the Internal Audit service and, as part of this, it was particularly pleased to support the establishment of an apprenticeship scheme to develop the next generation of internal auditors for the Council. The revised structure was implemented, and the recruitment process progressed through the pandemic period with the result that the Council's first two Internal Audit Apprentices have now been appointed.

- c) **Assurance mapping**: this initiative developed further in 2019/20, following the Committee's decision to both retain the activity and to expand its scope. Two new areas of governance were added last year, and the Committee will receive the assurance from this work as soon as possible following resumption of its meeting schedule. It is expected that this area of activity will provide a key steer for where additional assurance needs to be provided to the Committee each year. Work is in hand to develop further the content and frequency of assurance feeds to the Committee around the Council's key governance processes, to complement the annual mapping exercise.
- d) Counter-fraud: the Committee considered the Annual Fraud Report and a six-monthly update, which continued to evidence that the incidence of fraud in the Council is low. Nonetheless, the Committee reinforced the zero tolerance approach where issues have arisen, and continued to encourage all staff and stakeholders to voice concerns wherever reasonable suspicions arise. The Committee has maintained oversight of the Council's pro-active counter-fraud programme, with particular attention given in 2019/20 to the relative strength of the Council's cyber security set-up. The annual reports for the Council's Whistleblowing scheme and the use of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 added further insight in this area.



- e) Annual Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement: The Committee received and approved these Statements for 2018/19 in accordance with the statutory timescales. The Committee received regular updates during the year on progress against the Annual Governance Statement's action plan, and it approved the annual refresh of the Local Code of Corporate Governance.
- f) Standards of conduct and transparency: The Committee considered progress with the review of the Council Constitution, and it agreed a way forward to address the points of discussion this raised. The six-monthly process to review councillors' use of resources and application of their Divisional Funds was retained (incorporating sample testing carried out

by Democratic Services). Independent persons have been appointed, received training and attended meetings of the Committee. Showing near prescience of events to unfold, the Committee considered a pre-pandemic report on transparency and streaming of meetings. Options were agreed to take this forward when the pandemic hit and prompted these actions to press forward with added pace.

- g) **Information Governance**: The Committee has received regular updates on progress with the Information Governance Improvement Programme, which is the Council's two-phase response to the changes necessitated by the enactment of the General Data Protection Regulations in May 2018. Continuing six-monthly updates have been agreed.
- h) Local Government Ombudsman Reports and Complaints: The Committee has taken a firm stance to be transparent in its approach to considering issues arising from service users' complaints about Council services. All decisions of the Ombudsman are scheduled for consideration by Committee at each meeting as the reports are received throughout the year. The relevant senior officers are invited to attend, where appropriate, to advise of actions taken where complaints have been upheld. Complaints received and dealt with through the Council's own arrangements have also been considered on a periodic basis, and the Committee approved a refresh of the corporate complaints procedure.
- 7. An aspect of the Committee's remit for which no assurance was received during the year was risk management. Due to the incidence of emergency planning and response events, it did not prove possible for progress reports and planned training for Members on this topic to be delivered by the Place Department Team responsible for this area. As signalled to Members in the course of the governance update reports in 2019/20, responsibility for risk management has now moved to the Chief Executive's Department's Assurance Group. It is anticipated that this will bring the opportunity for refreshed co-ordination with other assurance work delivered to the Committee by this Group.
- 8. The Committee has made appropriate use of the full range of powers delegated to it under the terms of the Constitution, as summarised below:

Delegated power	Summary of activity						
Decision- making	Decisions have been taken at each Committee meeting in relation to the areas of activity within the Committee's remit						
Policy development	<ul> <li>Options for developing Council policy have been considered and progressed in relation to:</li> <li>The Council's Constitution</li> <li>Transparency and streaming of meetings</li> </ul>						
Performance review	<ul> <li>Periodic updates of the service delivered by Internal Audit In relation to Internal Audit</li> <li>Self-assessment of the Council's arrangements for cyber security against National Audit Office guidance</li> <li>Progress against the Information Governance Improvement Plan</li> <li>Progress against the Annual Governance Statement Action Plan</li> </ul>						

Delegated power	Summary of activity
Review of officers' decisions	Annual scrutiny of decisions taken by officers to waive financial regulations
Consultation responses	Approved the response to a Government consultation on the financial transparency of Local Authority maintained schools
Staffing restructures	<ul> <li>Review and approval of the proposed restructure of:</li> <li>Internal Audit</li> <li>Democratic Services</li> </ul>

9. There have been no sub-committee meetings to investigate alleged breaches of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

### Member training and self-assessment

- 10. The Committee engaged with a self-assessment of its own effectiveness against the Institute of Internal Auditors' Guidance for Audit Committees. This identified two actions concerning the assurance the Committee receives from its Internal Audit service: to address persistent resourcing challenges in the service; and to develop a strategic audit plan to complement the 4-monthly, termly plans. Both of these actions were taken forward during the year.
- 11. A planned training item on the day-to-day work of Internal Audit was delivered jointly by staff from the Internal Audit service and from the Business Services Centre. This gave Members an insight into the current approach to audit assurance, whilst also highlighting an approach currently being progressed jointly between the two teams to the concept of continuous assurance. It is hoped the Committee will see this come to fruition in 2020/21.
- 12. The Committee is helping to progress the Member Engagement Programme, which includes the training and development offer for all County Councillors. During the period covered by the report GDPR/Information Governance training was provided for members. Following discussion at Full Council and Personnel Committee it has been agreed that all elected members will undertake equalities training, including unconscious bias training. This is being scheduled for November. Social Media workshops are also being developed for elected members during the Autumn/Winter. Work has also begun to develop proposals for the Members Induction Programme, which will include mandatory training such as training for Planning and Pensions Committees.

### Priorities for 2020/21

- 13. The impact of the pandemic on the work of the Committee in 2020/21 has been significant. With a compressed agenda for the remainder of the year, it is important for the Committee to ensure its agendas are well prioritised and scheduled. This will ensure the Committee receives the key assurance it requires as the Council works through its recovery and renewal phase.
- 14. Assurance mapping is a key plank in the Committee's sources of assurance for fulfilment of its remit. The annual report from this activity in 2019/20 is to be reported to the Committee in October 2020, and it will make proposals for its continued development and use in 2020/21 and beyond. Key themes for suggested development will be:

> Areas of focus - proposing a close alignment with the Council's risk management process

- Nature of assurance feeds to complement the annual process with the establishment of continuous assurance feeds within the Council.
- 15. It is proposed that key priorities for the Committee in 2020/21 should embrace a blend of its core duties as set out in the Council's Constitution, along with developmental activities to help maintain a high degree of focus on governance and ethical values in the Council. It should also be a priority for the Committee to carry out appropriate training and development activities for its members, to ensure all feel suitably skilled and confident in carrying out the important role they play in the Council's governance framework. The following are potential priorities in 2020/21 for Members to discuss:

	Core business
* - * - * - * -	<ul> <li>Statement of accounts</li> <li>External audit plans and outcomes</li> <li>Internal Audit plans, outcomes and implementation of recommendations</li> <li>Counter-fraud – with a particular emphasis on the key, external threats and the Council's processes for recovering losses</li> <li>Oversight of complaints and Ombudsman reports – to continue the transparent approach adopted to date</li> <li>Information governance</li> <li>Corporate risk management</li> <li>Member conduct</li> </ul>
Q	<ul> <li>Promoting strong governance and sound ethical values</li> <li>Expansion of assurance mapping</li> <li>Arrangements for determining the Council's risk appetite</li> <li>Reviewing the Council's ethical framework</li> <li>Regular updates of the Annual Governance Statement</li> <li>Self-assessments against best practice guidance for governance and ethics</li> <li>Annual report to Full Council</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Member training</li> <li>Risk management concepts and their application using a case study approach</li> <li>Links with other county and regional audit committees</li> <li>Participation at regional and national conferences and seminars</li> <li>Introduction of more regular and targeted briefing sessions with key officers</li> <li>Equalities training</li> <li>Social media training</li> <li>Future induction training to include mandatory training</li> </ul>

### **Other Options Considered**

16. The Committee agreed the implementation of an annual report of its activities at its meeting in July 2018. No other options were considered.

### **Reason for Recommendation**

17. To provide assurance to the Council that the Governance & Ethics Committee is delivering against the terms of reference for the Committee, as set out in the Constitution.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

18. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

The remit of the Governance & Ethics Committee is to direct and receive assurance that the Council is meeting many of the issues identified above. Its work since establishment in May 2017 has addressed many of the above.

### RECOMMENDATION

1) That Council considers the achievements of the Governance & Ethics Committee and endorses its intended areas of focus for the coming year.

### Councillor Bruce Laughton Chairman of the Governance & Ethics Committee

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Rob Disney Group Manager – Assurance

### Constitutional Comments (EKH 24/09/2020)

19. This report is appropriate to be considered by the County Council.

### Financial Comments (RWK 28/09/2020)

20. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from the report.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

None

### Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

• All

May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Sep 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Mar 2020
Council-wide Gover	nance & Ethics						
Gov & Ethics Cttee annual report							
Assurance Mapping Annual Report 2018/19				Assurance Mapping 2019/20 - update			
Local Code of Corporate Governance annual review	Review of Council Constitution – scope and timescales		Governance Action Plan update	Review of Council Constitution – procedure rules for meetings	Consideration of proposals regarding transparency and streaming of meetings		Governance Action Plan update
Annual Governance Statement 2018/19		Member Communication & Engagement Programme			Member Communication & Engagement Programme – update		
Committee on Standards in Public Life: Local Government Ethical Standards	National Audit Office review of governance in local government						
Annual statement of Statement of accounts: Accounting policies	f accounts	Statement of Accounts 2018/19					

May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Sep 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Mar 2020
Internal control & e							
	Follow-up of Internal Audit Reports – implementation of agreed actions	Internal Audit Update and Plan	Internal Audit structure proposals	Internal Audit Update and Plan		Follow-up of Internal Audit Reports – implementation of agreed actions	Internal Audit Update and Plan
	CIPFA Statement on the Role of the Head of Internal Audit	Head of Internal Audit Annual Report 2018/19	Internal Audit Charter – annual update	Strategic Internal Audit Plan			
External audit risk assessment			External Audit Annual Letter 2019/19		External Audit progress report		External Audit Plan - 2019/20 audit
		National Audit Office Cyber Security Guidance – progress update	National Audit Office Cloud Services Guidance	Vacant Property Management – update on changes and progress		National Audit Office Cyber Security Guidance – progress update	Objection to the accounts 2015/16 – results of external audit investigation
			Financial transparency of Local Authority maintained schools – government consultation				

May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Sep 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Mar 2020
<b>Financial Regulation</b>	s and counter-fraud						
Financial	Annual Fraud				Counter Fraud		
regulations waivers 2018/19	Report 2018/19				progress report		
					Whistleblowing		
					update		
					Regulation of		
					Investigatory		
					Powers Act 2000		
					– annual report		
Risk management							
Information Govern	anco – Data Protocti	on & Freedom of Info	rmation				
Information	ance – Data Protecti	Information	ormation	Information			Information
Governance Action		Governance		Governance			Governance
Plan		Improvement		Action Plan			Action Plan
		Programme –					
		update					
Legal, democratic, c	omplaints						
Local Government	Local Government	Local Government	Local Government	Local Government	Local Government	Local Government	Local Government
Ombudsman	Ombudsman	Ombudsman	Ombudsman	Ombudsman	Ombudsman	Ombudsman	Ombudsman
decisions	decisions	decisions	decisions	decisions	decisions	decisions	decisions

### SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE GOVERNANCE & ETHICS COMMITTEE AGAINST ITS TERMS OF REFERENCE

May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Sep 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Mar 2020
						Revised corporate complaints procedure	Democratic Services staffing structure
Conduct standard							
Review of outside bodies		Use of resources by Councillors - update				Use of resources by Councillors - update	Consideration of response to LGA model member code of conduct (July 2020)
Alleged breaches	of conduct						
Issues from memb	pers' allowances						
	Resources for Education Appeals Panel Members						
Councillors' division	onal funds						
	Update on use of Councillors' Divisional Funds				Update on use of Councillors' Divisional Funds		
Statutory indepen	ident person's recruitr	nent					
Appointment of independent persons – endorsement of appointments			Appointment of independent persons – endorsement of appointment				

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May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Sep 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Mar 2020
Training & develop	ment						
GDPR/information Governance Training		Internal Audit – presentation by Internal Audit & Business Services Centre					
		Institute of Internal Auditors' Guidance for Audit Committees – self-assessment					



15 October 2020

Agenda Item: 9

### **REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

### APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

### Purpose of the Report

- 1. To appoint a new Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 2. To appoint a new Vice-Chairman of the Governance and Ethics Committee.

### Information

- 3. The previous appointment of Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board was made on short notice due to the resignation of the previous Chairman. It is now proposed to appoint Councillor Kevin Rostance as Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board until the annual meeting in 2021.
- 4. It is proposed to appoint Councillor Andy Sissons as Vice-Chairman of the Governance and Ethics Committee until the annual meeting in 2021.

### **Other Options Considered**

5. None

### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

6. The Constitution requires that Full Council appoints the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

### **Financial Implications**

- 8. The position of Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board has a Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) of £23,241 per annum as set out in the Constitution, and provision has been made for this within the annual Democratic Services budget.
- 9. The position of Vice-Chairman of the Governance and Ethics Committee has an SRA of £11,622 per annum as set out in the Constitution and provision has been made for this within the annual Democratic Services budget. Councillor Sissons currently receives an SRA of £8,451 per annum as Vice-Chairman of the County Council. A member can only receive a single allowance, which will be the allowance of the higher amount.

### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1) To appoint Councillor Kevin Rostance as the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board until the annual meeting in 2021.
- 2) To appoint Councillor Andy Sissons as the Vice-Chairman of Governance and Ethics Committee until the annual meeting in 2021.

### Anthony May Chief Executive

### For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Marjorie Toward, Service Director, Customers, Governance and Employees and Monitoring Officer

### Constitutional Comments (HD 2/10/2020)

10. The proposals in this report are within the remit of Full Council.

### Financial Comments (SES 02/10/2020)

11. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this report.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

• Establishment of Committees report – Full Council on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2020 (published)

### Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

• All