

Cabinet

Thursday, 20 July 2023 at 10:30

County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP

AGENDA

- | | | |
|---|--|-----------|
| 1 | Minutes of the last meeting of Cabinet held on 22 June 2023 | 3 - 6 |
| 2 | Apologies for Absence | |
| 3 | Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers:- (see note below) | |
| 4 | Nottinghamshire Annual Plan Report 2022-23 | 7 - 108 |
| 5 | Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Waste Local Plan - Pre-Submission Version | 109 - 314 |
| 6 | Management Accounts 2022-23 | 315 - 342 |
| 7 | Financial Monitoring Report: Period 2 2023/2024 | 343 - 358 |
| 8 | Outcomes of the Scrutiny Review of Council Consultations and Resident Engagement | 359 - 378 |

Notes

- (1) Councillors are advised to contact their Research Officer for details of any Group Meetings which are planned for this meeting.

- (2) 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

- (3) Persons making a declaration of interest should have regard to the Code of Conduct and the Council's Procedure Rules. Those declaring must indicate the nature of their interest and the reasons for the declaration.

Councillors or Officers requiring clarification on whether to make a declaration of interest are invited to contact Sara Allmond (Tel. 0115 977 3794) or a colleague in Democratic Services prior to the meeting.

- (4) Councillors are reminded that Committee and Sub-Committee papers, with the exception of those which contain Exempt or Confidential Information, may be recycled.
- (5) This agenda and its associated reports are available to view online via an online calendar - <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Meetings.aspx>

Meeting CABINET

Date Thursday 22 June 2023 (commencing at 10.30 am)

membership

COUNCILLORS

Ben Bradley MP (Chairman)
Bruce Laughton (Vice-Chairman)

Chris Barnfather
Matt Barney
Neil Clarke MBE
John Cottee
Keith Girling
Richard Jackson - apologies
Tracey Taylor
Gordon Wheeler

OTHER COUNCILLORS IN ATTENDANCE

Deputy Cabinet Members

Reg Adair
Mike Adams
André Camilleri
Scott Carlton
Tom Smith
Jonathan Wheeler

Other Councillors

Jim Creamer
Boyd Elliott
Kate Foale
Mike Pringle
Sam Smith

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Adrian Smith	Chief Executive
Marjorie Toward	Chief Executive's Department
Nigel Stevenson	
Isobel Fleming	
Sara Allmond	
Carl Bilbey	
James McDonnell	

Phil Rostance

Melanie Williams
Jonathan Gribbin

Adult Social Care and Public Health Department

Colin Pettigrew

Children and Families Department

Derek Highton

Place Department

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting of Cabinet held on 25 May 2023, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:-

- Councillor Richard Jackson (other reasons)

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

None

4. KEY DECISION: A614/A6097 IMPROVEMENT SCHEME UPDATE

RESOLVED 2023/018

- 1) To approve the additional financial contribution of up to £5.8m for the A614/A6097 scheme (consisting of Ollerton roundabout, White Post roundabout, Warren Hill junction, Lowdham roundabout and Kirk Hill junction).
- 2) To approve the modification of the A614/A6097 Major Road Network Department for Transport funded corridor improvement package and submission of the Full Business Case to the Department for Transport.
- 3) To approve further detailed design and consultation on an alternative traffic signals junction layout at Mickledale Lane.
- 4) To commit, in principle, to funding a £5m improvement at Mickledale Lane in parallel to Department for Transport funded corridor improvement scheme (subject to detailed design).

5. **KEY DECISION: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE HEALTHY FAMILIES PROGRAMME: 2024 AND BEYOND**

RESOLVED 2023/019

- 1) The design and development of a new contract for delivery of the Nottinghamshire Healthy Families Programme, for a period of up to nine years and based on the indicative costs detailed in the Financial Implications section of this report, be progressed via a co-operation arrangement between the Council and Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (NHFT), subject to the satisfactory and affordable outcome of further negotiation and service design and development activity and following consideration by Cabinet of any recommendations which may be made the Overview Committee.
- 2) To approve the extension of the current Nottinghamshire HFP contract until 30 September 2024.

6. **PROGRESS WITH IMPROVING THE EXPERIENCES AND OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES**

RESOLVED 2023/020

- 1) To note the proposed terms of reference for the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Partnership Improvement Board, attached as appendix A to the report.
- 2) To note the draft SEND improvement plan, attached as appendix B to the report.
- 3) To receive a further update on progress in implementing the improvement plan in six months' time/

7. **INTERIM ROLES TO PROGRESS THE EAST MIDLANDS COMBINED COUNTY AUTHORITY PROPOSALS**

RESOLVED 2023/021

- 1) To approve the establishment of 6 temporary roles and recruitment to the roles as set out in the body of the report to prepare for and ensure government requirements are met for the subsequent creation of EMCCA, subject to the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill receiving royal assent.
- 2) To approve £364,750 from contingency (if applicable) to cover the Council's proportion of financial risk should there be any delay or change to Government capacity funding.

The meeting closed at 11.14 am

CHAIRMAN

**REPORT OF DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR
TRANSFORMATION****NOTTINGHAMSHIRE PLAN ANNUAL REPORT - 2022-23****Purpose of the Report****Information**

2. The purpose of the Annual Report is to enable members, residents and colleagues to see the progress made during 2022-23, against our Annual Delivery Plan and the longer-term ambitions outlined in the Nottinghamshire Plan 2021-2031.
3. The first Annual Report celebrated our achievements and progress during 2021-22. This focussed on success stories and has been viewed 1,263 times from the Council Plan web page.
4. As we continue to embed our approach to reporting against the Annual Delivery Plan, the 2022-23 report has been developed to include the following elements:
 - a. **Individual action updates:** with narrative including impact for completed actions/next steps if actions are ongoing or incomplete.
 - b. **Performance indicator update:** on measures that help track change over time against overarching objectives. The measures are not directly tied to actions in every case, and whilst the data includes the most recent available at the end of March 2023, in some instances there may be a delay in previous financial year's figures becoming available, therefore the most recent figure available is included.
 - c. **Success stories** to bring to life what has gone well in previous year, with testimonies from both internal and external stakeholders.
5. The Council has made progress against the actions outlined in our 2022/23 Annual Delivery Plan. This is detailed in the Executive Summary and full Annual Report. The following are just a few of the achievements:
 - a) **We have continued to improve the road, transport and broadband connections across the county.** We know that there are still challenges when it comes to our highways, but our **Highways Improvement Programme** is being delivered. This is seeing us move away from short-term maintenance to roads and has enabled us to publish a longer-term programme of work so people know what is planned in their area and how it will impact them. We have secured **£30m of additional funding to enable us to support improvements to bus**

services and to enable us to protect a number of at-risk bus services, highly valued by the communities they serve. During 2022-23, we also successfully trialled a **demand responsive bus service called Nottsbus On Demand**. Feedback has been positive, and we will be rolling this out in other areas of the county. We have also delivered major improvements to the road network, including the successful opening of **Colliery Way, in Gedling**.

- b) **We have supported people to live healthier and more active lives.** The Integrated Wellbeing Service has provided support to residents in meeting their health & wellbeing goals, including: 1,300 people who have stopped smoking which contributes to a long-term downward trajectory in the number of people experiencing harm from tobacco; over 1,200 people have reduced their alcohol consumption; 1,300 people have become more physically active and over 2,000 people have reduced their weight. The service has also supported 5,333 people with long term physical or mental health conditions during 2022/23.
- c) **We are leading the way in our work to ensure the voices and views of people accessing our services are heard and are at the heart of what we do and how we do it.** In particular, our Adult Social Care and Health department has made considerable progress in this area, publishing a plan for working with people called [Better Together](#). Recently, colleagues from Adult Social Care and Health have been undertaking a '[Big Conversation](#)' and have listened to people to understand how well we support them to have a good life. One of the key themes emerging from this was how carers really feel and this will help to shape the support carers will receive in the future as will our joint Carers Strategy 2023-2028, which was co-produced with carers and with health partners and the City Council. The Big Conversation [report](#) has now been published and we will use it to drive continuous improvement in our adult social care services. We have also successfully **enabled more people to live independently in their own homes** – we have achieved this by continuing to invest in our Maximising Independence Service and have therefore reduced the number of people needing long term adult social care services. As a result, only six per cent of people who received help from this service between April and June 2023 went on to need longer-term support. We have also invested to stabilise the home care market in the county and have seen an increase of 10.25 per cent in the home care hours commissioned, from 23,820 in 2022 to 26,569 in 2023.
- d) Unlike many local authorities, our relatively stable financial position means that we have **continued to invest in services, like Children's Centres and the Young People's Service**, that help children get the best start in life, support parents, give young people safe places to go and that identify needs early and prevent them getting worse. Building on our current Children's Centre offer, we are **introducing new family hub networks across the County**, designed and delivered with partners, communities and families. Our first family hub has launched in Retford in April 2023, and we are committed to increase the number of family hubs across the County over the next 12 months. During 2022-23, **our Young People's Service supported 12,623 individual young people** to engage in a range of fun, safe and high-quality positive activities, and opportunities with a trusted youth worker.
- e) **We have continued to improve the number of primary school children who get their first choice of school.** In 2022, 96.5 per cent of primary school children got their first choice (compared to 93.4 per cent in 2021) We have achieved this by **investing £26.6m in new schools and expanding existing school's capacity**, with new primary schools opening in Bingham and East Leake. **We have also expanded schools to provide additional school**

places for young people with special educational needs and disabilities, with capacity added at Newark Orchard Special School and Derrymount Special School for the autumn term in 2022. In addition, a partnership between King Edward Primary and Stubbin Woods Special School has provided additional primary specialist places. This activity continues for coming years with planning consent being received in June 2023 for a new primary school at Gateford Park in Worksop to open in September 2024. In principle support has also been given to a new school for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities at Ravensdale in Mansfield. Together with other smaller projects they represent almost **300 additional places for children with additional needs**, the equivalent of three new Special Schools.

- f) We are **investing in increasing apprenticeship, graduate development, traineeship and intern opportunities with the Council and providing learning, development and support for all colleagues**, to improve access to employment for a wider range of people and ensure the Council has the skills it needs now and for the future. We're proud that a job with the Council is now guaranteed after successful completion of graduate and apprenticeship training.
 - g) **We are a strong and resilient Council**. We delivered a **balanced budget** for 2022/23, without the need for the maximum allowable Council Tax increase. We remain focussed on getting the maximum value for the people and communities of Nottinghamshire for every £ we spend. All Councils are the subject of external audit. In our most recent audit, we received a **positive value for money judgement** from our external auditors. During 2022/23, we have successfully **introduced a new Cabinet system of governance**, to improve how we make decisions and to create clearer lines of responsibility and accountability.
 - h) Our relatively stable financial position, strong governance model and committed workforce, mean we are able to invest more in the longer-term transformation of what and how we deliver for the people and communities of Nottinghamshire. Our **corporate and collective commitment to transformation** has supported the delivery of many of the key achievements highlighted in the report.
6. To ensure the Annual Report is visible to residents, [The Nottinghamshire Plan website](#) will be updated. Members are encouraged to share this with their communities.

Other Options Considered

- 7. The other option considered was not to produce a report, however this has been discounted on the grounds that this would impact on transparency for residents, the ability to monitor progress against ambitions and the Council's ability to demonstrate value for money.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

- 8. To publish this public-facing report so that residents, partners and colleagues are collectively able to see the progress made against the publicly stated ambitions in the Nottinghamshire Plan 2021-31 and 2022/23 Annual Delivery Plan.

Statutory and Policy Implications

9. 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

10. The costs of developing and publishing this Annual Report can be met within existing budgets.

Crime and Disorder Implications

11. The Annual Report highlights how the Council has taken action to protect people and communities from crime and disorder. In particular, through our Trading Standards service, which prevents and supports the victims of doorstep crime, scams, fraud and the sale of illegal or potentially harmful products, through our continued involvement with the Safer Nottinghamshire Board and through our ongoing partnership work to prevent youth offending and reoffending and protect young people and vulnerable adults from exploitation and abuse. The Annual Report enables residents to be aware of progress made in relation to these actions.

Data Protection and Information Governance

12. An outline DPIA was completed and submitted to the Information Governance Team who confirmed a detailed DPIA is not required. No names or information identifying individuals are included in the report, and consent has been obtained from persons whose image appears in it.

Public Sector Equality Duty implications

13. A number of actions within the Annual Delivery Plan potentially have a positive impact on people with protected characteristics. The Annual Report will enable residents to monitor progress on these actions.

Smarter Working Implications

14. As part of the Council's considerations for smarter working, actions within the 2022-23 Plan that would further embed a hybrid working approach were within ambition 9. Publication of the Annual Report will enable residents to monitor progress made against these actions.

Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk Implications

15. Ambition Three (Keeping children, vulnerable adults and communities safe) within the 2022-23 Annual Delivery Plan includes a number of actions to continue to improve how we support and safeguard children, families and adults at risk. Publication of the Annual Report will enable residents to monitor progress made against these actions.

Implications for Residents

16. The Annual Delivery Plan for 2022-23 outlined the steps to be taken to ensure a 'healthy, prosperous and greener future for everyone'. Publication of the Annual Report will enable residents to monitor progress made against these steps.

Implications for Sustainability and the Environment

17. One of the primary ambitions from The Nottinghamshire Plan is to protect the environment and reduce our carbon footprint (ambition 9). Publication of the Annual Report will enable residents to monitor progress made against this ambition.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1) That Cabinet approves the 2022/23 Annual Report, and executive summary, for publication and dissemination.

COUNCILLOR BRUCE LAUGHTON
DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSFORMATION

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Dr Isobel Fleming, Service Director Transformation and Change 0115 854 6184

Constitutional Comments

Cabinet has the authority to consider the report and recommendations. [CEH 23.06.2023]

Financial Comments

As set out in the report the costs of developing and publishing this Annual Report will be met within existing budgets. (KRP 23/06/23)

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.

Background Papers

- [Annual Report 2020-21](#) published
- [Annual Delivery Plan 2022-23](#) published

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All

Nottinghamshire County Council

Executive Summary

2022 to 2023



Healthy

Prosperous

Green

Introduction from the leader

In November 2021 we launched [The Nottinghamshire Plan](#), which sets out the county council's 10-year vision for a healthy, prosperous and greener future for everyone. The Plan made clear the mechanisms we would use to monitor our progress, including an Annual Report that details what we have achieved in the last year, to meet the needs of Nottinghamshire residents.

Now into the second year of the Plan, we remain committed to improving the quality of life in Nottinghamshire and levelling up chances across the county. Within the last year alone, we've opened new primary schools to ensure a school place for every child, taken steps to support the social care market to improve its quality and sustainability, and delivered a range of activities to ensure a "right first time" approach to our road repairs and highways maintenance.

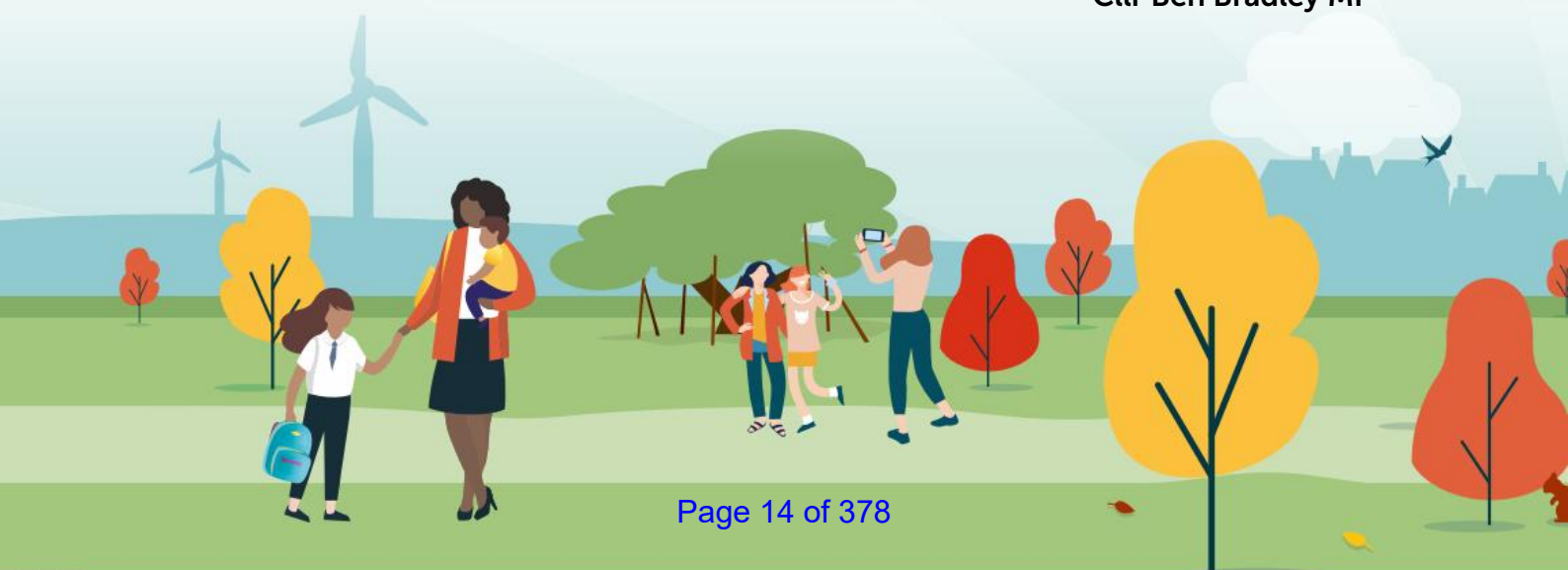
We want to do everything we can to support our communities and so I am committed to championing Nottinghamshire and listening to and working with our residents and partners, to ensure our county is the best it can be for all of us.

We are always looking to the future and finding ways we can deliver the best for Nottinghamshire's communities, whilst ensuring value for money. You can read more about our plans for 2023/24 in our new [Annual Delivery Plan](#).

However, it is important that we continue to take the time to reflect on the progress we are making towards achieving our ambitions and to celebrate what has gone well during the last 12 months. This document provides a summary of what we have delivered, working together as one council, during 2022-23. For more information you can read the more detailed Annual Report for 2022-23.



Cllr Ben Bradley MP



Achievements and impact

Our achievements for 2022-23 span the full range of ambitions outlined in the Nottinghamshire Plan.



We are a strong and resilient council. We delivered a **balanced budget** for 2022/23, without the need for the maximum allowable Council Tax increase. We remain focused on getting the maximum value for the people and communities of Nottinghamshire for every pound we spend. All councils are the subject of an external audit. In our most recent audit, we received a **positive value for money judgement** from our external auditors. During 2022/23, we have successfully **introduced a new cabinet system of governance**, to improve how we make decisions and to create clearer lines of responsibility and accountability.



We are investing in increasing apprenticeship, graduate development, traineeship and intern opportunities with the council and providing learning, development and support for all colleagues, to improve access to employment for a wider range of people and ensure the council has the skills it needs now and for the future. We're proud that a job with the council is now guaranteed after successful completion of graduate and apprenticeship training.





Our relatively stable financial position, strong governance model and committed workforce, mean we are able to invest more in the longer-term transformation of what and how we deliver for the people and communities of Nottinghamshire. Our corporate and collective commitment to transformation has supported the delivery of many of the key achievements highlighted in this report.



We have worked with partners to bring major investment to Nottinghamshire.

This will create high-quality and sustainable jobs for the people who live here, ensure people have the education, training and skills to enable them to access the opportunities this creates and create a thriving economy. During 2022, we worked with other local authorities and partners in Nottingham City, Derbyshire and Derby City to successfully secure a **devolution deal**. This will attract over £1billion of investment into the region.



We have also worked with partners to bring **STEP Fusion technology** to the county. West Burton in Bassetlaw was selected as the home of the government's ambitious STEP fusion energy programme, underpinning an industry expected to be worth billions to the UK economy. Fusion promises to be a safe, low carbon and sustainable part of the world's energy supply with potential to help sustain net zero in the future. It offers massive opportunities for Nottinghamshire and the wider region over the coming decades, and will bring clean, green energy to the UK in a world first, along with high skilled jobs for local people, and large-scale infrastructure investment.



In the south of Nottinghamshire, work continues to maximise the opportunities offered through **the East Midlands Freeport (EMF)**, the only inland freeport, and the East Midlands Development Corporation, delivering initiatives to drive green economic growth and jobs.



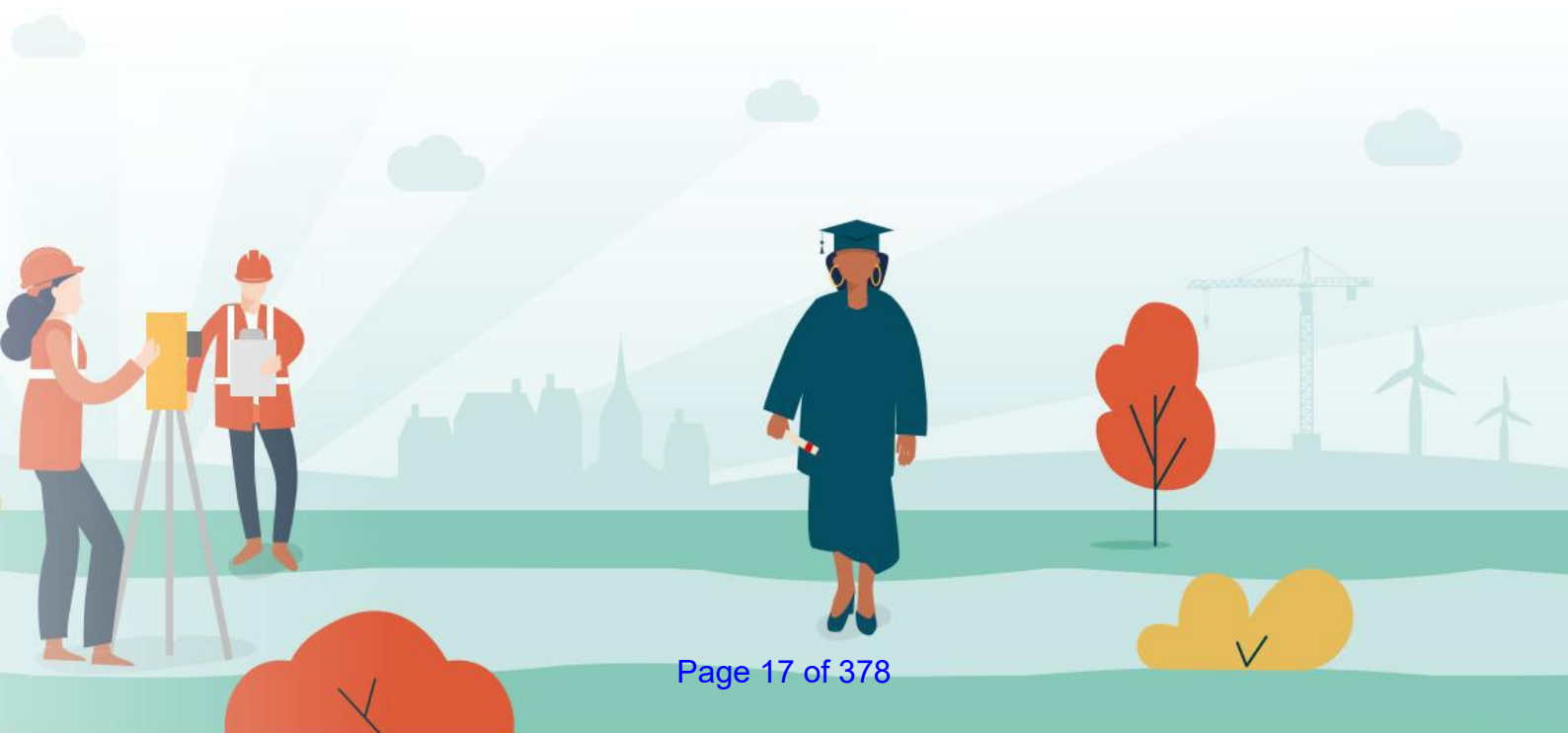
Major events, like the **Tour of Britain, Nottinghamshire Day and the Newark Show**, attract visitors to the county and boost the local economy. In September 2022, the world-famous Tour of Britain returned to the county for the first time in four years, with the race travelling from West Bridgford to Mansfield. The showpiece cycle race generated £4.34m in net visitor expenditure for Nottinghamshire's economy – with an impressive 225,000 fans lining the 186.8km (116m) route. The race will be returning to Nottinghamshire again later this year.



We have continued to improve the road, transport and broadband connections across the county. We know that there are still challenges when it comes to our highways, but our **Highways Improvement Programme** is being delivered. This is seeing us move away from short-term maintenance to roads and has enabled us to publish a longer-term programme of work so people know what is planned in their area and how it will impact them. We have secured **£30m of additional funding to enable us to support improvements to bus services** and to enable us to protect a number of at-risk bus services, highly valued by the communities they serve. During 2022-23, we also successfully trialled **a demand responsive bus service called Nottsbus On Demand.** Feedback has been positive, and we will be rolling this out in other areas of the county. We have also delivered major improvements to the road network, including the successful opening of **Colliery Way, in Gedling.**



We are investing in major development projects, with major sites such as **Top Wighay near Hucknall** including exciting plans for a new energy efficient council office. Alongside this we're considering options for the future use of the iconic County Hall building in West Bridgford – aimed at reducing costs to the taxpayer whilst realising our net zero aspirations. **The Lindhurst development at Berry Hill in Mansfield,** is a £250 million 480-acre site, which will provide new homes and jobs for the area. It is being built on land part-owned by Nottinghamshire County Council and will feature up to **1,700 new homes**, including 170 affordable homes.





We have reduced our greenhouse gas emissions. Between 2019/20 and 2022/23 we have reduced our day-to-day CO2 emissions by 32 per cent by upgrading our street lights for more efficient LED versions, changing how we use our buildings, investing in energy efficiency measures and working in a hybrid way. In addition, thanks to our first class household waste and recycling services, we divert 95 per cent of the domestic waste produced in the county away from landfill.



We have supported people, places and communities, responding to the impacts of cost-of-living increases, and have welcomed families displaced by the Ukraine invasion. During 2023-23, we have successfully delivered over £11million of household support funding to over 40,000 households. We have also supported over 1,000 Ukrainian refugees into accommodation with around 300 Nottinghamshire host families as part of the Homes for Ukraine scheme, and this work will continue into the current year. Our wider Local Communities Fund awarded almost £1.2million to over 90 voluntary and community groups in 2022/23 and supported 110 young talented athletes to develop their elite sporting skills. We also awarded £500,000 of capital funding to 54 local community groups to help them improve local facilities for residents. In addition, over 100 community groups shared £250,000 to help them support people to manage with energy and food costs.



We have worked hard to get people access to their NHS flu vaccination, so that those people most vulnerable to the ill-effects of flu stay can safe and well over winter. This year, we vaccinated 1,896 of our frontline staff to help protect them and the vulnerable people that they support. We have also promoted the national flu immunisation programme by targeting pregnant women from areas and communities where vaccination rates were low. Our social media campaign successfully reached over 40,000 people in communities where English is not the first language.



We have increased the hours of support people receive at home through homecare services, and have helped people to access our adult and social care services closer to where they live. Our strengths-based practice approach builds on individuals' independence, resilience and ability to make choices and their skills to help them to live the best life they can, whilst reducing reliance on long-term care. Between September 2022 and March 2023, the number of people connected to a community group or the voluntary sector as part of their support offer increased by 32 per cent.



A real example of how a strengths-based approach makes a difference:

“Ms R lives alone and was referred to social care for care and support after being in hospital. Through conversation it was established that Ms R’s main need was for support with shopping. The worker liaised with Ms R’s preferred local supermarket and because she was unable to do her shopping online, came to an arrangement with staff there that she could order her shopping via a telephone call, which she felt confident with. This maintained Ms R’s choice, control and independence and meant she did not need to rely on social care support”.



We have supported people to live healthier and more active lives. The Integrated Wellbeing Service has provided support to residents in meeting their health and wellbeing goals, including: helping 1,300 people to stop smoking, which contributes to a long-term downward trajectory in the number of people experiencing harm from tobacco; helping over 1,200 people to reduce their alcohol consumption; supporting 1,300 people to become more physically active and helping over 2,000 people to reduced their weight. The service has also supported 5,333 people with long term physical or mental health conditions during 2022/23.



We are leading the way in our work to ensure the voices and views of people accessing our services are heard and are at the heart of what we do and how we do it. In particular, our Adult Social Care and Health department has made considerable progress in this area, publishing a plan for working with people called **Better Together**. Recently, colleagues from Adult Social Care and Health have been undertaking a ‘**Big Conversation**’ and have listened to people to understand how well we support them to have a good life. One of the key themes emerging from this was how carers really feel and this will help to shape the support carers will receive in the future as will our joint Carers Strategy 2023-2028, which was co-produced with carers and with health partners and the City Council. The Big Conversation **report** has now been published and we will use it to drive continuous improvement in our adult social care services.





We have successfully **enabled more people to live independently in their own homes** – we have achieved this by continuing to invest in our Maximising Independence Service and have therefore reduced the number of people needing long term adult social care services. As a result, only six per cent of people who received help from this service between April and June 2023 went on to need longer-term support. We have also invested to stabilise the home care market in the county and have seen an increase of 10.25 per cent in the home care hours commissioned, from 23,820 in 2022 to 26,569 in 2023.



We are working with partners to increase the number of people being discharged from hospital to their home first time and reducing the time it takes to do this. To achieve this, we are leading the way in establishing collaborative multi-disciplinary transfer of care hubs in all three acute hospitals. Since October 2022, we have increased the number of people who left hospital with social care support to recover.



We are improving the help available to people struggling with their mental health and wellbeing, or who are at risk of self-harm and suicide, and we have continued to improve the support available to ensure children and young people can access early help and support to meet their emotional and wellbeing needs. We have seen a 35 per cent increase in Mental Health Act assessments in the last 12 months and we are **working with partners to integrate and co-locate services** for adults requiring mental health support, so that we are able to work together to prevent crises and provide early, effective support. **We are upskilling the workforce** to ensure they are able to make every contact count in addressing the mental health and wellbeing needs of the people they support. From January to May 2023, there were over 800 attendances at training from a wide range of organisations operating within the county, which improved the skills and confidence of the workforce in identifying and responding to poor mental health, risk of suicide, self-harm and suicide bereavement. **We continue to invest in Mental Health Support Teams in schools.** Currently, pupils in 120 school across the county can access this support and by 2025 this will increase to 180.





In 2022/23, **we have worked with partners to support around 3,300 survivors of domestic abuse and have** supported over 3,000 calls to the locally funded domestic abuse helpline: an increase of 31 per cent on the previous year. We have also established a Domestic Abuse Partnership Board to bring leaders together to reduce the prevalence of domestic abuse, improving the lives of women, men and children affected by abuse.



Our relatively stable financial position means that we have **continued to invest in services, like children's centres and young people's services**, that help children get the best start in life, support parents, give young people safe places to go and that identify needs early and prevent them getting worse. Building on our current children's centre offer, we are **introducing new family hub networks across the county**, designed and delivered with partners, communities and families. Our first family hub has launched in Retford in April 2023, and we are committed to increasing the number of family hubs across the county over the next year. During 2022-23, **our Young People's Service supported 12,623 individual young people** to engage in a range of fun, safe and high-quality positive activities and opportunities with a trusted youth worker.



We have enabled more eligible families to access funded childcare, so that parents can return to work, education or access training whilst their children can attend school. 84 per cent of eligible two-year-olds accessed this offer. This is the highest in the East Midlands region, and is above the national average. 100 per cent of the funded places for four-year-olds and 93 per cent of places for three-year-olds were taken up.





We have continued to improve the number of primary school children who get their first choice of school. In 2022, 96.5 per cent of primary school children got their first choice (compared to 93.4 per cent in 2021) We have achieved this by **investing £26.6m in new schools and expanding existing school's capacity**, with new primary schools opening in Bingham and East Leake. **We have also expanded schools to provide additional school places for young people with special educational needs and disabilities**, with capacity added at Newark Orchard Special School and Derrymount Special School for the autumn term in 2022. In addition, a partnership between King Edward Primary and Stubbin Woods Special School has provided additional primary specialist places. This activity continues for coming years with planning consent being received in June 2023 for a new primary school at Gateford Park in Worksop to open in September 2024 and in principle support has been given to a new school for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities at Ravensdale in Mansfield. Together with other smaller projects they represent almost **300 additional places for children with additional needs**, the equivalent of three new Special Schools.



We have piloted new and innovative ways of working, to improve the support we offer to children in need of help and protection, and their families. The early signs are promising. Families who have been supported by our new Family Support and Safeguarding Team in Newark are more likely to sustain the positive changes they achieve as a result of our support. Families have received additional support to address domestic abuse, substance misuse and mental health. In 2020-21, 17.5 per cent of children were subject of a second or subsequent child protection plan within two years. In 2022-23, this had reduced to 10.8 per cent.



We are supporting more children to stay safely at home with their families, avoiding the need for local authority care. Bringing together colleagues from across the partnership to think creatively about the help and support that will achieve this (our Creative Solutions Panel) has helped to safely avoid admissions to care. The panel has supported children or sibling groups and has successfully helped to avoid a significant proportion of them being taken into care

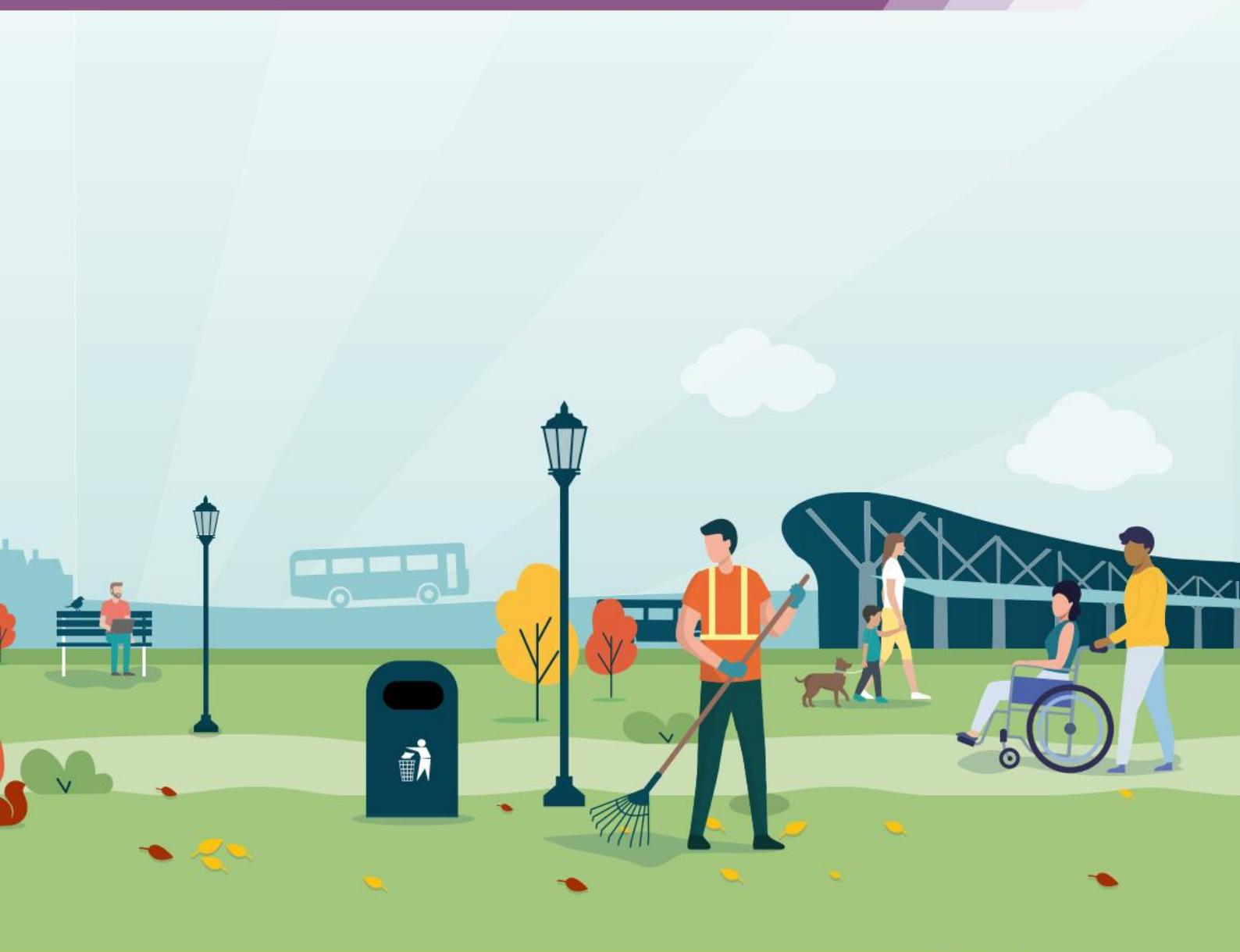


We have invested in support and services to help children in care to live in safe, stable and caring family homes, giving them the right environment to learn, achieve and aspire for the future. We have established a kinship care service so that where children cannot be cared for safely by their immediate family, we have the support in place to help their wider family network to step up to care for them. We have also increased what we pay to our foster carers, so that more children can benefit from the great care that a stable foster home and family can offer. We believe that a safe, stable and caring home environment is one of the critical factors that helps our children and young people to achieve great things. We are incredibly proud of the achievements of young people leaving our care, with 36 care leavers attending university in September 2022.



This document highlights the key areas of progress for Nottinghamshire County Council during 2022/23. You can read the full 2022/23 Annual Report for more detail.

We are proud of our achievements, but the council remains committed to realising our Nottinghamshire Plan vision, for a healthy, prosperous and greener county. To continue to drive and deliver this commitment, we have already published an ambitious [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023/24.](#)



To find out what we've got planned for 2023/24
plan.nottinghamshire.gov.uk

Nottinghamshire County Council Annual Report

2022 to 2023



Healthy

Prosperous

Green



Welcome to our Annual Report 2022-23

In November 2021 we launched [The Nottinghamshire Plan](#), which sets out the County Council's 10-year vision for a healthy, prosperous and greener future for everyone. The Plan made clear the mechanisms we would use to monitor our progress, including an Annual Report that details what we have achieved in the last year, to meet the needs of Nottinghamshire's residents.

Now into the second year of the Plan, we remain committed to improving the quality of life in Nottinghamshire and levelling up chances across the County. Within the last year alone, we've opened new primary schools to ensure a school place for every child, taken steps to support the social care market to improve its quality and sustainability, and delivered a range of activities to ensure a "right first time" approach to our road repairs and highways maintenance.

We want to do everything we can to support our communities and so I am committed to championing Nottinghamshire and listening to and working with our residents and partners, to ensure our County is the best it can be for all of us.

We are continually looking to the future and finding ways we can deliver the best for Nottinghamshire's communities, whilst ensuring value for money. You can read more about our plans for 2023/24 in our new [Annual Delivery Plan](#).

However, it is important that we continue to take the time to reflect on the progress we are making towards achieving our ambitions and to celebrate what has gone well during the last 12 months. This Annual Report therefore provides a detailed account of what we have delivered, working together as one Council, during 2022-23.



Cllr Ben Bradley MP

Measuring our progress

The Nottinghamshire Plan 2021-31 sets out our 10-year vision for a healthy, prosperous and greener future for everyone. We've split our vision into ten ambitions which provide a framework for all Council activity:

- **Helping our people live healthier, more independent lives**
- **Supporting communities and families**
- **Keeping children, vulnerable adults, and communities safe**
- **Building skills that help people to get good local jobs**
- **Strengthening businesses and creating more good-quality jobs**
- **Making Nottinghamshire somewhere people love to live, work and visit**
- **Attracting investment in infrastructure, the economy, and green growth**
- **Improving transport and digital connections**
- **Protecting the environment and reducing our carbon footprint**
- **A forward looking and resilient Council.**

Each year we will produce an Annual Delivery Plan that sets out what we will do that year to work towards these ambitions and, at the end of each year, an Annual Report which assesses our progress. This is the second Annual Report to describe our successes and achievements under these ambitions.

We will also continue to use data evidence to monitor how quickly we are moving towards achieving our ambitions, which is why we have selected some key indicators to help us understand our progress.

NB: For this year's Report, in some instances baseline data may differ from that which was previously published in the Annual Delivery Plan 2022/23. This is due to more accurate annual data being made available since its initial publication.



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Nottinghamshire today



Population & Demographics

- The population of the County is **824,800**, which is expected to grow by **10%** by 2034, to **908,000**
- The population aged **over 65** is expected to grow by **30%** by 2034 – an extra **53,000** people

Deprivation & Life Expectancy

- **31 neighbourhoods** in Notts fall within the **top 10%** most deprived neighbourhoods in England
- People in the most disadvantaged areas of the County have lives that are on average **7 years shorter** than those living in the least disadvantaged areas



Earnings & Education

- The median gross weekly pay of full-time workers by residence in Notts is **£599.40**, which is below the figure for England of **£645.80**
- In 2021, **33%** of the working age population in Nottinghamshire were qualified to at least **Level 4 or higher**, compared to **43%** for England

Transport & Digital Connections

- **99%** of Nottinghamshire homes and businesses can access a superfast broadband service
- There is over **4,000 kilometres** of road across the County



Nature & Environment

- There are **over 1,400** local wildlife sites across Nottinghamshire
- Between 2011 and 2021, CO2 emissions in Nottinghamshire reduced by **15%** – this is less than the reduction achieved in England over the same period (**26%**)

Local Satisfaction Levels

- In 2022, **70.5%** of residents who responded to our budget consultation were positive about their local area as a place to live
- **46%** of respondents indicated being satisfied with the way Nottinghamshire County Council runs things, **26.6%** were neither satisfied or dissatisfied, whilst only **26.4%** gave a negative response, and **1%** didn't know



Ambition 1: Helping our people live healthier and more independent lives

We know health and wellbeing is essential for everyone and helps our County to grow and flourish. But people's health and wellbeing varies across Nottinghamshire. Our ambition is that people in every community enjoy healthier, happier lives and remain independent for longer. Specifically, The Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- Use our influence to create healthy and sustainable places
- Give our children the best start in life
- Promote good mental health and wellbeing for everyone
- Support individuals to improve their health and wellbeing
- Support people to live independently in their own homes for longer
- Create homes in which everyone can live and age well
- Strengthen partnership working across the local health and care system
- Protect people from existing and emerging threats to health.

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action		Progress and Impact
1.1	Launch the Nottinghamshire Food Charter, make Nottinghamshire a Sustainable Food Place and develop a food action plan to address the causes of food poverty and to improve the local food environment and food system for better health and wellbeing, environmental and economic outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Food Charter has been published on new County Council webpages which describe the work in relation to food, health and the environment, with particular emphasis on food insecurity. The Nottinghamshire Sustainable Food Network has been formed and partners from community groups, district and borough councils, universities, and the County Council met in a workshop at Brooke Farm in March 2023 to plan the refresh of the food action plan.
1.2	Develop and deliver a housing strategy for Nottinghamshire with our district partners, recognising the importance of good, safe, environmentally sustainable and affordable housing for healthier and more independent lives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A draft housing strategy has been completed with the involvement and co-operation of various services across the County Council. It has been agreed for the purpose of wider public and stakeholder consultation, with the District Councils having been briefed on the purpose and the consultation timetable for the Strategy. Following the consultation period and consideration of responses received, the Strategy will be amended as needed and then submitted to Cabinet for final endorsement. Further work will take place in 2023/24 concerning an Action Plan and arrangements for monitoring and overview of its implementation.
1.3	Work with partners to publish the County's 'best start for life' offer for prospective parents, expectant parents and for families with children up to their first 1,001 Days, also establishing a new team to help parents to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The publication of Nottinghamshire's Best Start Offer is currently in development, linked to the implementation of Family Hubs (currently in a pilot phase). A partnership approach is being taken to both the development and publication of the offer, underpinned by the Nottinghamshire Best Start Partnership Group. Co-production is taking place with parents and the Maternity Voices Partnership (currently in Bassetlaw), to help shape the Offer to meet the needs of expectant parents and new parents.

Action		Progress and Impact
	build good relationships and strong attachments with their babies. This will support parents/carers to provide a healthy and nurturing environment, so that children are able to thrive and develop with their families.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new parent/infant relationship intervention for families has been incorporated into the Nottinghamshire Healthy Families Programme. This intervention is underpinned by a holistic assessment undertaken by a Specialist Public Health Practitioner. • An evaluation of the intervention is underway, with initial findings expected in the Autumn of 2023.
1.4	Establish Local Area Coordinators to develop the personal strengths of those needing support to enable them to find it in their own community. Coordinators will work alongside community and voluntary sector partners to help people achieve good lives through increased and sustained independence, reduced social isolation and increased opportunity, and preventing more costly interventions later on.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five Local Area Coordinators are now in post and commenced their work in October 2022, with staggered start dates across five different localities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Bassetlaw – Harworth and Bircotes ◦ Gedling – Killisick ◦ Mansfield – Bellamy Road, Oaktree, Ravensdale ◦ Newark and Sherwood - Southwell, Laxton, Fernwood, Collingham, Coddington, Brough and Winthorpe ◦ Rushcliffe – Radcliffe on Trent/East Bridgford. • The Local Area Coordinators commenced walking alongside 88 Nottinghamshire residents, helping them to achieve their aims for a good life. Support has varied from supporting residents to access education opportunities, providing guidance about services across the county and supporting the older members of the community to continue to feel safe and able to stay in their own homes. • The aims of Local Area Coordinators is to walk alongside approximately 60 residents at any one time, so with the five current Local Area Coordinators in place, the aim is to have this level of support for at least 300 residents at any one time. • As part of the work, the local area coordinators have built relationships with partner organisations in their localities to better understand the profile of the communities in which they are based.
1.5	Adopt a new integrated, person-centred and needs-led model of delivery for mental health services for children, young people and their families (THRIVE). This will ensure we talk about mental health and help and support in a common language that everyone understands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nottingham and Nottinghamshire's Children and Young People's Local Transformation Plan has been updated to reflect the THRIVE Framework. This has enabled all system partners to have an improved understanding of I-THRIVE and what approach may be best suited to meet Children and Young People's needs.
1.6	Establish a Substance Misuse Partnership Board and develop a local Substance Misuse Strategy , in alignment with the new national Harm to Hope Strategy. This will reduce the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nottinghamshire Combating Substance Misuse Partnership was established in October 2022. • The Local Substance Misuse Strategy and Delivery Plan was approved by Cabinet in March 2023. • A subgroup for each of the four priorities has been established and include (1) Break drug supply chains; 2) Deliver a world-class treatment and recovery system; 3) Achieve a generational shift in demand for drugs; 4)

Action		Progress and Impact
	harm to health and deliver better treatment and recovery programmes for people in need.	<p>Bigger Picture: Reducing Health Inequalities and Tackling Wider Determinants, plus three criminal justice subgroups covering custody, prisons and courts. Government grants have already been received for Priority 2 and have been used to improve access and scope of services for substance users- drugs and alcohol.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The next Partnership meeting in July will be a workshop around dual diagnosis of substance use and mental health.
1.7	Undertake a COVID Impact Assessment to understand the impacts of the pandemic and the needs of our residents of all ages in the future. This will inform what services we deliver in future, how we deliver them and will address the inequalities amongst our communities that have been exacerbated by the pandemic, especially for children and young people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A phased approach to this work has been undertaken with eight areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Direct Impact of Covid-19 – A report on Long COVID will be presented at July Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) 2) Domestic Abuse – Report presented at HWB in December 2022. 3) Mental Health and Wellbeing – Report presented at HWB in February 2023. 4) Behavioural risk factors – Report presented at HWB in March 2023. 5) Life Expectancy and Healthy Life Expectancy – This will be part of a report presented at HWB in July 2023. 6) Pregnancy and childbirth (including Early Years) – A report will be presented at HWB in May 2023. 7) Social determinants of health – A report will be presented at HWB in July 2023. 8) Healthy and Sustainable Places (including air quality and food insecurity)- A report will be presented at HWB in July 2023. Remaining Phase reports are planned to be delivered to either May or July HWB. July HWB will represent the culmination of the COVID Impact Assessment, with ongoing monitoring of recommendations by HWB.
1.8	Establish a new Health Protection Board to provide assurances on the arrangements and outcomes for the protection of the health of residents in Nottinghamshire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The joint Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Health Protection Board was established in February 2022. It is a multi-agency partnership group chaired by the two directors of public health, designed to provide assurance on health protection arrangements across the Integrated Care System footprint. A programme of meetings over the last year has reviewed health protection outcomes across sexual health, communicable disease, vaccinations and immunisations, environmental hazards, screening programmes, pollution and emergency planning.
1.9	Develop a CLEAR Process for Tobacco Control to ensure we are using the most effective methods and actions to reduce harm from tobacco. We will also work with schools to deliver INTENT, a smoking prevention programme, across secondary schools across the County which has been shown to reduce smoking uptake among young people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Health and Wellbeing Board have agreed and signed up to the following Vision for Smoking and Tobacco Control: 'To work with our local partners to create a smokefree generation for all communities in Nottinghamshire by 2040' The Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Smoking & Tobacco Control Strategic Alliance has adopted the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) MPOWER model which takes a whole system approach. The Alliance has used the CleaR model (Challenge, Leadership Results) – an evidence-based improvement model which helps to develop local action to reduce smoking prevalence and the use of tobacco.

Action		Progress and Impact
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CleaR process highlighted several areas for improvement which have informed the development of a Nottingham & Nottinghamshire Smoking & Tobacco Control delivery plan. Four delivery themes have been identified including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helping vulnerable groups to quit smoking Effective regulation of tobacco products Reducing exposure to second-hand smoke Prevention & Engagement with children and young people In addition, there are 3 cross cutting themes including multi-agency partnership working, effective communication, and improving the understanding of vaping/e- cigarettes. Task and Finish groups have been established to work on the 4 Delivery themes. 12 schools are participating in the INTENT programme (Smoking Prevention in Secondary Schools) this academic year 2022/23. Intent now includes additional lessons on e-cigarettes/vaping, with our Trading Standards service targeting businesses selling age restricted products, with a particular emphasis on vapes and tobacco. The aim is to reduce the selling of vapes to minors.
1.10	Work with partners to develop improved mental health support for adults and older adults in the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional management, trainee Approved Mental Health Professionals (AMHPs) and reablement community care officers are now in place and have added capacity to allow us to provide a timelier response to requests for support. Referrals have increased by 160%. This is positive as it demonstrates the demand for mental health reablement which continues to grow – this improves people’s mental health and opportunities to improve their skills for independent living. Feedback from other professionals has been positive and this will help develop a reablement alternative to detention.
1.11	Publish a Carers Strategy which will set out what we will do together to improve the health and wellbeing of carers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The joint all-age carers strategy was approved by Cabinet in March 2023 and by the Integrated Care System and Nottingham City Council in December 2022. An implementation plan is currently being coproduced with carers to ensure the detail within the strategy is actioned.

Actions we said we would ‘continue to’ do:

Action		Progress and Impact
1.12	Work with partners, as a member of the Health and Wellbeing Board, to understand	<p>Smoking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See action 1.09 above for progress and impact.

Action	Progress and Impact
<p>the health needs of Nottinghamshire's communities. We will develop joint action plans to reduce the harms to health of smoking/alcohol/obesity, promote good oral, sexual, physical and mental.</p>	<p><u>Alcohol</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Substance Misuse Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and a Health Needs Assessment have been undertaken to understand the needs of Nottinghamshire population around alcohol and drugs. • The Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Alcohol Clinical Pathways Group name has been changed to Alcohol Harm Reduction Group, with terms of reference changed to reflect the more preventative and wider determinants approach. • A revised Alcohol Action Plan is being developed. • National Grants from Government From Harm to Hope Strategy have been used to improve access, scope and quality of alcohol treatment and recovery services. Next Nottinghamshire Substance Misuse Partnership meeting in July will be a workshop around dual diagnosis of substance use and mental health. <p><u>Obesity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County Council Public Health fund the Your Health Your Way Integrated Wellbeing Service which includes services for residents who want help with their weight. This year the service relaunched its children and families offer as FAB, to make the service more fun and accessible to families. • Public Health is also working with NHS commissioners to improve NHS services for residents with more complex needs. • Plans are being developed for more accessible local services for residents.
<p>1.13 We will continue to fund Your Health Your Way, an integrated wellbeing service to help our residents become more active, eat healthier, manage their weight, drink less alcohol and stop smoking.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your Health Your Way have continued to provide support to Nottinghamshire residents to stop smoking, be more physically active, improve their nutrition, lose weight and reduce their alcohol intake. • During 2022/23, a total of 19,000 referrals for Nottinghamshire residents were received, with 46% of people being referred from the most deprived communities across Nottinghamshire. During the year, over 1,300 people have stopped smoking, over 1,200 people have reduced their alcohol consumption, 1,300 people have become more physically active and over 2,000 people have reduced their weight. The service has supported 5,333 people with long term physical or mental health conditions during 2022/23. • Your Health Your Way continue to engage with wider communities across Nottinghamshire and have attended 75 community events, alongside delivering courses for specific communities of need. The service has trained over 500 healthcare professionals and 200 Community and Voluntary Sector colleagues in lifestyle and behaviour change interventions.

Action	Progress and Impact
<p>1.14 Develop and deliver new pathways and services that meet identified health needs in our communities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a pathway to access mental health support during pregnancy and in the first year following birth • a service for children and young people with behaviours indicative of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and autism spectrum disorder (ASD). 	<p>Mental Health Support Pathway</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The pathway to access maternal mental health support is delivered in partnership with Integrated Care Board (ICB) commissioned services and the Local Maternity and Neonatal System. A regular maternal mental health steering group brings all partners together to strengthen support for maternal mental health. • The numbers of people accessing the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Community Perinatal Mental Health team over the past 12 months has increased, and the service continues to expand. A community engagement worker was appointed to increase engagement with the service, with a focus on those who are underrepresented or least likely to engage. • Training and awareness raising around perinatal mental health and the support available has been delivered to wider partners such as children's centre services, social care and the voluntary sector. Referrals into the perinatal mental health team are now accepted from more agencies. • A new Trauma and Bereavement team have become successfully embedded within the maternal mental health pathway over the last year. • Health visitors in Nottinghamshire's Healthy Family Teams assess mental health at every 10-14 day, and 6–8-week health and development review - using evidence-based tools - and support women to access appropriate support. This formal assessment has been extended to the 1-year health and development review and in 2022-23 maternal mental health was assessed at 4,590 1-year reviews. • Children's Centre services deliver a Parent Emotional Wellbeing Group for parents of under 5's experiencing low mood, anxiety, loneliness (amongst other needs), as well as a New Parent's Group, which gives new parents (under 6 months) opportunities to meet others, reduce isolation and build support networks. <p>Neurodevelopmental Behavioural Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since June 2022 we now provide a Neurodevelopmental Behavioural Service as part of the wider Children's service offer. • Since June 2022 and March 2023, the Neurodevelopmental Behavioural Service: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ received over 2,700 referrals (since June 2022 when the service transferred into the Local Authority the average number of monthly referrals has increased by almost 50% from 240 to 330). ○ completed over 550 assessments for families on the neurodevelopmental diagnostic pathway. ○ delivered evidence-based parenting workshops and groups and 1-1 interventions to over 600 families. • Following a multi-agency service review, the Neurodevelopmental Behavioural Service is introducing revised referral arrangements and threshold criteria for assessment in response to the pressures on this aspect of the

Action		Progress and Impact
		service and in recognition that within statutory education additional support can be put in place without the need for a diagnosis.
1.15	<p>Develop and expand the ways in which children, young people, parents, carers and professionals can find advice, information and services to support good physical and mental health and wellbeing, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supporting an increase in the uptake of Healthy Start Vouchers so that families in need can access healthy food, milk and vitamins. • Expanding the Nott Alone website to continue to offer advice and information for children, young people, parents, carers and professionals on mental health and creating a new website to offer support for children and young people with autism. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uptake of the Healthy Start scheme in Nottinghamshire has increased to 66%; higher than the national and regional uptake of 64%. From April 1, 2023, free Healthy Start vitamins are being given out universally throughout pregnancy for everyone receiving maternity care from Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust and Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. • Nott Alone continues to develop. All children's mental health services are advertised, alongside self-help materials. The website is continually evolving with new services for children and young people regularly added and feedback taken into consideration. • Social media channels have been set up to promote the website and support available for young people. The social media channels have different targeting, with Twitter content aimed towards parents and professionals and Instagram content aimed directly at the young people. • NottAlone hosted the first ever free NottAlone Live event in February 2023 with over 1000 children and young people from Nottingham and Nottinghamshire schools attending with teachers. Children and young people were able to take part in a wide range of wellbeing workshops throughout the day, visit a wellbeing art gallery, take time out in a wellbeing hub and enjoy music performances in and around the venue. A main stage hosted keynote speakers with inspiring talks. There were over 50 stall holders sharing information about community mental health and wellbeing services for young people in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.
1.16	<p>Commissioning training for the workforce and communities on mental health, suicide prevention and self-harm, to support them to identify and provide support for residents on mental health.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new contract for the delivery of mental health, suicide prevention and self-harm prevention training has been commissioned and training commenced in January 2023. Training has been prioritised to workers from a range of services and providers who are likely to be in contact with Nottinghamshire residents who may be experiencing poor mental health or at risk of suicide and self-harm. • A total of 58 training courses were delivered from January to the end of April 2023. There were 1,196 attendances for the training across City and County. • Training increased participants knowledge of mental health conditions: Pre-training 41% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that they were confident in their knowledge of mental health conditions increasing to 94% post-training. Training also increased people's awareness of the support and services available to help, with 41% of participants agreeing or strongly agreeing that they were confident in their awareness of services pre-training increasing to 96% post-training. • Training increased participants understanding of the risks for suicide and confidence in their ability to respond: Pre-training 34% of participants were confident in recognising the signs, initiating a conversation and in ability to apply a model of suicide intervention, post-training this increased to 90% of participants being confident. Pre-training 37% of individuals told they could recognise the warning signs, risk factors and different risk groups

Action		Progress and Impact
		for suicide, which increased to 99% post-training. Pre-training 37% of participants felt confident in their knowledge of services to signpost people experiencing suicidality to, increasing to 96% of participants post-training.
1.17	Working with partners, as a signatory of the Prevention Concordat for Better Mental Health, to develop communication campaigns to promote mental wellbeing , including suicide prevention and awareness, reducing stigma and sign-posting to support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New suicide prevention communications campaign resources have been co-produced with people with lived experience, services and partners from across the county. Suicide prevention communications are promoted by a wide range of services to Nottinghamshire residents. Suicide prevention communications aim to reduce stigma, promote help seeking and support people into the right services at the right time. As part of our communications campaign, we are working with people with lived experience to develop filmed stories to reduce stigma and promote hope. Public Health are working with partners and contributing funding to develop the new Nott Alone website for adults and a new mental health and wellbeing communications campaign. A guide to enable anyone to champion mental health awareness, suicide and self-harm prevention, whatever their role, has been produced and widely distributed, including to Public Health and Integrated Care Board (ICB) communities teams. A short survey is planned to be circulated to evaluate the impact of the guide in future, with more information available through the Nottinghamshire Insight Mental Health page.
1.18	Take every opportunity to expand our Mental Health Support Teams for Schools in Nottinghamshire and undertake an evaluation of the service in 2022/23. This will ensure that children and young people are able to get early help and support to meet their emotional and wellbeing needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental Health Support Teams in Schools (MHSTs) continue to grow across Nottinghamshire, ensuring that children and young people have access to early help and support for their emotional wellbeing needs. As of May 2023, 6 MHSTs are mobilised across Nottinghamshire, supporting approximately 120 schools, equating to 35% coverage. A strong partnership approach to developing and mobilising MHSTs has ensured that project plans for a further 3 MHSTs have been successful, therefore by February 2025 approximately 180 schools, including primary, secondary, special and further education, will have access to an MHST equating to 52% coverage.
1.19	Lead on the local Suicide Prevention Strategy and Suicide Prevention Action Plan across Nottinghamshire. This includes establishing a new Suicide Prevention Stakeholder Network and piloting new approaches to providing targeted suicide prevention and self-harm support for high-risk groups , working collaboratively with Nottingham City Council and the Integrated Care System.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new Suicide Prevention Stakeholder Network was established in early 2022 and has 230 members. The Suicide Prevention Stakeholder Network has themed quarterly meetings and has so far covered how to support someone to reduce the risk of crisis, supporting someone in crisis and suicide bereavement. 2023 sessions will focus on some of the risk factors relating to suicide, starting with financial worries in May 2023. Around 40-50 people attend each Network Event from a wide range of organisations and groups across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. A regular newsletter is distributed to the Network to share information and guidance with partners and services across Nottinghamshire and Nottingham. A local service has been commissioned to pilot targeted suicide crisis support for men and boys and is due to be completed May 2023. To date, the pilot has engaged with 129 organisations that have a high male engagement rate to promote the service and provide leaflets and information to enable males to be more aware of crisis support. There has been a 12% increase in referrals to crisis support and a 92.6% increase of

Action		Progress and Impact
		<p>engagement by males with support to provide safety and stability between sessions and enable them to cope differently as a result.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A pilot of support for parents and carers of children and young people experiencing self-harm has also commenced. To date, 5 drop-in sessions have been offered and the focus for the remaining period will be on increasing engagement of parents and carers.
1.20	Play our part as a local leader in delivering the Integrated Care System's Health Inequalities Strategy and Green Plan, as well as the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for 2022-2026. We will also support the integration of changes proposed for the Integrated Care System from July 2022 and increase partnership working and commissioning with adults and children services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since the establishment of the Integrated Care System (ICS) in July 2022, we have maintained our role as a key leader and partner in the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICS. This has included a collaborative approach to the development and approval of the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Strategy 2023-2027 at the Integrated Care Board in March 2023. The new strategy was co-produced across the system including engagement with our local population. It builds on the work of the Integrated Care System's Health Inequalities Strategy, Green Plan and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy to provide a clear vision for integrated working across the ICS. The strategy has defined levels of ambition and three guiding principles of prevention, equity and integration. Implementation of the strategy will be regularly reviewed at the Health and Wellbeing Board and Integrated Care Board via the development of the NHS's Joint Forward Plan.
1.21	Work together to protect people's health from flu and roll out vaccinations in the autumn 2022/23.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The County Council actively promoted the public NHS flu vaccination programme to children, adults and older people. This involved sending generic communications to residents through a variety of channels, as well as employing bespoke communications aimed at target groups. This included, for example, specific social media advertising for pregnant women from areas and communities where vaccination rates were low. The posts, which were in English, Polish and Romanian, reached over 40,000 Nottinghamshire residents. In addition, flu vaccinations were offered to all frontline County Council employees in the autumn of 2022, building on the success of internal programmes in previous years. A newly commissioned vaccination provider undertook clinics in a wide variety of Council workplaces, including special schools, and flu vouchers were also offered to staff and foster carers which could be redeemed at local pharmacies. A total of 1,896 frontline staff were vaccinated through the Council's programme, which equates to an uptake of 41.2%.
1.22	Review and update the COVID-19 Local Outbreak Management Plan to ensure we have the correct arrangements in place to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A refreshed Local Outbreak Management Plan (LOMP) was published on the Council's website in February 2022. In April 2022, the previous Contain framework national guidance was withdrawn, which included the requirement for local authorities to produce a Local Outbreak Management Plan. A decision was therefore taken on 20 April 2022 to remove the LOMP as it was no longer required. Learning from the LOMP will be embedded in the ongoing local authority health protection response.
1.23	Talk to people about their strengths, assets and skills and support them to live the best	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The transition in the delivery of adult social care from a deficit model to a strength-based approach, through the implementation of the Three Conversation model, has helped to foster greater collaboration with partners.

Action		Progress and Impact
	life they can and reduce reliance on long-term care.	<p>This is helping to change the way that the whole system of community-based support works together to provide a more holistic and positive experience for the people the Council supports and for social care staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The impact of this has been an increase in the number of people who have been connected to a wider support network within their communities as part of working with them to build on their existing strengths to meet their needs. The number of people connected to a community group or the voluntary sector as part of their support offer increased by 32% between Q2 and Q4. This approach has been supported by an increased use of technology to help people maintain their level of independence for longer.
1.24	Work with partners to develop our multi-disciplinary teams and practice to support more people to live a good life, be part of their local communities and improve their health and well being. We will increase the number of people who benefit from short-term preventative support to help them maintain their independence , and live in their own homes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There has been a positive impact from this action that is reflected in the following improvements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of people who have been through a period of reablement in 2022/23 was 1,825 which represents a 6% increase from 2021/22. The number of people who have been through a period of enablement in 2022/23 was 706 which represents a 55% increase from 2021/22.
1.25	Work with providers and partners to enhance Nottinghamshire's homecare offer to tackle the current challenges and to meet future capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There have been two home care schemes implemented as part of the winter plan. The first scheme, implemented from December 2022, was an incentive scheme awarding providers based on increased packages and the first payments have been passed onto providers. The second scheme, to put in place a block contract, commenced on 16 January 2023. These initiatives have helped towards a significant increase in homecare capacity across Nottinghamshire.
1.26	Work with people to make sure that the adult social care services we provide in local areas meet the support needs of residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We continually collect data on services commissioned in respect to quality, performance and delivery and use the contract monitoring processes to assess that the service is meeting the support needs of those people using/living in the services. Part of the contract management process is assessing quality of documentation, including care plans, as part of the annual auditing process. There is also a well-established quality referrals system that colleagues internally in Adult Social Care and externally (Care Quality Commission etc.) are able to share intelligence regarding a service.
1.27	Identify future care and support needs to create homes that meet the needs of people of all abilities in Nottinghamshire and help them to live independently.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An accommodation tracker has been developed to identify the needs of young people with additional needs from the age of 14 to 18. This is helping us to plan to ensure that we have the right amount and type of accommodation for people coming into adult social care. In July 2022, approval was given by the Cabinet Member for eight tenders for the first phase of the tender programme to be developed. This is now underway, and it is envisaged that if all the tenders agreed come to

Action	Progress and Impact
	<p>fruition there will be an additional 200-300 units of accommodation procured. This accommodation will start to become available within the next 18 months to three years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The second phase of the tender programme will aim to increase accommodation by an additional 121 units. There will be a higher proportion of supported living plus developments within this phase, offering more bespoke environments and specialist support.

Our ambitions coming to life:

Increasing Community Support Across the County

The Early Help and Support in the Communities Team has launched and host the five Local Area Coordinators, who are based in communities to help people achieve their best lives. Local area coordinators walk alongside residents regardless of need to professional service intervention. They work with individuals to build personal resilience, confidence and increase community capacity. One Local Area Coordinator has said that:

“I have developed an extensive network of local contacts, including key players in community groups, the churches and the parish and town councils. This is already yielding benefits within the community as I can connect groups and services with the resources that they need and am fast becoming a well-known face of the County Council in the area.

“I have begun to work with various individuals and have accessed funding from local charities to provide essential furniture, introduced people to benefits assessments and begun various conversations around social isolation and the possibilities available locally. My local knowledge is already proving useful as a means of publicising the excellent range of community resources in my area.”

Sustainable food places

The partnership work on food, health and sustainability led by the County Council Public health team has enabled Nottinghamshire to become part of the [Sustainable Food Places Network](#). This will enable the Nottinghamshire Sustainable Food Network to access specialist support, advice and resources from other areas of the country and the dedicated team at Sustainable Food Places.



Preparing for Adulthood

The Preparing for Adulthood team works with young people, families and carers embedding strengths-based practice, helping young adults to be independent. The team takes a person-centred approach, using strength-based conversations and support planning, positive risk taking and the Mental Capacity Act to promote choice and independence. The support the team provides is invaluable in preparing young people for adulthood. This is just one of many pieces of positive feedback that we have received from a parent: “I wanted to compliment the work that social workers have

progressed in the short time that they have been involved in my son's care planning, and how much was achieved by them by his leaving care review due to their dedication and commitment to him. I am confident that as he transitions into adulthood, he will have a strong committed team and the onus will be on him to work with services and support in order to achieve the best outcomes for himself."

Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest Data	Time period
ASCH Core Metric 18a: Number of people reabled to higher levels of independence (people supported to regain independence after a period of ill health)	1,721	2021-2022	1,825	2022/23
ASCH Core Metric 18b: Number of people enabled to higher levels of independence (people with disabilities supported to find greater independence)	455	2021-2022	706	2022/23

Success indicators the Council works with partners to influence:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest Data	Time period
Healthy life expectancy – male	63.4 years	2017-2019	62.4 years	2018-2020
Healthy life expectancy - female	61.6 years	2017-2019	60.0 years	2018-2020
Inequality in life expectancy - male	9.3 years	2018-2020	9.3 years	2018-2020
Inequality in life expectancy - female	7.7 years	2018-2020	7.7 years	2018-2020
Self-reported wellbeing – people with a high anxiety score	25.9%	2020-2021	23.96%	2021-22
The rate of suicide	8.6 per 100,000	2018-2020	10.3 per 100,000	2019-2021
ASCH Core Metric 1: Thinking about the good and bad things that make up your quality of life, how would you rate the quality of your life as a whole? (Score out of 24)	18.8	2019-2020	19.2	2021-22
ASCH Core Metric 12: Proportion of carers who reported that they had as much social contact as they would like	23.6%	2018-2019	22.7%	2021-22
ASCH Core Metric 13: Proportion who use services who reported that they had as much social contact as they would like	42.7%	2019-2020	43.3%	2021-22

What this means for Nottinghamshire:

Whilst we have made excellent progress within the last year to improve people's health and wellbeing, we know that health and wellbeing varies across Nottinghamshire and is influenced by a variety of factors, such as housing, employment, education, food, transport, air quality and community networks. This is why the council continues to invest to improve people's health, by strengthening the building blocks for good health and by ensuring everyone has access to services to help them improve their health. The actions we are aiming to deliver during 2023-24 reflect this continuing journey to work with residents and partners alike, to ensure that people in every community enjoy healthier, happier lives, and remain independent for longer. Initiatives to strengthen this in the coming year include but are not limited to the below.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **1.2** Work with partners to deliver on the final year of the wave 4 suicide prevention transformation programme, with a particular focus on at-risk groups, so that suicide prevention interventions such as training, communications and awareness raising, and support, can be appropriately targeted towards those groups at increased risk of suicide and self-harm.
- **1.4** Work with partners across the Integrated Care System regarding prevention, equity and integration, to support delivery of the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Strategy 2023-2027. This will include development of the Making Every Contact Count Framework, reviewing our prevention approach, priority work on alcohol, tobacco and mental health, and further developing the Council's role as an anchor institution.
- **1.9** Work with the local District and Borough Councils and adopt a joint Housing Strategy to create healthy and sustainable places, meet housing needs in Nottinghamshire and ensure that people can live and age well in their own homes. This strategy will also focus on how we work together to provide safe homes for the most vulnerable in our communities.

Ambition 2: Supporting communities and families

Nottinghamshire has a diverse range of communities in our market towns, rural villages and urban centres. Supportive, vibrant communities can boost health and wellbeing, give people a sense of belonging, and create enjoyable, welcoming places to live. Our ambition is to strengthen communities through supporting the voluntary and community sector and making the most of community-based services so that residents can find the support they need in their local area. Specifically, the Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- Forge closer relationships with voluntary and community partners
- Strengthen support for those who need it most
- Empower people to make a difference in their community
- Give our children the best start in life
- Improve access to family support services
- Improve support for children with special educational needs
- Develop our libraries as community and learning hubs
- Provide safe and engaging activities for young people through our Youth Service
- Support people at key moments in their lives through our Registration Service
- Strengthen community support for adults with our partners
- Bring services together in local communities
- Strengthen early support for communities and families.

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action		Progress and Impact
2.1	Encourage key partners to adopt the Compact developed between public sector bodies and voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations. We will work with the VCS sector to understand what support is needed to maintain and grow its capacity. This will help us to work together to build a strong, vibrant and sustainable VCS and provide effective community-based support to Nottinghamshire's communities and residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 statutory organisations from local government and health have signed up to the Compact.
2.2	Establish Family Hub Networks across Nottinghamshire that help to give children the best start for life. This will give parents/carers, children and young people access to local support centres, where they	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each family hub is unique to the local community it serves and aims to make a positive difference to parents, carers and their children by providing a mix of physical and virtual spaces, as well as support in family homes, where families can easily access non-judgmental information, advice and support. In Nottinghamshire, we are

Action		Progress and Impact
	can find a broad and integrated range of support and early help to help them overcome challenges and build stronger relationships.	<p>developing Family Hub Networks which will provide a physical hub and a range of spokes including local libraries, websites, charities and other sources of information, advice and guidance for families.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are progressing the first Family Hub Network in Retford and a series of co-production activities have taken place to help us gather ideas from families about their information and advice needs and what they like about where they live and what could be improved. Ideas from parents and carers are being progressed through a local Retford partnership who are committed to support families as early as possible. There are plans to roll out Family Hub Networks across Nottinghamshire with 1-3 Family Hub Networks in each District depending on need. For more information, please see: Retford and the story so far Nottinghamshire County Council.
2.3	Work with our partners to improve the way children receive support to develop their speech language and communication , aligning early intervention support with specialist speech and language services across the County. This will ensure all children have the opportunity to access services and support to help them develop their communication skills, so that they can reach their potential.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New information has been published online and in print to support parents to help children with their speech, language and communication under the banner of 'Start Talking Together'. The council and Integrated Care Partnership have jointly commissioned speech and language services for children. The Council funds an early help intervention for preschool children and networks for Early Years Practitioners. <p>In 2022/23:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 771 children aged 2 – 2½ accessed the Early Intervention Speech and Language programme (66% completed the programme). 98% of parents reported an increase in skills and confidence to help improve speech, language and communication following access to the programme. 96% of parents reported an increase in home learning since participating in the programme. 97% of parents reported that their child increased their ability to listen, understand and talk following the programme. 93% of parents reported they were reading more at home, and 88% reported less screen time. 36% of children who accessed the programme were referred to specialist speech and language therapy, so we prevented 64% being referred to a specialist service as their needs were met earlier. 54% of children were offered a place on the programme within 8 weeks of referral.
2.4	Increase the range and quality of short breaks provision and opportunities for education, employment and training after school for children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND). This will support children, young	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over the last 12 months the internal County Council's Specialist Support Team have launched three new hubs across Nottinghamshire to provide targeted and good quality short break provision to children and young people. The Commissioning Team have continued over the past year to develop the provider market. A Market Position Statement has been produced and published.

Action		Progress and Impact
	people with SEND and their families to stay happy, healthy and thrive in their communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 1,100 children and young people across Nottinghamshire have an allocation of short break hours increasing their social opportunities and developing their independence. In a recent survey over 66% of families were either satisfied or extremely satisfied with the short break provision they were currently receiving. The Short Break Service has responded to the increasing demands for short breaks across Nottinghamshire. The service has adapted new ways of working which enables children and young people to access the appropriate level of support that they need.
2.5	Review how people can access services, information, advice and guidance from Nottinghamshire County Council, through our Improving Residents Access programme. This will enable residents to find the right information and help, at the right time and in the right place.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work continues to review and develop proposals for investment to improve the information, advice and guidance (IAG) that is available for people and communities. We are also looking at best practice options to provide IAG on an easily accessible platform that helps residents to find the help or support they need at a time and a place that is right for them.
2.6	Implement a comprehensive review of the County Council's Registration Service , services for births, deaths, marriages and civil partnerships. This will ensure the Council provides the best support we can for milestone moments in everyone's lives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The review is making good progress, with proposals to reshape the service to deliver improved customer service being finalised that incorporate feedback from a staff learning event and consultation. In recent months, we have launched our new improved accessible website, and we have recently completed the refurbishment of our Mansfield Register Office.
2.7	Use the '3 conversations' approach in all our adult social care assessments. These conversations will strengthen the focus on how an individual can use the support around them and access resources in their community. It will also ensure that we concentrate on what is important to the person and their carer(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 3 conversations model has been embedded within Mosaic, the system that we use to record information about the care and support we provide, to ensure that we use this approach in all interactions with people engaging with Adult Social Care. This means that the case management system is now aligned with strength-based practice that has been introduced and supports the embedding of the 3 conversations model.
2.8	Develop a strategy to improve support for those with autism at all stages of their lives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An Integrated Care System (ICS) wide autism strategy steering group has been set up. The ICS wide autism strategy implementation plan has been developed to implement the 12 priorities in the autism strategy. This includes the commissioning of an autism pre-diagnostic support service, to support people who are waiting for/have an autism diagnosis.

Action		Progress and Impact
2.9	Publish a Day Opportunities Strategy. This will set out our ambition to support the development of an inclusive society where mainstream leisure and employment is accessible to people who access care and support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Day Opportunities Strategy was approved by the Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee in April 2022. This sets out the ambition to support the development of an inclusive society, where mainstream leisure and employment is accessible to people who access care and support. The new Day Opportunities Framework Agreement will be in place by September 2023.

Actions we said we would 'continue to' do:

Action		Impact and/or next steps
2.10	Help communities recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. We will update our current community support plans, build on the success of the Nottinghamshire Community Support Hub and evaluate the impact of recovery support funding we have distributed to those most in need across our County. This will ensure that we are able to direct our resources effectively to best help our communities bounce back.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Communities Fund continues to support Cost of Living and Food redistribution initiatives. The establishment of the Early Help and Support in the Community has introduced Local Area Co-ordination and Community Health Champion Co-ordinator roles into Nottinghamshire. The team is a frontline resource who engage with communities on a daily basis, gathering intel about the needs in the community and building relationships across both Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) service and external public sector bodies.
2.11	Provide a wide range of activities for young people through our Youth Service. This means that that our young people will be able to access safe, welcoming places where they can learn, have fun, and reach their full potential. We will continue to support them to voice their ideas and aspirations through our system of participation and engagement and we will increase our focus on supporting and celebrating young people's achievements through recognised awards and accreditation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12,623 individual young people accessed youth service provision during 2022/23 and engaged in a range of fun, safe and high-quality positive activities and opportunities with a trusted youth worker. Children and young people also continued to engage in opportunities to influence design and delivery of services. Last year we had 20 Young People's Voice Expressions of Interests (EofI) from organisations, which sought the support, advice and ideas from children and young people to improve their service delivery. Our EofI provides a mechanism which enables services both internal and external to the Council to engage with young people and hear their views about the provision they receive, or are affected by, and provides an opportunity for young people to offer insight into how changes can be made to better meet their needs. Each EofI submitted is reviewed by the Young People's Board (Made up of 8 Members of Youth Parliament, the Chair of the Children in Care Council and a representative from the D2N2 Voice of Adoption) allowing the board to take ownership of the agenda, establish the information required and the time needed to enable their active involvement, they then determine the next steps of engagement.

Action		Impact and/or next steps
2.12	Offer high quality family support, that works to meet the needs of the whole family. By developing strong partnerships with other organisations and community-based support, our Family Support services will bring together a network of support around vulnerable children and their families to prevent needs increasing or risks escalating.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Hub developments have been successful in engaging a wide range of partners including District Councils, the NHS, the voluntary and community sectors. • The first Family Hub Network is being developed in Retford and all partners have worked together to shape how the network will be provided to better understand and support families. • The Family Hubs Workforce Development Plan has also been created and has been delivered in the Retford area with partners now accessing a range of training e.g. on how to reduce parental conflict.
2.13	Support eligible families to access funded childcare , so that parents/carers can return to education, work or training and children benefit from early learning and education to make them ready to thrive at school and in their later lives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2022 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment identified that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Take up of 2-year-old entitlement is better than pre-pandemic levels at 84% by the end of the summer term 2022. (This is the highest on the region, and above national average.) ○ Take up of funded childcare for 3- and 4-year-olds stands at 93% and 100% respectively. • Online information on the Notts Help Yourself website has been improved to better help families find and access childcare that meets their needs.
2.14	Develop and embed a wide range of specialist educational provision for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities , both in mainstream school settings and in Special Schools. This will enable families to access school places that will meet their child's needs and help them make progress and achieve.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Strategic SEND Place Planning Board oversees the delivery of up to 375 additional SEND school places by 2026 to address the ongoing growth in demand for more specialist school places. Capital projects completed during 2022-2023 have included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ King Edward Satellite (24 additional places) ○ Newark Orchard (30 additional places) ○ Derrymount (20 additional places) • In March 2023, the County Council announced a new Special School in Mansfield due to open in September 2025. The new school will be located on the former Ravensdale School site at Ravensdale Road, Mansfield and will have capacity for up to 160 pupils. • The County Council's SEND Place Planning Strategy will be reviewed and updated during 2023-2024.
2.15	Develop our libraries as accessible local community spaces , offering resources and activities that are affordable for everyone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council's contracted partner Inspire: Culture, Learning and Libraries offers an annual programme of accessible and affordable resources, activities and events across its libraries. • The Council and Inspire continue to work closely to identify opportunities for the improvement of its overall offer. In 2022/2023, this included physical improvements to a number of libraries, using £170,000 of grant money awarded by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sports (DCMS), and delivered by Arts Council England, to create Village Community Hubs in selected locations. This project involves reconfiguring and reimagining existing libraries, including Blidworth, Bilsthorpe, Bircotes, Burton Joyce and Woodthorpe, to create more flexible community spaces, allowing an improved range of services and activities. These changes

Action	Impact and/or next steps
	have been designed in consultation with communities, ensuring that the new flexible spaces meet local needs. The project began in Autumn 2022 and will run until September 2023.

Our ambitions coming to life:

Children's Centre Service Re-accredited for UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative Gold Award

Nottinghamshire County Council's Children's Centre Service has again retained the UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative Gold Status for 2023/24.

Nottinghamshire remains one of only a handful of places in England where both parts of the community support for infant feeding are accredited to this high level. This is due to the close partnership working between the Council and Notts Healthcare Foundation Trust's Infant Feeding Leads and Healthy Families Teams, supported by a dedicated team of trained Breastfeeding Peer Supporters, who run the BABES (Breastfeeding and Babies Encouragement and Support) Groups in Children's Centres. Each year an audit takes place, checking on how local families find the service. Families really value the support provided, summed up by comments from this Mansfield mum: "BABES group offered good support and seeing other parents having positive outcomes at breastfeeding after overcoming different problems has helped me continue breastfeeding." For more information: [Nottshelpyourself | Breastfeeding](#)



Homes for Ukraine

Families displaced by the ongoing conflict in the Ukraine have been supported by Nottinghamshire County Council's involvement in the Homes for Ukraine Scheme.

Over one thousand displaced refugees have been supported to live in Nottinghamshire with host families across the county. The Communities Team have been co-ordinating and supporting the activities involved such as schools placements, support with employment and accessing health services alongside district and borough partners.

Relationships Really Matter

Since launching in 2021/22 the Relationships Really Matter resource on Notts Help Yourself goes from strength to strength, with almost 6,000 hits on the site during 2022/23 - an increase of 24% on the initial year. For more information see: [Nottshelpyourself | Relationships Really Matter](#)

Start Talking Together

Start Talking Together is Nottinghamshire's online resource to support parents/carers and practitioners to help their young children develop speech, language and communication skills. Since launching in April 2022 there have been almost 4,000 hits to the site. For more information:

[Nottshelpyourself | Start Talking Together... part of the Best Start Strategy](#)

Delivery of the Local Communities Fund

The Local Communities Fund provides grants to support community and voluntary organisations across the county to provide services wide range of activities. These include befriending luncheon clubs, voluntary transport schemes and cost of living support for energy and food.

Our Local Communities Fund awarded just under £1.2m revenue to over 90 voluntary and community groups in 2022/23. The fund also supported the talented athletes programme - which has provided funding to support training, transport and equipment needs to 110 athletes in the last year. We also awarded £500,000 of capital funding to 54 local community groups to help them improve local facilities for residents. In addition, over 100 community groups shared £250,000 to help them support people to manage with energy and food costs.

Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Number of organisations who have adopted the Community Compact	15	2021	15	Position at end of March 2023
Number of individual children and young people engaged in positive activities delivered by the Young People's Service	9,884	2021/22	12,623	2022/23
Total engagements with library services	3.1 million	2021/22	4.5 million	2022/23
Number of Bookstart Contacts (% of new babies)	91%	2021/22	7,347 (94.5% of babies reached)	2022/23
Customer satisfaction with libraries	93%	2019/20	97%	2022/23
Number of families supported making significant sustained progress through the Supporting Families programme	1,011	2021/22	880 *	2022/23
ASCH Core Metric 2: Overall satisfaction of people who use services with their care and support	60.7%	2019/20	65.8%	2021/22
ASCH Core Metric 3: Overall satisfaction of carers with social services	33.2%	2018/19	33.5%	2021/22

* Reflective of how we process claims for successful outcomes, rather than a reduction in the positive impact the service is having with families.

Success indicators the Council works with partners to influence:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
ASCH Core Metric 14: Proportion of people doing things they enjoy in their community	32.7%	2019/20	37.5%	2021/22
Foundation stage % achieving good level of development	Updated measure: Data to follow on release	N/A	66.8%	2021/22 (academic year)

What this means for Nottinghamshire:

We have seen many positive outcomes for our residents within just the last year alone – whether this be an increase in the proportion of people doing things they enjoy in their community, a significant increase in engagements with library services, the increase in the overall satisfaction of people who make use of our services with their care and support, or the number of children and young people engaged in positive activities delivered by the Young People’s Service – there is much to be proud of. However, it remains our ambition to continue strengthening communities through our support to the voluntary and community sector and by making the most of community-based services, so that residents can find the support they need in their local area. To that end, we have set out a variety of new and existing actions that will be undertaken in 2023/24 to further these areas, as shown below.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **2.4** Supported by the Financial Resilience and Inclusion transformation project, we will deliver the Local Communities and Household Support Funds to help communities to be financially resilient and support our most vulnerable residents by funding the voluntary and community sector through revenue, capital, cost-of-living, and food redistribution grants.
- **2.8** Establish Family and Youth Hub Networks across Nottinghamshire that help to give children the best start for life, as a key area of focus in our transformation portfolio. This will give parents/carers, children and young people access to local support centres, where they can find a broad and integrated range of support and early help, to help them overcome challenges and build stronger relationships.
- **2.9** Offer high quality family support, delivering the national Supporting Families Programmes, working to meet the needs of the whole family and leads to improved outcomes for children. By developing strong partnerships with other organisations and community-based support, we will bring together a network of support around vulnerable children and their families to prevent needs increasing or risks escalating.

Ambition 3: Keeping children, vulnerable adults, and communities safe

We play an essential role in keeping all residents - especially children and vulnerable adults - safe and supported in our communities. Specifically, The Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- **Work in partnership to reduce crime, the fear of crime and victimisation**
- **Lead efforts to reduce domestic abuse and violence against women and girls**
- **Tackle knife crime and violence with our partners**
- **Protect the vulnerable against fraud**
- **Tackle loneliness, isolation and vulnerability**
- **Protect communities from flooding**
- **Provide the right support for families to reduce the need for vulnerable children to go into foster or residential care**
- **Expand the number of foster placements available to children**
- **Ensure children in our residential homes have stability, support and protection to meet their needs**
- **Ensure that our care leavers have somewhere safe and stable to call home**
- **Support adults with learning disabilities, mental health issues, autism spectrum disorders or physical disabilities to live independently**
- **Work to prevent homelessness**
- **Keep improving our support for vulnerable people.**

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action		Progress and Impact
3.1	Establish the Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board and deliver the Domestic Abuse Strategy 2021- 2024. Our focus for 2022-23 will improve community services for survivors and their families, and strengthen the prevention of domestic abuse.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Domestic Abuse Partnership Board has been established and it has discussed key issues on Violence Against Women and Girls, preventing domestic abuse and the needs of children and young people affected by Domestic Abuse. • A new service has been established to extend the healthy relationship education in schools, firstly focusing on Mansfield and Ashfield, with the intended roll out across the whole County in 2023-25.
3.2	Develop joint protocols to identify and address child criminal exploitation. This means that young people who are at risk of exploitation, and therefore involvement with County Lines and/or knife crime, can access support to prevent them entering the youth justice system or reoffending.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership panels are in place that work effectively to recognise and respond to risk for those young people who are at the highest risk of harm for Child Sexual Exploitation, Child Criminal Exploitation and Missing which promotes oversight of these young people at a senior level. • The cross authority steering group is being re-designed with partners to cover all areas of exploitation. This will allow for more effective partnership working to disrupt criminal activity and protect children and young people.
3.3	Increase the number of foster carers and residential homes supported by Nottinghamshire County Council and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our internal foster carer capacity has not increased overall during 2022/23. It is positive that new foster carers have been recruited (14), but a number of carers have chosen to stop fostering children for Nottinghamshire County Council over this same period. This reflects a national trend.

Action		Progress and Impact
	recommission supported accommodation for children in our care aged 16+, so that we are better able to find high quality, safe and stable homes that meet the needs of children in our care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During 2022/23 the Council purchased two properties for use as residential children's homes. Work to refurbish and set up the properties for operational use (e.g. meeting Ofsted's regulatory requirements etc.) is in progress. The Council has been successful with two bids for Department for Education (DfE) funding for a further two new homes, which will be add to the overall capacity of the internal homes' estate over the coming 18-14 months.
3.4	Work with district partners to promote stronger partnerships and joint commissioning arrangements to prevent homelessness, reduce rough sleeping and provide good accommodation options, particularly for our most vulnerable residents e.g. care leavers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is a long-term ambition which we will continue to develop over the next two years in line with the end of multiple funding schemes in March 2025. A Framework for Action on Homelessness has been developed and endorsed by the Health and Wellbeing Board. Through Public Health funding, we have given more capacity to resource roles that support people with lived experience of homelessness, so we are able to co-produce our approach. We are continuing to develop our Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM) approach with partners, which will help us to test and learn so we can improve how we deliver and commission services supporting people with multiple needs.
3.5	Develop long-term plans for people with mental health needs, learning disabilities and autism to support their independence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 3 conversations model is now embedded and all teams who work with people with mental health needs, learning disabilities and autism are using a strength-based approach. This approach enables staff to support people to maximise their independence. It also encourages staff to talk to people about their strengths and the support they already have around them to ensure that family, friends and community links are explored as a means of support. This ensures that people remain as independent as possible for as long as possible.
3.6	Implement the recommendations of Adult Departmental Safeguarding Review to improve people's experience and outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The key recommendation from the review has been implemented, whilst work to deliver improvements to the 'front door' to adult social care is progressing and will simplify, speed up and improve outcomes for those people accessing this dedicated hub.

Actions we said we would 'continue to' do:

Action		Impact and/or next steps
3.7	Work with partners to coordinate actions to improve community safety, tackle scams or doorstep crime and to prevent abuse, exploitation and violent crime. This will contribute to residents' feelings of safety in their community, support the prevention of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Safer Nottinghamshire Board have identified Fraud and Cyber Crime as a community safety priority. Our Trading Standards service have met with partner agencies and are working together with other agencies to improve the partnership approach of the prevention of scams and doorstep crime and to improve the partnership approach in supporting victims.

Action		Impact and/or next steps
	crime and violence and support victims and survivors.	
3.8	Protect people's homes and communities from flooding , working with partners to ensure that we have strong multi-agency emergency response plans. This will ensure that residents living in flood-risk areas are well supported.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Flood Risk Management Team have been leading on the Council's Community Flood Signage Scheme to increase community led resilience to flooding within the County. • We have set up seven new Flood Signage schemes in the past year, with an additional two to go live shortly which will bring the total number of live schemes to 17. • We have also trained over 120 Signage Wardens during nine bespoke training events to ensure that they can carry out their duties in a safe and effective manner. Further to this, online training modules have been created and new information resources, such as informative crib cards, have been given to Wardens.
3.9	Host the County's multi-agency safeguarding hub , providing a proactive partnership response when people are worried about the safety or wellbeing of a vulnerable resident. The hub ensures that concerns are explored, and professionals are able to make an informed decision about what support is needed, so that people who need help are safe and protected.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) is the county's first point of contact for new safeguarding referrals and provides a timely response to the sharing of information between partners agencies (Police, Health and Education representatives), sitting alongside the social work team to ensure the timely sharing of information to keep children safe and ensure risks are understood and acted upon appropriately.
3.10	Provide good social work services to vulnerable children, young people and adults and older people. This means that vulnerable residents will get the right help at the right time and will benefit from a proportionate response that builds resilience and independence.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Adults Board consulted upon and published its new three year 'Safeguarding Adults Strategy', with three identified themes of Prevention, Assurance and Engagement. The Board's Annual Plan identified how partners could contribute towards achieving these strategic aims, as well as the overall vision of making Nottinghamshire a county where all adults people can live a life free from abuse or neglect.
3.11	Deliver high quality Youth Justice Services for young people who have been convicted of an offence, and to identify and support young people who are at risk of coming into the Criminal Justice System.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Service (YJS) have expanded its "My Future" Programme, which offers early intervention and prevention activities to young people at risk of offending. The service now has a team of YJ interventions workers, Early Help professionals and Qualified Youth Workers who will offer whole family assessment and support when a child first comes to the attention of the justice system, before they are convicted of any offence. • The service has also worked in collaboration with the police to increase the proportion of young people receiving an out of court disposal as opposed to a court order. This strengths-based approach benefits young

Action		Impact and/or next steps
		people who have committed lower-level offences as they can now be supported to prevent reoffending with fewer delays and a reduced impact on their criminal record.
3.12	<p>Pilot new and innovative approaches to supporting children, young people and families who are in need of help, protection or who are at risk of coming into care. We will continue to work with families, building on what is working well to create positive and sustained change, so that children are safe, happy and healthy within their family. In 2022/23 this will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introducing a new model for supporting adolescents on the edge of care; Developing a kinship support service to enable better support to family and friends caring for children so that they can remain in their local community; We will introduce a multi-disciplinary safeguarding team in Newark to address the needs of the whole family more directly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Creative Solutions Panel has now been set up which has multi-disciplinary attendance including Early Help Service, Placements and Commissioning and Education. Its purpose is to share the management of risk with social work teams and provide advice and decision making in difficult circumstances, including for those children where it may be appropriate for them to be cared for by the Local Authority. This Panel has a direct link to a new Stronger Families Team. This team consists of Family Workers and Youth Workers and is designed to work with those children and families where the care arrangements are at risk of breaking down and work with families to build on their strengths. In April 2022, we established the Family Support and Safeguarding Team in the Newark area. This is a multi-disciplinary team which entails Domestic Abuse workers and Adult Mental Health workers, working alongside District Child Protection Social Workers. There is also an aim to have a worker from Change, Grow, Live (service who works with children and adults who are affected by drug and alcohol misuse) within this team. Early indications suggest that our investment in these new models of support is having a positive impact and helping more children to stay safely at home with their family.
3.13	<p>Work with health and housing partners to develop appropriate accommodation options for people with multiple and complex needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To progress this work, it has been agreed to develop two joint posts to address this area; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A joint post is being established to work across the districts, boroughs and county that focuses on accommodation provision and planning. This post will be part of the Housing Commissioning team and will also support, and work alongside the Integrated Care Board (ICB). A second post has been developed that will be jointly funded with the ICB and will focus on discharge from hospital for the most complex and vulnerable people with mental health needs where more specialised provision is needed.
3.14	<p>Ensure our safeguarding arrangements are robust, including delivering our Annual Safeguarding Improvement Plan and a new Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Strategy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Adults Board consulted upon and published its new three year 'Safeguarding Adults strategy', with three identified themes of Prevention, Assurance and Engagement. The Board's annual

Action		Impact and/or next steps
		plan identified how partners could contribute towards achieving these strategic aims, as well as the overall vision of making Nottinghamshire a county where all adults people can live a life free from abuse or neglect.

Our ambitions coming to life:

Flood Risk Education Programme

Over the past 18 months the Flood Risk Management Team has delivered interactive flood awareness sessions to 13 Primary Schools, engaging with nearly 1,000 children across the County and our diary is already getting booked up for the 2023/24 school year.

Our sessions endeavour to teach the children how to think rather than what to think and challenge them to make decisions about flood risk and climate change. They build their own flood walls to protect their teachers from getting wet and interact with our SUDs model and Augmented Reality Sandbox.



Delivery of the Household Support Fund

The Early Help and Support in the Communities team have worked in partnership to deliver both phases two and three of the fund resulting in £11.2m being provided to households in immediate need across the whole county.

Trading Standards help to return money to scam victims

Following a 4-year investigation by the US Federal Trade Commission, action has been taken against US-based fraudsters who have targeted UK households with scam mail offering alleged cash wins and claiming 'guaranteed' cash prize pay-outs. The mailings to addresses across the UK have deliberately targeted vulnerable people, such as older people living alone. The action taken has led to an agreement to forfeit \$30m in cash and assets, allowing compensation to be given to victims from all around the world. Trading Standards Officers have visited 14 Nottinghamshire residents and returned £7,700 to date.

Domestic Abuse Survivor – in their own words

Children's Centre Service works with Women's Aid to jointly deliver the Freedom programme. The Freedom Programme is a 12-week programme for women who have or are currently experiencing domestic abuse. It aims to inform and empower women to recognise abusive behaviours and make better relationship choices using 'The Dominator' and 'The friend'. It is an opportunity for survivors of domestic abuse to understand male violence towards women. It helps women understand the behaviours and beliefs of their abusive partners or ex-partners, connect with other women who have had similar experiences, feel less isolated and alone and have the chance to work through their feelings and experiences in a safe way.

A resident who accessed the programme said: *"I attended the Freedom programme offered by my local Children Centre. I was initially sceptical, fuelled by my depressive state at the time as I believed nothing would help me. The support I received allowed me to see that I am not worthless and what happened to me was not my fault. I was able to vent and be open and transparent in a safe space while the worker listened and over the weeks the light at the end of the tunnel shined brighter. Thank you for your patience as this is the first time I had slept properly in weeks".*



Community Flood Signage Scheme

Over the nine training events we have delivered to Flood Signage Wardens, we have trained over 120 wardens across 15 schemes. We have also set up six new schemes with an additional two to go live shortly, and have developed online training modules and new information resources for wardens.

Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
% of victims of doorstep crime, scams or other frauds who feel safer in their own homes following Trading Standards tailored interventions	87%	2021/22	94%	2022/23
Nottinghamshire County Council's OFSTED rating for Children's Services	Good	2019	Good (Most recent inspection remains 2019)	2019
% of children subject to child protection plan for a second time within two years	17.5%	2020/21	10.8%	2022/23

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
% of child protection cases reviewed within timescale	94%	2020/21	87.5%	2022/23
% of looked after children in stable placements (the same placement for 2.5 years or more)	58.4%	2021/22	54.5%	2022/23
% of looked after children in family-based setting	71%	Position at March 2022	67%	Position at March 2023
ASCH Core Metric 4: Proportion of people who use services who say that those services have made them feel safe and secure	88.7%	2019/20	90.9%	2021/22
ASCH Core Metric 5: Proportion of adults where the outcomes of a safeguarding assessment is that the risk is reduced or removed	86%	2019/20	86.5%	2022/23

Success indicators the Council works with partners to influence:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Total recorded offences per 1000 population (excluding fraud)	66.23	December 2021 (12 months ending)	72.77	September 2022 (12 months ending)
Self-reported feelings of safety: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outside in the day • Outside after dark 	89.5% 59.1%	September 2021 (12 months ending)	89% 59%	Year to December 2022
Number of properties with enhanced levels of flood Protection as a result of NCC schemes	27,517	2021/22	35,173	2022/23

What this means for Nottinghamshire:

Great work has been carried out in the county across 2022/23 to help make communities feel safer, such as the rise in the number of properties with enhanced levels of flood protection, as a result of Nottinghamshire County Council schemes. We have also seen a reduction in the proportion of children being made subject to child protection plans for a second time. This is a positive development, which supports our aim that this figure remains consistently low and to be confident that risks are addressed, and needs met for children on child protection plans, including when those plans end. Having said this, we recognise we can continue to improve and in particular, we know there has been an increase in the total number of record offences within the last year. Therefore, we'll continue working hard with partners, such as

the police, district and borough councils, the NHS and Government agencies, both to improve our support and tackle some of the challenges we face in ensuring residents feel safe and supported. For 2023/24, some of the work we will do is referenced below.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **3.3** Work with partners including the Safer Nottinghamshire Board to prevent and reduce violent crime, including residents' involvement with County Lines gang activity and violence against women and girls. This will contribute to feelings of safety in communities, whilst ensuring that victims and survivors are supported.
- **3.5** Improve the pathways and services that enable people and partners to access support for children, young people, families and adults in need of care and support, through our multi-agency needs led front door transformation project. This will ensure that safeguarding concerns are identified, assessed and acted on appropriately and that people are able to access timely and proportionate advice, guidance and intervention.
- **3.8** Invest in kinship and foster care as a key priority in our Whole Family Safeguarding transformation programme, working with regional partners, so that more children benefit from safe and stable care in a family setting, as close to home as possible.

Ambition 4: Building skills that help people get good jobs

Nottinghamshire needs a skilled workforce that can compete on a local and global stage, and we want our residents to have access to good quality, rewarding, local jobs. Our ambition is to do what we can to make sure everyone has the ability to reach their potential whatever their age, ability or background. Specifically, The Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- Give children and young people access to learning settings with 'good' or 'outstanding' Ofsted ratings
- Make sure there are the right number of mainstream and special school places for Nottinghamshire's children and young people
- Ensure that every child with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) accesses education which prepares them for good jobs
- Champion the education of children and young people in the care of the local authority
- Advocate for fairer funding for Nottinghamshire's schools, especially for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
- Ensure that Council maintained school buildings and facilities are in good condition
- Help adults to learn new skills
- Create pathways from training into employment
- Support adults with additional needs to access learning, training and employment opportunities
- Develop our libraries as community and learning hubs
- Use our position as a major employer to create training and development opportunities.

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action		Progress and Impact
4.1	Develop new primary schools in Bingham and East Leake to open by September 2023 with high environmental standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Millside Spencer Academy, run by the Spencer Academy Trust, has opened. 73 pupils have currently been allocated places and the reception class for September 2023 is full, with a waiting list. • Bingham Primary and Nursery School has also opened and has now allocated places to 90 pupils. At the time of writing, the reception class for September 2023 has allocated 29/30 places.
4.2	Expand the number of specialist school places at Newark Orchard Special School and Derrymount Special School for autumn term 2022. In addition, a partnership between King Edward Primary and Stubbin Woods Special School will provide additional primary specialist places.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Orchard Special School expansion was completed in the Autumn 2022 and opened to 24 new pupils in January 2023. A further six pupils will be offered places by September 2023. • The Derrymount expansion was completed in Autumn 2022 and 20 new pupils have joined the school in the Spring of 2023. • Stubbin Wood Mansfield successfully opened in the Autumn of 2022 and provides 24 additional specialist places.

Action		Progress and Impact
4.3	Lead by example by increasing the number of supported internships and inclusive apprenticeship placements for children with SEND within the local authority and facilitate supported internships with local businesses. These internships will support those with SEND to achieve their aspirations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Placement opportunities for young people with additional needs were significantly restricted during the pandemic. Work is now underway to identify opportunities internal to the County Council and with external employers. • A new placement programme for Higher Education students with additional needs is being launched in summer 2023. • More widely, recruitment processes have been reviewed and a simplified application form developed to encourage applications from under-represented groups. • Externally, Nottinghamshire now has three Project Search sites which will provide opportunities for 20 young people with additional needs to access placements potentially leading to paid employment. • The Local Authority continues to provide funding and advice to Further Education colleges to support them to develop their partnerships with local and national employers including the productive partnership between Landmarks Specialist College and Greene King.
4.4	Work in partnership to support improved education outcomes in Mansfield and Ashfield through the Department for Education funded Mansfield and Ashfield place-based project, including convening a Mansfield and Ashfield headteachers summit in June.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The DfE (Department for Education) funded a range of projects to support the education of pupils in Mansfield and Ashfield. These projects focus particularly on speech and language development, identifying and supporting pupils with autistic spectrum condition, working with schools to maximise support for SEND pupils in school, and offering a selection of teacher training opportunities. • The DfE have completed this work but have not yet released any analysis outcome data.
4.5	Promote local employment opportunities through expanding our Nottinghamshire Opportunity website.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nottinghamshire Opportunities is a website that helps to support the local economy by providing residents with a quick and easy way to find employment and/or training opportunities. This has helped to make labour market information more accessible and relevant for everyone, with residents able to explore resources to understand the career opportunities and pathways available locally. • We have also undertaken PR/marketing/comms/campaigns to ensure that residents and businesses know about and can benefit from <i>OppsinNotts</i> • We also ran a campaign for National Apprenticeship week (6-12 February 2023), have promoted careers/jobs fairs, and have created additional industry sector webpages for social care and the visitor economy.
4.6	Work with partners and the wider community to increase the number of adults with disabilities in employment, education, training or volunteering.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Preparing for Adulthood Employment Task and Finish group has secured funding as part of a government initiative to double supported internships (SI) over the next three years. A Special Education Needs (SEND) SI Employment forum is being established in partnership with Nottingham City Council to progress this work. • The Council's Economic Development team sit on this group and are working with D2N2 on the Youth Futures Foundation Connected Futures research project. This 18-month project seeks to examine and improve the

Action		Progress and Impact
		<p>processes and pathways to help young people with learning disabilities and/or Autism Spectrum Conditions (ASC) prepare for and progress within employment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group contributed to a Preparing for Adulthood event to offer advice around employment options and support available. This was successful, with 91% of young people and parents/carers reporting that they found the information provided helpful. <p>Internally, the group have developed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A guide to enable partner agencies to support young people with additional needs into work. A shared directory of employers to maximise efficiency and coordinate contacts with employers. Systems to gather data which will enable outcomes to be measured and successes to be built upon.

Actions we said we would 'continue to' do:

Action		Progress and Impact
4.7	Ensure that there are sufficient mainstream school places , expanding existing schools and building new ones as needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nottinghamshire currently has sufficient school places to meet the needs of the number of children resident in the county.
4.8	Ensure that mainstream schools are supported to include pupils with SEND and ensure that there are enough specialist school places for pupils who need them. This will mean that children can attend a local school that meets their needs and provides a positive learning environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nottinghamshire has a comprehensive system of support and funding that schools can access to assist them in meeting the needs of pupils with SEND needs in mainstream school. The ambitions for children with SEND in Nottinghamshire are encapsulated within the SEND Policy. Nottinghamshire has experienced an increase in demand for Education Health and Care Plans and is seeking to expand the number of specialist places available to pupils in special schools and alternative provision. The need for additional places is outlined in the SEND strategic Action Plan.
4.9	Ensure there are sufficient high-quality childcare places for preschool children , so that parents/carers can return to education, work or training and children benefit from early learning and education to make them ready to thrive at school	<p>The 2022 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment identified that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the last few years, the number of Early Years settings in Nottinghamshire had been largely static, at approximately 1,000. However, in the last four years there has been an overall net decrease of Private Voluntary and Independent providers of 16%, (9% in the last year). This has largely been driven by a decrease in childminder numbers. This trend is in line with the national picture.

Action		Progress and Impact																		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 86% of the inspected provision in Nottinghamshire is classed as Good or Outstanding by Ofsted. This is on par with national figures. 																		
4.10	Support and challenge maintained schools which are judged to require improvement to become good or better and work in partnership with the Department for Education Regional Schools Commissioner to support and challenge academies so that all children can attend a good school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nottinghamshire is in line with all schools nationally. Nottinghamshire primary schools are performing in line with all schools nationally which is an improvement on the 1% gap previously reported. As at 31 March 2023, 159 Nottinghamshire primary schools are local authority maintained and 120 are academies. Nottinghamshire secondary schools are performing below national figures (see table below) which represents a decline on previous performance. All Nottinghamshire secondary schools are now academies except for one, Chilwell School. The summary table shows inspection outcomes by school status and phase, both nationally and locally. <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3">Management Information for Schools – 31st March 2023 (New methodology; includes former judgement of new schools)</th></tr> <tr> <th>Number of Good or better schools</th><th>National</th><th>Nottinghamshire</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>All schools</td><td>88%</td><td>88%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Primary</td><td>90%</td><td>90%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Secondary</td><td>81%</td><td>78%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Special</td><td>89%</td><td>92%</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Management Information for Schools – 31 st March 2023 (New methodology; includes former judgement of new schools)			Number of Good or better schools	National	Nottinghamshire	All schools	88%	88%	Primary	90%	90%	Secondary	81%	78%	Special	89%	92%
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4.11	Petition the Secretary of State for Education to ensure that the funding for children with SEND is the same in Nottinghamshire as the highest funded authorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication took place with the Secretary of State for Education regarding High Needs Funding and Capital Funding for SEND in September 2021 and a response was received in January 2022. SEND High Needs funding has continued to be uplifted and Nottinghamshire has had significant growth from £89m in 2021/22 to £114.4m in 2022/23. Lower numbers of children and young people in Special Schools and historic spending factors mean that despite the uplifts, Nottinghamshire funding per pupil remains lower than statistical neighbours. 																		
4.12	Champion the education of children and young people in the care of the local authority by advocating for extra educational support where needed and ensuring they can access high quality careers advice and work experience opportunities. This will ensure that children in our care can achieve, make progress and realise their ambitions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 73% of Year 12/13 young people are in education, training or employment. 36 care leavers were at university this academic year (18 first years). 65% pupil premium+ claimed by schools was for additional academic support or vocational/extended learning or experiences. A Post-16 planning support document has been developed and sent to all schools with year 11 students. A Post-16 pupil premium pilot funded mentors in two local colleges to support access and facilitation of opportunities in the workplace. 28 employability briefings this academic year were accessed by looked after children and care leavers. 																		
4.13	Deliver a programme of maintenance across our schools to ensure that school buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The School Building Improvement Programme (SBIP) forms part of the wider capital school's capital programme and provides capital improvements for the maintained schools estate. In particular, during 2022- 																		

Action		Progress and Impact
	are of high quality and high environmental sustainability to support children and young people's learning.	23 two large projects, Jesse Gray Primary School and Lowes Wong Junior School projects were completed on site. The £1.3m project at Jesse Gray Primary included the replacement of the heating system and single glazed windows and doors. The £1.1m Lowes Wong Junior project replaced the heating system and ceilings, lighting, and fire alarm.
4.14	Deliver a range of adult and community learning courses and community activities in local libraries. This will enable residents to easily access education, training and community-based support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspire have provided a full programme of informal and accredited learning opportunities accessible in local libraries and online. The range and number of courses has increased, especially in basic numeracy, maths, English and digital skills. Inspire has also developed an adult reading programme to improve levels of functional literacy across Nottinghamshire. Learners are also offered information advice and guidance to support progression to further training, volunteering, and employment. • Inspire Learning's 19 + adult learning accredited provision had an achievement rate* of 87.9% in the last academic year. • Inspire Learning's 16-18 Study Programme had an achievement rate of 79.2%. • Inspire Learning's Non-Accredited Community and Family Learning Provision had an achievement rate of 93.7%. <p><i>*As defined by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, 'Qualification achievement rates (QARs) give one measure of how well further education (FE) colleges and other training organisations perform each year. QARs use individualised learner record data to calculate what proportion of learning was successfully completed and the result is shown as a percentage figure.'</i></p>
4.15	Work with businesses to ensure there are appropriate training courses to support business growth and fill skills and training gaps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Growth and Economic Development Team's Business Advisers work in partnership with the D2N2 Growth Hub to provide support to local businesses. In the past 12 months, 226 individual businesses have received intensive and ongoing professional advice, whilst 52 businesses have participated in webinars for knowledge and direction, totalling over 229 hours of expert input.
4.16	Open up training and development opportunities at the Council through work experience placements, apprenticeships and our Graduate Development programme, particularly for children in our care and care leavers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of opportunities are delivered under the Skills Development and Employment Opportunities strategy including work experience, apprenticeships, and graduate initiatives. These opportunities are widely promoted to those groups furthest removed from the employment market and directly to care experienced young people via the Achievement Advisor Service.

Our ambitions coming to life:

Nottinghamshire's childcare champions celebrated at special event

Childcare providers and early years settings in Nottinghamshire received a special thank you from Nottinghamshire County Council in a celebration evening on Tuesday, 19 July 2022 at the Fretwell Complex Mansfield.

The 100 guests included childcare providers, nurseries, early years school settings and childminders, who were nominated by peers and parents for their dedication and passion for supporting children.

Over 440 nominations were received in total, and the event showcased individuals and teams in Nottinghamshire that go the extra mile to deliver high quality early years care and education for under-fives.

One award-winner said: "It was an amazing feeling to think that families, friends and other childminders nominated me for the award, it was a complete surprise.

"After 30 years of childminding, dealing with so many changes in the Early Years, knowing how hard we work, it was an evening where we all came together as professionals, and we were all recognised for what we have achieved.

"Childminders have to be qualified to be able to work in the early years, we are not babysitters like a lot of people think. It's important to promote childminders and the early years workforce as the professionals that we are and the incredible work we do.

"Thank you, Nottinghamshire County Council, for a wonderful evening and for making it special for me."

For more information on the event, please see: [Celebrating Early Years in Nottinghamshire | Nottinghamshire County Council](#)

Brooke Farm – Employment Training Hub

Brooke Farm offers employment and training opportunities for people with learning disabilities and autism. Depending on what's right for them, people will be part of the Hub from twelve weeks to up to three years. At Brooke Farm, individuals are helped to gain the skills and confidence that can lead into sustainable paid employment and a brighter, more independent future.

There are a range of practical opportunities in different working environments, including horticulture in the greenhouses and outdoor areas and retail and customer service in the café, farm shop, and garden centre. There is also the opportunity to learn skills through the employability programme, which includes all aspects of the job application process such as writing a CV, job readiness, and preparing for interviews.



After successfully completing his induction, one trainee developed skills and confidence in the real-life practical work environment and soon became recognised for his excellent customer service. Before he finished Brooke Farm training, he said: “I came to Brooke Farm for more experience and what I found was much more than that. The staff have been very supportive in helping me achieve many targets...I am very grateful for the role Brooke Farm has played in my development.”

Trading Standards Officers Exam Success

Three Officers, who commenced their Trading Standards career as apprentices, are now pursuing a career in Trading Standards and have all been successful in passing their initial exams, allowing them to continue with their qualification. One of the Officers is due to receive an award from the Chartered Institute of Trading Standards for achieving the highest mark in the Country for one of the exams. Their success is down to their hard work, dedication and the support of their colleagues within Trading Standards.

Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
% of children who get first choice of school	93.4% - Primary 90.1% - Secondary	2021/22	96.5% - Primary 89% - Secondary	2022-23
ASCH Core Metric 15: Proportion of young adults supported to access employment, education, training or volunteering	8.1%	Position at March 2022	363 *	Position at March 2023
Number of guided learning hours delivered through Inspire Learning	199,000	2021/22 (academic year)	149,582	2022/23 academic year (to March 2023)
Number of placements provided: Apprenticeships	264	2021/22	272	2022-23
Number of placements provided: Graduate Training	14	2021/22	19	2022-23

* Please note the definition for this indicator has changed – the presentation of the latest data reflects this.

Success indicators the Council works with partners to influence:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Number of schools classified as ‘good’ or ‘outstanding’ by Ofsted	288 out of 339	As at end of March 2021	297 out of 341	Position as at end of March 2023

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
% of 3- & 4-year-olds benefiting from funded early education	96%	2021	97%	2022
% of pupils achieving a standard pass (grades 4-9) in English and Maths at KS4	73.4%	2020/21	70.2%	2021-22 (academic year)
% of pupils known to be eligible for free school meals achieving a standard pass (grades 4-9) in English and Maths KS4	47.6%	2020/21	44.3%	2021-22 (academic year)
Average Progress 8 score - pupils with a statement of SEN or EHC plan	-1.51	2018-19	-1.73	2021-22 (academic year)
Average of Progress 8 scores for Looked After Children with Progress 8 scores at the end of key stage 4	-1.30	2018-19	-1.57	2021-22 (academic year)
% of Children in Need who are persistent absentees	39.1%	2020/21	47.3%	2021-22 (academic year)
% 16-17 year olds NEET (not in employment, education or training) or their activity was not known	6.5%	2021	6.5%	2021
% of care leavers in education, employment or training aged 19-21	48%	2020/21	55%	2021-22
% population qualified to degree level or above	33.2%	2021	33.2%	2021
Gross average weekly earnings of full-time workers living in Nottinghamshire	£564.80	2021	£599.40	2022

What this means for Nottinghamshire:

We remain committed to helping ensure our residents have access to good quality, rewarding, local jobs. Our ambition is to do what we can to make sure everyone has the ability to reach their potential whatever their age, ability or background and within the last year alone, we have increased the number of apprenticeship and graduate placements provided by the Council. We have also seen an increase in the number of schools classified as 'good' or 'outstanding' by Ofsted. We will also continue our work with partners to help develop key facilities into community and learning hubs. Alongside this, we are also aware of the increase nationally in the proportion of pupils whose absence is persistent. Nationally it is currently around 22% for all pupils, with this increase very much related to the pandemic and the disruption this caused for young people, many of whom have struggled to re-establish regular attendance post pandemic. We have seen an increase in referrals for families including where attendance is a

concern, and this includes an increase in requests for legal intervention. As part of our responsibilities, we are reviewing data around pupil absences with a view to working with individual schools to improve attendance rates. We have also started work across Children services to raise awareness of the importance of school attendance as a protective factor for young people. For 2023/24, some of the additional work we will do is also referenced below.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **4.1** Complete and publish an Annual Childcare Sufficiency Assessment to monitor the availability of childcare across the county, so that children can access early education to support their development and preparation for school, and to ensure there is sufficient childcare for working parents.
- **4.6** Lead by example by increasing the number of employment and training opportunities for children and adults with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) within the local authority, and facilitate similar opportunities with local businesses. We will also continue our local graduate development programme to help nurture talented graduates into the managers and leaders of tomorrow
- **4.7** Work with our partners to review and improve local library services and facilities. This will include the continued development of our libraries as community and learning hubs, enabling people to access adult learning opportunities, close to their home.

Ambition 5: Strengthening businesses to create more good quality jobs

We have bold plans for the Nottinghamshire economy. Not only are we helping businesses grow and be more profitable, but we're shaping them to be more sustainable, too. These actions will benefit everyone, but we want to particularly support those communities that would benefit most from better job opportunities. Specifically, The Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- **Support and stimulate Nottinghamshire's economic recovery**
- **Help Nottinghamshire's businesses to thrive**
- **Support Nottinghamshire's businesses to comply with a changing world**
- **Develop new opportunities for business growth within the Council's land and premises**
- **Support our heritage and tourism businesses to grow and thrive**
- **Ensure a diverse and sustainable adult social care market**
- **Keep the early years sector diverse and sustainable**
- **Strengthen opportunities for all residents to access work which supports their wellbeing**
- **Use our spending power to create job opportunities for those who would benefit most.**

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action		Progress and Impact
5.1	We will deliver and refresh the Council's Economic Recovery Plan, supporting local businesses to bounce back from the COVID-19 pandemic . This will help to maintain and grow good local jobs for Nottinghamshire residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Growth and Economic Development Team's Business Advisers have supported Nottinghamshire companies in accessing grant programs, including the D2N2 Business Investment Fund, where 12 businesses received grants totalling over £240k. Additionally, 47 businesses were supported in securing over £217k of funding through the Community Renewal Fund: East Midlands Accelerator, resulting in 28 jobs created and 19 retained. Furthermore, 22 businesses received assistance from the advisers to gain over £101k of grant funding through the Capital Growth Fund. See the progress and impact identified in action 4.15 for further information.
5.2	We will support Nottinghamshire's businesses to help them transition to meet new regulatory requirements , including compliance with key Trading Standards legislative changes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 123 Nottinghamshire businesses have been provided with up to 10 hours funded Trading Standards business advice.
5.3	Create innovative business opportunities through the development at Top Wighay Farm . This will provide 13.5 acres of space for new and existing businesses to set up or expand, creating local jobs and employment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The land at Top Wighay Farm has outline planning permission for employment uses. The Council proposes to build a new office building on the site which has full planning consent, with a view to commence building later in 2023. The Council will also be undertaking highway works to service both the residential and employment land at Top Wighay.

Action		Progress and Impact
5.4	Review the Visitor Economy Strategy, so that we have a clear plan to support and grow our heritage and tourism sector , making Nottinghamshire a destination of choice and bringing investment into the County. We will also provide a training and support programme to businesses in this vital sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To meet the needs of Nottinghamshire visitor economy businesses and organisations, we've created a refreshed visitor economy framework following extensive and in-depth consultation with members of the public and stakeholders within the sector. Our framework draws the best out of the county's unique selling points, rich history and natural environment for our visitors and the businesses and organisations that serve them. Next, we'll lay out the steps we will take to support the sector to enable it to thrive and recover in an action plan. Some bespoke training and support for the sector has already taken place and this will be further developed and outlined in the action plan. In February 2023, we provided PR Training, with very positive feedback - for example, all indicated that they felt they had gained more confidence, knowledge, and skills to create good PR.
5.5	Deliver recruitment campaigns to encourage and support people to enter growth sectors , or sectors where we need additional capacity (e.g. social care, childcare) including working with our education partners and training providers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is ongoing work with the Careers Hub to promote key sectors across Nottinghamshire as an employment choice for young people. Enterprise co-ordinators work with secondary schools to support their careers leaders. We have highlighted key sectors on Nottinghamshire Opportunities. For example, please see: Social Care Nottinghamshire Opportunities (oppsinnotts.co.uk) The Childcare Recruitment campaign has been promoted on Notts Help Yourself as well as social media. The Working in Childcare webpage on Notts Help Yourself received a total of 1109 visits in 2022/23. Facebook posts from the Families Information Service related to vacancies in the sector have had a total of 13,461 views, 4505 engagements (e.g. liking, commenting on, sharing or saving) and 646 link clicks. Prospective Childminders have been able to access the local Childminder Agency who are an active member of our Early Years partnership groups.
5.6	Create an adult social care portal to support professional development. This help support and sustain the adult social care sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The adult social care portal was implemented in January 2021 and was made available for external social care providers and their workforce, with 936 care staff fully signed up. The funding was initially for two years but due to Covid impact (delays), which has been extended to June 2023. The outcome of the evaluation is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There have been positive benefits to both the workforce and providers It has been beneficial to be able to track workforce development/training The workforce has been able to access discounts in several areas. The next steps are to work with social care workforce and the Integrated Care System (ICS) in the review of any future investments which would support sustainability of the market/workforce. A new system wide ICS joint workforce plan is being developed and the outcomes/learning from project will be considered.

Action		Progress and Impact
5.7	Work with partners to develop a regional action plan for 'green growth' , delivering on the commitments made at the COP26 East Midlands Roadshow event.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There has been ongoing work with the Environment Agency and other regional partners to deliver the local evidence to inform climate change interventions across Nottinghamshire, including a Young Persons Task Force to develop and explore long, medium, and short term interventions. Nottinghamshire County Council engaged with students taking part in the Consultancy challenge, creating a report and presentation listing the top 100 actions to reach net zero across the county.
5.8	Provide post-COVID recovery support to SMEs and start-up businesses in Mansfield, Newark and Sherwood and Bassetlaw. As part of a Community Renewal funded programme we will work alongside partners and provide Trading Standards regulatory advice as part of a package of support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nottinghamshire County Council was granted £3.9 million as the Lead Authority for the UK Government's Community Renewal Fund in November 2021. The funding was used to support four projects across priority district areas in Bassetlaw, Mansfield, and Newark and Sherwood. This was completed in December 2022. The East Midlands Accelerator project received a budget of £1.8 million and was successful in providing financial and non-financial support to over 800 businesses, creating 40 new businesses, and developing over 80 decarbonisation plans. All but one of the project's targets were achieved. The Good Work project (£355k), which provided tailored support to individuals facing health and additional barriers to employment, achieved a 39% conversion rate for all 111 individuals who participated in the scheme and succeeded in finding employment. The Newstart project, with a budget of £450,000, exceeded its target for the number of participants receiving support by 66% and helped 81 participants gain employment. The project supported business growth and job creation through an employment programme that provided wage subsidies and recruitment support to local businesses. The Volunteer It Yourself project (£870k), which aimed to engage young people in developing vocational trade skills while renovating community buildings. The project renovated 19 buildings and 184 young people received training and work experience at these sites. Overall, the four projects were successful in supporting over 700 businesses, providing training and jobs to over 900 people, and benefiting 19 community buildings. While some targets were not met, an evaluation is being conducted to identify areas for improvement in future funding schemes.

Actions we said we would 'continue to' do:

Action		Progress and Impact
5.9	Provide advice and support to Nottinghamshire's businesses with our local and regional partners , through the D2N2 Growth Hub so that they can grow and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See actions 4.15 and 5.1 for progress and impact.

Action		Progress and Impact
	prosper and transition to a low carbon economy. This will include support to access funding and investment.	
5.10	Help new business to establish themselves in the County , creating opportunities for good quality, skilled jobs as well as supporting the growth and innovation of businesses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See actions 4.15 and 5.1 for progress and impact.
5.11	Offer a paid for service to Nottinghamshire businesses that provides regulatory support to help Nottinghamshire based businesses achieve compliance and prosper.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nottinghamshire Trading Standards Commercial Services provided paid for regulatory support to 21 “Primary Authority” businesses based within the County.
5.12	Support small businesses to grow through the Worksop Turbine , so that they have access to good quality digital connections and support to enable innovation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 40 businesses were supported as part of the digital connectivity project at the Worksop Turbine. These businesses now have a much better understanding of the merits and opportunities of using 5G connectivity and are now being supported to embed this within their organisations and business plans.
5.13	Ensure that environmental and social value is built into commissioning strategies and tenders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Sustainable Procurement Policy was approved in 2022. Working with the Social Value Portal, the National TOMs Framework (Themes, Outcomes and Measures) is being utilised to ensure environmental and social value indicators are built into commissioning strategies and tenders.
5.14	Provide advice on how employers can support employees to improve wellbeing at work to strengthen opportunities for residents to access ‘good work.’	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Association for the Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) and the Local Government Association (LGA) have identified enhancing the wellbeing of the workforce as one of five key national priorities and this is embedded within the Adult Social Care and Health Workforce Plan. The Quality Market Management Team have an external workforce lead who works with the provider market. One of the areas this role focuses on is wellbeing and they ensure commissioned providers are supported to recruit and retain employees. This role also shares good practice and encourages providers to consider wellbeing at work.

Our ambitions coming to life:

D2N2 Growth Hub Business Support

Our two NCC Business Advisers have provided intensive and on-going professional advice, including support to receive grant funding to 220+ Nottinghamshire businesses over the past 12 months. We have received a wealth of glowing feedback including:

“The service offered by our adviser [...] was fantastic. The process was not only effortless but, most importantly, it massively helped us decrease our carbon footprint. We have cut our energy usage through the new light fittings and reduced the volume of bubble wrap we waste by recycling our cardboard into packaging, which was previously disposed of.

Fundamentally, this grant helped us achieve these installations which we would have struggled to afford otherwise. We’ve received positive feedback from our customers who appreciate our efforts to do our bit to improve our environmental credentials. The grant contributed a large percent of the costs for these items, which not only saved us funds on the payment, but it also helped us save money, through reduced energy expenses and funds.”

Supporting the Early Years and Childcare Sector with recruitment and retention

Childcare settings across Nottinghamshire are able to use a range of marketing and publicity resources to help them recruit staff. This includes borrowing pop up banners for use at events, having a glossy leaflet that promotes a career where every day is different and having fun is part of the job description, along with providing videos and other resources that childcare businesses can use on their own social media sites to promote a career choice where you have the chance to make a difference for children and their families. More information on the range of resources available and working in the sector see: [Nottshelpyourself](#) | [Working in Childcare](#)

Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Increase in income for Trading Standards Commercial Service	£250,000	2021/22	£4,500 increase (total income: £254,500)	2022/23
Number of small businesses supported by Growth Hub	242	2021/22	226	2022/23

Success indicators the Council works with partners to influence:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Jobs density (number of jobs in an area divided by the resident population aged 16-64)	0.68	2020	0.68	2021
GVA: All industries (£million)	£16,019 million	2019	£17,121 million	2021
GVA: All industries per filled job	North Nottinghamshire - £43,573 South Nottinghamshire - £51,862	2019	North Nottinghamshire - £44,292 South Nottinghamshire - £54,728	2020
Business births per 1,000 population	3.8	2020	4.6	2021
Business deaths per 1,000 population	3.3	2020	3.14	2021
Business survival rate at 1 year	90.8%	2020	93.6%	2021
Business survival rate at 3 years	56.2%	2020	60.6%	2021

What this means for Nottinghamshire:

It is encouraging to see the latest data reflect our progress in helping businesses grow and be more profitable. As a result of joint working with key partners across the region, we are seeing more business births, alongside improved survival rates after both 1 and 3 years of a business trading. However, we don't want our progress to stop there, as we also want to continue to encourage and help make local businesses more green, sustainable and digital, which in turn will boost jobs, help Nottinghamshire through the current cost of living circumstances, and support the UK's Net Zero sustainability. To enable this to happen, we intend to carry out specific actions during 2023/24 that will further these aims, as shown below.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **5.1** Support and grow our visitor economy, using the emerging Visitor Economy Framework to guide investment decisions and priorities, so that we can generate jobs, growth, and opportunity for local people, as well as supporting small independent businesses in Nottinghamshire.
- **5.2** Continue to support the economic transition from COVID-19 through the delivery of the Economic Transition Plan with a specific focus on people and skills, business and enterprise, visitor economy, digital connectivity, new infrastructure and place-based initiatives.
- **5.5** Support Nottinghamshire's businesses to help them transition to meet new regulatory requirements, including compliance with key Trading Standards legislative changes.

Ambition 6: Making Nottinghamshire somewhere people love to live, work and visit

Nottinghamshire is known for its rich history and heritage. It's the land of Robin Hood, Sherwood Forest and the origin of the Mayflower Pilgrims, and today is a destination for world-class sport, culture and leisure. We're working with our partners to create a more vibrant, attractive Nottinghamshire and we want to share our urban and rural environments with more people than ever before. Specifically, The Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- **Work with partners to make sure the right mix of housing is available across Nottinghamshire**
- **Ensure that developments across Nottinghamshire are attractive, sustainable and well planned**
- **Deliver Levelling Up to improve quality of life in our prioritised places.**
- **Enhance and boost access to Nottinghamshire's natural environment**
- **Conserve and use our built heritage and cultural venues to cultivate a sense of place and pride in Nottinghamshire**
- **Attract more visitors to our world-class heritage and sporting venues**
- **Create healthy and sustainable places that promote people's wellbeing.**

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action		Progress and Impact
6.1	Review Nottinghamshire County Council's property assets, to release sites for development as appropriate for the benefit of the economy and local residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is an ongoing process as the Council rationalises its estate. During 2022/23 the Council completed the sale of residential development land at Walker Street, Eastwood to provide 110 homes. The Council also achieved outline planning consent for residential development at Caudwell Road, Mansfield for 235 homes and submitted for outline planning consent at The Paddocks, Radcliffe on Trent and Abbott Road, Mansfield with the intention of sale once outline consent is received. Previously agreed sales of land for housing at Top Wighay and Jacksdale continue towards completion.
6.2	Support District and Borough Partners working with their communities to access funding available for 'levelling up' and to attract other investment in priority areas. We will support the delivery of these developments / initiatives that will create the conditions and opportunities for residents to thrive and prosper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have supported the four successful levelling up round 2 bids for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bassetlaw - Almost £18 million to transform Worksop Town Centre, funding will create a new leisure facility with ten pin bowling and soft play. The works will also create a new towpath link along Chesterfield canal. Mansfield - £20m will transform the disused Mansfield department store Beales into office space and a civic hub. Broxtowe - £16.5 million to make town centre improvements in Kimberley, including transforming the Bennerley Viaduct, creating step-free access to the viaduct and boosting the cycle path network in the region. Sutton - £3.1m will help transform a Victorian underground reservoir into a science discovery centre and state-of-the-art planetarium. This will inspire the next generation of astronomers and encourage young people to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Action		Progress and Impact
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is expected that there will be a further chance to bid for Levelling Up Funding, as part of round three. We will continue to support colleagues at Gedling, Broxtowe and Rushcliffe on their bids.
6.3	Designate five new Local Nature Reserves for people and wildlife and support opportunities for people to actively engage with their local Green Spaces, including volunteering.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each proposed Local Nature Reserve needs to have a management plan in place before it can be designated. Funding is now in place for the first three sites and the production of management plans is currently underway. Designation of these three sites as Local Nature Reserves is expected to happen in Summer 2023. Funding for the management plans required for the remaining two sites is being sought.
6.4	Work to achieve ‘favourable management’ status for our heritage sites , meaning that important sites are conserved for the future.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This work will take several years to complete. In 2022/23 we have agreed the first steps that will enable us to ensure that all County Council heritage assets are identified and managed for their conservation value: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing and agreeing a Council-wide protocol for favourable management of its heritage assets. Developing systems for identifying (mapping) and consulting on heritage assets.
6.5	Refresh and deliver the Visitor Economy Strategy to support this vital sector to provide a range of attractive and accessible leisure opportunities for local people and visitors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To meet the needs of Nottinghamshire visitor economy businesses and organisations, we’ve created a refreshed visitor economy framework following extensive and in-depth consultation with members of the public and stakeholders within the sector. Our framework draws the best out of the county’s unique selling points, rich history and natural environment for our visitors and the businesses and organisations that serve them. Next, we’ll lay out the steps we will take to support the sector to enable it to thrive and recover in an action plan.

Actions we said we would ‘continue to’ do:

Action		Progress and Impact
6.6	Support District and Borough partners with the delivery of housing and commercial premises, through the local plan process so that Nottinghamshire’s residents benefit from attractive, sustainable, and well-planned residential and commercial developments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2022-23, we worked with a number of district and boroughs on the preparation of their local plans, including the Bassetlaw Local Plan and the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan. For example, we particularly focussed on transport impacts of the proposals in Bassetlaw’s local plan for Ordsall and the potential impact on the wider road network.

Action		Progress and Impact
6.7	Highlight and secure the funding needed to create infrastructure (schools, roads etc.) so that residents can access high-quality services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We prepared a Draft Infrastructure Plan for Nottinghamshire and discussed this with District Council partners to highlight the key infrastructure requirements for the County in terms of transport, schools, flood mitigation etc. This work was integrated with proposals for a new Combined Authority for Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, which will have a role in prioritising and funding infrastructure in the County.
6.8	Make use of the planning and transport system to make local areas safer and easier to be active and socialise and ensure that our transport and digital connections offer good and sustainable access to work, training and leisure opportunities, supporting people's health and well-being and generating positive benefits for our climate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have made use of public health funding to commission the Travel Choices Programme from AECOMM in 2022/23. This aimed to help residents in Bassetlaw and Mansfield and Ashfield Districts to change their travel behaviour to more active and sustainable forms of transport which are good for health and the environment and can help access their workplace. Through working with local GP practices, community groups and other partners, the project outcomes have included distributing 800 travel packs, 44 pedestrian fitbits, 17 bicycle loads and 23 e-bike loans. Provided cycle training for over 50 people.
6.9	Look after, and improve, our public rights of way network and promote access to our County Parks and green spaces , so that our residents can use good quality outdoor spaces that support their health and well-being.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through our volunteer activities on Green Spaces sites, local people have contributed more than 6,000 hours in 2022/23 to help with the management of sites, carrying out tasks ranging from habitat management to installing nest boxes, and from wildlife surveys to tree planting. We have also offered opportunities across our wider programme of activities, through the Miner2Major Landscape Partnership Scheme, the Trees for Climate programme and the Biodiversity Action Group. A further 6,000 hours of volunteer time have been contributed to projects ranging from the conservation of heritage assets to control of Invasive Non-Native Species, and from habitat works for the Grizzled Skipper butterfly to tree planting. The Miner2Major Scheme has also supported a series of new audio storytelling walks for the Sherwood area. For more information, please see: Sherwood Voices Inspire - Culture, Learning, Libraries (inspireculture.org.uk) The Council continues to work with its commissioned country park operators to ensure that its sites, which include Rufford Abbey, Holme Pierrepont, home of the National Water Sports Centre, Sherwood Forest and Bestwood Country Park are as accessible as possible. This includes specific improvements to attractions such as the development of Rufford Abbey Play Area, completed in 2022/2023, which involved the installation of new accessible play equipment. The Countryside Access Team are working on follow-up self-guided walk leaflets to the previously published West Bridgford Health Walks Pack. The walk packs are designed to assist health professionals with patient self-referrals encouraging their patients in undertaking gentle exercise in the location of their health centre. The next walks in the series are in Mansfield and Gedling areas.

Action		Progress and Impact
6.10	Work with our partners on our County's special landscapes and heritage buildings , to attract investment and protect them from neglect, decay, or from unsuitable or unsympathetic developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The partners of the Miner2Major Landscape Partnership Scheme have continued to work to protect and restore the special landscapes of Sherwood, through heathland restoration and woodland creation. This includes the installation of fencing at Budby South Forest to support heathland natural grazing, the creation of a new heathland area at Rainworth Heath Nature Reserve and heathland improvement works at Vicar Water Country Park. Further details are available on the Miner2Major website: Better Habitats Miner2Major (nottinghamshire.gov.uk) Over 3,000 hours of volunteer work have taken place on heathland sites at Budby South Forest, Rainworth Heath and the former Rufford colliery site. Species monitoring of heathland birds, reptiles and invertebrates has also taken place across heathland sites to help understand the impact of the work. We have also continued to work with Nottingham Trent University to update the Buildings at Risk register and worked with local communities to restore their heritage assets, through training or support with funding applications. All of this work will continue in 2023/24.
6.11	Use our libraries and heritage buildings to share our art and local heritage , so that residents and visitors can learn about and enjoy Nottinghamshire's unique stories.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inspire, on behalf of the Council, offer a range of heritage and archive resources and activities across its libraries, so that residents can engage with local history and stories. This includes free access to Ancestry.com, as well as a popular programme of events and talks, including the annual 'Hands-on-History' event at Mansfield Central Library, which offers visitors the chance to explore pop-up museums, local history displays and other fun hands-on activities. This year, Inspire has also collaborated with the Miner2Major Scheme to develop the Sherwood Voices Project, creating audio-guided walks to bring local heritage and landscapes to life through stories. This included sites across the Sherwood area, and covers important historic landmarks, such as the Winding Engine House at Bestwood Country Park.
6.12	Ensure our Nottinghamshire Spatial Planning and Health Framework (2019 - 2022) fully embeds health into the planning process , maximising benefits to health and wellbeing. We will refresh the framework for 2023 to ensure that our health and care infrastructure continues to meet the needs of the population of Nottinghamshire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have made use of public health funding to commission an Evaluation of the Spatial Planning and Health Framework from AECOMM in 2022/23. This reviews how health has been incorporated in to planning documents and development plans across Nottinghamshire. This will be used to inform the refresh of the Framework in 2023/24.

Our ambitions coming to life:

Discovering Sherwood Forest

Partners in the Miner2Major Landscape Partnership Scheme have created a [new audio walking experience](#). Voiced by people who live and work in Sherwood, they will take you on a journey through the rich heritage and landscapes of Robin Hood country.). Miner2Major has also carried out some research into the model villages of the Nottinghamshire Coalfield. This important but often forgotten part of our heritage is recorded in a book and a series of guides that are available through larger libraries and to download from the [Miner2Major website](#).



Tour of Britain

The Council planned and successfully delivered a stage of the 2022 Tour of Britain cycling race. The stage took in 190km of the county, with the race going from Rushcliffe to Mansfield, via Gedling, Newark and Sherwood and Bassetlaw, and passing through key villages, towns and landmarks along the way. The project involved significant engagement with schools, through competitions designed to encourage pupils' interest in cycling and exercise. The race commentary, which featured on the ITV4 national broadcast, commended the extraordinary school participation across the route; and the Tour Race Director said that the 'Nottinghamshire fans were the best of this year's race'.

Visitor Economy Framework for Nottinghamshire

To meet the needs of Nottinghamshire visitor economy businesses and organisations, we've created a refreshed [visitor economy framework](#) following extensive and in-depth consultation with members of the public and stakeholders within the sector. Our framework draws the best out of the county's unique selling points, rich history and natural environment for our visitors and the businesses and organisations that serve them. Next, we'll lay out the steps we will take to support the sector to enable it to thrive and recover in an action plan. We are committed to supporting businesses in the visitor economy sector.



Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Country park user numbers: Rufford Abbey	331,000	2021/22	337,584	2022/23
Country park user numbers: Sherwood Forest	211,236		203,850	
Country park user numbers: Holme Pierrepont/National Water Sports Centre	149,450		240,734	
Number of volunteer hours contributing to conservation projects	4,834	2021/22	6,530	2022/23
Number of children and young people accessing Outdoor and Environmental Education	21,050	2021/22	27,007	2022/23
Number of events and activities held at libraries	3,746	2021/22	11,710	2022/23

Success indicators the Council works with partners to influence:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Median housing affordability ratio (residence-based)	6.92	2021	6.96	2022
Volume of tourism in Nottinghamshire (excluding Nottingham city) (millions)	24.74m	2019	24.74m	2019
Average visitor spend per trip	£52.54	2019	£52.54	2019

What this means for Nottinghamshire:

Nottinghamshire enjoys vibrant urban and rural environments that deserve to be seen and celebrated. This is why it is great to see residents embracing what the region has to offer, whether this be through the significant increase in the number of children and young people accessing Outdoor and Environmental Education, or the increase in the number of volunteer hours contributing to conservation projects. Nottinghamshire has a lot to be proud of as a result of its rich history, heritage and culture. The significant rise in the number of events and activities held at libraries is also a positive development, with libraries now providing directly, or in partnership, a higher number of regular events and activities than before the pandemic. Partnerships, volunteer led groups and Arts Council funding have all contributed to this expansion of the overall offer. Despite this, it is also important to prioritise the places that would benefit the most from regeneration, and so for 2023/24 we have put a variety of steps in place to ensure more people than ever before can enjoy the county, with specific examples below.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **6.1** Continue to collaborate with District and Borough Partners working with their communities to access funding available for 'levelling up' and to attract other investment in priority areas. We will support the delivery of these developments/initiatives that will create the conditions and opportunities for residents to thrive and prosper.
- **6.2** Finalise the Council's Cultural Services Strategy refresh, to support the long-term delivery and development of the Council's commissioned cultural services, including country parks and libraries.
- **6.9** Deliver, co-ordinate and promote major public events, including Nottinghamshire Day and a Nottinghamshire stage of the Tour of Britain, to attract investment and generate economic benefit for Nottinghamshire. These events will also ensure that residents and visitors can enjoy leisure and cultural activities within our vibrant county.

Ambition 7: Attracting investment in infrastructure, the economy and green growth

We want to raise the national and international profile of Nottinghamshire and create the right conditions for investment and economic growth, to support opportunities for residents and a bright and prosperous future for Nottinghamshire. Specifically, The Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- Promote and drive the East Midlands Development Corporation, HS2, the Toton Campus and other major infrastructure projects
- Promote the delivery of the East Midlands Freeport
- Maximise the future use of major assets within the County
- Continue to deliver our major sites development programme at Lindhurst and Top Wighay Farm
- Protect our natural environment when new infrastructure is developed
- Help businesses to adopt low carbon practices
- Drive the development of green technologies.

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action		Progress and Impact
7.1	<p>We will facilitate and encourage partners to introduce new technologies and carbon neutral solutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ securing approval for the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund so that households in the most need are supported. ▪ agreeing the approach for Hydrogen for Nottinghamshire so that we are ready to maximise the economic benefits. ▪ supporting the Midlands' Energy Hub and participating in the Nottingham Energy Institute so that the County is at the forefront of low carbon energy production. 	<p>Agreeing the approach for Hydrogen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular participation in the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Hydrogen Taskforce Working Groups • We are supporting our partners to develop climate change strategies and carbon reduction plans as a first step towards becoming net zero and introducing carbon neutral solutions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A community directory is being developed to support the wider community in their search for new technologies and carbon neutral solutions. ○ Investigating the possibility of using MineWater Heat as a locally produced clean energy source. ○ Researching possible locations and available technologies, developing partnerships with the coal authority and district partners. <p>Partnership Working for low carbon energy production:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing work for the County Council delivering the Fuel Poverty Programme in partnership with District and Borough Council's to benefit Nottinghamshire residents with increasing their home efficiency, and reducing their energy bills. • Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund demonstrator and Wave 1 funds were secured for Arc Partnership enabled delivery with County, District and Borough monitoring to deliver. • Delivery of the Sustainable Warmth funds were secured for Midlands Net Zero Hub monitoring for County, District and Borough enabled delivery. • £90K of the cost of living heating optimisation fund was also delivered to end May 2023.

Action		Progress and Impact
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expansion of all programmes across Nottinghamshire into 2023/24 is underway.
7.2	<p>We will work with partners to develop and submit plans and business cases to secure funding for major projects, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road and railway improvements to increase the capacity of our transport infrastructure within the county. Toton and Chetwynd Masterplan to guide the development of this area to maximise the economic benefits. 	<p>Work has been completed with partners to submit a number of business cases to Central Government for major projects. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Robin Hood Line extension – Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC) submitted to Department for Transport for consideration. Nottingham to Lincoln rail line speed improvement submitted through Midlands Connect to increase line speed to 75mph. Toton link road improvement submitted through Levelling Up Fund (LUF). The latter was not successful as part of LUF round 2, but the concept remains an aspiration. The others are awaiting further feedback. If successful, they will provide new/enhanced sustainable transport options on these corridors (Mansfield-Ollerton and Nottingham to Newark).
7.3	We will support the delivery of the East Midlands Freeport and work to secure the seed funding allocation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work continues to support the delivery of the East Midlands Freeport. Government has now announced that the Freeport has been given formal approval and Space Park Leicestershire has become the first customs site operator. This meant that £25m of seed capital funding has now been released to enable delivery of infrastructure and investment projects.
7.4	We will transition into delivery of the East Midlands Development Corporation with our commercial and local partners.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing work to support the delivery of the East Midlands Development Corporation continues, with progress being made on master planning for key sites and the development of a long-term vision for them.
7.5	We will work with the landowners of the coal fired power stations in North Nottinghamshire in respect of their long-term future and proposals for each of the sites, including the case for using West Burton as a site for Spherical Tokamak Energy Production (fusion power).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The STEP fusion project at West Burton is a 20-year project being led by the UK Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA). The County Council, as the nominating body, is working in partnership with the UKAEA and local and regional stakeholders, to ensure that the best socio-economic benefits can be secured for Nottinghamshire and the East Midlands as a whole. At its meeting in March 2023, Cabinet approved overall governance arrangements for the project.

Actions we said we would 'continue to' do:

Action		Progress and Impact
7.6	Ensure our residents and businesses benefit from major infrastructure projects , such as HS2 and strategic road improvements, and that these prioritise the environment and sustainability, improve biodiversity, and minimise carbon emissions wherever possible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have responded to major infrastructure projects in Nottinghamshire including several nationally significant projects for Solar Farm development within Bassetlaw to ensure that landscape, flooding and highway impacts are controlled, and the amenity of residents is safeguarded. We have also responded to consultation on the National Highways A46 Newark bypass project, which will improve journeys around Newark at peak times.
7.7	Support and advise businesses to help them to reduce their carbon footprint and to secure funding or investment that supports this. This will ensure that business can grow and prosper, creating jobs and opportunities, but minimising their environmental impact.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the East Midlands Accelerator project, funded by the Government's Renewal Funding, Trading Standards Officers were able to support the East Midlands Chamber to help raise awareness of the funded access to Zellar available to eligible businesses under the project.
7.8	Promote the East Midlands Freeport, Development Corporation and STEP proposals which offer the County and the wider region significant economic investment opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See actions 7.3-7.5 above.
7.9	Identify a pipeline of assets to be released for high quality housing and jobs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council has sold land at Walker Street, Eastwood for 110 dwellings which are under construction. Further pipeline includes receipt of planning consent for 235 homes at Caudwell Road, Mansfield and planning consent awaited at sites in Radcliffe on Trent and Mansfield. Exchange of contracts for sale of land for 800 homes at Top Wighay awaited. All these schemes will provide much needed quality homes across the County and are part of an ongoing programme of property rationalisation and disposal.
7.10	Deliver the development at Top Wighay Farm , ensuring that a master developer for the residential element is approved and a plan for the development of the remaining land including the employment elements is in place.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negotiations continue with the identified housing developer with a view to exchange of contracts in summer 2023. Supporting highway scheme to provide access from the new junctions to both the residential site and employment land proposed to be undertaken by the Council in 23/24. Project programme in place for the delivery of the Council office element of the employment land.

Our ambitions coming to life:

Nottinghamshire site wins bid for multi-billion-pound STEP fusion energy plant

At the start of 2021, the UK Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA) launched a national search for a suitable site to locate the Spherical Tokamak for Energy Production (STEP) fusion project. This project aims to commercialise fusion technology to provide a low carbon and virtually limitless source of energy in the future.

Nottinghamshire County Council, along with its partners, submitted two detailed bids to the UKAEA for consideration. These were the West Burton and Ratcliffe On Soar power station sites.

After a detailed assessment process, the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced in October 2022 that the West Burton site had been chosen as the home of the STEP project.

The STEP project is a very long term multi-billion-pound project that will bring major investment into Nottinghamshire and the region in terms of attracting cutting edge research and design facilities, high tech industry and a wide range of high quality and skilled employment opportunities.

The County Council and its partners are now collaborating with the UKAEA to ensure the benefits of the STEP project can be fully realised across Nottinghamshire and the region.



S-Pod Invest-to-Save Initiative, Holme Pierrepont Country Park

There has been an agreement of an invest-to-save initiative for the installation of 10 S-Pod Glamping modules at Holme Pierrepont Country Park, home of the National Water Sports Centre. These modules are anticipated to be operational in spring 2024, and will improve the accommodation offer on site, extending the average stay of overnight visitors and benefitting the Nottinghamshire Visitor Economy by providing a base for exploration of other attractions across the county. As part of the invest-to-save initiative, the Council will reduce the current annual management fee by £50,000 p/a to the commissioned site operator, in return for up-front £500,000 capital investment.

Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Number of small businesses supported by Growth Hub	242	2021/22	226	2022/23
Value of Social Housing Decarbonisation Funding secured from central government for Nottinghamshire homes (cumulative)	£1.3million	March 2022	£1.3million	2022/23

Success indicators the Council works with partners to influence:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
GVA: all industries (£million)	£16,019 million	2019	£17,121 million	2021
Jobs density (number of jobs in an area divided by the resident population aged 16-64)	0.68	2020	0.68	2021
Gross average weekly earnings of full-time workers by residence	£564.80	2021	£599.40	2022
CO2 emissions commercial per capita	0.2 kilotons	2019	0.2 kilotons	2021

What this means for Nottinghamshire:

Increased investment in the Nottinghamshire economy and infrastructure contributes to an improved national and international profile for Nottinghamshire, which in turn supports opportunities for residents and helps foster a bright and prosperous future for everyone. Gross average weekly earnings of full-time workers in the county increased to just shy of £600 and, despite current difficulties posed by the cost of living and the continued recovery from the COVID pandemic, job density remains strong across Nottinghamshire. To further support this, we will continue to pursue and secure funding that will allow green technologies to be progressed, for the benefit of businesses and residents alike. Steps we will take to do this can be seen in the actions we have identified for 23/24, as below.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **7.1** Through our devolution programme, we will work together with our regional council partners and Government to progress the establishment of an East Midlands Combined County Authority, subject to the necessary approvals and the passage of the Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill through Parliament. Devolution will secure long term major investment, jobs and increased prosperity for Nottinghamshire and the East Midlands
- **7.5** Work with Partners to drive and support the work of the East Midlands Development Corporation to improve Nottinghamshire's road and rail connectivity and drive long term investment in green growth, infrastructure and employment across several major development sites
- **7.6** Continue to support the delivery of the East Midlands Freeport to drive green growth and sustainable regeneration at its identified sites.

Ambition 8: Improving transport and digital connections

Roads, transport and broadband infrastructure are essential for everyone. They bring friends and family together; grow businesses, markets and employment opportunities; open up training and leisure; and keep Nottinghamshire well connected. This means we're prioritising improving the condition of our roads and also our walking, cycling and public transport network so that people can be more active and choose sustainable transport where they can. Specifically, The Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- Invest in and improve the condition of the County's roads and pavements
- Improve local and regional transport connections to make journeys easier
- Support people with transport options that are healthier and more sustainable
- Improve bus services
- Expand walking and cycling networks
- Keep our highways safe and reduce congestion
- Keep improving our school transport services
- Increase coverage of Gigabit capable broadband across Nottinghamshire.

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action		Progress and Impact
8.1	Implement a three-year capital programme of highway improvements , ensuring that our investment represents good value for money. This will focus on our local road network, footways, and drainage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new three-year capital programme was approved by the Transport and Environment Cabinet Member on 26 March 2023. The new programme focusses on the local road network, footways as well as drainage, and contains 175 schemes and other programmes to be developed in the first year.
8.2	Progress the planning application and Full Business Case for the A614/A6097 Major Road Network improvement scheme ; and develop a Strategic Outline Business Case for the A617 Kelham Bypass scheme .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Planning Application processed for the A614/A6097 Major Road Network improvement scheme was completed, with approval for all junctions being granted in September 2022. On completion, the necessary Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) was made, leading to a number of objections. As a result, a date for Public Inquiry is pending, with the Full Business Case work to be submitted once the CPO process has concluded. This will be completed in 2023/24. Work on the Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC) for the Kelham Bypass scheme was delayed due to the need for further hydrological assessments but this will be completed to SOBC, in 2023/24.
8.3	Ensure effective operation of the Gedling Access Road and associated infrastructure to the public. This will reduce congestion and unlock housing development and economic growth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gedling Access Road was opened on 22 March 2022 and is operating as planned, reducing congestion and unlocking housing development and economic growth.

Action		Progress and Impact
8.4	Pilot our on-street electric vehicle infrastructure programme providing an easier transition to electric vehicles for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £774,000 Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) pilot funding secured from The Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) for the EV cable channel pilot scheme. The pilot scheme is to be delivered during 12 months from receipt of funding (which was received in late January 2023), with delivery of EV cable channels starting in February 2023. Funding has also been secured from OZEV to develop an EV infrastructure strategy and potential future delivery programmes during 2023/24.
8.5	We will implement the Enhanced Partnership and the Bus Service Improvement Plan to maintain the existing network and where possible deliver improved bus services, ticketing, information, priority for buses on our roads, bus infrastructure and decarbonisation of bus services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feasibility work is underway for bus priority measures and is on course to be completed by early summer 2023. Feasibility work has been commissioned to implement an under-22s ticketing scheme which will also be completed by early summer, with feasibility work for Multi-operator tickets to be completed by the Autumn. A Passenger Charter has been agreed with operators, whilst support for bus services has been agreed from April 2023.
8.6	Promote new electric bus services in Mansfield and Rushcliffe and will procure more electric buses for the Nottinghamshire fleet.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A sales and communications plan has been agreed to promote all bus services supported by the County Council.
8.7	Replace underused bus services in rural parts of Rushcliffe, Ollerton and Mansfield with a system of transport that is available on demand as part of the rural mobility fund (RMF) programme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A bus network review is being undertaken to ensure services are providing value for money. This will include exploring further opportunities for demand responsive transport. The fourth Demand Responsive Travel pilot (West Rushcliffe) started on 15 May 2023.
8.8	Promote 'active' travel (walking and cycling) improving the cycling infrastructure and maintaining rights of way to enable Nottinghamshire residents to make healthy choices about how they travel around the County.	<p>This activity is ongoing and in 2022/23 included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing delivery of pedestrian improvements as part of the 2022/23 integrated transport programme Completion of new cycling routes on High Pavement, Sutton in Ashfield and Regatta Way, West Bridgford Development of potential Active Travel Fund Tranche 3 cycle route improvements in Mansfield, Netherfield, and Sutton in Ashfield Department for Transport funding secured to undertake feasibility work on potential priority cycling routes identified through the development of the D2N2 Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan A programme of personalised travel planning undertaken across Ashfield, Mansfield and Bassetlaw Active Travel England to become a statutory consultee on major planning application from June 2023 Series of Health walk packs encouraging Health Centre patients to undertake gentle exercise.

Action		Progress and Impact
8.9	We will review the requirement for parking and pick up/drop off outside new schools to ensure new developments are delivered in a manner that promotes safe and sustainable access to school whilst considering the needs of all users, including local residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New School Guidance for Developers is being finalised and going through the Member approval process prior to being published on our website. This will make clear the need for early planning and design of drop off facilities to prevent adverse impacts on residents in areas near schools. Work on on-site drop off/pick up demand and implications for school design/layouts continues.
8.10	We will refresh our parking enforcement policies and services to strengthen our commitment to deliver efficient enforcement that protects road safety, support town centres and assist residents and disabled drivers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members have been briefed on a revised enforcement policy that focuses on key themes of road safety, assisting public transport and supporting town centre access whilst being reactive to more rural issues. For this, an E-form has been set up for Members to request urgent enforcement in their respective wards.

Actions we said we would 'continue to' do:

Action		Progress and Impact
8.11	Work with national and local partners to deliver improvements to the Strategic Road Network , so that our network remains fit for purpose and safe. We will continue to update the Strategic Infrastructure Plan to identify future transport/connectivity infrastructure priorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work is underway delivering a programme of upgrades along the A52, with further improvements to be delivered moving forwards. National Highways have been consulting on the detail of the A46 Newark Northern bypass dualling scheme. Work will continue to feed into the necessary Development Consent Order (DCO) process to support this strategically important scheme.
8.12	Develop integrated transport infrastructure programmes to help reduce journey time delays, make roads safer and improve access to jobs, training, leisure, and services. This will include targeted casualty reduction education and publicity programmes, so that Nottinghamshire residents can stay safe on the County's roads.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The target of achieving a 40% reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) on Nottinghamshire's roads by 2030 remains on track. At the end of 2022 the number of people KSI on the County's managed roads has reduced by 12.3% compared to the 2015-19 average (from 333 to 292).

Action		Progress and Impact
8.13	Protect and maintain public rights of way to enable all to walk, ride and cycle safely - this includes promoting routes that don't have physical barriers, so everyone can enjoy the network. This includes identifying opportunities in linking public rights of way with the highway and the transport network to improve access to essential services and facilities, public transport, and recreation. We will also maintain and update the Authority's Definitive Map and Statement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work continues to update the Definitive Map and Statement (DMS) by undertaking research, diverting, adding paths and solving DMS anomalies. • Promotion of the network continues with attendance at local shows, distribution of the Routes and Rides booklets and work with the Miner to Major project on the promotion of walks and rides within the M2M area. • Promotion and publication of Public Health Walk leaflets to encourage local communities to undertake gentle exercise to improve physical and mental well-being. We are currently expanding the Health Walks to Gedling and Mansfield areas.
8.14	Maintain school transport services to ensure customers' needs are met and services remain at a high level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils and students continue to receive school transport services meeting the Statutory minimum required and also a range of discretionary school transport services and pass schemes.
8.15	Help homes and businesses in hard-to-reach locations get a fast and reliable broadband service , so that residents and communities can benefit from a good digital connection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 98.64% of Nottinghamshire homes and businesses can access a superfast (minimum 30Mbps download speed) broadband service. This is above the UK average of 97.53%. You are more likely to be able to access a superfast broadband service in Nottinghamshire than in neighbouring counties of Derbyshire (97.34%), Leicestershire (98.27%) and Lincolnshire (94.18%). • 78.90% of Nottinghamshire homes and businesses can access gigabit capable (1,000Mbps or 1Gbps) broadband services. This is also above the UK average of 76.02%.
8.16	Create the world's first 5G network in a forest setting in Sherwood Forest , protecting the area while enhancing the visitor experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 5G Connected Forest has now concluded and was highly commended by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) regarding the delivery of the project and the reporting associated of the use-cases relating to the Nottinghamshire visitor economy and protecting the forest environment. • One use-case (Rufford Augmented Reality ghost walk) is being deployed at Rufford Abbey for visitors to experience. Launch is expected late 2023. • 5G testbed remains at Turbine Centre, Worksop. Providing an environment for further development of 5G-related use-cases after the lifespan of the project.

Our ambitions coming to life:

Supplying Nottinghamshire businesses with broadband connectivity

It was identified that certain businesses were struggling with poor broadband connectivity. Previous efforts to utilise the Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme had been unsuccessful, owing to the eligibility criteria not deeming the area viable, and with no connection available providing fast, reliable broadband to the business they were struggling to keep up with the demands of customers. The Digital Connectivity team were contacted and reached out to their network of known suppliers who could survey and assess the situation. Within a two-week period, a Nottinghamshire-based company that specialises in non-fixed-line home broadband services had surveyed the site, determined where infrastructure needed to be installed to provide a fast, reliable connection, and had serviced the business with the connectivity required to continue providing the services of the business.

Cycle Routes

As part of plans to deliver a high-quality D2N2 areawide cycling network, the County Council used its Active Travel Fund allocation during 2022/23 to deliver cycle routes on High Pavement, Sutton in Ashfield and Regatta Way, West Bridgford.

Designed and constructed by Via East Midlands, both cycle tracks are fully segregated from the road and the pavement creating a safer environment for both cyclists and pedestrians.

The new three-metre-wide two-way route on High Pavement runs from Station Road to Silk Street on the south-eastern side and between Langton Road and Mill Street on the northern side.

The upgraded two-way route on Regatta Way connects residential areas to facilities at Holme Pierrepont Country Park and runs from the A6011 Radcliffe Road to Adbolton Lane, where it joins with the existing shared cycle and footway.

Both schemes also form part of the Councils ambition to encourage people away from their cars and embed walking and cycling into everyday life, creating cleaner air and less congested roads.

Electric Vehicle Charging

In February 2022 the County Council launched its electric vehicle (EV) cable channel pilot programme. The EV cable channel pilot programme provides eligible households without off-street parking the opportunity to commission the County Council's highway partners, Via East Midlands Ltd., to install cable channels from their property, across the footway, so that they can charge their electric vehicle without creating a trip hazard to road users or adding to street clutter.

It's one of only nine schemes across the country to receive funding from the Government, allowing the council to continue the roll-out of the project over 2022/23.



Nottsbus On Demand

The County Council's new Demand Responsive Transport service – Nottsbus On Demand - continues to go from strength to strength and gives residents the freedom and flexibility to travel across their local area with ease.

Following the council's successful bid for £1.5 million from the Government's National Bus Strategy Rural Mobility Fund in 2020/2021 and successful trials in the villages around Retford, Ollerton, Newark and Mansfield last year, the service is now being rolled out to West Rushcliffe.

Unlike other buses, Nottsbus on Demand doesn't follow a fixed route or timetable. Instead, passengers can travel between any stops within the zone, where there is not already a scheduled bus service running. Journeys can be booked through an easy-to-use app or by calling a dedicated Nottsbus On Demand phonenumber.

Around 3,000 accounts have already been set up to use the service and 17,000 passengers have now jumped on board. Downloads of the app are reaching 200 per month and figures show that 80% of users pay, with only 20% being concessions, highlighting the appeal to young people and commuters travelling for education, work and leisure.



Bus Service Improvement Plans

The County Council and local bus operators have set out a bold ambition in the Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) to build a sustainable, efficient, and growing bus network that meets peoples' travel needs and expectations.

In a bid to improve passenger numbers and satisfaction, officers are working with operators to deliver a fully integrated bus service, with through ticketing, more bus priority measures, the same high-quality information for all passengers in more places, and better turn-up and go frequencies that keep buses running in to the evening and weekends.

Prior to BSIP funding, the council supported over 80 bus services at a cost of £4.1m and BSIP funding has enabled it to step in and protect a further 12 at risk commercial bus services that are recovering from the post-Covid decline in passengers. The council is committed to using its BSIP to invest in bus services and infrastructure which is attractive, comfortable, safe, and accessible to all.

Work is ongoing to deliver personalised, lag-free, real-time journey planning and disruption information to passengers via a new online application which will be launched later this year.

Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
% of A roads where maintenance should be considered (by network length)	1.6%	2020/21	2.5%	2022/23
% of B and C roads where maintenance should be considered (by network length)	3%	2020/21	4.1%	2022/23
% of unclassified roads where maintenance should be considered (by network length)	24.8%	2020/21	31%	2022/23
Take up of superfast broadband services delivered by Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire roll out	76%	March 2022	77%	March 2023

Success indicators the Council works with partners to influence:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Change in average journey time per mile during the morning peak on the County's urban centre networks (indexed)	2019 = 100	2019	2019 = 100	2019
% infrequent bus services running on time	82%	2019/20	83%	2022/23
Excess waiting time for frequent bus services (decimal minutes)	1.09	2019/20	1.79	2022/23
Bus patronage – single trips (excluding tram)	8,741,890 25,072,311	2020/21 2019/20	22,475,672	2022/23
Change in levels of cycling (indexed)	100	2021	98.4	2022 (related to 2021 baseline)
No. of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) on roads	332	Average number KSI per year 2015-2019	289	December 2021- December 2022
Publicly available electric vehicle charging devices at all speeds per 100,000 population	33.2	Snapshot at Q1 Jan-March 2022	39.8	Snapshot at Q1 Jan-March 2023
Proportion of premises passed by superfast network	99%	March 2022	99%	March 2023

Proportion of premises passed by ultrafast network	76%	March 2022	79%	March 2023
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What this means for Nottinghamshire:

Ensuring Nottinghamshire has well connected roads, transport and broadband infrastructure helps bring friends and family together; grow businesses, markets and employment opportunities; and opens up training and leisure activities. That is why we are actively working to ensure roads and pavements are maintained to a high standard. We are extending our Right Repair, Right First-Time approach to help ensure that permanent repairs are delivered in a timely way across our highways network. Where the latest data shows that further improvements can be made, such as a reduction in the excess waiting time for frequent bus services, we are keen to see these realised too, with work ongoing to implement our Bus Service Improvement Plan, to maintain the existing network and where possible, deliver improved bus services. It is also important that we embrace the latest innovations, which is why the public availability of electric vehicle charging devices has increased, enabling electric vehicle owners to have confidence in their ability to travel across the county. Similarly, it is positive to see a decrease in the number of people killed or seriously injured on roads, whilst bus patronage continues to recover to pre-pandemic levels. Specific actions outlining how we will continue to improve Nottinghamshire transport and broadband connections, being evidenced below.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **8.1** Increase the coverage and quality of broadband connectivity across the county so that residents have access to fast and reliable broadband services. Where possible, this will also include the installation of better-quality, gigabit connectivity.
- **8.7** Implement the Enhanced Partnership and the Bus Service Improvement Plan to maintain the existing network and where possible deliver improved bus services, ticketing, information, first phase of priority measures for buses on our roads (including feasibility for the Baums Lane/A60 junction in Mansfield), bus infrastructure and decarbonisation of bus services.
- **8.11** Develop and implement a winter maintenance plan for road repairs to counteract the impact of the colder months on the state of Nottinghamshire's highways, ensuring that roads are well maintained.

Ambition 9: Protecting the environment and reducing our carbon footprint

We're committed to protecting and enhancing Nottinghamshire's environment over the next four years and, by 2030, it's one of our top priorities to make all Council activities net carbon neutral. Specifically, The Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- Improve the sustainability of Council owned land and property assets
- Reduce our energy and water use
- Reduce the impact of our work-related travel and transport
- Reduce our waste generation
- Promote good environmental practice, by encouraging our workforce and community partners to be minimise their environmental impact
- Drive use of public transport and other green ways to travel
- Reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions
- Manage the impact of climate change on Nottinghamshire's environment
- Protect our green spaces from pollution, soil erosion and invasive non-native species
- Restore our landscapes, ecosystems and biodiversity
- Support cleaner economic growth.

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action		Progress and Impact
9.1	Publish our Greenhouse Gas Emissions report to set a baseline from which to reduce our carbon emissions to carbon neutral by 2030. We will also publish a Carbon Reduction Plan to set out how this will be achieved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greenhouse Gas Emissions reports have now been published for 2019-20 (baseline data), 2020-21 and 2021-22. Since 2019, greenhouse gas emissions from Council activity has reduced by 32%. The Carbon Reduction Plan was approved in early 2023. This is the framework for action split into three broad areas of energy use: buildings, highways assets and work-related travel and transport.
9.2	Develop a staff travel plan to encourage and support staff to use active travel and public transport alternatives. The travel plan will support the new Hybrid working strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A staff travel project is underway and a number of workstreams have been created to pull together a plan around staff travel. The workstreams will look at current offers and incentives for staff, hybrid working options, and car clubs.
9.3	Develop a plan for Zero Food Waste to eradicate the food waste generated at Council offices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our Zero Food Waste plan is ongoing, with an electronic ordering system now in place to reduce over ordering of food and to support effective stock management. Staff training regarding sell by/use by dates to reduce waste is also taking place, with other benefits including; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Control of electronic ordering from suppliers based on historical data and therefore future predictions. Ordering of pre-prepared fresh vegetables to cut down on waste during preparation. (County Hall kitchens – school food). Customer feedback to provide supply and demand modelling. Working collaboratively with suppliers relating to recyclable packaging.

Action		Progress and Impact
9.4	Develop and roll out training for all staff and Councillors about Climate Change and Carbon Literacy to provide an understanding of climate change, the challenges we face and how individuals can make a difference.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A tailored Carbon Literacy course, designed by the Local Authorities' Energy Partnership (LAEP) and approved by the Carbon Literacy Project, is being rolled out across the Council. So far, nearly 100 staff have completed the course and achieved Carbon Literate status.
9.5	Carry out habitat management works on Local Nature Reserves and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), to produce management plans to inform future works. This will improve biodiversity and reduce the level of non-native invasive species in the County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This work is ongoing and in 2022/23, we have carried out habitat enhancement works at 20 Local Wildlife Sites on the County Council's Green Spaces, and at all 5 Sites of Special Scientific Interest that are under the Council's management.
9.6	Plant 170,000 trees through the Trees for Climate Change programme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2022/23 we planted approximately 50,000 trees, of which 16,000 were on County Council land. The programme continues until March 2025, and we are on target to achieve or exceed our goal of creating 250 hectares of new woodland, although the majority of this is likely to be through private landowners. The new woodlands we are creating at Bestwood and Brinsley have been dedicated as Platinum Woods, in tribute to the 70-year reign of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth.
9.7	Develop and implement a Greener Highways Plan , covering the management of trees, green corridors, and road verges so that we support the reduction in pollution, help alleviate flooding, increase biodiversity, enhancing the environment for both people and wildlife.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This activity is ongoing, and a final draft Greener Highways Plan is being prepared.

Actions we said we would 'continue to' do:

Action		Progress and Impact
9.8	Reduce the Council's energy and water use by making changes to site operation and management, raising staff awareness and engagement in energy saving behaviours and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance and improvement of the council's operational estate and maintained school buildings, including energy efficiency, has taken place, providing a good environment for service users and visitors across a whole range of council buildings.

Action		Progress and Impact
	investing in energy saving measures and equipment, such as systems, appliances, and controls.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A two-year programme of Energy Audits across the corporate property estate has commenced to identify areas for investment in energy efficiency and renewable generation. This exercise will also target behavioural improvements. A number of energy surveys have been undertaken in schools, to provide advice and possible funding solutions for energy efficiency measures, such as LED lighting upgrades.
9.9	Use the Council's spending power to support carbon reduction and sustainability by, procuring products and services from suppliers with good environmental practices and supporting suppliers to make improvements where necessary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Sustainable Procurement Policy was approved in 2022. Working with Social Value Portal, our Procurement Team has implemented the National TOMs Framework (Themes, Outcomes and Measures) to ensure environmental and social value indicators are built into commissioning strategies and tenders. The Sustainable Procurement Policy was successfully launched with suppliers attending across the County in March 2023. Further networking events will be scheduled later in the year, together with support for businesses, on delivering sustainability in Nottinghamshire.
9.10	Deliver the environmental benefits outlined in our 'Investing in Nottinghamshire' programme profile. This will reduce our carbon footprint and increase our renewable energy production. This year we will aim to complete the Beeston Central office refurbishment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Beeston Central Office refurbishment was completed early in the year and a maintenance and Decarbonisation project at County House was also delivered, which was a £1.4m project to replace the old gas heating system with an Air-to-Air Heat Pump heating and cooling system. Procurement of Zero Carbon for Business electricity for all sites under our portfolio (corporate estate as well as schools and academies, Inspire and VIA sites) and includes the energy for main streetlighting as well as signals and bollards across the county Work continues to enable electricity and gas consumption data to be collected from smart metering. This is currently covering 65% of suppliers under our portfolio (corporate estate as well as schools and academies, Inspire and VIA). This data assists sites to be more energy efficient.
9.11	Work with partners on the delivery of the Air Quality Strategy 2019-2028, to ensure air pollution remains low across all areas of the County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Health colleagues are working with partners on Clean Air Day 2023, which aims to raise awareness of the links between air pollution, mental health and brain health.
9.12	Develop information and support that enables communities to respond to the climate emergency and transition to net zero.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A community directory continues to be under development to sign point community groups to key information and guidance to support their journey to net zero, including funding opportunities. A new round of the Local Communities Fund has been launched. Communities' groups and organisations can apply for up to £20,000 funding for projects that help to address climate and environmental change and/or minimises any negative impact on the environment.
9.13	Avoid and divert waste from landfill and improve the County's recycling rates,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working in partnership with the County's waste management partner, Veolia, as well as the District and Borough Councils, the County Council have successfully implemented an annual communications plan,

Action		Progress and Impact
	through initiatives and campaigns aimed at Nottinghamshire residents	focussing on educating residents on how to reduce, reuse and recycle their waste. Based upon latest figures the County Council look to be on track to diverting 95% of all waste from landfill.
9.14	Work in partnership with local operators and community transport providers to green their fleet , through applying for available funding to support investment, so that carbon emissions from public transport reduce.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council awaits a further Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) bidding round from the Department for Transport, to reduce carbon emissions from public transport.
9.15	Work with partners to develop and roll out electric vehicle charging infrastructure across Nottinghamshire , providing an easier transition to electric vehicles for all.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In January 2023, there were 316 publicly available EV charging devices (at all speeds) available in Nottinghamshire – 38.2 per 100,000 population.
9.16	Convert street light bulbs to LEDs to reduce energy use from street lighting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The streetlights in all Nottinghamshire districts have now been updated with energy efficient LEDs. As a result, savings have been achieved through reduced energy, which is especially important during this current cost of living period when energy prices are increasing. Since 2015/16 we have saved over 90,000 tonnes of carbon and saved over £14 million.

Our ambitions coming to life:

Carbon Reduction Plan

The County Council has developed and published a Carbon Reduction Plan. The plan is a roadmap of how the Council will continue to reduce its carbon emissions over the next seven years to become carbon neutral by 2030 in all its own activities. The plan concentrates on our four big areas of emissions, setting out internal roles and responsibilities:

- Energy used in powering street lighting, traffic signs and signals, and other highways assets such as subway pumps, ticket machines and bus shelters
- Energy used to heat and power our operational buildings
- Fuel used by fleet vehicles owned or leased by the Council
- Fuel used by grey fleet (vehicles owned by staff and used for Council business)

Along with the latest Greenhouse Gas Emissions report the Carbon Reduction Plan will be reviewed annually.

New platinum woods

Through the Trees for Climate woodland creation programme, we are creating two new woodlands at Bestwood (next to the Country Park) and on land near Brinsley. Both of these new woodlands are over 70 acres in size and have been dedicated as Platinum Woods, as part of the Queen's Green Canopy. When the planting is complete, they will provide green spaces for local people, as well as valuable new habitats.



Green Investment Fund

We have 12 green investment fund projects underway that are helping to support the council's transition to becoming carbon neutral in all our activities by 2030. These projects include, providing cycle provision at our offices so staff have the option to make greener journey's and creating renewable energy on two of our buildings with PV solar panels.

Carbon Literacy Training

Over 90 members of staff are now Carbon Literacy trained. This is helping to create the low carbon culture we need to make Nottinghamshire a greener place.

Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
% household waste sent to refuse, recycling or composting	41.3%	2020/21	42%	2021-22
% household waste diverted from Landfill	95.3%	2021/22	95.3%	2021/22
Number (%) of lamps converted to LED	84,000 (87.5%)	2021/22	90,214 (95.5%)	Position at end of March 2023
Energy consumption across NCC Property Assets	26,376,556 kWh	2020/21	22,692,584 kwh	2022/23
Number of local nature reserves on County Council land	7	2021/22	7	2022/23
Number of Sites of Special Scientific Interest in "favourable condition"	0 out of 5	2021	0 out of 5	2022/23
Number of trees planted (cumulative)	53,348	2020/21	68,656	2022/23

Success indicators the Council works with partners to influence:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Total CO2 emissions in Nottinghamshire	4,449.7 CO2 kiloton (kt)	2019	4,423.2 CO2 kiloton (kt)	2021
Co2 emissions per capita Nottinghamshire	5.4 tons (t) per Capita	2019	5.4 tons (t) per capita	2021

What this means for Nottinghamshire:

Protecting and enhancing Nottinghamshire's environment remains central to the council's goals and ambitions, and we continue to work to reduce total CO2 emissions across the county. More specifically, the Council continues to make progress towards our target of having planted a quarter of a million trees on Council land by March 2025, with us now just short of 70,000 trees planted. Similarly, we have seen a significant reduction in our energy consumption across Nottinghamshire County Council Property Assets, with these steps, amongst others, showing how seriously we are taking climate change. These are just a few of the actions taken since we declared a climate emergency in 2021, with other actions we will take in 2023/24, both new and in areas of work already underway, being included below.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **9.4** Develop renewable energy capacity across the Council's estate to reduce our reliance on purchased energy and grid capacity, and to further the Council's progress towards achieving our ambitious carbon neutral target by 2030.
- **9.10** Develop and implement a Greener Highways Plan, covering the management of trees, green corridors, and road verges so that we support the reduction in pollution, help alleviate flooding, increase biodiversity, enhancing the environment for both people and wildlife
- **9.11** Develop a plan to minimise food wastage within our school and college catering estate so that we reduce our environmental impact and improve our cost effectiveness.

Ambition 10: A forward looking and resilient Council

We're always looking to make services more efficient and sustainable and better meet people's needs, and will carry on looking at ways to develop our services and change the way we work in the future. Specifically, The Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- **Delivering our Council-wide Improving Residents Access Programme, to give people better access to information and services, develop technology that helps people access our services more easily, and empowering vulnerable people to be as independent as possible**
- **Maintaining the financial sustainability of the authority through our Medium-Term Financial Strategy, allocating resources appropriately to achieve the ambitions in this Plan and working with partners and the Government to maximise the resources available.**
- **Developing our Council-wide approach to service transformation. This will help us to identify and develop new ways of delivering services that create the best possible long-term outcomes for people. It will find better ways of managing costs and demand**
- **Managing the transition from our current Committee system to a Cabinet system of governance that will help speed up and improve our decision making**
- **Continuing to develop our hybrid-working model to enable staff to deliver services in new ways, whilst reducing our carbon footprint from staff travel and reducing our property costs**
- **Continuing to invest in supporting and developing our workforce, so that our staff are resilient, adaptable, and equipped to face the challenges of changing services and workplaces**
- **Ensuring that the way we work with our partners, residents and with each other across the Council reflects the values we set out in this Plan**
- **Joining up our commissioning activity across Council services to achieve financial benefits and improve services for people.**

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action		Progress and Impact
10.1	Work to bring forward regional devolution proposals with our regional council partners that will secure major investment, jobs and increased prosperity for Nottinghamshire and the East Midlands, in response to the Government's Levelling Up White Paper.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All 2022-2023 devolution programme milestones were met, with a historic devolution deal being signed with Government, in August 2022. • Following this, a public consultation on the proposal to create the East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA) took place between November 2022 and January 2023. • 4,869 responses were received, with the consultation showing support for the improvements that devolution would make possible. All four city and county councils (Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham, and Nottinghamshire) voted to approve a revised version of the proposal (amended to take account of the outcomes of the consultation), in March 2023.
10.2	Develop a Digital Strategy that embeds use of data and new technologies into all elements of the Council's business. This will	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Digital Strategy has been developed and approved by Finance Committee. This supplies the approach the Council should take to developing Digital services and is based on Government Digital Services principles.

Action		Progress and Impact
	improve the experience of our residents when they interact with the Council, create efficiencies in our processes and ways of working so that we use our resources where they add greatest value to our residents and communities and help us to understand the needs in our communities to target resources effectively.	
10.3	Implement changes to the Council's governance arrangements , so that Councillors can make timely and informed decisions about changes that affect the people of Nottinghamshire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes to the Governance arrangements from the Committee system to the Executive (Leader and Cabinet) system were completed following their implementation after the 12 May 2022 Full Council meeting. Training and familiarisation continues with members and officers, whilst a member led review is currently underway to consider overall impact and any minor adjustments which may be required to ensure the arrangements operate effectively.
10.4	Engage with our workforce around the Council's culture and ways of working – "The Nottinghamshire Way." This will involve developing and rolling out a refreshed approach to employee engagement so that colleagues understand how they fit into the 'bigger picture,' feel listened to and involved in the decisions and changes that impact them. This will be supported by a new corporate leadership development programme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our workforce has been widely engaged with on the Nottinghamshire Way. This includes roadshows from the Chief Executive, with the Nottinghamshire Way playing a key feature in all of our Leadership Development Programmes. The Nottinghamshire Way values also feature through our Employee Performance and Development Review (EPDR) process. As a result, there is increased engagement with our workforce about the "bigger picture" and the Council's direction of travel, through regular communications, Chief Executive blogs, online forums such as Yammer, as well as Corporate Director cascade of communications. Staff are listened to through networks, trade unions and team feedback, particularly when developing a new policy or initiative, to ensure that staff impact is considered.
10.5	Strengthen the processes we use to choose how to provide services for residents by developing our approach to 'strategic commissioning.' This will ensure that our funding is used effectively to meet identified needs and that services demonstrate good value for money.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Strategic Commissioning Framework has been developed and was approved by Cabinet in March 2023. As part of the framework, an interactive Strategic Commissioning toolkit has been developed with a comprehensive training plan. The focus is to now roll out and implement the framework across all departments to ensure our funding is used effectively and delivers better outcomes for our residents.
10.6	Review our Hybrid working model to ensure it is flexible and meets the needs of our	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New ways of working, alongside enabling technologies, has meant that travel costs have dropped by around £700k post-Covid.

Action		Progress and Impact
	changing workforce and reflects new developments in technology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The technology element for Hybrid working has been installed into 119 meeting rooms across the Council and the Council Chamber. The Rufford suite has also had equipment installed. Our internal health and wellbeing survey gathered data from approximately 1,500 staff who fed back about hybrid working and its impacts. It was very successfully rolled out and the next iteration for 2023 is to review this further alongside the plans for our future use of buildings, so that the two strategies are aligned.

Actions we said we would 'continue to' do:

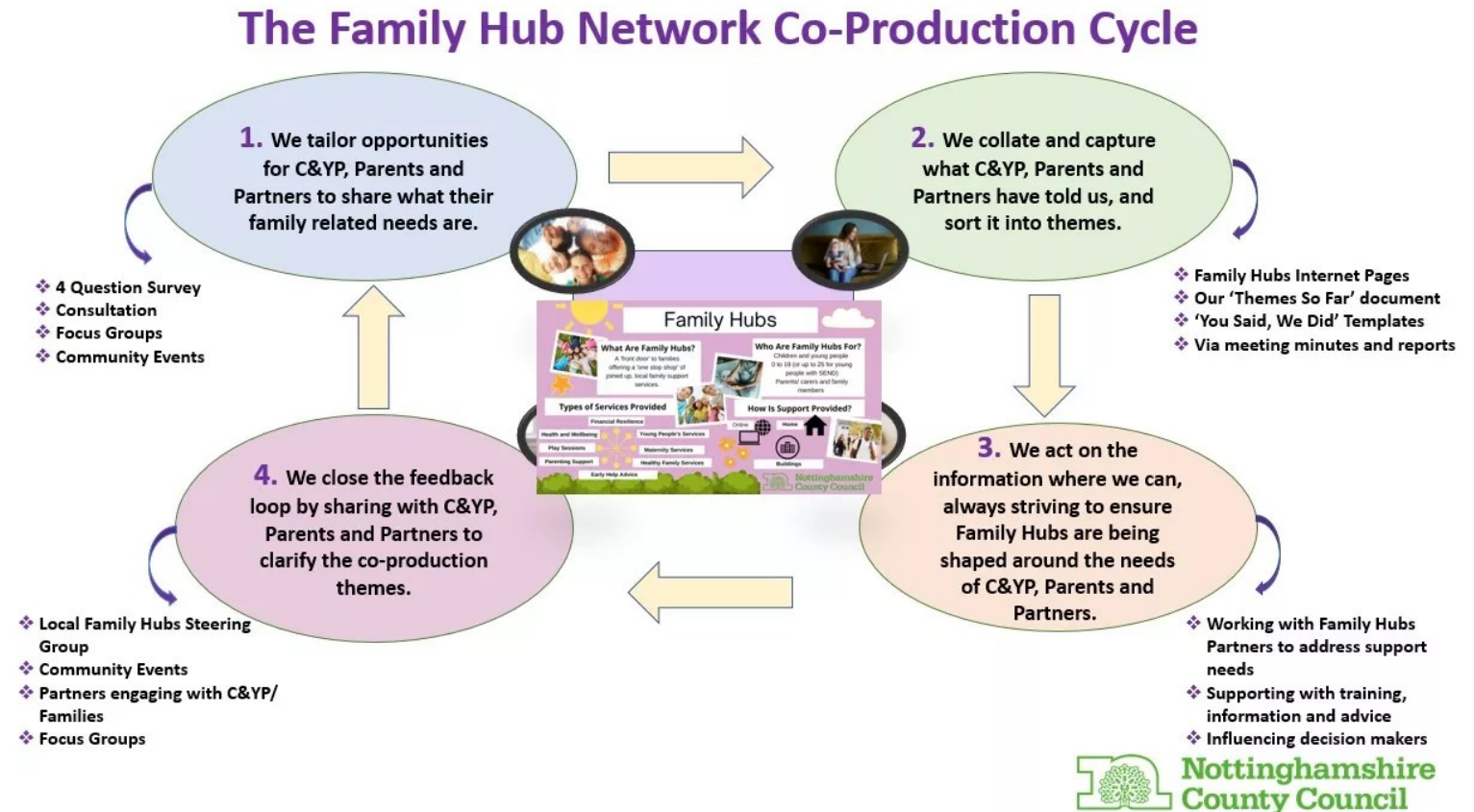
Action		Progress and Impact
10.7	Manage the Council's finances effectively to maintain financial stability and sustainability, so that we can continue to invest in delivering or commissioning services that make a difference for our residents and communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council set its Budget in February 2022. This set out how the budget matches to the ambitions in the Annual Delivery Plan and the long-term plan for financial sustainability. The Council monitors its budget throughout the year with regular monthly reports to the Cabinet Member for Finance, and quarterly to Cabinet. The anticipated year-end forecast is an underspend on the budget of £1.6m (0.3% of the Council's Net Budget Requirement).
10.8	Work collaboratively across the Council, and with partners, to develop and deliver our cross-cutting transformation programmes . This will help us to work together to test new and improved ways of working, service delivery and systems. It will also create the conditions to enable us to deliver coordinated and integrated transformation, that makes a difference for the County's communities and residents.	<p>Work has progressed to deliver our cross-cutting transformation programmes. As part of our transformation programmes, we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launched a Stronger Families Team to support young people on the edge of care Established a multi-disciplinary approach dedicated to the needs of the whole family to support families to help themselves Launched a Kinship Support Service that will provide support to people looking after children within their family and friends network Increased the fees that we pay to foster carers to support them with the increased cost of living, supporting them to continue to provide family homes for children who need care Secured funding to increase the number of residential places in Nottinghamshire, so that young people who need a residential place can live closer to their family home. Undertaken co-production with Children, Young People Families and Carers on the Retford Family Hub Network offer; successfully hosted the Retford Egg-Stravaganza family event attracting approximately 100 families and 20 partners delivering a variety of family-friendly stalls; completed the Virtual Family Hub Recommendation report and commenced work on the redesigned Virtual Family Hub offer. Created a dedicated internet and intranet page of Cost of Living support; created a Cost-of-Living Support tile in the My Notts App; delivered Money Guides training for NCC employees to enable them to offer support to

Action		Progress and Impact
		<p>residents; developed an A5 booklet of advice, support, guidance and signposting to support those digitally excluded from accessing information, which has been distributed via Libraries, Children's Centres and through front line colleagues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed a new vision and set of principles to support young people with special educational needs and disabilities as they prepare for adulthood, which have been developed in co-production with young people, people who have been through transitions, parents, carers, NCC colleagues and Health colleagues. • Completed analysis regarding young people who are predicted to require services and support post-18 to improve understanding of their needs, to identify any themes and any gaps in service provision. • Developed options to improve how we provide information, advice and guidance, so that people can access up to date and relevant information that helps them to find the help or support they need at a time and a place that is right for them. • Developed proposals for how we will continue to improve the pathways to support for children, young people, families and adults in need of care and support, to enable people to access the right support at the right time • Worked with the Emergency Duty Team to help improve processes, so that more of their time can be spent supporting the people requiring help and support through the service. • Launched the Strategic Commissioning Framework to enable the Council to build on best practice and embed a consistent approach to developing, designing and commissioning services that is informed by evidence, is focussed on improving outcomes for people and communities and ensures that the money we spend is delivering maximum value to the County.
10.9	Develop and support employees of Nottinghamshire County Council, through our new People Strategy, embedding new ways of working and focussing on the wellbeing and resilience of our workforce. Supporting our employees means that they can provide good support to residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is strong wellbeing support for employees provided by the Council, with our health and wellbeing survey reporting that staff feel very well supported and that the provision is very comprehensive. This will continue to be strengthened each year and take account of any emerging wellbeing and resilience challenges.

Our ambitions coming to life:

Embedding the Family Hub Network Co-Production Blueprint

Family Hub Networks provide a 'front door' to families offering a 'one stop shop' of joined up, local family support services. A bespoke approach to co-production has successfully been piloted in the Retford Family Hub design site which has led to a new and fresh way of engaging with children and young people, families/ caregivers and partners, including a new strengths based 'Shape Your Family Hub' questionnaire and the 'Family Hubs Themed Document' which highlights the family related priorities identified in the community. All of the engagement (which included the Retford Egg-Stravaganza event held in Easter half term) has laid the foundations for developing the Virtual Family Hub which aims to reflect what children and families tell us they need support in accessing. This approach means that we can get it right, first time with truly listening and responding to the needs of families in Nottinghamshire.



Notts Help Yourself

Colleagues across the Council, led by the Families Information Service and Local Offer for Care Leavers, have been busy working on the new look Notts Help Yourself (www.nottshelpyourself.org.uk) website - the source for everything residents need to know about services in Nottinghamshire. Through co-production the final version went live on 31 October 2022.

 <p>Families Information Service</p> <p>Support and information for expectant parents and families with children and young people aged 0-19</p> <p>Find childcare Help with childcare costs Start talking together Things to do out and about</p> <p>See more</p>	 <p>Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Local Offer</p> <p>Support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities aged 0-25</p> <p>Education Short breaks Preparing for adulthood Things to do</p> <p>See more</p>	 <p>Local Offer for Care Leavers</p> <p>Support for care leavers moving into adulthood and independent living aged 16-25</p> <p>Is it for me? Setting up home Health and happiness Achievement offer</p> <p>See more</p>	 <p>Adults and Communities</p> <p>Support for adults on employment, education, health, housing, financial advice and things to do in the community</p> <p>Staying well Somewhere to live Personal assistant directory Carers</p> <p>See more</p>	 <p>Care Professionals and Organisations</p> <p>News and resources for care professionals and organisations, including COVID-19 information</p> <p>Sign in/Create an account Setting up and growing a business What's on for providers Tenders and funding opportunities</p> <p>See more</p>
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Sustainable Procurement Policy

The Council approved the Sustainable Procurement Policy which sets out our ambition in delivering social value. The Sustainable Procurement Policy will ensure that for every Nottinghamshire pound spent, the most amount of value added is achieved for our residents and our community.

Strategic Commissioning

The Council approved the Strategic Commissioning Framework to ensure the Council commissions goods and services that will deliver the priority outcomes set out in the Nottinghamshire Plan.

Occupational Health and Safety Management System

The Council holds and operates an Occupational Health and Safety management system that complies with ISO 45001, an international (ISO) standard verified and continually audited by BSI as the external accrediting body. We have this recertified every three years with continuing assessment visits twice a year. The management system ensures good safety management, legal compliance, and continual improvement.

Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
% Change in Number of My Notts App Users	17,513 users	2021/22	81.5% increase (28,540 users)	At end of Mar 2023
% Change in visits to website	4,694,171 visits	2021/22	1.76% increase (4,776,706 visits)	2022/23
Customer Satisfaction with Customer Service Centre	Measure in development	N/A	97.7%	2022/23
% of staff satisfied with their health, safety and wellbeing at work	77.3%	2021	74.5%	2022

What this means for Nottinghamshire:

Whilst our focus is on the delivery of services that matter most to residents, it is also remains important that we are self-reflective and consider how we, as a Council, can improve our own internal mechanisms and processes. To that end, we know the health and wellbeing of our own workforce is pivotal and so where we have seen a slight reduction in the percentage of staff that are satisfied with their health, safety and wellbeing at work, we will work to design and implement a new approach to employee engagement, which will include a review of our approach to workforce Health and Wellbeing, focussing on staff wellbeing and resilience so that they are fully supported to be fit and well at work. We will also continue to develop the My Notts App, where we have seen a significant uptake in the number of residents accessing and being able to self-serve via their mobile phone, as a means of improving access and engagement with local people. Customer Satisfaction with our Customer Service Centre is also extremely high, with residents being very happy with the way their enquiries are being managed, the ease of accessing the service and the professionalism and helpfulness of the team supporting them – 97.7% reporting a positive experience from that contact.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **10.3** Strengthen the processes we use to choose how to provide services for residents by developing our approach to ‘strategic commissioning.’ This will ensure that our funding is used effectively to meet identified needs, services demonstrate good value for money and our procurement procedures are both sustainable and compliant.

- **10.6** Design and implement a new approach to employee engagement to ensure colleagues, including our self-managed groups, have a voice, feel listened to, and involved in the decisions and changes that impact them. This will also include a review of our approach to workforce Health and Wellbeing, focussing on staff wellbeing and resilience so that they are fully supported to be fit and well at work.
- **10.11** Work collaboratively across the Council and with partners, to continue the development and delivery of our cross-cutting transformation programmes. This will help us to work together to test new and improved ways of working, service delivery and systems. It will also create the conditions to enable us to deliver coordinated and integrated transformation, that makes a difference for the County's communities and residents.

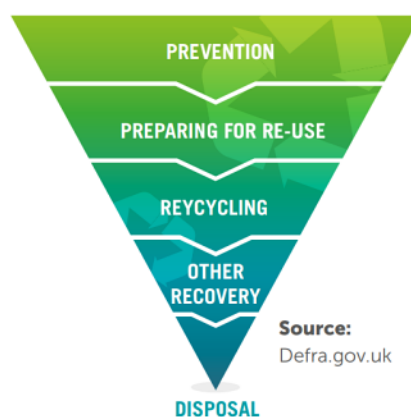
REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER, TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAM WASTE LOCAL PLAN
– PRE SUBMISSION VERSION****Purpose of the Report**

1. To enable the Cabinet to consider and endorse the publication of the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Local Plan Pre Submission Version (Regulation 19) in light of the outcome of consultation on a Draft Plan and other considerations.

Information

2. The Waste Local Plan is a statutory document that all Waste Planning Authorities must prepare. It sets out policies against which all development proposals involving recycling and waste processing are assessed and determined by the County Council. The Plan is being jointly prepared by the County and City Councils, reflecting the collaborative way the Councils have prepared Waste Local Plans in the past.
3. The overall aim of the Plan is to ensure that a sufficient range of sites are provided to meet expected future demand for recycling and waste management in the most sustainable way by supporting greater levels of re-use and recycling of material, seeking to minimise landfill and to safeguard existing waste management sites from being unnecessarily lost or impacted by other development.
4. The vision and strategic objectives of the Waste Local Plan therefore help support the environmental and sustainability objectives of the Nottinghamshire Plan especially in terms of reducing the County's impact on the environment. Waste processing and recycling is an economic sector which helps avoid having to dispose of waste to landfill. Most former quarries in Nottinghamshire which historically accepted landfill waste are now full. Often waste contracts mean that material is shipped outside Nottinghamshire adding to heavy goods vehicle movements.
5. The Plan and its supporting Waste Needs Assessment seeks to accommodate the expected demand for waste management facilities resulting from waste generated within the County and City boundaries following the "hierarchy" of waste which seeks to ensure that waste is firstly prevented, then repaired/re-used, then the material recycled, then used to enable recovery (eg energy recovery) with disposal being the last resort. The Plan is under no obligation to provide waste management capacity for waste generated outside the County and City boundaries.

THE WASTE HIERARCHY



6. The Plan will provide an up to date policy basis for determining future applications for waste development to help achieve national recycling targets for household waste of 65% (and higher proportions for commercial/industrial and demolition/construction waste) and ensure that waste is managed as high up the waste hierarchy as possible to reduce the amount of waste having to be disposed to landfill to the absolute minimum. The Plan seeks to ensure that future applications for waste processing and recycling are considered against strong and carefully worded criteria to ensure that future development only takes place in locations which are most appropriate, taking into account the local environment and residential amenity in particular.
7. The County and City Councils have for many years prepared Joint Local Plans for Waste owing to the cross boundary nature of recycling and waste management. The current Waste Core Strategy was adopted in May 2013 and is supplemented by policies from the Waste Local Plan of 2002. These documents are now out of date and both Councils agreed to prepare a single new Plan. The new plan will look ahead to 2038.
8. The preparation of the Plan began by carrying out an informal public consultation on the issues and options faced over the new plan period in early 2020. The feedback from this consultation fed into the development in 2021/22 of a draft version of the Joint Waste Local Plan, which was published for consultation between February and April 2022.
9. In total 283 representations were received from a total of 39 organisations and individuals. This included statutory bodies, district and parish councils, neighbouring county councils, the waste industry, interest groups and members of the public.
10. A Report of Consultation setting out the comments received on each policy of the Draft Plan is set out in Appendix 1 together with a summary response to the comments and an indication of how the policy has been changed, where this is the case.
11. The proposed Joint Waste Local Plan Pre Submission Version, which incorporates changes in response to the consultation on the Draft Plan, is appended to this report at Appendix 2. It is termed Pre Submission as it is the version of the Plan which is published for formal representations prior to submission to the Secretary of State for examination. Cabinet is able to approve publication of the Pre Submission Plan for consultation. Under the Constitution,

approval of the submission of the Pre Submission Plan to the Secretary of State is a decision for Full Council.

12. The Joint Waste Local Plan supports the Nottinghamshire Plan's ambitions to work towards a healthy, prosperous and greener future for all communities in Nottinghamshire. It is focussed on providing a planning framework to provide facilities to enable a shift to a high level of recycling from both households and businesses over the period to 2038 and reduce the level of residual waste which is disposed of to landfill to an absolute minimum.
13. Waste recovery and recycling businesses are growing in Nottinghamshire and the Government plans to bring in additional measures to support household and commercial recycling and introduce greater producer responsibilities to reduce waste and foster recycling over the next decade. We want Nottinghamshire businesses to benefit whilst protecting the environment and local residents from the impacts of waste management.
14. The Waste Local Plan is part of the Policy Framework for the Council and a decision reserved for Full Council and as such is not a Key Decision to be taken by Cabinet. The purpose of the report to Cabinet is to simply agree publication of the Plan for formal consultation which will then return afterwards to Full Council for approval to submit to the Secretary of State. Only Full Council can approve submission but officers consider it appropriate for Cabinet to approve publication of this key document (and which follows the City Council's approach).
15. Preparation of the Pre Submission Version has been informed by a body of evidence, with the relevant documents listed as Background Papers. Should Full Council resolve to submit the Pre Submission Version to the Secretary of State following consultation, these documents will need to be updated and/or supplemented in order to meet ongoing statutory requirements and to demonstrate that the Plan remains up to date and consistent with national policy and guidance. As documents are updated or created, they will be added to the Waste Local Plan page of the Council's website.
16. The Pre Submission Plan and Waste Needs Assessment have been considered by the Cabinet leads for Waste Planning at both Councils. A meeting of a Joint Councillor Working Group was held with officers on 28 March to discuss the Pre Submission Plan, attended by Councillor Neil Clarke of the County Council and Councillor Pavlos Kotsonis of the City Council. The development of the Joint Waste Local Plan has also been overseen by the Joint Committee on Strategic Planning and Transport which meets four times a year to enable Councillors of the County and City Councils to discuss matters of mutual concern.
17. As this is a Joint Local Plan, it requires similar approval by Nottingham City Council. The City Council Executive Board is meeting on July 18th to consider the Pre Submission Plan and a verbal report will be made to the Cabinet meeting to confirm if they have approved it for consultation.

Next steps

18. The Pre Submission Version is the final stage in the development of the Waste Local Plan prior to submission to the Secretary of State. It sets out the approach that the County and City Councils consider is the most appropriate for future recycling and waste development in Nottinghamshire and Nottingham. The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 stipulate that once a Plan has been finalised it must be published for formal

representations before being submitted to the Secretary of State who (through the Planning Inspectorate) will appoint an examiner and report to both Councils on the 'soundness' of the Plan. If the Plan is considered to be 'sound' then it can be adopted by both Councils.

19. Subject to approval by Cabinet, the Publication Version will be therefore published for a period of six weeks between 30 August and 11 October 2023 to allow for formal representations on the soundness of the plan.
20. A Guidance Note will be published on the Waste Local Plan webpage providing information on the tests of soundness along with a specific template/form to help respondents reply to the consultation.
21. Following this six week period, officers from both Councils will consider the representations and if the Plan is still considered generally sound, will make reports to both Councils to recommend submission of the Plan to the Secretary of State for examination. For both Councils this is a decision which is reserved for the Full Council.
22. At the examination stage, an Inspector will consider the Pre Submission Version, the evidence supporting it and representations received at the Publication (Regulation 19) stage and judge whether it is sound and whether it meets the legal requirements of a Plan. The Inspector may suggest that the Councils make further modifications to the Plan in order to make it sound, before it is formally adopted at meetings of both Councils.
23. It is currently anticipated that the Plan will be adopted in Autumn 2024.

Other Options Considered

24. Preparation and keeping an up to date Waste Local Plan is a statutory requirement. Without an up to date planning policy framework in place, planning applications for recycling and waste development could be submitted and decided with little weight afforded to local planning policy resulting in a lack of certainty for local communities and the waste industry. The only other option is to not approve consultation and suspend preparation of the Plan with the above consequence and this is not considered appropriate.
25. With this being a joint Waste Local Plan prepared by the County and City Councils, there is always the potential for one authority to approve the next stage of the Plan's progress and the other authority to not approve. However, given the longstanding working relationship the two Councils have on the joint preparation of Waste Local Plans, dating back over 20 years, it is considered very unlikely that the two authorities would make opposing decisions at this advanced stage of the Plan's preparation, particularly given the way the two councils have worked closely on the Plan, at both officer and Member level.

Reasons for Recommendations

26. To make the Cabinet aware of the response to the Draft Plan consultation stage and to present a final Plan to the Cabinet for approval to publish for formal representations to be made.
27. To ensure that the Waste Local Plan is approved for publication by the administration prior to consideration by the Council to submit the Plan to the Secretary of State, in accordance with the constitution of the County Council.

28. To provide delegated authority for officers to make necessary minor changes considered necessary associated with publication.

Statutory and Policy Implications

29. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, the public-sector equality duty, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service 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

30. The costs of preparing and examining the Joint Waste Local Plan will be met through a reserve which has been established to cover these costs. The current balance of the reserve is £100,313. Nottingham City Council supports a proportion of the revenue costs of plan preparation at a level proportionate to the size in population terms against that of the County. This currently stands at 28.1%.

31. Officers have given consideration to the likely costs to be uncured over the next two financial years as the Plan progresses towards adoption. These are detailed in the table below (with the City Council's contribution in brackets) and confirm that there is sufficient in the reserve to cover these costs.

Cost element	Projected Cost (City Contribution)	Expected timing of payment	Financial year
Further adjustment to WNA	£2,176 (£611.45)	Spring 2023	2023/4
Design/publication of pre submission JWLP	£500 (no charge – minor cost)	Summer 2023	2023/4
Programme Officer * appoint from Jan 2024	£1,000 (£281)	Spring 2024	2023/4
Total	NET COST to NCC 2023/4 – £2,783		
Programme Officer	£3,000 (£843)	Spring/Summer 2024	2024/5
AECOM support during examination	£2,000 (£562)	Summer 2024	2024/5
Examination venue costs – assumption held in County Hall so no charge. May require PA hire?	£1,000 (£281)	Summer 2024	2024/5
PINS examination	£35,000 (£9,835)	Autumn 2024	2024/5
Design/publication of adopted JWLP	£500 (no charge – minor cost)	Autumn 2024	2024/5
	NET COST to NCC 2024/5 – £29,979		

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- 1) Accepts the summary of the main issues raised during the consultation on the Draft Plan Stage as outlined in the Report of Consultation (Appendix 1) and how these have been addressed;
- 2) Endorses the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Local Plan – Pre Submission Version (Appendix 2) and that it be published for formal representations.
- 3) Authorises the Corporate Director, Place, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment, to make any further non-material typographical, formatting, mapping and other minor amendments considered necessary prior to publication.

COUNCILLOR NEIL CLARKE MBE CABINET MEMBER, TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

For any enquiries about this report please contact

Emma Brook, Principal Planning Officer, Planning Policy Team, 0115 977 3097 or
Stephen Pointer Team Manager Planning Policy 0115 993 9388

Constitutional Comments (CH 19/03/2023)

32. Cabinet has the authority to consider the report and recommendations in line with the Budget and Policy Framework prior to the final plan being submitted to Full Council for approval.

Financial Comments (PAA 15/06/2023)

33. The financial implications are set out in paragraphs 30 and 31. The anticipated costs to the Council in 2023/24 and 2024/25 will be met from the Local Plan reserve.

Background Papers and Published Documents

A series of technical assessment documents have been prepared to support the development of the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Local Plan and these can be found in full at:

[New Waste Local Plan | Nottinghamshire County Council](#)

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All

Nottinghamshire and Nottingham

WASTE LOCAL PLAN

Draft Plan Consultation Report

May 2023



Nottinghamshire
County Council



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Nottingham
City Council

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1. Introduction

- 1.1. On-going and effective consultation and community involvement is an essential part of the planning process, for both plan making and planning applications. Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council's approach to consultation and engagement with local people, statutory bodies and other groups during the preparation of the Waste Local Plan and on waste planning applications is set out in their Statements of Community Involvement (SCI).
- 1.2. All Local Planning Authorities are required to prepare a SCI which sets out the consultation and publicity measures that will be undertaken when preparing local plans. The most recent version of the [County Councils SCI](#) was adopted in March 2018, with a temporary Addendum adopted in September 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The City Council adopted their SCI in 2019, with an Interim SCI introduced in 2020 also due to the pandemic. An [updated SCI](#) is expected to be adopted in June 2023.
- 1.3. For plan making, public consultation and community engagement with key stakeholders, statutory and industry bodies and members of the public provide valuable feedback that helps shape and progress the plan, from the early stages up until its adoption following public examination.
- 1.4. For the new Waste Local Plan, so far two informal public consultations have taken place; Issues and Options (February till May 2020) and the Draft Waste Local Plan (February till April 2021).
- 1.5. The first consultation was on the Issues and Options document which set out the main issues expected to arise during the plan period and explore what reasonable options existed to resolve them. Through consideration of the responses provided and further evidence collated, the Councils developed a Draft Waste Local Plan.
- 1.6. This consultation statement outlines the representations received following consultation on the Draft Waste Local Plan, summarising the main issues raised and how these have been considered in the development of the Pre-Submission Draft Version of the Waste Local Plan.
- 1.7. As two further sites were also submitted as part of this consultation, the details of these as well as the sites put forward during the previous call for sites consultation, which occurred at the same time as the Issues and Options consultation, are provided and considered.

2. Consultation on the Draft Waste Local Plan

- 2.1. The consultation on the Draft Waste Local Plan ran between the 7th of February until the 4th of April 2021 and sought comments on all elements of the document which included:
- 1. Introduction
 - 2. The Scope of the Waste Local Plan
 - 3. Context for Waste Planning
 - 4. Overview of the Plan Area
 - 5. Waste Management in the Plan Area
 - 6. Our Vision and Strategic Objectives
 - 7. Strategic Policies
 - 8. Development Management Policies
 - 9. Monitoring and Implementation
 - 10. Useful Information
 - 11. Glossary
- 2.2. Comments were also welcomed on the supporting documents that were published alongside to support the Draft Waste Local Plan, these included:
- [The Waste Needs Assessment](#)
 - [Issues and Options Sustainability Appraisal](#)
 - [Draft Waste Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal](#)
 - [Report of Consultation for Issue and Options](#)
 - [Equalities Impact Assessment](#)
 - [Options document](#)
- 2.3. A total of **283 representations** from **39 respondents** were received during the consultation period, with 51% of comments being on the strategic and development management policies (chapter 7 and 8) and 18% commenting on the Waste Management in the Plan Area chapter (chapter 5), which included comments on the Waste Needs Assessment.
- 2.4. The sections below summarise the main issues raised by each element of the document and outlines the Councils response of how the issues raised will be considered and inform the next stage of the Plan, which will be the Pre-submission Draft.
- 2.5. As the Waste Needs Assessment informed chapter 5 of the plan, Waste Management in the Plan Area, comments on the assessment have been included within this section.

3. Chapter 1. Introduction.

Total number of comments received: 0

- 3.1. No comments were received on Chapter one. Changes have been made to Chapter 1 to update the text to reflect the current position of the plan.

4. Chapter 2. The Scope of the Waste Local Plan

Total number of comments received: 4

- 4.1. Overall, there was support for this chapter of the waste local plan with comments largely relating to wider issues, in particular relating to increasing recycling rates. Respondents suggested that further education and commonality between what can be recycled at home between authorities was needed to increase recycling. One respondent felt the target of 50% of waste to be recycled by 2038 was too low, with taking until 2038 to achieve this too long, instead annual or biannual targets should be set.

Response

The Councils recognise the desire to increase recycling rates, with the Plan seeking to promote the circular economy and waste hierarchy and so educate people as far as is possible through a Local Plan. Whilst some topic issues are not appropriate within the Plan as they are beyond its statutory function, the Councils do produce other local documents and policies that seek to educate and encourage the reduction and recycling of waste.

In relation to the timescale of the plan, planning up to 2038 matches the government regulations for timescales (strategic policies should have a minimum of 15 years). The Plan will also be subject to annual monitoring, which will include looking at the current recycling rates and any new legislation and will inform whether any reviews of the policies are necessary.

Considering the above, no changes have been proposed for this chapter.

5. Chapter 3. Context for Waste Planning

Total number of comments received: 10

5.1. The main focus of comments on this section related to the policy and legislation section, with respondents recommending the following were added:

- Net Zero Strategy 2021
- Carbon Budget Order 2021
- Environment Act 2021.

And the following edited to reflect recent changes:

- Climate Change Act 2008 (2050 target amendment) Order 2019
- Waste Incineration Directive (2000/75/EU), which was replaced by the Industrial Emissions Directive in 2010 and reference needed to the EU (withdrawal) Act (2018)
- Waste Management Plan for England which was updated in 2021

5.2. Several respondents also noted that the example of anaerobic digestion as a recovery operation in paragraph 3.6 was incorrect, with such facilities now recognised as a form of recycling.

5.3. Two respondents also commented about the reference to energy recovery in paragraph 3.6, stating that energy recovery facilities, like the Eastcroft Incinerator, that supply energy and heat should not be considered sustainable and be described neutrally.

5.4. It was also highlighted that some transposed EU law has been replaced with new targets and policy for England, including a new target to half residual waste by 2042.

Response

This chapter has been updated, in particular the national policy and local policy sections to reflect the latest relevant policy, including reference to the Carbon Budget, the Environment Act and the Environmental Improvement Plan.

As detailed in the NPPW, Energy from Waste is classified as recovery which is the second step on the waste hierarchy and therefore is more desirable than disposal. The Councils have a responsibility to ensure there is sufficient waste management provision in the plan area that can handle waste across all areas of the hierarchy. The WNA has identified a shortfall in Energy from Waste capacity and so a moratorium would be inappropriate and not in line with National Guidance or Policy.

6. Chapter 4. Overview of the Plan Area

Total number of comments received: 3

- 6.1. A small number of comments were received on chapter 4, all of which recommended additions to the text, this included:
- Highlight that between the main towns and 'small villages' a number of relatively large towns and villages exist across the County
 - Provide further detail in relation to the County's landscape of how heathland is found in the north-west and the landscape in the east is flat, low lying agricultural land
 - Adding reference to the historic environment of the plan area, explaining how the past industry and economy of the area has influenced the development and landscape
- 6.2. It was also recommended that Plan 1 shows the A46 Newark bypass and the Possible Potential Special Protection Area (ppSPA) correctly, as per Natural England's advice note.

Response

Additional text has been added into Chapter 4 to address the three points raised by respondents in paragraphs 4.4, 4.5 and an additional paragraph to outline the historic development of the plan area.

Plan 1 has been amended to show the A46 Newark Bypass and the ppSPA.

7. Chapter 5. Waste Management in the Plan Area

Total number of comments received: 55

- 7.1. Comments on Chapter 5 of the Draft Plan largely focused on elements of the Waste Needs Assessment (September 2021) as chapter 5 summarises and presents the key findings. The Councils therefore requested AECOM to assist with responding to comments in relation to this chapter. The detailed response to technical data questions from AECOM are provided in Appendix 1.
- 7.2. Overall comments focused on the proposed scenarios which are used to forecast the future arisings for each waste stream, the future recycling scenarios and future provision for energy recovery. There were also several comments that were beyond the remit of plan, such as asking why certain materials cannot be recycled and the collection of food waste.
- 7.3. In relation to the proposed scenarios to forecast total future arisings for each waste stream, respondents mainly focused on the scenarios for Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW) and Commercial and Industrial (C&I). For both, there were opposing views. Some respondents suggested an even higher decline scenario in total arisings should be considered to align with emerging Government targets and ambitions, whilst others stated that the scenario selected should have been ones for higher growth in arisings as this would be more realistic and ensure sufficient provision.
- 7.4. Opposing comments were also received in regard to the future recycling scenarios, which are used to help understand how the forecasted future waste arising by stream will be managed in the future and so indicate if there is sufficient provision in the plan area. Many respondents commented that the highest recycling scenario for LACW, 65%, was too low and not ambitious enough. Others thought the 65% scenario was overly ambitious considering the Councils current recycling rates and so using this to base future provision would not ensure adequate provision of other facilities, such as energy recovery. This was also a comment relating to the C&I recycling rate, with respondents stating the scenarios were too high and the calculated current recycling rate (70%) was not reflective of the current situation.
- 7.5. One respondent also commented on the proposed recycling scenarios for Construction, Demolition and Excavation (C, D&E) waste, stating that 95% was too high with recycling for this waste stream already maximised.
- 7.6. A few respondents also questioned the assumption that 10% of LACW and C&I would be landfilled. This seemed to be unambitious and also didn't reflect the current situation whereby around 6% of LACW is landfilled. The Energy Recovery sector also argued this assumption alongside choosing to

use the higher recycling scenarios resulted in the energy recovery provision being squeezed and would result in there being insufficient capacity for energy recovery in the future.

- 7.7. Comments on the future arisings and how these would be handled therefore also went on to discuss whether the provision of types of facilities was correct. This mostly related to energy recovery facilities, with respondents raising concerns with the identified current capacity in the plan area. Some respondents argued the existing capacity figure of 243,162 tonnes was too high as it included two facilities which are specialist facilities, which they believed should be omitted. Other respondents had the opposing view that the assessment underestimated existing energy recovery capacity.
- 7.8. Respondents also sought clarity on tables 11 and 12 which relate to the capacity required for landfill over the plan period, questioning whether this was the total void space needed or what was needed annually.

Response

In relation to the proposed scenarios to forecast future arisings, AECOM have updated the Waste Needs Assessment (2023) to include the latest available data, which has been used to update the baseline data for which future arisings are forecasted and so the scenarios. The Councils consider scenario b for LACW and C&I are appropriate and gives a balance between growth of housing and businesses and the drive to decrease waste production.

Regarding the recycling scenarios, the higher scenarios at 65% for LACW, 80% for C&I and 95% for C, D&E have been retained and used to forecast future provision needs. The Councils believe these are a balance of being realistic but also sufficiently ambitious.

AECOM have considered the comments around the assumption of total arisings being landfilled and note that currently around 6.2% of LACW is landfilled in the plan area. Therefore, rates of LACW to landfill have been amended from 10% by 2035 to 5% by 2035. This though does not preclude waste from being managed higher up the waste hierarchy where this is viable. This could include recovery or recycling, thus allowing for future provision of these facilities if a need can be demonstrated by an applicant.

AECOM and the Councils have reviewed the facilities it is including in the capacity calculations for recovery and recognise that one facility is limited to animal by products. Therefore, this facility has been removed from the total recovery capacity in the plan area.

Further detailed responses to issues raised around the waste needs assessment are provided in appendix 1.

Finally, the Councils have added a footnote to table 11 to provide clarity that the total deficit capacity is the total amount of void space needed to meet arisings expected to be disposed by 2038.

8. Chapter 6. Our Vision and Strategic Objectives

Total number of comments received on chapter: 21

- 8.1. Alongside specific comments on the vision and strategic objectives, two respondents were supportive of this chapter, though one respondent felt more detail was needed in places.

Vision

Total number of comments received: 6

- 8.2. In relation to the first paragraph of the vision which aims for a circular economy, two respondents outlined how the plan should be focusing more on reducing the amount consumed so that targets around waste and climate change can be achieved.
- 8.3. Two respondents did not agree that energy recovery should be sought within the Vision as it is contrary to the desire for a circular economy and should be the last option in how to manage waste due to high greenhouse gas emissions. Respondents also stated it could harm recycling aspirations and the decarbonisation of the electricity sector. It was also noted that anaerobic digestion and composting of food waste is preferable over incineration as it supports the circular economy of nutrients through the creation of compost and digestate. To reflect this, it was suggested that the Vision should then aim to recover nutrients not energy, with the wording in the penultimate sentence of the first paragraph amended to reflect this.
- 8.4. One respondent also outlined how the vision is currently worded does not take into consideration that for some waste types, such as hard to recycle plastics, landfill may be the preferable option. It was suggested the vision be amended to be flexible so to minimise residual waste that needs to be burnt or buried and any remaining waste be managed appropriately.
- 8.5. Newark and Sherwood District Council raised concerns about the second paragraph of the vision, in particular the suitability of locating new facilities near Newark. The Council sought for further justification and clarification to be given for identifying why medium facilities should be located near Newark and what constitutes as a medium scale waste facility.
- 8.6. One respondent welcomed the inclusion of heritage in the vision but wished for further consideration of how the plan will ensure heritage is protected and enhanced.
- 8.7. There was also a suggestion to amend the final sentence of the vision so that sustainable renewable energy opportunities were maximised and promoted, reflecting that not all renewable energy schemes are sustainable.

Response

The Vision has been amended to include that it is anticipated that communities will be producing less waste by minimising the use of resources and re-using these as far as possible by 2038.

In relation to comments that the vision should see recovery as the last option in how to handle waste, the first paragraph of the vision follows the levels of the waste hierarchy, with recovery being the second least preferred above disposal and so it is appropriate to seek recovery if waste cannot be recycled. Recovery also includes land recovery where waste material is used instead of virgin material. It is a key requirement of the plan to ensure waste arising in the plan area can be managed by providing sufficient waste facilities to handle all elements of the waste hierarchy, accepting that not all waste can be recycled.

The term energy has not been replaced with nutrients as the Vision and the Plan needs to consider all waste streams and not just food waste. It is recognised in SP2 that anaerobic digestion and composting facilities will be prioritised over recovery proposals.

The Vision and supporting policies seek for facilities to be located nearby to urban and populated areas as this is where most waste in the plan area is produced. By locating appropriately sized facilities nearby settlements and where proposed growth is, this should ensure a sufficient network of facilities across the plan area so that waste can be treated at the nearest appropriate facility. Such an approach should deliver sustainable waste management as required by the NPPW (2014) and Waste Regulations (2011) and was found to be the most sustainable option by the Sustainability Appraisal (Issues and Options, September 2021). The Councils recognise that what size of facility may be appropriate for the location depends on individual circumstances and the type of facility. Therefore, the Vision and Policy SP3 no longer seeks a hierarchical approach where the size of the facility relates to the size of the settlement. Newark though is a key settlement in Nottinghamshire for housing and employment and one where further growth is planned and anticipated. To be able to accommodate this growth and move towards more sustainable waste management methods, further waste management provision will be required here as well as other urban areas around the Plan area.

In relation to heritage, as the vision states it aims to protect and enhance several areas, including heritage, with Policy DM6 providing further detail and requirements to ensure heritage is protected and enhanced.

The Councils believe the amendments made to the Vision address key concerns and identifies the hopes for future waste management in Nottinghamshire and Nottingham.

Strategic Objectives

Total number of comments received: 13

- 8.8. There was a desire to for waste prevention to be more prevalent across the strategic objectives, specifically in Strategic Objective One and Two as well Strategic Objective Five, which respondents thought should focus on reducing future needs and facilities as less facilities would be needed if the amount of waste produced is reduced.
- 8.9. In regard to Strategic Objective One: Acting on Climate Change respondents noted that there was no reference to minimising greenhouse gas emissions. One respondent also suggested biodiversity be included within the objective.
- 8.10. One respondent suggested Strategic Objective Two: Strengthening our Economy should be amended to remove reference to maximising the recovery of waste as incineration overcapacity is undesirable.
- 8.11. For Strategic Objective Three: Protecting our Environment, a respondent proposed separate objectives for different areas of the environment, including an objective for the historic environment. Another respondent recommended including a reference to biodiversity net gain within the objective, including the local target of 20%.
- 8.12. A respondent also suggested that within Strategic Objective Four: Safeguarding Community health and wellbeing, wording from Strategic objective three in the waste core strategy that ensures local people have the chance to be involved in decisions by providing more information, encouraging wider involvement and targeting key groups and individuals were appropriate should be added.
- 8.13. Finally, for Strategic Objective Seven: Minimising the impacts of transporting waste, one respondent suggested this should recognise the need to avoid incineration overcapacity as this could result in waste having to be imported from afar. Another respondent supported the objective to encourage alternatives to road transport, suggesting that any applicants seeking to consider the use of wharf facilities contact the Canal and River Trust to help with proposals.

Response

The Councils agree that Strategic Objective One should include reference to generating less waste, minimising greenhouse gases and biodiversity and the objective has been amended to include this.

The aim to maximise recovery of waste has been retained in Strategic Objective Two as this is in accordance with the Vision and delivering the waste hierarchy. Also, recovery of waste can relate to other waste management treatment besides Energy from Waste.

The Councils agree to include additional wording in Strategic Objective Four to include that local people have the chance to be involved in decisions.

As outlined in the NPPW, as the waste planning authority the Councils need to ensure sufficient waste management facilities to handle future waste arisings generated from the plan area. It is therefore not considered appropriate for Strategic Objective Five to seek to reduce waste management facilities.

Strategic Objective Seven relates to all waste management facilities and such detail of where waste will be sourced, mode of transport and capacity requirements will be dependent on the individual proposal. The Councils therefore do not believe it is relevant to single out one type of waste management facility within this objective.

It should be noted the order and so numbering of the objectives have changed and updated to reflect the amendments made previously to reflect comments received from the Issues and Options consultation which were mistakenly not included within the draft plan. Please see the [errata note](#) published on our website for further information.

9. Chapter 7. Strategic Policies

- 9.1. There was a total of 70 comments on Chapter 7, with comments received on all the strategic policies as well as the introductory text.

Introduction

Total number of comments received: 2

- 9.2. One respondent commented on paragraph 7.5 and 7.6 of the introductory text, seeking for further explanation and clarification on the points relating to 'outweigh' and 'habitats site'.

Response

Both paragraphs 7.5 and 7.6 reflect the wording of the NPPF (Paragraph 11, part D and Paragraph 182 respectively) and therefore the Councils do not propose any changes.

SP1- Waste Prevention and re-use

Total number of comments received: 8

- 9.3. Three of the eight comments on Policy SP1 were from district councils and whilst all supported the principle of the policy to prevent and reduce waste, two councils were concerned about the implementation of the policy on non-waste development proposals. One Council sought further explanation of how the policies aims will be achieved and assessed in the determination of applications. Another council believed that the policy was overstepping as Planning Practice Guidance states that specialist plans, such as waste plans, should provide a framework for decisions involving these uses only. Policies within the district or borough local plans would address waste generation from non-waste developments.
- 9.4. The Environment Agency highlighted that in relation to paragraph 7.8., which states how waste materials can be re-used on site for construction or engineering purposes, the Environment Agency has legislation (permits/exemptions) for this process including Recovery permits, U1 exemptions and the CL:AIRE Code of Practice.
- 9.5. The Environment Agency also commented in relation to paragraph 7.9 that recovering energy from residual waste can contribute to a balanced energy policy, but this should not undermine preventing or minimising waste.
- 9.6. One respondent also discussed how re-use and repair should be focused upon more to prevent and minimise waste.

Response

The Councils believe that Policy SP1 should include non-waste development proposals as this policy can work with policies within the Borough and Districts Local Plans as detailed in paragraph 7.12 to deliver the waste hierarchy, which as detailed in paragraph 010 of the Planning Practice Guidance for Waste is for all authorities to deliver. The guidance also details how non-waste planning authorities might achieve this. Additional text has been added to the justification text which outlines how, for proposals that are likely to generate large volumes of waste, a waste audit may be useful. This is in accordance with paragraph 049 of the Planning Practice Guidance for Waste.

Additional text has been added to 7.8 to highlight that applicants will need to check whether permits are required.

The suggestion on repair unfortunately is beyond the scope of the Plan. The Councils do produce other documents and projects which do seek to reduce and prevent waste.

SP2- Future Waste Management Provision

Total number of comments received: 9

- 9.7. Most of the comments on SP2 related to the policy wording with several amendments proposed. This included refocusing the policy so that reduction/prevention of waste was the primary focus, followed by priority being given to re-use and repair facilities. Though there was also a suggestion for no priority to be given by the policy to any facility type as all were required to adequately handle the waste arisings from the plan area.
- 9.8. Some also felt the policy needed to contain further information, including clearly identifying what the waste management needs for the plan area are and the recycling targets for each waste stream as identified in Chapter 5. It was also noted that the policy does not list all types of waste facilities that may come forward, including waste transfer sites and wastewater facilities.
- 9.9. Only one comment was received in relation to the supporting text which noted that paragraph 7.14 should recognise that the drive to divert waste from landfill across the UK will lead to a requirement of more centralised energy from waste facilities which will serve several waste planning authority areas. It is therefore suggested that the Plan should not preclude such facilities.

Response

The Councils agree that the wording for Policy SP2 required amending and have proposed several changes. It was not seen appropriate to include waste reduction or prevention within the policy as this is the prime focus of Policy SP1: Waste Prevention and re-use. Policy SP2 focuses on ensuring there are sufficient facilities to handle the waste that is generated in the plan area as high up in the waste

hierarchy as possible. Therefore, the Councils believe it is appropriate for the policy to prioritise recycling facilities, which is in accordance with the Waste Management Plan for England. Also, transfer stations have been referenced in the policy and text, it is not seen as appropriate to cover all waste facilities within the policy.

In relation to the comment that centralised energy from waste sites will be needed, paragraph 7.15 recognises several scenarios which may mean waste needs to be exported or imported and handled more centrally or regionally. The Plan therefore contains a further policy on this, SP6, and takes the pragmatic approach of aiming to provide sufficient capacity to manage the equivalent of the plan areas waste arisings, accepting that movement of waste is likely. This applies to all waste management facilities, and it will be dependent on individual applications.

SP3: Broad Locations for New Waste Treatment Facilities

Total number of comments received: 8

- 9.10. There were concerns raised about the hierarchical locations included within policy SP3, with Newark and Sherwood Council raising the suitability of locating facilities near Newark and that the policy and text failed to define what would be considered a small, medium and large facility. There was though support from Mansfield District Council for the broad approach of locating facilities in the Mansfield/ Ashfield area as there would be sustainable benefits of treating waste locally as well as economic benefits if local job opportunities arise. Historic England raised the issue that such a focus on the locational perspective meant the policy failed to consider whether the development was appropriate from a historic environment perspective.
- 9.11. Two respondents also raised that by seeking to locate waste facilities in built-up areas this would result in these being close to sensitive users, such as existing and proposed residential and commercial developments. Careful planning therefore would be needed to ensure developments can co-exist without adverse impacts on one another.
- 9.12. Two district councils also commented that the last paragraph of the policy text was inconsistent with Policy SP7, with the difference between open countryside and green belt locations should be distinguished.

Response

The Councils recognise that by not defining what would be considered to be a small, medium and large facility makes the policy ambiguous and that there may be differing individual circumstances within a proposed application that means a different scale of facility may be appropriate than that stated in Policy SP3. It is also difficult to define sizes of waste facilities as these will vary depending on the type of facility and the waste it handles. Also, in the future waste facilities could be different as technology evolves and so any definition could become quickly outdated. The Councils have therefore amended the policy to focus waste management facilities

near the main sources of waste and that the facilities scale should be appropriate to its location. However, as a main settlement within Nottinghamshire with proposed growth for housing and employment, Newark remains a suitable location for waste facilities as outlined in the supporting text. Newark is a key settlement in Nottinghamshire for housing and employment and one where further growth is planned and anticipated.

In terms of the policy failing to consider whether proposals are appropriate from a historic environment perspective, impacts on the historic environment will be dependent upon the specific scheme proposed at the application stage as no sites are to be allocated within the Plan. Policy DM6 seeks to protect and enhance the historic environment and will need to be addressed within any application and ensure consideration is given as to whether the location of the proposal is appropriate in regard to the historic environment.

The Councils note that consideration must be given by all development proposed, as the agent of change, of the potential impact on surrounding uses. Policies SP8, DM2 and DM10 recognises this and seeks to ensure that waste facilities and non-waste developments can co-exist without adverse impacts on one another. Cross referencing to these policies has been added into the justification text.

The Councils agree the policy was inconsistent with Policy SP7 and have amended the policy so to distinguish between open countryside and green belt, with reference made to Policy SP7.

SP4: Residual Waste Management

Total number of comments received: 9

- 9.13. Respondent's comments focused largely on proposing amendments to parts (a) and part (c) of the policy.
- 9.14. For part (a), comments suggested that as disposal is the final resort for treating waste, the opening sentence should be stronger, using phrases such as '*only be permitted*' or '*will not be permitted*'. It was also suggested that a further sub clause should be included that stated applications will only be permitted where damage to environmental assets will not be caused. It was also highlighted that the policy does not give priority to using inert waste in the restoration of mineral voids and landfill sites which is stated in the supporting text.
- 9.15. In relation to part (c), it was suggested that the wording was amended to '*landscaping treatment*' and the '*where appropriate*' deleted as the plan, under DM5, seeks for disposal sites that require restoration to enhance biodiversity and restore these to a high environmental standard.

Response

In terms of part (a), as this relates to proposals considered to be recovery, this is the second level of the hierarchy, and it is preferable that inert waste is used to replace the need for non-waste material. The Councils therefore do not believe this part should be negatively worded in line with government guidance that says that policies should be positively worded. A further clause relating to environmental assets has also not been included as any waste management proposal will be subject to the Development Management policies within the plan, which include protecting and enhancing biodiversity, heritage, air and water quality. Also, as part (v) highlights proposals should not prejudice the restoration of permitted mineral workings or landfill sites, they are therefore given priority.

For part (c), the Councils agree that the policy should read 'landscaping treatment' but have retained 'where appropriate' as this relates to enhancing landscape and topography as well as the natural environment and there is no national policy requiring landscape enhancement for all development.

SP5: Climate Change

Total number of comments received: 12

- 9.16. Overall respondents were supportive of including a policy on climate change within the plan, with most highlighting that the policy itself should include that waste developments should minimise greenhouse gas emissions, which currently is only within the supporting text under paragraph 7.47. One respondent suggested in paragraph 7.47, it should be stated that all proposals should reduce the most damaging greenhouse gases and those which have serious detrimental effects on the environment, such as NO_x and NH₄.
- 9.17. One respondent wished for the policy to be more onus on developers, recommending amending the policy to be criteria based which sets out what proposals will need to include and demonstrate to show they are located, designed and operated in a manner to minimise potential impacts on climate change and be resilient to future climate change.
- 9.18. There were also comments that suggested the supporting text should note that incineration is not low carbon because it typically emits about a tonne of CO₂ for every tonne of waste.
- 9.19. One respondent suggested that the plan should consider climate change adaptation and recognise that the natural environment can deliver measures to reduce the effects of climate change, with green infrastructure and resilient ecological networks playing an important role in climate change adaptation.

Response

The Councils have amended the policy to provide clarity on what would be expected to be demonstrated by applicants, which includes two strands: minimising their impacts on the causes of climate change and ensuring they are resilient and adaptable to a changing climate. The policy now also includes how proposals can minimise their impact on the causes, including reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This includes all greenhouse gases and so it is not seen as necessary to specify certain greenhouse gases.

The Councils recognise the importance of the environment in mitigating and adapting to climate change and so designing waste facilities to enhance biodiversity and contribute to a wider network of green infrastructure is listed as a potential measure in the justification text.

SP6: Minimising the movement of waste

Total number of comments received: 7

- 9.20. There were several suggestions from respondents about the policy wording of SP6. For the first paragraph, additional wording was suggested to make it clear 'distance travelled' referred to the distance from the source of the waste to the waste management facility and that alternative modes of transport be sought where practical. There was also a recommendation to amend the second paragraph of the policy so that it is clear that sustainable modes of transport are the first priority.
- 9.21. Two respondents also suggested changes to paragraph three of the policy, seeking for the policy to be more negatively worded with proposals 'only' being permitted if they met all three criteria to discourage the importation of waste. However, another respondent noted that there is a need for centralised facilities that handle waste from larger catchment areas and so outside the waste planning authority boundaries, including Energy from Waste facilities, which will be more centralised due to the drive to divert waste from landfill.
- 9.22. There was also comment that whilst the draft plan deals with the proximity principle in a fair and balanced way, the Waste Needs Assessment did not.

Response

The Councils agree with amending part one and part two of the policy to ensure that alternative modes of transport are sought where practical. It was not considered necessary to reference the proximity principle within the policy, with policy SP3 and its supporting text providing more detail and focus on locating facilities near the source of waste.

In relation to part three of the policy, this has remained unchanged as the Councils consider that this allows for Policy SP6 to be flexible to permit facilities handling waste outside the plan area as outlined in the justification text.

AECOM have also reviewed the Waste Needs Assessment and its supporting text.

SP7: Green Belt

Total number of comments received: 7

- 9.23. Several respondents supported Policy SP7, noting that it reflected National Policy. However, one respondent noted that as waste development was not a type of development in the NPPF that is considered appropriate development in the green belt, the policy should be explicit that most waste development then would be considered inappropriate development. It was also suggested that the Policy should extend Green Belt protection to local green spaces as per paragraph 103 of the NPPF.
- 9.24. Some respondents also wished to see no development within the Green Belt, stating there are no special circumstances to permit sites within it, especially for the proposed incinerator at Ratcliffe on Soar as the plan area has sufficient incineration capacity.

Response

The Councils note that since the majority of waste development includes built development then most proposals would be considered inappropriate development as per the NPPF. However, some proposals may be considered an exception or considered not to be inappropriate. To reflect this, the Councils have amended the policy and justification text to provide further clarity.

In relation to extending Green Belt Policy to Local Green spaces, the Councils believe this would not be appropriate as the scale and purpose of the designations are different. As a regional designation, the green belt is a matter of strategic importance, which is why the Draft Waste Local Plan includes it as a strategic policy. Local Green Spaces are designated by neighbourhood or local plans and so would contain policies relating to their protection. These policies would apply and be considered for any application for waste development where relevant.

As outlined in National Policy, there are some occasions where there are very special circumstances that would allow for waste development in the green belt, for example a pre-existing facility seeking expansion or changes. It will be for the applicant to demonstrate these special circumstances exist within a detailed planning application. For the EMERGE energy from waste facility at Ratcliffe on Soar, what the special circumstances are for permitting the site will be detailed within the Committee report for this application which are available online on the County Councils [website](#).

SP8: Safeguarding waste management sites

Total number of comments received: 9

- 9.25. Overall comments on Policy SP8 were supportive, with some errors highlighted within the supporting text that required amending. Two respondents noted that to implement the policy, coordination between the District and Borough councils and the County Council was needed as a two-tier authority.
- 9.26. Only one respondent made comment on the policy itself, highlighting that the second paragraph of the policy needed to be more robust as currently it could not require a developer to fund the relocation of a safeguarded waste facility as outlined in paragraph 7.64. They suggested the policy require applicants for any new non-waste development near a waste management facility provide an assessment of the potential impacts between the two sites. If adverse impacts were found to exist, on either the waste facility or the non-waste development, then these must be suitably addressed, mitigated and/or compensated.

Response

The Councils agree that further information is needed to detail what would be expected from an applicant from a non-waste development proposal that would have an unacceptable impact on a waste management facility. A further clause has been added into the policy which details what an applicant will need to demonstrate and provide in such circumstances.

The errors contained within the supporting text have been amended and additional text added to note the importance to collaborate between the two-tier authorities within the County for both applications and allocations within Local Plans.

10. Chapter 8. Development Management Policies

- 10.1. All together 100 comments were received on chapter 8 of the draft waste local plan, with respondents commenting on all of the proposed Development Management policies as well as the introductory text.

Introduction

Total number of comments received: 4

- 10.2. Two respondents raised concerns over the wording of paragraph 8.3 which outlined the role between the Environment Agency and the planning authority and the permitting process. Both believed the wording misled people by stating that the permit process would prevent air and water pollution and so protect human health and the environment. As per national policy, the planning authority should assume the relevant pollution controls will be applied and enforced but still consider within their decision-making process any environmental impacts.
- 10.3. Other comments noted typographical errors within the development management chapter.

Response

The Councils have amended the introduction section to the development management policies, deleting paragraph 8.3 and adding in a smaller section of text to paragraph 8.1 to summarise how the permitting and planning application processes relate to address the concerns raised.

The identified typographical errors have been rectified within the chapter.

DM1: General Site Criteria

Total number of comments received: 13

- 10.4. Most comments on DM1 sought to amend the policy wording and the categories of general locations. There were several suggested amendments to the opening paragraph for the policy, including; stating the policy applies to extended and new facilities; providing a clearer link to Policy SP3 and how this would be used in conjunction with Policy DM1; listing what environmental impacts would be considered; and that facilities would only be supported subject to there being no conflict with existing, consented or proposed non-waste development as well.

- 10.5. There was a suggestion that the matrix be presented first as currently the structure implies all waste management facilities will be supported in all locations.
- 10.6. In terms of the location categories, respondents wanted the policy to recognise that some sites will fall into multiple categories, for example a site may be previously developed land but is within the open countryside. There was also a suggestion to introduce a general site category.
- 10.7. Two respondents had concerns about how mineral sites had been categorised as previously developed land/ derelict land. One respondent highlighted that waste facilities can often be co-located at mineral sites, such as inert recycling for C, D&E waste or aggregates recycling. Whilst this is recognised in paragraph 8.12, this is not reflected in the policy. Another respondent raised concern that former mineral sites were classified as previously developed land, which when restored are classified as greenfield sites. The policy and text also suggested that there were unrestored mineral sites when all mineral sites in Nottinghamshire have a restoration plan.
- 10.8. There were further comments on the supporting text, with slight wording amendments suggested and the Environment Agency suggesting additional text to highlight that certain waste operations require a permit and so they would advocate applicants seek pre-permitting as well as pre-planning advice.

Response

In relation to the first part of the policy, the Councils feel it is unnecessary to include a specific link to Policy SP3, detail the environmental impacts and add that applications will be supported subject to there being no conflict with existing, allocated and consented non-waste development. Any application submitted will be subject to all policies within the plan, which includes Strategic and Development Management Policies that cover these areas in more detail.

Amendments have been made to clarify that mineral sites that require restoration would be considered under previously developed land and not that the Council believes there are unrestored mineral sites. Clarification has also been added to ensure that it is understood that mineral sites once restored are classified as green field sites. In relation to mineral sites being appropriate for certain waste activities, the Councils believe as these are temporary facilities, the support for such facilities within the supporting text is adequate.

The structure of the policy has been retained as the Councils believe it is made clear that facilities are not appropriate in all locations by the matrix and through the introductory supporting text.

The Councils agree it would be helpful to highlight applicants can seek pre-permitting advice from the Environment Agency and so have included additional text detailing so in paragraph 8.2.

DM2: Health, Wellbeing and Amenity

Total number of comments received: 13

- 10.9. For Policy DM2, respondents sought to add additional wording into the policy. This included stating that the policy applied to proposals for extensions to existing waste facilities as well as new facilities and that these would only be supported where the applicant could demonstrate the criteria outlined in the policy. Respondents also sought for potential for migration of contamination and heritage assets and their settings to be added to the list of types of impacts to be considered, with transport impacts also added and removed from the first paragraph.
- 10.10. One respondent also noted that whilst soils and high-quality agricultural land was listed, soil resources are not discussed further within the supporting text nor elsewhere in the plan.
- 10.11. Comments on the supporting text sought for further detail be added on each of the impacts listed within the policy, with particular focus on nature conservation and biodiversity, historic assets and landscape impacts, seeking for the text to explain what the policy expected for each of these elements and define what would be considered as adequate mitigation to reach acceptable levels.

Response

The Councils have re-drafted this policy and limited the criteria list to focus upon the factors that relate to health, wellbeing, and amenity. This has meant the removal of reference to the natural and historic environment and water resources, with the impacts on these areas covered more thoroughly and adequately within their own policies (DM5, DM6 and DM7 respectively).

In relation to protecting soils and high-quality agricultural land, this topic is now covered within Policy DM3 with the supporting text providing further information.

DM3: Design of New and Extended Waste Management Facilities

Total number of comments received: 7

- 10.12. Respondents made several suggestions of what should be included within the policy text for Policy DM3. This included adding 'only be permitted' and 'can be demonstrated that the *design* of the development' to the first sentence. Other suggestions included adding the following to what design of facilities should consider:
- Firstly, seek to avoid impacts firstly on biodiversity before mitigating
 - To conserve and enhance the significance of the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting
 - Take a comprehensive and co-ordinated approach to development and respecting existing site constraints including utilities situated within sites

- 10.13. It was also suggested that the re-use of materials where possible be added to the current third bullet point in the criteria list which relates to greenhouse gas emissions.

Response

Policy DM3 has been re-drafted significantly to provide clarity around what is expected from an application and highlight that design needs to consider both the surrounding area, including the natural and historic environment and surrounding landscape, and sustainable features which help addresses policy SP5: Climate Change.

The supporting text has also been expanded to provide further information on each element within the policy and provide links to other relevant Development Management policies, such as DM4, DM5, DM6 and DM7.

DM4: Landscape Protection

Total number of comments received: 8

- 10.14. Comments on Policy DM4 primarily were supportive of the policy, with some proposing small wording changes to the final paragraph of the policy and the supporting text, including paragraphs 8.36 and 8.39.
- 10.15. Respondents also sought for the policy and supporting text to include that restoration and landscaping should be appropriate to the historic landscape and the setting of heritage assets as well as basing such decisions, especially for restoration, upon priority habitats for the area and using Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping as well as Landscape Character Assessments.

Response

The Councils agree with the suggested wording amendments to the final paragraph of the policy and paragraphs 8.36 and 8.39. Further amendments to policy DM4 have been made to reflect the changes made to policy DM3.

In terms of heritage landscapes and referencing priority habitats and Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping, both are covered within the specific policies on the historic environment (Policy DM6) and biodiversity and geodiversity (Policy DM5). All policies will apply to waste proposals and considered when determining any planning applications and so it is considered these issues are sufficiently covered by the Plan as a whole.

DM5: Protecting and enhancing biodiversity

Total number of comments received: 22

- 10.16. Since the Draft Plan was written, the Environment Bill was enacted and became the Environment Act. This led to several proposed amendments to both the policy and supporting text from respondents.
- 10.17. In relation to the policy, respondents sought wording amendments, such as including that:
- Proposals will 'only' be supported
 - Including geodiversity in the title
 - For part 3a to include that proposals will need to provide a minimum of 10% biodiversity net gain and reference made to the 30x30 imperative
 - For part 3b to also require developments to contribute to the creation of Nature Recovery Networks as introduced by the Environment Act.
- 10.18. One respondent also questioned part 1b, 1c, 1d and 1e of the policy and did not agree that the clauses to allow development should be included as no explanation was provided of how such benefits outweigh the impacts in the policy or supporting text.
- 10.19. There were also several suggested amendments to the supporting text in relation to biodiversity net gain and the metric tool, seeking to provide further detail and clarity and update since the Environment Act. There was also a request to clarify the difference in biodiversity and geodiversity and for the plan to include a map showing the Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and ppSPA constraint area.

Response

The Councils recognise that since the Draft Plan was written the Environment Act has progressed and will continue to do so alongside the development of the Waste Local Plan. Amendments have been proposed to both the policy and supporting text to reflect the Act and its requirement for a minimum of 10% biodiversity net gain and Nature Recovery Networks. It is recognised that this policy and text will need to be reviewed throughout the preparation of the plan.

The Councils note the desire to protect biodiversity and geodiversity and so have reflected this within the title of the policy, defining geodiversity within the glossary. Whilst a respondent sought for the removal of the clauses to allow development within part 1 of the policy, this is in line with National Policy and so has been retained. How the benefits of the development will be weighed against the impacts depends on the individual circumstances and factors of a more detailed application and so it would not be appropriate for the plan to outline how such would be weighed in the planning balance.

Also, the Councils note it failed to include within Plan 1 the ppSPA and so will amend plan 1 to show the ppSPA and the SAC.

DM6: Historic Environment

Total number of comments received: 10

- 10.20. Overall, there was support for the plan to include a policy which focused upon the historic environment. Historic England was the main respondent for comments on this policy, suggesting that the policy and text be reconsidered against chapter 16 of the NPPF to ensure the policy was fully compliant with National Policy, with the justification text then expanding upon each clause contained within the policy.
- 10.21. Specific suggestions were made for Clause 2 and 5 of the policy by Historic England, whilst another respondent noted that the clauses allowed for all development to occur. For clause 2, it was recommended that proposals should only weigh harm against the public benefit after demonstrating the applicant firstly tried to avoid harm and then minimise harm. For clause 5, it was suggested that enhancement should not be 'where relevant' but for all opportunities possible. It was also suggested by Historic England that an additional clause that set out what the expectations are for assessing impacts to significance, which is detailed within paragraphs 8.76 to 8.79.
- 10.22. Historic England also recommended the supporting text be re-organised following amendments to the policy so that each section details how each clause of the policy can be achieved. They also provided detailed suggestions for 8.64 and 8.65 to replace historic assets with heritage assets and for paragraph 8.75 that where loss of heritage assets is necessary, the information should be updated to the Historic Environment Record held by the Councils at least.

Response

The Councils have worked with Historic England to understand further their comments. This has resulted in the policy being rewritten and restructured and the Councils believe the new policy provides more clarity as well as addressing the concerns raised by Historic England. The policy now includes reference to the NPPF and details what is expected in a Heritage statement from applicants. The justification text has also been amended to match the structure of new policy and provide further detail where necessary.

DM7: Water resources and Flood Risk

Total number of comments received: 11

- 10.23. The comments for Policy DM7 were generally supportive, with comments focusing on suggested amendments to the supporting text. This included proposed changes to the introductory text to include enhancement of water quality, as well as to the justification text to recognise that whether water

resources are safeguarded and protected is ultimately dependent on developers not the Environment Agency, that Local Lead Flood Authorities as well as the EA will need consulting at the earliest opportunity and Sustainable Urban Drainage systems (SuDs) should be proactively maintained with further examples of SuDs given.

Response

The Councils welcome the support for this policy and have amended the supporting text to reflect the comments received and to consider the changes made to the Planning Practice Guidance for Flood Risk and Coastal Change in August 2022.

DM8: Public Access

Total number of comments received: 4

- 10.24. Overall, there was support for Policy DM8 from respondents with Natural England detailing the requirements to protect and enhance public rights of way and access in the NPPF. There was only one suggestion made to omit 'where practicable' from the final sentence of the policy.

Response

The Councils welcome the support for this policy and consider that the policy meets the requirements as set out in National Policy and guidance and so no changes have been made.

DM9: Planning Obligations

Total number of comments received: 3

- 10.25. Comments on Policy DM9 only related to the supporting text, with wording amendments suggested to paragraph 8.106 and enhancements for the historic environment to be added to the list of obligations that may be sought in paragraph 8.110.

Response

Paragraphs 8.106 and 8.110 have been amended to reflect the comments received.

DM10: Cumulative impact

Total number of comments received: 5

- 10.26. Overall, comments received on Policy DM10 were supportive of the policy. One respondent noted that the policy should, like the Waste Core Strategy, be stronger worded and include the term 'only'. Another respondent wished for the historic environment to be referenced within the policy and supporting text.

- 10.27. There was also a suggestion to include 'visual character' at the end of paragraph 8.114 in the supporting text.

Response

The supporting text has been amended to include visual character in paragraph 8.114 and reference to the historic environment has been included in paragraph 8.119, with a link to policy DM10 within the supporting text of DM6.

To ensure the Policy is positively prepared and ensure the policy can apply to unforeseen factors that may warrant an application being refused, the Councils have decided to not include the term only.

DM11: Airfield Safeguarding

Total number of comments received: 2

- 10.28. Both comments on DM11 supported the policy, the Ministry of Defence highlighted two more RAF sites that have a statutory aerodrome height safeguarding zones that are not listed in paragraph 8.122.

Response

The Councils welcome the support for Policy DM11 and will add RAF Barkston Heath and RAF Cranwell to paragraph 8.122 as Military of Defence aerodrome sites with safeguarding zones.

DM12: Highway Safety and Vehicle Movements/Routeing

Total number of comments received: 3

- 10.29. For Policy DM12, it was suggested that additional detail relating to the historic environment should be included within the policy and supporting text so that proposals for new waste facilities consider how highway and vehicle movements can cause harm to heritage assets and the historic environment.
- 10.30. It was also recommended the supporting text should make clear that planning conditions may be appropriate to use to prevent levels of traffic exceeding levels which were used as the basis to assess the impact of the development.

Response

All proposals will be considered against all policies within the Plan, including Policy DM6: Historic Environment. So, if an impact on a heritage asset is identified due to vehicle movements, this will be considered under DM6 and DM12 which, under part b, says that proposals vehicle movements should not cause unacceptable impacts to the environment. Additional text has been added into the supporting text of DM6 to

note that impacts from associated work, including vehicle movements, can impact the historic environment and so need to be considered.

Further amendments have been proposed by the Councils to Policy DM12 to ensure the policy sufficiently ensures highway safety within any proposals and encourage sustainable modes of transport for both the movement of waste and people who attend the site.

11. Chapter 9. Monitoring and implementation

Total number of comments received: 13

- 11.1. Comments received on the Monitoring and Implementation chapter focused on several specific policies, with one respondent noting the heading for performance indicator for several of the policies was mistakenly headed as 2167m.

Monitoring for SP1: Waste Prevention and Re-use

- 11.2. One respondent suggested it be made clear that the tonnage arising in the plan area will be monitored for each waste stream.

Monitoring for SP2: Future Waste Management Provision

- 11.3. Four respondents commented that to understand what type of waste management facilities are needed, the composition of residual waste should also be monitored to understand how much could be potentially recycled, with one respondent recommending using the methodology that was used to inform Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA's) Resource and Waste Strategy Monitoring Report.
- 11.4. It was also recommended that under the performance indicator, it should be made clear what waste streams arisings would be monitored.

Monitoring SP5: Climate Change

- 11.5. Four respondents suggested that in order to monitor Policy SP5: Climate Change, greenhouse gas emissions from waste facilities should also be monitored.

Monitoring for DM5: Protecting and enhancing Biodiversity

- 11.6. Two respondents suggested that the target for this policy should be that all permissions bring about a minimum of 10% biodiversity net gain, with a target of 20%.
- 11.7. One respondent highlighted issues with the indicator and trigger point using the number of applications granted contrary to Natural England advice as Natural England do not comment on all applications.
- 11.8. It was also raised that neither Natural England or Local Biodiversity Action Plans can monitor the areas of habitat loss, gain and net-gain/loss. This would be recorded for each individual application through the Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA process and the DEFRA metric.

Monitoring for DM6: Historic Environment

- 11.9. It was recommended that another indicator for this policy could be the change in the number of heritage assets at risk to assess whether DM6 is appropriate. It was also suggested that separate strategic objectives for historic and natural environment, instead of them collated under Strategic Objective 3, would help to monitor Policy DM6.

Monitoring for DM7: Flood Risk and Water Resources

- 11.10. One respondent suggested to include within the target that planning permissions should enhance the status and prevent deterioration of freshwater bodies and groundwater.

Response

The mistake of the labelling for 'Indicator' has been rectified and amendments have been made to monitoring of Policy SP1, DM5, DM6 and DM7 to reflect the comments received.

In regard to SP2 and monitoring waste streams, in particular the composition of residual waste, if this data becomes available through the digitisation of waste tracking service to understand waste movements, this will be included within the Annual Monitoring Report.

Monitoring greenhouse gas emissions for all waste management facilities is very onerous and not achievable for those facilities that do not have to report their emissions that are published in the pollution inventory. As the policy applies to all waste management facilities, the Councils do not consider it appropriate to add this into the monitoring indicators. If further data becomes available over the life of the plan, this will be reconsidered.

In relation to monitoring DM5 and Natural England not being consulted on all applications, this indicator is to be applied to those applications where advice is supplied.

The Councils also believe that a separate objective is not required for the historic environment to adequately monitor policy DM6.

12. Chapter 10. Useful Information

Total number of comments received: 0

- 12.1. No comments were received on this chapter and so no changes have been made.

13. Chapter 11. Glossary

Total number of comments received: 2

- 13.1. There were two suggestions for the glossary, one for heritage assets to be included and another respondent wished for the 'greenfield' definition to also include restored colliery sites so to match the definition of 'previously developed land' within the NPPF.

Response

Heritage assets and previously developed land have been added to the glossary, with both reflecting the NPPF definition.

14. Supporting documents

- 14.1. The Councils also published and welcomed comments on the following documents to support the Draft Waste Local Plan:
- Issues and Options Sustainability Appraisal
 - Draft Waste Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal
 - Report of Consultation for Issue and Options
 - Equalities Impact Assessment
 - Options document
- 14.2. No comments were received for any of the supporting documents.
- 14.3. An updated Sustainability Appraisal and Equalities Impact Assessment will be published alongside this report of consultation and a Health Impact Assessment with the Pre-submission Draft Waste Local Plan.

15. Call for sites

- 15.1. A Call for Sites was carried out alongside the Issues and Options consultation, with a total of 9 sites received which are detailed in the table below.
- 15.2. Whilst the Draft Plan consultation did not include a call for sites, a further site at Dorket Head was submitted and the operator at High Point, Derby Road in Kirkby resubmitted information from a previous planning application to promote their site. These have been added to the table below which summarises all the sites received.

Site Name and location	Operator	Type of Facility	Throughput	Notes
Bilsthorpe Business Park	Peel L&P Environmental Ltd	Energy from Waste facility	250,000 tonnes-incineration/ pyrolysis/ gasification 150,000 tonnes-Material Recovery Facility 100,000 tonnes-specialist treatment	
Dorket Head Quarry, Woodborough Lane, Arnold	Mick George	Disposal-Inert	2,000,000 cubic metres of voidspace (half of which has consent to be filled)	Submitted as part of response to the Draft WLP consultation
EMERGE Centre, Ratcliffe on Soar Power Station	Uniper UK Ltd	Energy from Waste facility	472,100 tonnes	This has now been granted planning permission.
Harrimans Lane, Dunkirk	Sims Group UK Ltd	-	-	This site already has permission and the operator wishes for the site to be safeguarded within the plan.
High Point/	Brian Cutts	Disposal-	120,000m3	

Shenton Lodge, Derby Road, Kirkby in Ashfield		Non-hazardous		
Land at Coneygre Farm, Hoveringham	Lee Reclaim Limited	Disposal	Not provided	The site currently has permission for a recycling facility and inert fill of the old Hoveringham Quarry.
Land off Private Road No.3, Colwick Industrial Estate	Veolia ES (Nottinghamshire)	Materials Recovery Facility, wood recycling, clinical waste transfer station	130,000 tonnes- Materials Recovery Facility 40,000 tonnes- wood recycling 130,000 tonnes- clinical waste transfer station	
Littlewood Lane, Mansfield Woodhouse	Midland Landfill	Disposal-Inert	420,000m3 capacity	Propose to dispose of inert construction and demolition waste to fill the void of Littlewood Quarry.
Ranskill, Retford	Retford Waste Ltd	Recovery	27,500 tonnes- Materials Recovery Facility 40,000 tonnes- Household Waste Recycling Centre	This site already has an existing waste facility.
Ratcliffe on Soar Power Station	Uniper UK Limited	Recovery-Municipal solid waste, construction and demolition, commercial and		This would be developed alongside the EMERGE Centre listed above.

		industrial, non- hazardous and other (RDF/SRF and waste biomass)		
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- 15.3. Considering the limited range of sites submitted, the Councils have chosen not to allocate sites but instead consider a general policy with site criteria to allow proposals to be determined through the plan's lifetime.

16. Next steps

- 16.1. With consideration of the comments received on the draft plan and updated data from the Waste Needs assessment, the Councils have prepared a Pre-submission Draft Plan.
- 16.2. The Pre-submission draft is anticipated to be published for public consultation in September 2023. As this is the Regulation 19 stage, the councils will be seeking views on whether the plan is legally compliant and considered sound. Further detail of the consultation, including a guidance note on the test of soundness, and the document will be available on the County Councils website.

Appendix 1. AECOM response to comments received on the technical elements of the Waste Needs Assessment.

Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Needs Assessment: Response to consultation comments

Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City
Council

March 2023

Quality information

Prepared by	Checked by	Verified by	Approved by
Annette Hill Principal Consultant	Mike Bains Technical Director	Mike Bains Technical Director	

Revision History

Revision	Revision date	Details	Authorized Name	Position
P01	10 March 2023	Final for comment	Mike Bains	Technical Director

Prepared for:

Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council

Prepared by:

AECOM Limited
Royal Court, Basil Close
Chesterfield
Derbyshire S41 7SL
United Kingdom

T: +44 (1246) 209221
aecom.com

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Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Term
AD	Anaerobic Digestion
C&I	Commercial and Industrial
CA	Civic Amenity
CD&E	Construction, Demolition and Excavation
CEP	Circular Economy Package
Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DPD	Development Plan Document
DRS	Deposit Return Scheme
EA	Environment Agency
EfW	Energy from Waste
EPR	Extended Producer Responsibility
EU	European Union
EWC	European Waste Catalogue
HIC	Household, Industrial and Commercial
LACW	Local Authority Collected Waste
MRF	Material Recycling Facility
MSW	Municipal Solid Waste
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NPPG	National Planning Practice Guidance
NPPW	National Planning Policy for Waste
NPS	National Policy Statement
R&D Code	Recovery and Disposal Code
RDF	Refuse Derived Fuel
tpa	Tonnes per annum
UK	United Kingdom
WCA	Waste Collection Authority
WDA	Waste Disposal Authority
WDI	Waste Data Interrogator
WFD	Waste Framework Directive
WNA	Waste Needs Assessment
WPA	Waste Planning Authority
WTS	Waste Transfer Station

1. Introduction

- 1.1 AECOM was appointed by Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council in 2021 to update the councils preliminary waste needs assessment to supplement the evidence base of the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham new Joint Waste Local Plan.
- 1.2 AECOM prepared a Waste Needs Assessment (WNA) (September 2021) to inform a Draft Local Plan which was published for comment between February and April 2022.
- 1.3 The Waste Needs Assessment estimated future arisings of local authority collected waste (LACW), commercial and industrial (C&I) waste and construction, demolition and excavation (CD&E) waste up to 2038. These future arisings were compared to the existing and committed waste management capacity, in order to identify any gaps in capacity provision. The assessment also reviewed current flows of waste into and out of the plan area.
- 1.4 The consultation period generated a number of comments which concerned the Waste Needs Assessment rather than the Plan itself and the County and City Councils asked AECOM to work with them to consider these comments and provide an update to the Needs Assessment where revisions were considered necessary.
- 1.5 AECOM prepared an updated Waste Needs Assessment between September 2022 and March 2023. As well as responding to consultation comments, the opportunity was taken to include up to date information for 2020 and 2021 on waste produced/processed and review current waste capacity in Nottinghamshire and Nottingham.
- 1.6 This document supports the updated Waste Needs Assessment by setting out how each stakeholder comment has been addressed within the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Needs Assessment – 2022-2023 update.

2. Response to comments

- 2.1 Table 1 sets out the response to each stakeholder comment.

Table 1. Response to stakeholder comments

No.	WNA page / section	Stakeholder	Stakeholder comment made	Question / issue from the councils to AECOM	Waste stream addressed by the comment	Issue addressed by the comment	AECOM response to comment
1	p21		Representations asked for figures in the Plan to be updated to 2020 and 2020/1.	We would like to work with AECOM to revise the base data in the WNA / Plan accordingly and issue a revised and updated WNA to support the revised Waste Local Plan for publication in Winter 2022/3. This will enable the WNA to incorporate any amendments which are considered necessary in response to other comments made on the WNA.	All	Current (baseline) waste arisings and waste management.	The Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Needs Assessment (September 2021) has been updated (March 2023) to include baseline data for the 2020 and 2021 calendar years, as available at the time of writing. The baseline data for current waste arisings, waste management and waste infrastructure capacity have been updated and the associated assumptions regarding forecasted future waste arisings and recycling scenarios.
2	p26	Only Solutions	Only Solutions calls for the modelling of an even higher decline scenario for LACW that more closely aligns with emerging Government targets and aspirations, reflecting current and emerging Government proposals to minimise waste arisings. Such a 'Higher decline' Scenario should be used to the inform the Waste Local Plan, instead of WNA Scenario 2 (also referred to as 'Scenario B' in Table 1 of the dWLP),	Is there any case to model a higher decline scenario?	LACW	LACW forecast arisings scenario	The updated Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Needs Assessment (March 2023) includes updated (2020 and 2021) baseline data for current waste arisings and waste management for LACW, as reported within WasteDataFlow. The scenarios for forecasted LACW arisings have been updated to incorporate this latest baseline data. This includes the calculations of annual decline in waste per household used in Scenario 1 and 2 and the quantity of waste per household used in Scenario 3. The forecasts of annual change in household numbers have also been updated to reflect the latest adopted and emerging local plans for each authority. The forecasted LACW arisings incorporate this latest data for both the waste per household and number of households.

No.	WNA page / section	Stake- holder	Stakeholder comment made	Question / issue from the councils to AECOM	Waste stream addressed by the comment	Issue addressed by the comment	AECOM response to comment
3	p27	Vital	<p>National Planning Policy for Waste (NPPW) at para 2, requires that, in preparing WLPs, planning authorities should: ‘... ensure that the planned provision of new capacity and its spatial distribution is based on robust analysis of best available data and information, and an appraisal of options’. Looking at the WNA Table 2, LACW is shown to rise by circa 20,000 tpa over the past 5 years. This is the what the evidence shows. Why then has Scenario C been dismissed out of hand when it shows a rise in LACW every 5 years of circa 20,000 tpa?</p> <p>Where is the ‘best available data and information’ that supports adopting Scenario B as the preferred option? Simply relying on a national policy aim is not using data.</p>	Is there any reason to look at Scenario 3 again given evidence of the past data?	LACW	LACW forecast arisings scenario	<p>The updated Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Needs Assessment (March 2023) includes updated (2020 and 2021) baseline data for current waste arisings and waste management for LACW, as reported within WasteDataFlow.</p> <p>The scenarios for forecasted LACW arisings have been updated to incorporate this latest baseline data. This includes the calculations of annual decline in waste per household used in Scenario 1 and 2 and the quantity of waste per household used in Scenario 3. The forecasts of annual change in household numbers have also been updated to reflect the latest adopted and emerging local plans for each authority. The forecasted LACW arisings incorporate this latest data for both the waste per household and number of households.</p>

No.	WNA page / section	Stake- holder	Stakeholder comment made	Question / issue from the councils to AECOM	Waste stream addressed by the comment	Issue addressed by the comment	AECOM response to comment
4	p29		The high recycling rate at 65% by 2035-2038 should not be the high rate. Wales has already achieved this target and it is historically the NCC target. The 65% recycling should be the medium (or even the low) target with the high target of achieving waste reductions needed to keep within 1.5degreeC increase as the stretch/high target. Going forward the legislation on waste is going to reduce the amount of residual waste by law such that 65% by 2035 will most likely not be good enough to keep within the legislation.	Is there a case to adjust the high recycling target with a knock-on effect for the medium?	LACW	LACW waste management scenario. LACW recycling scenario.	The updated Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Needs Assessment (March 2023) has reviewed the waste management scenarios for LACW in consideration of the most recent baseline data. The recycling scenarios for LACW have been updated to reflect current figures, with the 'low recycling' scenario changed to the 2021 recycling rate of 37.8% (from 39.4%) for the combined Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire area. The 'high recycling' scenario for LACW has been retained at 65% as this aligns with National and EU targets. Given the current LACW recycling rate in the plan area, the councils consider that 65% recycling is an appropriate 'high recycling' scenario. It is also noted that the estimate of LACW to landfill is a likely maximum for the purpose of ensuring a sufficient supply of landfill capacity. This does not preclude this waste from being managed higher up the waste hierarchy where this is viable (e.g. via recycling or energy recovery).
5	p29	NCC DM	NCC Development Management (DM) officers consider a 10% reliance on landfill to be high having regard to current practice where only 5.5% of LACW in Nottinghamshire was disposed to landfill in 2020/1 and commitments in the Draft WLP to seek to divert more than 95% LACW from landfill. There is now only one operational landfill site in the County which takes small amounts of non-recyclable waste from HWRCs.	Given the circumstances in Nottinghamshire, is there a case to review the 10% landfill assumption in the WNA and divert some/all the 10% towards recovery and thus aim to ensure it is managed at a higher level in the waste hierarchy?	LACW	LACW waste management scenario. LACW to landfill scenario.	The updated Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Needs Assessment (March 2023) has reviewed the waste management scenarios for LACW. WasteDataFlow indicates that in 2021 Nottingham and Nottinghamshire (combined) sent 6.2% of LACW to landfill. In line with this current baseline and local policy (which targets 5%), rates of LACW to landfill have been amended to reflect current figures (6.2%) declining to 5% (reduced from 10%) by 2035 for each recycling scenario.

No.	WNA page / section	Stake- holder	Stakeholder comment made	Question / issue from the councils to AECOM	Waste stream addressed by the comment	Issue addressed by the comment	AECOM response to comment
6	p29		The WNA proposes for 10% of waste arisings to be disposed of at landfill as opposed to having this waste treated further up the hierarchy by way of Energy Recovery. It thus adopts a position whereby it simultaneously squeezes down future Energy Recovery capacity by overpredicting recycling levels (which are further up the hierarchy) and overplanning disposal levels (further down the hierarchy). Such an approach is simply incorrect and underprovides for potential future Energy Recovery capacity.	Is there any merit in this statement and is the WNA unfair to the Energy Recovery Sector?	LACW	LACW waste management scenario. LACW to landfill scenario. LACW to energy recovery scenario.	<p>The updated Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Needs Assessment (March 2023) has reviewed the waste management scenarios for LACW and C&I waste.</p> <p>WasteDataFlow indicates that in 2021 Nottingham and Nottinghamshire (combined) sent 6.2% of LACW to landfill. In line with this current baseline and local policy (which targets 5%), rates of LACW to landfill have been amended to reflect current figures (6.2%) declining to 5% (reduced from 10%) by 2035 for each recycling scenario.</p> <p>The latest data for C&I waste indicates that in 2021, 28.0% of C&I waste was sent to landfill. In line with this current baseline, rates of C&I waste to landfill have been amended to reflect current figures (28.0%) declining to 10% by 2035 for each recycling scenario.</p> <p>This approach gives a combined LACW and C&I (household, industrial, commercial (HIC)) waste to landfill in 2038 of 8.1%.</p> <p>It is also noted that the estimate of LACW and C&I waste to landfill is a likely maximum for the purpose of ensuring a sufficient supply of landfill capacity. This does not preclude this waste from being managed higher up the waste hierarchy where this is viable (e.g. via recycling or energy recovery).</p>

No.	WNA page / section	Stake- holder	Stakeholder comment made	Question / issue from the councils to AECOM	Waste stream addressed by the comment	Issue addressed by the comment	AECOM response to comment
7	p30	Vital	<p>the sole justification for adopting the 'High' recycling rate for C&I waste is that it reflects a more optimistic target and, it is claimed, takes more account of recycling measures.</p> <p>No analysis of such measures is provided.</p> <p>Proper analysis undertaken by Tolvik Consulting including modelling new recycling measures indicates that C&I waste recycling levels in 2017 were 60.9% and recycling will rise broadly in line with household waste and achieve 67.5 % by 2035 (in Tolvik's Median scenario).</p> <p>Thus, at its most ambitious, it is suggested that the WLP is taken forward on the 'Medium' 75% C&I recycling rate.</p>	Is there any case to review the selected scenario for C&I recycling?	C&I	<p>C&I waste management scenario.</p> <p>C&I recycling scenario.</p>	<p>The updated Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Needs Assessment (March 2023) has reviewed the waste management scenarios for C&I waste in consideration of the most recent baseline data. The recycling scenarios for C&I waste have been updated to reflect the latest data for 2021, with the 'low recycling' scenario reducing from 70.1% to the calculated 2021 recycling/composting rate of 62.7%. To reflect the reduction in the current recycling rate, the 'medium recycling' scenario has also been reduced to 70% by 2038 (from 75%) and the 'high recycling' scenario reduced to 70% by 2025 and 75% by 2038 (from 80%).</p> <p>The capacity gap analysis for LACW and C&I waste (included in household, industrial and commercial (HIC) waste) has been undertaken for the low, medium and high recycling scenarios for LACW and C&I waste streams and presents the data for each scenario.</p>

No.	WNA page / section	Stake- holder	Stakeholder comment made	Question / issue from the councils to AECOM	Waste stream addressed by the comment	Issue addressed by the comment	AECOM response to comment
8	p30		<p>Given historic low performance and fact that LPs should be based on best data it is suggested that the WLP is fundamentally flawed where it adopts a 65% recycling rate based purely on an ambitious national target and a claim new recycling measures to be introduced will somehow deliver this target. Notwithstanding, to at least be in a more realistic ballpark, it is suggested that the 'Medium' 55% recycling rate is preferred / carried forwards for the purposes of calculating / planning for residual waste treatment requirements. Such an approach is much more consistent with the emerging WLP at the Issues and Options stage consultation where para 4.22 stated: "... it is assumed that rates for both LACW and commercial and industrial wastes will increase by at least 10% above current levels by 2038. The current rate of recycling across the plan area is 41%". This was a far more realistic assumption founded on real evidence. It is difficult to see, in terms of calculating residual waste treatment requirements, what the justification is for the latest version of the draft WLP moving away from the Authorities' position in 2020.</p> <p>For the avoidance of doubt, we are not saying that the WLP should not reference or even aspire to the 65% Government 'goal' (i.e. aspiration) for recycling. However, this is not a robust basis for planning future infrastructure requirements, particularly for waste that is not recycled, as 65% will not be achieved in either Nottinghamshire or Nottingham (in particular) without intervention measures far beyond those which the Government proposes.</p> <p>In short, aim high, but plan for reality</p>	Is there any reason to base the WNA on a medium recycling target as a basis for planning facilities whilst aspiring to the high scenario?	LACW	LACW waste management scenario. LACW recycling scenario.	<p>The updated Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Needs Assessment (March 2023) has reviewed the waste management scenarios for LACW in consideration of the most recent baseline data. The recycling scenarios for LACW have been updated to reflect current figures, with the 'low recycling' scenario changed to the 2021 recycling rate of 37.8% (from 39.4%) for the combined Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire area. The 'high recycling' scenario for LACW has been retained at 65% as this aligns with National and EU targets. Given the current LACW recycling rate in the plan area, the councils consider that 65% recycling is an appropriate 'high recycling' scenario.</p> <p>It is also noted that the estimate of LACW to landfill is a likely maximum for the purpose of ensuring a sufficient supply of landfill capacity. This does not preclude this waste from being managed higher up the waste hierarchy where this is viable (e.g. via recycling or energy recovery).</p>

No.	WNA page / section	Stake- holder	Stakeholder comment made	Question / issue from the councils to AECOM	Waste stream addressed by the comment	Issue addressed by the comment	AECOM response to comment
9	p35	Only Solutions	We can expect to see further decoupling of waste arisings and economic growth in Nottinghamshire, e.g. due to shifts away from the production of physical goods and towards the provision of digital services and businesses that trade in the knowledge economy. Such service provision is associated with significantly lower levels of waste arisings. Only Solutions calls for the modelling of an even higher decline scenario for C&I waste that more closely aligns with emerging Government targets and aspirations.	Should a higher decline scenario for C&I waste be assessed?	C&I	C&I forecast waste arising scenarios	The updated Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Needs Assessment (March 2023) has reviewed and updated the C&I waste forecasting scenarios in consideration of the most recent baseline data. The methodology applies the National Planning Practice Guidance and considers current and historic trends in waste per employee, and current and forecast employee numbers.
10	p40	Vital	The Waste Needs Assessment (WNA) indicates (Table 11) that the C&I recycling rate is 70% so there is still 30% (~285,000 tonnes in 2019) residual C&I waste requiring management. This para is misleading and rather brushes over this requirement. Further, the current estimate of 70% recycling is materially higher than that from other reputable national sources such as the ESA: 'UK Residual Waste: 2030 Market Review' (November 2017) who have the figure at 60.9%. The robustness of the claimed current C&I waste recycling rate should be reviewed.	Is this a reason for reviewing this figure?	C&I	C&I waste management scenario	<p>The updated Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Needs Assessment (March 2023) has reviewed the waste management scenarios for C&I waste in consideration of the most recent baseline data. The recycling scenarios for C&I waste have been updated to reflect the latest data for 2021, with the 'low recycling' scenario reducing from 70.1% to the calculated 2021 recycling/composting rate of 62.7%. To reflect the reduction in the current recycling rate, the 'medium recycling' scenario has also been reduced to 70% by 2038 (from 75%) and the 'high recycling' scenario reduced to 70% by 2025 and 75% by 2038 (from 80%).</p> <p>It is also noted that the estimate of LACW and C&I waste to landfill is a likely maximum for the purpose of ensuring a sufficient supply of landfill capacity. This does not preclude this waste from being managed higher up the waste hierarchy where this is viable (e.g. via recycling or energy recovery).</p>

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11	p40		10% landfill assumption	Does the County Councils grant of permission for EFW facility at Ratcliffe in 2021 and re-affirmed in 2022 which has a design capacity of 472,100 - 524,550 TPA of residual waste, affect this assumption going forward, given it may help divert local waste from landfill and deal with it at a higher level in the waste hierarchy?	C&I	C&I waste management scenario	<p>The updated Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Needs Assessment (March 2023) has reviewed the waste management scenarios for LACW and C&I waste.</p> <p>WasteDataFlow indicates that in 2021 Nottingham and Nottinghamshire (combined) sent 6.2% of LACW to landfill. In line with this current baseline and local policy (which targets 5%), rates of LACW to landfill have been amended to reflect current figures (6.2%) declining to 5% (reduced from 10%) by 2035 for each recycling scenario.</p> <p>The latest data for C&I waste indicates that in 2021, 28.0% of C&I waste was sent to landfill. In line with this current baseline, rates of C&I waste to landfill have been amended to reflect current figures (28.0%) declining to 10% by 2035 for each recycling scenario.</p> <p>This approach gives a combined LACW and C&I (HIC) waste to landfill in 2038 of 8.1%.</p> <p>It is also noted that the estimate of LACW and C&I waste to landfill is a likely maximum for the purpose of ensuring a sufficient supply of landfill capacity. This does not preclude this waste from being managed higher up the waste hierarchy where this is viable (e.g. via recycling or energy recovery).</p>

No.	WNA page / section	Stake- holder	Stakeholder comment made	Question / issue from the councils to AECOM	Waste stream addressed by the comment	Issue addressed by the comment	AECOM response to comment
12	p48		The waste appraisal which informed the EFW planning decision at Ratcliffe assumed that 5% of this CD&E material is suitable for energy recovery.	Is there a case to apply this within the WNA?	CD&E	CD&E waste management scenarios. CD&E to energy recovery.	<p>The waste management scenarios for CD&E waste do not include any CD&E waste to incineration / energy recovery. This is because the Environment Agency's Waste Data Interrogator (WDI) does not identify any CD&E waste received by incineration / energy recovery facilities. It is however likely that a small proportion of CD&E waste is managed via this route, but that the WDI captures the waste under a different waste code as it is initially received by a transfer or MRF facility. Where this is the case, the waste quantity will be included within the C&I waste stream assumptions.</p> <p>The Widmerpool Biomass Power Plant energy from waste incinerator receives waste wood for energy recovery. However, the 2020 and 2021 WDI reports all the waste received as waste code 19 12 07, which is non-hazardous waste wood from the mechanical treatment of waste. The original sector that generated the waste is not identified.</p>

No.	WNA page / section	Stake- holder	Stakeholder comment made	Question / issue from the councils to AECOM	Waste stream addressed by the comment	Issue addressed by the comment	AECOM response to comment
13	p64	Only Solutions	<p>Total feedstock demand needs to be taken into account which assessing the impact of proposed incinerators / EfW plants that are designed to treat RDF.</p> <p>According to documentation provided to the Environment Agency by Uniper in their application for an Environmental Permit for the EMERGE facility: "the installation will be capable of processing up to 585,000 tonnes per annum".²¹ In the event that this capacity was met using RDF, this would equate to more than 731,000 tonnes of 'raw' waste per annum.</p> <p>With respect to SRF, cement kilns, and co-incineration capacity, Only Solutions notes that residual waste is increasingly being converted into SRF for use as feedstock to power cement kilns as an alternative to the conventional use of fossil fuels. Environmental consultancy Eunomia predicts 1.0m tonnes of UK cement kiln feedstock from residual waste by 2030 The online consultation event for the DWLP included a presentation on this topic.</p> <p>Yet, despite this, the WNA and associated dWLP policies fail to account for the way that some of the residual waste arising in Nottinghamshire and Nottingham could be expected to be used for co-incineration purposes and would therefore not be available for use as feedstock for conventional incinerators.</p> <p>This means that the level of incineration overcapacity could be higher than is accounted for in either the WNA or the dWLP.</p>	Is there any merit in this view?	All	Energy recovery capacity and gap analysis	The Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Needs Assessment considers the waste management facility types reported within the WDI for estimating waste arisings and waste infrastructure capacity. This includes a variety of facility types under the combustion and incineration site categories, including co-incineration facilities. The existing waste infrastructure capacity in the plan area includes both the Eastcroft Municipal Waste Incinerator and the Widmerpool Biomass Power Plant energy from waste incinerator.

No.	WNA page / section	Stake- holder	Stakeholder comment made	Question / issue from the councils to AECOM	Waste stream addressed by the comment	Issue addressed by the comment	AECOM response to comment
14	p65 Table 25		Table does not allocate any Energy Recovery capacity for CD&E despite it being the preferred waste management option for low grade (non-recyclable) waste wood (and other construction and demolition materials), as evidenced by the Pears Power Plant which treats waste wood from the CD&E stream. It is judged that something up to 5% of the CDE waste stream could be suitable for Energy Recovery. Thus, based on 1,186,000 tpa arisings, 59,300 tonnes should be added for Energy Recovery under the CD&E column in the Table	Is there a case to incorporate an allowance for recovery in the CD&E stream?	CD&E	CD&E waste management scenarios. CD&E to energy recovery.	<p>The waste management scenarios for CD&E waste do not include any CD&E waste to incineration / energy recovery. This is because the WDI does not identify any CD&E waste received by incineration / energy recovery facilities. It is however likely that a small proportion of CD&E waste is managed via this route, but that the WDI captures the waste under a different waste code as it is initially received by a transfer or MRF facility. Where this is the case, the waste quantity will be included within the C&I waste stream assumptions.</p> <p>The Widmerpool Biomass Power Plant energy from waste incinerator receives waste wood for energy recovery. However, the 2020 and 2021 WDI reports all the waste received as waste code 19 12 07, which is non-hazardous waste wood from the mechanical treatment of waste. The original sector that generated the waste is not identified.</p> <p>Note that the J.G. Pears facility receives animal by-product wastes only (waste code 02 02 02) and not wood wastes.</p>

No.	WNA page / section	Stake- holder	Stakeholder comment made	Question / issue from the councils to AECOM	Waste stream addressed by the comment	Issue addressed by the comment	AECOM response to comment
15	p65 Table 25	Councils / NCC DM	This comprises Eastcroft, Widmerpool Biomass Plant (which is licensed to process wood waste only) and J.G Pears north of Newark (which is licensed to process animal by-products only).	As the latter two are not licensed to accept mixed municipal and commercial waste streams and only capable of processing a small and specialist proportion of these waste streams, should they be counted as recovery capacity along with Eastcroft? NCC Development Management did not take account of this capacity when assessing the Ratcliffe EFW proposal. The DM team consider The net level of existing mixed municipal and commercial processing capacity is therefore potentially 92,557tpa lower than the figure identified in the AECOM report, equating to only the 188,213tpa operating capacity of the Eastcroft EFW Facility	All	Energy recovery capacity and gap analysis	<p>The waste infrastructure capacity estimates have been updated to include data for 2020 and 2021. The infrastructure capacity estimates, and capacity gap analysis include all energy recovery capacity not just that which receives mixed residual waste streams.</p> <p>In the updated WNA, the Councils agreed that the capacity of the J.G. Pears animal by-product incinerator could be excluded from the energy recovery capacity estimates because it only accepts specialist waste types (animal by-products with waste code 02 02 02) and the wastes received do not arise from within Nottingham or Nottinghamshire. The capacity provided by Widmerpool Biomass Plant has been retained within the waste infrastructure capacity estimates because it receives waste wood with an origin of the plan area.</p>

16 p69

NCC DM Officer has stated "The table shows that we currently have an Energy Recovery Gap of 71,430tpa. This does not seem to reflect my current understanding of waste treatment in Notts insofar that:

we only have one operation mixed residual waste incinerator at Eastcroft and its maximum operational throughput (circa 180,000tpa) is contracted almost entirely to manage municipal waste arising from Notts City, Gedling, Rushcliffe and Broxtowe waste. Municipal Waste from the other boroughs is managed out of County (there is no capacity in Nottinghamshire to manage this waste) as follows:

- Circa 65,000 tonnes per annum to the Veolia Energy Recovery Facility in Sheffield (mainly from Bassetlaw and Newark and Sherwood via transfer stations in Worksop and Newark)
- Circa 60,000 tonnes per annum to Ferrybridge MF2 (mainly Ashfield and Mansfield via the interim processing facility in Kirkby-in-Ashfield)

So purely in terms of municipal waste we are currently exporting out of County 125,000 tpa because there is no capacity in Notts to manage this waste.

We also need to add C&I waste to this - although table 12 is for 2038 and therefore has an allowance for some waste growth the low recycling scenario which reflects current recycling rates indicates that there is a further 196,000tpa of C&I waste recovered and 99,000tpa landfilled.

The real life data therefore indicates that the current recovery capacity gap is nearer 320,000tpa and probably more if you assume some of the 99,000tpa sent to landfill is recovered.

My conclusion therefore is that the starting assessment of recovery capacity gap in 2019 stated at 71,430tpa is a massive under-

Having considered the points raised in relation to the capacity gap and amount of waste currently exported from Nottinghamshire, does the capacity gap need to be re-assessed?

All

Energy recovery capacity and gap analysis

The waste arisings, forecasts, waste infrastructure capacity estimates and recycling scenarios have been updated to include data for 2020 and 2021. This data and the capacity gap analysis include all energy recovery capacity not just that which receives mixed residual waste streams.

In the updated WNA, the Councils agreed that the capacity of the J.G. Pears animal by-product incinerator could be excluded from the energy recovery capacity estimates because it only accepts specialist waste types (animal by-products with waste code 02 02 02) and the wastes received do not arise from within Nottingham or Nottinghamshire. The capacity provided by Widmerpool Biomass Plant has been retained within the waste infrastructure capacity estimates because it receives waste wood with an origin of the plan area.

The WNA also notes that the estimate of LACW and C&I waste to landfill is a likely maximum for the purpose of ensuring a sufficient supply of landfill capacity. This does not preclude this waste from being managed higher up the waste hierarchy where this is viable (e.g. via recycling or energy recovery).

The amendments above have resulted in the current HIC energy from waste capacity gap estimated as about 178,000 tonnes, with around 307,000 tonnes of waste to landfill. By 2038, the HIC energy from waste capacity gap is estimated to be between 105,000 and 408,000 tonnes per annum, with around 127,000 tonnes of waste to landfill.

No.	WNA page / section	Stake- holder	Stakeholder comment made	Question / issue from the councils to AECOM	Waste stream addressed by the comment	Issue addressed by the comment	AECOM response to comment
			representation and I think this figure should be questioned"				
17	p76		in Table 32 of the supporting WNA which identifies facilities with permission, it states that planning permission for the Bilsthorpe Energy Centre lapses in June 2021. This is not correct. All pre-commencement planning conditions have been discharged pursuant to that permission and it has been implemented (albeit not fully built out), thus saving the permission in perpetuity. The County Council planners have acknowledged this position.	Table 32 needs updating to the position at the end of 2021, assuming other waste data is available to 2021.	All	Waste management facilities (future / emerging)	Table 32 (Proposed Major Waste Management Facilities for which Planning Permission has been Granted or is being Sought) has been updated to reflect the latest position for each facility at the time of writing. For Bilsthorpe Energy Centre it is stated that pre-commencement planning conditions have been discharged. Implementation of the planning permission commenced before its expiry (albeit not fully built out), and therefore the permission is now saved in perpetuity.

No.	WNA page / section	Stake- holder	Stakeholder comment made	Question / issue from the councils to AECOM	Waste stream addressed by the comment	Issue addressed by the comment	AECOM response to comment
18	p77	Vital	<p>Para 6.1 of the WNA gets the definition of the proximity principle and, more significantly, the related self-sufficiency principle (as defined in the WFD), hopelessly wrong.</p> <p>The self-sufficiency principle does not, as the WNA claims, relate to regionality. As para 152 of Defra's 'Energy-from-Waste: A Guide to the debate' states: "The proximity principle arises from Article 16, "Principles of self-sufficiency and proximity", of the revised Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC), the EU legislation that governs waste management. The principle is often over-interpreted to mean that all waste has to be managed as close to its source as possible to the exclusion of other considerations, and that local authorities individually need the infrastructure required to do so. This is not the case. Indeed the final part of the Article itself states, "The principles of proximity and self-sufficiency shall not mean that each Member State has to possess the full range of final recovery facilities within that Member State". Clearly if not even the entire country needs to have the full range of facilities, a specific local authority does not have to. While there is an underlying principle of waste being managed close to its source, there is no implication of local authorities needing to be self-sufficient in handling waste from their own area".</p>	Does para 6.1 need amending considering this comment?	All	Definitions / clarity of wording	The context and definitions relating to the principles of self-sufficiency and proximity have been amended.

No.	WNA page / section	Stake- holder	Stakeholder comment made	Question / issue from the councils to AECOM	Waste stream addressed by the comment	Issue addressed by the comment	AECOM response to comment
19	p114	Vital	With regard to Energy Recovery for HIC, existing capacity is quoted as 281,100 tonnes. This figure is incorrect for HIC. Reference to Appendix F shows that 3 facilities have been included in making up this capacity: Eastcroft EfW facility; Widmerpool Biomass Plant; and Pears Power Plant. The last two do not treat HIC and are dedicated to treating biomass (waste wood from the CD&E stream) and animal by-products (agricultural waste) respectively. The County Council, in evaluated the Aecom WNA, specifically acknowledges this in their committee report of 8th March 2022 for planning application ref: ES/4254 at para 39e. As such, the current Energy Recovery capacity is overstated by 92,557 tonnes and should read 188,400 and not 281,000.	Should the named facilities be classified as contributing to energy recovery capacity?	All	Energy recovery capacity and gap analysis	<p>The waste infrastructure capacity estimates have been updated to include data for 2020 and 2021. The waste arisings and forecasts, infrastructure capacity estimates, and capacity gap analysis include all energy recovery capacity not just that which receives mixed residual HIC waste streams.</p> <p>In the updated WNA, the Councils agreed that the capacity of the J.G. Pears animal by-product incinerator could be excluded from the energy recovery capacity estimates because it only accepts specialist waste types (animal by-products with waste code 02 02 02) and the wastes received do not arise from within Nottingham or Nottinghamshire. The capacity provided by Widmerpool Biomass Plant has been retained within the waste infrastructure capacity estimates because it receives waste wood with an origin of the plan area.</p> <p>The current energy recovery capacity therefore includes the Eastcroft and Widmerpool Biomass facilities.</p>
20	p114		Appendix F Table 46 shows that a number of types of facilities which are clearly not recycling facilities have been classified as such. Thus, the recycling capacity total of 1,253,400 tonnes is clearly wrong and actually equates to over 82% of the total HIC arisings (for 2019).	Is there any reason to review the classification?	All	Waste management facility capacity	<p>The Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Needs Assessment considers the waste management facility types reported within the WDI for estimating both waste arisings and waste infrastructure capacity. Consistent assumptions and adjustments are applied, as set out within the WNA, to produce comparable data for different calendar years and to reduce double-counting of waste arisings.</p>

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Nottinghamshire County Council
Nottingham City Council

Nottinghamshire and Nottingham
Pre-Submission Draft Waste Local Plan

May 2023

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Preface

Significant changes have taken place in the way people regard and manage the things that are no longer needed. Today waste is no longer something which is buried in the ground. It is a resource to be re-used, recycled and then recovered. The need to address climate change means we need to re-use and repair more and put an end to single use plastics. Increasingly waste is seen as a resource within a “circular” economy with re-use and recovery at its heart.

Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council are preparing a new joint Waste Local Plan to provide the planning policy framework against which all proposals for new waste development will be assessed. We look forward to working closely with the waste and recycling sector and the communities of Nottinghamshire and Nottingham to deliver these aspirations and plan sustainably for waste needs in the future.

We carried out a consultation on our Draft Waste Local Plan between the 7th February and the 4th April 2022. We examined the responses and where appropriate we have used these to inform the preparation of our Pre-submission Draft Local Plan prior to it being submitted for examination.

It is anticipated the document will be available for comments on its soundness for examination between the dates of 30th August and 11th October 2023. We encourage you to respond online to this consultation at www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/waste. Alternatively, if you are unable to respond online you can email us at the addresses shown below. We look forward to your response.

	
Councillor Neil Clarke Cabinet Member Transport and Environment Nottinghamshire County Council	Councillor Angela Kandola Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport and Planning Nottingham City Council

1. Introduction

The new Waste Local Plan

- 1.1. Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council are preparing a new joint Waste Local Plan to provide the planning policy framework against which all proposals for new waste development will be assessed.
- 1.2. The Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Joint Draft Waste Local Plan will form the land use planning strategy for waste development within Nottinghamshire and Nottingham up to 2038. It will provide the basis for the determination of waste planning applications within the Plan Area. Its overarching theme is the promotion of sustainable development and achieving the highest quality waste management facilities.
- 1.3. Once adopted, the new Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Local Plan forms the land use planning strategy for waste development within the County up to 2038. It will provide the basis for the determination of all recycling and waste planning applications within the County and City. The new plan will, when adopted, replace the Waste Core Strategy and Local Plan.

Have your say

- 1.4. The Councils have published what is considered to be a sound plan for examination. The purpose of this Pre-submission draft Plan consultation exercise is to invite comment on the soundness of the plan. It is the versions that the Councils seek to adopt, subject to the examination, as the future framework that will guide the future development of recycling and waste facilities in Nottinghamshire and Nottingham.
- 1.5. This document is anticipated to be available for comments between the 30th August and 11th October 2023. We would encourage you to respond online to this consultation using our online consultation system as detailed below. We will handle your personal information in accordance with our data protection protocols. Responses will be made public, but personal details will be redacted.

How to make representations

- 1.6. If you would like to make representations on the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Local Plan, we would encourage you to do so online via our website at www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/waste, using our interactive online representation system for efficiency of processing. However, if you are unable to make your representations you can email us your comments.

Contact us

Nottinghamshire County Council is administering the preparation of the Plan on behalf of both Councils.

Contact us Online: www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/waste

Email: planning.policy@nottsccl.gov.uk

By post:

Planning Policy Team
Place Department.
Nottinghamshire County Council
County Hall
West Bridgford
Nottingham
NG2 7QP

By Phone: 0300 500 80 80 (customer contact centre)

Please ensure that we receive your comments by 5pm on the 11th October 2023 (date to be confirmed).

Alternative formats

This information can be made available in alternative formats or languages on request.

What happens next?

- 1.7. At the end of this consultation exercise, we will consider all comments and may make further changes as necessary before seeking approval to submit the plan to the Planning Inspectorate for examination.

2. Scope of the New Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Local Plan

2.1. The main theme of the Waste Plan is the promotion of sustainable development and achieving the highest quality waste management facilities, where possible. It contains the following:

- An overview of the County and City and a description of existing and future needs for recycling and waste facilities based on our waste needs assessment.
- A long-term Vision for waste and Strategic Objectives, showing how the Vision will be achieved.
- Strategic Policies covering how we will provide for new recycling and waste facilities.
- Development Management Policies which provide the detailed criteria against which future waste development proposals will be assessed such as environmental impacts and standards and guidance about how planning applications for waste development in Nottinghamshire and Nottingham will be assessed.
- How the plan will be Monitored and Implemented.

Replacing existing waste policies

2.2. This Waste Local Plan will replace the existing saved policies contained in the adopted Waste Local Plan, (January 2002) and Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Replacement Waste Local Plan: Part 1 - Waste Core Strategy (December 2013).

Supporting Documents

2.3. The Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Local Plan is supported by a series of documents include the following:

Monitoring Reports

These reports are produced annually and show how the County and City Councils are progressing with preparing their Plans and how well current adopted policies are performing.

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City each prepare a SCI to show how they will consult and engage with local people, statutory bodies and other groups during the preparation of Local Plans and on waste planning applications.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA)

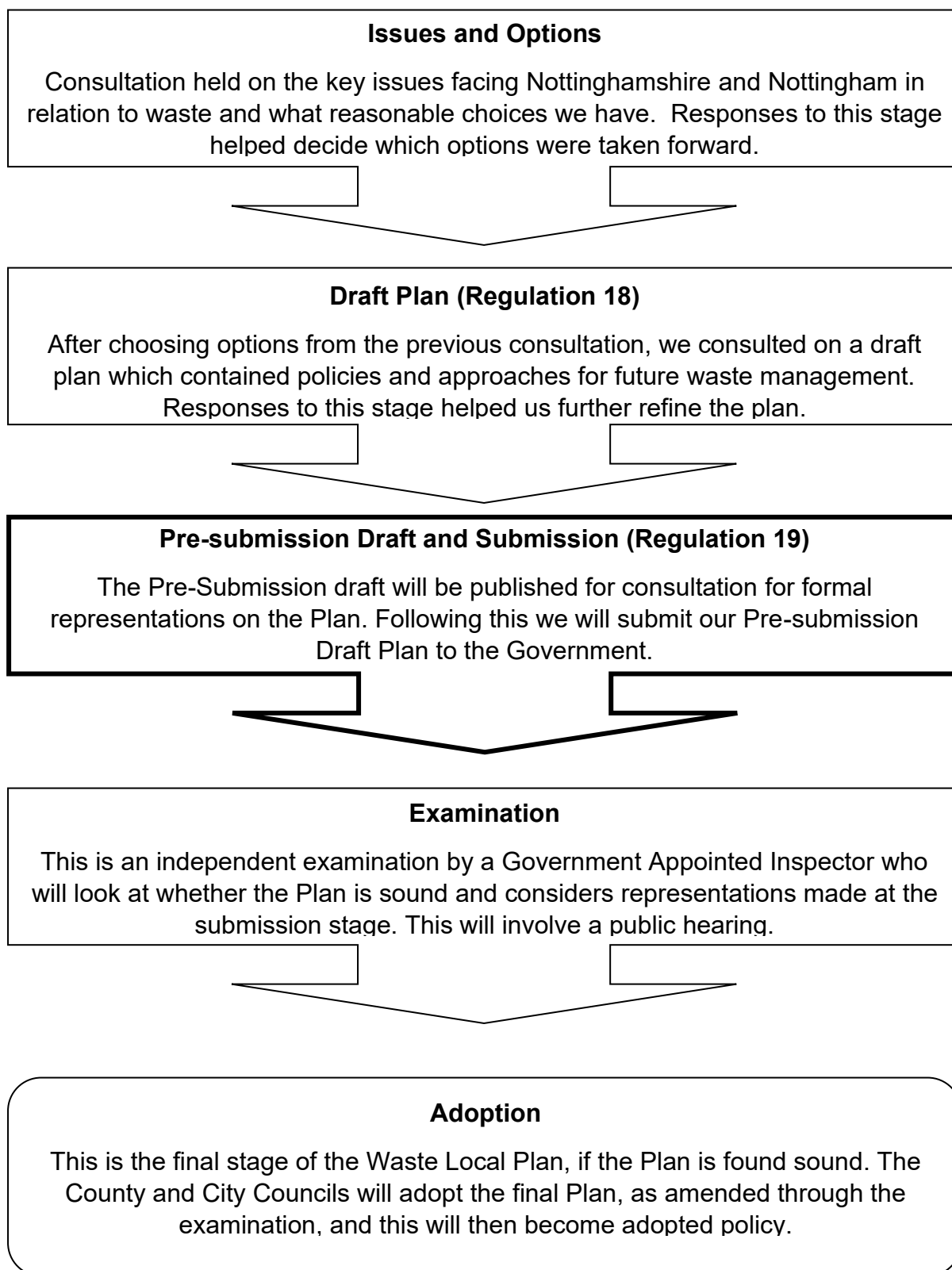
The purpose of the SA is to promote sustainable development through better integration of sustainability considerations in the preparation and adoption of plans. The SA is an integral part of all stages of the preparation of the Waste Local Plan, with reports produced at each stage. This current version of the Draft Plan is accompanied by an SA Report on its policies.

Waste Needs Assessment

This assessment updates the waste needs assessment that informed the Draft Plan and has been prepared by AECOM consultants on behalf of both Councils to provide detailed information on anticipated need for waste facilities over the plan period.

How is the new Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Local Plan being prepared?

Figure 1 - Key stages in preparing the new Waste Local Plan



How to read this document

The following chapters share a number of common features:

Introduction

This section provides the context for each of the topic/policy areas.

Policies

Policies are set out in these boxes.

Justification

This sets out in detail an explanation of the policy, including the reasons why it is needed, a justification for the approach taken and what the policy seeks to achieve.

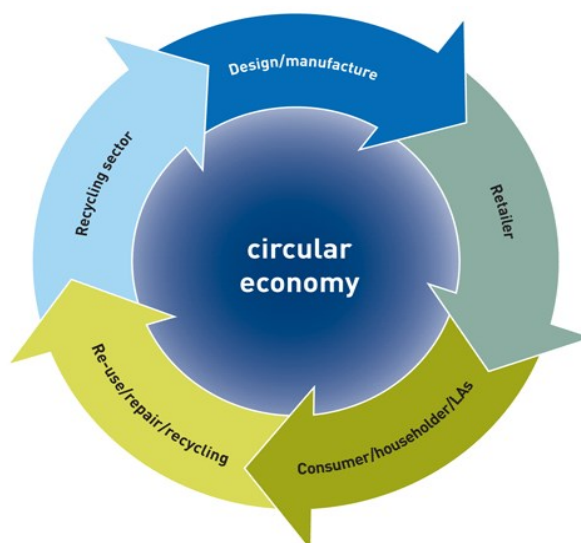
3. Context for Waste Planning

- 3.1. Together Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council are developing a joint waste local plan. This will include policies to guide the future development and management of waste. The Plan reflects other guidance and legislation that sets out waste policy at the international, and national level and is based on an understanding of how we should manage our waste more sustainably by 2038.
- 3.2. There are two key principles that underpin waste planning which aim to promote the concept of waste as a resource to be used - these are the Circular Economy and the Waste Hierarchy.

The Circular Economy

- 3.3. A circular economy is an alternative to a traditional linear economy (make, use, dispose) in which we keep resources in use for as long as possible, extract the maximum value from them whilst in use, then recover and regenerate products and materials at the end of their useful life.

Figure 2 – The Circular Economy



Source: wrap.org.uk

- 3.4. As well as creating new opportunities for growth, the concept of a circular economy provides opportunities to:
- reduce waste
 - drive greater resource productivity

- deliver a more competitive UK economy
- position the UK to better address emerging resource security/scarcity issues in the future
- help reduce the environmental impacts of our production and consumption in both the UK and abroad.

The Waste Hierarchy

- 3.5. A series of European Union (EU) directives set out the general principles for waste management. The Waste Framework Directive (WFD) (2008) establishes the 'waste hierarchy' which prioritises the most beneficial ways of dealing with our waste. The concept aims to push waste management up the waste hierarchy in order to prevent waste in the first instance and then examine the way we re-use the waste that is produced. Currently, most of the UK's environmental laws and policies are based on European laws. Although the UK left the EU in January 2020, the EU's policies on waste have already been transposed into UK law and therefore remain relevant until updated.

Figure 3 – The Waste Hierarchy



Source: Defra.gov.uk

- 3.6. A key principle underpinning how waste should be managed – whether as a waste producer, the waste management industry, or as the Waste Planning Authority, is to follow the Waste Hierarchy shown above. This prioritises prevention as the most sustainable option, then encouraging re-use of existing products. Once products have become waste the next priority is to recycle them so that the raw materials can be re-processed into new products. Where this is not technically, or economically possible, materials can still be recovered in some way e.g. incineration with energy recovery such as the Eastcroft facility in Nottingham which heats and powers homes

and businesses. The least sustainable solution is disposal such as burning waste without capturing heat or energy or taking waste to landfill. However, it is recognised that disposal still has a necessary role to play for residual waste that cannot be further recycled or recovered.

- 3.7. It is important to note that the Waste Local Plan only covers the facilities for re-use/recycling, recovery and disposal. Prevention is about manufacturing processes and consumer behaviour, for example choosing more sustainable options such as designing products so that they will last longer or can be repaired more easily or have less packaging etc. The waste local plan will deal with waste that has already been produced and there are many factors that influence waste production that are outside the remit of the waste local plan.
- 3.8. In addition to considering the context identified in the spatial portrait, the Plan takes account of existing, European, National and Local policy as summarised below.

Hazardous Waste Directive (1991/689/EEC)

- 3.9. Waste is generally considered hazardous if it, or the material or substances it contains, pose a risk to human or environmental health. As hazardous waste poses a higher risk to the environment and human health strict controls apply.
- 3.10. Waste Planning Authorities are required to plan for the volume of waste arising in their area, and this may include waste management facilities to deal with hazardous waste. However, it is accepted that, often, the provision of specialist facilities for wastes that arise in relatively small quantities, or require specialist treatment technologies, will require co-ordination at a regional or national level.

Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC)

- 3.11. The Landfill Directive was introduced in July 1999. The Landfill Directive sets out requirements for the location, management, engineering, closure and monitoring of landfill sites. In the Directive, the term “landfill” is taken to mean “a waste disposal site for the deposit of the waste onto or into land”. The Landfill Directive includes requirements relating to the characteristics of the waste to be landfilled.
- 3.12. European Council Decision 03/33/EC supports the Landfill Directive by providing criteria and procedures for the acceptance of waste at landfills.

Paragraph 15 states: “Whereas the recovery, in accordance with Directive 75/442/EEC, of inert or non-hazardous waste which is suitable, through their use in redevelopment/restoration and filling-in work, or for construction purposes may not constitute a landfilling activity”.

EU Industrial Emissions Directive (2010/75/EU)

- 3.13. The Industrial Emissions Directive combined seven separate existing directives related to industrial emissions, including the Waste Incineration Directive (2000/76/EC). Following the UK’s EU exit, the body of law implementing this regime is now classed as retained EU law and remains in place through domestic regulations, including the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales Regulations) 2016, as amended. The directive covers new facilities and existing facilities and imposes strict emission standards for incineration technologies addressing air pollution to prevent harmful effects on both the environment and human health.
- 3.14. Modern incineration plants must ensure pollution control is a priority; emissions must comply with the requirements of the Waste Incineration Directive. The Directive supports the use of cleaner technologies in order to mitigate the impacts of incineration facilities on the environment and human health.

EU Circular Economy Action Plan

- 3.15. In a “circular economy” the value of products and materials is maintained for as long as possible; waste and resource use are minimised, and resources are kept within the economy until a product has reached the end of its life, to be used again and again to create further value.
- 3.16. In 2018 the European Union agreed a package of measures which form part of the implementation of its Circular Economy Action Plan. These measures include increasing the existing recycling target for municipal waste to 65% by 2035 and a target to reduce landfill to a maximum of 10% of municipal waste by 2035. This compares to a target of 50% by 2020 that the UK Government and local authorities are currently working to. Even though the UK has left the EU, the Government has signalled the Circular Economy measures will be adopted within UK legislation.

National Policy

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012

- 3.17. The system of development plans, introduced by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011), requires local planning authorities (LPAs) to prepare 'local plans' which are made up of Development Plan Documents (DPDs).
- 3.18. LPAs must set out a programme for the preparation of DPDs in a 'Local Development Scheme' and explain how communities and stakeholders will be involved in the process in a 'Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)'. The Act also requires LPAs to carry out a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) during the preparation of the local plan.
- 3.19. The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) Regulations 2012 prescribe the form and content of local plan documents and the associated policies map. The regulations also define the process for the preparation and adoption of a local plan.

The Localism Act 2011

- 3.20. The Localism Act 2011 enabled the abolition of regional spatial strategies. The abolition of most of policies in the East Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy in March 2013 resulted in the removal of regionally-derived targets for waste management (e.g. diversion from landfill, recycling and composting, and provision for accepting London's waste), which have not been replaced at the local or national level.
- 3.21. The Localism Act 2011 introduced the Duty to Cooperate (DtC). The DtC places a legal duty on LPAs, county councils and other public bodies to engage constructively in the interests of local plan preparation. As the WPA, Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City must demonstrate how it has complied with the DtC at the examination of its waste local plan.

The Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011

- 3.22. The Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 (the Waste Regulations) require waste collection authorities (WCAs) to ensure that appropriate recycling standards can be met through commingling, or through source segregated collections. The use of such approaches to waste collection can

impact upon the amount and the quality of waste collected and the potential to recycle.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2021

- 3.23. In 2012 the Government replaced many of the former national planning policy guidance notes and statements and Government Circulars with a single document, the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). A revised NPPF was published in July 2018, and further updated in February 2019 and July 2021.
- 3.24. The NPPF is supported by the national Planning Practice Guidance (PPG), originally published in March 2014 with updates since. The PPG replaced the explanatory documents that had previously supported the national planning policy guidance notes and statements.
- 3.25. The NPPF provides guidance for the preparation of local plans and encourages LPAs to keep them up-to-date, requiring them to be reviewed at least every 5 years. There is an expectation that LPAs 'positively seek opportunities to meet the development needs of their area and be sufficiently flexible to adapt to rapid change'. For waste planning such flexibility is vital, given the need for waste management provision to respond to changes in the market (e.g., international markets for recycle and refuse derived fuels).
- 3.26. Plans should 'provide for objectively assessed needs ...', as well as any needs that cannot be met within neighbouring areas. In the context of the Plan this could include taking some waste from areas outside Nottinghamshire and Nottingham, such as Derbyshire and Yorkshire, or further afield.
- 3.27. The NPPF indicates the need for waste management facilities to be provided as strategic infrastructure. The county council is required to work with district and borough councils to contribute to an integrated approach to the provision of essential development such as homes and the infrastructure needed to support them.

National Planning Policy for Waste (NPPW) 2014

- 3.28. The National Planning Policy for Waste (NPPW) 2014 sits alongside the NPPF and sets out the Government's ambition to work towards a more sustainable approach to waste management and use. It aims to ensure waste management facilities make a positive contribution to communities and to balance the need for waste management with the interests of the community.

3.29. More specifically, the Policy advises WPAs to:

- Identify sufficient opportunities to meet the identified needs of their area for the management of waste, based on robust analysis of best available data and information.
- Ensure waste is managed as high up the waste hierarchy as possible recognising the need for a mix of types and scale of facilities.
- Work jointly and collaboratively with other planning authorities including on issues of cross-boundary movements and any national need.
- Take into account the need for a limited number of facilities for disposal of residual waste which may arise in more than one waste planning authority area.
- Undertake early and meaningful engagement with local communities, recognising that proposals for waste management facilities such as incinerators can be controversial.

Waste Management Plan for England (2021)

- 3.30. The Government published a national Waste Management Plan for England in December 2013 which was updated in 2021.
- 3.31. The plan brings together a number of policies under the umbrella of one national plan. It seeks to encourage a more sustainable and efficient approach to resource management and outlines the policies that are in place to help move towards the goal of a zero waste economy in the UK. The Government consulted on the Waste Management Plan for England in October 2020, it came into effect in January 2021 to reflect the Waste and Resources Strategy published in December 2018.
- 3.32. The Waste Management Plan for England provides an overview of the management of all waste streams in England and evaluates how it will support implementation of the objectives and provisions of the revised Waste Framework Directive (WFD).

Resources and Waste Strategy (2018)

- 3.33. In December 2018, the Government published a new waste strategy for England. This strategy is particularly concerned with ensuring that society's approach to waste aligns with circular economy principles i.e. keeping resources in use as long as possible in order to extract maximum value from

them (See figure 3 above). The Strategy confirms a target recycling rate for England of 65% for MSW by 2035. The strategy also seeks to limit the landfill of municipal waste to 10% or less by 2030 and eliminate all biodegradable waste such as food or garden waste from landfill by the same date.

Net Zero Strategy (2021)

- 3.34. In October 2021, the Government set out how the UK will deliver on its commitment to reach net zero emissions by 2050. It outlines a transition to a greener and more sustainable future, by helping business and consumers move to cleaner power and reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels. This is in line with the target set out within the Climate Change Act (2008, amended 2019) which seeks for greenhouse gas emissions to be equal or lower than emissions in 1990.

Environment Act (2021)

- 3.35. The Environment Act in 2021 provides the new framework of environmental protection which replaces EU laws since the UK left the EU. The act focuses on nature protection and sets new and binding targets relating to water quality, clean air, environmental protection, and waste reduction. It brings in requirements such as reducing single use plastics as well as introducing a mandate for biodiversity net gain in all developments from November 2023.

Other National Policy Statements

- 3.36. The Government publishes other plans, policies and strategies which have an impact on the production and management of waste. This includes the 'Industrial Strategy' (2017), the 'Clean Growth Strategy' (2017) and the '25 Year Environment Plan' (2018). In 2018 the government consulted on a new 'Clean Air Strategy'.
- 3.37. In 2023, the Government published the 'Environmental Improvement Plan' which is the first review of the '25 Year Environment Plan', with a review to be undertaken every five years as set out in law in the Environment Act. This includes the new target to halve residual waste (waste sent to be landfilled, incinerated or used in energy recovery in the UK or overseas) produced per person by 2042. This includes all waste streams except major mineral waste. The 'Environmental Improvement Plan' outlines how this target will be delivered and details interim targets.

Local Policy

Nottinghamshire County Council Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

- 3.38. The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out the County Council's approach to public consultation and involvement in the preparation of Minerals and Waste Plans and the consideration of planning applications. It was adopted in 2018 and amended in July 2020 in light of Covid-19 restrictions.

Nottingham City Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

- 3.39. The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out Nottingham City Council's approach to public consultation and involvement in the preparation of Local Plans and the consideration of planning applications. It was adopted in November 2019 and amended in June 2020 in light of Covid-19 restrictions.

Nottinghamshire County Council Municipal Waste Management Strategy (2001)

- 3.40. The document sets out the objectives for municipal waste management in the County over the next 20 years. It describes the issues facing Nottinghamshire and proposes a way forward. It identifies the short-, medium- and long-term requirements for managing municipal waste, the cost of delivering the solution and associated funding issues the roles and responsibilities of the County Council, the District and Borough Councils and the public to make the solutions work.

Nottingham City Council Resources and Waste Strategy for Nottingham (2023-2050)

- 3.41. The Resources and Waste Strategy sets out the aims of the City Council to reduce the amount of waste generated through prevention, reuse, repair, recycling and recovery to help reduce carbon emissions in line with the City Councils carbon neutral policy for 2028. It outlines how it will help to prevent waste and enhance recycling and seeks to continue to reduce waste being sent for landfill.

Nottingham City 2028 Carbon Neutral Action Plan

- 3.42. Nottingham City Council has made the commitment to become a carbon neutral city by 2028. This means cutting carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from direct and indirect sources that arise from the consumption of energy within the city to near zero and offsetting those emissions that cannot be eliminated.

- 3.43. The action plan builds on Nottingham 2028 Carbon Neutral Charter by setting out high-level objectives in order to achieve a resilient and carbon neutral Nottingham by 2028. These are broken down into four main sections: Carbon Reduction Measures, Carbon Removal and Offsetting, Resilience and Adaptation, Ecology and Biodiversity. The Waste Local Plan will be an important contributor to achieving the 2028 carbon neutral ambition.

The Nottinghamshire Plan

- 3.44. The Nottinghamshire Plan sets out the County Council's vision and ambitions over the next ten years, focussing on health and wellbeing, economic growth and living standards, accessibility, and the environment. The Plan includes a commitment to continue to divert more than 95% of local authority waste from landfill and recycle 52% of domestic waste by 2025.
- 3.45. The County Council has also produced a carbon reduction plan on how it expects to achieve carbon neutrality in its own activities by 2030.

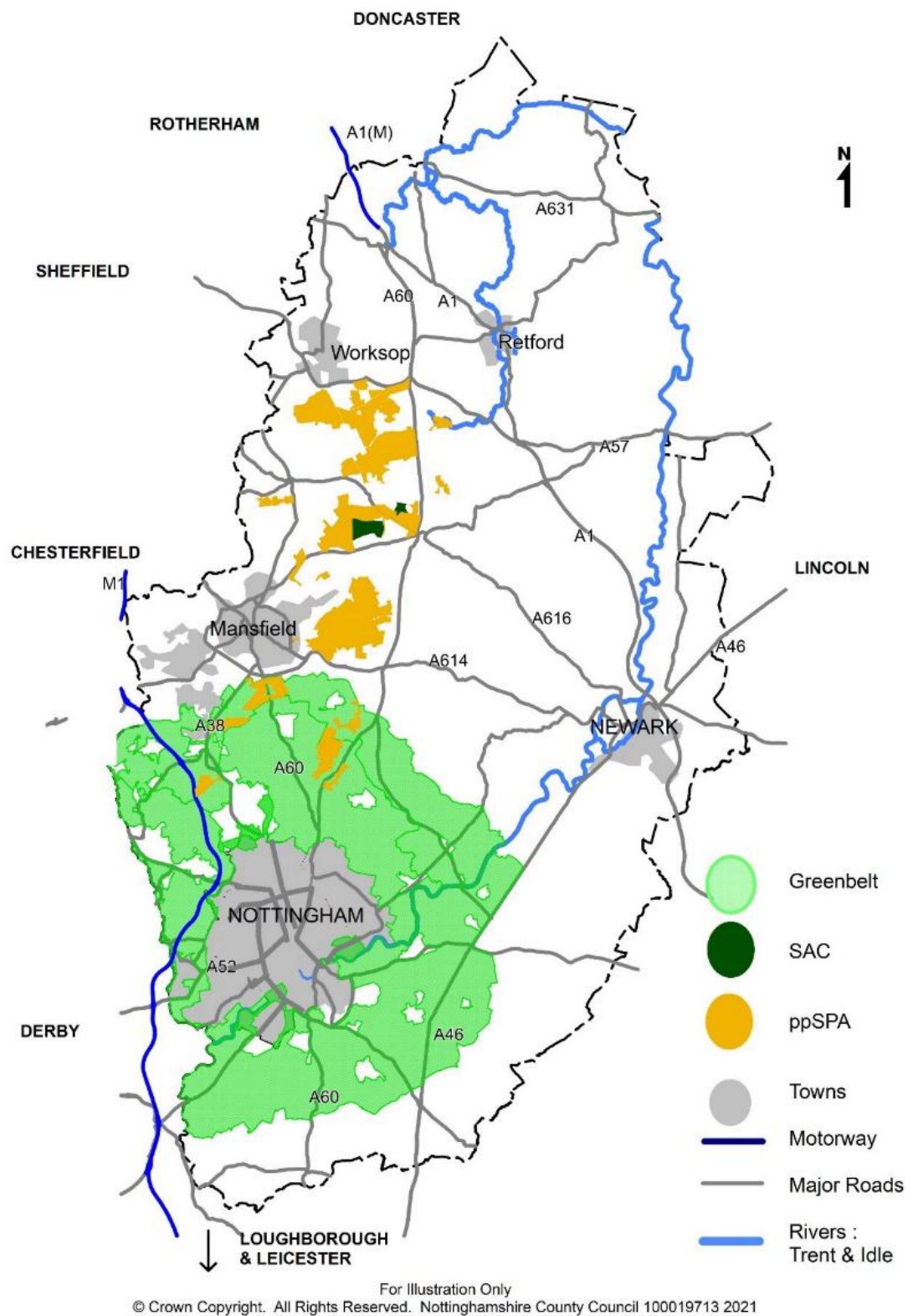
4. Overview of the Plan Area

- 4.1. To help inform the plan process we have developed a 'spatial portrait' of Nottinghamshire and Nottingham, setting out the key environmental, geological, geographic, social and economic influences found in the Plan Area
- 4.2. The Plan area is part of the East Midlands and shares a boundary with South Yorkshire. Northern parts of Nottinghamshire therefore have significant employment, housing and business links with Sheffield and the metropolitan areas of Barnsley, Rotherham and Doncaster. The more urbanised west of the County is closely linked to neighbouring Derbyshire, with more rural eastern parts of the County having a similar character to neighbouring parts of Lincolnshire. In the south, Nottingham is the major regional centre with links to the neighbouring cities of Derby and Leicester. Consequently, there is a significant overlap of housing areas, business and employment between these three cities (see Plan1 below).
- 4.3. Nottingham City is a designated Core City of national importance and consists of a very compact and a high-density urban area. Nottingham City has a very tight urban boundary and is surrounded by several borough and district councils and their connecting urban areas.
- 4.4. There are around 823,000 people living in Nottinghamshire County and 330,000 in Nottingham City. Around two thirds of the overall population live in, or around, Nottingham which is a major centre for employment and retail. The remainder live in, or close to, the larger towns of Mansfield, Kirkby in Ashfield, Sutton in Ashfield, Hucknall, Worksop, Newark and Retford and larger villages. Outside these areas, the rest of the County is largely rural with scattered small villages, farmland, woodland and commercial forestry.
- 4.5. The County's landscape is characterised by rich rolling farmlands to the south, with a central belt of mixed woodland and farmland, giving way to heathland of Sherwood in the north-west and open, flat agricultural landscapes dominated by the River Trent to the east, and the flat low lying agricultural landscape of the Humberhead Levels to the north. Nottinghamshire also supports a wide network of important sites for nature conservation, the most important focused within Sherwood Forest, to the north of Mansfield. This includes a Special Area of Conservation and possible future Special Protection Area, both of which hold international status.

- 4.6. Nottinghamshire is well known for its historic past, in particular for its link to the tales of Robin Hood but the areas heritage is much more diverse, with assets spanning thousands of years; from cave art found at the Creswell Crags on the Nottinghamshire- Derbyshire Border to medieval caves, taverns and castle found in Nottingham's city centre as well as several historic market towns full of heritage assets. The industrial past of coal mining, particular in the West of the County, and the textile industry throughout the 18th and early 19th into the 20th centuries has left a rich built heritage. The majority of Nottinghamshire's conservation areas, listed buildings, historic parks, and Scheduled Ancient Monuments are faring well, but a proportion (around 10%) are in a vulnerable condition or situation.
- 4.7. Road and rail links to the rest of the UK are generally good. The area is connected to the M1 and the national motorway network via the A453 to junction 24, the A52 to junction 25 and the A610 to junction 26 and the A38 to Junction 28. The A52 provides a trunk road connection from Derby to Nottingham including to the A46 which runs between the M1 north of Leicester to the A1 at Newark. Orbital movements in Nottingham are less well accommodated with there being only a partial ring road (A52 and A6514). To the north of the County the A614 links Nottingham to the A1 and A60 with wider links to Mansfield, which is also linked via the A617 to Newark.
- 4.8. Nottinghamshire's economy generally compares favourably with the rest of the UK, and some of our urban areas are expected to be the focus of significant housing and commercial development in the future. However, there are wide inequalities in the rates of employment and income across the plan area, most notably in the former mining areas to the north and west and within parts of Nottingham City. These areas often also experience inequalities in health, education and skills.
- 4.9. Mansfield, Worksop and Newark are important centres for warehousing and distribution whilst service, technology and research-based industries tend to cluster in around Nottingham. The energy industry also has a role with four power stations along the River Trent, however, coal powered power stations are due to close or be replaced by 2025. Elsewhere, agriculture and forestry are no longer major employers but still make up much of the County's rural landscape.
- 4.10. As a regional economic hub, Nottingham City is the main work destination for the majority of residents living within the city and surrounding areas and there is a strong focus for pharmaceuticals and optical goods, manufacturing, ICT technology and finance and banking. Approximately 226,000 people are employed within Nottingham City.

- 4.11. Flood risk, particularly in the Trent Valley and along its tributaries, presents planning and environmental issues which is a significant constraint to most forms of built development. The impacts of future climate change could result in higher rainfall and more extreme flood events. All of Nottingham City has been designated an Air Quality Management Area.

Plan 1 – Plan Area



5. Waste Management in the Plan Area

- 5.1. In order to Plan effectively it is important to understand how much waste is produced, how this is currently managed, and what is likely to change in future. To help with this process the Councils appointed specialist consultants (AECOM) to prepare a detailed Waste Needs Assessment.
- 5.2. The Waste Needs Assessment (WNA, 2023) sets out information on current waste arisings and forecasts likely future growth for each of the main waste streams. The assessment then looks at existing waste management capacity within the Plan area and makes specific recommendations as to whether additional facilities are likely to be needed.

Waste produced within the Plan Area

- 5.3. The WNA has confirmed that on average approximately 3.4 million tonnes of waste is produced across the Plan area each year. This is from a variety of sources including Local Authority Collected Waste from households and schools; commercial and industrial waste from shops, offices, and factories; and construction, demolition, and excavation wastes such as rubble and soils. Other sources of waste include wastewater and sewage, agricultural waste, and mining wastes. In the past, large quantities of ash have also been produced from coal-fired power stations which are due to be phased out by 2025. Waste from any of these sources, which is especially harmful to human health or the environment, is classified separately as hazardous waste. The amount of each type of waste produced during 2021 (the latest year for which data is available) is shown in Figure 4.

Figure 4 – Waste produced in the Plan area 2021

Waste stream	Tonnes
Local Authority Collected Waste	592,705
Commercial and Industrial waste	1,247,000
Construction, Demolition and Excavation waste	1,397,195
Hazardous Waste	74,714
Agricultural Waste	77,916
Mining Waste	588

Source: Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Needs Assessment, AECOM, May 2023

- 5.4. As the Plan looks ahead to 2038 it is important to ensure it can meet long-term needs as well as adapt to short term changes. Regular monitoring will be carried out to assess how well the Plan is performing. The proposed monitoring and implementation framework for the Plan is set out in Chapter 9 of this document.

Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW)

- 5.5. Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW) is made up of household waste collected at the kerbside from individual households (or taken by householders to a local authority recycling centre/civic amenity site) and also any non-household waste that is collected by the local authority from local businesses (also known as trade waste).
- 5.6. The amount of LACW waste generated each year has remained relatively stable over the last ten years, ranging between around 540,000 and 593,000 tonnes per year. In 2021 just under 593,000 tonnes of LACW was produced within the Plan area. Since the publication of the Waste Core Strategy recycling rates have slowed and, in some cases, fallen. In 2021, the average across the plan area for household waste recycling rate was at 38%.
- 5.7. As the Plan looks ahead to 2038 it is important to ensure it can meet long-term needs as well as adapt to short term changes. Regular monitoring will be carried out to assess how well the Plan is performing. The proposed monitoring and implementation framework for the Plan is set out in Chapter 9 of this document.

Commercial and industrial (C&I) waste

- 5.8. The amount of commercial and industrial (C&I) waste produced by shops, offices, factories, and other businesses has fluctuated considerably over the last ten years from a peak of almost 1.4 million tonnes in 2013 down to a low of just under 500,000 tonnes in 2016. Much of this change is thought to be due to economic circumstances and the decline in ash produced by coal-fired power stations.
- 5.9. In 2019, the amount of commercial and industrial waste recorded increased suddenly by 26% from the previous year to almost 950,000 tonnes. Arisings have continued to increase, reaching approximately 1.2 million tonnes in 2021, a high not seen since 2014. This large increase may be the result of major changes in waste markets over the last two to three years including the closure of certain export markets. It is possible that some of this

increase is therefore material that was previously exported as Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF).

- 5.10. As local authorities do not control how or where C&I waste is managed, previous estimates of the recycling and recovery rate for this waste stream have been based on national surveys rather than local data. To try and overcome this problem, the WNA has looked at the recorded fate of all C&I waste known to have been produced in the Plan area in 2021 using the Environment Agency Waste Data Interrogator. This method may not capture all C&I waste but helps to provide a more up to date, local picture¹.
- 5.11. The WNA analysis suggests that around 63% of C&I waste is now recycled or composted with 28% sent to landfill.

Construction, demolition and excavation (CD&E) waste

- 5.12. Construction, demolition, and excavation (CD&E) waste comes from construction activities such as house building, road building and other infrastructure schemes. This also includes the demolition of existing buildings, excavation, and earthmoving works. There is no requirement for businesses to report on CD&E waste and significant quantities of this waste are managed at the construction/demolition site rather than at a permitted waste management facility. Mobile plant is often used to crush, screen, and separate the waste either for re-sale or re-use on site. The WNA acknowledges that the Environment Agency Waste Data Interrogator provides limited information on the total amount of CD&E waste produced but this has been used to give the most accurate picture possible/to consider the amount of recorded waste requiring management each year.
- 5.13. CD&E waste arisings have increased overall since 2010, reaching a high of 1.5 million tonnes in 2014, but have since fluctuated between roughly 950,000 and 1.4 million tonnes per annum. Using the Environment Agency data for 2021, it is estimated that just over 83% of CD&E waste is recycled, particularly C&D waste such as aggregates due to their high value or recovered with less than 20% disposed of to landfill.

¹ In some cases, the waste origin may only be recorded by region or the waste may pass through an intermediate transfer facility outside the Plan which will obscure its origin.

Hazardous waste

- 5.14. Hazardous waste contains substances which are harmful to human health or the environment and can include oils, chemicals, batteries, asbestos, and pesticides. Hazardous waste arisings within the plan area have shown some fluctuation over the past 10 years but overall have remained between approximately 34,000 and 52,000 tonnes per annum between 2010 and 2019. However, in 2020 and 2021 there was a large increase in arisings to approximately 75,000 tonnes. The data indicates this is due to a large transfer of waste between two waste management sites. These estimates are taken from the Environment Agency's separate Hazardous Waste Data Interrogator.

Agricultural Waste

- 5.15. Agricultural waste includes all waste generated from farming activities including natural waste such as slurry and manure as well as non-natural waste such as plastic rubber, metal, and oil. The total amount of agricultural waste produced in the plan area has increased since 2010, largely due to more waste being managed through anaerobic digestion facilities, and therefore recorded, rather than being spread to land. 2021 saw agricultural waste double compared to 2019 and 2020, increasing to just under 78,000 tonnes.
- 5.16. As only a small amount of agricultural waste is produced each year (less than 2.5% of the total waste generated in the plan area in 2021) it is not considered necessary to identify specific waste management capacity for this waste stream.

Mining Waste

- 5.17. Mining waste is produced during the extraction and processing of mineral resources and includes waste solids or slurries left over after the mineral has been removed, waste rock, and soil. In the past large tonnages of colliery spoil were produced from the area's many coal mines but there are no longer any active collieries within the Plan area. Since 2010, the production of mining waste within the Plan area has generally been less than 1,000 tonnes per year although the opening a new quarry in 2016 saw a peak of just over 12,400 tonnes.
- 5.18. As with agricultural waste, mineral working now produces very small quantities of waste each year, much of which can be used to help restore other mineral workings or landfill sites. It is not therefore seen as necessary to make separate provision for this waste stream.

Low-level radioactive waste

- 5.19. Radioactive waste will either contain radioactive material or will have been contaminated by radioactivity. In the UK, radioactive waste is categorised according to the type and amount of radioactivity it contains, and the amount of heat it can generate. All high-level radioactive waste, such as that from nuclear power stations, is dealt with at a national level and is treated or disposed of at specialist sites. Non-nuclear, low-level radioactive waste produced by hospitals, universities, and industry for example, can be managed at conventional facilities. The Waste Needs Assessment has confirmed that there are no major radioactive waste facilities in the Plan area and that only very small quantities of low-level radioactive waste are produced which do not require any specific provision within the Plan.

Wastewater

- 5.20. Wastewater is a combination of used water from domestic properties, industry, and agriculture as well as rainwater run-off from roads and other hard surfaced areas. Existing wastewater treatment facilities in the Plan area manage an average daily flow of more than 300 million litres of effluent. The Councils will work with the water utility companies to assess the need for additional wastewater treatment capacity within the Plan area.

Forecasting future waste arisings in the Plan area

- 5.21. The need for further waste management capacity will depend on factors such as the level of planned housing, commercial and industrial development within the plan area, whether any major infrastructure projects are likely to take place, and the impact of wider measures to reduce waste and re-use materials in line with the circular economy principle. The Waste Needs Assessment therefore considers a range of different growth scenarios for each of the main waste streams in line with national policy and guidance on forecasting future waste arisings. These scenarios have been updated from those considered at the previous Draft Plan consultation stage. The different options considered and the preferred scenario for each waste stream is summarised below. In each case except for C, D&E waste, 2021 has been used as the baseline for forecasting as this is the most recent year for which there is comparable data available for each of the main waste streams.

Local Authority Collected Waste

- 5.22. To forecast LACW arisings, the NPPG recommends establishing a growth profile that considers a range of possible outcomes based on household or population growth and waste arisings per household or per head. This should factor in a range of different scenarios to take account of both historic growth trends and progressively lowering growth rates due to waste minimisation initiatives.
- 5.23. The previous Issues and Options consultation considered a range of options including progressive growth in the amount of waste produced per household. The most recent Waste Needs Assessment has updated the previous LACW forecasting scenarios from the Issues and Options and Draft Plan stage to take account of more recent housing estimates and gives greater emphasis to future waste minimisation initiatives. The three updated scenarios are described below:

- A High rate of decline** - this scenario assumes an annual decline in the amount of waste per household of 1.07% in Nottinghamshire and 1.05% in Nottingham. This reflects the historic trend seen between 2007 and 2021. However, this timeframe includes a large drop in household waste arisings between 2007 and 2008 which is likely to be due to the recession and may not be representative of longer-term trends. This scenario would result in a decrease of over 44,000 tonnes per annum of LACW by 2038.
- B Low rate of decline** - this scenario assumes an annual decline in the amount of waste per household of 0.25% in Nottinghamshire and 0.51% in Nottingham. This reflects the historic trend seen between 2008 and 2021 and therefore excludes the possible recessionary impact between 2007 and 2008. This scenario would result in an increase of around 51,000 tonnes per annum of LACW by 2038. Although this scenario assumes a decline in the amount of waste per household, the increased number of households by 2038 would result in overall growth.
- C No change** - this scenario assumes 0% change in the amount of waste produced per household going forward based on the most recent 2021 figures. This scenario would result in increase of around 85,000 tonnes per annum of LACW by 2038. Although this scenario assumes no change

in the amount of waste per household, the increased number of households by 2038 would result in overall growth.

- 5.24. These updated scenarios now also take account of the proportion of non-household, or trade waste which is collected by local authorities. Non-household waste is difficult to forecast as it can be affected by a number of variables such as market trends, national policy, and the state of the economy. However, rates have remained relatively stable between 2007 and 2021 so it has been assumed that there will be no change in the most recent non-household LACW generation rate.
- 5.25. Table 1 below summarises the forecast arisings at key intervals during the plan period.

Table 1. Summary of Forecasted LACW Arisings (in five-year intervals) (000s tonnes), 2021 – 2038

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2038
Scenario A	593	584	572	556	549
Scenario B	593	609	624	639	644
Scenario C	593	618	643	668	678

- 5.26. Scenario A (high decline) takes account of future waste minimisation measures but includes the 2007-2008 period when, as a result of the recession, households and businesses produced significantly less waste. This single year drop skews the data and is not considered to be representative of future trends. Scenario B (low decline) takes account of expected future waste reduction measures but is not skewed by the effects of the 2007-2008 recession. Scenario C (no change) assumes waste arisings will remain static and takes no account of future waste reduction measures and is also therefore not considered to be realistic because it does not reflect national policy aims. Scenario B is therefore considered to be the most realistic and has been chosen as the preferred option upon which to base the Plan.

Commercial and industrial waste

- 5.27. To forecast commercial and industrial waste arisings, national policy guidance recommends that waste planning authorities should assume a certain level of growth in waste arisings unless there is clear evidence to indicate otherwise. the latest WNA looks at future economic output and predicts future waste generation rates per employee and the employee projections from the Nottingham Employment Land Needs Study².
- 5.28. The three updated scenarios are:
- A** **No change** - this scenario assumes business as usual with no change in either the number of employees or the amount of waste produced per employee during the plan period. The amount of C&I waste produced would remain static throughout the plan period.
 - B** **Medium growth** - this scenario assumes a 5% reduction in the amount of waste per employee up to 2031 due to waste reduction initiatives and circular economy measures. The number of employees would increase by 11% in Nottinghamshire and 17% in Nottingham in line with predictions. Due to the predicted economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, these predictions assume no growth in employees between 2021 and 2024. This scenario would result in an increase of 69,000 tonnes of C&I waste per year by 2038.
 - C** **High growth** - this scenario assumes no change in the amount of waste produced per employee. The number of employees would increase 11% in Nottinghamshire and 17% in Nottingham in line with predictions - as in Scenario B above. Due to the predicted economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, these predictions assume no growth in employees between 2021 and 2024. This scenario would result in an increase of almost 103,000 tonnes of C&I waste per year by 2038.

² Lichfields, (2021); Nottingham Core HMA and Nottingham Outer HMA Employment Land Needs Study. The Nottingham Employment Land Needs Study only includes projections for six of the Nottinghamshire local authorities (excludes Bassetlaw). As Bassetlaw is a comparable size (both geographically and in population) to Newark and Sherwood, the same employment projection for Newark and Sherwood has been applied to Bassetlaw.

- 5.29. Table 2 below summarises the forecast arisings at key intervals during the plan period.

Table 2. Summary of Forecasted C&I Arisings (in five-year intervals) (000s tonnes), 2021 – 2038

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2038
Scenario A	966	966	966	966	966
Scenario B	966	976	1,001	1,025	1,035
Scenario C	966	981	1,017	1,054	1,069

- 5.30. Compared to the previous forecasts, using the 2021 data results in a higher baseline from which to project future waste growth but is likely to be a more realistic starting point as this reflects the probable impacts of increasing restrictions on waste exports (see paragraph 5.9). Scenario A (no change) does not take account of predicted future economic growth or the likely impact of waste minimisation measures. This is not considered to be representative of long-term trends as it does not reflect national policy or local growth estimates. Scenario B (low growth) takes account of predicted growth in the local economy after 2024 and the likely impact of waste minimisation measures as described in Chapter 3. Scenario C (high growth) takes account of predicted economic growth but assumes there will be no reduction in the amount of waste produced per employee. This is not considered to be representative of long-term trends as it does not take account of waste minimisation measures. Scenario B is therefore considered to be the most realistic and has been chosen as the preferred option upon which to base the Plan.

Construction, Demolition and Excavation Waste

- 5.31. When forecasting future CD&E arisings, national policy guidance recommends that WPAs should assume a constant level of future arisings as there is a limited evidence base on which to base forward projections. Allowance should also be made for the fact that a sizeable proportion of construction and demolition waste arisings are managed or re-used on-site, or at exempt sites. Although the starting point is to assume that arising will remain constant over time, forecasts should also take account of any significant planned regeneration or major infrastructure projects over the timescale of the Plan.

- 5.32. The Waste Needs Assessment concludes that there is no evidence to suggest an increase in future CD&E arisings. The only major construction project considered potentially likely to have a significant impact on CD&E generations rates during the plan period is Phase 2b of high-speed railway HS2, with the eastern leg terminating just inside the boundary of Nottinghamshire. Therefore, the impacts on C&DE waste arisings are not considered to be significant. For this reason, only one forecasting scenario has been considered as follows:

A **No change** - this scenario assumes business as usual with no change in the amount of waste produced during the plan period using a 10 year average between 2012-2021. There are no major construction projects scheduled during the plan period that would significantly affect future levels of CD&E waste generation.

- 5.33. Table 3 below summarises the forecast arisings at key intervals during the plan period.

Table 3. Summary of Forecasted CD&E Arisings (in five-year intervals) (000s tonnes), 2021 – 2038

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2038
Scenario A	1,397	1,172	1,172	1,172	1,172

- 5.34. In line with national guidance, and the lack of alternative evidence, this is considered to be an appropriate forecast upon which to base the Plan.

Hazardous waste

- 5.35. The NPPG recommends that forecasts of future hazardous waste arisings should be based on extrapolating historic time series data as information on hazardous waste is considered likely to be robust. The previous Issues and Options consultation considered a single scenario based on waste production over the last 10 years. The latest Waste Needs Assessment maintains this approach but has revised the underlying figures on the amount of waste produced over the last 10 years using data from the Environment Agency's Hazardous Waste Data Interrogator. A single forecasting scenario has therefore been considered as follows:

- A Extrapolate historic data** - this scenario assumes that the amount of hazardous waste generated will continue the overall minor downward trend observed over the last 10 years. This scenario does not consider any change in hazardous waste arisings as a result of COVID-19 as it is predicted that the amount of hazardous waste will return to normal levels by the end of the plan period.

- 5.36. Table 4 below summarises the forecast arisings at key intervals during the plan period.

Table 4. Summary of Forecasted Hazardous Waste Arisings (in five-year intervals) (000s tonnes), 2021 – 2038

	2021	2026	2031	2036	2038
Scenario A	75	85	94	104	108

- 5.37. In line with guidance in the NPPG, this projection of hazardous waste arisings based on historic time series data is considered an appropriate forecast upon which to base the Plan.

Agricultural waste, mining waste, low-level radioactive waste, and wastewater

- 5.38. No specific guidance is provided on forecasting future waste arisings for other waste streams such as agricultural waste mining waste, low-level radioactive waste, and wastewater. In most cases these are produced in very small quantities and are capable of being managed at existing facilities. For this reason, it is not considered necessary to make any specific provision for these waste streams. The need for additional waste treatment capacity is usually determined by the regulated water utility companies on a case-by-case basis. Local planning authorities consult the water utility companies during local plan production and on major development proposals and both water supply and disposal requirements are considered as part of local infrastructure delivery plans. To date, no specific requirements have been identified but the Plan will continue to make policy provision for the extension or renewal of existing treatment facilities or the provision of new facilities if required.

Existing Capacity within Plan Area

- 5.39. In order to ensure sufficient provision to handle the waste arisings forecasted within the plan area, firstly the WNA assesses the amount of waste management capacity that is already available within the Plan area. This is again based on data from the Environment Agency's Waste Data Interrogator which shows the quantity and type of waste which has been received at each facility. In line with national guidance this takes account of those facilities which have planning permission and are operational. This is considered to be more reliable than including facilities which have planning permission but have either not been built or are no longer in use.
- 5.40. Tables 5 and 6 below provide a summary of existing capacity by type of facility and the waste streams they accept. Further details on the capacity of individual facilities can be found in Appendix F of the Waste Needs Assessment. Due to the way in which waste data is reported through the Waste Data Interrogator, it is not possible to separate the capacity of each facility between LACW and C&I waste streams. This is recorded as a single, category of household, industrial and commercial waste (HIC) for reporting purposes.

Table 5 Existing waste treatment capacity by type in December 2021 (tonnes per annum)

Facility Type	Waste stream			Total
	HIC	CD&E	Hazardous	
<i>Anaerobic digestion</i>	394,226	-	4,135	398,361
<i>Composting</i>	80,345	-	-	80,345
<i>Recycling</i>	932,531	1,367,501	176,059	2,476,091
Recycling Total	1,407,102	1,367,501	180,194	2,954,797
<i>Energy recovery</i>	243,162	-	-	243,162
<i>Other recovery (deposit to land)</i>	180	408,703	-	408,883
Recovery Total	243,342	408,703	-	652,045

Transfer	749,598	263,272	82,046	1,094,916
TOTAL	2,400,042	2,039,476	262,240	4,701,758

**Table 6. Remaining Landfill Capacity by type in December 2021
(rounded to nearest 100 tonnes)**

Facility Type	2021
Inert Landfill (CD&E)	2,813,277
Non-hazardous Landfill (HIC)	753,378
Restricted User Landfill	575,405

Future waste management methods

- 5.41. As well as establishing the level of existing capacity, we also need to consider how waste is likely to be managed in future i.e. the proportions of each waste stream that are likely to be recycled, recovered, or disposed of. This will help to identify the types of facilities needed and whether any new capacity will be required over the plan period. The Waste Needs Assessment sets out the recycling, recovery and disposal scenarios which have been considered for each waste stream. In each case these range from a continuation of current recycling rates, a moderate increase, and a more challenging stretch-target likely to require much wider changes from government, industry, and society as a whole.

Table 7. Recycling Scenarios for LACW

Recycling Scenario	Description	Justification
Low	37.8% recycling rate for all years to 2038.	Business as usual, no change in the current recycling rate by 2038.
Medium	55% recycling rate by 2038.	Reflects the EU Waste Framework Directive target for 50% of municipal waste to be recycling or composted by 2020 and the 52% recycling target by 2020 set for Veolia in their contract with Nottinghamshire County Council.
High	65% recycling rate by 2035 continuing to 2038.	Reflects the national waste strategy target to recycle 65% of MSW by 2035. The updated Waste Framework Directive also sets a target for 65% of MSW to be recycled by 2030.

- 5.42. The low scenario reflects a continuation of the current recycling rate for LACW and does not take account of additional recycling measures announced by Government such as the separate collection of food waste from all households. The medium scenario represents a considerable improvement on the current recycling rate but still falls short of the national waste strategy target. The high recycling scenario is preferred as this reflects the more ambitious national target and takes account of the future recycling measures which are due to be introduced.

Table 8. Recycling Scenarios for C&I Waste

Scenario	Description	Justification
Low	62.7% recycling rate for all years to 2038.	Business as usual, no change in the current recycling rate by 2038.
Medium	70% recycling rate by 2038.	Assumes some transition between the current recycling rate and the high recycling rate.
High	70% recycling rate by 2025, increasing to 80% by 2038.	The Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Core Strategy sets a target of 70% of C&I waste to be recycled or composted by 2025. 80% has been chosen as a possible target at the end of the plan period (2038) as it reflects the ambition of Nottinghamshire and Nottingham.

- 5.43. The low scenario reflects a continuation of the current recycling rate for C&I waste and does not take account of proposed measures such as the wider use of Extended Producer Responsibility (customer take-back) schemes. The medium scenario assumes a small increase in the recycling rate over the Plan period. The high scenario is preferred as this reflects a more

optimistic target by the end of the Plan period and takes more account of proposed recycling measures.

Table 9. Recycling/Recovery Scenarios for CD&E Waste

Scenario	Description	Justification
Low	83.4% recycling/recovery rate for all years to 2038.	Business as usual, no change in the current recycling/recovery rate.
Medium	90% recycling/recovery rate by 2038.	Assumes some transition between the current recycling/recovery rate and the high recycling rate.
High	95% recycling/recovery rate by 2038.	In-lieu of other practical targets, targets for CD&E waste found within the London Plan have influenced the high scenario.

- 5.44. Recycling and recovery rates for CD&E waste are already at a high level. The low recycling scenario assumes a continuation of the current rate but does not take account of potential future improvements. The construction and demolition sector is identified as a priority area to tackle certain waste materials³. The medium scenario assumes an increase in the recycling or recovery of CD&E waste. The high scenario represents a very high recycling and recovery rate for this waste stream and is seen as the most optimistic outcome as the basis for assessing future recycling needs and minimising landfill. This is comparable with selecting the high recycling scenario for LACW and reflects the increasing commercial market for recycled material in the construction sector.
- 5.45. The high recycling scenario has therefore been chosen as the preferred option for each of the waste streams. To show what this would mean for future waste management, Table 10 below sets out the tonnages of waste that would need to be recycled, recovered or disposed of each year by the end of the Plan period.

³ Our Waste, Our Resources: A Strategy for England, Defra, 2018

Table 10. Predicted Waste Arisings by Forecast Waste Management Method in 2038 (tpa rounded to nearest 1,000 tonne)

Method	LACW	C&I	CD&E	Total
Recycling/ Composting	419,00	828,000	1,114,000	2,309,000
Energy Recovery/ Other disposal	193,000	103,000	-	348,000
Disposal	32,000	103,000	59,000	194,000
TOTAL	644,000	1,034,000	1,173,000	2,851,000

Assessing the need for additional waste management capacity

- 5.46. By forecasting future waste arisings this enables us to calculate the overall requirement for future recycling, recovery, and disposal capacity. Having established the total requirement, a 'capacity gap analysis' can then be carried out to establish whether or not there is sufficient existing waste management capacity to meet expected future needs. The accompanying Waste Needs Assessment provides a more detailed explanation of this methodology and includes a comparison of the predicted capacity requirement using each of the recycling scenarios considered (high/medium/low).
- 5.47. Tables 11 and 12 below show the estimated recycling, recovery, and disposal capacity that would be required at key intervals during the Plan period based on achieving the high recycling scenario for each waste stream. Due to the way in which waste data is reported through the Waste Data Interrogator, it is not possible to separate the capacity of each facility between LACW and C&I waste streams. In practice many facilities which handle LACW waste are also able to take C&I waste and this is recorded as a single, combined, category of household, industrial and commercial waste (HIC) for reporting purposes. The capacity requirement is therefore shown in terms of the total HIC need.

Table 11. Capacity Gap Analysis for HIC Waste Stream (tpa)

		2021	2026	2031	2036	2038
Recycling	Arisings produced	830,157	980,267	1,104,425	1,219,867	1,246,818
	Existing capacity	1,407,102	1,407,102	1,407,102	1,407,102	1,407,102
	Capacity required	+576,945	+426,835	+302,676	+187,234	+160,284
Energy Recovery	Arisings produced	421,033	359,011	336,125	309,988	296,831
	Existing capacity	243,162	243,162	243,162	243,162	243,162
	Capacity required	-177,871	-115,849	-92,963	-66,826	-53,669
Disposal	Arisings produced	301,790	237,082	176,197	125,603	126,825
	Remaining capacity ⁴	+753,378	-552,108	-1,556,283	-2,259,322	-2,512,364

Table 12. Capacity Gap Analysis for CD&E Waste Streams (tpa)

		2021	2026	2031	2036	2038
Recycling/ Other Recovery	Arisings produced	1,165,929	1,018,204	1,058,040	1,097,876	1,113,810
	Existing capacity	1,776,204	1,367,501	1,367,501	1,367,501	1,367,501
	Capacity required	+610,275	+349,297	+309,461	+269,625	+253,691
Disposal	Arisings produced	231,266	154,227	114,391	74,556	58,622
	Remaining capacity	+2,813,277	+1,962,470	+1,310,842	+858,391	+733,181

- 5.48. Based on the preferred high recycling scenario for each waste stream, it can be seen that there is sufficient recycling/composting capacity to manage the Plan area's LACW, C&I and CD&E waste up to 2038. There is though insufficient energy recovery capacity to manage LACW and C&I waste during the first part of the Plan period although This decreases over the life

⁴ This shows the total amount of void space that would be needed to meet the waste arisings expected to be disposed by 2038

of the plan if the higher recycling scenario is achieved. Planning permission has been granted for up to 892,100 tonnes per annum of further energy recovery capacity that has not yet come forward. If implemented, this non-operational capacity, could help to reduce future landfill disposal requirements.

- 5.49. Landfill capacity for LACW and C&I waste is effectively exhausted, and the Waste Needs Assessment estimates that up to 2.5 million tonnes of waste could require landfilling over the plan period, depending on future recycling and recovery rates. Landfill capacity for CD&E waste is currently adequate but could run out close to the end of the Plan period. Opportunities for future non-hazardous landfill, to manage LACW and C&I waste, are limited within the Plan area due to the underlying geology and groundwater constraints. There may be opportunities for inert CD&E waste to be used as backfill to restore future quarry sites over the life of the Plan. N.B. although the Waste Needs Assessment carried out by Aecom assumes a future landfill rate of 5% for LACW and 10% for C&I and C, D&E, this is a likely maximum to ensure sufficient provision, it does preclude waste being recovered or recycled. If waste was handled higher up the waste hierarchy this would mean there will be less requirement for landfill than envisaged in the WNA. This will be monitored in the Councils Annual Monitoring Reports.
- 5.50. The WNA does not identify a need for additional waste management capacity for hazardous waste. It is predicted that approximately 108,000 tonnes of hazardous waste will be generated within the plan area in 2038 with sufficient capacity to manage 180,000 tonnes of hazardous waste per year. For other waste streams such as agricultural and mining waste, which are produced in relatively small quantities, the WNA concludes that these are capable of being managed within existing facilities and that no additional capacity would be needed to handle these wastes in future.
- 5.51. In addition to waste recycling, recovery and disposal facilities, waste transfer stations also play an important intermediary role in waste management. Their primary function is to sort and bulk up waste into more efficient loads before moving the waste on to a final destination (e.g. recycling, energy from waste or landfill). Waste transfer capacity is not therefore included in Tables 11 and 12 above to avoid double counting. The WNA concludes that there is currently sufficient transfer capacity to manage 750,000 tonnes of HIC waste and 260,000 tonnes of CD&E waste per year. If it is assumed that the same proportion of waste will be managed by transfer stations in future, there will still be a surplus of waste transfer capacity for both HIC and CD&E waste by the end of the Plan.

- 5.52. On this basis the Plan needs to consider how to make appropriate provision for additional energy recovery and disposal capacity where required. The Councils carried out a 'call for sites' at the previous Issues and Options consultation stage but very few sites were put forward. This means that it is not possible to make an objective comparison of a range of possible sites. Given this lack of site-specific evidence, the Councils have drafted a criteria-based policy against which to judge future waste management proposals (Policy DM1). This policy is similar to that used in the previous Waste Core Strategy and sets out the types of location that are likely to be considered suitable for the different types of waste use.

6. Our Vision and Strategic Objectives

Introduction

- 6.1. Building on the issues identified, this Plan sets out a vision and strategic objectives to deliver sustainable waste management over the Plan period. The Vision sets out how waste should be managed in Nottinghamshire and Nottingham throughout the plan period and demonstrates a positive approach to planning and as such is intended to be both ambitious and deliverable. The vision is supported by 7 Strategic Objectives, and include topics such as climate change, community, health and wellbeing, the environment, and transport.

Vision

By 2038 households and businesses will produce less waste by minimising the use of resources and re-using these as far as possible as part of a truly circular economy. This will be supported by an ambitious and innovative waste industry enabling us to meet, and preferably exceed existing and future recycling targets. We will then seek to recover the maximum value from any leftover waste in terms of materials, or energy. Disposal will be the last resort once all other options have been exhausted.

There will be an appropriate mix of waste management site types, sizes and locations to ensure there is sufficient capacity to meet current and future needs. The geographical spread of waste management facilities will be closely linked to our concentrations of population and employment so that waste can be managed locally as far as possible/close to where it is produced.

Existing waste management facilities will be safeguarded, where appropriate, and new facilities will be situated in the most sustainable locations to support the needs of all new development and promote sustainable patterns of movement and sustainable modes of transport.

The quality of life of those living, visiting and working in the area will be improved and any risks to human health avoided. We will protect and enhance our environment, wildlife, high quality agricultural land, heritage and landscape, improve air quality, water quality and use water resources efficiently in order to minimise the effects of climate change, including flooding, and achieving biodiversity net gains.

We will promote waste management facilities' adaptability to climate change and secure energy efficiency and sustainable building techniques whilst maximising renewable energy opportunities from new or existing waste development.

How will we deliver the vision and objectives?

- 6.2. For the Waste Local Plan to work it must be deliverable. We need to have clear goals for what we want to achieve and be able to measure the effectiveness of our future policies. To do this we have developed the following objectives that build on the elements of the Vision above.

Strategic Objectives

Objective 1: Meet our future needs –ensure that there is a mix of site types, sizes and locations to help us manage waste sustainably wherever possible. Meet current and future targets for recycling our waste. Safeguard existing and/or potential future sites where appropriate. Locate new waste facilities to support new residential, commercial and industrial development across the plan area. Provide adequate waste management sites located in the most suitable and sustainable locations.

Objective 2: Climate change - encourage the efficient use of natural resources by generating less waste and promoting waste as a resource; limiting greenhouse gas emissions and further impacts by avoiding damage to air quality, water, biodiversity or soil; reduce the need to transport waste. Manage this by making sure that all new waste facilities are designed to be as energy efficient as possible and located to withstand the likely impacts of flooding, higher temperatures and more frequent storms.

Objective 3: Strengthen our economy – promote a diverse local economy that treats waste as a resource, minimising waste production and maximising the re-use, recycling and recovery of waste. Make the most of the opportunities for businesses, communities and local authorities to work together. Encourage investment in new and innovative waste management technologies and learn from best practice.

Objective 4: The environment – ensure any new waste facilities avoid adverse impacts on the landscape, wildlife and valuable habitats, by protecting and enhancing water, soil and air quality across the plan area. Avoid harm to the built and natural heritage, enhancing where possible, and ensure biodiversity net gains are achieved in new waste developments to support environmental benefits.

Objective 5: Community, Health and Wellbeing – ensure any new waste facilities do not adversely impact on local amenities and quality of life from impacts such as dust, flooding, traffic, noise, odour and visual impact and address local health concerns. Make sure that local people have the chance to be involved in decisions about new waste management facilities by providing more information, encouraging wider involvement and targeting key groups or individuals where appropriate.

Objective 6: Sustainable Transport – encourage alternatives to road transport such as waterways and rail where practical, locating sites close to sources of waste and/or end-markets to reduce transport distances and make use of existing transport links to minimise the impacts of new development.

Objective 7: High quality design and operation – ensure that all facilities are designed and operated to the highest standards. Improve the understanding, acceptance and appearance of waste management facilities which are an essential part of our infrastructure and ensure new waste development management facilities are adaptable to climate change, energy efficient and maximise renewable energy opportunities.

7. Strategic Policies

Introduction

- 7.1. The strategic policies within this chapter are designed to deliver the vision and objectives of the joint Waste Local Plan and provide the overall framework for future waste development within Nottinghamshire and Nottingham. They are designed to ensure that waste facilities are in the appropriate locations across the plan area to manage future waste arisings and will help move waste up the waste hierarchy, whilst protecting local amenity and the built, natural and historic environment. The strategic policies should be read alongside the more detailed Development Management policies in Chapter 8.
- 7.2. National planning policy is clear that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development through the three overarching objectives of securing overall economic, social and environmental gains. Planning policies and decisions should actively guide development towards sustainable solutions that reflect the local character, needs and opportunities of each area.
- 7.3. When considering development proposals, the Councils will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the National Planning Policy Framework. The Councils will work proactively with applicants to jointly find solutions which mean that proposals can be approved wherever possible, and to secure development that improves the economic, social, and environmental conditions in the area.
- 7.4. Planning applications that accord with the policies in this Local Plan (and, where, relevant, with policies in other plans which form part of the development plan) will be approved unless material considerations indicate otherwise.
- 7.5. Where there are no relevant plan policies, or the policies which are most important for determining the application are out of date at the time of making the decision, the Councils will grant planning permission unless: a) The application of policies in the NPPF that protect areas or assets of particular importance provides a clear reason for refusing the development proposed or b) Any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against policies in the NPPF taken as a whole.

- 7.6. The presumption in favour of sustainable development does not apply where proposals are likely to have a significant effect on a habitats site (either alone or in combination with other proposals) unless an appropriate assessment has concluded that the proposals will not adversely affect the integrity of the habitats site. It is a national planning objective that planning, including planning for waste development supports the transition to a low-carbon economy, taking into account flood risk, water supply and changes to biodiversity and the landscape. All new waste development proposals will be expected to be planned from the outset to avoid increased vulnerability to the range of impacts resulting from climate change and care will need to be taken to ensure any potential risks can be managed through suitable adaptation measures.

SP1- Waste prevention and re-use

Introduction

- 7.7. It is important that waste is managed as sustainably as possible. The Vision and Strategic Objectives for this Plan reflect the key principles of both the waste hierarchy and the circular economy and seek to minimise the environmental and economic impact of waste management within the Plan area. Waste prevention and re-use are at the top of the waste hierarchy and should be considered when determining planning applications for all forms of development and not just those which relate to waste management facilities. Policy SP1 below will therefore also apply to proposals for non-waste development and should be considered by the local planning authority (i.e. the relevant district or borough/district council within Nottinghamshire) responsible for determining the application.

SP1 – Waste prevention and re-use

All new development should be designed, constructed, and operated to minimise the creation of waste, maximise the use of recycled materials, and assist with the collection, separation, sorting, recycling and recovery of waste arising from the development during its use.

Justification

- 7.8. The NPPW requires local planning authorities to ensure that waste arising from the construction and operation of all development is managed in ways which maximise opportunities for re-use and recovery and minimise the off-site disposal of waste. This can include measures such as using recycled materials in construction or re-using suitable construction waste on site for engineering or landscape purposes, for the latter applicants will need to check whether planning permission and waste permits are required.
- 7.9. As National Planning Practice Guidance indicates, local authorities can make use of planning conditions to promote such opportunities and encourage or require the developer to set out how waste arising from the development is to be dealt with. For proposals which are likely to generate large volumes of waste, either through the construction phase or during its operation, it may be useful for the applicant to include a waste audit. Audits should demonstrate how the proposal will minimise the amount of waste generated as far as possible, and that waste produced will be handled in an appropriate manner in accordance with the waste hierarchy.

- 7.10. All new non-waste development should also make sufficient provision for waste management as part of the wider development. This includes promoting good design to integrate waste storage areas with the rest of the development and its surroundings. Adequate storage facilities should also be provided at residential premises, for example by ensuring that there is sufficient and discrete provision for bins, to facilitate a high quality, comprehensive and frequent household collection service. There may also be opportunities, particularly for larger scale developments, for the incorporation of small-scale waste processing facilities into the scheme, particularly where there is scope for the recovery and use of heat and such a strategy has been thoroughly considered and appraised.
- 7.11. Non-waste development is normally the responsibility of the relevant LPA. Some Local Plans already include policies which seek to address issues of sustainable design and construction in more detail including how waste arising from the site should be managed. Policy SP1 should therefore be read alongside such policies where they exist.

This policy helps to meet the following objectives:

SO2 - Climate change, SO3 - Strengthen our economy

SP2- Future Waste Management Provision

Introduction

- 7.12. Alongside helping to support wider waste management aims and objectives, the key role of the Waste Local Plan is to ensure that there is an efficient network of waste management facilities to treat, transfer or dispose of any waste that is produced safely and sustainably. This means ensuring that we have the right facilities, in the right places, at the right time to meet our future needs.
- 7.13. In line with national policy, the Waste Local Plan looks to drive waste management up the waste hierarchy by providing for an appropriate range of facilities to help meet current and future recycling targets, whilst also making adequate provision for waste disposal where necessary.

SP2 - Future Waste Management Provision

The Waste Local Plan aims to provide sufficient waste management capacity to meet identified needs and will support proposals for waste management facilities, including transfer facilities, which help to move waste management up the waste hierarchy. Proposals for waste management facilities will therefore be assessed as follows:

- 1) Priority will be given to the development of new or extended recycling, composting and anaerobic digestion facilities**
- 2) New or extended energy recovery facilities will be permitted where it can be shown that:**
 - a) This will not prejudice movement up the waste hierarchy and achieving our recycling targets**
 - b) The power generated can be fed into the national grid**
 - c) The heat generated can be used locally, if this is impractical initially then the facility should be designed and located to have the capability to deliver heat in the future to existing or potential heat users**
- 3) Other forms of recovery will be permitted where it can be shown the proposal meets the requirements within Policy SP4**
- 4) New or extended disposal capacity will be permitted where it can be shown that this is necessary to manage residual waste that cannot be recycled or recovered.**

Justification

- 7.14. Chapter 5 of the Waste Local Plan identifies our anticipated future waste management needs across the Plan area to 2038. The Plan's approach is to ensure that Nottinghamshire and Nottingham are self-sufficient in managing their own waste as far as possible, but it is recognised that this may not always be practical. In some cases, it may be more sustainable or economical for waste to be managed in a different WPA area if this happens to be the nearest, most appropriate facility for that waste type. It is not viable to have facilities for every waste type in each WPA area as some wastes are very specialised or only produced in very small quantities and are more appropriately managed at regional or national level. The Waste Local Plan therefore takes a pragmatic approach which aims to provide sufficient capacity to manage the equivalent of our own waste arisings whilst allowing for appropriate cross-border movements of waste. Policy SP6 sets out this approach in more detail.
- 7.15. Where there is a need for additional waste management capacity, proposals for new or extended waste management facilities will need to demonstrate that this will not prejudice movement up the waste hierarchy. In land use terms, priority will therefore be given to facilities which will contribute to meeting current and future recycling targets. These can include re-use, recycling, composting and anaerobic digestion facilities⁵.
- 7.16. Where it is not possible to recycle the waste, the next most sustainable option is to recover value from the waste in the form of either energy or materials. Recovering energy from waste can also provide a local source of heat and power for other nearby development, helping to meet the Government's aims of decentralising energy supplies and offsetting the need for fossil fuels. However, the Waste management plan for England (2021) and Our waste, our resources: a strategy for England (2018) make clear that the aim is to get the most energy out of waste, not to get the most waste into energy recovery. Proposals for such facilities then should show they will not prejudice waste being managed further up the hierarchy and would divert waste that would otherwise be disposed of. To be classed as a 'recovery' facility Energy from Waste (EfW) facilities must achieve an agreed level of energy efficiency⁶.

⁵ Anaerobic digestion is classed as 'other recovery' within the waste hierarchy, but elements of the process can contribute towards UK recycling targets under current guidance.

⁶ Annex II of the Waste Framework Directive sets out an energy efficiency formula (R1) to be applied to incineration facilities

- 7.17. Other forms of material recovery can include anaerobic digestion and some backfilling operations where the waste is used in place of other non-waste materials for reclamation, landscaping, or engineering purposes.
- 7.18. Although disposal is at the bottom of the waste hierarchy, it is recognised that there will still be a need to dispose of residual waste that cannot be recycled or recovered. For certain types of waste, disposal can be the best, or least worst, option, for example hazardous materials like asbestos which cannot be recovered or recycled. Disposal involves either the landfilling of waste or incineration without energy recovery as this means no value is obtained from the waste.

This policy helps to meet the following objectives:

SO1 – Meet our future needs

SP3- Broad Locations for Waste Treatment Facilities

Introduction

- 7.19. As set out in our vision, we want to promote a pattern of appropriately sized waste management facilities in the areas where they are most needed - i.e., close to where most waste is likely to be produced. This approach will help local authorities and the waste industry to develop a modern, safe, and efficient network of waste facilities to manage waste as sustainably as possible and reduce the need to transport waste over long distances.
- 7.20. The Waste Local Plan therefore seeks to locate facilities in suitable locations which are well related to the main urban areas and settlements of Nottinghamshire and Nottingham. Policy DM1 provides a more detailed set of site criteria to establish the types of locations that would be considered suitable for different types and sizes of waste management facilities with Policies SP8, DM2 and DM10 also ensuring waste facilities and non-waste developments can co-exist without adverse impacts on one another.
- 7.21. The majority of our waste will be managed through dedicated waste treatment facilities such as recycling, composting, anaerobic digestion, energy recovery or waste transfer facilities, but the Plan must also ensure that any remaining residual waste, that is not suitable for further processing, can be disposed of safely. Facilities for the recovery to land or disposal of any remaining residual waste are considered separately in Policy SP4.

SP3 – Broad Locations for Waste Treatment-Facilities

Waste treatments facilities will be supported in suitable locations which are well related to the main urban areas and settlements in Nottinghamshire and Nottingham and where the size of the facility is appropriate to its location.

The development of treatment facilities within the open countryside will be supported only where such locations are justified by a clear local need, particularly where this would provide enhanced employment opportunities and/or would enable the re-use of existing buildings and/ or previously developed land and fit in with the local character. Where land is designated as Green Belt, policy SP7 will apply

Justification

- 7.22. Nottingham and its surrounding built up areas, including Hucknall, Arnold, Beeston, Carlton, Stapleford, West Bridgford and Clifton, form the

major/main urban centre for population and employment in the Plan Area and could see significant growth in the future. This area also shares significant employment and housing market links with the neighbouring cities of Derby and Leicester. The other main urban concentration is focused around Mansfield and the Ashfield towns of Sutton-in-Ashfield and Kirkby-in-Ashfield (Mansfield/Ashfield) which are all clustered closely together (See Plan 1). There are also sizeable towns in Nottinghamshire which are experiencing growth, including Newark, Retford and Worksop. The development of new, or extended, waste facilities to serve these areas is therefore key to managing planned future employment and housing growth and ensure sufficient waste treatment infrastructure to deal with the equivalent amount of waste arising from Nottinghamshire and Nottingham

- 7.23. Functionally these main urban areas are closely linked, and the availability and concentration of suitable employment land and transport links make these the most appropriate locations for the development of major waste infrastructure. A mix of facilities of different sizes/scales is likely to be required to provide the right provision of capacity in the plan area, proposals will need to ensure that the size of the facility is appropriate to its location, with Policy DM1 providing further guidance on what size of facilities may be appropriate in which locations. Proposals will also need to consider and satisfy the development management policies within this plan to demonstrate the location is appropriate.
- 7.24. There may be a need for facilities outside these areas in the open countryside to meet local community needs, but these should be designed and located to fit in with the character of the surrounding area. These are likely to be local facilities for waste recycling, composting or transfer but anaerobic digestion may also be suitable where this can provide a local source of energy. There may also be wider benefits in terms of providing a more diverse range of local employment opportunities and so supporting rural economies or the benefit of co-locating facilities with agricultural practices. Such facilities will be supported where these would meet a clear local need and can be accommodated without introducing industrial style development or intensive uses into village, neighbourhood, or countryside areas. In line with guidance in the National Planning Policy for Waste, the emphasis should be on the re-use of existing buildings and previously developed land wherever possible. This could include the re-use of appropriate agricultural, forestry or other buildings for example. Where waste development is proposed in the Green Belt, proposals will need to comply with Policy SP7: Green Belt.
- 7.25. It is recognised that some types of waste facility, such as wastewater treatment works, may have specific locational requirements. These may

require an open countryside or greenbelt location outside of the spatial strategy set out in Policy SP3.

This policy helps to meet the following objectives:

SO1 – Meet our future needs, SO6 – Sustainable Transport

SP4- Managing Residual Waste

Introduction

- 7.26. As well as making provision for a range of suitable waste treatment facilities to recover as much of our resources as possible, the Plan must also ensure that any remaining waste, known as residual waste, can be managed safely. This includes the use of suitable inert materials as bulk fill for engineering, landscaping or restoration purposes and the final disposal of non-hazardous or hazardous waste which is not suitable for further treatment.

SP4 – Managing Residual Waste

- 1. Proposals for the recovery of inert waste to land will be permitted where it can be demonstrated that:**
 - a) This will provide a significant benefit or improvement to the site which cannot practicably or reasonably be met in any other way.**
 - b) The waste cannot practicably and reasonably be re-used, recycled or processed in any other way.**
 - c) The use of inert waste material replaces the need for non-waste materials.**
 - d) The development involves the minimum quantity of waste necessary to achieve the desired benefit or improvement**
 - e) This will not prejudice the restoration of permitted mineral workings and landfill sites where applicable.**
- 2. Proposals for the disposal of non-hazardous or hazardous waste to land will not be permitted unless it can be demonstrated that:**
 - a) There is an overriding need for additional disposal capacity which cannot be met at existing permitted sites.**
 - b) The waste cannot practicably and reasonably be re-used, recycled, recovered or processed in any other way.**
- 3. In all cases, the resulting final landform, landscaping treatment and after-uses must be designed to take account of and, where appropriate, enhance the surrounding landscape, topography and natural environment.**

Justification

- 7.27. National policy recognises that there is still a need to make adequate provision for waste disposal once all other treatment options have been exhausted (Paragraph 3, National Planning Policy for Waste). This should only be where the need for disposal is unavoidable, for example where there is a lack of treatment (i.e. recycling or other recovery) capacity available for

that specific waste type, or during periods of planned maintenance or mechanical breakdown at existing treatment facilities.

- 7.28. Previously waste disposal has been used as a means of backfilling and restoring old mineral workings, but the majority of former quarries and colliery sites have now been restored or have agreed restoration schemes not reliant upon importing waste to achieve approved landforms. New quarries may require inert waste materials for restoration in future, but there are now very few, if any, quarries that would be suitable for non-hazardous waste disposal. This is mainly due to geology as the permeable sandstone aquifer which underlies much of the plan area prevents the disposal of hazardous or non-hazardous waste.

Inert Waste

- 7.29. Inert material can be put to beneficial use to restore former mineral sites or as a capping material for landfill or landraise schemes. This type of activity can be categorised as waste recovery, rather than disposal, where the material is used to replace non-waste materials which would otherwise have been used fulfil the same function. Given the need to ensure the appropriate restoration of mineral workings, landfill, and landraise sites, proposals will need to demonstrate they do not prejudice the restoration of these sites. For example, there is no nearby mineral or landfill sites that the waste could practicably be used for.
- 7.30. Other types of recovery operation involving inert waste can include:
- Constructing haul roads/hard standing.
 - Agricultural land improvements or other engineering operations, including golf courses
 - Redevelopment of brownfield sites
 - Landscaping treatment and noise attenuation bunds to screen development.
- 7.31. Given that inert waste readily lends itself to being put to a beneficial use, the disposal of inert waste to land is considered unacceptable.
- 7.32. The WPAs will therefore need to consider whether proposed development involving the deposit of waste to land is a genuine 'recovery' activity. This will include an assessment of whether there is a genuine need for the development and the extent to which it will provide environmental or other benefits. Permission will not be granted where the intention is to provide an outlet for waste 'disposal' for its own sake.

- 7.33. The recovery of inert waste to land will only be supported if the development provides a significant benefit that would outweigh any significant adverse impacts. In the case of land remediation, the development must demonstrate a significant improvement to damaged or degraded land and/or provide a greater environmental or agricultural value than the previous land use.
- 7.34. Proposals must demonstrate that the quantity of waste to be used is the minimum amount required to achieve the desired outcome. Where this relates to the restoration of minerals workings or landfill sites, this will include consideration of the final landform, slope stability and drainage profile, allowing for the expected rate of settlement of the deposited material.
- 7.35. Where an application, or part of an application, which includes a recovery to land operation is to be determined by a district or borough council, then Policy SP4 will apply as part of the decision-making framework.

Non-hazardous and hazardous waste

- 7.36. The Plan aims to divert as much waste away from landfill as possible by providing other types of facilities for the management of waste and there has been a significant reduction in the amount of waste requiring disposal over the last 20 years. This is expected to continue in the future, as a result of further waste minimisation efforts including restrictions on the landfill of biodegradable waste and the wider use of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes. As such, it is expected that landfill will only be used once all other treatment options have been exhausted.
- 7.37. The environmental problems associated with finding suitable landfill sites, and the reducing need for disposal, mean that the availability of landfill for both hazardous and non-hazardous waste has been steadily reducing as existing sites are used up. There is one remaining non-hazardous landfill site within the Plan area at Daneshill, north of Retford, which has planning permission until 2042 but it is uncertain how long this will remain operational. There are also a number of closed sites that are being restored.
- 7.38. Sites for landfill disposal are therefore becoming more specialised as operators focus on existing facilities. As a result, waste is increasingly travelling over administrative boundaries to reach these facilities and make the best use of remaining capacity. Although the plan seeks to minimise the overall distance that waste is transported, the lack of suitable disposal sites within the Plan area may mean that residual hazardous and non-hazardous waste will be managed at the nearest available site but not necessarily within the Plan area.

- 7.39. As set out in Policy SP2 the Plan's approach is to provide sufficient waste management capacity to manage the equivalent of our own needs, whilst recognising that it may not be possible to provide for every type of facility within the Plan area. The Councils will therefore maintain a close dialogue with other East Midlands and surrounding WPAs to ensure that waste can continue to be managed as sustainably as possible.
- 7.40. Although the scope to provide hazardous or non-hazardous disposal capacity within the Plan area is thought to be extremely limited, due to the underlying geology of the area and wider environmental constraints, it is important that the Plan includes relevant policies to deal with such proposals should these come forward. Part (2) of Policy SP4 above will therefore apply to any proposals for new landfill sites for hazardous or non-hazardous waste including the extension of, or alterations to, existing, unrestored sites. As there is sufficient waste treatment capacity within the plan area to meet expected future needs, disposal is expected to be a last resort in accordance with the waste hierarchy.

This policy helps to meet the following objectives:

SO1 – Meeting our Future Needs

SP5- Climate Change

Introduction

- 7.41. The Government is committed to tackling the causes of climate change and reducing carbon emissions, striving for total emissions generated within the UK being equal to, or less than, the amount of emissions being removed or offset by 2050, also known as the 'net zero' target. Both Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council are committed to achieving carbon neutrality in their activities by 2030 and 2028 respectively, as set out in each Council's Carbon Neutral Charter.
- 7.42. Reducing the amount of waste produced and moving towards a more circular economy, where waste is seen as a resource, is a key part of achieving net zero as the way new goods are used and made are contributors to climate change and biodiversity loss.
- 7.43. Planning then can play a key role in securing reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimising vulnerability and providing resilience to the impacts of climate change, whilst supporting the transition to a low carbon future. This is central to the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.
- 7.44. All new development should therefore seek to minimise their impact on the causes of climate change and avoid increased vulnerability to the impacts of climate change, including flooding, where practicable.

SP5 – Climate Change

Proposals for waste management facilities should be located, designed and operated so as to minimise any impacts on the causes of climate change throughout the lifetime of the development, including by:

- 1) Reducing greenhouse gas emissions**
- 2) Making efficient use of natural resources**
- 3) Supporting renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure, through innovative design**

Proposals for waste management facilities should be designed and located to ensure that they are resilient and adaptable to the future impacts of climate changes.

Justification

- 7.45. Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council are committed to taking a sustainable approach to planning development that responds to the challenges of climate change and takes wider environmental considerations into account when making decisions about the location, nature and size of new waste development.
- 7.46. The key concern of the Waste Local Plan is to support the transition to a low carbon future, seeking to minimise waste produced and promote the re-use of materials (Policy SP1) and prioritise recycling (Policy SP2).
- 7.47. Waste development can provide a number of opportunities to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of future climate change. This could include:
- Minimising greenhouse gas emissions, including through energy efficiency, design and orientation of buildings and using low emission equipment or mobile plants
 - Minimising water consumption (e.g. use of recycled water for waste management processes, harvesting of rainwater).
 - Designing facilities to include measures to deliver landscape enhancement and biodiversity gain. Such measures should contribute to the wider network of green infrastructure across the Plan area (e.g. green roofs)
 - Utilising associated lower-carbon energy generation such as heat recovery and the recovery of energy from gas produced from the waste, such as landfill capture facilities which capture methane
 - Introducing the use of sustainable modes of transport, low emission vehicles, travel plans, which will contribute to lowering our carbon footprint
 - Utilising Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), water efficiency and adaptive responses to the impacts of excess heat and drought

The nature and scale of new waste development will influence the extent to which climate change resilience measures will be most effective and appropriate. Policy DM3: Design of Waste Management Facilities details how such measures should be included within the design of facilities.

- 7.48. The key impacts of climate change on waste across Nottinghamshire and Nottingham are likely to be the increased risk of flooding and storm damage. This could damage essential waste management infrastructure and is a significant pollution risk if a landfill or sewage works were to be overrun by flood water, highlighting the need to avoid inappropriate development in the

floodplain (further detail in Policy DM7- Flood risk and water resources). The impact of longer, hotter and drier spells could also cause odour, dust and noise problems during the storage and transportation of biodegradable waste, but these can be tackled through the use of sealed waste containers and enclosing operations within a building or limiting the length of time waste can be stored before treatment or disposal for example. The detailed impacts will be controlled through the detailed development management policies of the Plan set out in Chapter 8.

This policy helps to meet the following objectives:

SO2 – Climate Change

SP6- Sustainable movement of Waste

Introduction

- 7.49. The principle of proximity for treatment of waste is a feature of the 2011 Waste Regulations as it seeks to avoid undue movements of waste. The proximity principle does not however require use of the closest facility to the exclusion of all other considerations. In some cases, it may make economic and environmental sense for waste to be managed at a facility in a neighbouring county, if this is closer or means that waste will be managed further up the waste hierarchy. It is not always viable to have facilities for every waste type in one area and some wastes, such as hazardous waste, are very specialised or are only produced in relatively small quantities. Our strategy is therefore to seek to minimise waste movements, encourage alternative movement to road-based transport where appropriate, and deal pragmatically with proposals which treat waste generated from outside Nottinghamshire.

SP6 – Sustainable movement of waste

All waste management proposals should seek to minimise the distances waste needs to travel and maximise the use of sustainable alternative modes of transport where practical. Where alternative modes are not available, practical or viable, proposals should seek to make the best use of the existing transport network ensuring that proposed facilities use the main highway network where appropriate.

Waste management proposals which are likely to treat, manage or dispose of waste from areas outside Nottinghamshire and Nottingham will be permitted where they demonstrate that:

- 1) The facility makes a significant contribution to the movement of waste up the waste hierarchy; or**
- 2) There are no facilities or potential sites in more sustainable locations in relation to the anticipated source of the identified waste stream; or**
- 3) There are wider social, economic or environmental sustainability benefits that clearly support the proposal.**

Justification

- 7.50. Minimising the distance waste must travel for appropriate treatment or disposal is a key objective of the Waste Local Plan and is one of the main reasons for focusing most new development in, or close to, our larger urban areas as outlined in Policy SP3. Most of our waste is currently transported by road but encouraging alternative forms of transport, such as water or rail,

can help to reduce the environmental impact of waste management in terms of carbon emissions and road congestion as well as the impact on residential amenity in locations close to waste treatment facilities.

- 7.51. The River Trent, a major waterway running north-east through Nottinghamshire could provide freight movement by water and new rail freight terminals could, over the lifetime of the Local Plan, provide further opportunities for more sustainable forms of transporting waste over long distances. Over very short distances, usually within site boundaries, transport by pipeline or conveyor may also be an option.
- 7.52. Making use of alternative, more sustainable, forms of transport are likely to depend upon the size and type of site as well as the type of waste involved. Opportunities to move waste by rail or water are therefore most likely to arise in relation to larger development, but all waste management proposals should nevertheless look at ways of transporting waste more sustainably where possible. Large and medium scale facilities should be sited as close to source as practically possible.
- 7.53. There is potential that that during the life of the Waste Local Plan that proposals will be made which take waste from a wider catchment area. As far as possible we want to be self-sufficient in managing our own waste, but this is not always practical as waste movements do not necessarily stop at local authority boundaries, with commercial contracts also affecting movements. For example, it is recognised that due to the large geographical area of Nottinghamshire, it may be more practical for the facility to also handle waste outside the plan area as these would be closer than some sources of waste within Nottinghamshire. We will therefore maintain a flexible approach and work with neighbouring authorities and applicants to understand the overall level and type of waste management provision. We will also seek to ensure that the waste hierarchy is supported, the most sustainable outcome is sought, and that wider social, economic or environmental sustainability benefits are delivered through those facilities being located in Nottinghamshire and Nottingham.

This policy helps to meet the following objectives:

SO2 – Climate Change, SO6- Sustainable Transport

SP7- Green Belt

Introduction

- 7.54. Policy SP3: Broad locations for Waste Treatment Facilities seeks to locate waste treatment facilities near the main urban areas and settlements of Nottinghamshire and Nottingham as these are the main sources of waste. Covering the land around Nottingham City and the urban parts of Gedling, Broxtowe, Newark and Sherwood and Rushcliffe though is the Nottingham-Derby Green Belt which was principally designated to prevent coalescence of Nottingham and Derby. There can then be some conflict between locating waste facilities in suitable locations and the protection of the Green Belt.
- 7.55. Green Belt policy is allocated and reviewed as part of Local Plans made by the respective City, District and Borough Councils in whose area it applies.

SP7 - Green Belt

Proposals for waste management facilities and associated development considered to be inappropriate development in the Green Belt will only be approved where very special circumstances can be demonstrated. Very special circumstances will not exist unless the potential harm to the Green Belt by reason of inappropriateness, and any other harm, is clearly outweighed by other considerations.

Proposals for waste management facilities and associated development considered not to be inappropriate as per National Policy will only be supported where this maintains the openness of the Green Belt and the purposes of including land within it.

Justification

- 7.56. Waste management facilities would generally be regarded as inappropriate development, particularly where new buildings are required, within the Green Belt as they would be considered harmful to its designation. The NPPF states that inappropriate development should not be approved except in very special circumstances, with substantial weight given to any harm to the Green Belt.
- 7.57. As recognised in the NPPW, whilst waste facilities that would be considered inappropriate should firstly sought to be located outside the Green Belt, it should be recognised that some waste facilities have specific locational needs. For example, wastewater treatment facilities required to serve villages that lie within the Green Belt, the need for physical proximity, suitable topography and a lack of alternative locations may demonstrate very

special circumstances. Policy DM1: General Site Criteria highlights what type of waste facilities might be permissible in the Green Belt dependent upon the circumstances of individual applications.

- 7.58. Whilst proposals constructing new buildings and/or large boundary treatment, such as fencing, should be regarded as inappropriate in the Green Belt, there are some exceptions which may be applicable to waste development, in particular to existing waste facility sites that fall within the Nottingham- Derby Green Belt. These could include:
- The extension or alteration of a building, provided that it does not result in disproportionate additions over and above the size of the original building;
 - The replacement of a building, provided the new building is in the same use and not materially larger than the one it replaces;
 - Limited infilling or the partial or complete redevelopment of previously developed land, whether redundant or in continuing use (excluding temporary buildings), which would:
 - not have a greater impact on the openness of the Green Belt than the existing development; or
 - not cause substantial harm to the openness of the Green Belt, where the development would re-use previously developed land and contribute to meeting an identified affordable housing need within the area of the local planning authority.
- 7.59. Some forms of development are considered not to be inappropriate if they preserve the openness of the Green Belt and do not conflict with the purposes of including land within it. For waste this may include:
- Engineering operations, such as disposal of waste to land or disposal for recovery schemes
 - The re-use of buildings provided that the buildings are of permanent and substantial construction
 - Material changes in the use of land, for example where a previously developed site has a similar use to the proposed waste facility or waste is used to create appropriate development such as Country Parks
- 7.60. Mineral extraction is also considered not to be inappropriate in the Green Belt and the disposal of waste can be used to restore mineral workings and so such disposal schemes may be acceptable in the Green Belt. Any such proposals will need to comply with the policies set out in Nottinghamshire's Mineral Local Plan (March 2021) and Nottingham City's Local Plan Part 2 (January 2020).

This policy helps to meet the following objectives:

SO4 – The Environment

SP8- Safeguarding Waste Management Sites

Introduction

- 7.61. Waste management sites are an essential part of our infrastructure and it is important that both appropriate existing facilities and suitable future sites are protected from other uses, such as housing, that might restrict existing operations or their ability to expand in future as they are sensitive to their operations. This could lead to the unnecessary loss of existing infrastructure and capacity to manage waste within the plan area.
- 7.62. Policy SP8 below therefore protects both existing and permitted waste management sites and the possibility of their future expansion, as well as facilities that could transport waste, such as rail and water facilities. There is no intention that this policy should be used to safeguard unauthorised or inappropriate facilities.

SP8 – Safeguarding Waste Management Sites

Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City will seek to avoid the loss of existing authorised waste management facilities, including potential extensions; sites which have an unimplemented planning permission; and facilities to transport waste, such as rail or water.

Proposals, including both planning applications and allocations in local plans, for non-waste uses near existing or permitted waste management facilities will need to provide suitable mitigation before the development is completed to address significant adverse impacts and demonstrate that the waste management uses can operate without unreasonable restrictions being placed upon them.

Where proposed non-waste development would have an unacceptable impact on a waste management facility, the applicant will need to demonstrate that there are wider social and/or economic benefits that outweigh the retention of the site or infrastructure for waste use and either:

- 1) The equivalent, suitable and appropriate capacity will be provided elsewhere prior to the non-waste development; or**
- 2) The waste capacity and/ or safeguarded site is no longer required**

Where proposals are within the Cordon Sanitaire of a wastewater treatment facility, the applicant will need to discuss the proposal with the water company which operates the site.

Justification

- 7.63. Non-waste development can be sensitive to the operations of waste facilities if they are within close proximity to each other. However, permitted and existing waste facilities should not have unreasonable restrictions placed upon them because of new development being permitted after they have been established. As per the NPPF and NPPW, it is for the applicant of the new development as the 'agent of change' to demonstrate that their proposed development will not affect the operations of waste facilities and provide suitable mitigation to address any identified significant adverse impacts which the proposed development may have on the existing waste operation. District and Borough Councils within Nottinghamshire are encouraged to consult and collaborate with Nottinghamshire County Council on applications and proposed allocation sites in Local Plans that are near existing or permitted waste management facilities.
- 7.64. It is not the intention of Policy SP8 to unreasonably restrict non-waste development and, in most cases, by taking a more flexible approach it may be possible to accommodate non-waste development by making changes to the proposed layout of any housing or mixed-use scheme. Mitigation therefore could include using parking or landscape areas to provide a buffer zone from any existing or potential waste facility.
- 7.65. The mitigations that are suitable will depend on the non-waste development proposed as well as the type of waste facility and the nature of its operations. The specific nature and potential impacts of wastewater treatment facilities, for example, can be quite different to other waste treatment facilities. Water companies often establish a 'cordon sanitaire' policy which aims to influence the type of development which might take place within a certain distance of a sewage works. The 'cordon sanitaire' is a site-specific limit ranging from 25 to 400 metres, which varies according to the type of processes carried out, the size of works, industrial effluents involved, land use around the site, any anticipated extensions and site topography. Where other, non-waste development proposals fall within the 'cordon sanitaire,' the applicant should seek to discuss any proposals with the water company who operate the facility.
- 7.66. Where proposed non-waste development would have an unacceptable impact on a waste management facility, such as the loss of waste management capacity, prejudice of site operation or restrict future development, the Councils will oppose the proposal. Permission should not be granted unless there are wider social and/or economic benefits that outweigh the need and retention of the waste facility. Applicants will also need to demonstrate that either there is suitable and equivalent capacity

provided elsewhere, prior to the non-waste development beginning, or demonstrate the waste facilities capacity is no longer required.

- 7.67. The Waste Local Plan Annual Monitoring Report contains a list of sites that have current planning permissions which should be referred to when applicants are putting non-waste development sites forward.
- 7.68. It should be noted that waste facilities will be subject to monitoring and conditions to limit adverse impacts, with all waste applications for new facilities required to satisfy the Development Management Policies within Chapter 8 of this Plan.

This policy helps to meet the following objectives:

SO1- Meet our future needs

8. Development Management Policies

Introduction

- 8.1. The purpose of development management policies is to help to deliver the strategic policies and objectives by providing the criteria against which future waste development will be assessed. They relate specifically to individual, site level criteria such as environmental impacts and standards and provide guidance about how planning applications for waste development in the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham will be assessed. It should be noted that as outlined in the NPPW, when determining decisions, the Councils will not concern themselves with the control of processes which are a matter for the pollution control authorities. The Councils will work on the assumption that the relevant pollution control regime will be properly applied and enforced.
- 8.2. Applicants are advised to discuss proposals for waste development with the Nottinghamshire or Nottingham City prior to submission of a planning application, as set out in the relevant adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). Such pre-application engagement can enable early identification of potential constraints and has the potential to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the planning system. This approach is encouraged by the Government and more details are set out in the National Planning Policy Framework. Applications for waste development should provide sufficient information to allow a balanced assessment to be made. It may also be beneficial for the applicants to seek pre-permitting advice from the Environment Agency where applicable.
- 8.3. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is often required for major developments that are likely to have significant impacts on the environment. The EIA process is used to identify the likelihood of significant impacts occurring as a result of a development, how these could be mitigated, and alternative ways in which the development could be carried out. Where EIA is required, the findings of this process must be included in a separate Environmental Statement to be submitted alongside the planning application.
- 8.4. All waste planning applications that meet the appropriate thresholds and criteria set out in the EIA Regulations (2017) will therefore be screened to determine whether or not EIA is required. Applicants may also request a formal screening opinion from the Councils prior to submitting a planning application. Where EIA is required, applicants may also request a scoping opinion setting out the issues to be addressed within the Environmental Statement.

DM1- General Site Criteria

Introduction

- 8.5. Policy SP3 establishes the broad principles/areas where waste management facilities are likely to be appropriate. However, not every type of waste management use will be appropriate in every location. Certain types of facilities have specific land-use requirements and/or more intensive impacts. Policy DM1 sets out a criteria-based approach to show the types of locations that are likely to be suitable for different types of waste management facilities. This includes an indication/guide to the size and scale of development that is likely to be acceptable in different types of location. It is recognised that some proposals may fall under several categories, how this policy will be applied in such cases therefore will be dependent on the individual details provided at the application stage.
- 8.6. Policy DM1 applies to facilities for all types of waste, including those treating or disposing of hazardous waste, unless specified otherwise within the policy text. Where other circumstances arise that the Waste Local Plan could not foresee, proposals will be determined on their merits and in accordance with current national policy.

DM1 – General Site Criteria

Proposals for waste management facilities will be supported in the following general locations, as shown in the matrix below, subject to there being no unacceptable environmental impacts:



Community sites – locations where people already travel for local services e.g. local shopping centres, leisure centres, supermarkets, schools etc.



Employment land – areas which are already used, or are allocated, for employment related uses such as industrial estates, business parks or technology parks etc.

Previously developed land/derelict land – land that is no longer needed or has been abandoned. This includes land which has previously been used for some form of permanent, built, development that is no longer used but could also include mineral workings requiring restoration* or un-restored/poorly restored colliery land where there are no formal restoration requirements.



Open countryside/agricultural land – rural land, including farmland, which is not covered by any other environmental designation, especially where this enables the re-use of farm or forestry buildings.







Green Belt – land within the Green Belt where very special circumstances can be demonstrated for inappropriate development or where development is considered not to be inappropriate development. This could include derelict or previously developed land or mineral workings. All proposals will be subject to Green Belt policies.

**Once mineral sites are restored, these are considered green field sites*

● likely to be suitable for small medium or larger facilities

○ only likely to be suitable for smaller facilities

			Previously developed land/derelict land		
Combined Facilities					
Resource recovery park		●	●		
Recycling					
Bring sites	○	○	○		
Household Waste Recycling Centre		●	●		
Materials Recovery Facility		●	●	○	
Aggregates		●	●		
Metal/End-of-life vehicles		●	●		
Composting					
Enclosed/In-vessel		●	●	○	
Open-air				●	○
Energy Recovery					
Anaerobic Digestion		●	●	○	○
Mechanical Biological Treatment		●	●		
Refuse Derived Fuel processing		●	●		
Incineration		●	●		
Gasification		●	●		

Pyrolysis		●	●		
Waste Transfer					
Transfer station		●	●	○	
Waste Water Treatment					
Waste Water Treatment		●	●	○	○
Disposal					
Landfill			●	●	●
Landraise			●	●	

Justification

- 8.7. The NPPW states that waste planning authorities should consider a broad range of locations for waste management facilities including industrial sites and look for opportunities to co-locate waste management facilities together and/ or alongside complementary activities. Where possible, priority should be given to suitable previously developed land to promote reuse of these sites. As there are a wide range of different waste management technologies, and others may emerge in the future, it is important to consider the characteristics/land use requirements and likely environmental impacts of the different types of waste management process and the intensity of the operation proposed. Most waste management uses/facilities are industrial in nature and can be enclosed in a building but there some operations which may need to be carried out in the open air such as composting, wastewater treatment and some crushing and screening operations.
- 8.8. For waste management facilities that require a building, or are likely to involve significant vehicle movements, the emphasis is on areas that are already used, or are allocated, for employment such as industrial estates or logistics (warehousing and distribution) parks. Operations that need to be carried out in the open air should be located well away from uses which are sensitive to noise and dust.

Combined facilities – resource recovery parks

- 8.9. Some types of waste management facility can benefit from being located close together as this can minimise the distance waste is transported and increase opportunities for materials to be recovered and re-used. This includes recycling and waste transfer operations but could also include other non-waste uses that make use of the recycled products or materials. In some cases, there may be scope for energy recovery facilities to provide heat and/or power to other local premises. This could include anaerobic digestion schemes, incineration, gasification, pyrolysis or other emerging

technologies. These schemes are often referred to as Resource Recovery Parks, or Energy Parks, where there is a strong emphasis on renewable and low carbon technologies. As these types of developments are likely to be more strategic in nature, they will benefit from good access to the strategic road network and potential rail or water links where these are physically and economically viable.

Recycling and waste transfer facilities

- 8.10. Larger materials recycling/recovery and waste transfer facilities usually need a large industrial type building within which to carry out the sorting and separation of materials and to store the resulting bales of paper, plastic etc. for collection. They will need good road access but the potential to use alternatives such as rail or water transport should be considered where practical. These types of facilities are therefore well suited to industrial estates and business parks, especially alongside other industrial type uses. Household Waste Recycling Centres would also be appropriate on industrial land, as these need to be accessible by both car and HGV. However, these also need to be close to the main residential areas they are intended to serve.
- 8.11. Smaller, community scale facilities such as bring sites (bottle banks) should be located within easy walking distance of residents or at sites that people are already likely to visit such as shopping centres, supermarkets, leisure centres, village halls etc. Where community run facilities such as small scale, local, recycling or composting schemes are proposed, these should look to re-use existing buildings or previously developed land wherever possible.
- 8.12. Other types of recycling that are carried out in the open air, such as metal recycling sites and aggregates recycling will need to be located well away from uses which are sensitive to noise and dust. They will also need areas for stockpiles and storage and are best suited to general industrial areas alongside other heavy processing and manufacturing type uses. Where possible, these types of operations should be enclosed within a building to minimise any environmental impacts, but this may not always be feasible⁷. Temporary aggregates recycling facilities may be appropriate at quarries or

⁷ De-pollution of end-of-life vehicles (.i.e. removal of fuel, oil, gases etc.) must be carried out within a building.

landfill sites where this can encourage greater re-use and recycling and they are linked to the life of that facility⁸.

Composting

- 8.13. Composting is generally suited to rural locations although special care would need to be taken where this involves a building, or permanent processing plant, in order not to introduce an industrial process into a rural area. Open air schemes will need to be a minimum distance away from uses that are sensitive to possible bio-aerosols. In-vessel or enclosed schemes are more likely to require a building and should therefore be located within or close to existing farm development and the scale of the development appropriate for its location. Where such schemes would involve significant vehicle movements they should be located within industrial areas.

Anaerobic digestion

- 8.14. The process of anaerobic digestion takes place within sealed tanks or silos. Large scale plants would again therefore be suited to general industrial areas. However, smaller plants may also be suitable in agricultural areas as they are similar to the types of storage tanks and silos found on farms. This would however depend on the scale and design of the plant and whether it can be accommodated alongside or within existing buildings for example. As anaerobic digestion is also used for sewage treatment, it may also be suitable within or alongside wastewater and sewage treatment plants.

Energy recovery facilities

- 8.15. Larger energy recovery plants (including incineration, gasification, pyrolysis, and possibly anaerobic digestion) will require a large industrial type building with a tall stack or chimney and, in some cases, may have visible plant or pipework on the outside which will have a visual impact on the surrounding area. These are therefore best located near other industrial uses of a similar scale and bulk with good road and/or rail or water access for transport. They should also be close to other uses that can make use of the heat and electricity generated or close to a suitable connection to the national grid. Smaller scale energy recovery facilities could be incorporated as part of mixed-use schemes, where these can serve the wider development. Mechanical biological treatment plants combine several different waste treatment processes and are therefore likely to require a single large building

⁸ Crushing and screening of construction and demolition waste (soils, aggregate etc.) is often carried out on site as part of the construction/demolition project. This does not normally require specific planning permission.

or a cluster of smaller buildings on one site. These would again therefore be suited to industrial estates and areas allocated for employment use.

Wastewater treatment

- 8.16. Wastewater and sewage treatment facilities can vary from large scale plants serving major urban areas to small rural plants serving a single village, with the latter requiring small facilities in the open countryside or green belt to be able to service these smaller settlements. They do not generate significant vehicle movements and their main impacts are likely to be visual and odourous as parts of the biological treatment process need to take place in the open air. For this reason, sites should be located away from housing and should be designed to minimise their impact on the surrounding landscape. However, the choice of sites will be limited by operational requirements such as local topography, pumping distances, and the need to discharge treated water into a suitable watercourse.

Disposal facilities

- 8.17. Landfill sites are classified into three different types based on the types of waste which they can accept – hazardous, non-hazardous, or inert (see Glossary). Both hazardous and non-hazardous landfill sites have the potential to produce harmful gases, leachate and odour and must be engineered and operated to ensure that the waste is safely contained whilst it decomposes. Hazardous and non-hazardous landfill sites must therefore be located in areas which are geologically suitable and well away from housing or other sensitive uses, aquifers, and watercourses. Inert landfill sites are less likely to cause environmental problems but there could still be local impacts relating to traffic, noise, mud, and dust. Whilst sites should be sited as far as possible from sensitive users, they also should be within reasonable reach of our main urban areas so to minimise the distance waste needs to travel for disposal.
- 8.18. The choice of possible locations to dispose of residual waste by either landfill or land-raise is increasingly limited. Disposal can provide a way to restore worked out quarries or colliery tips, but this depends on the type of waste to be disposed of and the local geology and ground conditions.
- 8.19. Landfill within the Green Belt may be acceptable if very special circumstances can be demonstrated. This could include the restoration of mineral workings. Land-raise schemes may be appropriate on derelict land where this would provide the best means of reclamation and could be considered on Greenfield sites if there are no other options. However, land-

raise schemes are unlikely to be acceptable within the Green Belt because of the visual impact on the otherwise open character of the landscape.

- 8.20. In some circumstances, in the future it may be beneficial to re-work old landfill sites in order to recover materials that were previously thrown away but are now seen a valuable resource. This could include metal and plastics for example. This process is known as 'landfill mining' and, although it is a form of materials recovery, the environmental impacts will essentially be the same as for landfill or land-raise.

This policy helps to meet the following objectives:

SO1- Meet our future needs

DM2- Health, Wellbeing and Amenity

Introduction

- 8.21. Waste management facilities are strictly regulated by legislation to protect human health, with the Environment Agency through their environmental permitting regime ensuring facilities operate in a safe manner, with emissions being managed at an acceptable level. Waste facilities which are well run and well-regulated therefore should pose little risk to human health.
- 8.22. Understandably, waste management facilities can still be a concern for local communities, with worries around the potential effects from the development itself and the associated transport movements. Proposals for waste management facilities, for both new and when extending existing facilities, should consider potential impacts and ensure in the first instance these are avoided where possible. Where this is not possible, adequate mitigation measures should be in place to minimise the impacts to an acceptable level. Consideration will also be given to whether proposals are likely to result in an unacceptable cumulative impact (see Policy DM10- Cumulative Impacts of Development) in combination with other existing or proposed development and when proposals are expanding an existing facility or extending its life. All proposals will also need to be in accordance with relevant local planning policies set out within Nottinghamshire's Borough Council's Local Plans and Nottingham City's Local Plans.

DM2 – Health, Wellbeing and Amenity

Proposals for waste management facilities will be supported where it can be demonstrated that any potential adverse impacts on health, wellbeing and amenity arising from the construction, operation and, where relevant, restoration phase and any associated transport movements, are avoided or adequately mitigated to an acceptable level having regard to sensitive receptors. The types of impacts that need to be considered include, but are not restricted to:

- **Noise, lighting and vibrations**
- **Air quality, including airborne emissions and dust**
- **Odour**
- **Litter and windblown material**
- **Vermin, birds and pests**
- **Visual Impacts**
- **Traffic impacts**
- **Stability of the land at and around the site, both above and below ground level**
- **Loss of designated open/green space**

Justification

- 8.23. Ensuring a good standard of health, wellbeing and amenity for all existing and future occupants of land and buildings is a core planning principle of the National Planning Policy Framework. New and existing development should not contribute to, or be put at risk from, pollution or other sources of nuisance or intrusion which could adversely affect health, wellbeing and local amenity, particularly in relation to sensitive receptors.
- 8.24. The precise level of impacts will vary according to local conditions and the type and scale of the waste management facility proposed. Factors to be considered will therefore include the position of the proposed development in relation to other uses and the degree to which any adverse effects can be mitigated. Depending upon the proximity and sensitivity of surrounding land uses an appropriate stand-off distance may be required between the proposed waste management facility and nearby residential or other sensitive uses. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis taking account of any proposed mitigation measures.
- 8.25. Appendix B in the NPPW sets out factors that should be taken into account by the waste planning authorities when considering the likely impacts of waste facilities on local environment and amenity. The factors relating to amenity are reflected within this policy and the remaining addressed within other policies within the Plan.
- 8.26. Noise, light and vibration are impacts that can disrupt communities and amenity, particularly for larger waste management facilities where noise and vibrations can be generated by the waste management processes itself as well as the vehicles movements to and from the facility and internally. Such impacts can be reduced through measures such as enclosing operations and good design that locates noisy operations away from neighbouring properties and sensitive users.
- 8.27. Enclosing operations or waste storage areas can also help to mitigate air emissions, including dust, and odour. Dust and air emissions can impact both ecological and human receptors, with emissions of bio-aerosols and nitrogen dioxide possible for some facilities and so it is important to control such using appropriate and well maintained and managed equipment and vehicles. An Air quality assessment may be required to consider the impact of proposed developments and its associated traffic movements, particularly if the development might adversely affect the air quality in an Air Quality Management Area.

- 8.28. Certain types of facilities, especially landfill sites, can attract vermin, birds and pests which can become a nuisance for residents and businesses nearby. This is covered by the permitting process by the Environment Agency. Birds can also be a hazard for aviation safety if the facility is located nearby to airfields, Policy DM11- Airfield Safeguarding provides further detail.
- 8.29. Potential impact on amenity from litter is often a problem mainly associated with disposal and transfer stations when waste is not compacted and can also occur when waste is being carried by vehicles that are uncovered. This along with mud on the road, noise and dust from increased vehicle movements are some impacts associated with traffic movements. Policy DM12- Highways Safety and Vehicle Movements Routeing details further measures relating to highway safety, but measures to control litter, dust and mud can include sheeting of lorries, wheel cleaning facilities and litter- trap fencing.
- 8.30. Since waste management facilities often need built development to operate, they often have visual impacts, though this will vary depending on the type and scale of facility. Careful design and using natural screening features can help to reduce visual impacts. Policy DM3- Design of Waste Management facilities and DM4- Landscape Protection provide further detail on minimising visual and landscape impacts.
- 8.31. Locations liable to land instability will not normally be suitable for some waste management facilities, with consideration needed to be given to the potential for migration of contamination. National policy is clear that where a site is affected by contamination or land stability issues, responsibility for securing a safe development rest with the developer and/ or landowner.
- 8.32. Areas of open space and locally designated Green Space Areas have an important role to play in protecting local amenity and can provide health and recreational benefits to people living and working nearby. They can also help to benefit local wildlife. Both Councils Health and Well-Being Strategies recognises the importance of our environment and having access to open green spaces in maintaining physical and mental health. For disposal sites where waste is used for restoration, such proposals can enhance health and well being through the provision of additional public open space or rights of way, the creation and/or enhancement of wildlife and biodiversity areas, landscape improvements, and the provision of community education or recreation facilities.
- 8.33. Where there is a possibility that a proposed waste management facility will require an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), developers are advised

to consult the relevant Council well in advance of a planning application, and formally request an opinion on whether an EIA is required and, if so, its scope.

- 8.34. Where appropriate, avoidance or mitigation measures required to make a waste management facility acceptable as a result of this policy will be secured through planning conditions attached to the planning permission. Where measures cannot be secured in this way, planning obligations (also known as Section 106 Agreements) may be used to make the development acceptable in planning terms. See Policy DM9 - Planning Obligations for further details.

This policy helps to meet the following objectives:

SO5– Community, Health and Wellbeing

DM3- Design of Waste Management Facilities

Introduction

- 8.35. Policy DM1 sets out detailed criteria for the locations that may be suitable for different types of waste management facilities. To help integrate waste facilities into their locality and improve the public understanding and acceptance of essential waste management infrastructure, Policy DM3 seeks to ensure that all types of new and existing waste facilities looking to extend, adapt or redevelop, are designed to promote an innovative and sustainable waste management industry.

DM3 – Design of Waste Management Facilities

1.Planning permission for waste facilities will be granted where it can be demonstrated that the design of development

- a) Is of an appropriate scale, form, layout, orientation and materials for its location**
- b) Provides well designed boundary treatments (including security features and screening) and site landscaping that reflect the function and character of the development and is well-integrated into its surroundings**
- c) Minimises impacts and, where possible, enhances the natural and historic environment and surrounding landscape**

2. Proposals should also be designed to incorporate sustainable features, including those which:

- Minimise greenhouse gas emissions, including through energy efficiency, using renewable energy and green building construction techniques**
- Ensure resilience and enable adaptation to climate change by taking into account flood risk and building orientation**
- Minimise water consumption by using water recycling and sustainable surface water drainage where possible to avoid and reduce flooding**
- Minimise the waste generated by re-using or recycling materials, buildings and infrastructure**
- Minimise the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land and high-quality soil**
- Encourage employees to use sustainable modes of transport where practical**

Justification

- 8.36. Good design of waste facilities is important to ensure not only that the facility can operate and function well throughout its lifetime, but it can positively contribute to the character and quality of the local area. Through good layout, using the appropriate height and form as well as the right materials that are sympathetic to the local areas character, this will help waste facilities be understood and accepted as essential infrastructure which can be modern and not associated with negative impacts, such as odour and dirt. Design therefore can help to minimise and mitigate impacts that are often associated with waste sites and help facilities comply with Policy DM2. For example, through good landscaping and use of appropriate fencing this can help enhance local character, improve biodiversity, as well as reducing environmental emissions such as noise and litter.
- 8.37. Proposals should also follow best practice to ensure safe and efficient operation of the site, for example putting measures in place to improve fire safety and limit potential health and environmental impacts such an event could cause and ensuring emergency vehicles can access the site.
- 8.38. To integrate waste development within the local area, facilities should seek to minimise impacts on the landscape, natural and historic environment, seeking to protect and where possible enhance. Where there are impacts, then mitigation will be required and any proposals will need to demonstrate these are adequate as set out in the relevant development management policies of DM4, DM5 and DM6.
- 8.39. As well as having waste facilities that are designed and operated to the highest standards, facilities should also be designed to be sustainable, seeking to minimise impacts on the causes of climate change and ensure resilience to the changing climate as detailed in Policy SP5- Climate change.
- 8.40. Sustainable design initiatives can be achieved by various means, such as incorporating renewable energy, like solar panels, within the design to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- 8.41. Incorporating grey water recycling systems and sustainable drainage systems can help to reduce water consumption and help to reduce and avoid increased flood risk (see Policy DM7- Flood Risk and Water Resources). Considering such features early in the design of facilities is recommended as this can lead to better integration and deliver multi-functional benefits.
- 8.42. Considering the potential changes to climate in the future, such as increased flood risk, will help to ensure facilities are resilient and adaptable. For built

development, this may also include considering the orientation of the building to maximise cooling and avoid solar gain in the summer with rises in temperature expected.

- 8.43. Re-using and recycling building materials, existing buildings and infrastructure, such as haul roads, and reducing the amount of waste generated is also another key sustainable initiative. This helps to maximise our resource and minimise waste and our impact on the environment, one of the goals within the 25 year Environmental Improvement Plan (2023).
- 8.44. Agricultural land and high-quality soils are a vital natural and economic resource therefore it is important to protect the highest quality land from development that would harm the long-term soil quality and agricultural potential. The preference therefore will be to locate sites on poorer quality land to minimise the loss of the best and most versatile agricultural land (grades 1, 2 and 3a) and high-quality soils. However, if this is not possible the facility should be designed to minimise the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land and high-quality soils, such as minimising the footprint of the building,
- 8.45. For proposals which would generate significant employment, facilities should be designed to encourage employees to travel to work using sustainable modes of transport. For example, providing cycle storage sheds and adequate facilities to encourage employees to cycle to work.

This policy helps to meet the following objectives:

SO2– Climate Change, SO4 – The Environment SO7– High Quality Design and Operation

DM4- Landscape Protection

Introduction

- 8.46. The countryside and its landscape features are valued for many different reasons, not all of them related to traditional concepts of aesthetics and beauty. It can provide habitats for wildlife and evidence of how people have lived on the land and harnessed its resources. Landscape has a social and recreational community value, as an important part of people's day-to-day lives. It has an economic value, providing the context for economic activity and often being a central factor in attracting business and tourism.

DM4 – Landscape Protection

Proposals for waste development will be supported where it can be demonstrated that they will not have an adverse impact on the character and distinctiveness of the landscape.

Development that would have an unacceptable impact on the landscape interest will only be permitted where there is no available alternative and the need for development outweighs the landscape interest. In such cases appropriate mitigation measures will be required.

Proposals for waste development should be designed so they are sympathetic to, and compatible with, the landscape character. Landscape treatment, planting and restoration proposals should take account of the relevant landscape character policy area as set out in the Nottinghamshire Landscape Character Assessments covering Nottinghamshire and Nottingham and should refer to the associated species lists.

Justification

- 8.47. National Planning Guidance states that valued landscapes should be protected and enhanced. The guidance allows for the inclusion of criteria-based policies in Local Plans against which proposals for any development on or affecting landscapes will be judged. It also allows for policies that set out necessary mitigation measures, such as appropriate design principles and visual screening, where necessary. This is covered by Policy DM3: Design of Waste Management Facilities.
- 8.48. The landscape forms an important part of the character of Nottinghamshire and Nottingham and has evolved from a complex mix of natural and manmade influences such as geology, soil, climate and land use. This has given rise to a variety of landscapes that continue to change over time. All landscapes have a value, and some have potential to be improved and

restored whereas others should be conserved, the published landscape character assessments provide guidance on this issue.

- 8.49. In order to manage changes to landscape character, three Landscape Character Assessments (LCA) were published in 2009 (Bassetlaw, Newark and Sherwood and Greater Nottingham including Ashfield and Mansfield (MDC Addendum 2015)), which cover the whole Plan Area and draw on the National Character Areas.
- 8.50. The LCAs identify specific features of the different Landscape Character Areas and this information can be used to give special protection to important landscape features or to identify suitable mitigation measures, such as tree planting to provide screening, when loss is unavoidable. It is also valuable in the design of restoration schemes for disposal sites.
- 8.51. The LCAs should be used to help develop waste development proposals and inform the local Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment required for waste proposals as appropriate to the proposed development, to ensure that the existing landscape and visual impacts on the surrounding areas have been considered.

This policy helps to meet the following objectives:

SO4 – The Environment, SO5 – Community, Health and Wellbeing

DM5- Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity and Geodiversity

Introduction

- 8.52. The natural environment is a key element of sustainable development, with biodiversity and geodiversity essential to ecosystems which animals and humans depend upon to survive. The benefits associated with biodiversity and geodiversity are wide ranging, from providing natural flood protection to helping improve our physical and mental health. It is therefore important to ensure it is protected and, where possible enhanced.
- 8.53. The government's approach to maintaining and enhancing the natural environment over the next 25 years is set out in A Green Future: Our 25 Year Environment Plan to improve the Environment (25 YEP), launched in January 2018, which contains a commitment to 'deliver an improved environment within a generation.' Included within the 25 YEP is the development of a Nature Recovery Network (NRN) to protect and restore wildlife, with the goal of providing 500,000 hectares of additional or enhanced wildlife habitat outside of the protected sites network. Following on from the vision set out in the 25 YEP, the Environment Act 2021 sets out how the new legal framework for improving the natural environment in the UK. It introduces a mandatory requirement for a minimum of 10% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) in the planning system, lays the foundation for the NRN and introduces provisions requiring the development of Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) across England, which are new spatial strategies that will establish priorities and map proposals for specific actions to drive nature's recovery at a local level. At this level, the Nottinghamshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) already identifies priorities for the conservation of habitats and species in Nottinghamshire, and the largely complete county Biodiversity Opportunity Map (BOM) identifies spatial priorities for the improvement, enlargement, expansion and connection of habitats.
- 8.54. Waste management facilities, like all developments, have the potential to have negative effects, directly and indirectly as well as cumulatively with other proposed developments, on biodiversity and geodiversity during their construction, operation and, where relevant, demolition and restoration. It is therefore important to ensure new waste management facilities are located and managed appropriately so that waste operations can be carried out without harming the environment as directed by Article 13 of the Waste Framework Directive, fulfilling the Vision and Strategic Objective Four.

DM5 – Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity and geodiversity

- 1. Proposals for waste development will be supported where it can be demonstrated that:**
 - a) They will not adversely affect the integrity of an European site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, including as a result of changes to air or water quality, hydrology, noise, light and dust), unless there are no alternative solutions, imperative reasons of overriding public interest and necessary compensatory measures can be secured in accordance with the requirements of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, as amended;**
 - b) They are not likely to give rise to an adverse effect on a Site of Special Scientific Interest, except where the need for and benefits of the development clearly outweigh the importance of the site and where no suitable alternative exists;**
 - c) They are not likely to give rise to the loss or deterioration of Local Sites (Local Wildlife Sites or Local Geological Sites) except where the need for and benefits of the development in that location outweigh the impacts;**
 - d) They would not result in the loss of populations of a priority species or areas of priority habitat except where the need for and benefits of the development in that location outweigh the impacts;**
 - e) Development that would result in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats will only be permitted where there are wholly exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy exists.**
- 2. Where impacts on designated sites or priority habitats or species cannot be avoided, then:**
 - a) In the case of European sites, mitigation must be secured which will ensure that there would be no adverse effect on the integrity of the site(s). Where mitigation is not possible and the applicant relies upon imperative reasons of overriding public interest, the Councils will need to be satisfied that any necessary compensatory measures can be secured.**
 - b) In all other cases, adequate mitigation relative to the scale of the impact and the importance of the resource must be put in place, with compensation measures secured as a last resort.**
- 3. Proposals should enhance biodiversity and geological resources by ensuring that waste development:**
 - a) Retains, protects, restores and enhances features of biodiversity or geological interest, and provides for appropriate management of these features, and in doing so contributes to targets within the Nottinghamshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan and maximises gains in accordance with local plan targets and as a minimum provide 10% as per national requirements**

- b) Makes provision for habitat adaptation and species migration, allowing species to respond to the impacts of climate change; and**
- c) Maintains and enhances ecological networks, both within the County and beyond, through the protection and creation, where appropriate, of priority habitats and corridors, and linkages and steppingstones between such areas, contributing to the creation of the national Nature Recovery Network.**

Justification

- 8.55. Within Nottinghamshire and Nottingham, there is an extensive network of designated and non-designated sites which are important for their biodiversity and geological interests. These range from international designated sites, also known as European or Natura 2000 sites, to local sites. Together these create an ecological network of habitats and green infrastructure which is unique to the Plan Area.

International Sites

- 8.56. International sites, or European or Natura 2000 sites as they are also known, are sites designated under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, as amended (known as the Habitats regulation), and protect a range of species and habitats. Designations include Special Protection Areas (SPA), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), with the same level of protection given to potential SPAs, possible SACs, all of which are found within Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.
- 8.57. The plan area currently has one designated international site; the Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC. There is also the 'possible potential' Special Protection Area (ppSPA) at Sherwood Forest, both sites are shown on Plan 1. Natural England's advice note provides further detail and mapping of the ppSPA.
- 8.58. In relation to the ppSPA, until the site becomes designated, the Councils will adopt a risk-based approach as advised by Natural England and assess any applications in accordance with the requirements of the Habitats Regulations.

National Sites

- 8.59. Sites which are the finest examples of wildlife and natural features in England are designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) of which a subset are further designated as National Nature Reserves (NNRs). Local authorities can also establish Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) providing

that the relevant statutory nature conservation agency approves. There are 67 SSSI sites, 1 NNR and 67 LNR's in the plan area.

Local Sites

- 8.60. Local Wildlife Sites (LWS), previously called Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) are local, non-statutory sites which are of at least county/ city level importance for the habitats and/or species that they support... These sites provide wildlife corridors between local, national and international sites and so help form an ecological network and are a key component of the Nature Recovery Network. There are also Local Geological Sites (LGS) which are designated based on geological features (such as important rock outcrops). Collectively, LWS and LGS are known as Local Sites, with there being over 1,400 LWS and 130 LGS in the plan area which are recorded by the Nottinghamshire Biological and Geological Records Centre.

Habitats and Species of Principal Importance

- 8.61. There are other habitats of conservation importance that fall outside of the above designated sites which are identified as Habitats of Principal Importance for Conservation in England. These are designated under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 and regarded as conservation priorities in the UK Post 2010 Biodiversity Framework.
- 8.62. Similarly, many species in Nottinghamshire that do not receive legal protection are identified as Species of Principal Importance for Conservation in England. Both were formerly known as UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP) priority habitats or species and are also listed in the Nottinghamshire LBAP. They have high nature conservation value, contributing to the county's biodiversity and its ecological networks.

Protecting sites

- 8.63. Waste development proposals can impact the biodiversity and geodiversity found within the above sites and habitats. These include direct and indirect impacts as well as cumulative impacts if other development is also occurring nearby. Further consideration is given to cumulative impacts in Policy DM10.
- 8.64. National policy is clear that distinctions should be made between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites so that protection is commensurate with their status and gives appropriate weight to

their importance and the contribution that they make to wider ecological networks.

- 8.65. For International Sites, including the ppSPA, any proposal that was likely to have a significant effect, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, would need to be supported by a Habitats Regulations Assessment to ensure any such effects can be mitigated. If the proposed development site hosts a priority habitat or species, and there is no suitable alternative solution or location for the development, permission will only be granted where the proposal relates to human health, public safety, provides beneficial consequences of primary importance to the environment or there are other imperative reasons of overriding public interest and where necessary compensatory measures can be secured.
- 8.66. For proposals that are likely to have an adverse effect on SSSI sites, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, these will need to demonstrate the benefits of the development in the proposed location clearly outweighs the likely impact on the features that give the site its SSSI status and also outweigh any broader impacts on the national network of sites.
- 8.67. For proposals which give rise to the loss or deterioration of Local Sites, proposals will need to demonstrate the need for and benefits of the development in that location outweigh any potential impacts.
- 8.68. Proposed development sites which impact on Habitats and Species of Principal Importance, regardless of the habitats existing condition, will need to demonstrate there are wholly exceptional reasons. Where such reasons are ascertained, a suitable compensation strategy will be required.
- 8.69. To enable the Councils to determine a planning application, sufficient information is required and applicants will be expected to undertake an assessment of the potential effects of their development proposals on areas of biodiversity and/or geological interest that is appropriate to the scale and nature of the proposed development. Assessments should include an appropriate ecological survey and set out clearly the options proposed for avoiding, mitigating or compensating any adverse impact, working through the mitigation hierarchy as set out in paragraph 175a of the NPPF. Early engagement with the Councils and key stakeholders is recommended so the scope and detail required within any assessment can be determined.

Enhancing Biodiversity and Geodiversity

- 8.70. Waste facilities can also enhance biodiversity, particularly disposal sites which require restoration should be restored at the earliest opportunity and to high environmental standards.
- 8.71. Where the opportunities for enhancement exist, such opportunities should be maximised, with biodiversity net gain achieved, at a minimum of 10%, onsite where possible. Any enhancements should be in line with national and local targets and ensure habitats do not become fragmented and can adapt to the impacts of climate change. The Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping completed for a large part of Nottinghamshire should be used to help inform such proposals of any offsite gains until the Local Nature Recovery Strategy is adopted.
- 8.72. The City and County Council along with the District and Boroughs of Nottinghamshire have agreed to develop an aligned approach to delivering Biodiversity Net gain and are developing a Biodiversity Net Gain Framework which provides further detail on how biodiversity net gain can be delivered in Nottinghamshire and Nottingham. This outlines how 10% is the minimum target and higher gains will be encouraged where this is feasible and viable in line with targets set in City or District/ Borough wide Local Plans. Proposals therefore should seek to maximise biodiversity net gains, looking to go beyond 10% where possible.
- 8.73. Gains can be delivered through habitat creation or enhancement, achieved on site, off-site or through a combination of on-site and off-site measures or statutory biodiversity credits. Enhanced or created habitats will need to be secured for at least 30 years.
- 8.74. The Biodiversity Metric tool will be used in a habitat-based approach to determine a proxy biodiversity value (biodiversity units) based on the habitat's area/size, the quality of the habitat (its distinctiveness and strategic significance) and its condition. The existing biodiversity units of the proposed development site (the baseline/pre-intervention units) and the anticipated post-intervention biodiversity units following the development upon completion are calculated and by deducting the pre-intervention units from the post-intervention units, the net change can be calculated to ensure that 10% gain will be achieved and evidenced in a net gain plan for approval. Further information and the latest metric is available on Natural England's website.
- 8.75. It is intended that the Biodiversity metric tool is used to inform decisions where compensation for habitat loss is justified and therefore achieving net

gain does not override the need to protect designated sites, protected or priority species and irreplaceable or priority habitats. It is also not intended for the tool to override ecological advice.

This policy helps to meet the following objectives:

SO4- The environment, SO5 – Community, Health and Wellbeing

DM6- Historic Environment

Introduction

- 8.76. The historic environment includes all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged. It is important to conserve and protect the historic environment as it is an irreplaceable resource which brings a wide range of social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits, being enjoyed by current and future generations. Conserving, and where possible enhancing, the significance of heritage assets including their setting is therefore a key part of achieving sustainable development.

DM6 – Historic Environment

- 1. Proposals for waste development will be supported where heritage assets and their settings are conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance. Where possible, enhancement of the historic environment will be encouraged.**
- 2. Proposals, as a first principle, should avoid harm to the historic environment. Proposals likely to cause harm to the significance of a heritage asset, including its settings, will be subject to the policy requirements set out in the NPPF, including striking an appropriate balance between harm and public benefit.**
- 3. Proposals that would affect any heritage asset and/ or its setting, designated or non-designated, will need to be accompanied by a Heritage Statement which, as a minimum, should:**
 - a. Provide sufficient detail proportionate to the significance and the level of impact on the heritage asset including its setting;**
 - b. Describe and assess the significance of the asset and/ or its setting to determine its architectural, historic, artistic or archaeological interest;**
 - c. Identify the impact of the development on the special character of the asset, including any cumulative impacts;**
 - d. Provide clear and convincing justification for any harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage asset, from its alteration or destruction, or from development within its setting; and**
 - e. Agree the mitigation of the impacts on the significance of the heritage assets, including their fabric, their setting, their amenity value and arrangements for reinstatement.**

Justification

- 8.77. Within Nottinghamshire and Nottingham there are thousands of designated and non- designated heritage assets, including archaeological sites and features as well as buildings and sites on local lists of heritage assets. Together these contribute to the Plan area's unique local identity and sense of character. It is therefore important to conserve and enhance these assets in a manner appropriate to their significance. The Council has a duty to protect, conserve and enhance the significance, character and appearances of the area's historic environment when carrying out its statutory functions and through the planning system.
- 8.78. Waste development proposals can potentially impact, directly or indirectly, heritage assets and their settings. Impacts can range from the direct loss of a heritage asset to proposals which change direction or flow of water courses and flooding which may affect below ground archaeology. Whilst visual impacts are often the most obvious effect on an asset's setting, new development and associated works, such as vehicle movements, can also change how we experience the historic environment through noise, smell, dust and vibrations, especially if there are multiple developments occurring within the vicinity at the same time. Cumulative impacts are therefore also important to consider as detailed in Policy DM10.
- 8.79. National policy recognises the importance of avoiding and minimising the harm to the significance of designated and non-designated heritage assets and their settings and requires a proportionate response relative to the significance of the heritage asset(s). The significance is the value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. The interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting. To be able to understand potential impacts of proposed development on a heritage asset(s) and their setting, its significance and the impact the proposed development makes to the significance, must be understood.
- 8.80. The NPPF states that, when considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, 'great weight should be given to the asset's conservation. The more important the asset, the greater the weight should be.

- 8.81. For any harm to a designated heritage asset, clear and convincing justification for the waste development will be needed. Substantial harm to or loss of:
- grade II listed buildings, or grade II registered parks or gardens, should be exceptional.
 - assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, registered battlefields, grade I and II* listed buildings, grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional
- 8.82. Where a proposed development will lead to substantial harm to or total loss of significance of a designated heritage asset the NPPF states that permission should be refused unless it can be demonstrated that the substantial harm or loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh that harm or loss, or all of the following apply:
- The nature of the heritage asset prevents all reasonable use of the site; and
 - No viable use of the heritage asset can be found in the medium term through appropriate marketing that will enable its conservation; and
 - Conservation by grant-funding or some form of not for profit, charitable or public ownership is demonstrably not possible; and
 - The harm or loss is outweighed by the benefit of bringing the site back into use.
- 8.83. Where the level of harm to the significance will be less than substantial harm, then the harm will be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal, including, where appropriate, securing the assets optimum viable use.
- 8.84. As it is the degree of harm on the asset's significance rather than the scale of development that determines the level of harm, even minor works can be classified as substantial harm.
- 8.85. Public benefits can be anything that delivers social, economic or environmental objectives as described in paragraph 8 of the NPPF. In the context of this Plan, the provision of waste management facilities which help meet forecast needs as identified in the Waste Needs Assessment would be considered a public benefit.
- 8.86. For proposals which directly or indirectly affect non-designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.

- 8.87. Where proposals would result in the total or part loss of a heritage asset, applicants for waste proposals will be required to record and advance understanding of the significance of the heritage asset in a manner appropriate to its importance, with this made available to the public. The information should be updated to the Historic Environment Record.
- 8.88. To enable the Councils to make informed assessments and decisions on applications that may impact on the historic environment, adequate information is required from applicants within a heritage statement. Heritage statements should, as a minimum, include detail of the significance of the heritage asset affected, with the historic environment record consulted as a minimum, and identify the impacts of the proposed waste development on the asset, including any cumulative impacts. For designated assets, as detailed above the statement will need to include clear and convincing justification for any harm, or loss of, the significance of a heritage asset (from its alteration or destruction, or from development within its setting). The level of detail within any assessment, where one is required, should be proportionate to the importance of the heritage asset, the size of the development and the level of its impact on the heritage asset including its setting.
- 8.89. Where an application site includes, or is considered to have the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest then a desk-based assessment will be required followed by a field evaluation where appropriate. Proposals will also need to ensure satisfactory measures are incorporated. The need for preservation in-situ of other sites and remains will need to be assessed against their importance and the impact that their loss would have upon the overall archaeological resource in Nottinghamshire and Nottingham. Although the preservation of archaeological sites is a primary objective, it is clearly impracticable to preserve them all. Equally sites should not be destroyed without careful consideration and appropriate mitigation.
- 8.90. Where preservation in-situ is not feasible, sites need to be surveyed, excavated, or otherwise appropriately recorded. These provisions can only be assessed after the archaeological characteristics of proposed development sites have been evaluated. An appropriate scheme of treatment is required to be agreed with the relevant Council prior to any development taking place.
- 8.91. It is strongly advised that assessments, including Heritage Statements and Archaeological Evaluations, are compiled by a appropriately experienced

professional consultant or contractor to ensure that an appropriate statement is submitted.

- 8.92. Within any assessment the applicant should also demonstrate how consideration of the asset and setting has influenced the development of the proposal to minimise and mitigate any identified impacts. Through good design and consideration of the local historic environment, proposals can seek to minimise any harm and should where possible, enhance the historic environment. Early consultation with the local planning authority heritage officers is recommended to help inform proposals and mitigations and so demonstrate the historic asset has been considered through the design of the waste facility. Historic England also can be contacted for pre-application services.

This policy helps to meet the following objectives:

SO4 – The Environment, SO5 – Community, Health and Wellbeing
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DM7- Flood Risk and Water Resources

Introduction

- 8.93. Water is essential for both humans and wildlife and so it is important to protect both ground and surface water resources and, where possible, enhance water quality. Waste facilities have the potential to contaminate water resources if appropriate mitigations are not in place. For example, leachate from a disposal site could potentially contaminate aquifers or run off from sites, particularly if the site is flooded. This may contain contaminants which then enter surface water resources, such as rivers, canals and lakes.
- 8.94. It is therefore important that waste facilities are designed, managed and located in suitable areas to ensure they have no adverse impacts on the quality, quantity and flow of surface and groundwater.

DM7 - Flood Risk and Water Resources

Flood Risk

Proposals for waste management facilities will be supported where they are located in low flood risk areas. Where this is not possible and proposals are within an area with a known risk of flooding, including potential risk in the future, they will need to demonstrate the Sequential Test has been applied and a Flood Risk Assessment and Exception Test undertaken where required.

Proposals for waste management facilities will be supported where it can be demonstrated there will be no unacceptable impact on the integrity and function of floodplains and there is no increased risk of flooding on the site or elsewhere.

Proposals should also, where appropriate, include Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDs), incorporating rainwater harvesting, to manage surface water run-off

Water Resources

Proposals for waste management facilities will be supported where it can be demonstrated that there will be no unacceptable impacts on the quantity and quality of water resources, including groundwater and surface water, taking account of Source Protection Zones, the status of surface watercourses and waterbodies and groundwater bodies. Where possible, proposals should include measures to enhance water quality.

For landfill and landraising schemes, proposals will need to demonstrate the ground / geological conditions are suitable.

Justification

Flood Risk

- 8.95. Proposals for waste facilities must ensure the risk of flooding, from all sources, has been appropriately considered and addressed to ensure the facility is safe throughout its lifetime and can operate without posing a risk to water resources and water bodies and not increase flood risk on site or elsewhere.
- 8.96. The responsibility of managing flood risk lies with both the Local Lead Flood Authority (LLFA), in this case Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council, and the Environment Agency. The Councils are responsible for managing the risk of flooding from surface water and ground water and managing ordinary water courses whilst the Environment Agency has a specific responsibility to manage flood risk from main rivers and the sea. Both the LLFA and Environment Agency should be consulted early on within the application stages.
- 8.97. Proposals for waste management facilities should be located in areas with low flood risk, where this is not possible the applicant will need to undertake a Sequential Test to demonstrate there are no suitable alternative sites.
- 8.98. Applications will also need to be accompanied by a site-specific flood risk assessment if:
- It is located in Flood Zone 1 and over 1 hectare
 - In Flood Zone 2 or 3
 - In an area identified as having critical drainage issues
 - It has an increased flood risk in the future, taking climate change into account
 - It is subject to other sources of flooding and the proposed development is a more vulnerable use
- 8.99. An exception test may also be required following the Sequential Test, this is dependent upon the flood risk vulnerability classification of the proposed development and what flood zone the proposal lies in. As outlined within the Planning Practice Guidance and summarised within Table 13 below, different waste facilities have different vulnerability classifications and so the flood zone compatibility of waste facilities varies.

Table 13. - Vulnerability classification and compatibility for different types of waste facilities.

Type of Waste Facility	Flood Risk Vulnerability Classification	Flood Zone Compatibility
Waste Water Treatment	Essential Infrastructure	Appropriate in Flood Zones 1, 2, 3a+ and 3b*
Waste treatment (except landfill* and hazardous waste facilities)	Less Vulnerable	Appropriate in Flood Zones 1, 2 and 3a
Hazardous Waste Facilities	More Vulnerable	Appropriate in Flood Zones 1, 2 and 3a*
Landfill	More Vulnerable	Appropriate in Flood Zones 1, 2 and 3a*

+ *Should be designed and constructed to remain operational and safe in times of flood*

**An exception test will need to be passed with the proposal designed and constructed to: Remain operational and safe for users in times of flood; Result in no net loss of floodplain storage and; Not impede water flow and not increase flood risk elsewhere*

8.100. For an exception test to be passed, the proposed development will need to demonstrate that both:

- The development would provide wider sustainability benefits to the community that outweigh the flood risk. Any identified sustainability benefits will need to be balanced against any associated flood risks, informed by the site-specific flood risk assessment; and
- The development will be safe for its lifetime taking account of the vulnerability of its users, without increasing flood risk elsewhere, and, where possible, will reduce flood risk overall. Flood risk could be reduced by using green infrastructure within the layout of the development or providing Sustainable Drainage Systems or providing or contributing to flood risk management infrastructure which would also benefit the existing community.

8.101. Following the site-specific flood risk assessment, sequential and exception test where required, permission should only be granted in areas at risk of flooding where it can be demonstrated that:

- The most vulnerable part of the development is located in areas of the lowest flood risk within the site, unless there are overriding reasons to prefer a different location
- The development is appropriately flood resistant and resilient

- It incorporates SuDs, unless there is clear evidence this would be inappropriate
 - Any residual risk can be safely managed and
 - Safe access and escape routes are included where appropriate, as part of an agreed emergency plan
- 8.102. SuDs should also be incorporated into proposals for waste facilities, even where the risk of flooding is low, as they help to control surface water runoff and so not only can they reduce the causes and impacts of flooding, but they also remove pollutants and so can improve water quality as well. Examples of SuDs include permeable pavements, rain gardens, bioretention basins, green roofs and swales. Rainwater harvesting could also be incorporated into SuDs. Any SuDs will need to be proactively maintained to ensure they remain functional for their lifetime.

Water Resources

- 8.103. Proposals for waste management facilities will need to ensure the protection, and where possible, the enhancement of surface and ground water resources and quality as well as consider how the use of water resources can be minimised where possible.
- 8.104. The Environment Agency is the main authority for safeguarding water resources; it seeks to improve and protect inland and coastal waters, ensuring sustainable use of natural water resources, creating better habitats and other factors that help to improve quality of life. The Environment Agency publishes information on groundwater vulnerability and the location of source protection zones for water supply as well as the status of watercourses and water bodies.
- 8.105. The Environment Agency's Approach to Groundwater Protection uses aquifer designations which are consistent with the Water Framework Directive. This reflects the importance of aquifers in terms of groundwater as a resource and also their role in supporting surface water flows and wetland ecosystems. A key aim of the Water Framework Directive is to prevent deterioration in the status of water bodies, improve their ecological and chemical status and prevent further pollution.
- 8.106. Contaminating ground water resources, particularly aquifers which are used for drinking water, is perhaps the most serious pollution threat from waste management facilities, particularly from disposal sites. Proposals for landfill and landraising facilities will therefore need to demonstrate they have considered the geological conditions and the behaviour of surface and

ground water and put appropriate mitigations in place where required. For non-inert disposal sites, these should not be located in source protection zones.

8.107. The risk of contaminating surface water resources from waste facilities is also high if surface water is not managed appropriately. Proposals for waste management facilities therefore should:

- Direct surface water from all non-waste operational areas, such as roofs and roads, towards a sustainable surface water outfall or to be used for rainwater harvesting where possible, with this water being treated through the appropriate number of treatment processes to ensure pollution is not caused or flood risk increased
- Cover waste handling/storage areas to prevent excess rainwater entering the foul sewage system where possible
- Have suitable mitigation/ attenuation of storm flows where the site is connected to the foul/ combined sewer where these are not separated

8.108. Applicants therefore are recommended to engage with the Environment Agency and LLFA, Nottinghamshire County Council or Nottingham City Council for their respective administrative areas, at the earliest opportunity within the application process to ensure they have considered ground and surface water resources. Early consultation will also help identify appropriate and adequate mitigations which may be required.

8.109. To further protect aquifers, especially those with poor status, under the Water Framework Directive further abstraction should be limited to prevent further deterioration. Proposals then should seek to reduce water consumption and ensure water resources are used as efficiently as possible. This could include measures such as harvesting rainwater and grey water for wheel washing and dust suppression as well as using SuDs, which can help improve water quality by removing pollutants as well as reducing flood risk.

This policy helps to meet the following objectives:

SO2 – Climate Change, SO4- The Environment
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DM8- Public Access

Introduction

- 8.110. Nottinghamshire is a largely rural County and has nearly 2,800km of routes providing access into the countryside for walking, cycling and horse riding and Nottingham City has a total of 84km of public access routes.
- 8.111. The Rights of Way network also provides vital links within the City and between towns and villages and is increasingly being used as a route to school, work and shops.
- 8.112. The size and location of a waste facility development can have significant direct or indirect impacts on the rights of way network and its users. However, it can also provide opportunities to improve and extend existing infrastructure and enable both wider enjoyment of the countryside and access to services and facilities.
- 8.113. The public rights of way network is both an important recreational resource and a sustainable transport option. Local authorities have a statutory duty to protect these and therefore, new developments should not adversely affect the integrity of the established rights of way network. There may, however, be circumstances where, in the interests of providing for sustainable waste developments, disruption of a public right of way is unavoidable. In such cases, mitigation would be sought, such as diverting the route in a satisfactory manner, creating an alternative route and/or providing for additional routes to increase access opportunities. Mitigation could also ensure an existing route does not suffer from reduced amenity.

DM8 – Public Access

Proposals for waste development will be supported where it can be demonstrated this will not have an unacceptable impact on the existing rights of way network and its users. Where this is not possible, satisfactory proposals for temporary or permanent diversions, which are of at least an equivalent interest or quality, must be provided and improvements and enhancements to the rights of way network will be sought where practical.

Justification

- 8.114. National guidance states that policies should protect and enhance public rights of way and access. Opportunities to provide better facilities for users, such as adding links to the existing rights of way, should be sought. Where

appropriate, crossing points will be required to ensure that the existing rights of way network is not compromised during development. Proposals for new rights of way will need to consider how they can best link into the existing rights of way network. All proposals for new or improved rights of way should also cater for the needs of people with mobility problems and other disabilities and comply with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

- 8.115. There are parts of Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City that suffer from a poor-quality environment and a lack of accessible green space. Therefore, efforts to improve public rights of way should be targeted to help address such deficiencies as well as providing new infrastructure.
- 8.116. Reference should be made to the Nottinghamshire County Council Rights of Way Improvement Plan and the Nottingham City Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2 and advice sought from the County and City Council's rights of way officers regarding proposed temporary or permanent diversions and the opportunities for future improvements in the area.
- 8.117. Such consultation on any public right of way affected by a proposed waste development should take place at the earliest possible stage. The statutory process for footpath diversion or closure is separate from the planning process and as such delays or failures to secure any required amendments to the rights of way network could affect the implementation of future waste facilities development.
- 8.118. Enhancements to the rights of way network will be secured through legal agreements rather than planning conditions to ensure that the enhanced rights of way are available in perpetuity. Similarly, permissive paths will not be considered for temporary or permanent diversions to an existing definitive right of way.

This policy helps to meet the following objectives:

SO4 – The Environment, SO5 – Community, Health and Wellbeing
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DM9- Planning Obligations

Introduction

- 8.119. All waste development proposals could give rise to issues such as; highways, flood risk, and archaeological and ecological impact, as well as physical impacts on the landscape, impacts on landscape character and visual impacts. There are many areas where the treatment of waste could impact on local communities. In order to ensure that a balance is struck between society's requirement for waste infrastructure and the need to protect the local environment and residential amenity, measures will be secured through legal agreements associated with planning permissions for waste developments.
- 8.120. To achieve sustainable development, additional planning requirements may be imposed to make a proposed development acceptable. The coordinated delivery of adequately funded infrastructure at the right time and in the right place is key to ensuring that local services, facilities and the transport network can accommodate any additional demand arising from new waste facility developments.

DM9 - Planning Obligations

Where appropriate and necessary, the County and City Councils will seek to negotiate planning obligations as measures for controlling waste facilities and mitigating any negative impacts to secure sustainable development objectives which cannot be achieved by the use of planning conditions.

Justification

- 8.121. Planning obligations (also known as Section 106 agreements) are legal agreements made between local authorities, developers and landowners which can be attached to a planning permission to make acceptable development which would otherwise be considered unacceptable in planning terms. The obligations set out in Section 106 agreements apply to the person or organisation that enters into the agreement, and any subsequent owner of the land to which the planning permission relates. This is something that any future owners will need to take in to account.

8.122. The NPPF provides Government guidance on the use of planning obligations. It contains three tests that planning obligations must meet. They must be:

- Necessary to make the proposed development acceptable in planning terms
- Directly related to the proposed development
- Fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the proposed development.

8.123. The County Council has a Developer Contribution Strategy, and Nottingham City Council has two adopted policies, the Nottingham City Aligned Core Strategy Policy 19: Developer Contributions and the LAPP Policy IN4: Developer Contributions policy which all set out circumstances where planning obligations may be sought and include:

- Highway improvement and reinstatement works, lorry routeing arrangements, off-site highway safety works
- Off-site provision of landscaping, screening, noise attenuation measures etc.
- Off-site monitoring of noise, dust, groundwater, landfill gas migration – provision of leachate/landfill gas control measures
- Provision for extended aftercare
- Enhancements of the historic environment
- Archaeological consultants and contractors for investigation, recording, analysing, archiving and reporting on archaeological structure or remain
- Long term management of restored sites
- Habitat creation, enhancement and protection
- Safeguarding protected species and species of local biodiversity interest
- Transfer of land ownership and associated management provisions
- Meet the reasonable costs of new infrastructure or services, employment and training:
- Provision of open space where appropriate
- Drainage and flood protection

8.124. Applicants are advised to check the above documents when applying for planning permission as Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council both have varying requirements in terms of planning obligations.

8.125. The nature and scale of obligation requirements from a development will reflect:

- The nature and impact the development has upon strategic, local and on-site needs and requirements

- Current infrastructure and whether the development can be accommodated by the existing provision
- How the potential impacts of a development can be mitigated
- Viability. In considering issues of viability the Councils will have regard to the quality and value of a scheme in the context of how the development contributed towards the vision, objectives and policies for the area.

8.126. Whether obligations will be 'in kind' (where the developer builds or directly provides the infrastructure), by means of financial payments or a combination of both will depend on the nature and circumstances of the infrastructure requirement. The NPPF sets out that development identified in the Local Plan should not be subject to such a scale of obligations and policy burdens that their ability to be developed viably is threatened. It emphasises that developers and landowners should receive a competitive return to enable the development to be delivered.

This policy helps to meet the following objectives:

SO1- Meet our future needs, SO2 – Climate Change, SO3– Strengthen Our Economy, SO4 – The Environment SO5 – Community, Health and Wellbeing, SO6 – Sustainable Transport and SO7- High quality design and operation

DM10- Cumulative Impacts of Development

Introduction

- 8.127. The cumulative impact of several waste management operations either on one site or in close proximity to each other may be a factor that needs to be assessed, as well as the effects of these types of developments in conjunction with other non-waste developments in an area. The impacts, both real and perceived, of a concentration of waste management facilities close to a community or communities could have a detrimental impact on local amenity, health, quality of life and the wider environment and landscape character including visual character.
- 8.128. Adverse cumulative impacts include increased levels of noise, odour and artificial lighting. The local highway network could also be affected by increased HGV movements with potential hazards related to road safety.

DM10 - The Cumulative Impact of Development

Proposals for waste management development will be supported where it can be demonstrated that there are no unacceptable cumulative impacts on the environment, health or on the amenity of a local community.

Justification

- 8.129. National policy emphasises the need for cumulative impacts from multiple impacts from individual site and/or a number of sites in a locality to be taken into account.
- 8.130. The capacity of a local area to accommodate waste management facilities depends upon the proximity of existing development, the type of facility proposed, access to the site and operational issues such as noise, dust, odour and hours of opening.
- 8.131. A stage may be reached whereby it is the cumulative rather than the individual impact of a proposal that renders it environmentally unacceptable. Depending on local circumstances, there may also be a need to consider whether there are likely to be cumulative impacts resulting from a proposed waste management facility in combination with other existing or proposed non-waste related development.
- 8.132. This policy seeks to ensure that the impacts of a waste proposal are considered in conjunction with the impacts of all existing development and that cumulative impact on the natural and historic environment of an area,

highway safety, health or on the amenity of a local community or communities are fully addressed.

This policy helps to meet the following objectives:

SO4– The Environment, SO5– Community, Health and Wellbeing

DM11- Airfield Safeguarding

Introduction

- 8.133. As detailed within the aerodrome safeguarding procedure (DfT/ODPM Circular 1/2003), Airfield Safeguarding Areas are a 13km/8-mile radius established around aerodromes, both civil and military, and their associated buildings to ensure aviation safety.
- 8.134. Waste development proposals can pose a risk to aviation safety, with the main risk from facilities that are likely to attract birds which could increase the risk of bird strike. Any waste development proposals then that falls within an Airfield Safeguarding Area will require consultation with owners or operators of the relevant airfields to consider potential hazards to aircraft or radio operations and ensure any risks are adequately mitigated.

DM11 - Airfield Safeguarding

Proposals for waste development within Airfield Safeguarding areas will be supported where it can be demonstrated that the proposed development during the construction, operational and, where relevant, restoration and after use phases, will not result in any unacceptable adverse impacts on aviation safety.

Justification

- 8.135. As shown on Plan 2, there are ten licenced Airfield Safeguarding Zones for airports and Military of Defence (MoD) sites in the plan area:
- East Midlands Airport
 - Gamston (Retford) Airport
 - Netherthorpe Airfield
 - Nottingham City Airport
 - Robin Hood Airport Doncaster Sheffield
 - RAF Barkston Heath MoD Aerodrome
 - RAF Cranwell MoD Aerodrome
 - RAF Scampton MoD Aerodrome
 - RAF Syerston MoD Aerodrome
 - RAF Waddington MoD Aerodrome
- 8.136. Other, non-licenced, aerodromes may be safeguarded by privately agreed consultation with the Local Planning Authority. This is called 'unofficial' safeguarding and is not obligatory under Statutory Direction. However, the

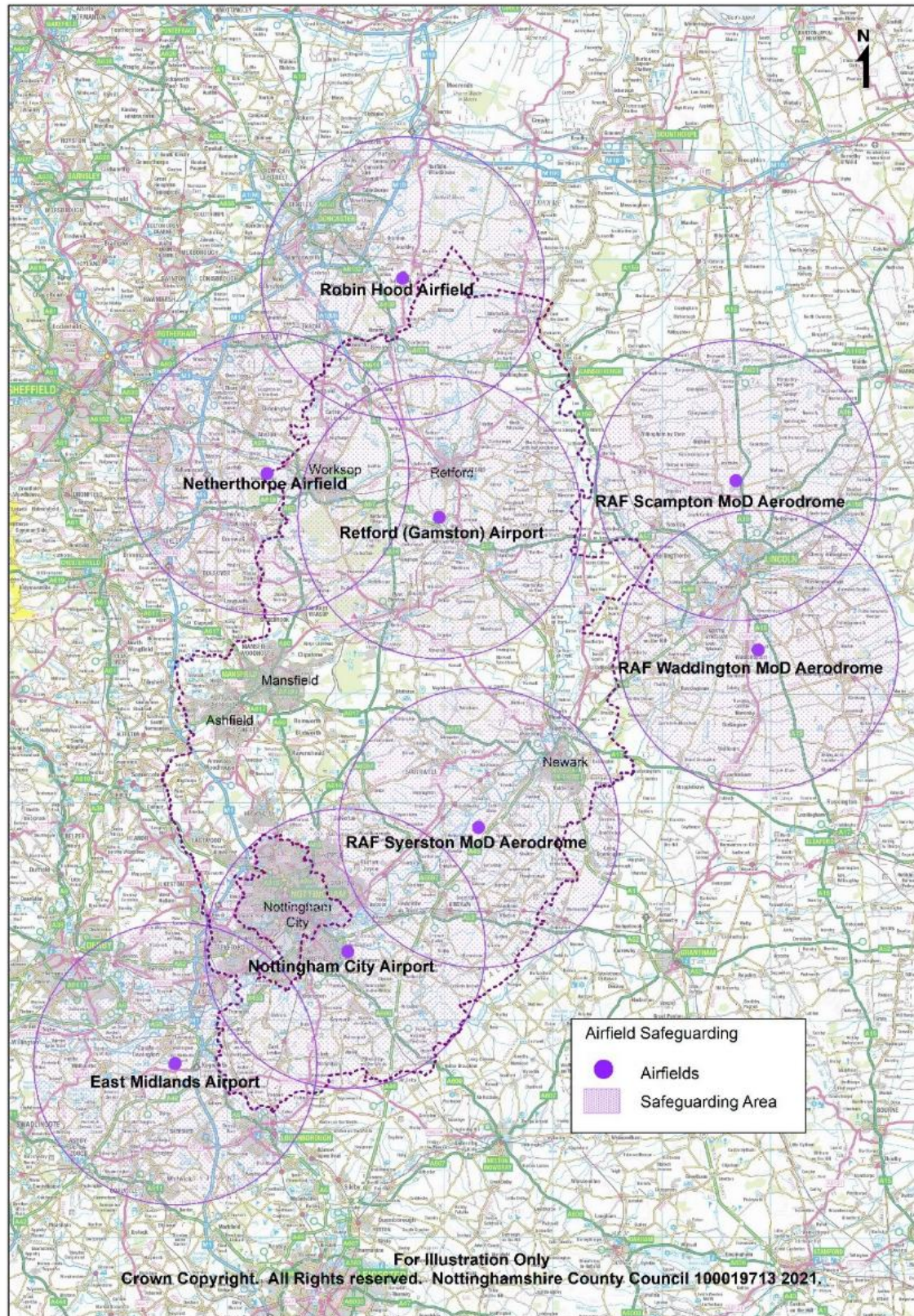
Councils acknowledges the Governments advice that 'aerodrome owners should take steps to safeguard their operations' and as such Policy DM11 will also apply to these 'unofficial' safeguarded areas as recorded by Local Planning Authorities. Any new safeguarding areas established during the plan period will also be safeguarded.

- 8.137. As detailed in the NPPW, the main risk to aviation safety is that waste facilities can, if not managed appropriately, attract birds which could lead to an increased risk of bird strike to aircraft. Facilities that handle, compact, treat or dispose of household or commercial waste are more likely to attract birds, in particular Landfill sites that accept putrescible waste. Other infrastructure associated with facilities can also attract birds, such as those with flat roofs, ledges and gantries as well as sites that create or enhance wet areas as part of landscaping or for restoration and after use.
- 8.138. Other hazards that waste proposals may pose to aviation safety include:
- Glare and dazzling from lighting and reflective materials used on site
 - Visual impact from tall buildings and structures, including any cranes present during the construction phase
 - Air turbulence created from thermal plumes and venting and flaring of gas
 - Radio interference if radio communication is used within the waste facility itself
- 8.139. Any waste development proposals within Airfield Safeguarding areas will therefore need to consider within their application the risks they may pose to aviation safety, including potential risks during the construction, operational and, where relevant, the restoration and after use phases.
- 8.140. Early engagement with the Councils and aerodrome operators is encouraged so risks can be identified and addressed through design and adequate mitigations early on within the proposal to ensure the safe operation of aircraft.

This policy helps to meet the following objectives:

SO5- Community, Health and Wellbeing, SO7- High quality design and operation
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Plan 2 – Airfield Safeguarding Areas



DM12- Highway Safety and Vehicle Movements/ Routeing

Introduction

- 8.141. The Plan seeks under Policy SP6 for waste development proposals to use alternative sustainable modes of transport, such as rail, water, or pipeline. It is though recognised that waste facilities predominantly use road to transport waste and so it is important to ensure that proposals consider highway safety and that vehicle movements do not have an unacceptable impact on the local environment and amenity. The needs of all road users, pedestrians, cyclists and people with disabilities, must be at the forefront of any considerations.

DM12 - Highway Safety and Vehicle Movements/Routeing

Proposals for waste management facilities where sustainable alternative modes of transporting waste are not viable or practical will be supported where it can be demonstrated that:

- 1. The highway network including any necessary improvements can satisfactorily and safely accommodate the vehicle movements, including peaks in vehicle movements, likely to be generated.**
- 2. The vehicle movements likely to be generated would not cause an unacceptable impact on the environment and/or disturbance to local amenity.**
- 3. Measures have been put in place to minimise the impact of additional vehicle movements, for example directional signage, wheel washing, street cleansing, sheeting of loads.**
- 4. Where appropriate, adequate vehicle routeing schemes have been put in place to minimise the impact of traffic on local communities.**
- 5. Adequate provision has been provided for safe vehicle manoeuvring and loading along with sufficient vehicle parking and EV charging points.**

Justification

- 8.142. Most waste is transported via the existing road network due to the flexibility and distance that most waste is carried. This can cause an increase in the level of HGV traffic on the local and wider road networks in the vicinity of waste processing facilities. It is important that the impact of this traffic is minimised and it shown that these additional vehicle movements can be safely accommodated and they do not cause an unacceptable impact on the environment and/or local amenity. This can be done through several different measures which may be implemented through planning conditions and can include:

- strategic signage for lorry movements.
- sheeting of lorries.
- highway improvements.
- hours of working / opening.
- traffic regulation orders.
- noise attenuation of reversing beepers, plant and equipment.
- private haul roads.
- road safety improvements.
- traffic management arrangements, including off peak movements
- providing wheel wash facilities to prevent materials, such as mud, contaminating public highways.

- 8.143. National Highways is responsible for the strategic road network which includes trunk roads and Motorways. In the Plan Area National Highways is therefore responsible for the M1, A1, A46, A52 and the A453. They provide policy advice on other transport issues concerning their function, including the consideration of planning applications.
- 8.144. Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council are the Local Highway Authority for their respective area and are responsible for all roads, except those above, and are responsible for the implementation of their Local Transport Plans. As the Local Highway Authorities, the Councils will require proposals to be accompanied by a Transport Assessment (TA) or Transport Statement (TS). Any such supporting documents must accord with current standards and local guidance. It is recommended early discussion is held with officers at the relevant Council or National Highways where applicable to discuss any transport issues.
- 8.145. In certain circumstances, where a significant amount of movement is generated a Travel Plan may also be required. Travel plans should seek to use sustainable modes of transport for both the movement of goods, as detailed further in Policy SP6, and people.
- 8.146. Where a specific highways impact from the development is identified that requires mitigation, the Councils will either seek developer contributions or use planning conditions to enable the necessary works to be completed. Any highways work will need to be designed to meet the relevant Councils Highways Design Guide.
- 8.147. Lorry routeing can be a major consideration in assessing the acceptability of a waste proposal. Whilst a reasonable route may exist, which the operator may well be willing to use, it may be necessary to control routeing through planning conditions or in most instances through a legally binding

agreements (known as planning obligations or Section 106 Agreements – see DM9 for more information) between the applicant and the Council.

- 8.148. To enable safe movement onto the highway and to prevent further impacts, development proposals should design sites that enable sufficient space for the safe manoeuvring of vehicles, loading/ unloading and parking, for both HGV's and private vehicles as well as access for emergency services. Charging points for electrical vehicles should also be available and considered in any parking layout.

This policy helps to meet the following Strategic Objectives:

SO4- The environment, SO5- Community, Health and Wellbeing, SO6- Sustainable Transport and SO7- High quality design and operation

9. Monitoring and Implementation

Implementation

- 9.1. The Joint Waste Local Plan has been prepared using a wide-ranging evidence base to set the context and focus for the delivery of our strategic policies and objectives. Regular monitoring in accordance with the NPPF is essential to ensure that our policies are effective and consistently applied. This will also help us to see when or where specific policies or targets may need to be revised and to respond to any changes in national policy or legislation or changes in local circumstances.
- 9.2. Achieving our objectives and implementing the policies within the Joint Waste Local Plan rely on the actions of not just the County and City Councils and the waste industry but also the district councils, local communities and businesses and the voluntary sector. It is therefore important that there is a clear understanding of who will deliver the relevant waste management infrastructure and any supporting measures set out in the Joint Waste Local Plan and the relevant timescale.

Monitoring

- 9.3. The Localism Act 2011 requires the production of monitoring reports. Details of what this must contain are set out in The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 with further guidance in the National Planning Policy Guidance:
- The Councils produce a monitoring report each year to review progress in preparing the new planning policy documents that will make up the development framework
 - How well existing waste planning policies are working
 - New national or other relevant policy guidance that needs to be taken into account
 - Updates in local social, economic and environmental indicators that may influence existing and future waste policies.
- 9.4. We have therefore developed a comprehensive monitoring and implementation framework to help us achieve this.
- 9.5. Appendix 1 contains a detailed monitoring and implementation table which sets out the policies, performance indicators and triggers for monitoring.

Appendix 1- Monitoring and Implementation Framework for Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Local Plan

Key outcomes/Strategic Objectives	Performance Indicator	Monitoring Method	Constraints/Risks	Target	Trigger Point	Signs that Corrective Action is Required/Mitigation Measures
SP1 – Waste Prevention and re-use						
To reduce the amount of waste produced and encourage all developments to help move waste up the waste hierarchy (SO2 – Climate Change, SO3 – Strengthen our economy)	Tonnage of Waste arisings across all waste streams (Local Authority Collected Waste; Commercial and industrial waste; Construction, Demolition; and Hazardous waste using the methodology as set out in the WNA)	Published waste arising data from DEFRA, the Environment Agency (EA) and other surveys, where available Relevant planning decisions – waste reduction measures included as part of application conditions	Lack of available waste arisings data for specific waste streams Cost of awareness raising initiatives	n/a	Significant changes in arisings	Assess implications for targets and revise if required
SP2- Future Waste Management Provision						
The policy aims to provide sufficient waste management capacity to meet identified needs, support proposals for waste management facilities which help to move waste management up the waste hierarchy	Total permitted waste management capacity is equal to estimated waste arisings LACW arisings Commercial and Industrial waste arisings (where available)	Annual waste management and arisings data (where available) Amount of new waste management capacity permitted annually DEFRA municipal waste management figures (audited	Requires suitable proposals to come forward (largely industry driven) Lack of data – degree of current self-sufficiency is unknown Cost of changes to municipal waste management collection and	Net self-sufficiency achieved Recycle/compost municipal, commercial and industrial and construction and demolition waste	N/A (Aspirational policy) Recycling rates more than 10% below target (where data available)	N/A (Aspirational policy) If recycling levels fall below aspirations, revision made

Key outcomes/Strategic Objectives	Performance Indicator	Monitoring Method	Constraints/Risks	Target	Trigger Point	Signs that Corrective Action is Required/Mitigation Measures
(SO1 – Meet our future needs)	Construction and demolition waste arisings (where available) Monitor levels of Hazardous, agricultural, mining and low level radioactive waste arisings (where available)	figures published annually) National/ regional commercial and industrial waste recycling figures (where available) If data becomes available with the digitisation of waste movement, monitoring of waste compositions	infrastructure provision. Lack of private sector investment Market fluctuations in value of recycled materials			
SP3 – Broad Locations for Waste Treatment Facilities						
Development of new waste management facilities in line with national criteria (SO1 – Meet our future need, SO6 – Sustainable Transport)	New or extended facilities permitted within broad locations as set out in Policy SP3	Planning permissions for new and extended waste management facilities	n/a	100% meeting broad location criteria as set out in Policy SP3	Significant number of new facilities not meeting broad criteria as set out in Policy SP3	Review policy to ensure need being met adequately
SP4 – Managing Residual Waste						
Provision for the management of residual waste following treatment (SO1 - Meeting our future needs)	New or extended facilities permitted in accordance with Policy SP4	Planning permissions for new and extended waste management facilities	Lack of suitable sites	100% applications determined in accordance with Policy SP4	Significant number of new facilities not meeting broad criteria as set out in Policy SP4	Review policy to ensure need being met adequately

Key outcomes/Strategic Objectives	Performance Indicator	Monitoring Method	Constraints/Risks	Target	Trigger Point	Signs that Corrective Action is Required/Mitigation Measures
		Environment Agency Waste Data interrogator				
SP5 – Climate Change						
New proposals minimise the impacts on, and are resilient to climate change (SO2 – Climate Change)	Proposals judged to have an unacceptable impact on climate change will be refused	Planning permissions/refusals for new or extended facilities. New or extended facilities incorporating resilience to climate change	No targets Local climate change impacts are difficult to measure/lack of available data	Number of planning applications approved that include appropriate location/resilience to climate change	Significant number of planning application approvals which identify harmful impacts on climate change	Review policy to ensure impacts on climate change are considered in more depth
SP6 – Sustainable movement of waste						
To encourage waste facilities to use alternative, more sustainable methods of transport and treat waste as close to the source as possible (SO2 – Climate Change, SO6 – Sustainable Transport)	Number of planning permissions using alternative methods of transport to road Tonnage of waste exported out of the Plan area Number of planning permission granted contrary to advice from: - Highways England -	Planning permissions decision notices and delegated or committee reports	Lack of availability of infrastructure to transport waste (railheads and wharves) Where waste will be treated depends upon external markets Lack of data in notices/ reports on sustainable transport	All applications granted include an element of non-road transport. Road transport distances/ use is minimised All applications granted fully mitigate any transport impacts	Significant number of applications granted contrary to advice from those set out in performance indicator (more than 10%)	Review applications to identify why sustainable transport methods were not utilised/ maximised Review the policy

Key outcomes/Strategic Objectives	Performance Indicator	Monitoring Method	Constraints/Risks	Target	Trigger Point	Signs that Corrective Action is Required/Mitigation Measures
	Highways Authority					
SP7 – Green Belt						
To ensure new minerals development does not compromise the openness and purpose of land within the Green Belt (SO4 – The environment)	Number of planning applications granted within the Green Belt where the proposal does not maintain the openness and purpose of the Green Belt	Planning permissions delegated or committee reports	Planning approvals may be subject to variation prior to implementation	All applications granted in Green Belt should maintain the openness and purpose of the Green Belt	Any planning permissions granted in the Green Belt which do not maintain the openness and purpose of the Green Belt	Review policy to ensure greater priority given to maintenance of openness and purpose of Green Belt
SP8 – Safeguarding Waste Management Sites						
To safeguard existing and permitted waste facilities from non-waste development to ensure sufficient capacity to handle waste arisings (SO1 – Meet our future needs)	Number of applications permitted for non-waste development which could adversely impact the operation of waste facilities No decrease in the number or availability of waste management facilities by type and overall capacity by type	Planning permissions for use other than waste management on existing waste management sites	The County Council is not consulted on applications which may pose a safeguarding risk Safeguarding policies could be overlooked at local level	Maintain/increase the number of waste management facilities and assess the capacity of waste management facilities.	Significant decrease in hectares of waste management sites (more than 10%)	Review the policy to ensure need is being met appropriately

Key outcomes/Strategic Objectives	Performance Indicator	Monitoring Method	Constraints/Risks	Target	Trigger Point	Signs that Corrective Action is Required/Mitigation Measures
DM1- General Site Criteria						
Achieving new and extended waste management facilities in line with the locational criteria, as set out in Policy DM1 (SO1 – Meet our future need)	New or extended facilities located in accordance with criteria, as set out in Policy DM1	Planning permissions including data on size, type and location	n/a	100% meeting the criteria as set out in Policy DM1	Significant percentage of new and extended waste management facilities meeting the criteria set out in Policy DM1	Review the policy to ensure need is being met appropriately
DM2 – Health, Wellbeing and Amenity						
Ensuring that waste facilities do not negatively impact of the health and wellbeing of the community (SO5 – Community, Health and Wellbeing)	Number of planning applications granted contrary to advice from: - Environment Agency - Environmental Health Officer - Public Health England - Highways Authority Number of substantiated complaints received regarding waste management facilities	Planning permissions decision notices and delegated or committee reports Minerals Planning Authority Monitoring and Enforcement Team complaint	Reliant on professional opinions/ assessments of impacts and discussion of these in reports/notices	All planning permissions have no adverse impact on the elements set out in the policy	Number of planning permission granted which identify unacceptable impacts on the community, health and wellbeing (measured through grants contrary to advice from those set out in performance indicator) (>0)	Review policy to address criteria that were not met in permissions

Key outcomes/Strategic Objectives	Performance Indicator	Monitoring Method	Constraints/Risks	Target	Trigger Point	Signs that Corrective Action is Required/Mitigation Measures
DM3 – Design of Waste Management Facilities						
All new and extended facilities are well designed and use sustainable construction techniques (SO2 – Climate Change, SO4- The Environment, SO7 - High quality Design and operation)	All new and extended facilities incorporating best practice in design of facilities and ensuring they are future proofed, where appropriate	Planning permissions refused based on the lack of consideration to design	Design is subjective	100% of relevant planning permissions incorporate best practise	Significant number of planning permissions do not incorporate best practise and are unable to justify non-inclusion adequately	Review policy criteria
DM4 – Landscape Protection						
To maintain, protect and enhance the character and distinctiveness of the landscape Unacceptable impacts on quality of life (SO4 – The environment, SO5 – Community, Health and Wellbeing)	Number of planning applications granted contrary to advice from: - Natural England	Planning permissions decision notices and delegated or committee reports and decision notices	Reliant on professional opinions/ assessments of impacts and discussion of these in reports/notices Difficult to measure environmental quality and lack of available data	All planning permissions have no adverse impact as set out in the policy	Significant number of applications approved contrary to advice from those set out in performance indicator (more than 10%)	Review reasons for granting permission contrary to advice Review policy
DM5 – Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity and geodiversity						
To protect biodiversity from adverse impacts from waste proposals and	Significant adverse change in biodiversity assets in the County	Natural England, Local Biodiversity Action Plans	Difficult to measure and monitor environmental quality and lack of available data	No planning permissions result in adverse impact on biodiversity	Significant number of applications approved contrary to	Review policy to give greater priority to protection and enhancement to biodiversity

Key outcomes/Strategic Objectives	Performance Indicator	Monitoring Method	Constraints/Risks	Target	Trigger Point	Signs that Corrective Action is Required/Mitigation Measures
enhance biodiversity to achieve net gain (SO4 – The environment, SO5 – Community, Health and Wellbeing)	Number of planning applications granted contrary to Natural England advice Area of habitat loss, gain and net-gain/loss (including Habitats of Principal Importance, LBAP habitats and designated sites)	Planning permissions decision notices and delegated or committee reports Individual planning applications		All planning permissions secure a minimum of 10% Biodiversity Net Gain	advice from Natural England (more than 10%) Decrease in biodiversity targets being met	Review policy to ensure no further decline in biodiversity
DM6 – Historic Environment						
To protect the historic environment from adverse impacts from waste proposals and enhance where possible (SO4 – The environment, SO5 – Community, Health and Wellbeing)	Number of planning applications granted contrary to advice from: - Historic England Number of planning applications granted subject to a watching brief for archaeology Change in the number of heritage assets at	Planning permissions decision notices and delegated or committee reports	Reliant on professional opinions/ assessments of impacts and discussion of these in reports/notices	All planning permissions have no adverse impact as set out in the policy	Significant number of applications approved contrary to advice from those set out in performance indicator (more than 10%)	Review reasons for granting permission contrary to advice Review policy

Key outcomes/Strategic Objectives	Performance Indicator	Monitoring Method	Constraints/Risks	Target	Trigger Point	Signs that Corrective Action is Required/Mitigation Measures
	risk in the plan area					
DM7 – Flood Risk and Water Resources						
To protect ground and surface water resources from adverse impacts from waste proposals and reduce the risk of flooding (SO2 – Climate Change, SO4 – The environment)	Number of planning applications granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on flooding and water quality/provision grounds Number of planning applications granted which include flood alleviation benefits Number of planning applications granted which include SuDS	Planning application documents Planning permissions decision notices and delegated or committee reports	Reliant on discussion of these elements in reports/notices	No planning permissions have detrimental impact on water resources; planning permissions enhance the status where possible and prevent deterioration of freshwater bodies and groundwater. No planning permissions have an unacceptable impact on flooding.	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice (>0)	Review reasons for granting permission contrary to advice Review policy
DM8 – Public Access						
To prevent negative impacts on existing public access routes and improve and enhance the Rights	Number of planning permissions involving the permanent loss of a Right of Way	Planning permissions decision notices and delegated or committee reports	-	All planning permissions have no adverse impact on Rights of Way and increase public access	Significant number of applications approved contrary to advice	Review reasons for loss of Right of Way Review policy

Key outcomes/Strategic Objectives	Performance Indicator	Monitoring Method	Constraints/Risks	Target	Trigger Point	Signs that Corrective Action is Required/Mitigation Measures
of Way network where possible (SO4 – The environment, SO5 – Community, Health and Wellbeing)	Number of planning permissions securing additional Rights of Way through restoration				Countryside Access Team (more than 10%) Planning permission granted resulting in permanent loss of Right of Way	
DM9 – Planning Obligations						
Requirements from development will be met (SO1 – Meet our future need, SO2- Climate Change, SO3 – Strengthen our economy, SO4 – The Environment, SO5 – Community, Health and Wellbeing, SO6 - Sustainable transport, SO7 - High quality design and operation)	Number of planning permissions with signed S106 agreements	Planning permissions decision notices and delegated or committee reports Waste Planning Authority legal records	Delay between permission and signing of S106 may delay monitoring	All permissions granted with S106 where needed	Significant number of planning applications without S106 (more than 10%)	Review reason for lack of S106 If no justification, review policy
DM10 – Cumulative Impacts of Development						
Prevention of negative cumulative impacts	Number of planning applications granted despite	Planning permissions decision notices and delegated or committee reports	Reliant on discussion of cumulative impact in reports/notices	No unacceptable cumulative impacts arise from minerals development	Planning permissions granted that give rise to	Review policy to strengthen cumulative impact assessment

Key outcomes/Strategic Objectives	Performance Indicator	Monitoring Method	Constraints/Risks	Target	Trigger Point	Signs that Corrective Action is Required/Mitigation Measures
(SO4 – The environment, SO5 – Community, Health and Wellbeing)	unacceptable cumulative impacts				unacceptable cumulative impact	
DM11 – Airfield Safeguarding						
To ensure waste proposals do not pose a risk to aviation safety (SO4 – Community, Health and Wellbeing, SO6 – High quality design and operation)	Number of planning applications granted contrary to advice from airfields	Planning permissions decision notices and delegated or committee reports	No overseeing body, therefore advice will be on an air-field by air-field basis and could be inconsistent	No applications permitted against airfield advice	Permission granted contrary to airfield advice	Review reasons for approval against advice Review policy in light of above
DM12 - Highway Safety and Vehicle Movements / Routeing						
Improved highway safety and appropriate routeing schemes (SO5 – Community, Health and Wellbeing, SO7 – High quality design and operation)	Planning applications granted contrary to advice from: - Highways England - Highways Authority	Planning permissions decision notices and delegated or committee reports	-	All planning permissions consistent with policy criteria	Significant number of applications approved contrary to advice from those set out in performance indicator (more than 10%)	Review policy to address criteria that were not met in permissions

10. Useful Information

Waste is not a simple subject. To help you use this document, we have included definitions covering some of the main types of waste, main organisations involved and the different methods of dealing with waste. To help you use this document we have included a short explanation of the main types of waste here and the different organisations involved at the back of this document.

Main Types of Waste

Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW) - all waste collected by the local authority. This is a slightly broader concept than LACMW as it would include both this and non-municipal fractions such as construction and demolition waste. LACW is the definition that will be used in statistical publications, which previously referred to municipal waste.

Commercial and Industrial Waste (C&I) - is controlled waste arising from the business sector. Industrial waste is waste generated by factories and industrial plants. Commercial waste is waste arising from the activities of wholesalers, catering establishments, shops and offices.

Construction and Demolition Waste – (C&D) - from building sites, road schemes and landscaping projects. It is mostly made up of stone, concrete, rubble and soils but may include timber, metal and glass.

Who does what?

Collection – Local councils (district, borough and unitary councils) are only responsible for collecting Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW), municipal waste. All other waste is collected and managed by private sector companies. This is agreed and paid for by individual business, shopkeepers, building contractors etc.

Disposal – County and Unitary councils are responsible for the safe disposal of LACW (this includes recycling and composting as well as landfill). This is often done in partnership with private companies who provide the facilities to handle this waste and work to specific targets for recycling and reducing landfill. All other waste of managed commercially by private companies and there are no specific controls over how much is recycled or even whether it is dealt with locally.

Regulation - Most waste management sites require planning permission. County and Unitary councils must therefore prepare waste planning policies setting out when and where waste development will be acceptable and how approved waste development will be controlled. They are also responsible for ensuring that there is no pollution risk from waste sites. The Environment Agency licenses individual sites and carries out regular monitoring.

Recycling

Bring Sites – Banks of containers provided at supermarkets, local shopping centres and schools for example, where households can deposit batteries, glass, paper, card, tins, plastics and textiles for recycling.

Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) – Larger, purpose-built sites where householders can bring bulkier waste (e.g. timber, metal, garden waste, electrical items and old furniture) to be sorted or recycled. They usually have a one-way system for vehicles and large skips to separate the different materials.

Materials Recycling-Recovery Facilities (MRFs) – Large-scale sites where waste that has been collected from households, shops, offices etc, can be taken to be sorted and bulked up for recycling. These operations are usually carried out within a large industrial-type building. Some sites may also take a range of construction and demolition waste to be crushed and screened (see below).

Aggregates/soils recycling – Although most construction and demolition waste such as rubble, hardcore and soil is often recycled or re-used on site, there are also purpose-built facilities for crushing and screening of these wastes. These are often open-air sites on industrial estates although there are a number of temporary sites at landfills and quarries.

Metal recycling – Scrap yards are one of the longest established forms of recycling taking scrap vehicles and other metals for crushing and sorting prior to re-use.

Resource Recovery Parks – A concept based on the idea that companies which produce waste could locate alongside companies that are able to re-process that waste in a business park type environment. This could also include companies that research alternative uses for waste products.

Composting

Open air sites – Organic waste is composted in long open-air windrows which are turned regularly until the compost matures. This can take up to 12 weeks and is only suitable for green waste (i.e. plant and vegetable matter). It cannot be used for kitchen and catering waste.

Enclosed sites – The windrows are laid out within a large building which helps to contain dust and odour and the compost can be protected from the weather. This process is again only suitable for green waste.

In-vessel schemes – The waste is composted inside a purpose-built container or silo. This gives greater control over the breakdown of the waste, meaning that it can be used to compost kitchen and catering waste, as well as green waste. This process is also quicker than conventional open-air methods.

Recovery

Anaerobic digestion – Organic waste is broken down in a heated, airless container to produce a biogas. Leachate from the process can be used as fertiliser and some of the solid residue may be suitable for use as a soil conditioner. It is used for green waste but can also be used for food waste and sewage sludge. This overlap with composting means that this process can help towards recycling targets in some cases.

Pyrolysis/gasification – Mixed waste is partly combusted at very high temperatures and converted into a gas. Residual waste left from the process is then burned or landfilled.

Incineration – mixed waste of burnt and the heat produced is used to generate electricity. It can also be used to sterilise clinical and other potentially harmful waste. The leftover ash can be recycled, if suitable, or sent to landfill.

Mechanical Biological Treatment – Uses a varying combination of mechanical sorting to remove recyclable materials, alongside biological process such as anaerobic digestion or composting. This can also include energy recovery in the form of incineration, gasification or pyrolysis. Any remaining waste is then turned into refuse derived fuel (RDF) or sent to landfill. Plants can process mixed household waste as well as commercial or industrial wastes.

Waste Transfer

Waste transfer is when waste is taken to be bulked up and then transferred elsewhere for recycling, recovery, or disposal. Although this operation is similar to that of Materials Recycling/Recovery Facilities, waste transfer sites are generally smaller and only carry out a very basic manual sorting and bulking up of waste rather than sophisticated mechanical separation of different materials.

Disposal

Inert – sites only take waste that is physically and chemically stable. Most inert waste comes from construction and demolition projects and tends to be bricks, glass, soils, rubble and similar materials. As this waste does not break down in the ground it will not give off any gas or leachate. Inert sites do not therefore pose any risk to the environment or human health.

Non-hazardous – sites take a much wider range of waste - typically municipal (household), commercial and industrial wastes such as paper, card, plastic, timber, metal and catering wastes. These are wastes that will naturally decompose over time and give off gas and leachate. Disposal of these wastes could potentially be harmful to the environment or human health if sites are not carefully controlled.

Hazardous – sites take wastes that are considered to be more harmful because of their potentially toxic and dangerous nature. Examples include clinical wastes, oils, chemical process wastes, some contaminated soils and asbestos. As these pose a significant risk to the environment and human health, such sites require greater control measures. There are no hazardous landfill sites in Nottinghamshire at present.

11. Glossary

Air Quality Management Area – An area where an assessment of air quality by the local authority indicates that national air quality objectives are not likely to be met. A Local Air Quality Action Plan must be put in place in such an area.

Agricultural Waste - Agricultural waste is waste from farming, forestry, horticulture and similar activities and includes materials such as plastics (including fertiliser bags and silage wrap), pesticide and oil containers, pesticide washings, asbestos, scrap metal, batteries, veterinary waste, used oil, paper, cardboard, and animal waste.

Annual Monitoring Report: A report prepared by the County Council that monitors the progress of local plan preparation and the implementation of adopted policies.

Anaerobic Digestion – a process where micro-organisms break down bio-degradable waste within a warm, sealed, airless container. This produces biogas, which can be used to generate heat and electricity, a fibrous residue which can be used as a soil nutrient, and leachate which is used as a liquid fertiliser.

Appropriate Assessment – a formal assessment of the impacts of the plan on the integrity of a Special Protection Area, Special Area for Conservation or proposed SPA and Ramsar site. Also referred to as a Habitats Regulations Assessment.

Bio-aerosol – A suspension of airborne particles that contain living organisms or that were released from living organisms. It may contain bacteria, fungal spores, plant pollen or virus particles.

Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) - A plan that identifies species and habitats that are a conservation priority to the locality and sets a series of targets for their protection and restoration/recreation.

Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping (BOM) - A Nottinghamshire wide project led by the Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Group to increase understanding about the current distribution of biodiversity and to provide a spatial vision for the development of biodiversity in the long and medium term. It also looks at the most effective ways to recreate habitat networks at the landscape-scale. It is intended to help focus resources, deliver the local contribution to the England Biodiversity Strategy, inform spatial planning and inform other strategies and influence policy makers. Bird strike: Risk of aircraft collision with birds, which are often attracted to open areas of water and landfill sites containing organic waste.

Bring site – banks of containers provided at supermarkets, local shopping centres and schools for example, where householders can deposit glass, paper, card, tins, plastics and textiles for recycling.

Cumulative impact - Impacts that accumulate over time, from one or more sources, and can result in the degradation of important resources.

Commercial and industrial waste – waste that is produced by businesses such as factories, shops, offices, hotels. The waste materials are largely the same as those

found in municipal waste such as paper, card and plastic although many manufacturing firms will produce large quantities of a specific waste such as metal, rubber or food waste for example.

Composting, open air – waste is composted in long open-air windrows which are turned regularly until the compost matures. This can take up to 12 weeks and is only suitable for green waste (i.e. vegetable and plant matter). It cannot be used for kitchen or catering waste.

Composting, enclosed – the windrows are laid out within a large building which helps to contain dust and odour and the compost can be protected from the weather. This process is only suitable for green waste.

Composting, in-vessel – the waste is composted inside a purpose-built container or silo, often within a building. This gives greater control over the breakdown of the waste, meaning that it can be used to compost kitchen and catering waste, as well as green waste. This process is also quicker than conventional open-air methods

Construction and demolition waste – waste from the construction industry that is produced during road building, house building or demolition for example. This typically includes inert materials such as concrete, rubble, bricks and soils but can also include wood, metal and glass.

Core Cities – a united local authority voice to promote the role of England's eight largest city economies outside London in driving economic growth. Nottingham is one of the eight cities.

Climate Change Framework for Action in Nottinghamshire – sets out a comprehensive approach to tackling the causes and effects of climate change, published on behalf of the Nottinghamshire Agenda 21 Forum.

Clinical waste - Any waste which consists wholly or partly of human or animal tissue; blood or bodily fluids; excretions; drugs or other pharmaceutical products; swabs or dressings; or syringes, needles or other sharp instruments and which, unless rendered safe, may prove hazardous to any person coming into contact with it.

Derelict land – Land so damaged by previous industrial or other development that it is incapable of beneficial use without treatment, where treatment includes any of the following: demolition, clearing of fixed structures or foundations and levelling and/or abandoned and unoccupied buildings in an advanced state of disrepair.

Development Plan - the series of planning documents that form all of the planning policy for an area, it includes Local Plans (District and County) and neighbourhood plans. All documents forming the development plan have to be found 'sound' by a Government Inspector during a public independent examination before they can be adopted.

Disposal – the final stage in the waste hierarchy where waste that has no useful or economic purpose is discarded. This could either be buried below ground within a landfill site or in an above ground land-raising scheme.

Energy recovery – the broad term used to cover the group of different technologies that can be used to recover energy from waste e.g. anaerobic digestion, gasification, pyrolysis, mechanical biological treatment and incineration.

Energy Strategy – identifies the key technologies and programme required to enable areas to play their part in meeting the national and local targets on carbon reduction and low or zero carbon energy generation.

Equality Impact Assessment – an analysis of the policies to assess the implications of them on the whole community to help to eliminate discrimination and tackle inequality.

Evidence base – an up-to-date information base produced by Local Authorities on key environmental, social and economic characteristics of their area, to enable the preparation of development plan documents.

Gasification – mixed waste is partially combusted at very high temperatures and converted into a gas. Residual waste left from the process is then burned or landfilled.

Geodiversity- The range of rocks, minerals, fossils, soils and landforms.

Green Belt – an area of land designated for the purpose of preventing urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open.

Green Infrastructure – Natural England defines Green Infrastructure as a strategically planned and delivered network of high quality green spaces and other environmental features. Green Infrastructure should be designed and managed as a multifunctional resource capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities. It includes parks, open spaces, playing fields, woodlands, allotments and private gardens.

Green Infrastructure Strategy – the strategic vision to protect, enhance and extend networks of green spaces and natural elements of an area.

Greenfield site – land that has not previously been developed including agricultural land, woodland, forestry, allotments, parks or other land that has not had a permanent structure placed on it, including restored mineral sites. This can also include land where any previous use has blended into the landscape so that it now seems part of the natural surroundings.

Habitats Regulations Assessment – a formal assessment of the impacts of the plan on the integrity of a Special Protection Area, Special Area for Conservation or proposed SPA and Ramsar site.

Health and Safety Executive (HSE) - The national independent watchdog for work-related health, safety and illness.

Health Impact Assessments (HIA) - A practical and flexible framework by which the effects of policies, plans or projects on health and inequality can be identified. Such effects are examined in terms of their differential impact, their relative importance and the interaction between impacts. In doing so, HIAs can make recommendations to inform decision making, particularly in terms of minimising negative impacts and maximising opportunity to promote health and wellbeing.

Hazardous landfill – sites that take waste that are considered to be more harmful because of their potentially toxic and dangerous nature. Examples include clinical waste, oils, chemical process wastes, some contaminated soils and asbestos. As these post a significant risk to the environment or human health, such sites require greater control measures.

Hazardous waste – Hazardous wastes include many substances generally recognised as potentially dangerous such as pesticides, asbestos and strong acids. However, a number of wastes that result from everyday activities have also been designated hazardous waste, for example mobile phone batteries and used engine oils, scrap cars (End of Life Vehicles) and some Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE). This does not include waste classified as radioactive under the Radioactive Substances Act 1993 except in some limited circumstances.

Heritage Assets- A building, monument, site, place, area of landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage assets includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).

Household Waste Recycling Centre – purpose-built sites where householders can bring bulky waste to be sorted and recycled.

Incineration – the controlled burning of waste, either to reduce its volume, or its toxicity. Energy recovery from incineration can produce heat or power. Current flue-gas emission standards are very high. Ash residues must be disposed of at specialist facilities.

Inert landfill – sites that only take waste that is physically and chemically stable. Most inert waste comes from construction and demolition projects and tends to be bricks, glass, soils, rubble and similar material. As this waste does not break down in the ground it will not give off any gas or leachate. Inert sites do not therefore post any risk to the environment or human health.

Local authority collected waste – this term has been introduced to distinguish between the municipal waste that is collected from households, and some non-household sources by local authorities (District and Unitary Councils), and the wider definition of municipal waste that has now been introduced by the European Union which includes those elements of commercial and industrial waste that are the same as found in municipal waste. References to municipal waste within this Waste Core Strategy are intended to refer to the municipal waste collected by local authorities as this reflects the wording of existing guidance and monitoring arrangements.

Materials Recovery/Recycling Facility – a site, usually within a building, where recyclable materials are collected and then sorted either mechanically or manually and bulked up to be taken for re-processing.

Mechanical Biological Treatment – uses a varying combination of mechanical sorting to remove recyclable materials, alongside biological processes such as anaerobic digestion or composting. Any remaining waste is then turned into refuse derived fuel or sent to landfill. Plants can process mixed household waste as well as commercial and industrial wastes.

Municipal waste – all household waste and any other non-household waste collected by local authorities. The European Union has recently introduced a new definition of municipal waste which includes those elements of commercial and industrial waste that are the same as found in municipal waste. To differentiate the UK Government has introduced a new term of 'local authority collected waste' and this is what is referred to within this Waste Core Strategy as municipal waste.

Municipal Waste Management Strategy – an agreed framework for County and District Councils to plan and manage their waste management services in an integrated way. Identified the short, medium and long term requirement for managing municipal waste, the cost of delivering the solution and associated funding issues and the roles and responsibilities of the County and District Councils and the public to make the solutions work.

Non-hazardous landfill – sites that take a wide range of waste, typically municipal (household), commercial and industrial wastes such as paper, card, plastic, timber, metal and catering wastes. These are wastes that will naturally decompose over time and give off gas and leachate.

Non-local waste – waste arising from outside the plan area i.e. from outside the administrative areas of Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council. Previously developed land – land which is or was occupied by a permanent structure, including the curtilage of the developed land and any associated fixed surface infrastructure.

Previously Developed Land- Land which is or was occupied by a permanent structure, including the curtilage of the developed land (although it should not be assumed that the whole of the curtilage should be developed) and any associated fixed surface infrastructure. This excludes: land that is or was last occupied by agricultural or forestry buildings; land that has been developed for minerals extraction or waste disposal by landfill, where provision for restoration has been made through development management procedures; land in built-up areas such as residential gardens, parks, recreation grounds and allotments; and land that was previously developed but where the remains of the permanent structure or fixed surface structure have blended into the landscape.

Pyrolysis – mixed waste is partly combusted at very high temperatures and converted into a gas. Residual waste left from the process is then burned or landfilled.

Reclamation – where a site, often derelict or disused, is brought back into use but for a different purpose than it was originally used for. An example of this would be infilling a quarry with waste and creating an area of woodland, open space or development land.

Restoration – returning a site back to its original use e.g. agriculture.

Resource Recovery Park – a concept based on the idea that companies which produce waste could locate alongside companies that are able to re-process that waste in a business park the environment. This could also include companies that research alternative uses for waste products.

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) - A Local Development Document which sets out the standards the Planning Authority intend to achieve when involving the community in preparing Local Development Documents, or when making a significant development control decision. It also sets out how the Authority intends to achieve these standards. A consultation statement must be produced showing how the Authority has complied with its SCI.

Section 106 agreement (S106) - The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 allows a local planning authority (LPA) to enter into a legally-binding agreement or planning obligation with a landowner when granting planning permission. The obligation is termed a Section 106 Agreement. These agreements are a way of dealing with matters that are necessary to make a development acceptable in planning terms. They are increasingly used to support the provision of services and infrastructure, such as highways, recreational facilities, education, health and affordable housing.

Strategic Flood Risk Assessment – the aim of the SFRA is to map all forms of flood risk over the plan area and use this as an evidence base to locate development primarily in low flood risk zones.

Sustainability Appraisal – an appraisal of the economic, environmental and social effects of a plan, applied from the outset of the plan process to allow decisions to be made that accord with sustainable development. Required under UK and EU law.

Treatment – any form of processing that is intended to prepare waste for re-use, recycling, or recovery – includes recycling, composting, anaerobic digestion biological, chemical or other process and incineration, gasification, and emerging technologies as well as the sorting, separation, bulking up and transfer of waste. In the context of this Waste Core Strategy treatment does not include disposal.

Water Framework Directive - A European directive which became part of UK law in December 2003. It provides an opportunity to plan and deliver a better water environment, focussing on ecology, which will be delivered through river basin management planning.

Waste Transfer Station – a site, either within a building or open air, where waste materials are taken to be bulked up before being taken to other facilities for treatment or disposal. Some also carry out basic sorting operations, making them similar to Materials Recovery/Recycling Facilities.

REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE**MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS 2022/23****Purpose of the Report**

1. To inform Cabinet of the financial out-turn position of the Authority's 2022/23 accounts including treasury management activities, variations to the capital programme and to seek approval for the transfer of £1.6m to the General Fund Balance.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

2. The County Council approved the 2022/23 to 2025/26 Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) in February 2022. The MTFS included the establishment of earmarked reserves and the allocation of ongoing revenue and capital financial resources required for the delivery of key priorities.

Information and Advice**Background**

3. The financial position of the County Council has been monitored throughout the year with monthly reports to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Cabinet providing an update on progress, thus ensuring decision makers had access to financial information on a timely basis. This report sets out the 2022/23 financial out-turn position for the Council.

Summary Financial Position

- Portfolio budgets are showing a net underspend of £11.8m or 1.9% of net Portfolio budgets. This compares to a Period 11 forecast underspend of £9.4m (including the accounting adjustment set out in paragraph 14) as out-turns across a number of Portfolios are less than previously forecast. As a result, the level of General Fund balances will increase by £1.6m to £36.9m.
- The detailed figures are summarised in the appendices to this report. Table 1 shows the summary revenue position of the County Council.

Table 1 – Summary Financial Position

Portfolio	Final Budget £'000	Draft Out-turn £'000	Draft Variance £'000	Percentage Variance to Annual Budget
Children & Young People	166,485	165,563	(922)	(0.6%)
Adult Social Care & Public Health	246,733	242,368	(4,365)	(1.8%)
Transport & Environment	119,520	119,601	81	0.1%
Communities	18,938	18,927	(11)	(0.1%)
Economic Development & Asset Management	25,317	20,631	(4,686)	(18.5%)
Deputy Leader & Transformation	5,177	4,398	(779)	(15.0%)
Finance	17,881	17,975	94	0.5%
Personnel	28,277	27,070	(1,207)	(4.3%)
Net Portfolio (under)/overspend	628,328	616,533	(11,795)	(1.9%)
Central items	(56,421)	(68,048)	(11,627)	
Contribution to Schools Expenditure	1,228	1,228	-	
Contribution to/(from) Traders	(1,180)	1,357	2,537	
Forecast prior to use of reserves	571,955	551,070	(20,885)	
Transfer to / (from) Corporate Reserves	(1,938)	8,403	10,341	
Transfer to / (from) Departmental Reserves	(10,545)	(1,636)	8,909	
Transfer to / (from) General Fund	-	1,635	1,635	
Net County Council Budget Requirement	559,472	559,472	-	

Net Portfolio Spend

- The overall net underspend within the Portfolios is £11.8m (1.9%) and the principal reasons for the variations are detailed below.

Children & Young People (£0.9m underspend, 0.6% of Portfolio budget)

- The major contributing variances are:
 - £1.9m underspend in the Care, Help and Protection Division due to a £1.8m underspend on children's social work staffing, a £0.8m underspend on Early Help due to £0.3m saving on non-social worker staffing (recruitment issues) in Family Services and a £0.4m increase in income from education penalty notices, offset by a £0.7m overspend on other budgets such as Looked After Children (LAC) support costs and transport costs.
 - £0.2m net overspend on Education, Learning & Skills. The majority of the net overspend has arisen due to the need to fund the extra costs associated with an

increase in demand for Education, Health, and Care Plans (EHCP's) for children who have special education needs (SEN).

- £0.6m net overspend on Commissioning & Resources due to an overspend of £1.6m on LAC, offset by underspends on Children's Centres (£0.8m) and other budget underspends (£0.2m). The external LAC numbers to 31 March 2023 ended up at 536 compared with the period 11 forecast of 528. The number at the 31 March 2022 was 531 however the mix/composition is now less favourable. The weighted average placement cost is now approaching £120,000 p.a. (circa £100,000 last year).
- £0.2m overspend on Transformation and Improvement with small overspends on Social Work Practice Consultants and Information and Systems offset by salary underspends due increased vacancies.

Adult Social Care & Public Health (£4.4m underspend, 1.8% of Portfolio budget)

8. Within Adult Social Care and Public Health, the main variances are:

- An underspend of £0.1m on Strategic Commissioning and Integration due primarily to staffing and overhead underspends partly offset by increased spend on campaigns to support the wider market.
- An overspend of £2.7m on Living Well and Ageing Well due to increased costs within long term Residential / Nursing care, Homecare and Short Term Residential/Nursing care offset by savings in other areas, increased client contributions and increased health grants.
- An underspend of £3.4m across the Direct and Provider Services, mainly on staffing due to vacancies and increased income.
- An underspend of £0.5m in Maximising Independence Service, predominantly due to ongoing staff vacancies.

9. In addition, there was a £3.1m underspend in Public Health. This was due mainly to underspends on Sexual Health (inc. savings within and out of area), Public Health Nursing 0-19 (Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust Staffing underspends), Functional Independence Measure (re-profiled into future years), Domestic Violence (provider underspends), Dental and Fluoridisation (now paid for by Department of Health) and Healthy and Sustainably Place (re-profiled into future years) as well as small underspends across other services. This amount will be transferred into reserves for use in future years.

Transport & Environment (£0.1m overspend, 0.1% of Portfolio Budget)

10. Highways spend was broadly in line with budget with minor under and overspends across a range of budgets.
11. There was a £2.9m underspend against Waste Services mainly as a result of reduced waste PFI costs across composting, energy from waste and landfill tax.
12. The out-turn on Transport was an overspend of £2.7m, primarily due to Home to School Transport (£1.1m) and SEND transport (£1.4m). Both areas saw increases in demand and increased contract price inflation above that anticipated in the budget. Retendering services during the year resulted in increases of between 15% and 40% over the contract that was being replaced. In addition, there were volume increases in pupils and the additional costs of

transporting children to special education premises in different areas of the county due to the availability of local school places.

Communities (£0.0m underspend, 0.1% of Portfolio budget)

13. A small overspend in library services due to increased salary costs has been offset by savings in trading standards due to difficulties in recruiting Trading Standards Officers and additional income generation.

Economic Development & Asset Management (£4.7m underspend, 18.5% of Portfolio budget)

14. Most of the £4.7m underspend has arisen due to a transfer to revenue grant reserves of £3.9m relating to funding generated through the Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire contract. The decision was made at year end to transfer to a grant reserve rather than accrue as receipts in advance as originally intended confirmation received there were no conditions associated with this grant. This is an accounting adjustment only. The remaining underspend primarily consists of in year savings on planned / reactive property maintenance.

Deputy Leader & Transformation (£0.8m underspend, 15.0% of Portfolio budget)

15. The underspend mainly relates to staffing vacancies.

Finance (£0.1m overspend, 0.5% of Portfolio budget)

16. The small overspend has arisen due to additional ICT costs relating to the unified communications project (£0.4m), offset by savings in other areas primarily due to staff vacancies (£0.3m).

Personnel (£1.2m underspend, 4.3% of Portfolio budget)

17. The underspend is mainly due to staffing vacancies and proactive efficiency savings across Business Support (£0.8m) and the Business Services Centre (£0.4m) with minor under and overspends across other budgets.

Traders Services (£2.5m overspend)

18. Traded services were impacted by the disproportionate impact of the 2023/24 pay award and the revised foundation living wage and by significant inflation in the later part of the year, particularly on food costs. The Schools Catering final outturn was a deficit of £1.8m with Cleaning Services having a deficit of £0.6m. All traded services are subject to an ongoing review.

Central Items (£11.6m underspend)

19. Central Items primarily consist of interest on cash balances and payments on borrowing, contingency allocations, capital charges and various general grants. The key variances relate to favourable returns on interest rate movements (£2.9m), unspent contingency budget (£2.5m) and excess Other Government Grants (£3.6m) which are all further detailed below. Other variations (net total £2.6m underspend) within the central items category are detailed in Appendix A.

- **Contingency (£2.5m underspend) (for detail please refer to Appendix C)**

As reported to Cabinet throughout the year, the contingency base budget was increased by £13.3m to reflect pending pay awards and a number of other demand and inflationary pressures with a high degree of uncertainty with regard to likelihood, value and profiling. Whilst a number of these pressures have materialised and were subsequently released to Portfolio budgets, there remained an overall underspend of £2.5m against a total 2022/23

budget of £17.3m. A detailed breakdown of how this budget was utilised is provided in Appendix C of this report.

- **Government Grants (£3.6m underspend)**

Several non-ringfenced grants sit centrally, however values are not normally confirmed until after the budget is set in February of each year resulting in year-end variances to budget. The £3.6m underspend primarily consists of additional Section 31 income received from Central Government to offset prior year business rate reliefs. This income has been appropriated to the Business Rates Equalisation reserve in anticipation of future fluctuations in collection rates.

- **Interest and Dividends (£2.9m underspend)**

Interest payments depend upon Treasury Management decisions taken in relation to expectations of future rates and anticipated slippage on the capital programme. Variances against each of these factors coupled with other interest and dividends received in year have achieved an underspend of £2.9m in 2022/23.

- **Statutory Provision for Debt Redemption (£0.5m underspend)**

The Council is under a statutory duty “to determine for the current financial year an amount of Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) which it considers to be prudent”. The MRP charged to the General Fund in 2022/23 has been determined at £12.1m.

Movements on Balances and Reserves (for detail please refer to Appendix B)

Reserves Strategy

20. The Authority’s reserves strategy was approved as part of the 2022/23 Annual Budget Report to Full Council in February 2022. The strategy included planned contributions to reserves to fund specific future priorities as well as planned use of reserves to fund in-year expenditure. To reflect the approved strategy alongside other emerging factors in the 2022/23 accounts, the necessary adjustments have been made. The level of reserves will continue to be reviewed on a regular basis as part of the Authority’s Financial Management processes. Further detail of the movement on balances and reserves are set out below.

General Fund Balances

21. At the Full Council meeting on 25 February 2022, it was approved that there be no budgeted movement in relation to General Fund Balances. However, the variances detailed above has resulted in the Council achieving a favourable closing position with the General Fund increasing from £35.2m to £36.8m. Whilst this balance provides some assurance in terms of resilience, there are still significant challenges facing the Council in both the short and medium-term. As a consequence, it can be anticipated that this balance will be eroded as the Council confronts a range of prevailing demand and inflationary pressures to ensure ongoing financial sustainability.

Other Earmarked Reserves

22. At the end of 2022/23 other ‘earmarked’ reserves totalled £185.7m, an increase of £0.5m since 31 March 2022. This consists of the following:

- **PFI Reserves**

23. A total of £29.8m of reserves are held for PFI schemes and this equates to 16.0% of other earmarked reserves. The arrangements for allocating PFI grant result in more grant being

received in the early years of a PFI scheme than is needed to meet the payments to providers of the service. These surpluses need to be held in an earmarked reserve to cover the corresponding deficits in later years. The amounts set aside at the end of 2022/23 are shown in the table below.

Table 2 – PFI balances set aside as at 31/03/2023

PFI Scheme	£'000
East Leake Schools	2,797
Bassetlaw Schools	2,081
Waste	24,959
Total	29,837

- **Insurance Reserve**

24. The Authority operates a self-insurance scheme and covers risks up to an agreed amount. External insurers cover risks in excess of this figure. The Insurance Reserve is set aside to cover possible insurance claim losses that are not yet known. The closing balance of this reserve is £41.4m.

- **Capital Projects Reserve**

25. The Capital Projects Reserve supports the Medium-Term Financial Strategy as well as current and future capital commitments. In 2022/23 there was a net use from the reserve of £1.7m. As at 31 March 2023, the balance on the Capital Projects Reserve is £14.1m.

- **Strategic Development Fund**

26. It was approved that this reserve supports future year costs associated with the Council's transformation agenda. The balance of this reserve remains at £17.9m to reflect commitments in the Medium-Term Financial Strategy.

- **Workforce Reserve**

27. It has been approved that this reserve will cover pay related costs including National Living Wage increases and Pension Strain, as well as covering Pension Contributions. The balance as at 31 March 2023 is £7.3m.

- **Earmarked for Services Reserves**

28. All departments have various reserves for specifically identified purposes. In addition, International Financial Reporting Standards requires some grant income such as Public Health and Section 256 grants to be carried on the Balance Sheet as a reserve balance. During the year, these departmental balances reduced by a net £8.1m to £58.7m.

- **NDR Pool Reserve**

29. The pool was established in April 2013 when a new funding mechanism was introduced with the seven District and Borough Councils. There was a net increase of £3.2m in this reserve during 2022/23. Of the £15.3m year-end balance, £14.9m relates to the County's share of the pool surplus, the remaining balance (£0.4m) is funding set aside for Nottinghamshire Pool partners.

- **COVID19 Recovery Reserve**

30. In 2020/21, the Authority received three tranches of un-ringfenced COVID19 core funding totalling £24.8m. The unspent element of this funding was appropriated to a specific COVID19 Recovery Reserve. This reserve has assisted the Authority in its response to the pandemic

by helping to mitigate service demand pressures and the adverse economic impact of the pandemic. The closing balance on this reserve is zero.

- **Council Tax Equalisation Reserve**

31. As a result of the pandemic, billing authorities estimated a larger-than-normal deficit on the 2020/21 Collection Fund. To alleviate the short-term cost pressure, Central Government mandated for the estimated deficit to be spread over the three years 2021/22 to 2023/24. To recognise the impact of this phasing arrangement, a reserve was created with a closing balance of £1.2m in 2022/23.

- **Business Rates Relief Equalisation Reserve**

32. This reserve was created to offset any potential deficits created by additional business rate reliefs awarded by Central Government and will compensate for correspondingly lower income from the Collection Fund. The closing balance of this reserve is £8.3m.

- **Highways and Environment Reserve**

33. As approved by Full Council as part of the 2022/23 revenue budget, a £15.0m earmarked reserve was established to fund works emerging from both the environmental strategy and the highways review over the next four years. The closing balance of this reserve is £8.3m.

- **Earmarked Reserves**

34. This earmarked reserve contains balances of reserves previously held under services which have been deemed no longer required for their original purpose. Also in 2022/23, additional contributions have been made to this reserve in respect of specifically identified service pressures for 2023/24. The residual element of this reserve will be used in full to deliver the Medium-Term Financial Strategy and the closing balance stands at £16.1m.

- **Traders Resilience Reserve**

35. This reserve has been created to help mitigate the expected increase in traded service costs in both this year and future years as work progresses on reviewing the services.

- **Section 256 Grants**

36. A total of £5.0m is held in the Section 256 Eco Systems reserve to fund the future development of a new Ecosystem platform capability to enable improved health and care services across the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care System.

Financial Risks and Uncertainties

37. As reported previously, there are significant risks and uncertainties associated with the current environment that local authorities are operating within, both in the short and medium terms. It is therefore of paramount importance that the County Council takes appropriate measures against these risks, whilst acknowledging that, given the level of uncertainty overall, contingency plans may not be sufficient.

38. The main financial risks faced by the Council are as follows:-

- The cost pressures factored into the Council's budget may not be sufficient to meet the underlying cost and demand pressures that actually arise, particularly with regard to increased demand for Adults and Children's Social Care Services, Transport Services, the impact of the National Living Wage and agreement of the pay award.
- The COVID19 pandemic coupled with the UK leaving the EU has had a significant impact on the availability of staffing resource particularly in the social care sector as recruiting and retaining care staff across social care services remains difficult. Staff shortages have also been experienced in catering, facilities management and waste services.
- Whilst the Council is somewhat protected from immediate inflation on direct energy costs through the advanced purchasing arrangement with Crown Commercial Services (CCS), wider inflationary pressures driven by energy costs could have a detrimental impact across a whole range of service areas.
- The 2022/23 Settlement reflected a one-year settlement only. As a result, estimated future increases in Central Government grants that are set out in the MTFS may not be in line with future announcements.

39. Given these risks, adequate levels of balances and contingencies need to be maintained in order to provide short-term flexibility to manage unforeseen events, and to allow for any longer-term changes to be implemented. The increased level of reserve balances held as at 31 March 2023 reflects the higher level of risks faced by the Council.

40. The Annual Auditor's Report 2021/22 that was reported to the Governance and Ethics Portfolio in April 2023 set out that the external auditors identified no significant weaknesses with regard to financial sustainability, governance or the Authority's arrangements for improving economy, efficiency and effectiveness. The report did make improvement recommendations with regard to issues surrounding budget construction and partnership working as follows:-

- The Council should set out reasons for significant movements in the budgeted and actual capital spend in their out-turn report. This recommendation has been addressed in paragraph 45 to 47 below.
- The Council needs to fully identify and develop savings plans across the medium term to address the identified funding gap. To address this recommendation, it is important to note that the Authority has a proven track record of managing its finances which was recognised in its LGA Peer Review in 2019. The Council's Budget Report 2023/24, which was approved at Full Council in February 2023, set out that the longer-term aim is to balance its budget by achieving long-term, cross-cutting transformation programmes.
- The Council should include financial information for its subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures in the financial plan and monitoring reports. To address this recommendation it is important to note that there are three main organisations that the Council have been established to deliver some of the Council's key services:-
 - ARC Property Services Partnership Ltd began to trade in July 2016 and is contracted to deliver property services on behalf of the Authority.
 - VIA East Midlands Ltd began trading in July 2016 and is contracted to deliver highways services for the Council. companies it has holdings with.

- Culture, Learning and Libraries (Midlands), trading as Inspire is an independent Community Benefit Society that manages some of the Council's libraries, archives and cultural services across the county.
- The costs associated with these three organisations are reflected in the Annual Budget Report approved by Full Council each year and in both the Council's revenue accounts and capital programme. More detail with regard to the transactions with these organisations can be found in the Council's statutory statement of accounts.

Capital Expenditure

44. Capital Expenditure in 2022/23 totalled £90.097m. Table 3 shows the final 2022/23 Capital Programme broken down by Portfolio.

Table 3 – 2022/23 Capital Expenditure

Portfolio	Revised Budget £000	Total Outturn £000	Variance £000
Children & Young People	30,857	35,543	4,686
Adult Social Care & Public Health	862	689	(173)
Transport & Environment	46,583	40,097	(6,486)
Communities	1,503	1,221	(282)
Economic Devt & Asset Mngt	9,133	5,992	(3,141)
Finance	6,474	6,533	59
Personnel	106	22	(84)
Total	95,518	90,097	(5,421)

Note: These figures exclude any expenditure incurred directly by schools.

Children and Young People

45. In the Children and Young People's portfolio capital programme there was an overall £4.7m acceleration of capital expenditure compared to the revised budget. This was mainly due to projects in both the School Places Programme (£3.2m) and the School Building Improvement Programme (£0.6m) progressing more quickly than previously expected. The out-turn also included further net acceleration of £0.9m across the remaining projects in the CYPS portfolio.

Transport and Environment

46. In the Transport and Environment portfolio capital programme there was overall slippage of £6.5m compared to the revised budget. This was mainly due to slippage of £2.8m against the Gedling Access Road project as the budget for Part 1 claims has been re-profiled into the next financial year. In addition, there was further slippage of £2.5m against the Integrated Transport Measures (£1.1m) and Active Travel Fund (£1.4m) programmes as several projects due to start in 2022/23 were delayed due to re-design work required following consultation and co-ordination of their delivery within the wider highways programmes of work. The out-turn also included further net slippage of £1.2m across a range of other budgets in the Transport and Environment portfolio.

Economic Development & Asset Management

47. In the Transport and Environment portfolio capital programme there was an overall £3.2m slippage of capital expenditure compared to the revised budget. This was mainly due to slippage of £2.4m against the Sustainable Warmth Homes programme as delays to the contract launch and initial mobilisation funding has caused the associated expenditure on this programme to slip into the next financial year. The out-turn also include further next slippage of £0.8m across the remaining projects in the EDAM portfolio.

48. The major areas of investment in 2022/23 are listed in Table 4 below.

Table 4 – Major investment areas 2022/23

Portfolio	Scheme	2022/23 Capital Expenditure £'000
Children & Young People	School Places Programme	9,984
	School Building Improvement Programme	6,004
	East Leake School	9,417
	Chapel Lane School, Bingham	3,700
	Special School Programme	3,287
Transport & Environment	Road Maintenance & Renewals	22,325
	Gedling Access Road	4,121
	Integrated Transport Measures	3,115
	Street Lighting	3,123
Finance	Various IT Capital Projects	6,205

Capital Programme Variations

49. The changes in the gross Capital Programme for 2022/23, since its approval at Council (24/02/22) are summarised in Table 5 below.

Table 5 2022/23 Capital Programme

	£'000
Approved per Council (Budget Report 2022/23)	126,879
Variations funded from County Council Allocations : Net slippage from 2019/20 and financing adjustments	(46,997)
Variations funded from other sources : Net slippage from 2021/22 and financing adjustments	10,215
Revised Gross Capital Programme	90,097

50. To comply with financial regulations, every item of capital expenditure incurred by the Council must be approved, irrespective of how it is funded. The Council has been successful in securing a number of capital grants since the Annual Budget Report to Full Council in February 2023. Under the Council's new governance arrangements, the Section 151 officer has approved variations to the capital programme as set out in the following paragraphs.

Children and Young People

51. **School Places Programme** - The School Places programme focuses on the Council's statutory duty to provide sufficient school places across the county. An analysis of school place sufficiency is undertaken on a regular basis and informs the level of grant received from the Department for Education (DfE). The DfE have recently announced the level of local authority Basic Need capital allocations for 2025/26. Nottinghamshire has received a Basic Need capital allocation of £11.0m for 2025/26. The Children and Young People's portfolio capital programme has been varied to reflect this confirmed allocation.

52. **School Building Improvement Programme** – The Schools Building Improvement Programme focuses on the most immediate condition issues in the Council's maintained schools building stock. The DfE have recently announced a £9.5m School Condition capital grant for Nottinghamshire for 2023/24. The Children and Young People's portfolio capital programme has been varied to reflect that this funding will be used to fund the 2023/24 Schools Building Improvement Programme (£9.2m) and the 2023/24 School Access initiative Programme (£0.3m).

53. **Connecting the Classroom** - The Authority has successfully secured £0.9m of Connecting the Classroom capital grant funding from the DfE to improve access issues at a number of schools across the county. The Children and Young People's portfolio capital programme has been varied to include this grant funding.

54. A small number of minor variations to the Capital Programme also required approval from the Service Director – Finance, Infrastructure and Improvement. These variations are set out in Appendix D.

Maximising the Use of Capital Grants 2022/23

55. Sometimes when there is slippage on a scheme funded by grant, rather than slipping the grant funding for use in the next year, it is possible to use the grant to finance the expenditure on a different scheme in the current year. This does not affect the total expenditure on individual schemes, nor their phasing, but delays the use of prudential borrowing and the consequent impact on the revenue budget of having to set aside a minimum revenue provision.

56. Capital grant funding applied totalling £10.4m has been used to fund capital expenditure on projects in 2022/23 that would otherwise have been funded from borrowing.

Capital Financing

57. The following Table outlines how the 2022/23 capital expenditure has been financed.

Table 6 - 2022/23 Capital Financing

	Revised Budget (£'000)	Out-turn (£'000)	Variance (£'000)
Funding Source:			
Prudential Borrowing	25,115	9,423	(15,692)
Capital Grants	62,932	70,777	7,845
Revenue / Reserves	7,471	9,897	2,426
Gross Capital	95,518	90,097	(5,421)

58. Capital receipts for 2022/23 totalled £6.0m. This is £5.8m less than anticipated in the 2022/23 budget report as a small number of large value receipts have slipped into future financial years. These capital receipts have been used, per the capital receipts policy, to repay prior year borrowing.

59. Total borrowing for the year is £9.4m, which is £15.7m less than the revised budget for 2022/23 of £25.1m. This is as a result of programme slippage and ensuring the maximised utilisation of capital grants at year-end.

60. The Capital Programme for 2023/24 will be monitored to ensure that borrowing for 2023/24 is managed within the prudential limits for the year. Funding by borrowing in 2023/24 is now projected to be £58.3m and the size of the revised Capital Programme for 2023/24 is £172.3m.

Statement of Accounts

61. The pre-audited Statement of Accounts 2022/23 were certified by the Group Manager – Financial Services on 31 May 2023 to meet the statutory requirements. They have been published on the Council's website. The external audit will take place over the coming months and therefore figures will be provisional, pending the completion of the audit which is due for completion by 30 September 2023, although this may be delayed due to well recognised issues being experienced in the local authority audit sector.

62. All Treasury Management activities during 2022/23 were carried out within approved limits and adhered to approved policies and practices. Appendix F provides a full report on these activities.

Other Options Considered

63. This report sets out the financial out-turn position of the Authority's 2022/23 accounts including treasury management activities, variations to the capital programme and to seek approval for the transfer of £1.6m to the General Fund Balance. No other options were considered.

Reasons for Recommendations

64. For Cabinet to note the financial out-turn position of the Authority's 2022/23 accounts and approve a transfer into General Fund Balances.

Statutory and Policy Implications

65. 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 where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Cabinet notes:-

- 1a) The provisional 2022/23 year-end revenue position.
- 1b) The year-end position and movement of the Authority's reserves as detailed in paragraphs 20 to 36 and Appendix B.
- 1c) The final position on 2022/23 contingency requests as detailed in Appendix C.
- 1d) The year-end position for the 2022/23 Capital Programme and its financing.
- 1e) The capital variations as set out in paragraphs 51 to 54 and Appendix D.
- 1e) The Council's 2022/23 Prudential Indicators as detailed in Appendix E.
- 1f) The Treasury Management outturn report in Appendix F.

This report also seeks that Cabinet:-

- 2) Approves the transfer to General Fund Balances of £1.6m, as set out in paragraph 21 and Appendix B.

Councillor Richard Jackson
Cabinet Member for Finance

For any enquiries about this report please contact:
Keith Palframan – Group Manager, Financial Services

Constitutional Comments (GR 28/06/2023)

Cabinet has the authority to receive and make the recommendations contained within this report.

Financial Comments (GB 24/06/2023)

The financial implications are set out in the report.

Background Papers

Period 11 Financial Monitoring Report

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS SUMMARY 2022/23

	2022/23 Final Budget £'000	2022/23 Final Out-turn £'000	Variance £'000
Portfolio			
Children & Young People	166,485	165,563	(922)
Adult Social Care & Public Health	246,733	242,368	(4,365)
Transport & Environment	119,520	119,601	81
Communities	18,938	18,927	(11)
Economic Development & Asset Management	25,317	20,631	(4,686)
Deputy Leader & Transformation	5,177	4,398	(779)
Finance	17,881	17,975	94
Personnel	28,277	27,070	(1,207)
Net Portfolio Total	628,328	616,533	(11,795)
Schools Budget (after Dedicated Schools Grant)	1,228	1,228	-
Net Schools total	1,228	1,228	-
Trading Services	(1,180)	1,357	2,537
Central Items Managed through Finance Portfolio			
Capital Charges included in Portfolios	(49,326)	(49,326)	-
Statutory Provision for Debt Redemption	12,682	12,135	(547)
Interest and Dividends	16,641	13,754	(2,887)
Contingency	2,528	-	(2,528)
Flood Defence Levies	309	309	-
Pension Enhancements	2,050	1,699	(351)
Trading Organisations	1,300	657	(643)
Miscellaneous Inc and Exp / Write Offs	-	(1,089)	(1,089)
New Homes Bonus	(1,637)	(1,637)	-
Other Government Grants	(7,507)	(11,089)	(3,582)
Adult Social Care Support Grant	(33,461)	(33,461)	-
Central Items	(56,421)	(68,048)	(11,627)
Expenditure prior to Use of Reserves	571,955	551,070	(20,885)

Reserves and Balances

Transfer to /(from) Corporate Reserves

PFI Reserves:

East Leake PFI	4	60	56
Bassetlaw PFI	53	40	(13)
Waste PFI	110	516	406
NDR pool projects	(930)	(430)	500
Earmarked Reserves	-	7,264	7,264
Business Rates Relief Equalisation	-	3,027	3,027
Traders Resilience	-	4,000	4,000
Capital Projects	-	118	118
COVID Recovery	-	(5,669)	(5,669)
Workforce Reserve	-	652	652
Council Tax Equalisation	(1,175)	(1,175)	-
Net transfer to /(from) Corporate Reserves	(1,938)	8,403	10,341

Transfer to /(from) Departmental Reserves

Children & Young People	752	752	-
Adult Social Care & Public Health	(11,089)	(8,157)	2,932
Transport & Environment	(1,128)	726	1,854
Communities	29	30	1
Economic Development & Asset Management	338	4,451	4,113
Finance	(50)	(41)	9
Traders Reserves	603	603	-
Net transfer to /(from) Departmental Reserves	(10,545)	(1,636)	8,909

Transfer to/(from) General Fund

- 1,635 1,635

Funding Required

559,472 559,472 -

Funding

Council Tax/Surplus on Collection	431,369	431,369	-
Revenue Support Grant/Business Rates	128,103	128,103	-

Total Funding

559,472 559,472 -

SUMMARY OF REVENUE RESERVES

	Brought Forward 01/04/2022 £'000	Use (-) in 2022/23 £'000	Contribution (+) 2022/23 £'000	Transfers 2022/23 £'000	Carry Forward 31/03/2023 £'000
General Fund Balances	35,224	-	1,635	-	36,859
Schools Reserves	30,087	(16)	11,854	-	41,924
Insurance Reserves	39,373	(273)	2,345	-	41,445
Other Earmarked Reserves					
Corporate Reserves					
Earmarked Reserves	3,204	-	7,264	5,681	16,149
Capital Projects	15,769	(2,735)	217	807	14,058
NDR Pool Reserve	12,119	(430)	3,641	-	15,330
East Leake PFI	2,899	(161)	59	-	2,797
Bassetlaw Schools PFI	1,738	-	343	-	2,081
Waste PFI	24,443	-	516	-	24,959
Workforce Reserve	6,623	-	653	-	7,276
COVID Recovery Reserve	5,669	(5,669)	-	-	-
Business Rates Relief Equalisation Reserve	5,631	-	3,027	-	8,658
Strategic Development Fund	17,915	-	-	-	17,915
Council Tax Equalisation Reserve	2,350	(1,175)	-	-	1,175
Highways & Environment Reserve	15,000	(5,984)	-	(750)	8,266
Traders Resilience Reserve	-	-	4,000	-	4,000
Section 256 Grants	5,046	(378)	325	-	4,993
Earmarked for Services Reserves					
Trading Activities	204	-	603	-	807
Earmarked for Services Reserves	12,669	(331)	872	(5,681)	7,529
Revenue Grants	20,515	(4,853)	10,356	-	26,018
Section 256 Grants	33,423	(11,214)	2,121	-	24,330
Subtotal Other Earmarked Reserves	185,217	(32,930)	33,997	57	186,341
Total Usable Revenue Reserves	289,901	(33,219)	49,830	57	306,569

EARMARKED FOR SERVICES RESERVES DETAIL

	Brought Forward 01/04/2022 £'000	Use (-) in 2022/23 £'000	Contribution (+) 2022/23 £'000	Transfers 2022/23 £'000	Carry Forward 31/03/2023 £'000
Adult Social Care and Public Health					
Trading Activities	-	-	-	-	-
Earmarked for Services Reserves	9,254	-	-	(5,681)	3,573
Revenue Grants	15,094	(3,052)	3,988	-	16,030
Section 256 Grants	33,423	(11,214)	2,121	-	24,330
Children and Family Services					
Trading Activities	143	-	603	-	746
Earmarked for Services Reserves	1,328	(302)	126	-	1,152
Revenue Grants	3,447	(993)	1,920	-	4,374
Section 256 Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Place and Communities					
Trading Activities	-	-	-	-	-
Earmarked for Services Reserves	2,050	(29)	738	-	2,759
Revenue Grants	1,975	(808)	4,447	-	5,614
Section 256 Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Chief Executives					
Trading Activities	61	-	-	-	61
Earmarked for Services Reserves	36	-	9	-	45
Revenue Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Section 256 Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Total Earmarked For Services Reserves	66,811	(76,398)	13,952	(5,681)	58,684

ALLOCATIONS FROM CONTINGENCY

	2022/23	
	£000	£000
Opening Contingency Budget		17,265
Approved contingency requests		
Pay Award 21/22	(3,261)	
Tour of Britain	(100)	
Graduate trainees	(58)	
Armed Forces Community Budget	(20)	
Platinum Jubilee	(75)	
County Day	(25)	
Members Allowances/New Gov Structure	(160)	
ICT Staffing - Service Desk Hybrid/AV broadcast	(308)	
NET Saving adjustment	890	
Whole Safeguarding review - Essex CC	(21)	
Leadership Development Programme	(159)	
Sustainable Procurement	(43)	
Pay Award 22/23	(11,198)	
Democratic Services - Staffing	(7)	
External review of Traders operating model	(68)	
School Employee Con't	(124)	
Total Approved contingency requests		(14,737)
Reported under/ (over) spend on contingency		2,528

VARIATIONS TO THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME**Appendix D**

Portfolio	Project/ Programme	Value (£000)	Funded by:
Children & Young People's	New CYP System	93	Revenue
Transport & Environment	Salix Funded Street Lighting	293	Capital Allocation
Transport & Environment	Street Lighting Renewal	(293)	Capital Allocation
Transport & Environment	Integrated Transport Measures	(51)	External Funding
Transport & Environment	Bus Service Improvement Programme	51	External Funding
Transport & Environment	Major Infrastructure Projects	122	External Funding
Economic Devt & Asset Mngt	County Enterprise Foods	13	Revenue

The above variations to the capital programme have been approved by the Service Director - Finance, Infrastructure & Improvement

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – FINANCE, INFRASTRUCTURE & IMPROVEMENT

MONITORING OF 2022/23 PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS

1. To provide an update to the County Council's current position in terms of capital expenditure, external debt, financing costs as a percentage of net revenue stream and the capital financing requirement relative to the Prudential Code indicators identified in the 2022/23 budget report.

Background

2. The Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities was developed by CIPFA as a professional code of practice to support local authorities in determining their programmes for capital investment. Local authorities are required by regulation to have regard to the Prudential Code under Part 1 of the Local Government Act 2003. Individual local authorities are responsible for deciding the level of their affordable borrowing, having regard to the Prudential Code. The Executive Summary of the Code states that "The objectives of the Prudential Code are to ensure, within a clear framework, that the capital investment plans of local authorities are affordable, prudent and sustainable, and that treasury management decisions are taken in accordance with good professional practice."
3. In particular, the Prudential Code requires the Council to be aware of the impact of financing capital expenditure on its overall revenue expenditure position. The costs of financing additional capital expenditure are the interest payable to external lenders and the amounts set aside to reduce the level of borrowing. In deciding whether or not borrowing is affordable, prudent and sustainable, the most important consideration is whether, over the term of the borrowing, these costs can be met from the revenue budget without unacceptable consequences.

Prudential Indicators

4. Monitoring Requirements

Under the Prudential Code, an authority is required to establish indicators that are sufficiently robust and credible for it to be able to use them to form a judgement as to whether its proposed capital investment is affordable, prudent and sustainable. The Prudential Code requires that the prudential indicators are monitored regularly throughout the year and that the actual values of some of them are reported at year end.

This report is concerned only with prudential indicators relating to capital investment.

5. Overview of Prudential Indicators

The following prudential indicators, whose actual values must be reported at year end, relate to affordability and prudence.

6. Estimate of capital expenditure

In any year, the level of capital expenditure is likely to deviate from the estimate in the budget report as a result of new additions to the Capital Programme, cancellations of schemes, and slippage, acceleration and changing specifications of projects. The Capital Programme is monitored on a monthly basis and variations to the Capital Programme are reported to Finance Committee.

7. Estimate of the capital financing requirement (CFR)

The capital financing requirement is a measure of the Authority's underlying need to borrow for capital purposes. This relates to capital expenditure which has not yet been financed by capital receipts, capital grants or contributions from revenue income. This is not the same as external debt since the Authority manages its position in terms of borrowings and investments in accordance with its integrated treasury management strategy and practices. For example, rather than borrowing from an external body, the Authority may judge it prudent to make use of cash that it has already invested for long-term purposes, such as reserves, for 'internal borrowing'. This means that there is no immediate link between the need to borrow to pay for capital spending and the level of external borrowing.

In order to ensure that, over the medium term, net borrowing will only be for a capital purpose, the local authority should ensure that net debt does not, except in the short term, exceed the total of the capital financing requirement for the current and next two financial years. This is a key indicator of prudence.

8. External debt

External debt includes gross borrowing and other long-term liabilities.

9. Operational boundary for external debt

The operational boundary is the estimated maximum level of external debt in the most likely (i.e. prudent, but not worst-case) scenario. The operational boundary is a key management tool for in-year monitoring. It will probably not be significant if the external debt temporarily breaches the operational boundary on occasions due to variations in cash flow. However, a sustained or regular trend above the operational boundary would be significant and would require investigation and possible action (e.g. to ensure that borrowing, other than temporary borrowing, is not undertaken for purposes other than funding approved capital expenditure).

10. Authorised limit for external debt

The authorised limit is the intended absolute limit for external debt and exceeds the operational boundary by an amount that provides sufficient headroom for events such as unusual cash movements. If it appears that the authorised limit might be breached, the Service Director – Finance, Infrastructure and Improvement has a duty to report this to the County Council for appropriate action to be taken.

11. Financing costs as a percentage of net revenue stream

The Prudential Code requires the Council to be aware of the impact of financing capital expenditure on its overall revenue expenditure position. The relevant indicator is the financing costs of capital expenditure expressed as a percentage of the net revenue stream, where:

- the costs of financing capital expenditure are interest payable to external lenders less interest earned on investments plus amounts set aside to reduce the level of borrowing; and
- the net revenue stream is the amount of the revenue budget to be met from government grants and local taxpayers.

12. Prudential Indicators: Monitoring against 2022/23 Budget

The following table shows monitoring against those indicators that were approved for 2022/23 in the Budget Report to Council in February 2022.

Indicator	Comments												
Estimated capital expenditure (excluding Schools Devolved Formula Capital and schools' capital expenditure funded from their own revenue budget) 2022/23 Budget: £126.879m 2022/23 Actual: £90.097m	Capital programme is £36.782m less than anticipated, as explained in the table: <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Reason</th><th>£m</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Slippage from 2021/22 to 2022/23</td><td>19.473</td></tr> <tr> <td>Re-phasing/slippage approved in-year</td><td>(56.255)</td></tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td><td>(36.782)</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Reason	£m	Slippage from 2021/22 to 2022/23	19.473	Re-phasing/slippage approved in-year	(56.255)	TOTAL	(36.782)				
Reason	£m												
Slippage from 2021/22 to 2022/23	19.473												
Re-phasing/slippage approved in-year	(56.255)												
TOTAL	(36.782)												
Estimated capital financing requirement (taking into account PFI Finance Lease Liabilities) 2022/23 Budget: £868m 2022/23 Actual: £786m	The actual level of the capital financing requirement was £82m less than the indicator, as explained in the table: <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Reason</th><th>£m</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Borrowing below budgeted level in 2021/22 (primarily due to slippage of expenditure funded by borrowing)</td><td>(33)</td></tr> <tr> <td>IFRS16 Lease standard delay</td><td>(7)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Variance in capital receipt income</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr> <td>Borrowing below budgeted level in 2022/23 (primarily due to slippage of capital expenditure funded by borrowing and maximisation of capital grant usage)</td><td>(47)</td></tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td><td>(82)</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Reason	£m	Borrowing below budgeted level in 2021/22 (primarily due to slippage of expenditure funded by borrowing)	(33)	IFRS16 Lease standard delay	(7)	Variance in capital receipt income	5	Borrowing below budgeted level in 2022/23 (primarily due to slippage of capital expenditure funded by borrowing and maximisation of capital grant usage)	(47)	TOTAL	(82)
Reason	£m												
Borrowing below budgeted level in 2021/22 (primarily due to slippage of expenditure funded by borrowing)	(33)												
IFRS16 Lease standard delay	(7)												
Variance in capital receipt income	5												
Borrowing below budgeted level in 2022/23 (primarily due to slippage of capital expenditure funded by borrowing and maximisation of capital grant usage)	(47)												
TOTAL	(82)												

Indicator	Comments
<p>External debt (incl. PFI Finance Lease Liabilities)</p> <p>Authorised limit for borrowing: £602m Authorised limit for other long-term liabilities: £106m Authorised limit for external debt: £708m</p> <p>Operational boundary for borrowing: £577m Operational boundary for other long-term liabilities: £106m Operational boundary for external debt: £683m</p> <p>Actual borrowing: £493m Actual other long-term liabilities: £97m Total actual debt at 31/03/23: £590m</p>	<p>The actual level of external debt was below both the authorised limit of £720m and the operational boundary of £695m throughout 2022/23.</p>
<p>Financing costs as a percentage of net revenue stream (incl. impact of PFI Finance Lease Liabilities)</p> <p>2022/23 Budget: 9.6% 2022/23 Actual: 7.8%</p>	<p>The total of actual financing costs as a percentage of net revenue stream was below the budgeted figure as a result of lower than expected interest charges.</p>

13. Summary

The Prudential Code indicators will continue to be monitored and reported against budgeted figures.

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – FINANCE, INFRASTRUCTURE AND IMPROVEMENT

TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN REPORT 2022/23

1. Purpose

To provide a review of the Council's treasury management activities for the year to 31 March 2023.

Information and Advice

2. Background

2.1 Treasury management is defined as 'the management of the council's investments and cashflows; its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks'.

2.2 The Council's Treasury Management Strategy is approved annually by Full Council and there is also a mid-year report which goes to Full Council. Responsibility for the implementation, scrutiny and monitoring of treasury management policies and practices is delegated to the *Treasury Management Group*, comprising:

- the Service Director (Finance, Infrastructure & Improvement)
- the Group Manager (Financial Services)
- the Senior Accountant (Pensions & Treasury Management)
- the Senior Accountant (Financial Strategy & Accounting)
- the Investments Officer.

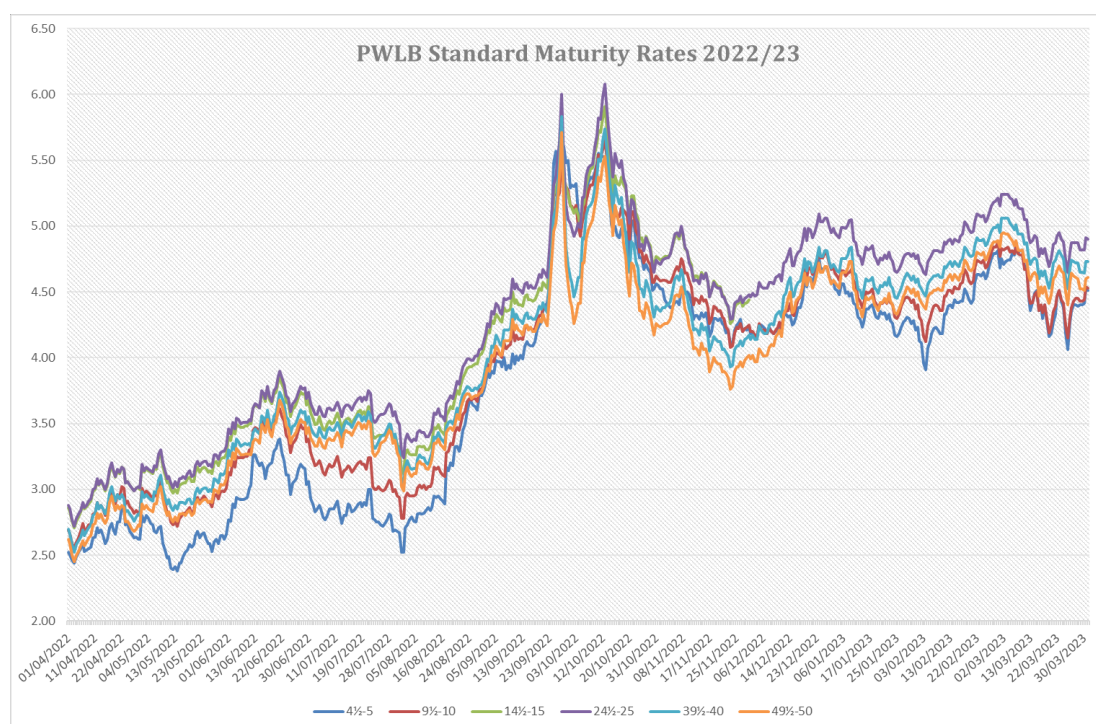
2.3 During 2022/23, borrowing and investment activities were in accordance with the approved limits as set out in the Council's Treasury Management Policy and Strategy. The main points from this report are:

- All treasury management activities were carried out by authorised officers within the limits agreed by the Council.
- All investments were made to counterparties on the Council's approved lending list.
- The Council's net external borrowing decreased by £10.8m during the financial year.
- Over the course of the year the Council earned 2.13% on its cash investments, exceeding the adjusted average Sterling Overnight Index Average (SONIA) rate for 2022/23 which was 2.11%

3. Outturn Treasury Position

3.1 The Council's treasury management strategy and associated policies and practices for 2022/23 were approved in February 2022 by Full Council. The Service Director (Finance, Infrastructure & Improvement) complied with the strategy throughout the financial year.

- 3.2 The movement in PWLB standard maturity rates during 2022/23 is shown in the chart below. This shows that at the start of the year the average maturity loan rate was 2.74% but this had increased to 4.74% by year-end, as inflationary pressures mounted in the wider economy.



- 3.3 Table 1 below shows the Council's treasury portfolio position on 31 March 2023.

Table 1: Treasury Position at 31 March 2023	£m	Average interest rate
External Borrowing		
PWLB	393.6	3.87%
LOBOs	60.0	3.85%
Market	-	
Short-term	-	
Total external borrowing	453.6	
Other Long-Term Liabilities	97.0	
Total Gross Debt	550.6	
Less: Investments	-198.8	3.82%
Total Net Debt	351.8	

- 3.4 The Council continues to make use of temporary 'internal borrowing' wherever possible, as new external borrowing would be costlier, at least in the short-term. It also results in lower overall cash balances thereby reducing the Council's exposure to credit risk.

4. Treasury Management Activities 2022/23

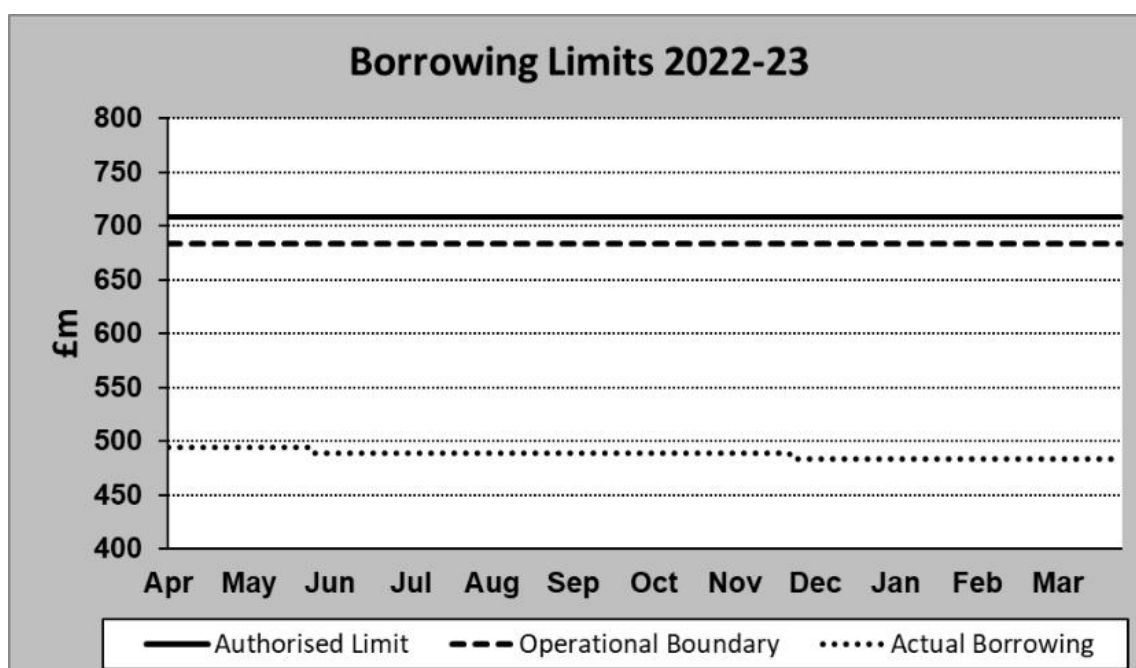
- 4.1 The Council manages its cash flows through borrowing and lending activities on the wholesale money markets. The Council has an approved list of counterparties for investment and aims to achieve the optimum return on investments commensurate with the proper levels of security and liquidity.
- 4.2 A summary of this activity is provided in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Summary of TM activity 2022/23	Fixed Term Investments £000	Call Accounts / Money Market Funds £000	Total £000
Outstanding 31 March 2022	80,000	94,800	174,800
Amount deposited during 22/23	425,000	795,000	1,220,000
Amount redeemed during 22/23	-380,000	-816,000	-1,196,000
Outstanding 31 March 2023	125,000	73,800	198,800
Average balance	114,726	96,507	211,233
Interest earned	3,064	1,438	4,502
Average return rate	2.67%	1.49%	2.13%
Adj. average SONIA rate	2.11%	2.11%	2.11%

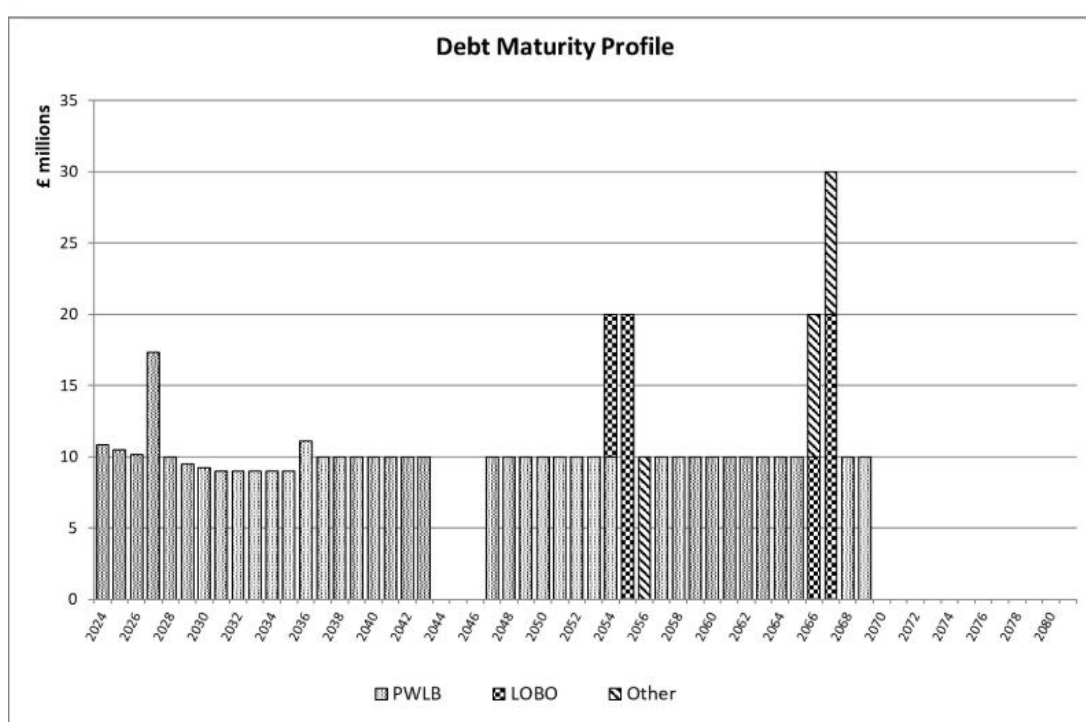
- 4.3 Deposits totaling £1.22bn were made over the course of the year (although much of this cash was recycled). The Council's average cash balance over 2022/23 was £211.2m (compared with £159.0m in 2021/22). The return achieved on this balance over the course of the year averaged 2.13%, against the adjusted SONIA benchmark of 2.11%.

5. Long Term Borrowing

- 5.1 The Treasury Management Strategy for 2021/22 presented to Council in February 2022 outlined the Council's long-term borrowing strategy for the year. Long-term borrowing is sourced from either the market (including other local authorities) or from the PWLB.
- 5.2 The Treasury Management Strategy for 2022/23 identified a need to borrow approximately £20m over the course of the year to (a) fund the capital programme, (b) replenish internal balances and to (c) replace maturing debt. However, due to slippage and higher than expected cash balances, no new long-term loans needed to be taken. In other words, the Council was able to use its cash balances to temporarily postpone its entire £20m borrowing requirement.
- 5.3 Total external borrowing stood at £453.6m on the 31 March 2023 which is within the operational boundary of £683m agreed by the Council. The chart below shows that the level of external debt throughout the year was below the key treasury indicators of the authorised limit and the operational boundary, demonstrating that borrowing was well within plan during the year. Further details on these treasury prudential indicators are provided in another appendix.



- 5.4 The slight downward trend in actual borrowing represents £10.8m of PWLB loans that matured during 2022/23. This was the only borrowing repaid during the year.
- 5.5 The chart below shows the debt maturity profile at 31 March 2023. This is spread fairly evenly until 2044, thereby minimising refinancing risk. In this chart it is assumed that the remaining LOBO loans will run to maturity, and not be called (if the lender so chooses) at an earlier date. The average rate on all outstanding external debt at year-end was 3.87% (compared to 3.92% in 2021/22), reflecting the higher rates of the Council's maturing debt.



- 5.6 The Council has always had the option of rescheduling its existing PWLB debt should market conditions indicate opportunities for savings. This would be

achieved by redeeming fixed rate debt and raising new debt at a lower rate of interest. However, for a number of years now the PWLB has charged a prohibitive premium on early redemptions. No financially attractive opportunities for debt rescheduling therefore arose over the reporting period.

6. Prudential Indicators for Treasury Management

- 6.1 The table below shows how the treasury management outturn position compares with the prudential indicators for the year. The objective of these indicators is to manage treasury management risks effectively. No indicators were breached during the year.

TREASURY MANAGEMENT INDICATORS 2022/23	Approved limits	Outturn
Authorised Limit for external debt	£708m	£483.6m
Operational Boundary for external debt	£683m	£483.6m
Upper limit for Rate Exposure – Fixed	100%	100%
Upper limit for Rate Exposure - Variable	75%	0%
Upper limit for principal sums invested for over 364 days	Higher of £20m and 15%	£0m

- 6.2 The table below shows how the Council's debt portfolio is managed with regard to maturity structure. The aim here is to ensure that the risk of the Council having to replace maturing debt in any one year is minimised, as part of an overall Treasury Management risk strategy.

Maturity structure of fixed rate borrowing	Approved Lower limit	Approved Upper limit	22/23 Outturn
under 12 months	0%	25%	3.5%
12 months and within 24 months	0%	25%	2.1%
24 months and within 5 years	0%	75%	7.6%
5 years and within 10 years	0%	100%	9.3%
10 years and above	0%	100%	77.5%
Adoption of CIPFA's Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice and Cross Sectoral Guidance Notes			Adopted

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – FINANCE, INFRASTRUCTURE AND
IMPROVEMENT****FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT: PERIOD 2 2023/2024****Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide the Cabinet with a summary of the budget monitoring position as at Period 2.

Information and Advice**Background**

2. The Council approved the 2023/24 budget at its meeting on 9 February 2023. As with previous financial years, progress updates will be closely monitored and reported to management, the Cabinet Member for Finance or Cabinet each month.

Summary Revenue Position

3. The table below summarises the revenue budgets for each Portfolio for the forthcoming financial year. A balanced position is currently projected against the budget approved by Full Council in February 2023. There remain significant levels of uncertainty and financial challenges facing the Council over the medium term, the key message to effectively manage budgets and, wherever possible, deliver in-year savings is being reinforced.

Table 1 – Summary Revenue Position

Portfolio	Annual Budget £'000	Actual to Period 2 £'000	Year-End Forecast £'000	Latest Forecast Variance £'000	Percentage Variance to Annual Budget
Children & Young People	180,888	23,709	181,062	174	0.10%
Adult Social Care & Public Health	263,002	19,657	262,623	(379)	(0.14%)
Transport & Environment	119,931	2,807	124,362	4,431	3.69%
Communities	19,475	356	20,054	579	2.97%
Economic Development & Asset Management	26,238	6,428	25,882	(356)	(1.36%)
Deputy Leader & Transformation	4,798	709	4,478	(320)	(6.67%)
Finance	18,820	2,328	18,622	(198)	(1.05%)
Personnel	27,471	4,337	27,495	24	0.09%
Net Committee (under)/overspend	660,623	60,331	664,578	3,955	
Central items	(58,379)	(7,761)	(62,379)	(4,000)	
Schools Expenditure	10	-	10	-	
Contribution to/(from) Traders	309	(20)	2,403	2,094	
Forecast prior to use of reserves	602,563	52,550	604,612	2,049	
Transfer to / (from) Corporate Reserves	(4,340)	-	(6,340)	(2,000)	
Transfer to / (from) Departmental Reserves	(6,592)	94	(6,606)	(14)	
Transfer to / (from) General Fund	-	-	-	-	
Net County Council Budget Requirement	591,631	52,644	591,666	35	

Portfolio Variations

Transport & Environment (£4.4m overspend, 3.69% of net portfolio budget)

- The Transport and Environment portfolio is currently reporting a forecast overspend of £4.4m. This is mainly due to overspends in the Home to School and SEND Transport budgets.
- There is a forecast overspend of £1.6m against Home to School Transport budgets. This is due primarily to a forecast overspend of £1.4m on mainstream activity caused by significantly increased demand for the service as the number of pupils travelling has risen along with the distances they need to travel. In addition, the service has experienced increased contract inflation over and above that anticipated in the budget.
- There is also a forecast overspend of £2.8m on SEND Transport. SEND pre-16 Transport is forecast to be £2.5m above budget after allowing for the award of a 2% inflationary increase to providers. This area has seen significant growth in pupil numbers resulting from Education Healthcare Plans and the number of medical needs which are now included in the assessment. Post-16 Transport is forecast to be £0.4m over budget due to similar increases in growth and support for young people.

Communities (£0.6m overspend, 2.97% of net portfolio budget)

7. The Communities portfolio is currently reporting a forecast overspend of £0.6m. This is mainly due to an overspend of £0.4m on the County Enterprise Food budget as a result of increased expenditure on food, equipment and transport costs alongside under-recovery of income. This position will be further reviewed once the proposed Charging Strategy report to the Cabinet Member for Communities has been considered. In addition, a £0.2m forecast overspend against the Libraries and Learning budget has been reported.

Traded Services (£2.1m overspend)

8. As set out in the Period 1 Financial Monitoring Report, traded services were adversely affected in 2022/23 by the impact of the pay award, the revised living wage and by significant inflation, particularly on food costs. These pressures continue into 2023/24 and a forecast overspend of £2.1m is currently being reported against the Schools Catering Service. The price charged per meal is currently insufficient to recover full costs. This budget position will be further reviewed once the proposed Charging Strategy report to the Cabinet Member for Communities has been considered. It should be noted that this position could worsen depending on inflation and the final 2023/24 pay award.
9. Whilst the Schools Catering Service aims to mitigate inflationary pressures and moves towards a balanced budget, it is unlikely to recover all indirect expenditure which will result in some costs having to be met by the Council. A Traders Resilience Reserve has been established to mitigate these pressures and is available to meet these expected costs.

Central Items (£4.0m underspend)

10. Central Items primarily consists of interest on cash balances and borrowing, together with various grants, contingency and capital charges.
11. Interest projections (both payable and receivable) fluctuate depending on expectations in relation to future rates and anticipated slippage on the capital programme. The current forecast prudently suggests a net underspend on interest of £4.0m. However, latest Treasury Management insight suggests that, with the prevailing inflationary economic climate, further increases in interest rates are likely which will in turn generate further returns on deposits. As such, there is potential for this underspend to increase as we progress through the financial year.
12. The Council's budget includes a base contingency budget of £5.0m to cover redundancy costs, slippage of savings and other potential unforeseen events. Also, further demand and inflationary pressures have been identified that have a degree of uncertainty with regard to likelihood, value and profiling. Foremost amongst these items is the unsettled Pay Award for 2023/24 and an additional provision of £11.0m has been made within contingency to fund these pressures. The Cabinet, Cabinet Member for Finance or the Section 151 Officer are required to approve the release of contingency funds.

Requests for Contingency

13. There has already been a call on the 2023/24 contingency budget from requests that have been approved which total £0.3m. In addition, further requests have been approved by the Section 151 Officer. These are as follows: -

- Inspire – Contract variation pressure – Communities Portfolio - £446,000
- Strategic Commissioning Framework Training – Finance Portfolio - £50,000
- Legal Staffing – Personnel Portfolio - £64,000

Table 1 assumes that the remaining contingency budget will be utilised in full for future requests.

Corporate Reserves (£2.0m underspend)

14. The annual budget approved in February 2023 included the use of £4.3m of Corporate reserves. The Management Accounts report presented to this meeting outlined the creation of a Traders Resilience Reserve totalling £4.0m to mitigate the expected cost pressures in both this year and future years as work progresses on reviewing traded services. Based on the latest traded services projections detailed above, it is forecast that £2.0m of this reserve will be utilised in 2023/24.

Progress with Savings

15. Council on 9 February 2023 approved savings of £8.7m for delivery in 2023/24, with further savings identified for the period 2024-26. The progress of the Council's current savings programme, alongside mitigations against pressures, will be monitored regularly. Officers will continue to monitor the deliverability of individual schemes and targets as part of the budget monitoring process and any variation to the achievability of savings will be reported for approval as part of monthly financial monitoring reports.

Main Areas of Risk within the 2023/24 budget

16. There are two areas that have been highlighted at this early stage of the 2023/24 financial year as risks to the budget as follows:-

- Traded Services – Traded services were impacted by the impact of the 2022/23 pay award, the revised living wage and by significant inflation in the later part of the year, particularly on food costs. The Council will continue to support these services as the expected pressures continue. A Traders Resilience Reserve has been set up to help mitigate the expected increase in traded service costs in both this year and future years as work progresses on reviewing the services.
- Home to School / SEND Transport – Both areas saw increases in demand for their services in 2022/23 as well as increased contract price inflation over and above that anticipated in the budget. It is expected that these services will come under pressure once again in 2023/24.

17. To mitigate the impact of overspends on the two areas highlighted above it is expected that significant underspends will be realised on both interest payable and interest receivable. As

set out in the 2022/23 Annual Budget Report, a decision was taken to limit borrowing to what was already approved in the capital programme as well as using capital receipts to repay prior year debt. This, alongside the maximised use of capital grants, has resulted in a forecast saving against interest payable budgets. In addition, the Council is receiving a higher rate of interest on short term investments than budgeted.

18. As reported previously, there are further significant risks and uncertainties associated with the current environment that local authorities are operating within, both in the short and medium terms. The main financial risks faced by the Council are as follows:-

- The cost pressures factored into the Council's budget may not be sufficient to meet the underlying cost and demand pressures that actually arise, particularly with regard to increased demand for Adults and Children's Social Care Services, Transport Services, the impact of the National Living Wage and agreement of the pay award.
- The COVID19 pandemic coupled with the UK leaving the EU has had a significant impact on the availability of staffing resource particularly in the social care sector as recruiting and retaining care staff across social care services remains difficult. Staff shortages have also been experienced in catering, facilities management and waste services.
- Whilst the Council is somewhat protected from immediate inflation on direct energy costs through the advanced purchasing arrangement with Crown Commercial Services (CCS), wider inflationary pressures driven by energy costs could have a detrimental impact across a whole range of service areas.
- Fuel prices are volatile with potential for contracts to become unaffordable for the council or unviable for some service providers.
- The 2023/24 Settlement reflected a one-year settlement only. As a result, estimated future increases in Central Government grants that are set out in the MTFS may not be in line with future announcements.

Balance Sheet

General Fund Balance

19. Cabinet will be asked to approve the 2022/23 closing General Fund Balance of £36.8m on 20 July 2023. This balance represents 6.2% of the net budget requirement.

Capital Programme

20. Table 2 summarises changes to the gross Capital Programme for 2023/24 since approval of the original Programme in the Budget Report (Council 09/02/23):

Table 2 – Revised Capital Programme for 2023/24

	2023/24	
	£'000	£'000
Approved per Council (Budget Report 2023/24)		156,217
Variations funded from County Council Allocations : Net slippage from 2022/23 and financing adjustments	19,293	
		19,293
Variations funded from other sources : Net variation from 2022/23 and financing adjustments	(2,797)	
		(2,797)
Revised Gross Capital Programme		172,713

21. Table 3 shows actual capital expenditure to date against the forecast out-turn at Period 2.

Portfolio	Revised Capital Programme £'000	Actual Expenditure to Period 2 £'000	Forecast Outturn £'000	Expected Variance £'000
Children & Young People's	64,480	7,333	64,480	-
Adult Social Care & Public Health	141	-	141	-
Transport & Environment	70,247	967	66,833	(3,414)
Communities	3,125	193	3,125	-
Economic Devt & Asset Mngt	19,089	970	19,089	-
Finance	12,841	527	12,841	-
Personnel	84	-	42	(42)
Contingency	2,706	-	2,706	-
Total	172,713	9,990	169,257	(3,456)

Transport & Environment

22. In the Transport and Environment portfolio capital programme, a forecast underspend of £3.4m has been identified. This is mainly due to reported slippage of £3.0m against the Transforming Cities Fund programme where project approval and potential design works are still required prior to the delivery stage of the programme. In addition, £0.4m of Trees for Climate funding has been re-profiled into the next financial year.

Variations to the Capital Programme

23. Under the Council's governance arrangements, the Section 151 officer has approved a number of variations to the capital programme as set out in the following paragraphs.

Children & Young People (CYPS)

24. **School Places Programme** - Section 106 contributions totalling £1.3m have been secured by the Authority to fund a capital project to create additional pupil places at Samuel Barlow Primary Academy. The CYPS portfolio capital programme has been varied to reflect the £1.3m Section 106 contributions secured.
25. **School Places Programme** – Section 106 contributions totalling £1.7m have been secured by the Authority to part-fund a capital project to create additional pupil places at South Wolds Academy. The CYPS portfolio capital programme has been varied to reflect the £1.7m S106 contributions secured.
26. **School Places Project** - Section 106 contributions totalling £3.0m have been secured by the Authority to part-fund a capital project to create additional pupil places at Gateford Park Primary School. The CYPS portfolio capital programme has been varied to reflect the £3.0m S106 contributions secured.

Transport and Environment (T&E)

27. **Externally Funded Bus Improvement Programme** – The Authority has been successful in securing £201k of Section 106 contributions to carry out further improvements to the Bus Service. It is proposed that the T&E portfolio capital programme is varied by £201k to reflect the additional external funding secured.

Communities

28. **Stapleford Library** – In January 2023, the Cabinet Member for EDAM, approved the acceptance of a £0.7m Town Deal bid to fund improvement works at Stapleford library. The Communities portfolio capital programme has been varied to reflect the £0.7m grant award secured.

Economic Development & Asset Management (EDAM)

29. **Building Works** – A £0.1m revenue contribution to capital outlay adjustment was agreed at the end of the 2022/23 financial year to fund the completion of adaptation works at Basford. The EDAM portfolio capital programme has been varied by £0.1m to reflect the completion of adaptations works at Basford Registration office, funded from reserves.

Financing of the Approved Capital Programme

30. Table 4 summarises the financing of the overall approved capital programme for 2023/24

Table 4 – Financing of the Approved Capital Programme for 2023/24

Portfolio	Capital Allocations £'000	Grants & Contributions £'000	Revenue £'000	Reserves £'000	Gross Programme £'000
Children & Young People's	10,140	54,090	200	50	64,480
Adult Social Care & Public Health	43	-	-	98	141
Transport & Environment	18,023	46,566	414	5,244	70,247
Communities	2,928	144	20	33	3,125
Economic Devt & Asset Mngt	15,816	2,947	-	326	19,089
Finance	8,564	-	-	4,277	12,841
Personnel	84	-	-	-	84
Contingency	2,706	-	-	-	2,706
Total	58,304	103,747	634	10,028	172,713

31. It is anticipated that borrowing in 2023/24 will increase by £19.3m from the forecast in the Budget Report 2023/24 (Council 09/02/23). This increase is as a consequence of £19.3m of net slippage of capita allocations from 2022/23 to 2023/24.

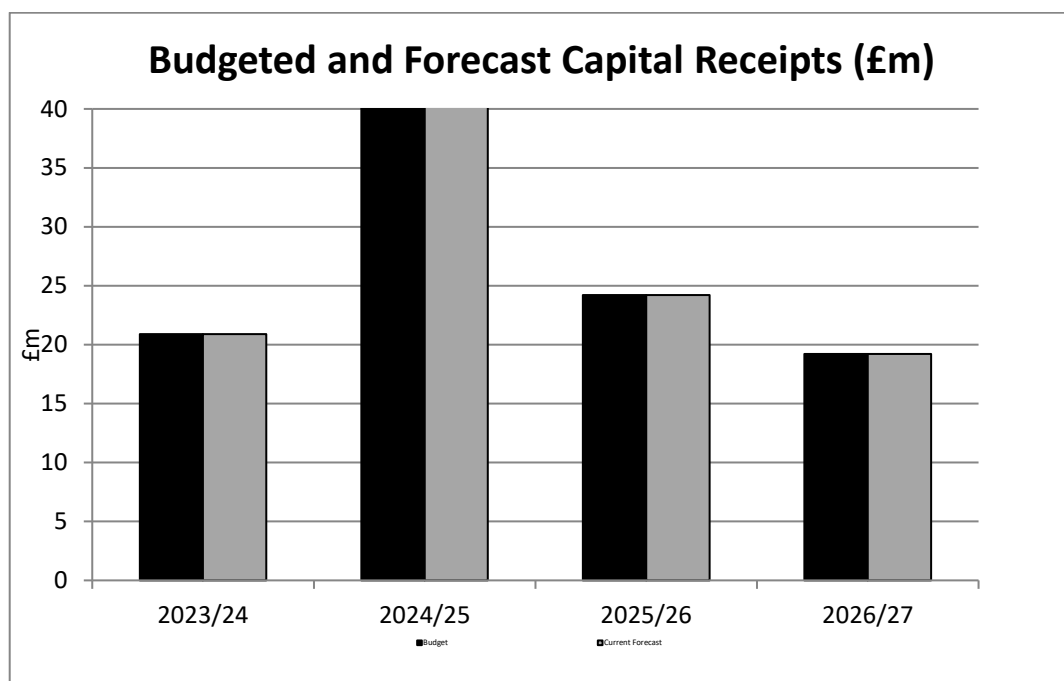
Prudential Indicator Monitoring

32. Performance against the Council's Prudential Indicators is regularly monitored to ensure that external debt remains within both the operational boundary and the authorised limit.

Capital Receipts Monitoring

33. Anticipated capital receipts are regularly reviewed. Forecasts are currently based on estimated sales values of identified properties and prudently assume a slippage factor based upon a review of risk associated with each property.

34. The chart below shows the budgeted and forecast capital receipts for the four years to 2026/27.



35. The dark bars in the chart show the budgeted capital receipts included in the Budget Report 2023/24 (Council 09/02/2023). These capital receipts budgets prudently incorporated slippage, giving a degree of “protection” from the risk of non-delivery.

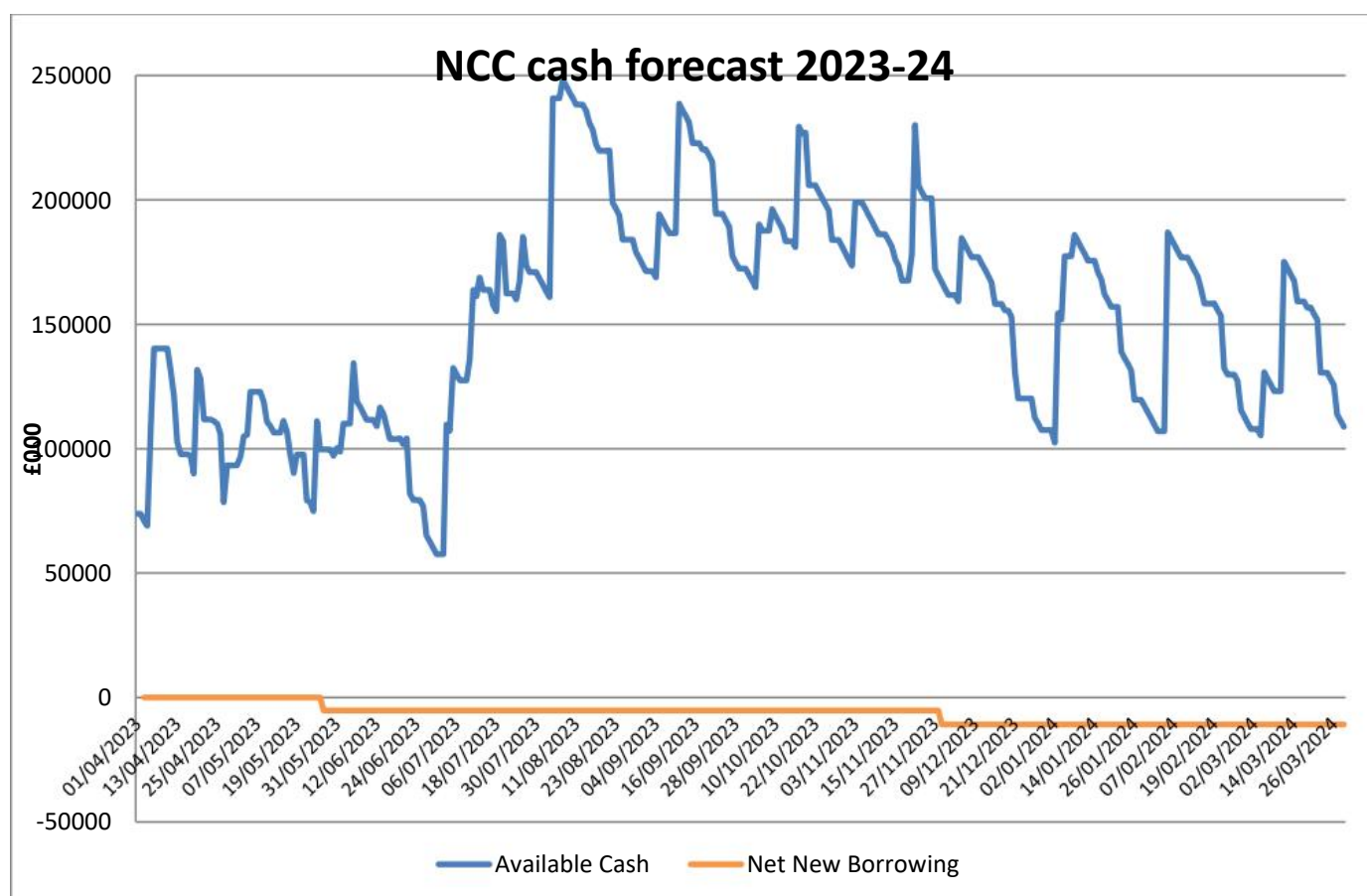
36. The capital receipt forecast for 2023/24 is £20.8m. No capital receipts have been received to date in 2023/24.

37. The number and size of large, anticipated receipts increase the risk that income from property sales will be below the revised forecasts over the next three years. Although the forecasts incorporate an element of slippage, a delay in receiving just two or three large receipts could result in sales being lower than the forecast.

38. Current Council policy (Budget Report 2023/24), to minimise the impact of the cost of borrowing on the revenue budget, is to use capital receipts to the value approved as part of the 2021/22 Budget Report to set against previous years’ borrowing thereby reducing the impact of the Minimum Revenue Provision on the revenue accounts. This will enable excess capital receipts to be used to fund future additional capital investment.

Treasury Management

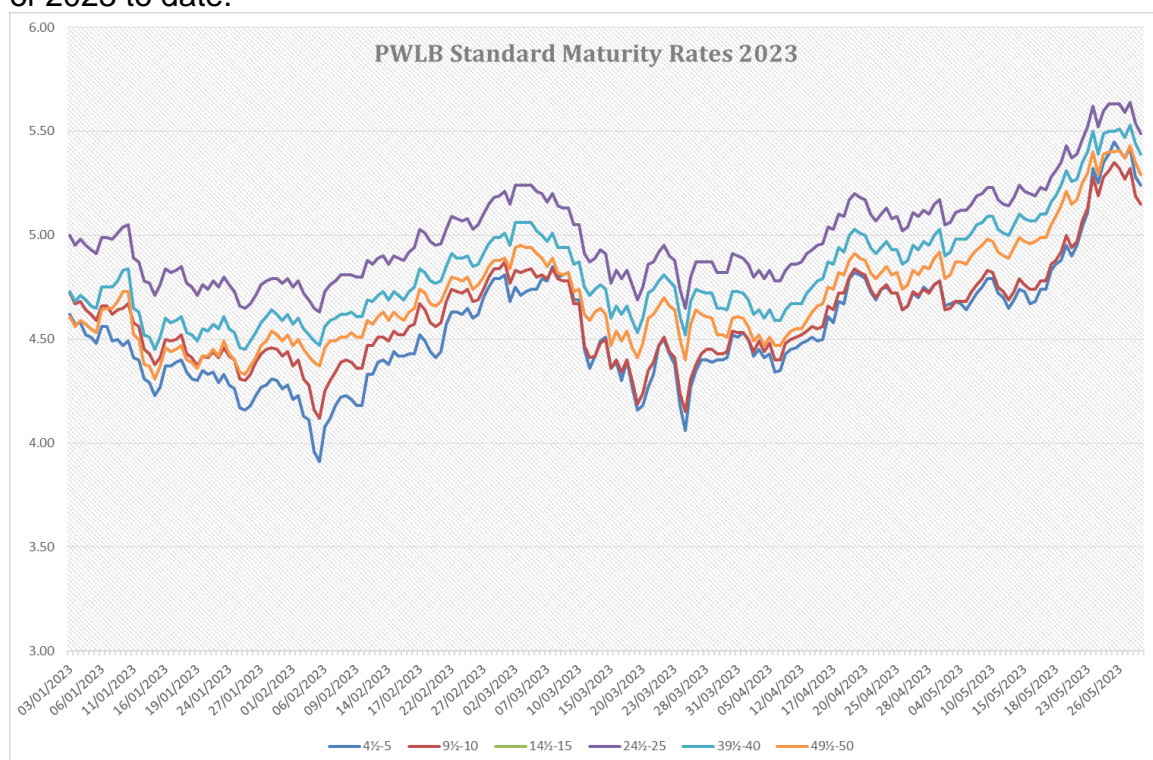
39. Daily cash management aims for a closing nil balance across the Council's pooled bank accounts with any surplus cash invested in accordance with the approved Treasury Management Policy. Cash flow is monitored by the Senior Accountant (Pensions & Treasury Management) with the overall position reviewed quarterly by the Treasury Management Group (TMG).
40. The cash forecast chart below shows the estimated cash flow position for the financial year 2023/24. Cash inflows are typically higher at the start of the year due to the front-loading receipt of Central Government grants, and the payment profile of precepts. Cash outflows, in particular capital expenditure, tend to increase later in the year, and the chart below reflects this. Also, expected borrowing in support of capital expenditure is not included in the forecast. The chart thereby helps highlight the points in the year when such borrowing will be necessary, and it is monitored daily so that treasury management staff can act comfortably in advance of the cash being required, the aim being to maintain adequate but not excessive liquidity.



41. The chart above gives the following information:

Available cash	Surplus cash (invested in call accounts, money market funds, or held at Barclays Bank) or a shortfall of cash indicating a need to borrow.
Net new borrowing	New loans taken during the year net of principal repayments on existing borrowing.

42. The Treasury Management Strategy for 2023/24 identified no need to borrow over the course of the year to (a) fund the capital programme, (b) replenish internal balances and to (c) replace maturing debt. This is because the Council intends to make temporary use of internal borrowing to finance its capital expenditure, so will borrow at a later date. PWLB interest rates continue to be monitored closely to allow changes - or potential changes - in rates to feed into decisions on new borrowing. The Council remains able to take advantage of the PWLB “certainty rate” which is 0.2% below the standard rates, although recent rate rises have somewhat nullified the benefit of this. The chart below shows the movement in standard PWLB maturity rates over the course of 2023 to date.



43. Borrowing decisions will take account of a number of factors including:

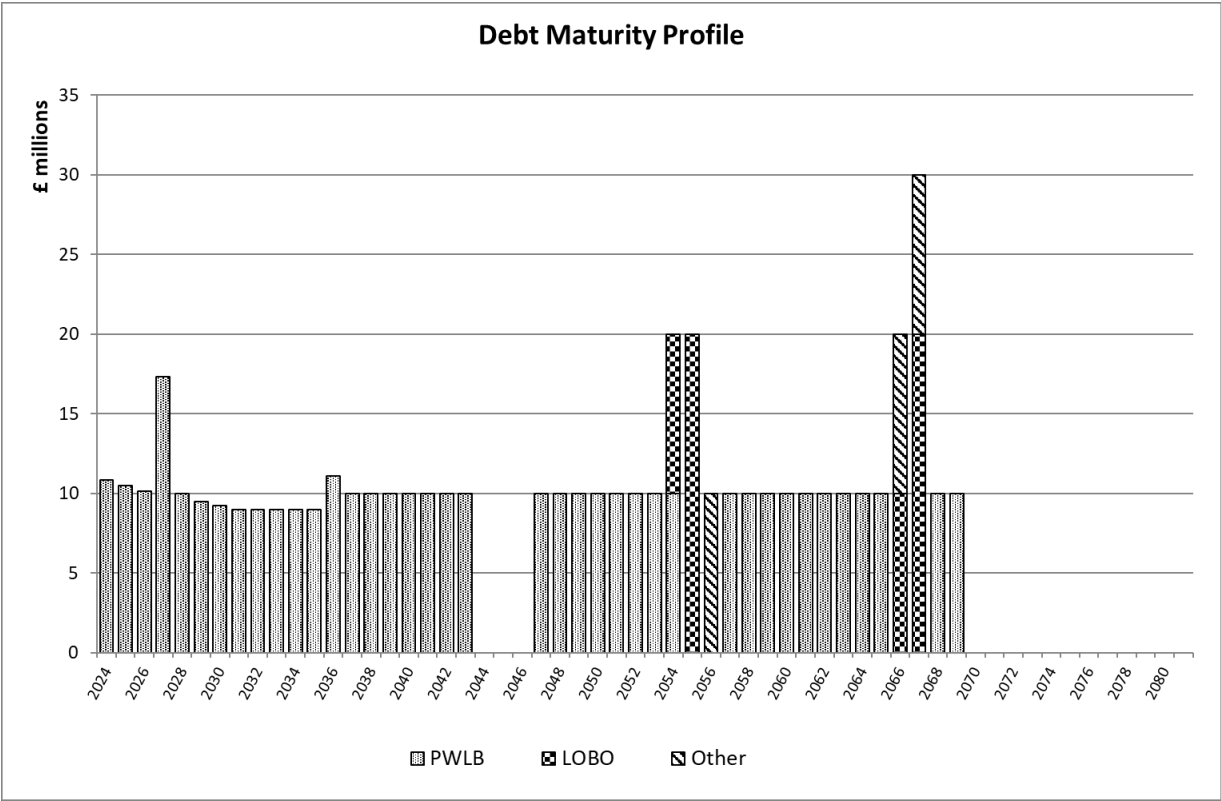
- expected movements in interest rates
- current maturity profile
- the impact on revenue budgets and the medium-term financial strategy
- the treasury management prudential indicators.

44. The maturity profile of the Council's debt portfolio is shown in the chart below. The PWLB loans are reasonably well distributed and have a maximum duration of 50 years. When deciding on the lengths of future loans the Council will factor in any gaps in its maturity profile, with a view to minimising interest rate risk, but will consider this alongside other financial factors.

45. Long-term borrowing was also obtained from the market some years ago in the form of 'Lender's Options, Borrower's Options' loans (LOBOs). These loans are treated as fixed rate loans (on the basis that, if the lender ever opts to increase the rate, the Council will repay the loan) and were all taken at rates lower than the prevailing PWLB rate at the time. However,

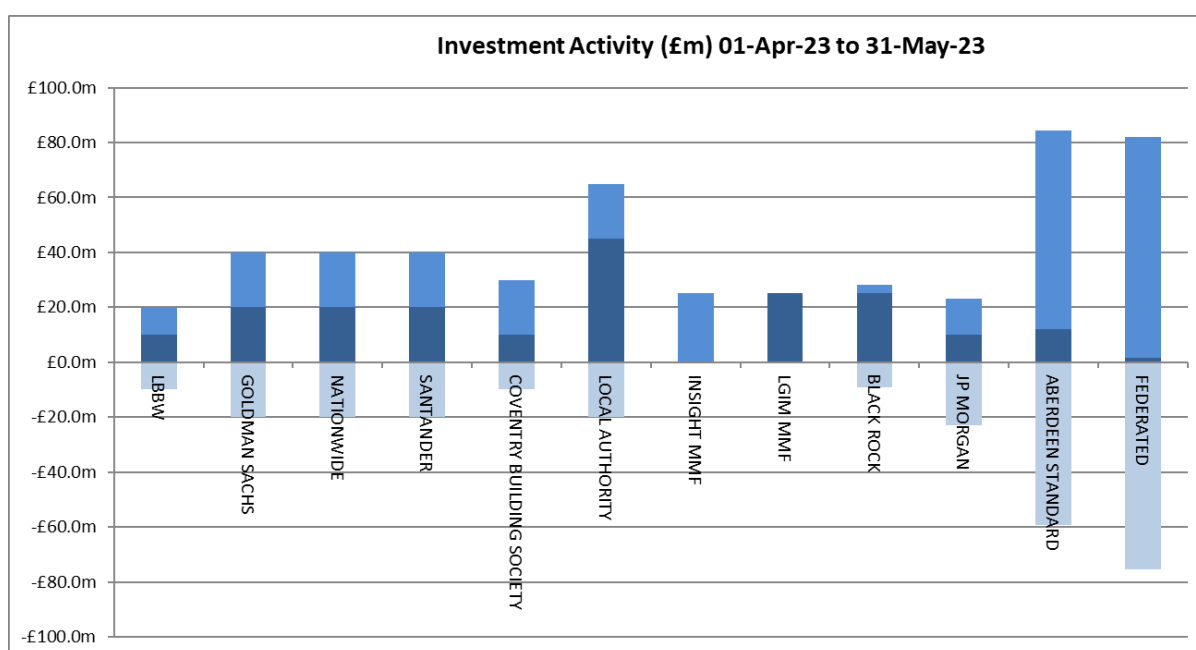
LOBOs could actually mature at various points before then, exposing the Council to some refinancing risk.

46. The ‘other’ loans shown in the chart consists of fixed-term loans from Barclays Bank.



47. The investment activity for 2023/24 to date is summarised in the chart and table below. Outstanding investment balances totalled approximately £199m at the start of the year and £235m at the end of May.

	Total B/f	Total Raised	Total Repaid	Outstanding
	£000	£000	£000	£000
LBBW	10,000	10,000	-10,000	10,000
GOLDMAN SACHS	20,000	20,000	-20,000	20,000
NATIONWIDE	20,000	20,000	-20,000	20,000
SANTANDER	20,000	20,000	-20,000	20,000
COVENTRY BUILDING SOCIETY	10,000	20,000	-10,000	20,000
LOCAL AUTHORITY	45,000	20,000	-20,000	45,000
INSIGHT MMF	0	25,000	0	25,000
LGIM MMF	25,000	0	0	25,000
BLACK ROCK	25,000	3,100	-9,250	18,850
JP MORGAN	10,050	13,050	-23,100	0
ABERDEEN STANDARD	12,150	72,150	-59,300	25,000
FEDERATED	1,600	80,250	-75,550	6,300
	198,800	303,550	-267,200	235,150



48. As part of the Council's risk management processes all counterparty ratings are regularly monitored and lending restrictions changed accordingly.

Statutory and Policy Implications

49. 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 where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Other Options Considered

50. To informally brief the Cabinet Member. By noting the latest position as a formal decision, this enables the Council to be more transparent and for all County Councillors and the public to be kept informed of the latest position in a timely manner.

Reasons for Recommendations

51. To enable Cabinet to be fully informed of the latest position with the Council's budget and for that information to be made publicly available.

RECOMMENDATIONS

52. For the Cabinet to:-

- 1) Note the individual Portfolio revenue budgets for 2023/24.
- 2) Note the summary of capital expenditure to date, year-end forecasts and variations to the capital programme
- 3) To note the contingency requests approved by the Section 151 Officer
- 4) To note the Council's Balance Sheet transactions.

Nigel Stevenson Service Director – Finance, Infrastructure and Improvement

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Keith Palframan, Group Manager, Financial Strategy and Compliance

Tamsin Rabbitts - Senior Accountant, Pensions and Treasury Management

Constitutional Comments (SSR 29/06/2023)

53. This report is for noting only and so no decision is being sought.

Financial Comments (GB 21/06/2023)

54. The financial implications are stated within 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'

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

OUTCOMES OF THE SCRUTINY REVIEW OF COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS AND RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT

Purpose of the Report

1. To inform Cabinet of the recommendations that have arisen from the task and finish review that was undertaken by the Overview Committee on Council Consultations and Resident Engagement, and refer the recommendations of the review to the relevant Cabinet Member for consideration and response.

Information

2. At the meeting of the Overview Committee held on 29 June 2023 members considered the report from the task and finish scrutiny review that had been carried out on Council Consultations and Resident Engagement. The report is attached as **Appendix A**. At the meeting it was resolved:

“That the recommendations from the scrutiny review of resident engagement and consultation, as detailed in the report, be endorsed and referred to Cabinet for consideration.”

Other Options Considered

3. None. In accordance with Section 21B of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Overview and Select Committee Procedure Rules, Cabinet is required to consider the recommendations of the Overview Committee.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

4. To inform Cabinet of the recommendations that have arising from the Overview Committee task and finish review that was carried out on Council Consultations and Resident Engagement.

Statutory and Policy Implications

5. 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

6. There are no direct financial implications relating to the recommendations of this report.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the recommendations from the Overview Committee review of Council Consultations and Resident Engagement be received.
- 2) That the recommendations from the Overview Committee review of Council Consultations and Resident Engagement be referred to the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member – Transformation to consider the recommendations and their implementation and report back to the next meeting of Cabinet.

COUNCILLOR BOYD ELLIOTT CHAIRMAN OF THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Martin Elliott, Senior Scrutiny Officer, Tel: 0115 9772564, e-mail: martin.elliott@nottsgov.uk

Constitutional Comments (KK 11/07/2023)

7. The Cabinet is authorised to receive and respond to scrutiny report in accordance with CA.1 The proposals in this report are therefore within the remit of Cabinet.

Financial Comments (SES 07/07/2023)

8. 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.

- None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

OUTCOMES OF THE SCRUTINY REVIEW OF COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS AND RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT

Purpose of the Report

1. To share with the Overview Committee the findings that have arisen from the task and finish review of Council Consultations and Resident Engagement.
2. To seek the endorsement of the committee for the recommendations from the scrutiny task and finish review of Council Consultations and Resident Engagement to be submitted to Cabinet for consideration.

Background information

3. At the meeting of the Overview Committee held on 7 September 2022 the Overview Committee's Work Programme for 2022/23 was considered and approved. For an item to be included on the Work Programme consideration was given to the following three questions:
 - Was the issue one where scrutiny could make a positive impact, or where scrutiny could make a difference?
 - Was the issue a strategic Council priority, as detailed in the Nottinghamshire Plan?
 - Was the issue one that was of interest to, or made a significant impact on residents across Nottinghamshire?
4. Members of the Overview Committee, having given regard to these questions, agreed that an in-depth scrutiny review of the Council's approach to consultation and resident engagement should be carried out. Members were keen to learn about the Council's approach to consultation and resident engagement, and how this activity could best be used to support the delivery of the Council's strategic priorities, and as such support the delivery of the best possible services to the residents of Nottinghamshire.
5. At the meeting of the Overview Committee held on 1 December 2022 members received a report and presentation that provided the Committee with an overview of the Council's budget development process. The report also provided information on the public budget consultation process in relation to the development of the Council's budget for 2023/24.

As a result of the discussion that took place, it was agreed:

"That a task and finish review takes place on the budget consultation process, giving regard to the budget consultations carried out by other local authorities."

Scoping the Review

6. Subsequently work was carried out to “scope” the review. This work was carried out by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Overview Committee, in consultation with the Service Director - Finance, Infrastructure and Improvement and the Service Director – Transformation and Change. This work identified the key objectives for review as well as setting out the strategic context in which the issues involved would be considered.
7. As a result of the scoping work that was carried out, the key objectives that would guide the review were identified as being:
 - To examine and gain an understanding of the Council’s current approach to formal resident consultation, within the context of ongoing wider resident engagement and co-production.
 - To examine what the Council’s approach to formal resident consultation could look like in the future, across the Council, to encourage wider resident participation to ensure the most effective services and outcomes for Nottinghamshire residents.
 - A specific area of focus for the review would be the budget consultation process and other whole-council consultation activity. For example, any future consultation on the development of the Nottinghamshire Plan.

In the context of the review, it was noted that the statutory consultations that the Council was required to carry out that had legally defined rules of how they must be conducted, and consultations on employment matters that were governed by agreed policies and procedures, were not included in the scope of the review’s activity.

Once the scoping document had been completed it was circulated to all members of the Overview Committee. At this point all members of the committee were invited to express their interest in being part of the review group.

Link to Council Priorities

8. The work of the Council’s scrutiny function should always be focussed on supporting delivery of its strategic priorities, which will in turn support the delivery of the best possible services to the residents of Nottinghamshire. The work that was carried out in scoping the review identified that a review of consultation and resident engagement supported a wide range of strategic priorities, as well as the strategies and policies that underpinned them.

The Nottinghamshire Plan 2021 - 2031

9. The Nottinghamshire Plan 2021 - 2031 is an ambitious plan for the County Council that sets out the Council’s strategic vision for the future of Nottinghamshire and the local authority. The activity in the Nottinghamshire Plan is built around achieving a bold 10-year vision for a ‘healthy, prosperous and greener future for everyone’. This vision is supported by nine ambitions which will act as a framework for all County Council activity. The scoping of the review supports the following ambition set out in the Nottinghamshire Plan:
 - A forward looking and resilient Council

Consultation at Nottinghamshire County Council

10. The Consultation Institute defines consultation as: “The dynamic process of dialogue between individuals or groups, based upon a genuine exchange of views, with the objective of influencing decisions, policies, or programmes of action.
11. In Nottinghamshire, the Council has a strong history of asking people what they think about the issues and services that affect their lives. The Council regularly consults residents and other stakeholders to seek their views on proposed changes to Council services, plans, policies, and other important issues. Consultations at the Council have a specific start and end date and help to inform decisions that the Council makes. As well as consulting on specific issues, the Council also works to carry out longer term engagement. This involves working closely with communities to ensure that they are empowered, supported, and developed to be involved in decisions that affect their lives.

The Review Process

12. The members of the review group were:
 - Councillor Boyd Elliott (Chairman)
 - Councillor Glynn Gilfoyle
 - Councillor Mike Pringle
13. The review was carried out using a variety of methods, including informal meetings, and the consideration of written evidence. The different stages of the review are detailed below.
14. The first meeting of the review group took place on Wednesday 10 May 2023. At this meeting members received a presentation and links to reference materials from Dr Isobel Fleming – Service Director for Transformation and Change, that provided detailed information on:
 - “The ladder of citizen participation” and the vital role of consultation in this process.
 - The ‘Gunning Principles’ that set out the legal expectation of what is considered appropriate consultation. These include:
 - Consultation must take place when the proposal is still at a formative stage.
 - Sufficient reasons must be put forward for the proposal to allow for intelligent consideration and response.
 - Adequate time must be given for consideration and response.
 - The product of consultation must be conscientiously taken into account.
 - The aims of the Council’s “Consultation Toolkit,” that are:
 - ensuring the Council met any required statutory obligations when consulting with people.
 - adhering consistently to consultation principles.
 - providing officers with the necessary guidance and tools to undertake consultation effectively and efficiently.
 - ensuring that the quality of any consultation carried out is of a high standard

- having a consistent, co-ordinated, and joined-up approach to consultation across the council and with partners.
- How the Consultation Toolkit was used to guide the process of consultation across the Council.
- The overarching processes used in the development of outreach and consultation activity with residents and communities.
- The many ways in which consultation activity could be carried out. These included self-completion surveys, telephone interviews, face-to-face interviews, and other online engagement activity.
- How the Council's online Engagement Hub provided the opportunity for residents to complete current consultations online, as well as providing access to information on consultations that had already been carried out. A demonstration of the Hub was provided by Ross Scott, Policy and Research Manager.
- That, unlike some other local authorities, the Council did not have a separate team that led on consultation activity across the organisation. Individual consultations were managed and led by departments across the Council when they were consulting on issues related to their own service area.
- Information on the number of public consultations that had been carried out over previous years was provided by the Communications Team.

Year	Public Consultations (open to all)	Targeted Consultations (only accessible through an emailed web link)
2023 (as of 3 May)	91	15
2022	185	64
2021	249	58
2020	193	50

15. Members of the review group also received presentations from representatives of Council departments that provided detailed information on specific consultations that had been undertaken. These presentations brought to life how these consultations had been carried out and how the feedback had been used in the development of services.

Children and Families

Members of the review group received a presentation from Lucy Peel – Service Director – Transformation and Improvement and Judith Bullimore – Project Officer, on the engagement approach to developing the Retford Family Hub.

Members of the review group were advised that the learning from this work that specifically related to consultation and engagement activities were that:

- Online consultations only worked well if the services, partners, and organisations involved could tailor promotional activity to the specific groups that services wanted to engage with.
- Simple, flexible, and targeted consultation activity received a higher response rate, and as such was more effective than an untargeted consultation posted online.
- Going out into the community, and using interactive, family friendly approaches worked well in engaging with service users.
- The “themes so far” document that simply and clearly presented the findings of a consultation was a great way of capturing feedback and presenting it in a way that all parties understood.
- Designing bespoke engagement tools for intended purposes had worked well; bringing in design expertise would have strengthened impact even more.
- Having an adequate staff and project resource to sustain and build high levels of engagement was crucial to enable meaningful consultation and engagement.

Adult Social Care and Public Health

Members of the review group received a presentation from Gemma Shelton - Integrated Group Manager Quality and Market Management that provided information on:

- The formal and informal consultation that had been carried out with the care market.
- The consultation that took place when a material change to how services would be delivered was being considered.
- The ‘Big Conversation’ consultation that had been carried earlier in 2023. This had set out to ask people who used social care and their carers about the vision, the challenges, and what they wanted in the future from service provision. Information was also provided on how it had used a wide variety of engagement activities, including in-person events and online surveys. A colourful and accessible graphic record had been used to illustrate the information gathered at the listening events and that had received positive feedback from those who had participated in the process.
- The first “Making it real” forum that had taken place in April 2023 that had aimed, through a process of co-production to ensure that the provision of Adult Care Service in Nottinghamshire was of a high quality and was also making a positive impact on the lives of residents.

Place

Members of the review group received a presentation from Joelle Davies - Group Manager - Growth, Infrastructure and Development, that provided information on:

- The wide range of services within the Place department where consultation and engagement activity had been used to gather information to inform and shape the delivery and provision of services.

- The consultation activity that had been carried out on proposals for a new cycle route on the A611 Derby Road in Mansfield. The consultation had been carried out using a wide variety of methods including targeted in-person events at Vision West Notts College and an online survey that provided the opportunity for other residents to be involved in the consultation. The consultation had successfully engaged local people in the discussions about the wider Department for Transport Active Travel programme and delivered a scheme that had been shaped by and supported by the local community.
- How social media and other publicity channels had been used in promoting the consultation.
- The follow up activity and discussion had been carried out on issues raised with those who had engaged with the consultation.

Corporate round-up

16. After receiving the information, members of the review group took the opportunity to ask questions of Dr Isobel Fleming – Service Director - Transformation, Luke Barrett - Group Manager – Communications and Marketing and the departmental representatives on the information that had been provided, and to discuss the issues that had been raised.
17. The second meeting of the review group took place on Wednesday 23 May. This meeting focussed on the Council's approach to consulting with residents as part of the Council's budget development process. At this meeting members received a presentation that provided detailed information on:
 - The Council's budget development process and how resident consultation was an integral part of this. It was noted however that whilst there was no statutory requirement to consult with residents on the development of the Council's budget, that the Council's Public Engagement Policy states that the Council will engage with the public before setting its budget. It was noted however that there was a statutory requirement to consult with non-domestic rate payers.
 - The consultation on the 2023/24 budget had been open to residents from 17 November 2022 to 2 January 2023 in advance of the draft budget being presented at Overview Committee on 24 January, Cabinet on 26 January and Full Council on 9 February.
 - The 2023/24 budget was the first to be approved under the Council's new governance arrangements introduced in May 2022. Members of the review group were advised that subsequent consideration had been given to the parts of the process that could be refined further in advance of the development of the 2024/25 budget.
 - How the responses to the consultation had been incorporated into the development the Council's 2023/24 budget.
 - How social media had been extensively utilised to raise public awareness of the consultation in advance of the consultation survey being launched.

- The public consultation had launched on 17 November 2022 with a dedicated space on the Council's website providing background information and linking through to an online survey that was open to all Nottinghamshire residents. To provide access to the consultation to those residents who are digitally excluded, printed copies were produced and distributed to all 59 Children's Centres and the 60 Libraries across the county. Paper packs were also sent to all Members for them to share in their communities. The Council's Customer Service Centre was also able to assist residents complete the survey over the phone.
- On the day that the survey opened an email bulletin was sent to all 140,309 subscribers of the council's "emailme" system, including information about the consultation and a link through to the survey. This was opened by 31% (42,414) of the subscribers, with 2% (3,170) clicking through to the website/survey. A tailored email on the survey was also sent to the 179 parish and town councils across Nottinghamshire. Various social media promotion was undertaken during the survey period, On 29 December (four days before the consultation ended) a further email bulletin was sent to 140,941 subscribers of the council's "emailme" system with a final call to take part in the survey. This was opened by 25% (34,258) of the subscribers, with 2% (2,146) clicking through to the website/survey.
- The extensive activity engaging with local media, as well as how social media had been used to raise public awareness, both in advance of the launch of the survey as well as during the period it was open.
- There had been 2,452 responses from residents to the survey. Of these, 12 responses had been made using the paper copy with the rest of the responses being submitted online. Members of the review group were advised that of the residents who had completed the survey that:
 - the most common age range of respondents was between 55-64 years of age (25.5%), with the least common age range was under 18 (0.2%)
 - respondents, aged 45 and over, represented 79.9% of respondents. This is in comparison to the Office for National Statistics' 2020 mid-year estimate of Nottinghamshire's 45+ population of 60.8%.
 - 4.3% of respondents were male, 55.7% of respondents were female, which is higher than the population split for Nottinghamshire compared to Office for National Statistics 2020 mid-year estimates.
 - responders to the budget consultation who identified their ethnicity as white/British stood at 88.6%. This was in line with the proportion of Nottinghamshire residents who identified their ethnicity as White/British according to Office for National Statistics 2020 mid-year estimates.
- The number of completed budget consultation surveys received from residents by other County Councils. Members were advised that the response rates to these consultations should not be taken as a direct comparison against the Council's own

consultation as each authority's methodology differed and their activity may not have been supplemented with other forms of engagement activity.

County Council	Total population	No. of responses
Surrey	1,203,108	358
Oxfordshire	725,291	559
Gloucestershire	645,076	621
Cambridgeshire	678,849	1458
Kent	1,576,069	2161
Derbyshire	794,636	2431
Essex	1,503,521	2434
Nottinghamshire	824,822	2454
Suffolk	760,688	2617
North Yorkshire	615,491	2654
Hertfordshire	1,198,798	2935

- Examples of the format and questions used by other County Councils as part of their budget consultation surveys.
- The potential reasons why residents may choose or not choose to engage and complete a survey when given the opportunity.

18. After receiving the information, members of the review group took the opportunity to ask questions of the Service Director for Transformation and Change on the information that had been provided and to discuss the issues that had been raised.

19. The third meeting of the review group took place on Tuesday 30 May. At this meeting members considered and reviewed the information and discussions that had taken place over the previous meetings to formulate their recommendations.

Review activity and recommendations

20. On 31 March 2022, the Council approved the change to the Council's governance arrangements from a committee system of governance to the executive system (Leader and Cabinet model) to be implemented with effect from the Council's annual meeting on 12 May 2022. The Budget for 2023/24 was the first Budget to be approved under the Council's new governance arrangements and included a number of reports to Cabinet and Overview Committee before approval of the Budget by Full Council in February 2023. As part of the activity carried out to develop the Budget, the consultation survey with residents went live on 17 November 2022 and closed on 2 January 2023. The survey set out how the council spent its allocated budget and asked residents for their views about Council services and their priorities. Members of the review group were also advised that whilst there was no statutory

requirement to consult with residents on the development of the Council's budget, the Council's Public Engagement Policy stated that the Council would engage with the public before setting its budget as well as being recognised across local government that local people and communities, as the recipients of Council services, should have the opportunity to have their say on and to contribute to the processes on how these services were delivered.

21. Members of the review group heard how the experience from the consultation for the 2023/24 budget had indicated it would be beneficial if the public consultation on the budget occurred from September through to late October. This would enable Cabinet to consider the output from the consultation alongside the Local Government Settlement and significantly aid the planning and budgeting activity to coincide before publication of the budget report to Cabinet in January 2024. The aim was to bring forward the planning cycle and make it coterminous with the budget cycle. Members of the review group were advised that having all the necessary information, budget consultation outcomes, grant settlement announcements and taxbase information before setting both the Council's Annual Delivery Plan and Budget would ensure these activities could be completed prior to Full Council considering the proposed Budget in late February 2024.

Recommendation One

That the public consultation on the Council's budget should commence earlier in the year to enable the responses to be considered at an earlier point in the budget development process.

22. As part of the review process members received information on the different types and formats of questions that could be used during consultation and engagement activity. Members of the review group also took the opportunity to consider the questions that had been used during the 2023/24 budget consultation with residents and examples of questions used by other County Councils as part of their public budget consultations.
23. Members of the review group agreed that for the public consultation to add value to the budget development process, the questions included in the survey should be clear, concise, focussed, and accessible. Members of the review group agreed that the questions that had been included in the consultation on the 2023/24 budget had largely met these standards, and that the number of, and focus of the questions had enabled the views of residents to be gathered in way that had enabled them to be collated and analysed prior to being fed into the wider budget development process. Members agreed that having reviewed a range of questions used by other County Council's in their public budget consultations, the question used in the Nottinghamshire survey compared very favourably in terms of clarity and accessibility.
24. Members of the review group discussed the potential in future years that the questions and their format could be amended to make them even more accessible and be presented in a more interactive way. Members agreed that whilst there could be some potential benefits of large-scale changes to the format of the survey, making such changes would take considerable time, put significant demands on resources and could be difficult to deliver as the Council does not currently have a dedicated team for the management and delivery of consultation and engagement activity.
25. Members of the review group were in strong agreement that whilst some minor amendments to the questions included in the budget consultation survey may be needed each year, once

a format had been agreed, the questions asked each year should remain largely unchanged. Members agreed that consistent questions asked over several years would enable detailed analysis on how residents' priorities were changing over time.

26. Whilst it is noted that the setting of the budget consultation questions is the responsibility of the Cabinet Member for Finance in consultation with officers, members of the review group agreed that feedback from members of the Overview Committee should be considered as part of their development.

Recommendation Two

That members of the Overview Committee be given the opportunity to comment on the proposed questions for the 2024/25 budget consultation in advance of the launch of the public survey.

27. As part of the review process, members were keen to understand issues related to participation and the number of residents who had chosen to take part in the consultation around the development of the Council's 2023/24 budget. The public survey on the 2023/4 budget had been completed by 2,454 respondents. Members of the review group were advised that this level of participation was a significant improvement on that received to previous similar budget consultations, as the response rates to these had not exceeded 1,400 responses. Members of the review group agreed that whilst it was encouraging that the number of responses to the survey had increased notably, that the number of responses was disappointing to them given that the population of Nottinghamshire was over 800,000. Members of the review group also examined the response rates that had been seen by other County Council's and noted that whilst it was difficult to make comparisons due to different approaches being taken, that the response rate to the budget consultation in Nottinghamshire compared favourably to the response rates elsewhere.
28. When the public consultation process on the budget opened on 17 November 2023, an email bulletin was sent to all 140,309 subscribers of the Council's "emailme" system. The "emailme" system enables residents to register to receive email bulletins that provide news and information on Council services. This email that was sent on 17 November included information about the budget consultation and provided a link through to the survey and was opened by 31% (42,414) of the subscribers, with 2% (3,170) clicking through to the website/survey. On 29 December (four days before the consultation ended) a further email bulletin was sent to all "emailme" subscribers encouraging recipients to take part in the survey before it closed, this email was opened by 25% (34,258) of the subscribers, with 2% (2,146) clicking through to the website/survey.
29. Members of the review group noted with disappointment the low number of recipients of the email who had opened and subsequently clicked through to access the survey, especially as these were residents who had made the active choice to be contacted by and receive information from the Council. Members discussed the potential reasons why residents who had shown interest in the survey by opening the email and clicking through to the survey might then have chosen not to complete it.
30. The 2023/24 budget consultation survey was also extensively promoted using press releases and through social media activity. Between 21 September 2022 and 2 January 2023, 25 messages were posted from the Council's Facebook (13) and Twitter (12) accounts. In total these reached 19,800 residents, with 35,300 impressions and resulted in 35 likes, 38

shares/retweets, and 15 comments. Further messages were presented on the Council's Instagram account which reached 452 accounts. Members of the review group welcomed the use of social media in promoting the survey and agreed that its use played a significant role in raising awareness of and encouraging participation in the budget consultation process. Members of the review group also agreed that the "MyNotts" app (that had been downloaded 29,540 times as at the end of May 2023) offered further opportunities for promoting future budget consultations surveys.

31. Members of the review group considered in detail why more residents had not chosen to complete the survey given the active promotional activity that had been carried out around it. Members of the review group agreed that the reasons why residents may choose not to participate in the consultation were very complex, with possible reasons including lack of time, not feeling that they had enough information or that their response would not make a difference. As such, the group agreed it was difficult to identify specific activities that would increase levels of participation. Members of the review group agreed that the Council's emailme system as well as the Council's Citizen's Panel presented further opportunities to increase the number of responses received to the budget consultation, given that residents who actively signed up to receive communications from the Council may be more engaged and interested in Council activities than those residents who hadn't.
32. Members of the review group agreed that whilst increasing the number of responses to the Council's budget consultation should be a long-term objective, that this should not be to the detriment of the quality of the information received through the survey. Members noted that for example, a shorter survey could encourage more residents to participate, however this could negatively impact on the quality and usefulness of the information gathered to feed into the budget development process. Members of the review group agreed that ultimately the budget consultation should be focussed on gathering quality information rather than focussing purely on obtaining as many responses as possible.
33. As part of their discussion, members noted that many large public opinion companies when sending out surveys frequently advised at the start of each survey how long on average that they anticipated it would take to complete. Members agreed that including this information in communications around future budget consultations may encourage more residents to complete the survey.

Recommendation Three

That consideration should be given to whether there are any further potential areas of development to build on the existing use of, and to maximise opportunities provided by social media, the "emailme" system, the Council's Citizen's Panel and the MyNotts app to promote the budget consultation survey to residents.

Recommendation Four

That relevant communications related to the public budget consultation should clearly state the approximate time that it will take a resident to complete the survey.

34. At the launch for the public consultation process on the budget in November 2022, and to provide access to the consultation to those residents who are digitally excluded, printed copies of the 2023/24 budget consultation survey were produced and distributed to all 59 Children's

Centres and 60 Libraries across the county, with paper packs also being sent to all Members for them to share in their communities. In total, over 1,500 printed copies of the budget consultation survey were distributed, with additional spare copies also being available to be sent out on request. For residents needing support with completing the survey, there was also the option to phone the council's Customer service Centre where the customer service advisor would be able to assist and fill the survey out on the resident's behalf. Members of the review group agreed that it was essential that residents who were digitally excluded were able to access alternative ways of completing the budget consultation survey.

35. In total, of 2,452 responses from the public were received to the budget consultation, with 12 of these responses being received on paper and none being received by telephone through the Customer Service Centre. Members of the review group noted that that given the financial and environmental impacts of producing paper copies of the survey, producing over 1,500 copies may not be most appropriate use of the Council's resources. As part of their discussions, members of the review group considered whether the Council should stop producing paper copies in future years because of the low number of hard copy responses. On consideration, Members agreed that the Council should continue to produce some paper copies so as not to remove an opportunity for digitally excluded residents to participate in the survey. Members agreed that as it was not possible to determine the number of residents who had become aware of the survey by seeing a paper copy of the survey or a poster advertising the survey, but who had then decided to complete the survey online, that paper copies of the budget consultation survey should continue to be made available. Members noted that if the number of paper copies of the survey were to be reduced then alternative options could be considered for ensuring that paper copies were available to all residents who required them.

Recommendation Five

That paper copies of the budget consultation should continue to be provided, but that the number of copies printed should be reduced.

36. As part of the information gathering activity that took place, members of the review group also looked at the wide range of consultation and engagement activity carried out across the Council. Members of the review group learned that during 2023, (up to 3 May) there had already been 91 public consultations covering a wide range of topics as well as 15 targeted engagements and 86 statutory consultations on traffic regulation orders.
37. As part of the review process, members received information on specific consultations that had been carried out by departments across the Council (as detailed at paragraph 13) and learnt how they had then been used to effectively support the design and delivery of services. Members of the review group agreed that there were many excellent examples of how engagement and consultation activity had been carried out across the Council.
38. Members noted with approval the dynamic and focussed approach that had been taken by services across the Council in making their engagement and consultation activity visible, accessible, and relevant to residents and service users, and that when this had been done it had resulted in good levels of participation. Members agreed that when residents or service users had a clear understanding on the issue or service that was being consulted on, and when the processes involved in the consultation were accessible and relevant, good levels of participation were seen. Members of the review group noted that high levels of participation, when there had been a focus on gathering quality and relevant information, provided services

across the Council with the information they needed to assist them to effectively develop services.

39. Members of the review group also welcomed how departments were focussed on activities that built on the learning from previous engagement and consultation activity to further develop future engagement and consultation activity in their departments.
40. At the completion of the public consultation on the 2023/24 budget, analysis showed the greatest proportion of responses were from those between 55-64 years of age (25.5%). The age group with the lowest response rate was under 18's (0.2%). Members expressed concern at the low level of participation by young people and discussed the potential reasons why they may not have chosen to participate. Members agreed that due to the significant impact on the lives of young people that Council services had, it was important that their voices were heard as part of the budget consultation process.
41. Members of the review group acknowledged that engaging with young people on an activity such as the budget consultation could be challenging because they may not be aware of the role of the Council in their lives. Members also noted that activity to increase the participation of young people and make the budget consultation feel relevant to them may be difficult to continuously resource because due to there not being a dedicated consultation team that could lead on this work. Members of the review group agreed that despite these challenges, there should be a long-term objective across the Council to increase the number of young people participating in relevant consultation and engagement activity.
42. As already noted, Nottinghamshire County Council does not have a central engagement and consultation team. Instead consultation and engagement activity is managed within individual departments, and as appropriate is supported by the Council's Communication team. Members of the review group noted that there could be many benefits of all the Council's engagement and consultation activity being brought together under a central consultation team but agreed that due to the resource and budget demands that this could create, and with the financial pressures currently being faced by the Council, this was unfortunately not a feasible option. Members of the review group noted however, that processes should be in place to enable departments to share feedback and best practice that would support the ongoing development of high-quality engagement and consultation activity across the Council.

Recommendation Six

That work be carried out to investigate potential opportunities around how more young people could be encouraged to take part in relevant consultations.

Recommendation Seven

That opportunities should be put in place that enable departments across the Council to share feedback and best practice around consultation and resident engagement activity.

43. The Council's Consultation Toolkit sets the Council's approach to consultation and engagement activity. This document details the 12 consultation standards that should be used across Council departments to establish best practice when carrying out engagement and

consultation activity. The standards are based on the Council's Public Engagement Policy and participation values that put the public at the heart of what the Council does.

44. The consultation process, as detailed in the Council's Consultation Toolkit should include providing participants with feedback on the information that has been gathered and how it is being used. As part of the review process members received information on how these processes worked in practice and commended the clear and accessible way in which this work was carried out across the Council. Members of the review group were particularly impressed by the visual and colourful infographics that had been used by the Children and Families and Adult Social Care and Public Health departments that summarised the responses received during engagement and consultation activity in a clear and accessible way. Members of the review group agreed that providing feedback that showed how information gathered through consultation and engagement had been used and listened to, especially if done in an accessible and engaging way, had the potential encourage those who had contributed to take part in further consultation and engagement activities. Members of the review group did note however that providing this type of feedback on all consultation and engagement activity would place an additional demand on Council resources, especially as the Council does not have a dedicated consultation and engagement team.
45. The Council's Engagement Hub, that is accessed through the Council's website and easily located through web search engines, provides public access to the Council's consultations. As well as providing access to open consultations, the hub also provides details of consultations that have closed. Members noted that whilst the hub was both easily accessible and user friendly for the public, for closed consultations information was not shown on how the responses had contributed to the delivery and design of the service that had been consulted on.
46. Information gathered through the annual public consultation on the Council's budget is included in reports to Cabinet and Council that are accessible to the public through the Council's website. Members of the review group agreed that due to the scale and importance of this consultation that the information received should be easily accessible by residents and presented in a user-friendly manner to show residents how their participation had been used to feed into the development of the Council's budget.

Recommendation Eight

That as and where appropriate, communication activity should take place with residents to show how their responses had been used to inform the development of the area of Council activity that had been consulted on.

47. Summary of recommendations

	Recommendation	Cabinet response
1.	That the public consultation on the Council's budget should commence earlier in the year to enable the responses to be considered at an earlier point in the budget development process.	

2.	That members of the Overview Committee be given the opportunity to comment on the proposed questions for the 2024/25 budget consultation in advance of the launch of the public survey.	
3.	That consideration should be given to whether there are any further potential areas of development to build on the existing use and to maximise opportunities provided by social media, the "emailme" system, the Council's Citizen's Panel and the MyNotts app to promote the budget consultation survey to residents.	
4.	That relevant communications related to the public budget consultation should clearly state the approximate time that it will take a resident to complete the survey.	
5.	That paper copies of the budget consultation should continue to be provided, but that the number of copies printed should be reduced.	
6.	That work be carried out to investigate potential opportunities around how more young people could be encouraged to take part in relevant consultations.	
7.	That opportunities should be put in place that enable departments across the Council to share feedback and best practice around consultation and resident engagement activity.	
8.	That as and where appropriate, communication activity should take place with residents to show how their responses had been used to inform the development of the area of Council activity that had been consulted on.	

Acknowledgments

48. The Chairman and members of the review group would like to express their thanks for the invaluable support provided during review process to Dr Isobel Fleming, Service Director – Transformation and Change, Nigel Stevenson, Service Director - Finance, Infrastructure and Improvement, Luke Barrett, Group Manager – Communications and Marketing and Ross Scott, Policy Manager, as well as to the officers who attended the first meeting of the review group and provided information on engagement and consultation activity in their departments.

Statutory and Policy Implications

49. 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

50. There are no direct financial implications relating to the recommendation of the report.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) That the recommendations from the scrutiny review of resident engagement and consultation, as detailed in the report, be endorsed, and referred to Cabinet for consideration.

Councillor Boyd Elliott
Chairman, Overview Committee

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Martin Elliott, Senior Scrutiny Officer, Tel: 0115 9772564, e-mail: martin.elliott@nottsc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments (KK 21/06/2023)

The proposal in this report is within the remit of the Overview Committee.

Financial Comments (PAA 19/06/2023)

There are no specific financial implications arising directly from the recommendation of 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.

[Minutes of the Overview Committee 7 September 2022](#)

[Minutes of the Overview Committee 1 December 2022](#)

[Budget Report to Council Appendix G – Budget Consultation 9 February 2023](#)

[Nottinghamshire County Council Public Engagement Policy](#)

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All

