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Monday, 7 September 2026

Chair: Councillor P Peacock

Members of the Committee:

Councillor R Cozens
Councillor S Crosby
Councillor L Brazier
Councillor S Forde
Councillor P Harris
Councillor C Penny
Councillor P Taylor
Councillor J Kellas

MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	Tuesday, 15 September 2026 at 6.00 pm
VENUE:	Civic Suite, Castle House, Great North Road, Newark, NG24 1BY

You are hereby requested to attend the above Meeting to be held at the time/place and on the date mentioned above for the purpose of transacting the business on the Agenda as overleaf.

If you have any queries please contact Nigel Hill on Nigel.hill@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk.

AGENDA

17. Exclusion of the Press and Public

The Committee will be invited to resolve:-
'To consider resolving that, under section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.'

Categories of "Exempt Information"
Under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended

3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Note – Fire Alarm Evacuation
In the event of an alarm sounding please evacuate the building using the nearest fire exit in the Civic Suite. You should assemble at the designated fire assembly point located in the rear car park and remain there until the Fire Service arrive and advise it is safe to return into the building

NEWARK AND SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of **Cabinet** held in the Civic Suite, Castle House, Great North Road, Newark, NG24 1BY on Tuesday, 21 July 2026 at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor P Peacock (Chair)

Councillor R Cozens, Councillor S Crosby, Councillor L Brazier, Councillor P Harris, Councillor C Penny, Councillor P Taylor and Councillor J Kellas

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor N Allen, Councillor S Haynes and Councillor P Rainbow

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor S Forde

402 NOTIFICATION TO THOSE PRESENT THAT THE MEETING WILL BE RECORDED AND STREAMED ONLINE

The Leader advised that the proceedings were being audio recorded and live streamed by the Council.

403 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

There were no declarations of interest.

404 CHAIR'S UPDATE

The Leader reflected on the Full Council meeting held on 14 July 2026, explaining that an investigation was underway.

The Cabinet also noted that the LGR decision had been published, and whilst it had not been the option that Newark and Sherwood District Council had endorsed, the Council would work towards a smooth transition towards a new Unitary Authority.

405 MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 9 JUNE 2026

The minutes from the meeting held on 9 June 2026 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

406 HOUSING COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE REPORT QUARTER 4 2025-26

The Head of Building Safety and Asset Management was in attendance to provide the performance position as of 31 March 2026 (Quarter 4) for Housing related compliance and update on activities in the service area, focusing on exceptions in performance, which were outside the Council's target parameters. Members considered the implementation of the second part of Awab's Law and the need for careful case management, and the issues considered around awarding a new repairs contract.

AGREED (unanimously) that Cabinet note:

a) the exceptions to performance of the housing service compliance functions;

b) interim arrangements for monitoring damp and mould ahead of introduction of Awaab's Law; and

c) the ongoing actions to improve and maintain performance.

Reasons for Decision:
To provide assurance on the work undertaken to ensure the safety of tenants and compliance with the regulatory standards.

Options Considered:
None

407 PROVISIONAL FINANCIAL OUTTURN REPORT TO 31 MARCH 2026

The Director- Finance, Revenues and Benefits was in attendance to present the provisional 2025/26 financial outturn position on the Council's revenue and capital budgets, including:- General Fund Revenue; Housing Revenue Account; Capital Programme; Provisions and Impaired Estimates on Debtors; Usable Reserves; and collection Fund

The report provided Members with a summary of actual income and expenditure compared to the revised budget and how any surpluses and deficits have been allocated to or from reserves.

Members debated the levels of reserves, considering whether these would be better used to fund smaller projects leading up to Local Government Organisation. It was noted that the Council was running a large number of capital projects, which would require reserves to ensure the Council could afford any increase in price, balanced against collecting no more than required in tax.

AGREED (unanimously) that:

a) the final outturn of revenue and capital spending for 2025/26 be noted;

b) the capital financing proposals as set out in table 5 at paragraph 1.18 of the report, be noted;

c) the Capital Programme reprofiling of £14.289m carried forward into 2026/27, as per appendices E and F to the report, be noted;

d) the movement in Provisions and Impaired Estimates on Debtors be noted; and

e) the individual contributions to, and withdrawals from, the revenue and capital Usable Reserves, be noted.

408 COMMUNITY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR QUARTER 4 2025/26

The Senior Transformation & Service Improvement Officer was in attendance to present the Community Plan Performance for Quarter 4 2025/26. Appendix 2 was a new document and has been introduced for the first time this year, showing the average performance of some KPIs across all four quarters, offering an outturn position. The annual KPIs, which were collected and reported once a year in Q4, were also included within this appendix for a comprehensive annual overview.

Members considered the KPI for re-let times and the work undertaken to get a void property ready for re-let, and the performance in relation to the reduction in crime noting the opening of the new CCTV room.

AGREED (unanimously) that Cabinet:

a) review the Community Plan Performance Report attached as Appendix 1;

b) review the Annual Performance Report attached as Appendix 2;

c) review the compliance report attached as Appendix 3; and

d) consider the Council's performance against its objectives highlighting any areas of high performance and identifying areas for improvement.

Reasons for Decision
To ensure that Cabinet are aware of all relevant performance updates in line with the Community Plan.

Options Considered
None

409 LOCAL OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK

The Head of Transformation and Service Improvement was in attendance to present a report which sought to provide members of Cabinet with an update on recent developments related to the local government outcomes framework, outlining the implications of the framework's implementation on the operations of Newark and Sherwood District Council, with particular emphasis on its performance framework. Members welcomed the introduction of the framework, highlighting the importance of qualitative data collection in demonstrating the outcomes and impact of the work of the Council in the community.

AGREED (unanimously) that Cabinet note the likely impact of the local government framework outcomes as identified in the report.

Reasons for Decision
The Committee receives quarterly reports on progress against the Council's Community Plan, using the key performance indicators set out in the Performance Framework. This report provides Members with the annual update to the

Performance Framework and the refreshed set of performance indicators for information and awareness.

Options Considered:
None Considered

410 PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK 2026-27

The Senior Transformation & Service Improvement Officer was in attendance to provide members of Cabinet with an update on the Performance Framework and indicators used to monitor and measure the Councils performance against the refreshed Community Plan.

The Performance Framework for 2026/27 was presented to the Policy and Performance Improvement Committee on 1 June 2026, which had suggested that rather than reducing the targets for the performance of telephone answering times and the re-letting of council houses, further work should be undertaken as to how improvements could be made to ensure the current targets were met.

Members discussed the housing re-let target in detail, which was set at 35, up from 28, but was actually performing at 77days. Members heard that the target was set to be achievable but would be a stretch, noting that the performance would be closely monitored.

AGREED (with 1 against and 7 for) that Cabinet:

a) consider the comments from the Policy and Performance Improvement Committee in relation to the Corporate Planning, Performance Management
and Assurance Framework (appendix 1) and the refreshed performance indicators (appendix 2); and

b) after which, note and endorse the Corporate Planning, Performance Management and Assurance Framework (appendix 1) and the refreshed performance indicators (appendix 2).

Reasons for Decision
The Committee receives quarterly reports on progress against the Council's Community Plan, using the key performance indicators set out in the Performance
Framework. This report provides Members with the annual update to the Performance Framework and the refreshed set of performance indicators for information and awareness.

Options Considered
None

411 CORPORATE ANNUAL BUDGET STRATEGY FOR 2027/28

The Director - Finance, Revenues & Benefits was in attendance to present a report which set out the General Fund, Capital & HRA Budget Strategy for 2027/28, for consideration by Members before detailed work commenced. The report set out the timeline for consideration of the budget in accordance with the Council's Constitution, noting that there were no changes to the Council's Priorities or Community Plan.

AGREED (unanimously) that Cabinet:

a) approve the overall General Fund, Capital & HRA Budget Strategy for 2027/28;

b) note the consultation process with Members;

c) note that Budget Officers continue work on the assessment of various budget proposals affecting services for consideration in setting the Council's budget;

d) note that Budget Managers work with Finance Officers in identifying further efficiency savings, increasing income from fees and charges and in identifying new sources of income;

e) to review the policies and principles on Budgeting, Council Tax, Reserves and Provisions, Charging, Value for Money and make any recommendations to Council;

f) note that the additional budget required as a result of the restructure due to LGR in 2026/27 of £273,987 be funded by reserves set aside during 2025/26, and that the additional £16,384 to fund the 2027/28 budget be funded by the reserves set aside during 2025/26. The savings generated from 2028/29 onwards, then occur within the budget thereafter;

g) approve the additional x1 FTE in the Planning Policy and Infrastructure team as per 3.7.7 funded for two years from grant funding and added into the general fund thereafter; and

h) approve the additional x1 FTE in the Heritage Culture and Visitors Business Unit as per 3.7.8 funded from the overall restructure savings identified in the table at 3.7.9.

Reasons for Decision:
To enable the Council's budget process to proceed in accordance with assumptions set out in this report.

Options Considered:
Not applicable, the Budget Strategy is required each year in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

412 <u>THE COUNCIL'S APPROACH TO DEBT COLLECTION AND MANAGING CASES OF MULTIPLE DEBT</u>

The Council's Transactional Finance Manager was in attendance to present a report which set out the draft Corporate Income and Debt Strategy and Policy Management of Cases that Involve Multiple Council Debt.

The Cabinet welcomed the creation of a single point of contact for people with multiple debts with the Council, which historically had been managed by a number of different teams. Members noted that the Council did make use of enforcement agents to help collect debts, but the Council would work to help prevent the need for this where at all possible.

AGREED (unanimously) that Cabinet:

a) review and endorse the proposed approach to debt collection as set out in Appendices A and B; and

b) approve the additional budget requirement for 1 additional FTE of £72,800 (based on 25/26 values) funded 50% each between the GF and HRA based upon the reserves identified in the financial implications.

Reasons for Decision
To improve the customers experience of debt collection to align with our customer experience strategy and centralise our collection approach.

Options Considered
Cabinet does not approve the proposed changes, and individual teams continue to collect debt streams in isolation and without a joined-up approach.

413 NEWARK A46 BYPASS - UPDATE AND NEXT STEPS

The Director – Planning and Growth presented a report to update Cabinet on the current position regarding the A46 Newark Bypass, the recent uncertainty affecting delivery, and the proposed next steps for continued lobbying and partnership working to secure delivery of the nationally important infrastructure within the Road Investment Strategy 3 period (2026–2031).

The Cabinet welcomed the report, noting the national significance of the project and the important role in economic growth that the A46 project would bring.

AGREED (unanimously) that Cabinet:

a) note the current position regarding the A46 Newark Bypass, including the Development Consent Order approval, the scheme's inclusion within Road
Investment Strategy 3 (2026–2031) in March 2026, and the recent uncertainty following the cancellation of the Skanska contract and Department for Transport letter of 30 June 2026 reproduced at Appendix A;

b) strongly reaffirm the Council's support for the earliest possible delivery of the A46 Newark Bypass as nationally important infrastructure;

c) strongly support that the Council should continue to work with partners, Coordinated through the East Midlands Combined County Authority, including
East Midlands Councils/Transport for the East Midlands, Nottinghamshire County Council, Lincolnshire County Council, local Members of Parliament and regional business partners, to lobby Government for the scheme to be delivered as soon

as possible within the RIS3 period;

d) delegates authority to the Leader of the Council and Director – Planning and Growth to finalise and submit any letters, consultation responses or joint representations required to support delivery of the scheme in accordance with recommendations b) and c) above; and

e) notes that officers will continue to keep under review the local implications of any delay, particularly for the Newark Urban Area, the ongoing work for the new Local Plan, and the Council's land and property interests at the Newark Lorry Park.

Reasons for Decision:
To ensure continued efforts to secure this important national infrastructure.

Options Considered:
The Council could choose to remain silent on recent developments, which would be contrary to our role over many years to lobby, alongside public and private sector partners, to promote and secure at a national level the importance of the A46 Bypass which is nationally, locally and regionally critical in delivering journey-time savings, unlocking growth and productivity, and alleviating congestion.

414 FIXED PENALTY NOTICES - INCREASE OF CHARGES AND INSERTION OF NEW OFFENCE

The Senior Enforcement Officer was in attendance to present a report which sought approval to update the Council's fixed penalty charges in line with the Government's stance on Waste Crime/ASB and to include a new fixed penalty charge.

The Cabinet welcomed the report and the educational actions undertaken by the Team alongside the enforcement action and appropriate action to investigate fly-tipping which was welcomed by residents.

AGREED (unanimously) that Cabinet:

a) adopts a new fixed penalty notice for household waste duty of care in Section 2.6;

b) adopts revised tariffs provided in Section 2.7; and

c) publicises the revised tariffs on the Council's website.

Reasons for Decision:
This aligns with the Community Plan ambition to reduce opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour by reviewing infrastructure and encouraging behavioural change across the district, with the aim of improving feelings of safety.

Options Considered:
To make no changes to the current FPN tariff.

Meeting closed at 9.09 pm.

Chair

NEWARK & SHERWOOD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet Meeting - 15 September 2026

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Paul Peacock, Strategy, Performance & Finance

Director Lead: Nick Wilson, Director Finance, Revenues & Benefits

Lead Officer: Andrew Snape, Head of Finance

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open, Non-Key Decision
Report Title	Projected General Fund and Housing Revenue Account Revenue and Capital Outturn Report to 31 March 2027 as at 30 June 2026
Purpose of Report	To update Members with the forecast outturn position for the 2026/27 financial year for the Council's General Fund and Housing Revenue Account revenue and capital budgets. To show performance against the approved estimates of revenue expenditure and income; report on major variances from planned budget performance; and report on variations to the Capital Programme for approval; all in accordance with the Council's Constitution.
Recommendations	That Cabinet: (a) note the General Fund projected unfavourable outturn variance of £0.665m; (b) note the Housing Revenue Account projected unfavourable outturn variance of £1.112m to the Major Repairs Reserve; (c) approve the variations to the Capital Programme at Appendix C; (d) approve the Capital Programme revised budget and financing of £73.110m; and (e) note the Prudential indicators at Appendix F.
Alternative Options Considered	Not applicable.
Reason for Recommendations	To consider the forecast outturn position for the 2025/26 financial year for the Council's General Fund and Housing Revenue Account revenue and capital budgets.

	To show performance against the approved estimates of revenue expenditure and income; report on major variances from planned budget performance; and report on variations to the Capital Programme for approval; all in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

1.0 Background

Overview of General Fund Revenue Projected Outturn for 2026/27

Current position (as at 30 June 2026): variances

1.1 *Table 1* shows a projected unfavourable variance against the revised budget of £1.530m on Service budgets, with an overall unfavourable variance of £0.665m that would need to be transferred from the General Fund reserve, based on the current forecast outturn position, sufficient reserves are available to cover this variance if required. This is based on meetings which took place with Budget Managers during July, whereby they have analysed actual income and expenditure to 30th June 2026 and forecasted forward to the end of March 2027 the additional income and expenditure currently expected to be incurred. Further details of the variances projected against portfolio holder budgets are in **Appendix A**.

Table 1: General Fund revenue outturn for 2026/27 financial year as at 30 June 2026

	Original Budget £'m	Revised Budget £'m	Projected Outturn £'m	Variance £'m
Climate and the Environment	3.445	3.515	3.588	0.073
Corporate Services	3.459	3.617	3.584	(0.033)
Health, Wellbeing and Leisure	0.486	0.580	0.559	(0.021)
Heritage, Culture and the Arts	0.765	0.837	0.833	(0.004)
Housing	0.325	0.410	0.510	0.100
Public Protection and Community Relations	4.190	4.305	4.262	(0.043)
Strategy, Performance and Finance	7.778	8.234	8.064	(0.170)
Sustainable Economic Development	2.198	2.259	1.869	(0.390)
Vacancy Factor & Savings	(2.018)	(2.018)	0.000	2.018
Net Cost of Services	**20.628**	**21.739**	**23.269**	**1.530**
Other Operating Expenditure	5.386	5.386	5.386	0.000
Finance & Investment Income/Expenditure	(1.796)	(1.796)	(2.129)	(0.333)
Taxation & Non-Specific Grant Income	(26.064)	(26.064)	(26.428)	(0.364)
Net Cost of Council Expenditure	**(1.846)**	**(0.735)**	**0.098**	**0.833**
Transfer to/(from) Usable Reserves	0.739	(0.437)	(0.437)	0.000
Transfer to/(from) Unusable Reserves	1.107	1.172	1.004	(0.168)
Transfer to/(from) General Reserves	0.000	0.000	(0.665)	(0.665)

1.2 An unfavourable variance of £1.530m is currently being projected on service budgets managed by business managers. This represents 7.04% of the total service budgets. A variance analysis is detailed at **Appendix A**.

1.3 There have been significant issues in recruitment seen across the Council over the last few financial years. This has been felt across the Local Government sector, with similar issues being seen in a number of neighbouring authorities. The decision to increase the vacancy factor provision from 4% to 7.5% for 2026/27, approved as part of the Budget Strategy in July 2025, was informed by the 2024/25 outturn vacancy rate of 8.4%. The increase also reflected the anticipated continuation of recruitment challenges and the uncertainty associated with the forthcoming Local Government Reorganisation.

1.4 An unfavourable variance of £1.371m on employee related expenditure includes £1.768m of vacancy savings target, representing 7.5% of the total budget for employees within each Business Unit. Against the year-to-date budget, actual vacancies have generated a favourable variance of £0.204m, equivalent to 3.4% of the year-to-date employee budget. Vacancy levels and associated savings continue to be closely monitored and reviewed on a regular basis.

1.5 Non-Service expenditure is projected to have a favourable variance of £0.697m against the revised budget of £22.474m. These budgets primarily relate to income from council tax, national non-domestic rates (NNDR, or 'business rates') and investment interest. The favourable variance of £0.364m on Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income primarily reflects an anticipated additional surplus of £0.360m from renewable energy properties within the business rates system. This is above the £1.145m included in the budget and arises as a result of the revaluation and subsequent reset of the business rates system.

1.6 The projected favourable variance of £0.333m within the Financing and Investment line of the Non-Service budget is primarily attributable to external borrowing being required later than originally anticipated, resulting in a reduction in forecast interest payable of £0.033m. In addition, higher-than-anticipated interest rates and increased cash balances have generated additional investment income, contributing a favourable variance of £0.190m. These favourable movements are further enhanced by the forecast overachievement of £0.110m in the financial contribution from Arkwood, with income projected at £1.210m against a budget of £1.100m.

1.7 A favourable variance of £0.168m is forecast on the transfer to unusable reserves, reflecting a lower Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) charge than originally budgeted. The budget assumed £6.946m of borrowing within the 2025/26 Capital Programme; however, the full budgeted amount of borrowing was not required as planned due to reprofiling and slippage reported to Cabinet on 21 July 2026. As MRP is charged from the relevant scheme completion date, the associated MRP charge has been deferred where completion and the related borrowing requirement have moved into later periods.

Current position (as at 30 June 2026): revised budget compared to original budget

1.8 As at 30 June 2026, there have been net transfers totalling £1.111m from reserves. Below is a table summarising the reserves movement and which directorate the budget has been transferred either (to) of from:

Earmarked Reserve	C&E £'m	CS £'m	HWL £'m	HCA £'m	H £'m	PPCR £'m	SPF £'m	SED £'m	Total £'m
Capital Exp Charged To Revenue	0.020	0.093	0.095	0.059	0.060	0.114	0.485	0.005	0.931
Capital Project Feasibility	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.050	0.050
Eem Reserve	0	0	0	0	0	0.008	0	0	0.008
Homelessness Fund	0	0	0	0	0.005	0	0	0	0.005
MTFP Reserve	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.069	0	0.069
Repairs And Renewals Fund	0.009	0.013	0	0	0	0	0.004	0	0.026
Residential Food Waste	0.002	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.002
Revenue Grants Unapplied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.020	0.020
Total Earmarked Reserves Movement	**0.031**	**0.106**	**0.095**	**0.059**	**0.065**	**0.122**	**0.558**	**0.075**	**1.111**

Overview of Projected Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Outturn for 2026/27

1.9 With reference to the 'Variance' column in *Table 3*, the HRA accounts show a projected unfavourable variance on the Net Cost of HRA Services against the revised budget of £1.077m and a reduced transfer to the Major Repairs Reserve of £1.112m.

Table 3: HRA revenue outturn for 2026/27 financial year as at 30 June 2026

	Original Budget £'m	Revised Budget £'m	Projected Outturn £'m	Variance £'m
Expenditure	25.550	26.601	27.278	0.677
Income	(32.243)	(32.227)	(31.826)	0.400
Net Cost of HRA Services	**(6.693)**	**(5.626)**	**(4.548)**	**1.077**
Other Operating Expenditure	0.013	0.013	0.013	0
Finance & Investment Income/Expenditure	4.348	4.348	4.383	0.035
Taxation & Non-Specific Grant Income	0	0	0	0
(Surplus)/Deficit on HRA Services	**(2.332)**	**(1.265)**	**(0.153)**	**1.112**
Movements in Reserves				
Transfer to/(from) Usable Reserves	(6.364)	(6.364)	(6.364)	0
Transfer to/(from) Unusable Reserves	(0.013)	(1.080)	(1.080)	0
Transfer to/(from) Major Repairs Reserve	8.709	8.709	7.597	(1.112)
Total	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

1.10 The main reasons for the £1.077m unfavourable variance on services are detailed at **Appendix B**. In relation to the unfavourable variance of £0.035m on the Finance & Investment Income/Expenditure line, this relates to the forecasted earlier than anticipated requirement for external borrowing therefore increasing the interest payable costs. Based on the current forecast outturn position, sufficient reserves are available to cover this variance from the Major Repairs Reserve if required.

Overview of Projected Capital Outturn 2026/27

1.11 The table below summarises the position for the Capital Programme as at 30 June 2026 and is split between General Fund and Housing Revenue Account.

	Original Approved Budget £'m	Current Approved Budget £'m	Revised Budget updated for Approval £'m	Actual Spend to 30 June 2026 £'m	Forecast Outturn £'m
General Fund	40.047	51.949	44.322	4.083	44.322
Housing Revenue Account	29.942	32.329	28.788	3.001	28.788
Total	**69.989**	**84.278**	**73.110**	**7.084**	**73.110**

1.12 As projects are developed and spending commitments are made, budget requirements can change. It is a requirement that Cabinet approve all variations to the Capital Programme. Following the meeting of 21 July 2026, the total approved budget was £84.278m including slippage from 2025/26. The additions and amendments that now require approval are detailed in **Appendix C** and summarised as follows:

	General Fund		Housing Revenue Account	
	2026/27 £'m	**2027/28 £'m**	**2026/27 £'m**	**2027/28 £'m**
Additions/Reductions	£1.303	£0.000	£1.105	£0.000
Reprofiles	(£8.931)	£8.931	(£4.646)	£4.646
Total	**(£7.628)**	**£8.931**	**(£3.541)**	**£4.646**

1.13 If these variations are approved, then the revised budget will be reduced to £73.110m. A more detailed breakdown at scheme level, including some comments on projects progress, can be found at **Appendix D** (General Fund) **and Appendix E** (Housing Revenue Account).

Capital Programme Resources

1.14 The Capital resources available to the Council are not static. Capital receipts are generated throughout the year, additional grants and contributions are paid to the Council, and borrowing may be increased to fund some projects.

1.15 In summary, the revised budget of £73.110m will be financed as follows, with every attempt to minimise the impact on the Council's revenue budget:

	General Fund £'m	Housing Revenue Account £'m	Total £'m
External Grants & Contributions	12.344	2.124	**14.468**
Capital Receipts	2.444	2.128	**4.572**
Capital Receipts 1-4-1	0	1.949	**1.949**
Revenue Contributions	11.128	5.188	**16.316**
Borrowing	18.406	17.399	**35.805**
Total	**44.322**	**28.788**	**73.110**

Capital Receipts

1.16 The Council has been successful in securing capital receipts for both general fund and HRA in previous years and continues to do so. The current level of capital receipts is detailed in the table below:

	General Fund £'m	HRA Receipts £'m	HRA 1-4-1 Receipts £'m	Total £'m
Balance at 1st April 2026	**1.007**	**1.624**	**0.988**	**3.619**
Received up to end of June 2026	0.000	0.134	0.201	**0.335**
Estimated receipts for remainder of the financial year	3.681	0.370	0.760	**4.811**
Approved for financing	2.444	2.128	1.949	**6.521**
Available Capital receipts balance at 31 March 2027	**2.244**	**0.000**	**0.000**	**2.244**
Estimated Receipts 2027/28 - 2029/30	2.540	1.036	1.556	**5.132**
Approved for Financing 2027/28 – 2029/30	4.778	0.613	0.250	**5.641**
Estimated Uncommitted Balance	**0.006**	**0.423**	**1.306**	**1.735**

Prudential Indicators

1.17 The Treasury Management Code of Practice 2021 stipulates that quarterly update reports on prudential indicators are now required from 2023/24 onwards.

1.18 The prudential indicators are set within the Treasury Management Strategy, Capital Strategy and the Investment Strategy and the three strategies were approved by Audit and Accounts Committee on 4 March 2026 and Full Council on 5 March 2026. The summary of the prudential indicators can be found at **Appendix F.**

1.19 As can be seen from **Appendix F**, the Council was fully compliant with all of the indicators as set within the Treasury Management Strategy, Capital Strategy and Investment Strategy.

2.0 <u>Proposal/Options Considered and Reasons for Recommendation</u>

2.1 To consider the forecast outturn position for the 2026/27 financial year for the Council's General Fund and Housing Revenue Account revenue and capital budgets.

2.2 To: show performance against the approved estimates of revenue expenditure and income; report on major variances from planned budget performance; and report on variations to the Capital Programme for approval; all in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

3.0 <u>Implications</u>

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendation's officers have considered the following implications; Data Protection, Digital and Cyber Security, Equality and Diversity, Financial, Human Resources, Human Rights, Legal, Safeguarding and Sustainability, and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

Implications Considered **Yes – relevant and included / NA – not applicable**			
Financial	N/A	Equality & Diversity	N/A
Human Resources	N/A	Human Rights	N/A
Legal	N/A	Data Protection	N/A
Digital & Cyber Security	N/A	Safeguarding	N/A
Sustainability	N/A	Crime & Disorder	N/A
LGR	N/A	Tenant Consultation	N/A

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.

General Fund, Housing Revenue Account Revenue and Capital Monitoring Outturn Report to 31 March 2027 as at 30 June 2026.

Appendix A

General Fund (GF) Revenue Outturn Variance Analysis by Portfolio and Business Unit as at 30 June 2026

Favourable variances are bracketed and in red - £(0.000)m. Unfavourable variances are in black - £0.000m. All amounts are in millions of pounds (£'m).

Climate and the Environment - £0.073m		**£'m**
Environmental Services	Staffing costs are forecast to exceed budget due to the combined impact of lower-than-anticipated staff turnover and a change in budgeting methodology. Driver and operative posts are now budgeted at the midpoint of the pay scale rather than the top of the grade, reflecting historically high turnover levels. However, improved staff retention has resulted in a greater proportion of employees progressing through pay scales, leading to salary costs exceeding budget assumptions.	0.076
Environmental Services	Income within the Waste and Recycling Service is forecast to exceed budget, primarily due to higher-than-anticipated income from recycling, trade refuse, and garden waste collection services.	(0.085)
Environmental Services	Fuel costs are currently forecast to exceed the approved budget due to continued elevated market prices. This remains a volatile area of expenditure, with costs highly sensitive to prevailing economic conditions.	0.061
All	Culmination of other Employee variances across the Portfolio, net of Agency Staff	0.071
All	Other Small Variances	(0.050)
Biodiversity and Environmental Services Total		**0.073**

Corporate Services - £(0.033)m		**£'m**
Law & Information Governance	The favourable variance within the Legal Section is primarily attributable to staffing vacancies, including 5 months of a vacant Senior Legal Officer (SLO) post, 3 months of a vacant Trainee post, 1 month of a vacant Legal Officer (LO) post, and a 0.20 FTE vacancy within the SLO Litigation team. In addition, two SLO development roles are budgeted at NS12 but are currently being paid at NS10, generating further employee cost savings.	(0.056)
Law & Information Governance	The overspend on the Agency Staff budget reflects the Legal team's continued reliance on locum staff to meet service demands, provide supervision for development roles, and maintain service resilience during periods of annual leave. The forecast includes provision for Solicitor through to the end of 2026/27, Monitoring officer until November 2026, and Property Lawyer together with an additional locum until October 2026.	0.131
Revenues And Benefits	The vacant Apprentice post is scheduled to be filled in October. In addition, the NS07 post, budgeted at 1.0 FTE, has reduced working hours to 22.5 hours per week.	(0.032)
Ict & Digital Services	A favourable variance is forecast as the Digital Content role within ICT has been allocated to the website development capital project. Consequently, a proportion of the associated employee costs can be recharged to capital, which was not included in the original budget assumptions.	(0.034)
All	Culmination of other Employee variances across the Portfolio, net of Agency Staff	(0.035)
All	Other Small Variances	(0.007)
Corporate Services Total		**(0.033)**

Health, Wellbeing and Leisure - £(0.021)m		**£'m**
All	Culmination of other Employee variances across the Portfolio, net of Agency Staff	(0.001)
All	Other Small Variances	(0.020)
Health, Wellbeing and Leisure Total		**(0.021)**

Heritage, Culture, and the Arts - £(0.004)m		**£'m**
All	Culmination of other Employee variances across the Portfolio, net of Agency Staff	0.003
All	Other Small Variances	(0.007)
Heritage, Culture, and the Arts Total		**(0.004)**

Housing - £0.100m		£'m
Gf Housing Maint & Asset Mgt	The Energy and Home Support Officer post remains vacant and is not expected to be filled for the remainder of the financial year.	(0.038)
Gf Housing Services	Income from rents and service charges within General Fund Housing Services, including Alexander Lodge, Wellow Green, Northgate and Homes for Ukraine, is forecast to be below budget due to higher void levels and lower occupancy rates below original budget assumptions.	0.067
Private Sector Speech Call	The budget was based on 2,083 private sector customers; however, current customer numbers stand at 1,793. Whilst some growth is anticipated during the remainder of the year, customer numbers are not expected to reach the budgeted level.	0.056
All	Culmination of other Employee variances across the Portfolio, net of Agency Staff	(0.041)
All	Other Small Variances	0.056
Housing Total		**0.100**

Public Protection and Community Relations - £(0.043)m		£'m
Public Protection	A favourable variance due to the retirement of the Emergency Planning Officer following a short period of flexible retirement. The post is currently being held vacant pending greater clarity on the implications of Local Government Reorganisation.	(0.079)
All	Culmination of other Employee variances across the Portfolio, net of Agency Staff	0.029
All	Other Small Variances	0.007
Public Protection and Community Relations Total		**(0.043)**

Strategy, Performance and Finance - £0.432m		£'m
Financial Services	The favourable variance reflects anticipated savings arising from the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) restructure, as set out in the Budget Strategy Report approved by Cabinet in July.	(0.108)
Administration Services	A favourable variance has arisen due to the Apprentice post remaining vacant since April 2026, together with vacancies in the NS06 and NS04 posts during April and May 2026.	(0.055)
All	Culmination of other Employee variances across the Portfolio, net of Agency Staff	(0.021)
All	Other Small Variances	0.014
Strategy, Performance and Finance Total		**(0.170)**

Sustainable Economic Development - £(0.013)m		£'m
Planning Development	Planning fee income is currently exceeding budget expectations due to a combination of nationally prescribed planning fee increases and the relaxation of planning reforms, which have contributed to higher levels of fee income during Quarter 1. This trend is expected to continue throughout the remainder of the financial year. The number of major planning applications received in Quarter 1 is broadly consistent with the same period in the previous year.	(0.330)
Planning Development	A favourable variance is forecast due to the Tree Services post currently being vacant, with recruitment not expected until December 2026.	(0.037)
All	Culmination of other Employee variances across the Portfolio, net of Agency Staff	(0.001)
All	Other Small Variances	(0.022)
Sustainable Economic Development Total		**(0.390)**

Vacancy Factor & Notional Savings £2.018m		£'m
Vacancy Factor	The vacancy factor represents a planned allowance within the Council's establishment budget to reflect the likelihood that not all posts will be occupied throughout the year.	1.768
Notional Savings	Budget set for notional savings as per the revenue budget setting for 2026-27 at Full Council in March.	0.250
Vacancy Factor & Notional Savings Total		**2.018**

General Fund Revenue Outturn Variance for Services	**1.530**

Appendix B

Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Revenue Outturn Variance Analysis as at 30 June 2026

Favourable variances are bracketed and in red - £(0.000)m. Unfavourable variances are in black - £0.000m.

HRA - £1.077m		**£'m**
HRA General	Overall variance across Service Level Agreement (SLA) recharges with the General Fund resulting from the recalculation of recharge allocations	0.064
HRA General	Yorke Drive Scheme: Ongoing financial impact arising from the Council Tax policy on empty homes, including the application of double-rate charges.	0.079
HRA Rent Income	Rental income is under budget across HRA properties, including Gladstone House and Broadleaves, mainly as a result of void levels being higher than the budgeted rate of 2%. In addition, timing differences between the budget assumptions on new development properties and reductions in housing stock have adversely affected the rental income.	0.527
Vacancy Factor	The vacancy factor represents a planned allowance within the Council's establishment budget to reflect the likelihood that not all posts will be occupied throughout the year.	0.559
All	Culmination of other Employee favourable variances across the Directorate (net of agency staff)	(0.156)
All	Other small variances	0.004
HRA Total		**1.077**

Capital Budget Amendments post Cabinet 8 July 2025

GENERAL FUND

Original Budget	**40.047**	**As per Council 5 March 2026**
Slippages Approved	**11.902**	**as per Cabinet 21 July 2026**
Current Revised Budget	**51.949**	

Additions

Project	Capital Description	Additions / Reductions 25-26 £m	Comments
TC3128	Butter Market Upper Floor	0.058	As per Portfolio Holder Decision 19 February 26
TA3100	Wellow Green Refurb	0.536	As per Cabinet 24 April 26
TF6811	Warm Homes Local Grant	0.485	As per Portfolio Holder Decision 13 April 26
TA3072	Palace Theatre Chandeliers	0.165	As per Portfolio Holder Decision 14 May 26
TA3073	CCTV Heritage Sites	0.200	As per Portfolio Holder Decision 28 April 26
TB3154	Castle Gatehouse Project	1.500	As per Cabinet 9 June 26
TB6185	S106 PV Units Collingham Football Club	0.047	As per Portfolio Holder Decision 9 April 26
TB6186	S106 OBTC Play space improvements	0.031	As per Portfolio Holder Decision 9 April 26
TB6187	S106 Sports Fac Fourth Ave Edwinstowe	0.026	As per Portfolio Holder Decision 5 May 26
TC2009	Former Belvoir Iron Works	-1.745	No longer a commitment
TB3155	Castle - Condition Works	-0.024	move remaining budget to Castle Gatehouse to complete works as part of contract
TB3154	Castle Gatehouse Project	0.025	see above
	Total Additions/Reductions	**1.303**	

Reprofiling

Project	Capital Description	Additions / Reductions 25-26 £m	Comments
TA3053	Museum Improvements	0.110	Reprofiled from 2025-26 as per Budget monitoring report to Cabinet 24.03.26
TC2007	Clipstone Holding Centre	0.642	Reprofiled from 2025-26 as per Budget monitoring report to Cabinet 24.03.26
TA3300	Contribution Mansfield Crematorium Redevelopment	0.212	Reprofiled from 2025-26 as per Budget monitoring report to Cabinet 24.03.26
TB6165	S106 Community Facilities to SOT	0.240	Reprofiled from 2025-26 as per Budget monitoring report to Cabinet 24.03.26
TE3268	Southern Link Road Contribution	0.470	Reprofiled from 2025-26 as per Budget monitoring report to Cabinet 24.03.26
TF2001	CCTV Control Room Relocation	0.081	Reprofiled from 2025-26 as per Budget monitoring report to Cabinet 24.03.26
TG1003	Housing Regeneration Loan Facility	3.000	Reprofiled from 2025-26 as per Budget monitoring report to Cabinet 24.03.26
TC2007	Clipstone Holding Centre	-4.910	Reprofile to 2027/28 to match current programme of works
TA1224	Provision of 3G Pitches	-1.200	Reprofile to 2027/28 in line with funding panel date expectations
TA3097	Yorke Drive Regeneration and Community Facility	-1.000	Reprofile to 2027/28 to match current programme of works
TE3268	Southern Link Road Contribution	-1.740	Reprofile to 2027/28 to match current expected drawdown of Grant from U&C
TC2011	Ollerton Regeneration	-4.835	Reprofile to 2027/28 to match current programme of works
	Total Re profiling	**-8.931**	

General Fund Revised Budget	**44.322**	

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

Original Budget	**29.942**	**As per Council 5 March 2026**
Slippages Approved	**2.387**	**as per Cabinet 21 July 2026**
Current Revised Budget	**32.329**	

Additions/Reductions

Project	Capital Description	Additions / Reductions 25-26 £m	Comments
S91100	ROOF REPLACEMENTS	-0.004	Realign budget to allenby road
S91218	Kit & Bathrooms	-0.019	Realign budget to allenby road
S93100	ELECTRICAL	-0.840	Move budget off headline code
S93115	Rewires	0.840	Move budget off headline code
S93622	PV Invertors	-0.020	Budget moved to PV Invertors digital switch over code
S93623	PV Invertors Digital Switch Over	0.020	Budget moved to PV Invertors digital switch over code
S93626	Warm Homes SDHF Decarbonisation	1.000	As per cabinet 21.04.26
S95309	Allenby Road Conversion	0.028	Realign budget from roof / Kitchen & Bathrooms
S97100	ASBESTOS	-0.250	Move budget off headline code
S97115	ASBESTOS SURVEYS	0.140	Move budget off headline code
S97116	ASBESTOS REMOVALS	0.110	Move budget off headline code
S97116	ASBESTOS REMOVALS	-0.004	Realign budget to allenby road
S97200	FIRE SAFETY	-0.810	Move budget off headline code
S97218	Enhanced Fire Risk Assessments	0.060	Move budget off headline code
S97221	Fire Doors Various Locations	0.250	Move budget off headline code
S97221	Fire Doors Various Locations	0.024	Realign budget
S97400	DISABLED ADAPTATIONS	-0.940	Move budget off headline code
S97416	Major Adaptations	0.800	Move budget off headline code
S97417	Minor Adaptations	0.070	Move budget off headline code
S97418	Adaptation Stair Lift/Ho	0.070	Move budget off headline code
S97500	LEGIONELLA	-0.024	Realign budget
S98105	Compartmentalisation in Roof Space	0.500	Move budget off headline code
S99100	PROPERTY INVESTMENT CONTINGENCY	-0.050	contribute to additional costs for recharges of staff delivering investment programme
S99102	Housing Capital Fees	0.155	increase in costs of the team delivering programme to be funded from MRR
SA1047	New Build Contingency	-0.006	Realign budget to cover spend on phase 5 sites
SA1085	Phase 5 Cluster 5	0.006	Realign budget to cover spend on phase 5 sites
SA1090	Phase 6	-0.082	Realign budget to cover spend on phase 6 sites
SA1091	Phase 6 Cluster 1	0.002	Realign budget to cover spend on phase 6 sites
SA1093	Phase 6 Cluster 3 - Church Circle	0.046	Realign budget to cover spend on phase 6 sites
SA1097	Phase 6 Cluster 7 - S106 Properties Rainworth	0.033	Realign budget to cover spend on phase 6 sites

Total Additions/Reductions	**1.105**

Reprofiling

Project	Capital Description	Additions / Reductions 25-26 £m	Comments
SC2002	New Housing Management System	0.015	Reprofiled from 2025-26 as per Budget monitoring report to Cabinet 24.03.26
SA1092	Phase 6 Cluster 2 - S106 Purchase	0.771	Reprofiled from 2025-26 as per Budget monitoring report to Cabinet 24.03.26
SA1093	Phase 6 Cluster 3 - Church Circle	0.397	Reprofiled from 2025-26 as per Budget monitoring report to Cabinet 24.03.26
SA1094	Phase 6 Cluster 4 - Bowbridge Road	0.400	Reprofiled from 2025-26 as per Budget monitoring report to Cabinet 24.03.26
SA1095	Phase 6 Cluster 5 - Lowfield Lane	0.372	Reprofiled from 2025-26 as per Budget monitoring report to Cabinet 24.03.26
SA1033	Estate Regeneration	-6.600	Reprofile to 2027/28 & 2028/29
	Total Re profiling	**-4.646**	

HRA Revised budget for approval	**28.788**	

Total Additions/Reductions	**2.408**	
Total Re profiling	**-13.577**	
Total Revised Budget	**73.109**	

Appendix D

General Fund - Spend against budget - Estimated in year

Project	Capital Description	Original Budget 2026/27	Slippage Approved by Cabinet 7 July 26	Original budget 26/27 including slippage	Variations approved Cabinet 15 Sept 26	Revised Budget including Variations for Approval	Actuals to 30 June 2026	Current outstanding orders	Additional anticipated spend in year	Total Projected spend in year	Variance Over/ -Underspend	Expected Completion Date	Comments - Spend to date
TC3162	Solar Panels and Battery storage to Castle House	158,695	0	158,695	0	158,695	0	0	158,695	158,695	0	31/12/2026	23/07/26 currently out to tender
TA3300	Contribution Mansfield Crematorium Redevelopment	0	0	0	211,900	211,900	0	0	211,900	211,900	0	31/03/2027	23/07/26 discuss progress with Mansfield DC, rewview budget next quarter
TA1229	NSFC LED Lighting Gym	140,000	0	140,000	0	140,000	0	0	140,000	140,000	0	31/03/2027	23/07/26 procurement process to be started. Will know more at Q2, in terms of any reprofile of budget.
TB2253	Vehicles & Plant	3,385,480	331,303	3,716,783	0	3,716,783	-64,676	3,230,213	551,246	3,716,783	0	31/03/2027	23/07/26 majority of orders now placed and vehicles are arriving.
TB2258	Vicar Water Improvements (SANGS)	35,556	0	35,556	0	35,556	0	0	35,556	35,556	0		23/07/26 to be used alongside the Clipstone regeneration project, review timing in Q2.
TB2261	Brunel Drive Redevelopment Phase 1	0	60,000	60,000	0	60,000	-31,721	65,596	26,125	60,000	-0	30/09/2026	23/07/26 main scheme complete, finishing the variations for line marking and the alarm.
TB3162	Woodland Planting Contribution	0	309,915	309,915	0	309,915	0	309,915	0	309,915	0	30/09/2026	23/07/26 Finalising Legal agreement
TF3227	Lowdham Flood Alleviation	100,000	0	100,000	0	100,000	0	0	100,000	100,000	0		
	CLIMATE AND THE ENVIRONMENT TOTAL	**3,819,731**	**701,218**	**4,520,949**	**211,900**	**4,732,849**	**-96,397**	**3,605,724**	**1,223,522**	**4,732,849**	**-0**		
TA1224	Provision of 3G Pitches	1,200,000	0	1,200,000	-1,200,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	31/03/2028	23/07/26 Football Foundation first grant panel is in Aug 26, with a decision due in Nov 26 for site 1. Therefore this expenditure is expected in 27/28. The other 4 sites due to go to Dec 26 panel and spring 27 which could see all 5 sites payments made in 2027/28.
TB6165	S106 Community Facilities to SOT	0	0	0	239,620	239,620	0	0	239,620	239,620	0		23/07/26 awating deed of variation between NSDC and developer to S106 agreement.
TB6183	Bilsthorpe Hub	1,299,097	0	1,299,097	0	1,299,097	0	0	1,299,097	1,299,097	-0		23/07/26 - currently looking into business case prior to agreement to transfer of funds.
TB6185	S106 PV Units Collingham Football Club	0	0	0	47,000	47,000	0	0	47,000	47,000	0		
TB6186	S106 OBTC Play space improvements	0	0	0	30,771	30,771	0	0	30,771	30,771	0		
TB6187	S106 Sports Fac Fourth Ave Edwinstowe	0	0	0	26,000	26,000	0	0	26,000	26,000	0		
	HEALTH, WELLBEING & LEISURE TOTAL	**2,499,097**	**0**	**2,499,097**	**-856,609**	**1,642,488**	**0**	**0**	**1,642,488**	**1,642,488**	**0**		
TA3053	Museum Improvements	0	6,840	6,840	109,787	116,627	5,842	12,649	98,136	116,627	0		23/07/26 starting work on visitor reception area, flooring, furniture/fittings etc
TA3065	Kiddey Stones	0	0	0	0	0	-1,636	1,636	0	0	0		23/07/26 retention due in Sept 26
TA3066	Essential works at the Palace Theatre	61,000	56,969	117,969	0	117,969	0	37,312	80,657	117,969	0	30/11/2026	23/07/26 quotes have been accepted, now waiting for contractor to complete. Some complications around working round shows.
TA3067	Civil War Museum Doors / Security	130,000	0	130,000	0	130,000	0	0	130,000	130,000	0	30/09/2026	23/07/26 contractor has been appointed. Programme of works to be agreed.
TA3068	Palace Theatre LED Lighting Upgrade	350,000	0	350,000	0	350,000	1,599	12,120	336,281	350,000	0		
TA3069	Palace Theatre Stage Safety Curtain	110,000	0	110,000	0	110,000	66,306	16,005	27,689	110,000	0	11/09/2026	23/07/26 works are in progress, due to complete in september ready for re-opening.
TA3070	Upgrade Box Tops and Catwalk	31,490	0	31,490	0	31,490	0	0	31,490	31,490	0	11/09/2026	23/07/26 works are in progress, due to complete in september ready for re-opening.
TA3072	Palace Theatre Chandeliers	0	0	0	165,000	165,000	0	2,000	163,000	165,000	0		23/07/26 listed building consent application to determined, expected to be October 26 planning committee. Review profile in Q2.
TA3073	CCTV Heritage Sites	0	0	0	200,000	200,000	0	1,800	198,200	200,000	-0	31/01/2027	23/07/26 contract agreed, awaiting pre start meeting with contractor. Complications around working around shows and large group visits.
TB3155	Castle - Condition Works	0	24,220	24,220	-24,220	0	0	0	0	0	0		23/07/26 Move remaining budget to castle gatehouse for chimney works.
TB3154	Castle Gatehouse Project	3,477,485	-38,618	3,438,867	1,524,820	4,963,687	512,388	1,697,867	2,753,432	4,963,687	-0	30/06/2027	23/07/26 65% of the way through the project, main construction works due to complete by April 27, with fit out to follow.
	HERITAGE, CULTURE & THE ARTS TOTAL	**4,159,975**	**49,411**	**4,209,386**	**1,975,387**	**6,184,773**	**584,499**	**1,781,390**	**3,818,885**	**6,184,773**	**0**		
TA3097	Yorke Drive Regeneration and Community Facility	2,480,000	49,309	2,529,309	-1,000,000	1,529,309	0	29,147	1,500,162	1,529,309	0	31/03/2029	23/07/26 on site from Oct 26, reprofile to meet expections of programme, however, more accurate profile will be availble once DA signed and JCT prices back.
TA3100	Wellow Green Refurb	0	0	0	536,000	536,000	0	0	536,000	536,000	0	31/03/2027	23/04/26 currently out to tender, return due mid aug, on site in Sept 26
TF6807	Warm Homes on Prescription	70,000	0	70,000	0	70,000	0	0	70,000	70,000	0		
TF6811	Warm Homes Local Grant	0	0	0	485,000	485,000	0	60,000	425,000	485,000	0		23/07/26 Planned works currently on target, installs commenced in Q1. Expected to spend full budget in this FY.

Project	Capital Description	Original Budget 2026/27	Slippage Approved by Cabinet 7 July 26	Original budget 26/27 including slippage	Variations approved Cabinet 15 Sept 26	Revised Budget including Variations for Approval	Actuals to 30 June 2026	Current outstanding orders	Additional anticipated spend in year	Total Projected spend in year	Variance Over/ -Underspend	Expected Completion Date	Comments - Spend to date
TF6011	Private Sector Disabled Facilities Grants	700,000	0	700,000	0	700,000	180,629	3,545	515,826	700,000	-0		
TF6012	Discretionary DFG	90,000	0	90,000	0	90,000	44,442	20,723	24,835	90,000	-0		
	HOUSING TOTAL	**3,340,000**	**49,309**	**3,389,309**	**21,000**	**3,410,309**	**225,070**	**113,415**	**3,071,823**	**3,410,309**	**-0**		
TF2000	CCTV Replacement Programme	45,000	0	45,000	0	45,000	602	8,086	36,312	45,000	-0		
TF2001	CCTV Control Room Relocation	0	85,191	85,191	81,050	166,241	-136,728	284,450	18,519	166,241	0		
TF3233	Cuckstool Wharf Lighting	0	101,040	101,040	0	101,040	19,831	81,209	0	101,040	0	30/09/2026	23/07/26 onsite, will be complete by the end of September 26
	PUBLIC PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS	**45,000**	**186,231**	**231,231**	**81,050**	**312,281**	**-116,295**	**373,745**	**54,831**	**312,281**	**-0**		
TA3286	Information Technology Investment	348,247	409,993	758,240	0	758,240	126,344	310,047	321,849	758,240	0	31/12/2026	23/07/26 - SAN delivered, Website upgrade due to complete in Oct 26, Firewalls due to be replace during the year. Replacement tablets for discussion and review in Q2.
TC2007	Clipstone Holding Centre	8,176,537	91,639	8,268,176	-4,268,176	4,000,000	21,978	80,412	3,897,611	4,000,000	0	31/03/2028	23/07/26 - Due to start on site in Sept 26
TC3128	Butter Market Upper Floor	0	6,750	6,750	58,000	64,750	4,920	50,054	9,776	64,750	-0	31/10/2026	23/07/26 start on site end of July, due to be complete in Oct 26.
TC3160	14 Market Place	0	0	0	0	0	-8,169	8,169	0	-0	-0		23/07/26 rentention to pay. Offer received on Residential unit which has been accepted.
TC3161	Upgrade Fire Doors to Corporate Estate	123,000	0	123,000	0	123,000	0	0	123,000	123,000	0		23/07/26 Tenders received, will be due on site in Sept 26, two year programnme. Review again in Q2.
TC2009	Former Belvoir Iron Works	1,745,376	0	1,745,376	-1,745,376	0	0	0	0	0	0		
TG1003	Housing Regeneration Loan Facility	0	9,184,967	9,184,967	3,000,000	12,184,967	2,371,000	0	9,813,967	12,184,967	0		23/07/26 5 sites currently active, will review profile in Q2 when half the year cash flow can be reviewed.
	STRATEGY, PERFORMANCE AND FINANCE TOTAL	**10,393,160**	**9,693,349**	**20,086,509**	**-2,955,552**	**17,130,957**	**2,516,073**	**448,681**	**14,166,203**	**17,130,957**	**0**		
TC2011	Ollerton Regeneration	10,580,053	254,922	10,834,975	-4,834,975	6,000,000	59,255	695,293	5,245,452	6,000,000	0	30/07/2028	23/07/26 the latest profiling reflects the updated forecast, working towards completion summer 2028. Currently working through land assembly legals.
TC2012	Ollerton Regeneration Donated Asset	430,000	0	430,000	0	430,000	0	0	430,000	430,000	0	31/03/2027	
TE3268	Southern Link Road Contribution	1,229,547	40,376	1,269,923	-1,269,923	-0	0	0	0	0	0	31/03/2028	23/07/26 Road now open. reprofile £1m to 2027/28 no claims expected this year at the moment, will keep under review. Expected completion date relates to full spend of grant funding and external contributions.
TE3270	PiPP Upper Floor Town Centre Residential Grant	150,000	0	150,000	0	150,000	0	0	150,000	150,000	0	31/03/2028	23/07/26 grant scheme administered by NSDC, expected to commence in autumn/winter 2026. reprofile £100k to 27/28
TE3271	PiPP Neighbourhood Comm Grant Scheme	210,000	0	210,000	0	210,000	0	0	210,000	210,000	0	31/12/2026	23/07/26 grant scheme administered by NSDC just waiting on receiptient ot claim on completion of their projects.
TT1000	Towns Fund - 32 Stodman Street Regeneration	2,190,000	927,981	3,117,981	0	3,117,981	908,252	1,898,685	311,045	3,117,981	0	31/10/2026	23/07/26 some delays occurred since last quarter, due to 3 weeks of extreme weather and bird nesting. The show flat is complete and is now being marketed. Commercial units will be complete at the end of Oct. currently drafing agreement for one of the units and interest in the others.
TT1006	Towns Fund - Cultural Heart of Newark	1,000,000	0	1,000,000	0	1,000,000	3,000	4,250	992,750	1,000,000	0		23/07/26 works to conclude RIBA 3 and develop proposals for the Market place in partnership with Newark Town Council and the Towns Board.
	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION	**15,789,600**	**1,223,279**	**17,012,879**	**-6,104,899**	**10,907,981**	**970,506**	**2,598,228**	**7,339,247**	**10,907,982**	**1**		
	TOTALS	**40,046,563**	**11,902,797**	**51,949,360**	**-7,627,723**	**44,321,638**	**4,083,456**	**8,921,183**	**31,316,999**	**44,321,639**	**1**		

Appendix E

HRA - Spend against budget - Estimated in year

Project	Capital Description	Project Manager	Original Budget 2026/27	Slippage Approved by Cabinet 7 July 26	Original budget 26/27 including slippage	Variations approved Cabinet 15 Sept 26	Revised Budget including Variations for Approval	Actuals to 30 June 2026	Current outstanding orders	Additional anticipated spend in year	Total Projected spend in year	Variance Over/ -Underspend	Original Expected Completion Date	Comments - Spend to date
PROPERTY INVESTMENT PROGRAMME														
S91100	ROOF REPLACEMENTS	A Tutty	1,785,000	0	1,785,000	-4,487	**1,780,513**	709,416	604,055	467,042	**1,780,513**	-0	31/03/2027	20/07/2026 Planned programme of works fully utilises £1.7m budget. Roofing programme expected to be complete by end of Qtr 2. Review in Qtr 2.
S711	**ROOF REPLACEMENTS**		**1,785,000**	**0**	**1,785,000**	**-4,487**	**1,780,513**	**709,416**	**604,055**	**467,042**	**1,780,513**	**-0**		
S91218	Kit & Bathrooms	A Tutty	2,332,620	0	2,332,620	-18,680	**2,313,940**	313,398	628,107	1,372,435	**2,313,940**	-0	31/03/2027	20/07/2026 Expected to fully spend budget by Q3, currently fitting 5 Kitchens & 1 bathroom per week. Review budget in Qtr 2.
	Kit & Bathrooms Voids													
S712	**KITCHEN & BATHROOM CONVERSIONS**		**2,332,620**	**0**	**2,332,620**	**-18,680**	**2,313,940**	**313,398**	**628,107**	**1,372,435**	**2,313,940**	**-0**		
S91300	EXTERNAL FABRIC	A Tutty	387,450	0	387,450	0	**387,450**	3,822	323,111	60,517	**387,450**	0	31/03/2027	20/07/2026 Rerendering one property currently and other bigger jobs planned in Qt2. Budget to be reviewed at end of Qtr 2.
S713	**EXTERNAL FABRIC**		**387,450**	**0**	**387,450**	**0**	**387,450**	**3,822**	**323,111**	**60,517**	**387,450**	**0**		
S91412	Doors & Windows Works	D Edwards	294,000	94,600	388,600	0	**388,600**	2,494	52,971	333,134	**388,600**	-0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 New contractor now in place, large replacement project due at Rookwood court expected to come in at £100k, waiting for final quote.
S714	**DOORS & WINDOWS**		**294,000**	**94,600**	**388,600**	**0**	**388,600**	**2,494**	**52,971**	**333,134**	**388,600**	**-0**		
S91500	OTHER STRUCTURAL	R Ward	223,650	0	223,650	0	**223,650**	44,251	4,500	174,899	**223,650**	0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 Balconies at Manthorpe House due to be replaced, estimated cost currently £70k. Also 6 Oak Avenue expected to come in around £60k.
S91535	DPC Works	R Ward	0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0		**0**	0		
S715	**OTHER STRUCTURAL**		**223,650**	**0**	**223,650**	**0**	**223,650**	**44,251**	**4,500**	**174,899**	**223,650**	**0**		
S93100	ELECTRICAL	V Parr	840,000	0	840,000	-840,000	**0**	0	0		**0**	0		
S93115	Rewires	V Parr	0	0	0	840,000	**840,000**	119,993	550,855	169,153	**840,000**	0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 Currently scheduled to complete 5 rewires per week, on target to spend full budget.
S731	**ELECTRICAL**		**840,000**	**0**	**840,000**	**0**	**840,000**	**119,993**	**550,855**	**169,153**	**840,000**	**0**		
S93300	Passenger Lifts	V Parr	94,000	0	94,000	0	**94,000**	47,800	46,200		**94,000**	0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 Vale view block 1 lift replacement now complete. Some smaller jobs planned for Q2. budget expected to be sufficient for this FY.
S733	**PASSENGER LIFTS**		**94,000**	**0**	**94,000**	**0**	**94,000**	**47,800**	**46,200**	**0**	**94,000**	**0**		
S93500	HEATING	C Linacre	1,500,000	0	1,500,000	0	**1,500,000**	354,977	141,527	1,003,497	**1,500,000**	0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 100 boilers replaced in Qtr 1. Replacement programme on taregt for 26/27, expected to spend full budget.
S735	**HEATING**		**1,500,000**	**0**	**1,500,000**	**0**	**1,500,000**	**354,977**	**141,527**	**1,003,497**	**1,500,000**	**0**		
S93600	ENERGY EFFICIENCY		0	0	0	0	**0**	0	0		**0**	0		
S93622	PV Invertors	V Parr	218,480	0	218,480	-20,000	**198,480**	0	23,438	175,042	**198,480**	0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 Planned to replace 30 invertors this FY, budget may not be fully utilised, review in Q2.
S93623	PV Invertors Digital Switch Over	V Parr	0	0	0	20,000	**20,000**	0	0	20,000	**20,000**	0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 PV meters now require updating, Currently planned to replace atleast 50 this FY, potentially more if contractorcan accommodate.
S93626	Warm Homes SDHF Decarbonisation	M Shearman	1,551,880	0	1,551,880	1,000,000	**2,551,880**	48,425	863,839	1,639,616	**2,551,880**	0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 Planned works currently on target, installs commenced in Q1. Expected to spend full budget in this FY.
S93628	EPC	M Shearman	420,000	0	420,000	0	**420,000**	4,126	60,198	355,675	**420,000**	-0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 Planned EPC project now commenced at the end of Q1, current back log of need to be carried out. Expected to spend full budget this FY.
S736	**ENERGY EFFICIENCY**		**2,190,360**	**0**	**2,190,360**	**1,000,000**	**3,190,360**	**52,551**	**947,475**	**2,190,333**	**3,190,360**	**-0**		
S95200	ESTATE IMPROVEMENTS	W Fox	578,980	0	578,980	0	**578,980**	20,705	119,639	438,636	**578,980**	-0	31/03/2027	23/07/2026 reallocate budgets to lines below once we have costings
S95209	FLOOR COVERINGS AT COMMUNITY CENTRES	C Bex												
S95309	Allenby Road Conversion	Jak Whitney	0	134,600	134,600	27,592	**162,192**	0	9,600	152,592	**162,192**	0	31/10/2026	14/07/2026 Works are currently underway on site and are expected to be completed in October.
S95400	Void Works	B Roche	1,200,000	0	1,200,000	0	**1,200,000**	174,576	69,968	955,455	**1,200,000**	-0	31/03/2026	15/07/2026 40 Void properties currently being worked on, budget expected to be sufficent for current planned works.
									0					
S752	**ENVIRONMENTAL WORKS**		**1,778,980**	**134,600**	**1,913,580**	**27,592**	**1,941,172**	**195,282**	**199,207**	**1,546,683**	**1,941,172**	**-0**		

Project	Capital Description	Project Manager	Original Budget 2026/27	Slippage Approved by Cabinet 7 July 26	Original budget 26/27 including slippage	Variations approved Cabinet 15 Sept 26	Revised Budget including Variations for Approval	Actuals to 30 June 2026	Current outstanding orders	Additional anticipated spend in year	Total Projected spend in year	Variance Over/ Underspend	Original Expected Completion Date	Comments - Spend to date
S97100	ASBESTOS	D McNulty	250,000	0	250,000	-250,000	0	0	0		0	0		
S97115	ASBESTOS SURVEYS	D McNulty	0	0	0	140,000	140,000	8,510	49,868	81,622	140,000	0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 Planned survey programme currenlty on track, budget expected to be sufficient.
S97116	ASBESTOS REMOVALS	D McNulty	0	32,712	32,712	105,575	138,287	6,588	32,706	98,993	138,287	-0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 £7.5k job at Harby currently on site & a £10k job due to be completed in Q2.
S771	**ASBESTOS**		**250,000**	**32,712**	**282,712**	**-4,425**	**278,287**	**15,098**	**82,574**	**180,615**	**278,287**	**-0**		
S97200	FIRE SAFETY	T Wiles	850,000	0	850,000	-810,000	40,000	7,924	730	31,346	40,000	0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 Used for adhoc works, some small jobs carried out in Q1, review budget in Q2.
S97218	Enhanced Fire Risk Assessments	T Wiles	0	0	0	60,000	60,000	0	11,175	48,825	60,000	0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 Planned risk assessment programme ongoing, expecting to spend full budget this FY, review in Q2.
S97221	Fire Doors Various Locations	T Wiles	0	0	0	274,446	274,446	40,444	234,003		274,446	0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 Planned replacement programme ongoing, expecting to spend full budget this FY, review in Q2.
S772	**FIRE SAFETY**		**850,000**	**0**	**850,000**	**-475,554**	**374,446**	**48,368**	**245,908**	**80,171**	**374,447**	**1**		
S97400	DISABLED ADAPTATIONS	L Powell	1,057,550	0	1,057,550	-940,000	117,550	0	0	117,550	117,550	0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 Budget to be split between codes below as & when needed.
S97416	Major Adaptations	L Powell	0	0	0	800,000	800,000	104,998	304,948	390,055	800,000	0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 61 Major adapation jobs comlete in Q1, average cost of £2.5k per job. Budget expected to be sufficient for the FY.
S97417	Minor Adaptations	L Powell	0	0	0	70,000	70,000	3,495	31,011	35,494	70,000	0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 102 Minor adapation jobs complete in Q1 with an average spend currently £3.5k per month. Budget expected to be sufficient for the FY.
S97418	Adaptation Stair Lift/Ho	L Powell	0	0	0	70,000	70,000	10,017	21,381	38,602	70,000	0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 3 stairlifts installed during Q1, average spend currently of £3.5k per month. Budget expected to be sufficient.
S774	**DISABLED ADAPTATIONS**		**1,057,550**	**0**	**1,057,550**	**0**	**1,057,550**	**118,511**	**357,340**	**581,701**	**1,057,551**	**1**		
S97500	LEGIONELLA	N Emery	84,000	0	84,000	-24,446	59,554	-0	4,348	55,206	59,554	-0	31/03/2027	23/07/2026 No current planned jobs for this budget, may be reassigned elsewhere, review in Q2.
S775	**LEGIONELLA**		**84,000**	**0**	**84,000**	**-24,446**	**59,554**	**-0**	**4,348**	**55,206**	**59,554**	**-0**		
S98100	BUILDING SAFETY	C Bex/N Emery	383,970	0	383,970	0	383,970	0	0	383,970	383,970	0	31/03/2027	23/04/2026 New parapit to be installed at Gladstone house, currently obtaining advice/quotations.
S98105	Compartmentalisation in Roof Space	T Wiles	0	0	0	500,000	500,000	0	232,900	267,100	500,000	0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 Works commenced for one block at De Lacy Court, PO raised for current expected cost but this is expected to increase as work on other blocks.
S781	**BUILDING SAFETY**		**383,970**	**0**	**383,970**	**500,000**	**883,970**	**0**	**232,900**	**651,070**	**883,970**	**0**		
S99100	PROPERTY INVESTMENT CONTINGENCY		100,000	0	100,000	-50,000	50,000	0	0	50,000	50,000	0		
S99102	Housing Capital Fees		698,560	0	698,560	154,925	853,485	0	0	853,485	853,485	0	31/03/2027	07/07/2026 Agency costs for Q1 and forecasted agency spend for Q2 is exceeding the underspend incurred on the salary budgets and has therefore caused a higher recharge than anticipated.
S791	**UNALLOCATED FUNDING**		**798,560**	**0**	**798,560**	**104,925**	**903,485**	**0**	**0**	**903,485**	**903,485**	**0**		
	SUB TOTAL PROPERTY INVESTMENT		**14,850,140**	**261,912**	**15,112,052**	**1,104,925**	**16,216,977**	**2,025,961**	**4,421,077**	**9,769,941**	**16,216,979**	**2**		
			0	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**					
	AFFORDABLE HOUSING													
SA1031	Site Acquisition (Inc RTB)	C Clarkson/L Anthony	1,648,425	0	1,648,425	0	1,648,425	0	0	1,648,425	1,648,425	0		09/07/2026 No planned purchases at the moment, will keep under review.
SA1033	Estate Regeneration	C Clarkson	9,345,894	610,192	9,956,086	-6,600,000	3,356,086	117,484	475,426	2,763,176	3,356,086	-0	31/03/2029	23/07/26 expected start on site is Oct 26, it a c.2 year programme to completion of HRA units. Working through finalising DA.
SA1047	New Build Contingency	L Anthony	0	327,780	327,780	-5,748	322,032	0	0	322,032	322,032	0		09/07/2026 budget will be redistributed when required
SA1085	Phase 5 Cluster 5	L Anthony	0	0	0	5,748	5,748	0	5,748		5,748	-0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 Rentention to be paid this FY.

Project	Capital Description	Project Manager	Original Budget 2026/27	Slippage Approved by Cabinet 7 July 26	Original budget 26/27 including slippage	Variations approved Cabinet 15 Sept 26	Revised Budget including Variations for Approval	Actuals to 30 June 2026	Current outstanding orders	Additional anticipated spend in year	Total Projected spend in year	Variance Over/ -Underspend	Original Expected Completion Date	Comments - Spend to date
SA1090	Phase 6	L Anthony	697,557	54,718	752,275	-81,586	**670,689**	-13,820	46,875	637,634	**670,689**	-0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 Budget to distributed to phases as required.
SA1092	Phase 6 Cluster 2 - S106 Purchase	L Anthony	0	0	0	771,000	**771,000**	64	0	770,937	**771,000**	0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 Awaiting an expected completion date.
SA1093	Phase 6 Cluster 3 - Church Circle	L Anthony	1,000,000	61,865	1,061,865	443,077	**1,504,942**	57,059	1,017,127	430,756	**1,504,942**	0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 Works commenced on site in May, expected completion in Qtr 4.
SA1094	Phase 6 Cluster 4 - Bowbridge Road	L Anthony	1,000,000	0	1,000,000	400,000	**1,400,000**	128,181	956,021	315,798	**1,400,000**	-0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 Works commenced on site in May, expected completion in Qtr 4.
SA1095	Phase 6 Cluster 5 - Lowfield Lane	L Anthony	1,200,000	3,578	1,203,578	371,550	**1,575,128**	73,717	1,323,520	177,891	**1,575,128**	0	30/06/2027	09/07/2026 works commenced on site in April and expected to complete within the first quarter of 26/27.
SA1097	Phase 6 Cluster 7 - S106 Properties Rainworth	L Anthony	0	0	0	33,109	**33,109**	0	0	33,109	**33,109**	0	31/03/2027	09/07/2026 Currently with Legal team, awaiting expected transfer date.
SC2002	New Housing Management System	K McIntosh	200,000	14,207	214,207	15,000	**229,207**	25,228	10,448	193,532	**229,207**	0	31/03/2027	14/07/2026 Project due to be completed within this FY, some costs are still ebing confirmed in line with revised specifications, budget expected to be sufficient.
SC2003	HRA Vehicle Replacement Programme	A Kirk	0	1,052,247	1,052,247	0	**1,052,247**	632,645	331,275	88,327	**1,052,247**	0	30/09/2026	23/07/26 vehicles being delivered
	SUB TOTAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING		**15,091,876**	**2,124,587**	**17,216,463**	**-4,645,850**	**12,570,613**	**975,128**	**4,196,879**	**7,398,607**	**12,570,613**	**0**		
			0	0	-1	0	0							
	TOTAL HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT		**29,942,016**	**2,386,499**	**32,328,515**	**-3,540,925**	**28,787,590**	**3,001,089**	**8,617,955**	**17,168,548**	**28,787,592**	**2**		

Treasury Strategy Indicators - Borrowing	Original Estimate / Limit £'000	Revised Estimate / Limit £'000	Q1 Actual £'000	Compliance
Operational Boundary for External Debt	205,947	198,114	104,902	Yes
Authorised Limit for External Debt	210,947	203,114	104,902	Yes
HRA Debt Limit	126,710	126,710	100,357	Yes
Maturity Structure of Borrowing				
Under 12 months	25%	25%	6.15%	Yes
12 months and within 24 months	25%	25%	14.83%	Yes
24 months and within 5 years	40%	40%	8.39%	Yes
5 years and within 10 years	100%	100%	6.24%	Yes
10 years and above	100%	100%	64.38%	Yes

Treasury Strategy Indicator - Investing

Credit risk indicator (Minimum Average Portfolio Rating)	A	A	AA	Yes

Liquidity risk indicator

3 months	100%	100%	57%	Yes
3 – 12 months	80%	80%	23%	Yes
Over 12 months	60%	60%	26%	Yes

Interest rate risk indicator

Upper limit on one-year revenue impact of a 1% rise in interest rates	£400,000	£400,000	207,200	Yes
Upper limit on one-year revenue impact of a 1% fall in interest rates	£400,000	£400,000	207,200	Yes

Price risk indicator

Limit on principal invested beyond year end	£15m	£15m	£12.5m	Yes

Capital Strategy Indicators	Original Estimate / Limit £'000	Revised Estimate / Limit £'000	Q1 Actual £'000
Capital Expenditure & Financing			
General Fund services	7,954	32,137	1,712
Council housing (HRA)	23,850	28,788	3,001
Capital Loan (GF)	-	12,185	2,371
Total Capital Expenditure	**31,805**	**73,109**	**7,084**
Capital Grants	1,378	14,467	1,402
Other Contributions incl CIL	3,000	-	-
Capital Resources	1,916	6,521	632
Revenue / Major Repairs Reserve	7,205	16,315	1,581
Borrowing	18,305	35,805	3,469
Total Capital Financing	**31,805**	**73,109**	**7,084**

Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)

General Fund services	49,942	51,109	51,109
Council housing (HRA)	124,005	122,004	122,004
Capital investments	25,000	25,000	25,000
Total CFR	**198,947**	**198,113**	**198,113**

Proportion of financing costs to net revenue stream

General Fund;

MRP Charge	807	669	669
Interest Payable	333	333	80
Less: Investment Income	-2,573	-2,573	-118
Total GF Financing costs	**-1,432**	**-1,571**	**631**
Proportion of net revenue stream	-5.49%	-6.03%	4.52%

Housing Revenue Account;

Interest Payable	4,278	4,278	712
Depreciation	6,058	6,058	0
MRR Contributions incl debt repayments	2,345	2,345	0
Less: Investment Income	-48	-48	0
Total HRA Financing costs	**12,633**	**12,633**	**712**
Proportion of net revenue stream	42.28%	42.28%	10.80%

Investment Strategy Indicators	2026/27 Original Estimate / Limit £'000	2026/27 Revised Estimate / Limit £'000	2026/27 Q1 Actual £'000
Loans for service purposes			
Subsidiaries	25,000	25,000	15,186
Local businesses	500	500	-
Local charities	500	500	-
Other Bodies	500	500	16
Total	**26,500**	**26,500**	**15,202**

Net income from service investments to net revenue stream

Total General Fund Service Investment Income	2,573	2,573	118
Proportion of net revenue stream	7.13%	9.87%	0.84%
Total Housing Revenue Account Service Investment Income	48	48	0
Proportion of net revenue stream	0.16%	0.16%	0.00%

Shares held for service purposes

Subsidiaries	5,000	5,000	4,001
Suppliers	-	-	-
Local businesses	-	-	-
Total	**5,000**	**5,000**	**4,001**

NEWARK & SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report to:	Cabinet Meeting: 15 September 2026
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr. Paul Peacock - Strategy Performance & Finance
Director Lead:	Deborah Johnson, Director – Local Government Reo
Lead Officer:	Rowan Bosworth-Brown, Senior Transformation and Service Improvement Officer performance.team@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk, ext 824

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open Report, Non-key Decision
Report Title	Community Plan Performance for Quarter 1 2026/27
Purpose of Report	To present the Quarter 1 Community Plan Performance Report (1 April – 30 June 2026).
Recommendations	That Cabinet: a) review the Community Plan Performance Report attached as **Appendix 1;** b) review the compliance report attached as **Appendix 2;** and c) consider the Council's performance against its objectives highlighting any areas of high performance and identifying areas for improvement.
Alternative Options Considered	None
Reason for Recommendations	To ensure that Cabinet are aware of all relevant performance updates in line with the Community Plan.

1.0 Background

1.1 We continue to deliver an approach to performance management that is used to drive improvement rather than simply used as a counting device. We are doing this by analysing data and progress against key activities as well as building a picture of the context of performance using district statistics, customer feedback and workforce information.

1.2 The development of this report details the **Quarter 1** performance and includes activities delivered within the quarter. This information was factually correct as of the **30 June 2026.**

2.0 Proposal/Options Considered

2.1 That Cabinet review the Quarter 1 Community Plan Performance report **(Appendix 1)** and the Compliance Report **(Appendix 2).**

3.0 Implications

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection; Digital & Cyber Security; Equality & Diversity; Financial; Human Resources; Human Rights; Legal; Safeguarding & Sustainability and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

Implications Considered Yes – relevant and included / NA – not applicable			
Financial	N/A	Equality & Diversity	N/A
Human Resources	N/A	Human Rights	N/A
Legal	N/A	Data Protection	N/A
Digital & Cyber Security	N/A	Safeguarding	N/A
Sustainability	N/A	Crime & Disorder	N/A
LGR	N/A	Tenant Consultation	N/A

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

This document and its appendices contain content generated by Artificial Intelligence (AI). AI generated content has been reviewed by the author for accuracy and edited/revised where necessary. The author takes responsibility for this content.

Community Plan Performance Report

2026 – 27 Q1

1 April -
30 June 2026

SERVING PEOPLE, IMPROVING LIVES

Introduction

At Newark and Sherwood District Council, our mission is to empower residents and businesses to thrive, while also attracting visitors to experience the unique offerings of our area. Our strategy to achieve this is outlined in our Community Plan, which was developed with input from residents and sets forth the Council's ambitions and activities over a four-year period.

Having been in place for three years, our 2023-27 Community Plan has recently undergone a review to ensure it remains relevant and reflective of ongoing and upcoming projects and initiatives. This continuous refreshment is crucial to maintaining the plan's effectiveness.

Our performance framework complements the Community Plan by detailing how we will measure the success of our ambitions through key performance indicators, utilising both qualitative and quantitative data.

This report evaluates the Council's performance against the Community Plan, focusing on key services and activities from **1 April – 30 June 2026 (Quarter 1).** Understanding our performance enables us to promote good practices, ensure quality service delivery, and identify areas for improvement. The Council's performance is measured in four parts, three of which are detailed within this report. The fourth part, Our Customers, is reported twice a year in our Customer Feedback Report.

Our District

A basket of data indicators which allow us to examine how our district is performing in key areas, acting as a form of 'health check'.

Our Performance

How we are delivering against the objectives we outline in the Community Plan.

Our Workforce

To understand how the Council's staff are performing and how we are supporting staff. This is important as a positive and motivated workforce is more likely to be high performing.

Our District

About Newark and Sherwood (2021 Census)

A resident population of 122,956 (14.9% of Nottinghamshire's population). There are 53,332 dwellings in the district, 38.5% are owned outright, 31.3% are owned with a mortgage or loan, 13.9% are socially rented, 16.3% are private rented around 10% directly owned by the Council. 92.7% of the district population were born in the UK.

60.5% of the district's population are working age (16 to 64), 17% are 16 years or younger and 22.4% of the population are over the age of 65. For those over the age of 65, this percentage has increase by 3.5% when compared to the 2011 census demonstrating a growing older population when compared to the 2021 census. In terms of socio-economic challenges, 16.2% of households do not own a car or van, 0.8% of households do not have a form of central heating and 19.1% of residents do not have any formal qualifications.

Performance of our district

This data tells us something about our district in **Quarter 1 2026-27**. Most of these indicators are not factors we can directly affect, only influence, but they add context to the work we undertake.

Newark recorded the highest footfall across the district throughout Q1, averaging 6,526 visits in April, 6,425 in May and 6,518 in June. While May saw a slight reduction, June recovered by 1.45%, indicating that town centre activity remained broadly stable despite wider pressures on high street footfall.

Average Daily Footfall				
	Newark	**Southwell**	**Edwinstowe**	**Ollerton**
April	6,634	2,004	1,924	2,491
May	6,425	2,049	1,935	2,428
June	6,518	2,020	1,979	2,429
Q4 Average	**6,526**	**2,024**	**1,946**	**2,449**

The quarterly position suggests Newark continues to act as the district's main centre for visitor activity. The June uplift may reflect local events, hospitality activity and warmer weather encouraging visits, although hotter conditions may also have limited activity during some periods.

Southwell footfall was comparatively consistent in April and May, moving from 2,004 to 2,049 visits, before falling to 2,020 in June. This represented a 1.42% monthly reduction, suggesting a softer end to the quarter. Although the change was relatively small, the fall may indicate that Southwell was more affected by reduced discretionary travel during hotter weather. Planned activity such as the Helios installation at Southwell Minster may provide opportunities to strengthen visitor numbers in Q2.

Edwinstowe showed the strongest performance across Q1, increasing each month from 1,924 in April to 1,935 in May and 1,979 in June. The 2.27% June increase continued the positive trend and was the largest monthly improvement of the four towns. This may reflect the appeal of Sherwood Forest and Forest Corner during warmer weather, particularly where shaded outdoor destinations were attractive to visitors. The forthcoming Robin Hood Festival may support further footfall growth over the summer period.

Ollerton remained stable across the quarter, with 2,491 visits in April, 2,428 in May and 2,429 in June. The June position was effectively unchanged, increasing by only 0.04% compared with May. This indicates that footfall was resilient but did not show the same level of growth seen in Edwinstowe or Newark. Continued monitoring will help identify whether activity is being sustained mainly by local users or whether future events and seasonal activity generate wider visitor interest.

Our District

Exploring our performance.
In this section of the report, we look at a few key measures of customer interaction to monitor how we interact with our customers, and we look at what our customers are telling us about the services they receive. We analyse these comments and show how we are learning from customer feedback.

Interactions with the Council

This information gives an indication of demand for council assistance year to date:

- **3,919 face-to-face** contacts were held at Castle House, a 4.53% decrease when compared to the same period last year.
- **24,116 calls** were received by the contact centre, a 7.86% decrease when compared to the same period last year.
- **13,421 digital web form transactions** were completed by our customers, a 4.48% increase when compared to the same period last year.

We welcomed **243,862 unique website users this quarter**. This is more than 5 times our targeted rate of 42,500. As part of the transition to our redesigned website, teams have been reviewing web content and self-service forms to make information easier for customers to find and use. This work is helping ensure support is available through a range of channels, so customers can choose the option that suits them best. In turn, this helps reduce pressure on telephone lines and face-to-face appointments, improving waiting times and preserving in-person support for those who prefer it. We also measure **our reach and engagement with the posts we share to our social media accounts** to ensure what we are sharing is what our residents want to see and be made aware of – our engagement rate so far this year was above expectations at **664,202 engagements**, compared to a target of 350,000. **5,357 residents subscribed to our e-newsletters**, below our target by **2.83%**.

Local Government Reorganisation: In December 2024, the Government released the English Devolution White Paper which outlined ambitions to begin a period of structural change to Local Government across England. The aim of this structural change is to transition from a two-tier system to a single tier system (also known as a Unitary Authority) of Local Government, which will be responsible for all local services in an area. In February 2025, the Government invited Councils to submit proposals for new Unitary Authority structures, which were received at the end of November 2025. The submissions aim is to create more efficient and effective Local Government, potentially leading to streamlined services and cost savings for residents. Our Community Plan sets out our ambition to secure the very best option for the residents of Newark and Sherwood arising from the reorganisation of Local Government and as such we will continue to report on how we're progressing at strategic points throughout the year. These progress updates can be found in Ambition 7 – Be a top performing, modern and accessible Council, that get its everyday services right for the residents and businesses that it serves.

Break down barriers to opportunity to enable residents and businesses to prosper and fulfil their potential.

We have continued to develop local economic opportunities in green and land management sectors through the Land Management Advisory Group. Building on the skills gap work reported previously, the Careers Hub Lead for East Midlands Combined County Authority attended the group and shared the Careers Hub priorities for 2025–26, which focus on connecting education and employment, supporting inclusive growth, improving careers education, strengthening employer links and increasing access to meaningful work experience.

This aligns well with the findings from the Newark Academy survey reported last quarter, which highlighted low awareness of land-based careers and the need to improve young people's understanding of pathways into the sector. Partners were invited to take part in teacher encounters and to share land management opportunities through Careers Hub newsletters, helping to improve links between education providers, employers and young people. Work is also continuing to explore how the sector can be promoted through future events, including follow-up with Newark Showground about a potential presence at the County Show in May 2027. If a dedicated stand is not available, other partners have offered to share their stands with the group. The next meeting is scheduled for September 2026, where we expect to further develop these opportunities and confirm next steps.

Our Community Plan sets out our ambition to deliver **regeneration within Ollerton Town Centre** and we have continued to make progress towards turning this vision into a deliverable scheme. Building on the work from Quarter 4, full planning consent has now been secured. Work is now being prepared to discharge the pre-commencement planning conditions, which will support the scheme moving towards delivery. We have also continued to progress the commercial and partnership arrangements that will underpin the scheme. Heads of Terms for the preferred cinema operator are close to being finalised, and contract discussions with the Town Council are advancing. It is expected that this project will see start on site later this year, subject to the completion of the remaining planning, contractual and delivery requirements.

CGI Illustration of Ollerton Town Centre Regeneration

Continue to progress the Clipstone regeneration scheme, via a 3 phased approach. We have undertaken a procurement process to secure a development partner, supported by our external procurement team, following necessary changes to the project. The development is now due for secure a development partner by Autumn 2026 and the development is expected to reach completion by March 2028.

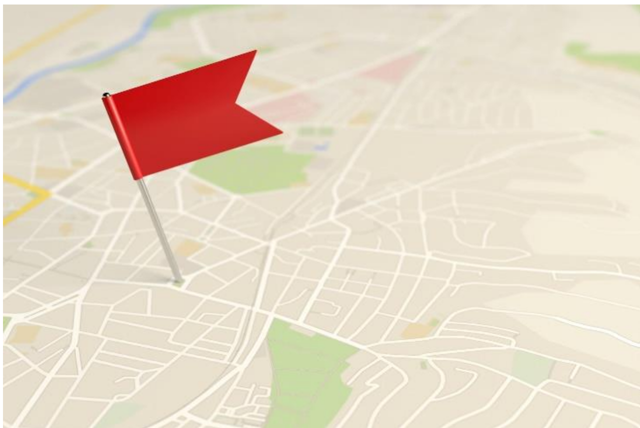
RIBA 2 is complete for Phase 2 and we are continuing to work with Clipstone Miners Welfare as project lead for Phase 2 to proceed into RIBA 3 and 4. We reported last quarter we were focussing on developing a robust cost plan and we're pleased to report this has now been developed.

Work on Phase 3 has continued and updates can be expected on how this is progressing in future quarters

Break down barriers to opportunity to enable residents and businesses to prosper and fulfil their potential.

The project to redevelop the Clipstone Holdings site continues to progress following the revised procurement approach reported in the last report. We have now received costs through the tender process, and these costs are being reviewed alongside the wider capital projects programme to confirm affordability, value for money and the most appropriate route to delivery. The current bid indicates that the works could still be delivered in line with the programme target, supporting the previously reported expectation of a winter 2026 start on site and completion by March 2028. However, further work is required to finalise the project delivery plan, including key budgetary considerations. Further updates will be shared in subsequent reports once confirmed.

Address and Street Data: We maintain large amounts of address and street data across the district, and as such we maintain an address improvement schedule. In May 2026, we were awarded Platinum status in this year's Exemplar Awards - the Platinum Award for Address and/or Street Data is awarded to authorities that have maintained Gold status across all criteria of the Annual Improvement Schedule for 10 out of 11 months up to the end of March 2026. This prestigious recognition highlights our dedication to maintaining the highest standards of data quality throughout the year.



Break down barriers to opportunity to enable residents and businesses to prosper and fulfil their potential.

Quarterly Indicators	24/25 Q1 Value	25/26 Q1 Value	Quarter 4 25/26	26/27 Q1 Value	Target 26/27
Newark Beacon - % of occupied units	86.3%	85.0%	97.0%	97.0%	85.0%
Commercial Property - % occupied units	98.0%	100.0%	98.0%	96.0%	96.0%
Sherwood Forest Arts and Crafts - % of occupied units	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	96.0%
% of planning applications (major) determined within statutory timelines	100.0%	86.7%	92.8%	100.0%	90.0%
% of planning applications (non-major) determined within statutory timelines	91.7%	94.7%	91.5%	89.0%	93.0%
% increase of visitors to Newark town centre during event days	New for 26/26 Q1	New for 26/26 Q1	New for 26/26 Q1	5.0%	20.0%

Exploring our performance:

Sherwood Forest Arts and Crafts maintained 100.0% occupancy across the last three years, which is great performance and demonstrates the stability and continued demand for commercial space.

Major planning performance has recovered strongly from 86.7% in Quarter 1 2025/26 to 100.0% in Quarter 1 2026/27, exceeding both the current target and the Quarter 4 position. However, non-major planning applications determined within statutory timelines reduced to 89.0%, which is below the 93.0% target and lower than the 91.5% reported in Quarter 4.

A new indicator was introduced this year measuring the percentage increase of visitors to Newark town centre during event days, this is performing below targeted expectations this quarter with a 5.0% increase against a target of 20.0%. As this is a new performance indicator, there is no historical trend available yet, but the first quarter result provides a baseline from which future event impact can be assessed.

Increase the supply of housing, in particular decent homes that residents can afford to buy and rent, as well as improving housing standards.

We are undertaking stock condition surveys for Council Housing and private rented stock and we will use the findings to develop investment and improvement plans. Within our Council homes, over 96% of stock condition surveys are now complete with just 214 properties left to carry out. These remaining properties should be complete by September 2026. The information already collated is being used to generate an investment plan which will be presented to tenants and members for approval in Quater 3 2026/27.

Renew Council homes' heating systems to improve affordability for tenants and reduce carbon emissions in line with government funding opportunities. We're pleased to report that we have been successful in our bid for additional funding through the warmer Homes Social Housing Grant Fund. This has unlocked £5.5 million to spend on property upgrades over the next 2 years, and we're targeting all properties using fossil fuels and those with EPC ratings of E, F & G first of all. By taking this approach the funding will have a greater impact on those living in the properties and will support with the associated fuel costs. 6 properties have been upgraded during the quarter from having a reliance on fossil fuels to now utilising air source heat pumps.

Deliver phase 6 of the Council house building programme. Work continues at the five new homes on Bowbridge Road, Newark, ten homes at Lowfield Lane, Balderton and a further five homes at Church Circle, Ollerton. Eight properties at Station Road, Collingham have reached practical completion and will be ready for allocation during Quarter 2.

Deliver phase 1 of the estate regeneration scheme at Yorke Drive. After securing planning consent in February 2025, the team have been working to meet the requirements of the planning conditions. As with any large project, there are numerous technical details which require approval before being able to start building the new homes.

During Quarter 1, the regeneration team has been working to discharge the pre-start planning conditions. Some of the conditions that we are still working on require consultation with Nottinghamshire County Council as the Highways Authority and the Local Lead Flood Authority on the details around the drainage strategy and the technical approvals required for the roads.

Progress against these conditions has been published, as such residents can review the conditions that still need to be discharged before construction can start. The break down of progress is available here: https://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/regeneration/yorke-drive-focus alongside this, a further project update is planned to be presented to the Policy and Performance Improvement Committee in September 2026.

Increase the supply of housing, in particular decent homes that residents can afford to buy and rent, as well as improving housing standards.

Our new Housing Management System continues to be embedded across our Housing services. We have maintained a cross-functional NEC project team focused on driving system improvements, resolving issues as they arise and working closely with the software provider to support effective implementation.

During Quarter 1, this work has continued to move into the next project phase, with a focus on improving system functionality and supporting teams to make better use of NEC in day-to-day service delivery. This ongoing activity is helping us strengthen the foundations for more effective housing management, repairs and empty homes processes, while ensuring issues are identified and addressed through a coordinated project approach.

We remain committed to meeting social housing regulatory standards and continuing to evidence compliance with the Regulator of Social Housing's consumer standards. The inspection of our Housing Services by the Regulator of Social Housing took place between 29 April and 1 May 2026. The outcome was published on 29 July 2026 in which we received a C2 consumer grading from the Regulator of Social Housing. A separate report will be presented to Cabinet on the outcome in September 2026.

The judgement recognises the positive work already taking place, including our respectful and tenant-focused culture, investment in tenants' homes, improvements to complaints handling, progress on damp and mould, and new ways for tenants to get involved and influence services.

It also makes clear that there are areas where we need to improve. These include developing a fuller understanding of the condition of all our homes, strengthening oversight of repairs and damp and mould cases, improving service standards, and evidencing tenant scrutiny of services. You can read the full report here: Newark and Sherwood District Council (37UG) - Regulatory Judgement: 29 July 2026 - GOV.UK

As a result, we continue to focus on the key areas that support ongoing regulatory assurance, particularly repairs and compliance. This includes further development of our Asset Management System and Housing Management System, supported by IT colleagues, to improve the quality, accessibility and use of housing data. This work supports our ability to monitor performance, identify areas for improvement and demonstrate how we are meeting the standards expected of social landlords. We are also implementing our new Tenant Engagement Framework including the recruitment of new tenant champions

The Housing Performance and Improvement Board continues to provide oversight of performance and improvement activity across tenant-facing services, ensuring that we use performance information and regulatory feedback to inform future service improvements.

Increase the supply of housing, in particular decent homes that residents can afford to buy and rent, as well as improving housing standards.

Develop new homes for open market sale or rent through Arkwood Developments Ltd, balancing housing quality, mix of housing, environmental sustainability and financial return.

The work to develop 132 units at Lowfield Lane is progressing well on site with the show home due to come live later in the Autumn and other sales units soon thereafter. Initial marketing has commenced and this will be increased over the next month or so when we hope to be able to take early reservations.

CGI illustration of the Lowfield Lane Development

Stodman Street consists of 29 units, and the build process is a partnership between the Council and Arkwood Developments. The latest update is that we should take handover of these by October 2026, representing a slight slippage in previously expected dates. We have appointed our sales partner WH Brown and early sales marketing is poised to go live, held back only by the recent uncertainty of exact build completion date, such that we hit the market at the right time.

The build process at Manea, consisting of 32 units is completed. Construction costs were concluded under budget which is a successful outcome. The sales market is slow currently due to a combination of the overall market conditions, summer holidays and hot weather. Currently we have 20 sales and are actively targeting promotions and deals in preparation for the pick-up in the market expected in the Autumn.

The Wirksworth development, consisting of 30 units has continued since the last update, with a few units now due for immediate handover. We have had a hold up in taking units due to chasing the release of a pre-occupation planning condition relating to drainage. The sales market is like that at Manea over the summer with just the odd sale, primarily thought to be because of customers being otherwise occupied at this time of the year. We are now staffing the show home and putting together several promotion incentives ready for the pickup in footfall expected this, Autumn.

Long Bennington is made up of 50 units and works have started on site and we are working towards the completion of the show home in Early 2027. The first sale units will follow this.

Arkwood continue to work on building the land pipeline to support the aspirations of the business plan. There are several current opportunities being assessed and under negotiation. However, nothing has yet been finalised with land deals being notorious for not being certain until and contract is signed.

During the quarter, there has been some other key areas of focus ongoing with Housing Repairs and Empty Homes alongside managing significant customer demand and delivering core repairs and maintenance services. These have included:

- Operational Improvement Planning. Progress against cross service actions continues to be monitored through structured fortnightly review meetings. The programme has now achieved 21 completed actions from a total of 66 identified improvement activities, providing a clear framework for driving service improvements, strengthening governance arrangements and ensuring sustained oversight of key priorities.

Increase the supply of housing, in particular decent homes that residents can afford to buy and rent, as well as improving housing standards.

- Significant progress has also been made in relation to performance oversight and reporting. This has included the implementation a Power BI reporting dashboard which has been rolled out across the service, providing managers with improved visibility of operational performance and supporting more informed decision-making. This work complements the wider programme of data cleansing and validation currently underway to improve reporting accuracy and strengthen service intelligence.

- Teams have continued to prepare for both current and future regulatory requirements associated with Awaab's Law. Work has commenced to review and configure enhanced damp and mould functionality which will support improved case management, monitoring, reporting and preparation for future phases of legislation. Alongside this, progress has been made in embedding Phase 1 requirements, supported by strengthened processes, increased management oversight and continued focus on proactive intervention.

- Investment in people, culture and resource planning has also remained a priority throughout the quarter. Recruitment activity has successfully filled key supervisory positions, including the Works Planning Supervisor and Damp, Mould and Disrepair Supervisor roles, strengthening operational leadership capacity within the service. Multi-skilling discussions remain ongoing, whilst the fleet replacement programme is nearing completion, supporting improved operational efficiency and service delivery.

- Looking beyond current operational delivery, early engagement has commenced with neighbouring authorities in preparation for Local Government Reorganisation. This collaborative approach is intended to support knowledge sharing, identify opportunities for service alignment and ensure the Housing Maintenance and Asset Management service is well positioned to contribute positively to future organisational changes.

Increase the supply of housing, in particular decent homes that residents can afford to buy and rent, as well as improving housing standards.

Quarterly Indicators	24/25 Q1 Value	25/26 Q1 Value	Quarter 4 25/26	26/27 Q1 Value	Target 26/27
Satisfaction with lettings service	95.0%	96.0%	97.0%	100.0%	95.0%
Number of Council homes with retrofitted energy efficiency measures	New for 26/27 Q1	New for 26/27 Q1	New for 26/27 Q1	6	Demand
Number of homes delivered through our housing development company Arkwood	8	8	44	0	N/A
Number of plots commenced through our housing development company Arkwood	0	21	54	21	N/A
Time spent in temporary accommodation for people we owe a duty to	New for 25/26 Q1	6.8	9.9	11.5	12.0
Average time to re-let Council properties (days)	40.5	64.5	77.0	93.0	35.0
Amount of current arrears as a % of annual rent debit	1.64%	2.76%	3.68%	2.30%	2.90%
Average "End to End" time for all reactive repairs (calendar days)	17.3	No Data Rec'd	11.0	12.9	12.0
% of repairs completed at first visit	99.0%	No Data Rec'd	76.1%	74.0%	85.0%

Exploring our performance. The average time taken to re-let Council properties remains significantly above target, increasing to 93.0 days in Quarter 1 against a target of 35.0 days. This continues the trend reported in previous quarters, where performance has been affected by the ongoing refinement of the Housing Management System allocations module, the need to test and embed upgraded functionality, and resource pressures across the end-to-end empty homes and lettings process. As highlighted in earlier reports, the indicator is sensitive to a small number of complex voids, particularly where properties require more significant works, additional compliance checks, or where allocations activity is delayed by system or capacity constraints. Mitigating actions remain in place, including system enhancements, internal secondments and the appointment of a new Empty Homes contractor, with empty homes repair performance continuing to provide an important foundation for improvement. Re-let performance remains a key area of focus for Members, SLT, Heads of Service and operational colleagues, with progress monitored through corporate performance updates, SLT and the Housing Performance and Improvement Board. We expect the benefits of the improvement activity to become more visible over the coming quarters, with a particular focus on reducing avoidable delays, strengthening oversight of each stage of the process and improving the tenant experience by bringing homes back into use more quickly.

Improve health and wellbeing, with an emphasis on communities with lower levels of life expectancy.

As part of our ongoing to work to **complement the implementation of our 'Health and Wellbeing Strategy' with activities to reduce health inequalities in targeted areas**, this quarter we have supported a number of iniatives in the Community including:

Best Start: Work continued with partners on boys' attainment and aspirations, building on the Quarter 4 Boys' Conference and developing the Theory of Change through direct engagement with young people. A boys' panel was held with four pupils from Magnus Academy, enabling partners to shape future actions around the lived experience of local boys. The team also supported family-focused healthy eating activity through Skate Jam events and West Nottinghamshire College, promoting eight planned family cooking sessions over the summer to help families build confidence in preparing healthier meals.

Living Well: The Five Dinners meal planning platform was launched across Newark and Sherwood, supported by a communications campaign through digital channels, partners and community groups. This gives residents and employees access to low-cost, healthier recipes and meal planning tools, with further work planned in Quarter 2 to monitor engagement, gather feedback and expand reach through community champions training. Living Well activity also included a Physical Activity Clinical Champions session at Fountain Surgery, promotion of the musculoskeletal health (MSK) toolkit to frontline colleagues and partners, and delivery of the first MSK Connect programme at Newark Job Centre, where 14 residents out of work due to MSK conditions were invited to take part in a six-week support programme covering mental health, healthy eating, physical activity and wider signposting.

Targeted community and data-led activity: This included respiratory work with Sherwood Forest Hospitals Trust in Boughton, dementia support through a roving Health Bus in areas including Collingham and Southwell, and community insight work in Hawtonville. At the Hawtonville Community Fun Day, attended by more than 500 residents, the Health Bus provided blood pressure checks and health signposting; 10 residents received checks, with two advised to contact their GP due to high blood pressure, one advised to discuss medication review, and another advised to monitor pre-high blood pressure through a local pharmacy.

Ageing Well and wider prevention: Ageing Well activity continued through dementia-focused outreach and development of The Big Green Book, a community wellbeing directory designed to connect residents, health professionals and social prescribers with outdoor, nature-based and community activities. The first draft has been shared with partners for feedback, supporting future publication and wider signposting. The team also supported the National Stop the Bleed Conference at Castle House, where attendees received CitizenAID training, strengthening community capacity to respond to emergencies and reinforcing wider violence prevention work linked to the Knife Angel visit.

Improve health and wellbeing, with an emphasis on communities with lower levels of life expectancy.

During the quarter, our teams **maintained high standards and continued to deliver consistent, high-quality outcomes across parks, open spaces, housing estates and beyond**, ensuring that areas remained safe, accessible and welcoming for residents and visitors. This was delivered via the following activities:

- We retained all Green Flag Awards achieved in our parks last year, this is a significant achievement and reflects the continued dedication and professionalism of both the Grounds Maintenance and Cleansing teams in maintaining nationally recognised standards.

- We supported four parish councils with East Midlands in Bloom entries, demonstrating continued quality in parks and open space management. All are expected to achieve at least Silver Awards, with Newark and Edwinstowe aiming for Gold status. Edwinstowe has also progressed to the national competition, demonstrating quality of partnership working across the district.

- Work has also progressed on wildlife corridor proposals around suitable Council owned land, school planting schemes, community planting days at De Lacey Court, Broadleaves and Gladstone, and completion of landscaping improvements at Castle House. These activities support biodiversity, environmental education, neighbourhood pride and access to attractive, inclusive outdoor spaces.

- The no-glyphosate pilot within children's play areas has continued successfully, with no public complaints received. Manual and mechanical weed control methods are being used to maintain presentation standards while reducing chemical use, with QR code signage due to support resident feedback on the future approach.

- Service efficiency has improved through the creation of a Street Furniture Action Team, who have been equipped with specialist tools and resources to reduce the backlog of installation works. This has reduced outstanding installation jobs from 58 to 24 in less than one month, with a target of fewer than five outstanding jobs by the end of Quarter 2.

- Seasonal activity has included completion of summer planting in Newark, with nine floral beds and 314 hanging baskets installed, supported by daily watering during the prolonged dry weather. Tree surveys across Council-owned land are also due to be completed this quarter to inform future safety and maintenance requirements. In addition, external funding secured through the Chewing Gum Task Force Grant will support targeted cleansing activity, followed by regular weekly chewing gum removal using the Council's specialist equipment.

Improve health and wellbeing, with an emphasis on communities with lower levels of life expectancy.

Implement the 'Playing Pitch Strategy' and the 'Sports and Recreational Facilities Strategy', including the provision of 5 new 3G sports pitches: All five 3G projects have now been activated by the Football Foundation as primary funder of the schemes. The 5 sites are Brinkley Centenary Ground, Southwell, Newark Academy, Balderton, Suthers Academy, Fernwood, Clipstone Headstocks and Walesby Lane Ollerton.

All 5 sites are progressing through the technical assessment stage in order to present each proposal to the Football Foundation for consideration. This technical process will require planning approval for each of the sites and procurement through the Football Foundation's Framework. The route to construction is through the Football Foundation Panel and Award process. Currently, it is anticipated that Southwell, Newark Academy, Suthers Academy and Clipstone will be completed in early/mid 2027/2028 with Ollerton commencing in late 2027/2028 subject to successful awards.

Improve health and wellbeing, with an emphasis on communities with lower levels of life expectancy.

Quarterly Indicators	24/25 Q1 Value	25/26 Q1 Value	Quarter 4 25/26	26/27 Q1 Value	Target 26/27
Number of new Active4Today leisure members	New for 25/26 Q1	1,550	6,541	2,254	700
Number of User Visits - Active 4 Today (all)	251,236	287,693	1,177,304	234,746	217,500
Average number of calendar days to process new council tax support applications	16.0	18.9	17.0	18.0	14.0
Average no of calendar days to process council tax support change in circumstances	15.0	11.6	8.2	3.8	12.0
Average no of calendar days to process new housing benefit claims	16.0	22.0	19.7	21.3	18.0
Average no of calendar days to process housing benefit change in circumstances	5.5	4.7	1.6	3.4	4.0
Live Leisure Centre membership base (all)	11,696	12,330	10,848	9,685	9,750
Leisure Services - based on your experience; how likely are you to recommend us to a friend, family member, or colleague?	29.0%	68.0%	63.0%	65.0%	60.0%

Exploring our performance:

In Quarter 1, the average time taken to process new Council Tax Support applications and new Housing Benefit claims was above target. New Council Tax Support applications were processed in an average of 18 calendar days, compared with a target of 14 days, while new Housing Benefit claims were processed in an average of 21.3 calendar days, compared with a target of 18 days. Although both measures remain outside target, performance has improved when compared with the same period last year, particularly for new Housing Benefit claims, and processing times remain broadly in line with the Quarter 4 position.

A key factor affecting performance during the quarter was an unexpected increase in work linked to a national Department for Work and Pensions exercise to extend Personal Independence Payment awards. This led to a significant rise in automated notifications being sent to the Council, without prior warning, which generated more than 1,500 additional Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support work items requiring manual review.

This additional demand reduced the team's available processing capacity and contributed to the current pressures on Housing Benefit performance. It also affected some Universal Credit-related processing because claims with outstanding work items could not be updated automatically and therefore required further manual input.

Work to clear the remaining items is ongoing and is expected to be completed by 17 August 2026. These indicators will continue to be monitored closely. A new Head of Service is due to take up post in August and, once in position, they will review performance alongside local and national benchmark data to assess whether current targets remain appropriate, understand the key drivers of processing times and identify opportunities to strengthen service resilience and improve future performance.

Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, improving community feelings of safety.

We continue to work with partners in order to support businesses, provide education and intervene where necessary to prevent anti-social behaviour. Some of the initatives this quarter have included:

- Our continued funding of Prison Me No Way sessions has enabled further sessions to be offered to secondary schools, with these sessions available to all secondary schools within the district. We've shared in previous reports that these have been well received, with more sessions boked in over the coming months. Most recently during June The Dukeries Academy in Ollerton took part in the sessions.

- Extreme Wheels diversionary activity has continued weekly throughout the quarter, held on a Thursday evening at Sherwood Avenue Park, Newark. The event has since moved to Farnsfield Skate Park for the first session, and continues to be well attended by young people.

- Our Annual Safety Awareness Events were held at Sconce and Devon Park and Vicar Water Country Park, funded by the Office of Police and Crime Comissioner and the Council. The events were attended by 926 pupils from 26 Primary schools from across the District and saw key partners coming together to share important messaging with the young people. This included Nottinghamshire Police on Crime and ASB, Canal and River Trust and Nottinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service on Water Safety and Fire Safety, CPR training provided by Newark Community First Aid, British Transport Police Railway Safety and Murphy Plant brought a HGV and spoke to pupils about road safety and vehicle blind spots. We also mobilised some of our key teams at the event including Environmental Health who provided information on Food Safety awareness, the Park Rangers shared information on Wildfires and Habitats whilst Environmental Services colleagues provided Bee Bomb making. The weather did prove challenging this year, but pupils and teachers thoroughly enjoyed the event with positive feedback having been received from both agencies and schools.

- Overall during Quarter 1, we have issued a total of 2 Community Protection Warnings and 1 Community Protection Notice, along with 14 ASB warning letters, and 5 Acceptable Behaviour Contracts.

- We have worked closely with a Newark Town Centre Business in April following an incident of ASB & theft taking place in their store. This intervention resulted in 3 young people being issued with banning letters and 1 young person issued with a warning letter, parents were also visited or spoken to as part of the investigation process.

Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, improving community feelings of safety.

- Five warning letters have been issued to Young People in Bilsthorpe, following an ASB related incident in the village.

- The ASB panel continues to be held monthly, with 6 new referrals made between 1 April and 30 June.

- The use of CCTV footage has led to the identification of young people who have been involved in ASB in a Newark park and the Buttermarket. As a result, the young people have received warning letters and the Buttermarket is receiving targeted patrols.

- Our ASB Team managed 141 reports of anti-social behaviour during the quarter, whilst also dedicating time to enforcement cases, such as Newark Street Drinkers and youth related nuisance in Newark town centre. Two individuals were returned to Court following breaches of their respective Injunction Orders, in one case, the Court sentenced the individual to a 2-month custodial sentence; a further Closure Order which was successfully obtained on the 12 June for a property in Rainworth and an interim injunction was secured against a Blidworth resident, with a trial date set in July 2026.

Balderton Dog Fouling Campaign

- We hosted a responsible dog ownership event at Balderton Lake on the evening of 30th June, this was well attended by the local community and during the event Community Protection Officers engaged with dog owners to discuss microchipping, the importance of dogs wearing tags and picking up dog fouling. Dog poo bags were handed out, along with other community safety gadgets and the dogs received a treat.
- Following analysis of reported dog fouling incidents, Balderton was identified as a suitable location to trial a targeted dog fouling campaign. Hotspot locations were identified using reports submitted through the Council's online reporting system alongside intelligence provided by Balderton Parish Council. A review of existing waste and dog waste bin provision was undertaken, resulting in the installation of seven new post-mounted bins at key locations. These bins provide convenient disposal facilities for dog walkers while also helping residents dispose of general litter.

- To support behaviour change, the Council launched the *'There's No Such Thing as the Dog Poo Fairy'* campaign using materials from Keep Britain Tidy. New signage and bin stickers were installed across identified hotspot locations, reminding dog owners to pick up after their dogs and highlighting that any litter bin can be used for disposal. The campaign was selected as evidence showing that targeted messaging can reduce dog fouling by up to 43% in trial areas, demonstrating the effectiveness of clear behavioural prompts. The campaign was further supported by a social media campaign, with bespoke content provided to Balderton Parish Council for use across its own communication channels to help extend the reach of the campaign message within the local community.

- Further awareness-raising activity included a newsletter article, which was also provided to Balderton Parish Council for publication in its parish newsletter. Baseline monitoring of hotspot locations was undertaken before the campaign commenced and will continue over the coming months to assess its impact. QR codes were also included on campaign materials to enable residents to report dog fouling incidents more easily and to help monitor changes in reporting levels, while reducing the number of complaints received directly by Balderton Parish Council. This coordinated approach combines infrastructure improvements, targeted communications and ongoing monitoring to encourage responsible dog ownership and reduce dog fouling across Balderton.

ASB week took place between 29 June – 5 July, each day was themed with teams using social media posts to highlight these themes and signpost to reporting mechanisms and agencies who can offer support. Teams have attended themed webinars run by Resolve UK and jointly hosted an ASB Drop in event at Boughton Hub, along with Housing and Police colleagues

Our work to deliver the enhanced in-house CCTV control room continues this quarter. The new CCTV control room became operational as of the 1 April 2026. The project is now in its final phase of incorporating Council asset based cameras to the control room for consistent monitoring. The final element of the project is the technical testing and sign off which is expected to be completed during Quarter 2.

There has been a significant increase in proactive actions since we moved out of the partnership to the new control room. This highlights that the impact increased autonomy is having on the safety in our district. To help evidence this, we have set out in the table below the volume of incidents during quarter 4 in comparison to Quarter 1:

Theme	Quarter 4 2025/26	Quarter 1 2026/27
Proactive incidents responded to by the control room	79	467
Number of reactive incidents responded to	205	342
Amount of CCTV evidence shared with the Police	67	142
Number of proactive patrol hours	498	1009

Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, improving community feelings of safety.

Work with statutory authorities to improve flood mitigation and resilience across the district. Selected properties in the Farndon Road area of Newark are being offered funded flood resilience measures as part of a new partnership initiative designed to reduce the impact of future flooding. The scheme, delivered in partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council, and the Environment Agency, has been introduced in response to repeated flooding in the area, including the significant events following Storm Babet in October 2023.

> *"I am delighted that we are jointly funding such important and critical flood resilience measures for our residents in an area that has been greatly impacted by flooding in recent years; I know that the support has been greatly appreciated by the eligible homes visited. As a District Council, we have no statutory role in relation to flooding but supporting our communities is at the heart of what we do. The Property Flood Resilience scheme is a result of the successful NSDC flood partnership meetings and follows years of partnership working to help families be protected from future flooding. We will continue to work hard with our partners to try to alleviate flooding in our district."*
>
> **Councillor Paul Taylor, Portfolio Holder for Public Protection and Community Relations**

Households that have flooded multiple times since Storm Babet have been contacted directly and officers from the Environment Agency visited residents to invite them to take part in the scheme. Through the programme, homeowners will be offered a fully funded package of Property Flood Resilience measures, including a detailed survey, design, and installation carried out by specialist contractors.

These measures are designed to reduce the volume of flood water entering properties and to lessen the damage if flooding does occur. While they cannot completely prevent flooding, they can support quicker recovery, help protect homes and belongings, and may improve access to insurance or reduce premiums.

By focusing on practical, property-level interventions, the initiative aims to strengthen resilience in communities that have already experienced the disruption and damage caused by flooding. Improving the resilience of individual homes can play an important role in reducing the overall impact of future flood events and providing greater reassurance for residents.

Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, improving community feelings of safety.

Quarterly Indicators	24/25 Q1 Value	25/26 Q1 Value	Quarter 4 25/26	26/27 Q1 Value	Target 26/27
Number of proactive patrols (hours/quarter)	New for 26/27 Q1	New for 26/27 Q1	New for 26/27 Q1	1,009.0	1,000.0
Amount of CCTV evidence shared with the Police	New for 26/27 Q1	New for 26/27 Q1	New for 26/27 Q1	142	Demand
Number of monitored arrests and positive outcomes as a result of CCTV Control Room interventions	New for 26/27 Q1	New for 26/27 Q1	New for 26/27 Q1	35	Demand
% fly tipping incidents removed within 72 hours	97.9%	97.5%	100.0%	94.0%	95.0%
% of incidents resulting in an FPN or prosecution	New for 25/26 Q1	15.0%	13.0%	11.0%	13.0%
% of businesses in the District with a food hygiene rating of 3 or higher (generally satisfactory or above)	98.30%	98.40%	97.00%	97.00%	98.00%

Quarterly Indicators	24/25 Q1 Value	25/26 Q1 Value	Quarter 4 25/26	26/27 Q1 Value	County Comparison**
% reduction in anti-social behaviour - Newark & Sherwood District compared against County area	18.8%	14.4%	2.3%	-0.5%	-4.8%
% reduction in all crime - Newark & Sherwood District compared against County area	2.2%	-5.7%	-3.2%	3.9%	-3.2%

***Please note, in the context of the above two indicators a minus figure denote an increase.*

Exploring our performance: The percentage of incidents resulting in an FPN or prosecution was below target this quarter, at 11% against a target of 13%. This reflects both an increase in the number of reported fly-tipping incidents and the fact that last year's performance was supported by a higher number of FPNs issued in hotspot areas such as Deerdale Lane, where previous proactive work has helped to improve the position. While the reduced percentage is below target, it should therefore be viewed alongside the wider enforcement context and the positive impact of earlier targeted intervention. At the end of Quarter 4, a new Environmental Protection Officer joined the team and, as training is completed, we are planning to reinstate proactive business visits and strengthen evidence-led enforcement activity. This is expected to support increased enforcement outcomes in future quarters, alongside continued focus on prevention, education and targeted action in areas where incidents are reported.

Promote, maximise and celebrate the diversity of Newark and Sherwood's heritage, culture and community spirit.

Progress to deliver the Newark Castle Gatehouse project continues, with a number of significant milestones having been reached on site, including the Garden Room which is the multi functional space under the bridge which is vital to the schools and educational offer at the Castle. This is in its final stages of delivery, with the steels also having been installed for the visitor welcome and ticket office.

Conservation objectives have also been met, with the floors reinstated at their original levels in the North West Tower, and major progress in the Gatehouse preparing for the roof. This feature is a vital part of the sustainability of the Castle as it will protect the fragile inner walls of the Gatehouse – cited as one of the finest examples of a Romanesque Gatehouse in the country by Historic England - that have been subject to weather and pigeon damage over hundreds of years.

The new landscaping scheme has also started, with the riverside beds being planted and the terrace lawn areas turfed. A temporary pump has been installed to extract river water and ensure this new planting thrives despite the June heatwaves.

Engagement events during the quarter included stalls at both the Mansfield Hands On Heritage Day and the Nottinghamshire County Show.

We also completed a student internship, with the student (and her awesome guide dog, Ronda) having spent a number of weeks with the team delivering a project to support the Castle's development. Through this work, the student produced high quality resources for GCSE history teachers linking Newark Castle to the history of medicine - work which will help to inform the ongoing development of the formal learning programme. As a blind person who is supported by a guide dog, the student also provided accessibility advice for Newark Castle and the upcoming artwork exhibition at the National Civil War Centre.

In terms of the wider project outcomes, the internship has contributed towards the following outcomes:

- People will have the opportunity for the further development of key skills
- The local area will be a better place to live, work or visit
- People will have learnt about heritage, leading to change in ideas and actions

Additionally, our volunteer research team have developed a talk and presentation about the project and the research they've undertaken, that is now being offered free to groups across the district.

Promote, maximise and celebrate the diversity of Newark and Sherwood's heritage, culture and community spirit.

Work alongside Bilsthorpe Parish Council and other partners, to continue to support the development of the Bilsthorpe Community Hub. Bilsthorpe Parish Council is continuing to work up detailed designs and to discharge the conditions on their planning consent necessary to allow a start onsite for development of the new community hub.

This includes work on the final cost plan, which is required to feed into the full business case necessary to access the provisional funding allocation that we approved in January.

Work on transforming the former M&S building at 32 Stodman Street is making great progress. Work to transform the former M&S building at 32 Stodman Street is progressing, however some recent delays have been experienced due to extreme heat issues and working conditions in the heat wave.

Unfortunately one of the subcontractors that have been working on the project have gone into administration, which has affected the expected completion date for the site from September to late October 2026.

Deliver the National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) activity plan. Championing and promoting the arts, culture and heritage through the enjoyment of music and arts from different cultures.

Quarter 1 sees the first of our NPO extension years, and we are pleased to report we have been successful in securing funding for a 5th year which will extend the NPO into 2027-28. Through this transition period a slight amendment to the staff structure has led to the recruitment of a Youth Engagement Officer to support increased engagement with young people aged 13-25 years.

Leanne Moden – Artist in Residence 2 May – 3 October 2026

Our seventh Artist in Residence - poet Leanne Moden is in situ and running a number of creative writing workshops including 'Poety on Demand!'. Creating work that is thoughtful and playful, Leanne uses rhyme, rhythm, humour, and storytelling to make important issues accessible. She has performed across the UK and Europe, published two collections of poetry, and written two theatre shows.

Our Creative Influencers supported the Newark Duck Race as volunteers, and began workshopping ideas in their monthly sessions to co-create an events programme designed to attract more engagement from other young people across the district.

Promote, maximise and celebrate the diversity of Newark and Sherwood's heritage, culture and community spirit.

Alongside our regular outreach programme, our Creative Arts Officer hosted the second annual Schools Theatre week, during which 4 schools attended the theatre, took part in curriculum-linked workshops and learned about careers in the arts.

"So many different activities which provided insight into all areas of theatre/ creative industries. Too often students think theatre is just acting, today opened their eyes to so many different aspects."

"I cannot begin to tell you how amazing today has been, the students (and staff) came back bouncing, full of confidence and non-stop talking about the experience, in fact they have been buzzing about it right up to getting on the buses!

I have never seen students remain so fully engaged in this type of whole day trip in my 24 years teaching at Orchard! Thank you for giving us the opportunity."

"Another huge thank you for an absolutely amazing day. The Year 10 students were full of praise and said just how much they got out of the day. It helped enormously with their curriculum knowledge, but also gave great insight into the industry, hopefully giving them some real inspiration!"

Providers have been procured to deliver a range of events and activities across the district across the year, including a continuation of the highly successful 'Our Heritage' project in Blidworth, City Arts who will deliver a children's festival in various locations across the district and two music projects with MusicWorks whose work mainly takes place at Vicar Water, and SoundLincs who co-create work with young people with SEND.

Work with partners to look at opportunities for music and the arts. Newark Creates delivered a 2 day creative event in the Tudor Hall for families over half term, including music-making and a large scale art installation. A series of events took place across June in various venues to conclude the current funding period and included a recycled puppets family workshop where participants were encouraged to invent their own stories and bring them to life whilst using recycled materials and an architecture photo walk exploring local history through the townscape.

Alongside the Newark Creates partnership, we're excited to report that a new collaboration has begun with creative partners who came together to create the UK Town of Culture bid, including Coreset and Newark College. Whilst the bid was unsuccessful, the collaboration is ongoing.

Promote, maximise and celebrate the diversity of Newark and Sherwood's heritage, culture and community spirit.

Develop opportunities to maximise the visitor offer linked to Sherwood Forest:

The Rebel Rangers extension campaign, which saw us working collaboratively with neighbouring Councils as well as Notts County Council, ended during the quarter and actively contributed to an increase in footfall across each attraction involved in the campaign - with a total of 765 visits across the campaign period.

We received overwhelmingly positive feedback from families and the attraction organisers, who felt that as well as impacting footfall, Rebel Rangers increased engagement in other activities they had going on at the time, particularly around Easter.

Quarter 1 saw the launch of our new tourism site, www.visitnewarkandsherwood.co.uk.

To support the launch of the website and drive engagement and awareness, we have worked with an external marketing agency to deliver a highly targeted media campaign called 'Start with the Forest. Stay for the…'. Building on the global recognition of Sherwood Forest, the campaign is designed to capture attention and spark curiosity, positioning the iconic landmark as the starting point for a much broader visitor experience. The focus for the rest of this year will be to continue promoting the tourism website, with the events website as part of this. The team will also be building a plan which will help to attract visitors to the district across the festive period and into 2027.

Promote, maximise and celebrate the diversity of Newark and Sherwood's heritage, culture and community spirit.

Quarterly Indicators	24/25 Q1 Value	25/26 Q1 Value	Quarter 4 25/26	26/27 Q1 Value	Target 26/27
Total number of admissions - National Civil War Centre	4,378	3,752	16,315	3,861	3,849
Total number of admissions - Palace Theatre	13,033	11,004	57,956	12,359	11,040
Number of people reached through direct participation and outreach	3,029	6,484	23,486	1,656	3,000
Total footfall across all heritage and culture services and sites	26,089	25,385	115,211	21,510	25,000

Exploring our performance:

The number of people reached through direct participation and outreach was below target this quarter, with 1,656 people reached against a target of 3,000. This reduction has largely been driven by fewer school outreach sessions than planned, as unforeseen staff absence affected delivery capacity during the period. While this has impacted Quarter 1 performance, additional resource has been secured through Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation funding to strengthen delivery going forward. Training is planned in July so that the additional capacity is in place ahead of the new school year, supporting the service to rebuild outreach activity, increase engagement with schools and communities, and improve performance in future quarters.

Total footfall across all heritage and culture services and sites was below target this quarter, with 21,510 visits recorded against a target of 25,000. Performance was affected by a combination of factors, including lower visitor numbers during the June heatwaves and reduced school outreach activity as a result of unforeseen staff absence. While this has impacted Quarter 1 performance, a number of positive developments are expected to support recovery in future quarters, including strengthened outreach capacity through Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation funding, continued delivery of cultural programming, and promotional activity linked to the new tourism website and visitor campaigns. It should also be noted that footfall reporting now includes more accurate monitoring of café visits, which may create some small variances when comparing this year's data with previous years. We will continue to monitor trends across individual sites and activities to understand where engagement is strongest and where further targeted promotion or programme development may be needed.

Reduce the impact of climate change and protect and enhance green spaces.

Deliver the Council's Tree Strategy, enabling the exploration of options to develop new community woodland and wildlife spaces and support the improvement of air quality.

Following last winters successful planting season we have emerged into one of the hottest springs on record, the temperature extremes have made it difficult to keep all of the new planting watered and we have appealed to the local community to water any trees they can.

In Hawtonville tree tags with requests for community assistance with watering have been installed and we are in the process of working to replicate this across the district.

Balderton, Fernwood and Farndon Bin Sticker Trial

Street Scene operational staff identified that some public litter and dog waste bins were being used for the disposal of household and garden waste, leading to overflowing bins and reducing capacity for residents to dispose of dog waste and on-the-go litter. To address this issue, the Environmental Development Team worked alongside the Communications Team to develop two new stickers: one for dog waste bins and one for litter bins. The stickers clearly explain what can and cannot be disposed of in each bin and aim to encourage the appropriate use of public waste facilities.

Working with a member of the Farndon and Fernwood Ward, QR codes were incorporated into the sticker design to provide residents with a quick and convenient way to report overflowing bins. The stickers have been installed as a trial on all litter and dog waste bins across Balderton, Fernwood and Farndon. The effectiveness of the trial will be monitored over the coming months by reviewing requests submitted through the Council's online reporting system and assessing whether the additional information and reporting functionality help to improve bin usage, reduce contamination from household and garden waste, and improve service responsiveness.

Hawtonville Litter Trial Update

Monitoring undertaken since the litter interventions were installed in March showed early signs of success, with a number of streets improving their cleanliness grades under the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse, while others maintained their standards. Improvements were particularly evident in locations where additional litter bins had been installed, demonstrating the positive impact of increasing disposal opportunities for residents.

However, the warmer weather and lighter evenings have resulted in an increase in litter across some locations that had previously improved. To help address this seasonal rise, the Street Scene team has increased litter picking in high-footfall areas to every one to two weeks and has had the road sweepers out twice to clear litter and detritus.

Reduce the impact of climate change and protect and enhance green spaces.

During Quarter 2, further measures will be introduced, including the installation of larger A3 awareness signs and floor stickers at key locations such as shopping areas, schools and community hubs. Hotspot locations will continue to be monitored biweekly to track improvements or any decline in cleanliness levels.

Additional sites have also been identified for new post-mounted and freestanding litter bins to provide more opportunities for residents to dispose of waste responsibly. The Council's environmental enforcement contractor, 3GS, has been scheduled to patrol high-traffic areas to deter littering offences, and a further community litter pick event will take place during the summer to encourage local involvement and support ongoing improvements.

Chewing Gum Task Force Grant - The project aims to improve the appearance of local centres, reduce chewing gum litter and support long-term improvements in environmental quality across the district.

We have secured £27,366 from the Chewing Gum Task Force to tackle chewing gum staining and improve the appearance of town and village centres across the district. The funding will be used to purchase specialist equipment and cleanse almost 30,000 square metres of shopping and high-footfall areas in Balderton, Blidworth, Clipstone, Collingham, Edwinstowe, Farnsfield, Newark, Ollerton and Rainworth.

Alongside the cleansing programme, a behaviour change campaign will be delivered between August and October 2026 to encourage the responsible disposal of chewing gum and reduce future staining. This will include targeted signage, window stickers for local businesses, social media activity and supporting communications. To maximise engagement, Newark and Sherwood District Council will also provide bespoke social media plans and newsletter articles to participating parish councils, helping to extend the campaign's reach within local communities.

Improve recycling levels by promoting positive behavioural changes, through community events, targeted communication and enforcement: On 1 April 2026, we successfully implemented the Government's Simpler Recycling requirements, expanding the range of materials accepted through kerbside recycling collections. The changes made it easier for residents to recycle more household waste by allowing additional materials, including food and drink cartons and foil, to be collected at the kerbside.

Reduce the impact of climate change and protect and enhance green spaces.

To support the introduction of the new service, a comprehensive communications and engagement programme was delivered, including updated collection information, bin stickers, leaflets, community engagement events and face-to-face support for residents. Feedback received during engagement activities was positive, with many residents welcoming the ability to recycle a wider range of household items.

Early performance data indicates a positive impact, with the contamination rate reducing from 12.9% in Quarter 1 2025/26 to 10.3% in Quarter 1 2026/27, suggesting that residents are not only recycling more materials but are also recycling more accurately. The successful implementation supports the Council's aims to reduce waste, improve recycling performance and help residents recycle more effectively.

Recycling Education and Resident Engagement

The Environmental Development Officer continued to support residents following the recycling changes introduced on 1 April through a programme of community engagement events across the district.

- Community Link Groups – Attendance at meetings in Farndon, Southwell, Bilsthorpe and Clipstone, providing residents with information on the recycling changes, distributing leaflets and bin stickers, and answering questions to help residents recycle correctly.
- Nottinghamshire County Show (9 May) – Attendance at the Nottinghamshire County Show, providing advice on the new recyclable materials and supporting residents with recycling queries. As the legislative changes apply nationally, guidance was provided not only to residents from the district but also to visitors from Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire and Derbyshire. Working alongside the Growing Hub, the Council also promoted home composting and ran a competition to win a rotating compost bin, which attracted 38 entries from Newark and Sherwood residents. The event was highly successful, with nearly 200 people receiving recycling information and advice.

- Southwell Town Market (13 June) – The purpose of attending this event was to continue raising awareness of the recycling changes. Around 40 residents engaged with the stand, with many expressing positive feedback about being able to recycle items that were not previously accepted through kerbside collections.

These engagement activities helped increase awareness of the new recycling arrangements, provided residents with direct access to advice and support, and encouraged greater participation in recycling services across the district.

Reduce the impact of climate change and protect and enhance green spaces.

In preparation for the implementation of weekly food waste collections with WRAP (Waste and Resouces Action Programme) and Nottinghamshire County Council. We reported last quarter that we had entered a joint procurement process for the food waste caddies for the trial in September. This procurement process has now been concluded and a contract has been awarded for the supply of the internal and external caddies. We expect to take delivery of the caddies in August ahead of the trial and these will be distributed to residents in Lowdham, Southwell, Yorke Drive and Hawtonville in Newark at start of Quarter 3.

A joint project with Nottinghamshire County Council is being carried out to conduct a waste composition analysis in the areas that will receive a food waste collection so that we can accurately identify how much food waste is in the general waste bin before and after the food waste trail takes place.

The communication messages will be consistent amongst the trial areas and the leaflet, sticker and survey are being finalised. Round information has been updated to the Rounds Database and work is ready for residents to report replacement caddies or missed collections and have the calendar updated with the food waste collection information.

Our efforts to promote the commercial waste service continue, with 59 different businesses now signed up to glass collection. We continued to increase the volumes of commercial glass that we are collecting, with 21.51 tonnes collected in Quarter 1. This is the highest volume of glass in a quarter since we started collections in at the beginning of 2024-25 and a 22% increase compared to the same period last year.

We continue to promote this part of the commercial waste service and our customer numbers have increased again, with us now collecting glass from 65 different businesses.

As part of ambition to provide opportunities for residents' involvement in parks and green spaces, this quarter we:

- Have finished and anyalsed our consultation into the use of a numer of parks with focus on Cherry Holt in Hawtonville and Turner Lane in Ollerton. These findings are being utilised to to help develop the park plans further.
- We secured funding from the Pride in Place Programme (PiPP) fund to develop the Cherry Hot Plans further with a presentation to PiPP board scheduled fro September.
- Our partners at Sherwood Forest Trust have also been busy with volunteers on Sherwood Heath, clearing invasive Hmilayan Balsam to help promote the growth of heathland species.
- We have a growing number of volunteer litter pickers with 129 people signed up to our green champion's scheme. We have had requested for the removal of 152 bags of waste collected by volunteers in this quarter.

Reduce the impact of climate change and protect and enhance green spaces.

- Our meet the ranger walks continued to be popular with our residents and visitors. These sessions provide an ideal forum for our teams to educate the public on the work we do and allows us to gather feedback from the public.

We have continued to implement mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) through the development management process including, where relevant, securing on-site BNG and fees for monitoring delivery of agreed onsite habitats over a minimum period of 30 years. One of the two new approaches from potential habitat banks reported previously has progressed further and the Ecology Team has formally reviewed the proposals and agreed in principle for the Council to enter a S106 Agreement. Both parties have instructed legal teams to start preparing the S106 and as such there is a high confidence that this habitat bank will progress and become a Registered Habitat Bank. It is not currently the landowner's intention to sell habitat units on the open market but to use the units generated for their own developments.

Reduce the impact of climate change and protect and enhance green spaces.

Quarterly Indicators	24/25 Q1 Value	25/26 Q1 Value	Quarter 4 25/26	26/27 Q1 Value	Target 26/27
Number of fixed penalty notices issued for all environmental offences (excluding fly tipping)	391	28	285	236	Demand
Number of events held in NSDC parks	109	173	607	129	125
Number of targeted focus weeks	2	1	9	2	2
Number of children reached via environmental education visits including river health	1,550	1,369	3,075	1,505	500
Number of missed bins (per 100,000 households)	N/A	64.8	27.9	63.8	45.0
% of failing sites - street and environmental cleanliness - litter	1.0%	1.2%	0.0%	1.2%	1.5%
% of failing sites - street and environmental cleanliness - detritus	1.0%	1.5%	0.0%	1.2%	1.2%
	25/26 Q1	**25/26 Q2**	**25/26 Q3**	**25/26 Q4**	**25/26 Target**
% of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting	40.9%	39.2%	36.3%	36.8%	40.0%

Exploring our performance:

The number of missed bins was above target this quarter, with 63.8 missed bins per 100,000 households compared with the target of 45. Although this represents a decline against target, it is broadly in line with the same period last year, when 64.8 missed bins per 100,000 households were recorded in Quarter 1. Service insight indicates that Quarter 1 is typically affected by the annual restart of the garden waste subscription service, as some bins may be reported as missed where new subscription stickers have not yet been displayed or recognised at the point of collection. As the subscription period becomes embedded and residents have had time to apply their new stickers, we expect performance to rebalance during the remainder of the year. We will continue to monitor missed collection reports and use this insight to identify any recurring issues, support clearer resident communication and maintain focus on reliable waste collection services.

In terms of the measure of the % of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting, this is handled slightly differently to our other key performance indicators. The main reason for this is that there is usually a lag in the most up to date information becoming available from an external company, which means we report on performance at least a quarter in lieu.

As such in Quarter 1, we display the full previous years performance which is cumulative throughout the year. Performance at the end of 2025/26 was 36.8% against a target of 40.0%. This is below target and slightly lower than the same period last year, when performance was 37.7%. Performance against this measure is strongly influenced by weather conditions, as these affect the weight of garden waste collected during the year. Garden waste is generally much heavier than other recyclable materials, particularly when it contains moisture, and therefore has a greater influence on the overall percentage. By comparison, materials such as plastics, cardboard and cartons are lighter and have a smaller impact on the total weight recorded. During 2025/26, simpler recycling changes were introduced, increasing the range of recyclable materials residents can place in their recycling bins, including cartons and some additional plastics. While this is a positive change and supports improved recycling opportunities for residents, these materials are relatively lightweight and are not expected to significantly increase the overall recycling rate by weight in the short term.

Educational materials shared with residents as a result of the Simpler Recycling changes

Be a Top Performing, Modern and Accessible Council.

Expand and embed a broader range of customer satisfaction measures to drive performance improvement. During this period, we launched our new website which has contributed to a reduction in telephone calls and face to face enquiries and an increase in the number of customers contacting us via email. The new website has a feedback facility enabling customers to provide feedback of their experience using the website and where appropriate, this feedback is used to make enhancements to the website.

Additionally, this quarter, our webchat function has gone live, and we are working a comms plan to promote this further.

Seek to secure the very best option for Newark and Sherwood arising from the reorganisation of local government. During the quarter Councils across Nottinghamshire were awaiting the Government's decision on the LGR proposals submitted in November 2025. Whilst awaiting the decision, collaborative programme activity continued across a range of priority workstreams to ensure preparedness for the next phase of implementation.

Nottinghamshire Councils have agreed an interim pre-implementation governance approach. Several priority workstreams have been established, including Digital, Data and Technology, Workforce and HR, and Legal and Governance, with subject matter expert representation from across the nine authorities. Each workstream has an identified lead and Chief Executive sponsor to provide strategic oversight and direction. Our Council remains actively engaged in the LGR programme, with representation across all priority workstreams and within the interim Programme Management Office. Alongside the ongoing programme activity, work is progressing to transition from the interim governance and programme arrangements to a more permanent structure to support the next phase of implementation. As part of this, recruitment to the new Portfolio Management Office (PMO) was launched internally across all partner councils in May 2026, with the first phase covering 15 posts. This investment in programme capacity will help strengthen programme delivery, coordination and assurance as preparations continue ahead of Government's decision and future implementation activity.

Recognising the significance of LGR and the transition to a new unitary council in 2028, Governance and General Purposes Committee and Local Government Reorganisation Committee have endorsed a provisional scope to establish a Member and Officer Working Group. The purpose of the group is to help shape how Newark and Sherwood District Council's legacy is acknowledged and celebrated, while ensuring focus remains on delivering a smooth and effective transition. The group's first meeting is planned for September 2026.

In July Government announced the option selected for LGR in Nottinghamshire. These new councils will be as follows and as referred to in the City Council's Final Proposal:

- One covering the current local government areas of Nottingham City and parts of Broxtowe, Gedling and Rushcliffe.
- And one covering the current local government areas of Ashfield, Bassetlaw,

Mansfield, Newark and Sherwood, and parts of Broxtowe, Gedling and Rushcliffe.

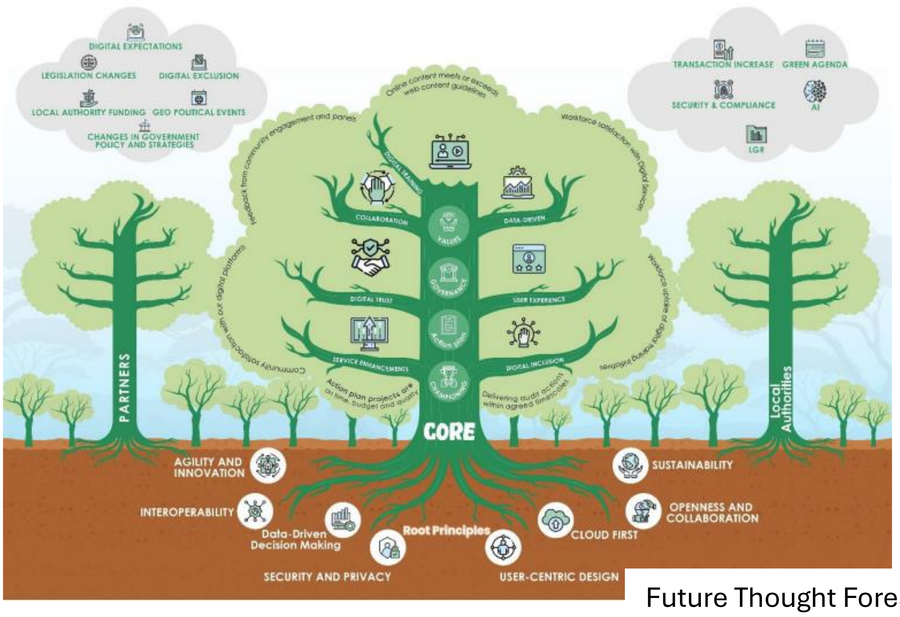
The government now intends to make a Structural Changes Order (SCO). This is the legal document issued by the government to implement LGR. It abolishes the current councils, creates the new ones and sets out how the transition will be managed. The SCO will be launched in Westminster later this year and further updates will be shared as these emerge. The LGR planning that is already underway across all nine councils will continue. Now we know the geography, the pace and focus of activity will accelerate and a formal Implementation Team will be established.

We are delighted to share an update on IT for the Terrified, a six-week workshop series delivered free of charge by West Notts College and involved a partnership with the Social Action Hub in Rainworth. The sessions began on 15th May 2026 and took place in the Civic Suite at Castle House and at the Social Action Hub, with each workshop lasting two hours.

The workshops were designed to help adults build confidence and master essential digital skills. This flagship initiative aimed to bridge the digital divide and empower the local community to thrive in the modern world. This work aligns with our digital inclusion offer, directly addressing the most significant gap identified in our Digital Strategy 2025-2028. The workshops provided practical guidance on a range of topics, including basic computer and internet use, managing email, and accessing online public services. There was also a special focus on navigating the NHS app, empowering participants to manage healthcare digitally and confidently.

There was a total of 18 spaces available across the two locations, and which were all booked by participants. We asked participants to share some personal details to help measure how well this workshop aligned with our digital inclusion offer. The information gathered reinforced the need for targeted digital inclusion support delivered within local communities. By providing practical, face-to-face training in trusted and accessible venues, the programme has helped residents gain confidence and skills needed to access online services, information and opportunities independently.

The initiative will serve as a model for future programs throughout the district, as we look to broaden the availability of these opportunities for residents.



Future Thought Forest: Digital Strategy 2025-2028

Be a Top Performing, Modern and Accessible Council.

The Life Chances for Girls Working Group concluded in January 2026, with findings reported to both Policy and Performance Improvement Committee and Cabinet. The review used national evidence, including the Plan International data tool, alongside local insight to understand the barriers affecting girls and young women in Newark and Sherwood. It highlighted that outcomes are shaped by a combination of factors including public and online safety, health and wellbeing, education, confidence, future career pathways, communication and access to inclusive services. The work also identified a wide range of positive activity already being delivered with partners, from community safety, domestic abuse awareness and youth engagement, through to mentoring, college support, physical activity, targeted communications and opportunities for young people to influence local services. This provides an important foundation for our continued focus on improving outcomes for girls and young women, including through the work being taken forward with Active4Today to increase confidence, participation and access to sport and physical activity.

Building on the findings from the review of the current offer, both within Active4Today facilities and more widely across local clubs and groups, the project team has identified key opportunities to reduce barriers, improve confidence and promote more inclusive access to activities. Within Active4Today a programme of marketing and communications activity is being developed, supported by local images, video content and feedback from groups to better showcase positive role models and opportunities for women and girls to get involved. Alongside this, Active4Today is recruiting champions across its leisure centres to provide additional encouragement and support, helping girls and women feel more comfortable when accessing facilities and taking part in physical activity. Regular reporting on the women and girls programme has also been embedded within Sport and Active Lifestyles performance reporting, strengthening oversight and ensuring continued focus on delivery against the key objectives and findings of this work.

We have continued to make better use of **data and automation to support our ambition to be a top performing, modern and accessible council.** During the quarter, our Administrative Services Business Unit developed a Power BI dashboard, bringing annual and quarterly recharge information into one place across Royal Mail postage, corporate printer usage, mobile phone connections, landline charges, stationery costs and recharges for partner organisations including Active4Today and Arkwood. This proactive work is helping us modernise the way we manage and monitor service costs by reducing manual intervention, improving consistency and making the quarterly recharge process more efficient. Supplier data can now be uploaded and refreshed monthly, giving us clearer visibility of spending patterns and trends across service areas. While validation checks remain in place to ensure costs are allocated correctly, the dashboard provides a practical tool for Administrative Services and Finance to support budget monitoring, strengthen financial oversight and free up officer time for more value-added activity.

Be a Top Performing, Modern and Accessible Council.

Quarterly Indicators	24/25 Q1 Value	25/26 Q1 Value	Quarter 4 25/26	26/27 Q1 Value	Target 26/27
Contact Centre - telephony - average length of time to answer calls (seconds)	140.0	70.0	79.0	84.0	100.0
Responsive Repairs - telephony - average length of time to answer calls (seconds)	64.0	No Data Rec'd	635.0	388.0	100.0
Number of work experience placements offered at differing levels of education	9	4	22	5	6
% business rate collection	29.8%	27.7%	97.6%	27.9%	29.0%
% council tax collection	25.0%	25.0%	97.1%	28.7%	25.0%
% invoices paid within 30 days - whole Council	93.6%	99.2%	99.0%	98.9%	98.8%

Exploring our performance:

The number of work experience placements offered at differing levels of education was below target by one this quarter, with 5 placements having been offered against a target of 6. Typically, work experience placements tend to be seasonal, and Quarter 1 usually shows the fewest numbers. We were able to offer a placement to all but one person who requested one.

In terms of Responsive Repairs telephony - average length of time to answer calls, performance during Quarter 1 is below targeted expectations. This has been impacted by call demand, resource capacity and periods of peak service activity. Whilst performance has improved in some areas, further work is being undertaken to ensure resources are aligned to demand and that calls are answered consistently within the target timescale. Improvement initiatives are underway, including continued review of call handling arrangements, workforce planning, performance monitoring and operational processes. The service continues to refine its approach to managing demand, improve workflow efficiencies and identify opportunities to reduce avoidable contact. Resource requirements are currently under review by the Head of Service. Improvement is expected over the coming quarters as service improvements become embedded, operational arrangements continue to be refined and the benefits of ongoing performance management are realised

Our Workforce.

We are proud to report that we have been awarded the bronze standard from The Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) for our work on supporting survivors of domestic abuse.

DAHA awarded the accreditation following an in-depth, rigorous assessment process, which found we demonstrated passion, dedication, and commitment to adopting and embedding the standards of the DAHA framework. Achieving Bronze means we:

- have strong and robust policies and procedures in place to offer the right support,
- work closely with relevant partners to offer a range of support avenues,
- have ensured staff have completed relevant training and development to support survivors and demonstrates it operates a survivor centred practice.

In April we recognised Stress Awareness Month, a national campaign that encourages us to recognise stress, understand how it affects our health, and take positive steps to support our wellbeing.

This year's theme, **#BeTheChange**, is a reminder that even small, everyday actions can make a real difference. Whether it's checking in on a colleague, setting clearer boundaries, or taking time to recharge, positive change starts with simple choices we make for ourselves and each other. To support colleagues during April, several wellbeing opportunities were hosted, including Tai Chi sessions, a monthly peer-support space *Thrive Together*, a weekly weight loss group, and practical tips to help reduce stress both at work and at home.

This year, the Customer Services team challenge was to create an Easter-themed creation of any kind – the more imaginative, the better! The team really embraced it, and the team leaders have said how lovely it was to see the creativity, effort and smiles it brought to the team.

There were crafted creations, edible delights, poems, flower arrangements, photos of pets, wearable arts and more! Congratulations to the winners, who's masterpieces can be seen here!

Our Workforce.

Through a new partnership with Five Dinners, the award-winning meal planning platform founded by TV chef Theo Michaels, all residents and staff can access a free premium membership – usually worth £86 per year.

Five Dinners helps take the stress out of dinnertime by creating personalised weekly meal plans to suit your household, preferences and dietary needs. Your free access includes:

- Personalised meal plans (budget-friendly, family-friendly, low-calorie, pregnancy-friendly, menopause-friendly and more)
- Readymade shopping lists to save time and reduce food waste
- Quick, nutritious and affordable recipes

It's designed to help us all save time, save money and eat more healthily during busy working weeks.

Our Workforce.

Quarterly Indicators	24/25 Q1 Value	25/26 Q1 Value	Quarter 4 25/26	26/27 Q1 Value	Target 26/27
Average number of sick days per employee (FTE) per year lost through sickness absence	1.2	2.2	9.6	2.0	1.9
% of staff turnover	3.0%	2.0%	11.6%	2.2%	3.0%

Exploring our performance:

In terms of the average number of sick days per employee (FTE) per year lost through sickness absence, we can see that that this is performing below our targeted expectations, but performance has improved marginally when compared to this time last year which saw 2.2 average sick days per employee. Despite this marginal improvement, performance is below target by 0.1% and this is largely due to the number of staff who are currently managing serious, long term health conditions. This has resulted in an increase of long-term absences, with 68% of total absences being long term. Our Human Resources team continue to provide support to managers to ensure early intervention to avoid the absence becoming long term wherever possible and to support the employee back to work with reasonable adjustments.

Use of Microsoft Co-Pilot: *Microsoft Co-Pilot was utilised in the preparation of this report to enhance its accessibility for a wide range of audiences. Additionally, Co-Pilot assisted in generating some of the images featured within this report.*

Newark & Sherwood District Council Compliance Report

2026/27 Quarter 1

Introduction

Compliance refers to the alignment of a built asset with the relevant rules, regulations, and codes. This includes the products and materials incorporated into the building, as well as the way in which they're assembled and constructed. It is important that we continuously review our compliance to identify and thus rectify any issues identified to keep the buildings users and occupiers safe. This report provides assurance that the Council is compliant in its three key areas of corporate compliance and green space compliance. Housing (tenant) compliance is covered in the dedicated Housing compliance report.

Corporate Compliance

Corporate compliance refers to the compliance of the 23 commercial sites owned by the Council. We provide this assurance on all buildings owned by the Council regardless of whether they are owned and run by the Council or leased to another body (such as the Gilstrap) as the maintenance of the built asset remains the responsibility of the owner.

Blidworth Leisure Centre
Bridge Community Centre
Buttermarket Shopping Centre
Castle House
Church Farm Business Centre
Brunel Drive Depot - 4 Buildings (A, B, C, D)
Dukeries Leisure Centre
Farrar Close
Gilstrap Centre Public Toilet
Hawtonville Community Centre
Newark Beacon Innovation Centre
Newark Castle
Newark Lorry Park & The Ranch Café
Newark Palace Theatre
Newark Sports And Fitness Centre
Ollerton Housing Office
Queens Sconce Visitor Centre
Sherwood Forest Arts & Crafts Centre
Vicar Water Visitor Centre
National Civil War Centre

We provide assurance that the asset is compliant in 6 key areas.

- Legionella
- Asbestos
- Fire
- Gas
- Electrics
- Lift inspections

Performance Indicators for Corporate Compliance for Quarter 1 2026/27

Indicator	Previous Quarter	Current Quarter	Target
% Completed Legionella tests (due this quarter)	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**
% Completed Legionella Risk Assessments (due this quarter)	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**
% Completed Asbestos Condition Surveys (annual)	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**
% Completed Asbestos Annual Reviews (due this quarter)	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**
% Completed Fire Risk Assessments (due this quarter)	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**
% Completed Gas Boiler Services (due this quarter)	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**
% Completed Electrical Inspection Reports (due this quarter)	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

% Completed Lift Inspections (due this quarter)	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Exploring Our performance
All statutory compliance checks remained at 100%

Green Space Compliance

Green space compliance refers to the compliance of our green spaces and play parks. We own several parks and play parks as does the HRA and we have a responsibility to ensure the safety of park user. Therefore, we inspect green spaces/parks and play parks to ensure they are safe to use.

Indicator	Previous Quarter	Current Quarter	Target
% Completed Play Park Inspections HRA Land (due this quarter)	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**
% Completed Play Park Inspections GF Land (due this quarter)	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Exploring Our performance
All statutory compliance checks remained at 100%

Risk

Alongside ensuring compliance we also monitor risk. This means we proactively identify potentially significant risks and implementing suitable control strategies help prevent these risks from being realised, or this is not possible, mitigate to a tolerable level. This is done in two ways.

1. **Operational Risks.** These are developed and managed by Business Managers and capture localised risks. These risks are reviewed every quarter and exceptions are reported to SLT and the Risk Management Group on a quarterly basis.

2. **Strategic Risks.** These are developed and managed by Directors and are significant risks faced by the Council which have the potential to prevent it from achieving its key/agreed objectives and/or have the potential to halt or significantly interfere with the ability of the Council to achieve its core objectives, priorities and/or ambitions. These risks are also reviewed every quarter and exceptions are reported to SLT and the Risk Management Group on a quarterly basis as well as Audit and Governance Committee on a bi-annual basis.

NEWARK & SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet – 15 September 2026

Portfolio Holder- Councillor Lee Brazier, Housing

Director Lead: Suzanne Shead, Director – Housing

Lead Officer: Wayne Fox, Head of Building Safety & Asset Investment

Report Summary	
Report Title	Q1 Housing Compliance Update 2026-27 - Housing Compliance Assurance Report
Purpose of Report	To provide the performance position as of 30 June 2026 (Quarter 1) for Housing related compliance and update on activities in the service area.
Recommendations	There are no recommendations arising from this report. The report is presented as a factual position statement to provide Members with an overview of housing compliance performance and related activity for the for Q1 for the financial year 2026-2027. That Cabinet note: a) the exceptions to performance of the housing service compliance functions; b) interim arrangements for monitoring damp and mould to comply with Awaab's Law ; and c) the ongoing actions to improve and maintain performance. This links to two ambitions in our Community Plan: **Ambition 2:** Increase the supply of housing, in particular decent homes that residents can afford to buy and rent, as well as improving housing standards and, **Ambition 7:** Be a top performing, modern and accessible Council that get its everyday services right for the residents and businesses that it serves
Reason for Recommendation	To provide assurance on the work undertaken to ensure the safety of tenants and compliance with the regulatory standards.

1.0 Background

This report provides Members with the performance of housing compliance services at the end of June 2026, focusing on exceptions performance, which is outside the Council's target parameters.

1.1 The full performance summary is shared with SLT; the Portfolio Holder for Housing and discussed as a standard agenda item for the Tenant Influence & Assurance Board meetings ensuring that Health & Safety are at the heart of our conversations and actions. Performance is also discussed at Policy and Performance Committee (PPIC) before being presented quarterly at Cabinet (Performance) to ensure there is oversight at Board level.

1.2 This report sets out the Council's performance against the Council's legal and regulatory landlord responsibilities for a range of building safety measures including fire protection, gas, asbestos, electrical and water. Further information on the Council's responsibilities can be found here https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safety-and-quality-standard.

1.3 The Council's performance in the report is rated as set out in the table below - as recommended by external auditors and the Regulator of Social Housing:

RAG Rating	Old Rating 2023/24	New Rating 2024/25	Colour in Appendix Report
Green	At Target	100%	
Amber	Within 2%	98 – 99.9%	
Red	Below 2%	0 – 97.99%	

1.4 The report also provides an overview of activity and performance in relation to damp and mould, including levels of demand, the volume of inspections undertaken, and the delivery of remedial works. This includes an assessment of timeliness and overall completion rates. Performance is considered across three broad categories aligned to the nature and complexity of cases, ranging from urgent issues requiring immediate intervention through to more significant planned works.

1.5 Following the implementation of the new Housing Management System, interim reporting arrangements are currently in place. This approach ensures continued oversight of damp and mould activity while system functionality is fully embedded and aligned to emerging regulatory requirements. As part of this transition, reporting will move to a more automated and consistent framework, strengthening data quality and performance visibility over time.

1.6 Further phases of implementation for Awaabs Law are anticipated in October 2026, which will expand the scope of reporting requirements.

2.0 Performance Report Details

2.1 **Gas Servicing Domestic - AMBER**
Positive improvement has been achieved in domestic gas servicing, with compliance currently at 99.92%. This reflects a continued strengthening of performance, with only four properties currently without a valid gas safety certificate. The service is working proactively to reduce non-compliance further and to progress all outstanding cases.

The introduction of a revised process has strengthened collaborative working between the gas surveyor, tenancy officers, the contractor and the Business Administration Team. This approach is supporting the current performance position, with the ongoing objective of achieving and maintaining 100% compliance.

2.2 **Fire Safety Checks – Amber**

The FRA's for the 97 blocks and the 30 community centres has been completed and will now fall into the scheduled frequency of inspection.

Fire actions are reviewed and completed weekly. As of June, 967 actions have been completed, with 36 with the contractor, 13 in progress, and 0 awaiting review. The remaining FRAs will be completed within Q2 of the financial year 2026-2027.

Please see table below with action plan for completion of the outstanding Fire Risk Assessments and due dates in 2026/27. Delivery of this programme is on track. One outstanding Priority 3 FRA is scheduled for completion prior to the end of August.

Type	Completed to date	April 2026 to June 2026
Blocks P1 & P2	100%	49 Sites
Blocks 3&4	99%	48 Sites
Community Centres	100%	30 Sites

2.3 **Smoke and Heat Detection - Green**

All smoke and heat detectors are checked as part of the wider heating system service and any faulty unit or units that have less than 13 months remaining life will be automatically replaced. This ensures that this area of compliance remains at **100%.** 3rd party audits are also undertaken to provide an additional layer of assurance.

2.4 **Fire Door Inspections – Red**

A total of 659 Communal Fire Door Inspections has been completed up to the end of the Q1 period, and 90.8% have been inspected and following the inspection 387 actions have been raised.

We have inspected 75.59% of all Flat Fire Doors out a running total of 598 flat fire doors inspected up till the end of Q1, difficult access properties are reviewed and communicated with Housing Team. No Flat Fire Doors within Q1 were replaced.

2.5 **Asbestos Domestic & Communal – AMBER**

There are no outstanding asbestos surveys for community centres, blocks or garages, with 100% compliance achieved across these sites. Domestic asbestos survey compliance currently stands at 98.8%. The remaining outstanding surveys relate to difficult-access properties where tenants have declined access for the survey to be completed.

Written contact has been made with the tenants concerned, and the Compliance Team continues to work with Housing colleagues to support access arrangements and progress the outstanding surveys.

2.6 **Water Safety - AMBER**
All communal spaces and community centres have valid Water Risk Assessments, and monthly water monitoring is being undertaken. The multi-service programme commenced on the 1st of November 2025 has completed 3223 WRAs at the end of Q1, the multi-service programme is on track and all properties visited will have a WRA undertaken in all domestic properties at the end of this calendar year.

2.7 **Stair Lifts – AMBER & Hoists – AMBER**
All stairlifts are currently 100% compliant. Hoist compliance stands at 97.41%, with the remaining outstanding items relating to access issues.
The Compliance Team continues to work proactively to secure access, with support from Housing colleagues, to complete the outstanding inspections and improve the compliance position.

2.8 **EICR certifications less than five years old – GREEN**
There are no properties without a valid EICR certificate (less than five years old) with compliance at 100%.

2.9 **Solid Fuel & Oil Servicing - RED**
Solid Fuel and Oil servicing compliance rates have not changed with solid fuel currently at 90% compliant, and oil servicing compliance at 98.94%. Data held is under constant review improving asset data.

2.10 **Damp & Mould**

KPI	Q1 Performance	SLT High-Level Commentary
New emergency hazards reported per 1	**289.13** (1,627 properties)	A total of 1,627 new emergency hazards were reported during Q1, equating to 289.13 cases per 1,000 properties. This demonstrates continued demand for responsive intervention and reflects the service's proactive identification and management of potential risks to residents.
New significant damp and mould hazards reported per 1,000 properties	**17.27** (94 properties)	During Q1, 94 significant damp and mould hazards were reported, equating to 17.27 cases per 1,000 properties. The volume highlights the ongoing focus on identifying and addressing property condition issues in line with regulatory expectations and tenant safety requirements.
Percentage of significant damp and mould hazards investigated within 10 working days	**77.99%**	The service investigated 77.99% of significant damp and mould hazards within the 10-working-day target during Q1. While this reflects a strong commitment to timely intervention, further improvement is required to achieve consistent compliance with target timescales.

3.0 <u>Implications</u>

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection; Digital & Cyber Security; Equality & Diversity; Financial; Human Resources; Human Rights; Legal; Safeguarding & Sustainability and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

Implications Considered Yes – relevant and included / NA – not applicable			
Financial	N/A	Equality & Diversity	N/A
Human Resources	N/A	Human Rights	N/A
Legal	N/A	Data Protection	N/A
Digital & Cyber Security	N/A	Safeguarding	N/A
Sustainability	N/A	Crime & Disorder	N/A
LGR	N/A	Tenant Consultation	N/A

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.

This document contains content generated by Artificial Intelligence (AI). AI generated content has been reviewed by the author for accuracy and edited/revised where necessary. The author takes responsibility for this content.

Executive Summary Report of Corporate Property Compliance Service Date 14/07/2026 (Q1 Report)

Presented by: Norman Emery

The report gives an executive summary of the current position of Housing compliance for the period from 01/04/2026 – 30/06/2026 (Q1)

Domestic Gas Services

Detail	**No.**	**Q1 Compliant**	**Q4**	**Comments**
Total Number of Properties	5134	99.92%	99.94%%	↓
No. Properties without a valid gas Certificate	4			Whilst compliance is improving, we are still working through aged non-compliance occurrences
No. Properties with Long Term Cap	41			Fuel poverty predominantly

Commercial Gas Services

Detail	**No.**	**Q4% Compliant**	**Q3%**	**Comments**
Total Number of Properties	8	100%	100%	Increase in numbers due to two commercial gas meters located installed servicing domestic boilers.
No. Properties without a valid gas Certificate				

Electrical installations

Detail	No.	Q1 Compliant	Q4	Comments
Total Number of Properties	5588	100%	99.968%	↑
No. Properties without a valid EICR Certificate	0			
No of reportable of dangerous occurrences	0			
No of properties with C1s identified and outstanding	0			This information is not captured, because any C1 or C" is rectified at the time of the EICR producing a "Satisfactory" certificate upon completion.
No of properties with C2s identified and outstanding	0			As above

Note C1s = Require attention immediately as they present a danger to life.

Note C2s = Require recommended as they present a potential to cause harm.

Oil Servicing

Detail	No.	Q4% Compliant	Q3%	Comments
Total Number of Properties	94	98.94%	95.74%	↓
No. Properties without a valid Certificate	1			Oil figures have improved but still encountering Tenancy related issues and we are working with Housing to resolve.

Air Source Servicing

Detail	No.	Q1 Compliant	Q4	Comments
Total Number of Properties	204	98.04%	96.57%	↓
No. Properties without a valid Certificate	4			Service has improved.

Solid Fuel

Detail	No.	Q1 Compliant	Q4	Comments
Total Number of Properties	10	90%	90%-	↓ With Legal & Housing
No. Properties without a valid Certificate	1			

LPG

Detail	No.	Q1 Compliant	Q4	Comments
Total Number of Properties	2	100%	100%	→
No. Properties without a valid Certificate	0			

Asbestos Management

Detail	No.	Q1 Compliant	Q4	Comments
Total Number of Community Centres	33	100%	-	→
Total Number of All Blocks	337	100%	-	→

Total Number Communal Garages	38	100%	-	→
Domestic Properties	5590	98.84%	98.41%	↑ Full review taking place of Asbestos Surveys to update Asbestos Register following centralisation of compliance area.

Water Hygiene

Detail	**No.**	**Q1 Compliant**	**Q4**	**Comments**
Total Number of Community Centres	33	100%	**-**	→
Total Number of Blocks with Stored Water Systems	2	100%		→
Domestic Properties	5590	57.66%	30.52%	↓ Multi Service Appointment has commenced on the 01/11/2025 and this will be completed through the course of the servicing programme.

Fire Management

Detail	**No.**	**Q1 Compliant**	**Q4**	**Comments**
Total Number of Blocks Total Number of Community Centres	97 30	100%	-	→ Following the completion of all FRAs in March 2026. A structured FRA programme is now in place against cyclical and frequency requirements.
Communal Fire Doors	684	88.19%		In Q1 there are 127 Communal Fire doors scheduled for inspection.

Flat Fire Doors	605	68.63%	88.19%	In Q1 there are 271 Flat Fire doors scheduled for inspection, with 186 inspections completed following 3 attempt access procedure.
Fire Alarms	43	100%		
Emergency Lighting	159	100%		
AOV	2	100%		
Fire Dampers	6	100%		1 system incorporating 6 dampers
Sprinklers	8	100%		
Fire Extinguishers	119	100%		
Lightning protection	9	100%		
No of buildings which have fire remedial actions which have been identified from current fire risk assessments.				**12 FRAs carried out** **49 Actions Complete** **Outstanding** **High Risk: 10** (3 in progress/7 issued to contractor) Completed: 412 **Medium Risk: 33 (**8 in progress/ 25 issued to contractor) Completed: 384 **Low risk/Planned works: 6** (2 in progress/4 issued to contractor) Completed: 171

Passenger Lifts

Detail	No.	Q1 Compliant	Q4	Comments
Total Number of passenger lifts	9	100%	100%	

No. of passenger lifts without a valid lift certificate.	0		-	

Stair Lifts

Detail	No.	Q1 Compliant	Q4	Comments
Total Number of Stairlifts	119	100%	100%	↑
No. of stairlifts without a valid certificate.			-	

Hoists

Detail	No.	Q1 Compliant	Q4	Comments
Total Number of Hoists	74	93.24%	97.22%	↓
No. of hoists without a valid certificate.	5		-	Increased access issues, and working with Housing to resolve. Situation involves 2 properties with multiple hoists.

Auto Doors and mechanical systems

Detail	No.	Q1 Compliant	Q4	Comments
Total Number of auto-doors	37	100%	-	
No. of auto-doors without a valid certificate.			-	

Air conditioning and ventilation systems

Detail	No.	Q1 Compliant	Q4	Comments
Total Number of air disturbance	13	100%	100% -	
No. of air disturbance without a valid certificate.			-	

Other updates and information from the compliance.

Detail	Comments

The above report is an accurate summary record of the building compliance service delivery for the reported period.

Signed By: Norman Emery - Compliance Manager

Signed by: Craig Linacre – Heating Surveyor

Signed by: Vince Parr – Electrical Surveyor

Signed by: Dean McNulty – Asbestos Surveyor

Signed by: Thomas Wiles– Fire Surveyor

NEWARK & SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet Meeting: 15 September 2026

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Paul Peacock – Strategy, Performance & Finance

Director Lead: Sarah Lawrie, Assistant Director – Human Resources & Democratic Services

Lead Officer: Nigel Hill, Head of Elections and Democratic Services, Ext: 5243

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open Report, Non-key Decision
Report Title	Annual Review of Exempt Items
Purpose of Report	To consider the list of exempt business considered by the Cabinet for period 9 September 2025 to date, and which, if any, reports can be released into the public domain.
Recommendations	That Cabinet note the report, with any items being released into the public domain if considered no longer being exempt.
Alternative Options Considered	None, this report is a useful tool in reviewing previous exempt items of business in order to release any into the public domain if considered appropriate.
Reason for Recommendations	To review previous exempt reports considered by the Cabinet over the previous 12 months.

1.0 Background

1.1 This report sets out the reports which were considered by the Cabinet as exempt items of business for the period from 9 September 2025 to date.

1.2 Officers have been requested to consider if any of these reports could now be released into the public domain or if the information contained in these reports remains confidential.

1.3 Members also have the opportunity to request (under Rule 4.18 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules) the Monitoring Officer to release exempt information into the public domain if there are substantive reasons to do so.

1.4 The following table provides the exempt business considered by Cabinet in that period and the opinion of the report author as to whether the report could be released into the public domain.

1.5 Members will note that the view of all report authors is that the content of all the items should remain confidential.

Date of Cabinet Meeting	**Agenda Item**	**Exempt Paragraph(s) / Reason(s) for Exemption**	**Opinion of Report Author as to current status of the report**
09.09.25	Digital Strategy – Appendix 1	Paragraph 3 – The report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Information to remain confidential
	Progression of Biodiversity Net Gain Habitat Banks for Newark & Sherwood District Council - Appendix	Paragraph 3 - The report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Information to remain confidential
14.10.25	Sherwood Levelling Up Fund - Appendix	Paragraph 3 – The report contains financial details which are commercially sensitive information	Information to remain confidential
	Yorke Drive Regeneration Update - Appendix	Paragraph 3 – The report contains financial details which are commercially sensitive information	Information to remain confidential
	HRA Development Programme – Acquisition of Section of 106 Homes at Rainworth	Paragraph 3 – The report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Information to remain confidential
20.01.26	Arkwood Loan Facility Agreement	Paragraphs 3 – The report contains financial details which is commercially sensitive	Information to remain confidential
24.02.26	Capital Programme Budget 2026/27 to 2029/30 (Key Decision) and Appendix A	Paragraph 3 – The report contains commercially sensitive financial details	Information to remain confidential
	Adoption of Public Open Space within the Fernwood North Development (Key Decision) and Appendix	Paragraph 3 – The report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Information to remain confidential
	Local Regeneration Fund and Newark Capital Projects Update (Key Decision)	Paragraph 3 – contains information which is both commercially sensitive as well as financial or business affairs not yet publicly discussed, relating to the organisations referenced throughout the report	Information to remain confidential

09.06.26	Local Regeneration Fund Update (Key Decision) - Appendix	Paragraph 3 – The report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)	Information to remain confidential
	Recharge of Sewerage Plant Maintenance and Cleansing (Key Decision)	Paragraph 5 - Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.	Information to remain confidential

2.0 **Implications**

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection; Digital & Cyber Security; Equality & Diversity; Financial; Human Resources; Human Rights; Legal; Safeguarding & Sustainability and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

Implications Considered **Yes – relevant and included / NA – not applicable**			
Financial	N/A	Equality & Diversity	N/A
Human Resources	N/A	Human Rights	N/A
Legal	Yes	Data Protection	N/A
Digital & Cyber Security	N/A	Safeguarding	N/A
Sustainability	N/A	Crime & Disorder	N/A
LGR	N/A	Tenant Consultation	N/A

Legal Implications - LEG2627/6913

2.1 Cabinet is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report. The passage of time may allow for the publication of previously exempt items as the contents may no longer be sensitive or confidential but the release of information should only be where it is appropriate to do so as an exemption no longer applies. Where an exemption remains then the exempt items do not require publication.

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.

NEWARK & SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report to:	Cabinet Meeting: 15 September 2026
Portfolio Holder:	Simon Forde - Climate & the Environment
Director Lead:	Jenny Walker, Director - Communities & Environment
Lead Officer:	Rachael Cranch, Transformation & Service Improvement Officer

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open Report / Non-Key Decision
Report Title	Progress Towards Net Zero 2035: Annual Carbon Emissions and Programme Update 2025/26
Purpose of Report	To provide Cabinet with an update on the Council's corporate carbon emissions for 2025/26, progress towards the Net Zero 2035 target, and delivery of the Council's Carbon Programme.
Recommendations	That Cabinet: a) notes the Council's 2025/26 corporate emissions position and progress towards the Net Zero 2035 target; b) notes the achievements delivered through the Carbon Programme during 2025/26; and c) supports the continued delivery of priority decarbonisation activities identified within the programme.
Alternative Options Considered	The Council could choose not to monitor or report progress against the Net Zero 2035 target. However, this would reduce transparency, limit oversight of carbon reduction activity and hinder informed decision-making regarding future decarbonisation priorities.
Reason for Recommendations	To provide assurance on progress towards the Council's Net Zero 2035 target, inform Members of current emissions performance and ongoing carbon reduction activity, and support the continued prioritisation of actions that deliver measurable carbon savings.

1.0 Background

1.1 Newark & Sherwood District Council declared a Climate Emergency in July 2019 and subsequently adopted a target to achieve net zero carbon emissions from its corporate activities by 2035. In support of this ambition, the Council worked with the Carbon Trust to develop a Climate Emergency Action Plan, establishing a programme of interventions to reduce emissions and support the transition to a low-carbon future

1.2 In 2025 the Council revisited its carbon commitments by commissioning the Carbon Trust to again evaluate both our performance and forecast towards becoming net zero. The review specifically looked at two areas: A - whether the target of 2035 could be advanced under the current conditions and B - whether the target could include our housing stock within the existing 2035 target. All implications were considered by Cabinet, and it was decided that the council would remain on the existing pathway to net zero which is set at 2035 and does not include our housing emissions. The report that was presented to Cabinet in June 2025 is linked in the background papers below.

1.3 Since adoption of the Climate Emergency Action Plan, the Council has developed a coordinated Carbon Programme to provide governance, oversight and delivery of climate-related activity across the organisation. The programme brings together projects, performance monitoring and emissions reporting to support progress towards the Net Zero 2035 target.

1.4 This report provides Cabinet with the Council's latest corporate emissions position for 2025/26, progress made during the year, and an overview of planned activity to accelerate carbon reduction and support delivery of the Net Zero 2035 target.

2.0 Proposal/Options Considered

2.1 This report presents the Council's 2025/26 corporate emissions position; progress made towards the Net Zero 2035 target and planned activity for the coming year. Corporate emissions for in-scope activities totalled 2,542.7 tCO_2e in 2025/26, which shows a 12% reduction, continuing the overall downward trend in emissions and demonstrating progress towards the Net Zero 2035 target.
The report highlights the Council's latest emissions profile, identifies the principal sources of emissions and sets out the emissions trajectory required to achieve Net Zero by 2035.

Full details found in the appendices:

- Appendix 1 – Progress Towards Net Zero 2035: Annual Carbon Emissions and Programme Update 2025/26
- Appendix 2 - Assurance Review of Climate Sustainability Assessment – Tiaa audit, April 2026

2.2 The report highlights progress delivered through the Carbon Programme during 2025/26, including increased renewable energy generation, continued delivery of solar PV projects, housing decarbonisation activity, tree planting initiatives, implementation of a green electricity tariff and further development of the Council's governance and reporting arrangements.

2.3 The report also identifies the key areas requiring further focus to maintain progress towards the Net Zero 2035 target. These include operational fleet decarbonisation, increased use of low-carbon technologies and fuels, ongoing energy efficiency improvements, and continued delivery of projects across priority areas including transport and renewable energy.

3.0 Implications

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection; Digital & Cyber Security; Equality & Diversity; Financial; Human Resources; Human Rights; Legal; Safeguarding & Sustainability and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

Implications Considered Yes – relevant and included / NA – not applicable			
Financial	N/A	Equality & Diversity	N/A
Human Resources	N/A	Human Rights	N/A
Legal	N/A	Data Protection	N/A
Digital & Cyber Security	N/A	Safeguarding	N/A
Sustainability	N/A	Crime & Disorder	N/A
LGR	Yes	Tenant Consultation	N/A

3.1 Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

The proposed reorganisation of local government creates some uncertainty regarding the future governance arrangements, priorities and climate commitments that will apply following Vesting Day. Whilst it is not yet known whether the successor unitary authority will retain, amend or replace the climate targets currently adopted by Newark and Sherwood District Council, the Council remains committed to delivering against its existing climate objectives and action plans. Progress towards the Council's climate targets will continue throughout the transition period and climate considerations will remain embedded within decision making, service planning and project delivery. Until any revised targets, strategies or priorities are formally agreed by the new unitary authority, officers will continue to work towards the Council's existing commitments and ambitions, ensuring that momentum is maintained and opportunities to reduce emissions and improve environmental sustainability are not lost during the reorganisation process.

Members can therefore be assured that Local Government Reorganisation does not alter the Council's current commitment to climate action and that work will continue to progress against agreed targets unless and until alternative arrangements are approved by the successor authority.

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.

Cabinet - Review of the council's net zero target

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APRIL 2025 – MARCH 2026

PROGRESS TOWARDS NET ZERO 2035:
ANNUAL CARBON EMISSIONS AND PROGRAMME UPDATE.

NEWARK & SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL

SERVING PEOPLE, IMPROVING LIVES

1. Background

Newark & Sherwood District Council (NSDC) declared a Climate Emergency at the Full Council meeting on 16th July 2019, initially aligning with the UK Government's 2050 net zero target.
In 2020, the Council worked with the Carbon Trust to develop a Climate Emergency Action Plan and agreed the 2035 carbon neutrality target, along with a pipeline of interventions.

The agreed scope excludes council housing from the formal target, though it remains within the Council's wider programme of action.

Updates to the Council's asset base include the addition of new sites (ASI Car Park, Newark Hospital Car Park and St Mary Church Gardens) along with the removal of Southwell Leisure Centre.

Since the development of the original Climate Emergency Action Plan, the Council has progressed its approach to delivery through the establishment of a coordinated Carbon Programme.
This provides a structured framework for managing and monitoring climate-related activity across the organisation, bringing together projects, data, and reporting into a single programme of work aligned to the Council's Net Zero 2035 target.

2. Emissions Update and Analysis - 2025/26

NSDC's corporate emissions for agreed in scope activities for 2025/26 are **2,542.7 tCO_2e** representing a **12.4% reduction** compared with 2024/25.

The Council's emissions have reduced year-on-year over the past three years, demonstrating a clear downward trajectory.
This reflects a combination of the impact of carbon reduction activity and operational factors, providing a clear indication of the Council's trajectory towards its Net Zero 2035 target.

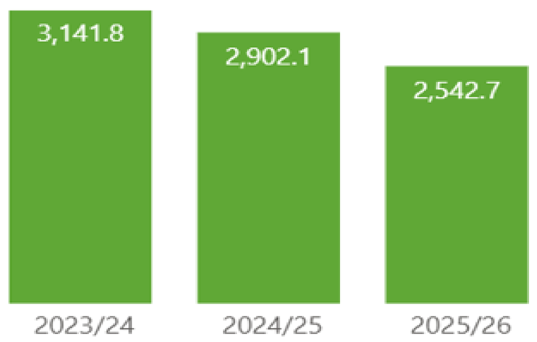


Figure 1: Emissions by financial year tCO_2e

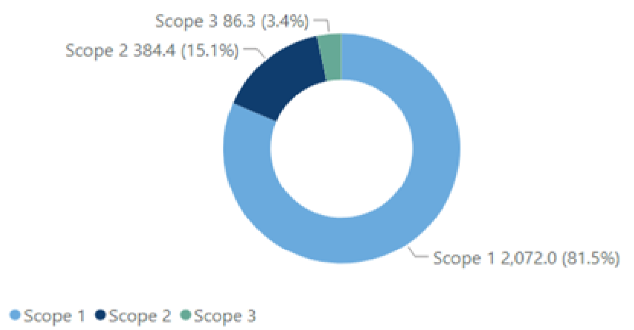


Figure 2: 2025/2026 Emissions by scope

Based on the Council's latest emissions position for 2025/26, a projected trajectory to achieve Net Zero by 2035 has been established.
This trajectory will be reviewed and updated annually to reflect the Council's latest emissions data, progress, and emerging opportunities for carbon reduction.
As emissions continue to decrease over time, the required annual reduction pathway will be adjusted accordingly.
The trajectory provides a clear benchmark for the scale and pace of emissions reductions required and will help inform future priorities and investment decisions.

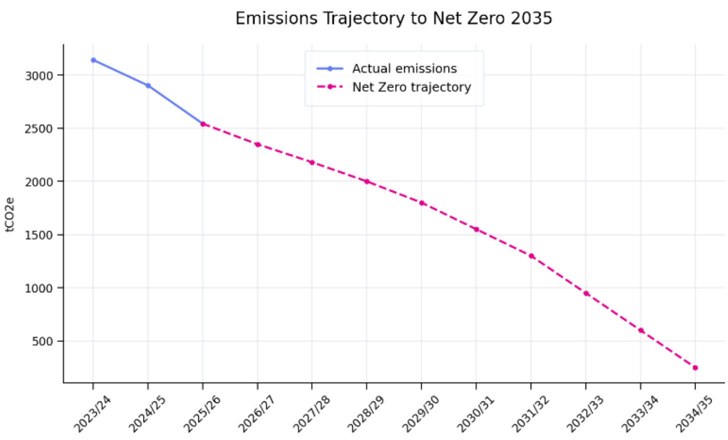


Figure 3: Net zero trajectory

Emissions Breakdown

Emissions are categorised into three scopes: Scope 1 (direct emissions from owned sources), Scope 2 (indirect emissions from purchased energy), and Scope 3 (all other indirect value chain emissions).

The Council's emissions profile continues to be dominated by Scope 1 emissions, which account for approximately 80% of total emissions.
These are primarily associated with fuel use across fleet and operational activities, along with gas consumption for heating buildings.
Scope 2 emissions (electricity use) make up a smaller but still significant proportion, while Scope 3 emissions remain relatively limited within the current reporting boundary.

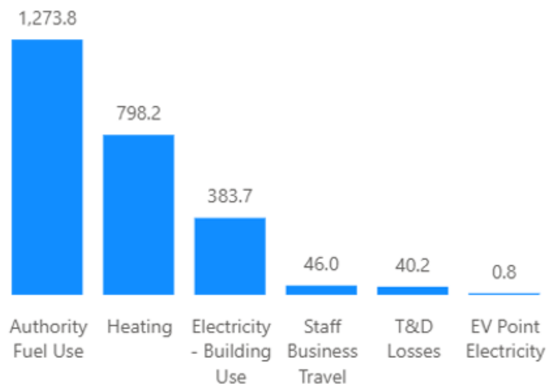


Figure 4: 2025/2026 Emissions by category tCO_2e

Analysis of emissions by source shows that the Council's carbon footprint is largely driven by 3 key areas:

- Diesel fuel use remains the single largest contributor
- Gas consumption for heating is the second most significant source
- Electricity use represents a smaller but notable proportion

Diesel consumption

Diesel consumption across the Council's fleet increased from 488,514 litres in 2024/25 to 495,492 litres in 2025/26, an increase of approximately 1.4%, reflecting sustained demand from frontline services. Diesel remains the Council's largest individual source of emissions.

During 2025/26, Environmental Services serviced approximately 3.7 million bins across the district.
Demand for waste and recycling services also continued to grow, with garden waste subscriptions increasing from 21,678 in 2024/25 to 22,253 in 2025/26, and kerbside glass collections rising from 2,108 tonnes in 2024/25 to 2,302 tonnes in 2025/26.

These figures provide additional context for the scale of frontline operational activity supported by the Council's fleet. While refuse and cleansing vehicles account for less than half of fleet assets, they remain the most fuel-intensive operations and continue to be the largest contributor to fleet emissions.

Waste Management uses Routeware route optimisation software to support the design and review of waste collection rounds, helping to identify the most efficient and cost-effective routes for service delivery. The software analyses factors such as property locations, road networks, vehicle capacities, traffic conditions and collection frequencies, recognising that the shortest route is not always the most effective operationally. While reducing vehicle mileage, fuel consumption and associated carbon emissions can be a co-benefit of route optimisation, its primary purpose is to improve service efficiency and reliability. As the district continues to grow and new housing developments are brought into service, the software also helps the Council adapt collection rounds and make the best use of staff and vehicle resources. Further work is planned to explore how the Council can make greater use of the software's functionality, which may identify additional operational efficiencies and environmental benefits.

Lower Carbon alternative to diesel - EV

The use of gas oil has now ceased across the fleet, while EV charging increased from 12,774 kWh in 2024/25 to 13,994 kWh in 2025/26. This reflects increasing use of electric vehicles and equipment within Council operations. However, diesel remains the dominant source of fleet emissions, highlighting the importance of further fleet decarbonisation and investment in lower-carbon alternatives where feasible.

However, achieving more significant emissions reductions will require further expansion of EV adoption, supported by investment in charging infrastructure and the development of viable low-carbon solutions for larger operational vehicles.

Figure 5: EV usage kWh – fleet

This reinforces the importance of fleet decarbonisation, alongside opportunities to improve operational efficiency through route optimisation. Reducing unnecessary mileage and duplicated journeys can deliver meaningful emissions savings without increasing service demand.

Lower Carbon alternative to diesel - HVO

The Council will continue to explore the use of alternative fuels, including Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO), to support the transition to a lower-carbon fleet, particularly where full electrification is not yet viable. Members have previously approved the use of HVO to reduce emissions from the operational fleet. While implementation has been paused due to ongoing fuel price volatility and the higher cost of HVO compared with conventional diesel, HVO remains a significant opportunity to achieve substantial emissions reductions. The relative cost of HVO compared with diesel continues to fluctuate in response to market conditions, and the financial implications of implementation are therefore being kept under review.

Introducing HVO across the fleet would create a step-change in emissions reduction, improving the Council's trajectory and accelerating progress towards the Net Zero 2035 target. As illustrated in Figure 6, the use of HVO has the potential to bring forward emissions reductions and place the Council on a lower overall emissions pathway while longer-term fleet decarbonisation options continue to be developed.

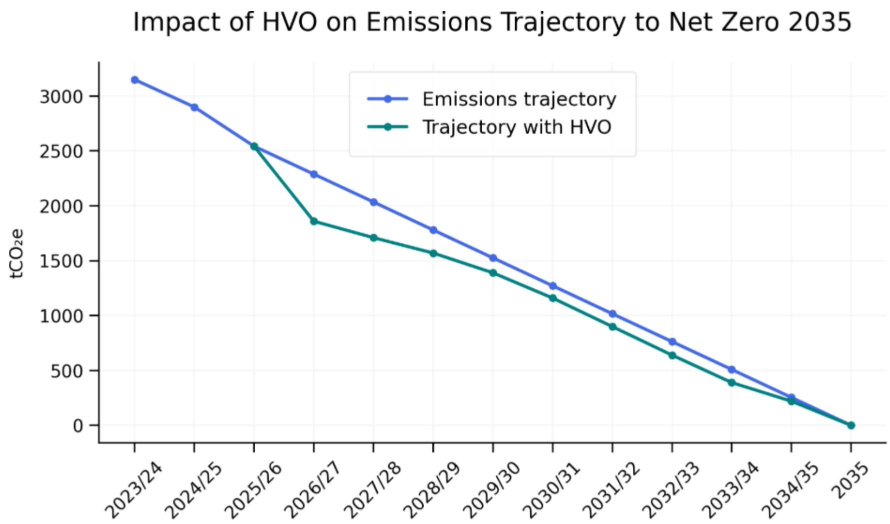


Figure 6: Net zero trajectory with HVO

Gas

Gas consumption has reduced year-on-year, reflecting both operational changes and ongoing work to improve building efficiency. However, it remains a significant contributor to emissions.

Figure 7: Gas consumption kWh by financial year

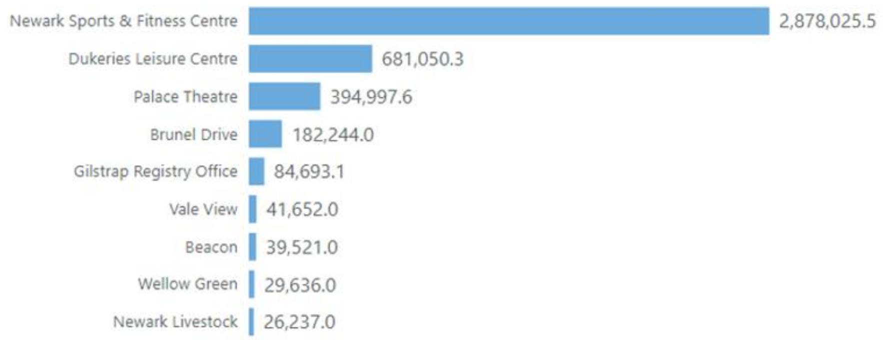


Figure 8: Gas consumption kWh by site

Gas consumption remains concentrated within a small number of operationally intensive sites, with Newark Sports & Fitness Centre accounting for the largest share due to its larger scale and more energy-intensive operation, including two swimming pools and extensive leisure facilities.

The overall reduction compared to the previous year reflects improved efficiency and changes to the Council's asset base, including the removal of Southwell Leisure Centre from reporting.

Despite this, the distribution of demand remains largely unchanged, with emissions continuing to be driven by a small number of high-use buildings. Newark Sports & Fitness Centre is also the Council's largest generator of on-site solar electricity, demonstrating that the sites with the highest operational energy demand also present the greatest opportunities for renewable energy generation.

Electricity

Consumption has reduced year-on-year, falling from 2,875,248 kWh in 2023/24 to 2,167,576 kWh in 2025/26, equating to a reduction of approximately 700,000 kWh (25%); however, it remains a significant emissions source.

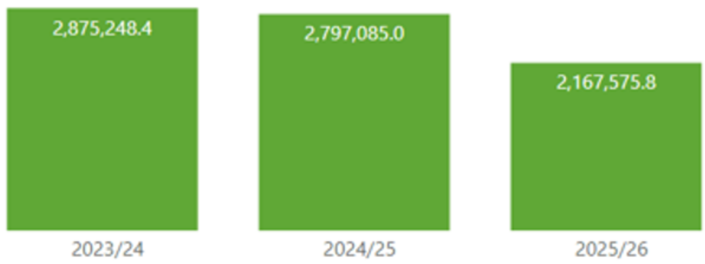


Figure 9: Electric consumption KWh by financial year

Demand continues to be concentrated across a small number of high-use operational sites, particularly leisure facilities such as Newark Sports & Fitness Centre, reflecting their energy-intensive use and extended operating hours. This reduction indicates improved performance across the estate, although underlying demand at key sites remains high.

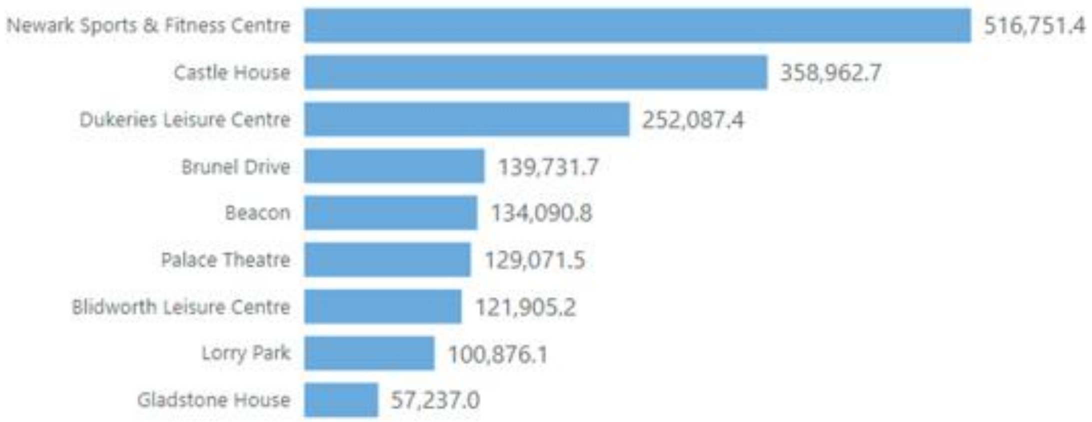


Figure 10: Electric consumption KWh by site

From April 2026, the Council transitioned to a renewable electricity tariff backed by Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGOs), aligning purchased electricity with certified renewable generation.

While this change falls outside the current reporting period, it is expected to eliminate the Council's reported Scope 2 electricity emissions under market-based carbon accounting methodologies from 2026/27 onwards. This reflects a change in electricity procurement rather than a reduction in electricity consumption.

The Council will continue to monitor electricity consumption to support energy efficiency, cost reduction and effective management of the estate.

Figure 11 illustrates the potential impact on the Council's reported emissions trajectory, reducing the baseline from which future reductions will be measured. If the renewable electricity tariff had been in place during 2025/26, the Council's reported emissions would have reduced by 384.4 tCO_2e, from 2,542.7 tCO_2e to 2,158.3 tCO_2e.

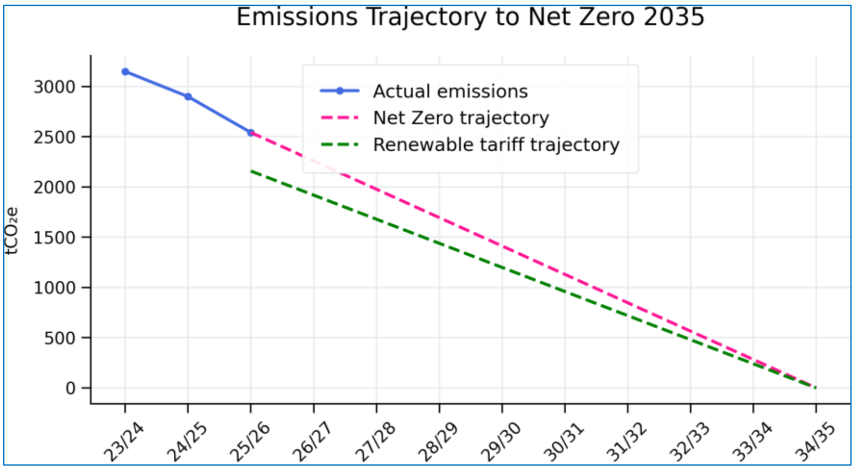


Figure 11: Net Zero trajectory assuming renewable electricity tariff (market-based reporting)

This reduction reflects the procurement of certified renewable electricity rather than a reduction in electricity consumption and should therefore be considered alongside ongoing efforts to improve energy efficiency across the estate.

Solar

Solar generation used on site has increased significantly year-on-year, rising from 84,921 kWh in 2024/25 to 360,002 kWh in 2025/26.
This reflects the rapid expansion of solar PV across the Council's estate, with major contributions from sites including Newark Sports and Fitness Centre and Alexander Lodge.

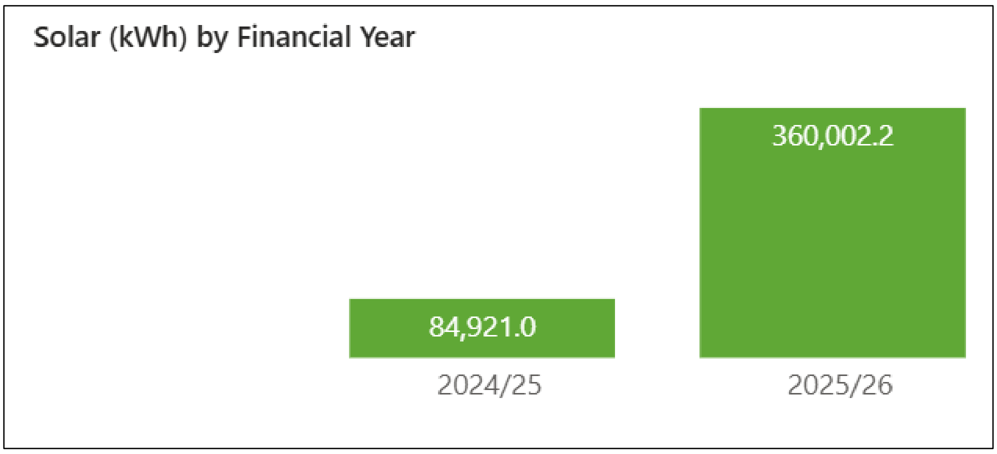


Figure 12: Solar generation used on site kWh by financial year

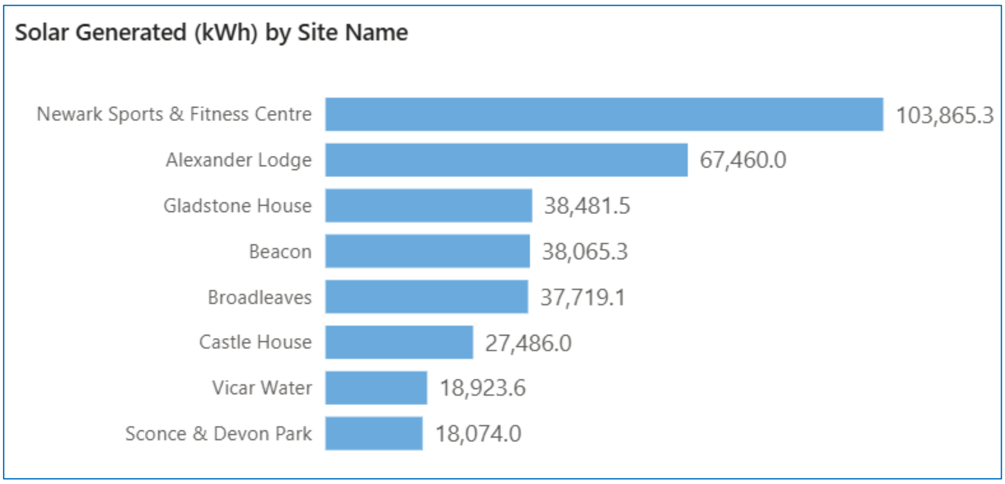


Figure 13: Solar generation used on site by site

This increase in on-site renewable energy is reducing reliance on grid electricity and supporting sustained emissions reduction.
The fourfold growth in the use of electricity from solar generation demonstrates the increasing impact of on-site renewable energy across the Council's operational estate and is broadly equivalent to the annual electricity use of several hundred typical homes.

3. Progress Since Last Report

The Council's carbon reduction programme is now managed through a structured Carbon Programme, aligning strategy, delivery and reporting within a clear framework for monitoring progress towards the Net Zero 2035 target. Activity spans corporate buildings, housing, transport, biodiversity, waste and engagement, reflecting a coordinated, council-wide approach to carbon reduction. This approach is supported by robust governance arrangements and a recent internal audit, which provided Substantial Assurance in Appendix 2.

Progress has continued across a range of projects, including solar PV, housing decarbonisation and tree planting programmes, alongside initiatives that encourage lower-carbon behaviours.
Climate-related activity is increasingly embedded within existing operational and capital programmes, with services leading delivery as part of business-as-usual activity rather than through standalone projects.

Further progress has also been delivered across Street Scene and grounds maintenance activities, including the introduction of electric equipment, reduced chemical use, more sustainable planting practices and increased reuse of green waste. These changes demonstrate how sustainability and carbon reduction are increasingly being embedded within day-to-day service delivery and operational decision-making.

4. Wider Carbon Reduction Activity and Embedded Delivery

In parallel, wider Council activity continues to contribute towards climate targets through both targeted measures and the co-benefits of broader activity.

Housing Retrofit

This includes delivery of housing retrofit programmes, supporting the upgrade of council homes towards EPC Band C through a fabric-first approach. During 2025/26, the Council secured £5.5 million of funding over two years to support housing energy efficiency improvements and retrofit projects, prioritising homes with the lowest EPC ratings

Stodman Street Regeneration

Developments such as Stodman Street demonstrate how low carbon design can be integrated within town centre regeneration, combining the reuse of an existing building with modern, energy-efficient construction. The scheme will deliver 29 residential units alongside new retail space, incorporating sustainability measures including solar PV, enhanced insulation and a commitment to recycle up to 90% of materials removed from site.
In addition, the development includes 28 air source heat pumps providing heating and cooling to residential units, mechanical ventilation systems to support energy efficiency and indoor air quality, and infrastructure for electric vehicle charging. Fabric-first improvements are being delivered through enhanced insulation and innovative glazing solutions, allowing the original heritage façade to be retained while improving thermal performance. The development also reflects the use of local supply chains during delivery, supporting wider sustainability benefits.

Figures 14: Stodman Street regeneration

While still under construction, the scheme provides a strong example of how low carbon technologies and retrofit approaches can be integrated within complex regeneration projects, supporting reduced operational emissions alongside wider sustainability and place-based outcomes.

Alexander Lodge

Alexander Lodge has been developed to provide high-quality, low carbon temporary accommodation. While carbon reduction was not the primary driver, the scheme demonstrates how delivering improved accommodation standards can also deliver significant environmental and operational benefits.

The 20-unit development replaces outdated facilities with a modern, energy-efficient scheme incorporating enhanced building fabric, shared energy infrastructure and on-site renewable generation.

A roof-mounted solar photovoltaic system, supported by battery storage, generated over 67,000 kWh of electricity during 2025/26, exceeding initial design expectations and reducing reliance on grid energy. This is estimated to deliver carbon savings of approximately 15 tCO_2e per year.


Figures 15: Alexander Lodge

The scheme also includes a shared plant room approach, reducing boiler requirements and associated maintenance, alongside an inclusive utilities model which enables predictable energy costs for residents. Since opening in 2024, the development has supported over 160 households, providing safe, warm and affordable accommodation.

As the first full year of operation, 2025/26 provides an early indication of the scheme's performance, demonstrating how low carbon design can be effectively integrated into service delivery, with co-benefits for cost, resilience and resident wellbeing.
This project has also been submitted for external recognition through a sustainability award scheme, reflecting the quality and impact of delivery.

Tree Planting and Biodiversity
During 2025/26, approximately 110,000 trees were planted across Newark and Sherwood through a combination of Council, partner and externally funded schemes. Of these, around 34,000 trees were directly supported through NSDC-funded planting initiatives at sites including Thorney Abbey and Little Carlton. Together, these projects will deliver a range of long-term environmental benefits, including enhanced biodiversity, increased carbon sequestration, improved soil stability, natural flood management and greater climate resilience across the district.

Figure 16: Tree planting at Holme End Barn

Building on this work, a project has also been developed to increase urban tree canopy cover within Hawtonville in response to national data published in 2024.
Delivered in partnership with the Woodland Trust, Greenwood Community Forest, Reach Learning Disability and the local community, the first phase of the project will see 18 trees planted at key locations across the estate.

Waste and Recycling
Improvements to waste and recycling services, including the implementation of the changes outlined in the governments 'Simpler Recycling' policy from April 2026.
This increases the range of materials that can be recycled from the kerbside and follows the introduction of a kerbside glass collection in April 2024. This is supporting carbon reduction by increasing recycling rates and reducing waste to landfill or energy recovery.

5. Training and behaviour change

Initiatives such as Green Rewards have supported wider community engagement within Newark and Sherwood, with over 700 households participating and delivering more than 66,000 low-carbon actions, contributing to an estimated 157 tonnes of CO_2e savings since launch to March 2026.
Residents are using
Green Rewards to share biodiversity sightings, such as a European hornet recorded at Rufford Abbey Park, helping to build awareness of local wildlife.

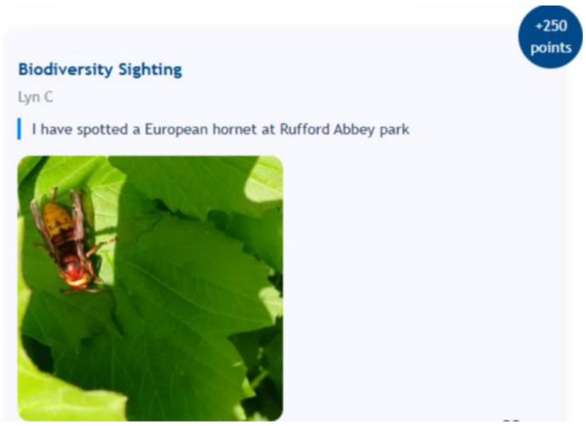


Figure 17: Extract from Green Rewards dashboard

In addition, a new internal climate e-learning module has been developed in house and launched to support staff awareness and encourage lower carbon behaviours across the organisation.
Uptake continues to grow, helping to embed lower carbon considerations into day-to-day decision-making both at work and at home.

These initiatives support the wider embedding of climate considerations across the organisation and community, reinforcing behavioural change alongside physical delivery.

6. Next Steps and Planned Activity

NSDC will continue to coordinate carbon reduction activity across services, building on progress made to date and supporting delivery of the Council's Net Zero 2035 target.
With an updated emissions baseline and improved understanding of key emission sources, the next phase of the programme will focus on accelerating activity in areas with the greatest potential to support emissions reduction. This includes the operational fleet, where further work will explore opportunities to maximise the functionality of route optimisation software, improve service efficiency and increase the use of alternative fuels such as Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO). These activities may also deliver additional fuel and carbon savings while supporting the effective delivery of frontline services. Continued investment in solar and battery storage, housing retrofit, biodiversity, transport and wider decarbonisation initiatives will also continue.
Strategic work with EMCCA and other partners through the Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP) will continue to inform future investment decisions, strengthen the evidence base for action and support long-term decarbonisation across the district.
Independent assurance confirms a credible pathway towards the 2035 target, supported by established governance arrangements, improved data and a more coordinated approach to delivery.
The focus now is on maintaining momentum and accelerating action in the areas capable of delivering the greatest emissions reductions

Comparative Net Zero Trajectories

Two significant opportunities have been identified to accelerate progress towards the Council's Net Zero 2035 target: the transition to a renewable electricity tariff from April 2026 and the potential introduction of HVO. While the accounting methodologies, the operational fleet remains the Council's largest source of emissions and therefore presents renewable tariff is expected to eliminate reported Scope 2 electricity emissions under market-based carbon the greatest opportunity for carbon reduction.

Figure 18 illustrates the potential impact of introducing a renewable electricity tariff and Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO), both individually and in combination. While the renewable electricity tariff would significantly reduce reported Scope 2 emissions, HVO has the potential to deliver the greatest overall reduction due to the significant contribution of fleet diesel consumption to the Council's emissions profile. Together, these measures could deliver a substantial step-change in emissions reduction and significantly accelerate progress towards the Net Zero 2035 target.

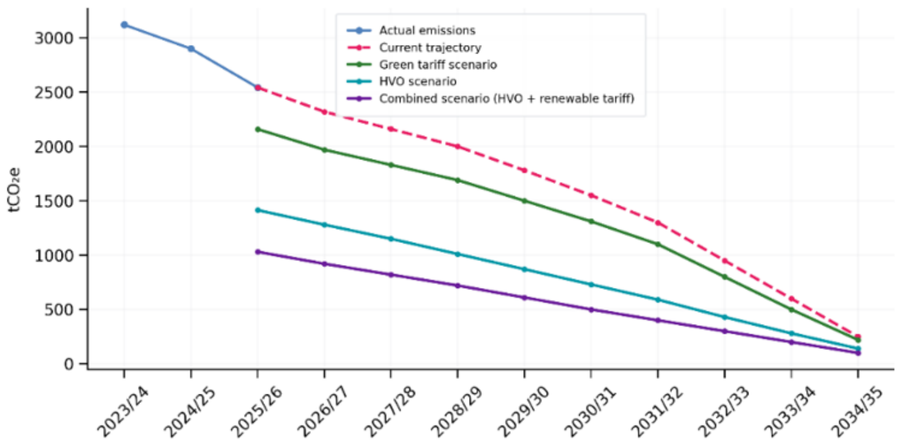


Figure 18: Comparative Net Zero trajectories

6. Conclusion

Overall, the Council's 2025/26 emissions position demonstrates continued progress towards the Net Zero 2035 target, supported by stronger governance, improved data and a more coordinated approach to delivery.

Significant progress has been made across renewable energy, housing retrofit, biodiversity and wider operational activity, with climate action increasingly embedded within service delivery.
While further reductions will require sustained effort, the Council is well placed to accelerate progress and continue supporting wider net zero ambitions through collaboration with EMCCA and partner authorities.

Newark and Sherwood District Council

Assurance Review of Climate Sustainability Assessment

April 2026

Final

Executive Summary

OVERALL ASSESSMENT	SUBSTANTIAL ASSURANCE	ACTION POINTS	HIGH RISK	MEDIUM RISK	LOW RISK	OPERATIONAL
			0	0	1	0

KEY STRATEGIC FINDINGS

C	**Newark and Sherwood District Council's stated goal of achieving Carbon Neutrality by 2035 (as originally outlined in the Climate Emergency Declaration and restated as an organisational goal) has been evidenced as having a plan to be achieved subject to a residual level of carbon sequestration at a degree that management consider to be tolerable. It should be stated that the responsible Management at the Council are confident that this can be achieved based upon their internal governance and the work of the Carbon Trust.**
C	**Nationally, the Council is ahead of many other councils that TIAA has undertaken this review for as they have calculated current emissions and have considered and presented a reasoned position on carbon offsetting costs. Most councils have not undertaken these steps.**
C	**Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) means that milestones and pathways are both somewhat speculative and hard to track as it is likely corporate emissions will change in accordance with agreed needs. Additionally, successor post vestment organisations will likely re-evaluate future goals and undertake a revised gap analysis.**
GF	**Total tCO_2e reduction across the estate and fleet has been included to reporting at the Policy and Performance Improvement Committee (PPIC) since June 2025 to support milestone reporting.**

SCOPE	ASSURANCE OVER KEY STRATEGIC RISK / OBJECTIVE
Confirm that there are agreed climate related key performance indicators (KPIs) which align with the business plan requirements and are independently monitored, with corrective action taken in a timely manner.	The Council has committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2035, with consideration to bring this forward to 2030. Climate change is embedded in the Community Plan under the objective to "enhance and protect the district's natural environment."

Assurance - Key Findings and Management Action Plan (MAP)

Id	Root Cause Indicator	Finding	Recommendation	Priority	Management Comments	Implementation Timetable (dd/mm/yy)	Responsible Officer (Job Title)
157	C	Water usage has not been considered within the Sustainability and Climate Action Plan (2025). The Carbon Reduction Target Review identified related carbon emissions as increasing from 10 tCO_2 to 241 tCO_2, with a recommendation to review sites with high water usage / anomalies in consumption. Additionally, the waste reduction target has a date set but no specific reduction targets (e.g. recycling will increase to 70% by 2030) and there is no detail with respect of potential challenges to reaching the aims of the plan.	Update the Sustainability and Climate Action Plan (2025) with targets for water usage including reviews of high usage sites and clear reduction targets where appropriate. Waste reduction targets to be reviewed and updated with clearer goals for carbon emissions reduction, details of potential challenges identified for each goal and strategies to overcome them.	3	*TIAA accepted NSDC's additional context in the draft stage but removed it from the draft report. Key context regarding the Southwell Leisure Centre transfer and the development of the Dukeries Leisure Centre and dashboard integration work was omitted, which affects interpretation of water usage and waste performance. All utilities are tracked via a live dashboard which will also include water in the near future (evidence shared).* *Regarding waste reduction targets, these will be borne from the national directives which are due for implementation from 2027 onwards.* ***Evidence Submitted*** • *Updated Greening NSDC Action Plan.* • *Climate Indicators Framework* • *PPIC reports on statutory recycling requirements.* *Omission of this context materially affects the accuracy of the finding.*	*N/A*	*N/A*

PRIORITY GRADINGS

1	HIGH RISK	Fundamental control weaknesses or compliance issues that require immediate attention.	2	MEDIUM RISK	Control weaknesses that are not critical but require planned action at the earliest opportunity.	3	LOW RISK	Minor issues on which action should be taken or monitored as part of continuous improvement.

Operational - Effectiveness Matter (OEM) Action Plan

Id	Root Cause Indicator	Finding	Suggested Action	Management Comments
No operational effectiveness matters relating to this review				

ADVISORY NOTE

Operational Effectiveness Matters need to be considered as part of management review of procedures.

Findings

Ref	Expected Key Risk Mitigation		Effectiveness of arrangements	Cross Reference to MAP	Cross Reference to OEM
RM	**Risk Mitigation**	The documented process aligns with the mitigating arrangements set out in the corporate risk register.	In place	-	-
C	**Compliance**	Compliance with statutory, regulatory and policy requirements is demonstrated, with action taken in cases of identified non-compliance.	Partially in place	157	-
GF	**Governance Framework**	There is a documented process instruction which accords with the relevant regulatory guidance, Financial Instructions and Scheme of Delegation.	In place	-	-
PM	**Performance Monitoring**	There are agreed KPIs for the process which align with the business plan requirements and are independently monitored, with corrective action taken in a timely manner.	In place	-	-
S	**Sustainability**	The impact on the organisation's sustainability agenda has been considered.	Partially in place	-	-
R	**Resilience**	Good practice to respond to business interruption events and to enhance the economic, effective and efficient delivery is adopted.	In place	-	-

Other Information

Newark and Sherwood District Council (NSDC, the Council) have identified that there is a risk score of six that they may not be able to meet the Government's Green Agenda and the aspirations / expectations of the NSDC community in delivering a carbon neutral service.

Other Information

In 2019 the Council set a target to reduce corporate carbon emissions from 2,510 tCO_2e to net neutral by 2035. Corporate emissions increased to 3,799 tCO_2e in 2023/24 and then reduced to 2,902 tCO_2e for 2024/25.

The reason for the increase from 2019 to 2023/24 was attributed to the transfer of Southwell Leisure Centre to direct Council control and the development of the Dukeries Leisure Centre to include a swimming pool.

While the recent year on year reduction is significant and very positive a challenging target remains with a framework having been introduced to support reduced carbon emissions. It should be noted that management at Newark were confident that they will be able to remain on track.

It was noted that the strategic risk register for Newark flags the risk of climate change as being 6 (amber).

Strategic risks including the risk '508 – Environment', associated action plans and strategies, controls in place and potential impacts of the risk are regularly reviewed.

The Climate Change Act (2008) set a legally binding target for the UK economy to reach net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. Although this does not directly apply to district councils, NSDC is aiming to achieve carbon neutral status for its corporate operations by 2035 and have worked with the Carbon Trust to develop a detailed strategy and action plan to aid them in achieving this. Consideration was given to bringing the housing target in line with this. However, as the scale of emissions, costs and requirements for an increase in resource included was deemed too high to be feasible, the Council is aiming for 2050 for housing.

The Sustainability and Climate Action Plan provides a high-level overview of the strategy NSDC will implement in order to reach net zero by 2035 for corporate operations. Each key objective is broken down into aims and has associated reporting metrics identified. The Greening Newark and Sherwood Action Plan then breaks this down further into individual projects, owners for each individual project, expected implementation year and provides (where available) expected energy, carbon and cost savings.

The goals detailed in the Carbon Programme Projects Tracker, the Climate Strategy (2020), the Greening Newark & Sherwood Action Plan and the Sustainability & Climate Action Plan (2025) are reviewed monthly by the Carbon Programme Group. Quarterly reports are provided to the Policy and Performance Improvement Committee (PPIC) with a comprehensive report presented annually at the Cabinet meeting.

It was noted that where Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) fuel was recommended to the PPIC as an alternative fuel source to diesel or electricity, potential concerns associated with use of HVO were not included in the PPIC paper (e.g. possible issues with potential biodiversity loss through deforestation / sourcing sustainable feedstock or the full lifecycle footprint of biofuel production). Cold weather performance was identified as a benefit to the use of HVO which is only in cases where the fuel has been refined to a winter grade to lower the risk of gelling, wax crystallisation and filter plugging.

A review of corporate emissions report completed by the Carbon Trust (February 2025) confirmed that there had been an increase in emissions from the baseline year 2018/19 2,510 tCO_2e to 3,799 tCO_2e in 2023/24. This is a result of an increase in buildings under NSDC control, an increase in workforce (full time equivalent (FTE) in 2019 was 493, 2024 increased to 587) and the overall maturity of reporting of carbon emissions has significantly improved particularly in relation to reporting and emissions calculations for purchased goods and services. Additionally, the October 2025 PPIC report states that the Council's fleet has increased by five waste trucks, five grounds maintenance vehicles, two vehicles for Community Protection Officers, an additional vehicle for the targeted Street Scene Team and there has been a pool installed in the Dukeries Leisure Centre.

Other Information

NSDC declared a Climate Emergency in the NSDC Climate Emergency Strategy (2020). This document provides a detailed explanation on what the Council intends to do in response to this declaration and the reasons why. The Strategy details individual carbon reduction projects for Council operated buildings including leisure centres, the fleet, indirect emissions and housing. Comparing the 2020 strategy to the 2025 Sustainability and Climate Action Plan (draft) shows the Council have made positive progress on their initial goals. This includes the installation of solar PV, LED lighting, and heat pumps across some of the Council buildings, work has begun to electrify the fleet with charge points being installed, a focus on biodiversity and tree planting, improvements to waste and recycling, community and staff engagement initiatives, and integration of sustainability principles to internal documentation.

There are plans to continue the electrification of the fleet as it has been identified as one of the main sources of carbon emissions. Phased work has begun to introduce EV charge points for the Community Protection Team vehicles with plans to have a full strategy to assess the needs of current infrastructure, demand and a phased timeline for the introduction of vehicle electrification. NSDC have explored the possibility of HVO fuel however, at the current time this is not feasible due to the cost.

NSDC have implemented controls across their estate to reduce unnecessary energy consumption such as motion sensor lighting in stairwells and toilets. The lighting in the main office areas is manually controlled. The heating systems are locked to predetermined settings.

The Council Waste Operations fleet use the route optimisation software 'Routeware'. This software automates the route planning and is proven to reduce milage and fuel consumption. These routes are then further reviewed within the Street Scene Team to address any potential operational challenges and provide further optimisation.

The Procurement Policy does include considerations of undertaking a balanced approach to environmental, social and economic impacts during the procurement process. There are plans to develop an action plan to prioritise key areas where carbon reduction efforts within the supply chain can be made which will include a focus on high emission areas.

Between 2019 and 2024 over 19,000 trees have been planted or given away to the community. There are plans to invest in two community woodlands in partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council to plant and maintain up to 114,000 trees and the Sherwood Forest Trust have set a target of 10,000 trees by 2027.

There is no central budget for sustainability and carbon reduction projects. The Council will provide funding for individual projects as part of the Capital Programme and apply for external sources of funding where it becomes available. The Council have prepared a pipeline of potential projects which may qualify for external funding in the future in order to enable a faster turnaround for submitting applications (example projects include solar PV and retrofitting for housing stock).

The budget allocation for individual projects and spend to date is reported at the quarterly PPIC. These projects are in alignment with the NSDC action plans and strategy.

The Greening Newark and Sherwood Action Plan provides an expected overview of kWh savings, CO_2 reduction, cost savings, lifetime savings potential and payback (in years). Additionally, work is in progress to build a dashboard in Power BI which will collate data which is already available but can be time consuming to gather. This dashboard will aid NSDC in monitoring value for money (e.g. energy tariffs and energy generation from solar PV installations), reporting information in line with Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR), and will help the Council to identify areas to improve and, overall, impact of changes in the coming years.

Carbon reduction projects are prioritised based on available funding.

Other Information

The Procurement Policy does touch on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) considerations. However, there is nothing on the tender specification for carbon emissions and it would require a feasibility study to determine a baseline for procurement emissions, resource management and what is needed with an action plan to be drafted by June 2029.

The Climate Communications Plan is a working document that targets local residents, schools, youth groups, community organisations, local business, Council staff / electees and the media / press. Within this Plan are campaigns to provide regular updates on the Council's work, amend the public facing internet site with actions, resources and tips, provide updates on COP30, and events such as the Great British Spring Clean, No Mow May, Great Big Green Week and Recycle Week. Campaigns are evenly spaced out which avoids over saturation of information.

The Council have signed up to a Green Rewards app which enables residents within the district to compete with each other for one of two monthly prizes by tracking carbon reducing activities (such as sustainable commuting, recycling or purchasing eco-friendly products). June 2025 saw 656 signups to the app with an estimated reduction of 101,619kg of CO_2 since the app was opened to the public in 2021.

There has been engagement with Mott MacDonald to develop the Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP) that aligns with other areas across the East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA). The first draft LAEP is due November 2025.

The June 2025 update to Cabinet states that the 2035 target is achievable and sets out a forecast for carbon savings of 4,019 tCO_2e. A significant share of this estimate (1,800 tCO_2e) comes from expected savings from switching to green energy tariffs and decarbonisation of the electricity grid if the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero's Clean Power 2030 Action Plan is successful. The forecast also identified potential savings of 90% of the fleet emissions (1,274 tCO_2e) with the replacement of diesel with HVO fuel (a project which has since been put on hold due to the costs associated).

Work is in progress to provide climate awareness training to Council staff in the form of an e-learning module which will not be mandatory to complete. The draft module covers the basics and impacts of climate change, solutions, what the Council is doing, how to make a difference and a seven-question knowledge check. The module is relevant, detailed and identifies key points for climate change. The launch date for this module has not yet been determined.

In line with the Council's plans to introduce projects to influence the behaviour of residents and businesses the Council have been providing 'Accelerator Training' workshops to local businesses. This has been funded by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. The aim is to help business reduce cost of energy bills by increasing efficiencies, build their own decarbonisation plans and develop energy audits. As of October 2024, 80 businesses have enrolled on the training, 12 of these have decarbonisation plans to implement.

Climate awareness training has been delivered to members and report writing officers and aims to make decision makers aware of the climate emergency and how they can consider carbon reduction in decision making. This training has been delivered to 12 Councillors and 50 officers as of October 2024.

In line with NSDC's obligations under the Environment Act 2021 biodiversity is a clear theme across the various plans, strategies and working groups within NSDC. Key focuses include tree planting, no mow zones, habitat banks, wildflower corridors and community engagement.

The Carbon Programme Group meets monthly to discuss projects and supplies quarterly updates on key projects and documents to the PPIC and annual updates to the Cabinet.

Other Information

- The Council has an ambitious tree planting program, including partnerships with Greenwood Community Forest under the DEFRA-funded Trees for Climate scheme. This involves planting large numbers of trees (e.g., 114,000 trees in new woodlands) and providing grants for landowners and schools. They have introduced a Tree Strategy (drafted in 2024) that emphasizes maintenance and care of trees after planting, acknowledging that “you can’t simply just plant a tree and leave it completely alone”.
- The Council is actively working to centralise and strengthen the ongoing sustainability and climate projects but is facing issues in terms of coordination of documentation and projects. It has been identified that there are ongoing projects which align with the climate projects that have not been declared to the Transformation Team in the absence of a dedicated Climate Officer.

Scope and Limitations of the Review

1. The definition of the type of review, the limitations and the responsibilities of management in regard to this review are set out in the Annual Plan. As set out in the Audit Charter, substantive testing is only carried out where this has been agreed with management and unless explicitly shown in the scope no such work has been performed.

Disclaimer

2. The matters raised in this report are only those that came to the attention of the auditor during the course of the review, and are not necessarily a comprehensive statement of all the weaknesses that exist or all the improvements that might be made. This report has been prepared solely for management's use and must not be recited or referred to in whole or in part to third parties without our prior written consent. No responsibility to any third party is accepted as the report has not been prepared, and is not intended, for any other purpose. TIAA neither owes nor accepts any duty of care to any other party who may receive this report and specifically disclaims any liability for loss, damage or expense of whatsoever nature, which is caused by their reliance on our report.

Assignment Engagement Details

3.

TIAA Auditors	Title	Contact Email
Lianne Minshull	Senior Auditor	Lianne.Minshull@tiaa.co.uk
Philip Lazenby	Head of Governance and Audit	Philip.Lazenby@tiaa.co.uk
Kashif Azeem Fiona Roe	Director of Audit Director – Local Government and Emergency Services	Kashif.Azeem@tiaa.co.uk Fiona.Roe@tiaa.co.uk

Effectiveness of arrangements

4. The definitions of the effectiveness of arrangements are set out below. These are based solely upon the audit work performed, assume business as usual, and do not necessarily cover management override or exceptional circumstances.

In place	The control arrangements in place mitigate the risk from arising.
Partially in place	The control arrangements in place only partially mitigate the risk from arising.
Not in place	The control arrangements in place do not effectively mitigate the risk from arising.

Assurance Assessment

5. The definitions of the assurance assessments are:

Substantial Assurance	There is a robust system of internal controls operating effectively to ensure that risks are managed and process objectives achieved.
Reasonable Assurance	The system of internal controls is generally adequate and operating effectively but some improvements are required to ensure that risks are managed and process objectives achieved.
Limited Assurance	The system of internal controls is generally inadequate or not operating effectively and significant improvements are required to ensure that risks are managed and process objectives achieved.
No Assurance	There is a fundamental breakdown or absence of core internal controls requiring immediate action.

Acknowledgement

6. We would like to thank staff for their co-operation and assistance during the course of our work.

Release of Report

7. The table below sets out the history of this report.

Stage	Issued	Response Received
Audit Planning Memorandum:	3rd October 2025	3rd October 2025
Draft Report:	5th February 2026	
Revised Draft Report:	27th February 2026	
2nd Revised Draft Report:	20th March 2026	25th March 2026
Final Report:	1st April 2026	

NEWARK & SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet Meeting: 15 September 2026

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Lee Brazier, Housing

Director Lead: Suzanne Shead, Director - Housing

Lead Officer: Wayne Fox, Business Manager Building Safety & Asset Investment

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open Report / Key Decision (with exempt Appendix) The Appendix to this report contains exempt information as defined under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, Paragraph 3 under which the Cabinet has the power to exclude the press and public if it so wishes. It is considered that the need to treat the information in this report appendix as exempt outweighs the public interest in disclosure because it contains information which are commercially sensitive financial details.
Report Title	14 & 14a Millgate - Options Appraisal
Purpose of Report	To provide details of the works required to bring 14 Millgate to a fit standard for occupation and consider the other options available including disposal of the property in line with the Acquisitions & Disposals Policy
Recommendations	That Cabinet: a) approve the proposal as set out in Option 2 – the sale of the property; b) approve the progression of the sale in line with the Acquisitions & Disposals Policy; and c) approve the reinvestment of the capital receipt in provision of new homes.
Alternative Options Considered	Retain the property and invest to bring the home up to standard.
Reason for Recommendations	To ensure both value for money and ensuring that homes are decent, warm and safe. The capital from disposal of this flat will be reinvested in new homes. The proposal links to Ambition 2 of the Community Plan:

	Increase the supply of housing, in particular decent homes that residents can afford to buy and rent, as well as improving housing standards.

1.0 Background

1.1 14 and 14a Millgate is a Grade II listed, two-storey building converted into two one-bedroom flats (ground and first floor). The property dates from circa 1835 and is of solid brick construction with slate roofs, timber sash windows and high internal ceilings.

1.2 14 Millgate is currently void. Due to the listing of the building and the poor condition of the ground floor flat an options appraisal was carried out. An appraisal has not been carried out on 14a Millgate, although it is anticipated that similar costs being be required if it became void.

1.3 At present the condition of the void property would not meet the Decant Homes Standard; specifically, the condition of the property does not provide reasonable thermal comfort and there is significant disrepair in terms of the windows.

1.4 In order to relet the property in line with the Council's empty homes major repairs would be required.

The options for the property are as follows:

- Complete all works required as per recommendations (with the conservation officers' approval), or
- Sale of the property

1.5 To complete the works required close liaison with the conservation officer would be required and consideration given to local planning conditions to upgrade the building. The thermal comfort may not be significantly altered enough to raise the EPC level from its current 'E' rating to the recommended 'C' range.

1.6 The table below gives a summary of the jobs against the two properties in the last 5 years. On average you would expect between 3-4 jobs per property per year. The repairs caried out at 14 Millgate consist of roof works, repairs to the windows and issues relating to damp and mould.

Repairs carried out in the last 5 years on 14 & 14a Millgate	
14	18
14a	5

2.0 Proposal/Options Considered

2.1 Option 1 – Complete All Works

2.1.1 This option would require that all necessary works identified at void be completed, these initial works would make the property fit to let.

2.1.2 This option would not increase the current EPC rating of the property (Currently EPC E) and future works would be required to achieve an EPC rating of C or above by 2030 in line with the Government's energy targets

2.1.3 In order to achieve an EPC rating of C or above major works would be required to improve the thermal efficiency of the property. This could not be achieved through standard external wall insulation due to the property being Grade II listed within a conservation area. This would mean that the only way to improve the thermal efficiency would be by insulating the property internally and this would be very costly and invasive works.

2.2 Option 2 – Open Market sale of the Property

2.2.1 Under the Acquisitions and Disposal policy 2021 the properties meet the following key criteria:

2.1 (e) The property is deemed to be an underperforming asset with either under-utilisation of space at low capacity or that the financial cost to retain property is too significant, the income generation possibilities are too low with a greater return/ cost saving being achievable through disposal of the property.

2.2.2 An independent market appraisal carried out by Wood Moore & Co Ltd, Newark recommends disposal via auction with an expected sale price of £120,000.

2.2.3 Any capital receipts from the sale of the property would be used to support the Council House Development Programme.

2.2.4 If the property is disposed of homeless payment plus reasonable disturbance costs would be applicable for the remaining tenant.

3.0 Implications

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection; Digital & Cyber Security; Equality & Diversity; Financial; Human Resources; Human Rights; Legal; Safeguarding & Sustainability and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

Implications Considered Yes – relevant and included / NA – not applicable			
Financial	Y	Equality & Diversity	N
Human Resources	N	Human Rights	N
Legal	Y	Data Protection	N
Digital & Cyber Security	N	Safeguarding	N
Sustainability	Y	Crime & Disorder	N
LGR	N	Tenant Consultation	N

Financial Implications (FIN26-27/7485)

3.1 Option 1 would require capital investment to bring the property up to a lettable standard. The estimated cost of the initial works required to make the property fit are detailed in the Options Appraisal, with further investment likely to be required over the longer term to improve the energy performance of the property and maintain the asset.

A 30-year appraisal has been undertaken for Option 1. However, as this includes rental income already assumed within the HRA Business Plan, the appraisal output should not be treated as additional income or used as the primary basis for further investment. The financial assessment should instead focus on the upfront capital cost (which would need to be included in the current Investment Programme), future investment risks and the opportunity to reinvest a capital receipt in new homes.

3.2 Option 2 would result in the disposal of the property. This option would require provision for a statutory home loss payment and reasonable disturbance and moving costs. These costs can be met from the existing annual budget provision within the HRA revenue budget.

The disposal is expected to generate a capital receipt in excess of £120,000, based on the independent market appraisal. Subject to the final sale value achieved, the receipt would be retained within the HRA and used to support Phase 6 of the Council House new build programme, in line with the recommendation to reinvest the proceeds in the provision of new homes.

Legal Implications – LEG2627/2761

3.3 The properties have been identified as a potential surplus and an independent valuation has been undertaken in line with the Council's Acquisitions and Disposals (A&D) Policy. A reserve price has been indicated which will ensure that the Council obtains best value and complies with s123 of the Local Government Act 1972. Any disposal will need to comply with the A&D Policy and advice can be provided by the Legal team as required in relation to the policy requirements. The Legal team will need to be instructed in respect of any disposal.

Sustainability Implications

3.4 The property is a pre-1919 Grade II listed building within a conservation area and, as a result, the range of energy efficiency measures that can be undertaken is more limited and likely to require listed building consent and close liaison with conservation officers.

While there is a sustainability benefit in retaining and reusing an existing building, the age, form of construction and heritage constraints mean that bringing the property from its current EPC E rating to EPC C is likely to require specialist, intrusive and comparatively high cost works, such as internal insulation and sensitive upgrades to windows, heating and ventilation. National guidance also recognises that standard EPC methodologies can be less reliable for traditional buildings and that inappropriate retrofit can damage historic fabric and worsen moisture related issues.

The long-term sustainability implication of continued ownership is therefore that the Council would retain an asset with higher ongoing maintenance liabilities, more limited retrofit options and a greater risk of further capital expenditure to balance heritage protection, tenant comfort, damp prevention and future energy efficiency requirements.

3.5 Whilst the Council has a statutory duty to maintain its housing stock and ensure homes are safe, decent and fit for habitation, this duty does not require the retention of every asset where doing so would represent disproportionate expenditure and poor value for money. In the case of 14 Millgate, the property's Grade II listed status and location within a conservation area significantly restrict the range of improvements that can be undertaken to address disrepair, improve thermal efficiency and achieve future energy performance requirements. The specialist nature, cost and extent of the works required, together with the likelihood of ongoing higher maintenance liabilities and limited ability to achieve modern housing standards, mean that continued investment is unlikely to represent an efficient use of Housing Revenue Account resources.

The Council must balance its obligations as a social landlord with its duty to achieve best value and make prudent use of public funds. Where an asset becomes financially unsustainable to retain, disposal and reinvestment of the capital receipt into supporting the provision of new, energy-efficient homes can provide greater benefit to both existing and future tenants.

This does not mean that all heritage, listed or conservation area properties will be considered for disposal. The Council will continue to assess each property on a case-by-case basis and, where reasonable and proportionate mitigation measures can be implemented to address disrepair, improve safety, enhance energy efficiency and maintain compliance with housing standards, investment will continue to be made to retain those homes within the housing stock.

Disposal would only be considered where a robust options appraisal demonstrates that retention is no longer financially sustainable, would not represent best value, or would significantly reduce the Council's ability to invest in the wider housing portfolio.

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

NEWARK & SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report to:	Cabinet Meeting: 15 September 2026
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Lee Brazier, Housing
Director Lead:	Suzanne Shead, Director - Housing
Lead Officer:	Nicola Priest, Housing Regulatory Compliance Manager, 01636 655526

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open report / Non-Key Decision
Report Title	Regulator of Social Housing Inspection Outcome Report
Purpose of Report	To advise Members of the outcome of the recent inspection of housing services carried out by the Regulator of Social Housing and the details of the improvement plan to be approved.
Recommendations	That Cabinet: a) note the outcome of the inspection and the feedback from the Regulator; b) approve the housing improvement plan set out in section 2.4; c) note the process and time frame for achieving C1 regulatory grading set out in 2.5; and d) note that progress against the action plan will be presented to Policy and Performance Improvement Committee and Tenant Influence and Assurance Board quarterly.
Alternative Options Considered	Not applicable
Reason for Recommendations	The recommendations support housing services in meeting the following aims of the Community Plan; Ambition 2: Increase the supply of housing, in particular decent homes that residents can afford to buy and rent, as well as improving housing standards and, Ambition 7: Be a top performing, modern and accessible Council that get its everyday services right for the residents and businesses that it serves.

1.0 <u>Background</u>

1.1 In April 2024, a new inspection regime was introduced by the Regulator of Social Housing (RSH) for social housing local authority landlords. Prior to this, the last housing inspections were carried out by the Audit Commission in 2010, before it was abolished under the Localism Act 2011.

1.2 Planned inspections are generally undertaken on a four-year cycle, unless they are scheduled outside of this, on a risk basis or following a self-referral to the Regulator for a potential breach of the standards. Since April 2024, the Council's housing services and the Housing Performance Improvement Board have been preparing for expected inspection, which was announced in mid-January 2026.

1.3 Following notification of the inspection, the process included regular briefing and progress meetings with inspectors, agreed timelines for data submission, and an onsite inspection. Further details are set out below.

- 9 context documents were provided by 6th February 2026
- 66 scoping documents were provided by 13th March 2026
- 27 additional documents were provided throughout March and April prior to the onsite inspection
- Onsite inspection took place between 29th April and 1st May 2026
- 103 documents were provided on 8th, 14th and 22nd May 2026 to evidence matters discussed as part of the inspection meetings
- The RSH inspection board met on 29th June 2026 to decide the outcome and grading
- The result was published on RSH website on 29th July 2026.

As part of the process, the inspectors observed a Policy, Performance and Scrutiny Committee meeting and a Tenant Engagement Board meeting. The onsite inspection consisted of 14 individual meetings involving Members (including the lead member for complaints), the Chief Executive, the Director of Housing, Heads of Service, Council colleagues, officers within the housing directorate and involved tenants.

1.4 The inspection programme assesses Local Authority Social Housing Landlords against four standards;

- **Neighbourhood and Community** – themes are safety of shared spaces, local cooperation with relevant partners, anti-social behaviour and hate incidents within social housing neighbourhoods and domestic abuse involving tenants.
- **Safety and Quality** – themes are stock quality and decency, health and safety, repairs, maintenance and planned improvements and adaptations.
- **Tenancy** – themes are allocations and lettings, tenancy sustainment and evictions, tenure / tenancy terms and mutual exchange.
- **Transparency, Influence and Accountability** – themes are fairness and respect, diverse needs, tenant engagement, information about landlord services, performance information, complaints and Tenant Satisfaction Measures.

The Regulator also checks complaints with the Rent Standard that sits within the Economic standards.

Whilst the Council is required to show it meets all the standards, the Regulator being particularly focused on Safety and Quality and Transparency, Influence and Accountability.

1.5 There are 4 consumer grades; the Council was awarded a C2.

C1 – Overall delivering outcomes and identifies and remedies problems
C2 – Some weaknesses in delivering outcomes, improvement needed
C3 – Serious failing, significant improvement required
C4 -Very serious failings, fundamental change required

1.6 The C2 grading reflects the hard work and effort teams put in every day to deliver housing services, either directly or indirectly to tenants. It also reflects the preparations and delivery when the RSH inspectors were on site. It should be noted that preparation for the inspection was supported by colleagues across the Council in Transformation, Public Protection and ICT.

1.7 The outcome of the inspection was met positively from officers, managers, the Portfolio Holder for Housing, the Leader of the Council, the of Chair of the Tenant Influence and Assurance Board and Senior Leadership Team. The RSH was clear the Council is a strong C2, with full awareness of the areas of improvement even before the inspectors were on site. The outcome reflects where housing services are now, and work continues to achieve a C1 grading over the remainder of the financial year.

1.8 In summary, the five areas for improvement which have formed an action plan are set out below.

Safety and Quality Standard
1. Complete full stock condition surveys and Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) surveys to give an updated, accurate decency figure
2. Improve repairs and damp and mould data integrity and reporting
3. Introduce third party oversight of compliance (health and safety) functions

Transparency, Influence and Accountability Standard
4. Increase service standards and performance monitoring of these.
5. Increase formal scrutiny programme by tenants of housing services.

1.9 In addition to the areas for improvement, the inspection identified several strengths. Below are the main examples.

Safety and Quality
- Repairs – the service is meeting tenant needs with many ways to report repairs and strong tenant satisfaction.

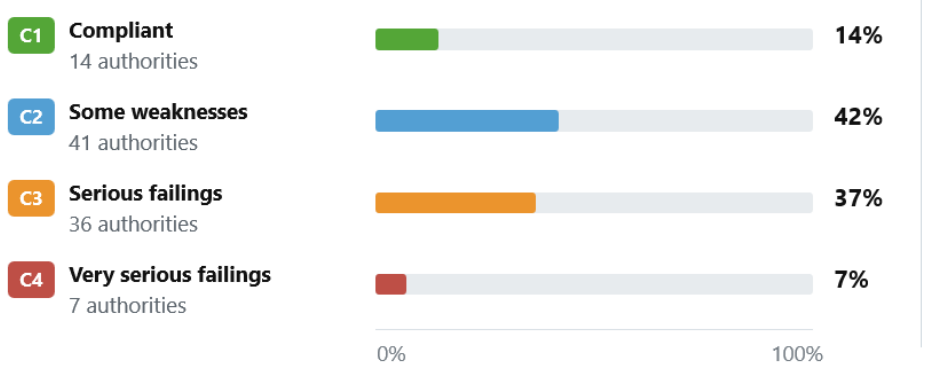
- Stock decency – legal obligations are being met, with robust reporting and governance, low overdue remedials and significant work on compliance data integrity.

Transparency, Influence and Accountability
- Fairness and respect – High TSM results above sector medians, high commitment, respectful officers with high levels of mutual trust between officers and tenants, diverse needs taken into account and a good amount of data on tenant circumstances.
- Engagement with tenants – clear evidence of wide influence with service and performance information available in hubs.
- Complaints – positive to see higher volumes in complaints and improvement in performance along with a new structure, positive use of diversity information to understand how services are received by tenants.

Tenancy
- Meeting requirements with clear published policy and procedures, appropriate arrangements in place to ensure correct tenancy is awarded.

Neighbourhood and Community
- Tenant feedback informed improvements and access was straight forward with improving satisfaction year on year.

1.10 To put the Council's performance into context of the broader sector, at the end of July 2026, 98 local authority housing providers had been inspected since April 2024. Below shows those outcomes and how the Council compares.



1.11 Below shows how the Council compares across the East Midlands Combined Council Authority, with future Nottinghamshire Unitary LGR peers highlighted in bold.

C1 — compliant	C2 — some weaknesses	C3 — serious failings	C4 — very serious failings	Non-stock holding — 5 councils
Derby City Council North East Derbyshire District Council	**Bassetlaw District Council** Bolsover District Council Charnwood Borough Council Chesterfield Borough Council High Peak Borough Council **Mansfield District Council** Melton Borough Council **Newark and Sherwood District Council** North Kesteven District Council **Nottingham City Council*** South Holland District Council South Kesteven District Council	**Broxtowe Borough Council** Leicester City Council Sheffield City Council South Derbyshire District Council	No councils listed	Amber Valley Borough Council Derbyshire Dales Borough Council Erewash Borough Council **Gedling Borough Council** **Rushcliffe Borough Council**

Ashfield District Council remains the only Nottinghamshire-boundary authority still awaiting inspection.

2.0 Proposal/Options Considered

2.1 Following inspection and grading, the RSH meets with landlords periodically to follow progress against any identified improvement actions. For a C2 grading, this is typically every 2-3 months from publication of the outcome. The first meeting has been set for 7th October 2026.

2.2 The RSH inspection team are already aware that the Council is keen to achieve a C1 grading and will be supporting the service to achieve this. When local authorities merge under LGR, the Regulator will advise what if any grading the new unitary authority will take on.

2.3 The Assistant Director of Housing Strategy and Service Development will oversee completion of the action plan set out below which will be presented to the Regulator at the engagement meeting on 7th October 2026.

2.4 **Inspection Improvement Plan**

Priority Rating	Consumer Standard	Head of Service Owner	Action	Planned Completion Date
High	Safety and Quality Standard	Building Safety & Asset Management	Complete remaining Housing, Health and Safety Ratings System (HHSRS) assessments and outstanding stock condition surveys to achieve 100% stock condition information to inform future investment decisions.	30/09/2026
High	Safety and Quality Standard	Repairs and Empty Homes	Improve repairs reporting and data quality through continued development of NEC (Housing Management System) inc. completion of v25.2 upgrade.	31/10/2026

High	Safety and Quality Standard	Repairs and Empty Homes	Implement NEC (Housing Management System) Damp & Mould case management and reporting processes.	30/11/2026
High	Safety and Quality Standard	Building Safety & Asset Management	Implement third-party assurance regime across compliance functions contracts	28/02/2027
High	Safety and Quality Standard	Building Safety & Asset Management	Implement formal monitoring of outstanding Fire Risk Assessment actions, including recording mitigations in place whilst work is completed.	31/12/2026
High	Safety and Quality Standard	Building Safety & Asset Management	Introduce performance reporting for smoke alarms and Carbon Monoxide detectors within current compliance reporting schedule.	30/09/2026
High	Tenancy Standard	Housing Income and Leaseholder Management	Develop Service Standards or Tenant Charter framework for key housing management services, co-produced with tenants. Mapping each standard to a measurable indicator and reporting mechanism.	30/09/2026
High	Transparency, Influence and Accountability Standard	Housing Services	Implement annual scrutiny programme to underpin strong resident challenge of housing services.	30/08/2026
High	Safety and Quality Standard	Building Safety & Asset Management	Develop and implement formal contractor code of conduct and monitoring arrangements for the code.	30/09/2026
High	Transparency, Influence and Accountability Standard	Housing Services	Improve information available to all tenants inc. enhanced explanation and context to support understanding of performance information, publishing of Tenant Board minutes and key tenant information on website and promotion via other communication channels.	31/03/2027

2.5 The Council will meet with the Regulator at intervals agreed at the engagement meeting on the 7 October 2026 and this will include a discussion around timeframes for re-assessment. Based on other registered providers who have been through the regulatory process, it is expected to take between six and nine months to achieve a regrade.

2.6 Progress against the improvement plan will be overseen by Housing Performance and Improvement Board, with regular updates to this Committee and Tenant Influence and Assurance Board.

3.0 Implications

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection; Digital & Cyber Security; Equality & Diversity; Financial; Human Resources; Human Rights; Legal; Safeguarding & Sustainability and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

Implications Considered Yes – relevant and included / NA – not applicable			
Financial	Yes	Equality & Diversity	N/A
Human Resources	N/A	Human Rights	N/A
Legal	N/A	Data Protection	N/A
Digital & Cyber Security	N/A	Safeguarding	N/A
Sustainability	N/A	Crime & Disorder	N/A
LGR	N/A	Tenant Consultation	N/A

Financial Implications – FIN26-27/5897

3.1 There may be additional costs associated with some of the improvements identified at 1.8, but these will be met within existing resources.

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.

Newark and Sherwood District Council (37UG) - Regulatory Judgement: 29 July 2026 - GOV.UK

NEWARK & SHERWOOD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report to:	Cabinet Meeting: 15 September 2026
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Paul Peacock – Strategy, Performance & Finance Councillor Claire Penny – Sustainable Economic Development
Director Lead:	Matt Lamb, Director, Planning & Growth
Lead Officers:	Neil Cuttell, Head of Economic Growth & Visitor Economy Sarah Husselbee, Economic Development Grants & Programmes Manager Carys Coulton Jones, Assistant Director, Culture & Communities

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Key-Decision (Open with Exempt Appendix) The appendix to this report contains exempt information as defined under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, Paragraph 3 under which the Cabinet has the power to exclude the press and public if it so wishes. It is considered that the need to treat the information in this report as exempt outweighs the public interest in disclosure because it contains information which is both commercially sensitive as well as financial or business affairs not yet publicly discussed, relating to the organisations referenced throughout the report. This information has been redacted or excluded in this open report.
Report Title	Local Regeneration Fund Update
Purpose of Report	To provide an update and recommendations relating to the delivery of the Local Regeneration Fund (LRF) programme.
Recommendations	That Cabinet: a) note the updates associated with the LRF programme and projects, as detailed throughout this report. <u>LRF 32 Stodman Street Project</u> b) Note the projects progress as detailed in 1.6 to 1.8 of this report. <u>LRF Market Place Improvement Scheme</u> c) Agree to reduce the projects existing capital budget of £3.61m to £ *(information within Exempt Appendix)* and deliver the scheme in accordance with the updated scope

	set out within 1.12 and 1.13 of this report, of which £ *(information within Exempt Appendix)* is detailed at Recommendation 'd' below. The project budget would be fully funded by LRF grant, subject to approval of the project Business Case by the Council's Section 151 Officer, as set out in 1.14 of this report. d) delegate authority to the Council's Section 151 Officer and Director of Planning & Growth to determine and approve a grant award of up to £ *(information within Exempt Appendix)* to Newark Town Council towards the purchase of new/improved Market Stalls. This would be formalised via a Grant Funding Agreement and included within the projects proposed capital budget, as referenced at Recommendation 'c' above. <u>LRF Castle Gatehouse Project</u> e) Agree to increase the projects capital budget by £ *(Information within Exempt Appendix),* funded by LRF grant, in accordance with the resolution of the Newark Town Board on 2nd September 2026 and as set out within 1.19 of this report. f) *Information within Exempt Appendix.* g) Note the remaining balance of LRF capital grant totalling £ *(information within Exempt Appendix)*, following the budget amendments set out at Recommendations 'c' and 'e' above. h) Delegate authority to the Council's Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Director of Planning & Growth to approve the commitment of the remaining £ *(information within Exempt Appendix)* of LRF grant (as referenced at Recommendation 'g' above) towards any of the existing and agreed Newark LRF capital projects, providing further contingency for ongoing projects.
Alternative Options Considered	There remains an option not to proceed with the delivery of the LRF programme and selected projects and return funding to MHCLG. This approach is not recommended as it would present a missed opportunity to deliver transformational and impactful change for the local community and help drive economic growth.
Reason for Recommendations	Aligned with both the UK Government's LRF strategic objectives and the ambitions of the Community Plan, the projects detailed within this report and within the local LRF programme are delivering a range of social and economic benefits. This includes improving health and wellbeing through enhanced community infrastructure and cultural and leisure

	opportunities, creating pathways into skills development and employment, and supporting long-term sustainable economic growth across the district.

1.0 Background

1.1 Cabinet will be aware that in September 2025, the Local Regeneration Fund (LRF) was announced by the UK Government following a review of their existing local growth capital funds. The LRF consolidates the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) Levelling Up Fund, Town Deals, and the Pathfinder Pilot. Locally, a total transformational sum of £45m of LRF investment has been awarded within the district between, 1st April 2021 and 31st March 2028. All LRF grant must be spent by 31st March 2028 to be considered eligible expenditure, in accordance with MHCLG funding requirements.

1.2 In May 2021, Newark and Sherwood District Council (NSDC) secured the first £25m of LRF, otherwise referred to as the Newark Towns Deal at the time. This was awarded specifically to support growth within Newark and guided by the 30-year Town Investment Plan (TIP). The TIP was developed in partnership with the Newark Town Board and identified a series of strategic projects designed to support the long-term prosperity of Newark. An additional £20m was awarded as part of the Levelling Up Fund Round 1 which has contributed to the delivery of the Newark Southern Link Road, however this fund sits outside of the LRF programme and is administered by the Department for Transport (DfT). The Newark Town Board continues to oversee the delivery of the Newark based projects within the LRF programme, in addition to being the vehicle through which the separate £20m Pride in Place Programme (PiPP) is delivered.

1.3 Following the award of the £25m of LRF for Newark, NSDC secured a further £20m of LRF to deliver the 'Shaping Sherwood's Revival' programme, previously known as the Levelling-Up Fund 3. This aims to unlock two major place-shaping projects including the regeneration of Ollerton Town Centre and the Clipstone Regeneration scheme. Both schemes seek to revitalise local communities, stimulate economic activity, and enhance the quality of place for residents and businesses.

1.4 As reported to Cabinet in June 2026, Table 1 provides an overview of all projects supported through the LRF, together with their current delivery status.

Table 1. LRF Projects and Status

Local Regeneration Fund Project	Status of works/activities
Air and Space Institute (ASI)	Complete
YMCA Activity Village	Complete
Construction College	Complete
20 Minute Cycle Town	Complete
32 Stodman Street	Ongoing
Newark Cultural Heart (Market Place Improvement Scheme)	Scheduled
Newark Cultural Heart (Events)	Complete

Castle Gatehouse	Ongoing
Ollerton Town Centre Regeneration	Scheduled
Clipstone Regeneration	Scheduled

1.5 The projects within the LRF programme are delivered through either in-house teams or external partner organisations, with all delivery leads working collaboratively towards shared LRF objectives. Each project is managed by a dedicated Project Team; leading and driving day to day delivery, as well as monitoring and reporting progress to key partners and stakeholders. The overall portfolio of projects within the £45m LRF programme is overseen, monitored and reported to MHCLG, the Newark Town Board, and other key stakeholders at a programme level. This provides oversight of the interdependencies between projects within the programme and ensures programme compliance and assurance, working within the funding conditions set by the UK Government.

1.6 <u>LRF 32 Stodman Street Project</u>
This project will deliver 29 high-quality residential units and four retail units within the heart of Newark Town Centre, located at 32 Stodman Street. The project will enhance Newark's economic offer, aiming to attract more people into the town centre as well as supporting natural surveillance through increased town centre living.

1.7 Works on site are progressing well within the final stages and practical completion is anticipated for late October 2026, with the formal opening and tenant occupation to follow. It is positive to report that Heads of Terms have now been finalised with two retail tenants and significant interest has been shown by potential tenants for the remaining two units, with advanced negotiations ongoing. Similarly, the residential units are now due to be marketed for sale by Arkwood Developments Ltd (Arkwood).

1.8 Members will recall that Arkwood Developments Ltd committed to purchase the residential apartments prior to the commencement of development, such that the Council has certainty on its capital receipt. In March 2022, Cabinet agreed to make available an interest only loan to Arkwood (the Council's wholly owned company) of £2.5m for a term of 40 years, at an interest rate of 2.5% to support this purchase. The loan was agreed to be secured against the value of the 29 apartments. Over recent months, the Council has secured updated independent legal advice regarding the loan, recognising the change in market interest rates since 2022. The loan may now be classifiable as a 'subsidy' under the 'UK Subsidy Control Regime', which is anticipated for a project of this nature whereby subsidy or grant is required to unlock delivery, address a proven market failure and ensure a scheme remains financially viable. Whilst this is normal process, it is good practice to capture this subsidy formally therefore is reported to Cabinet for completeness and will be listed by the Council on the UK Subsidy Control Database.

1.9 <u>LRF Market Place Improvement Scheme</u>
Cabinet will be aware that proposed improvements to Newark's historic Market Place remain a key focus for the town, supported by partners and underpinned by local investment and place-shaping strategy. This priority recognises the Market

Places' role in providing a unique town centre offer for Newark; hosting events, markets, business, and wider community and recreation activities for residents and visitors of the town. The LRF Market Place Improvement Scheme aims to build on this offer whilst addressing current challenges faced by many towns, including reduced high-street vibrancy and low footfall, resulting in stifled economic growth, challenged public perception of safety and reduced feelings of overall pride in place.

1.10 Originally led by Newark Town Council (NTC), the planned improvement scheme is managed by NSDC as updated Project Sponsors on behalf of and alongside NTC, at their request. Accordingly, both councils continue to work in partnership to deliver the project. NTC hold a long-term lease for the central Market Place and operate and manage the existing Newark market service. The surrounding highway within the Market Place is owned by, and the responsibility of Nottinghamshire County Council as the Local Highway Authority.

1.11 Over recent months, the project has progressed through the industry standard RIBA design stages, following approval of the projects Full Business Case (FBC). Throughout this process, NSDC and NTC have continued to work collaboratively to develop and refine the projects scope, drawing on information through enhanced cost plans and professional expertise, available through the latter and most recent stages of a projects design process.

1.12 To achieve impactful benefits for the local community, whilst remaining within the available LRF budget, it is proposed to deliver the project in accordance with the following updated high-level scope:

- Power for Markets and Events, including localised repair/replacement of the central Market Place.
- Lighting for security, atmosphere and events.
- CCTV enhancements (where necessary).
- 'Al fresco' pavement improvements.
- New market and pop-up stalls - assets to be procured, managed and owned by NTC.

1.13 The recommended updated scheme requires a total LRF budget of £ *(information within Exempt Appendix)*, inclusive of both contingency and a grant to NTC for the proposed new market stalls. Following recent approval of the LRF grant by the Newark Town Board on 2nd September 2026, and subject to Cabinet approval to deliver the scheme (as recommended within this report), works are anticipated to commence on site in Spring 2027 and complete by Autumn 2027, working within the LRF spend deadline of 31st March 2028. NSDC Officers will continue to work closely with NTC Officers and key stakeholders to communicate the projects progress, throughout the project's delivery.

1.14 In recognising the proposed changes in scope as set out above, the commitment of the LRF capital budget would be subject to a review (and re-approval by the Section 151 Officer) of the existing and approved project Business Case, to ensure funding compliance and assurance requirements are met.

1.15 LRF Castle Gatehouse Project
Newark Castle and Gardens remains a complex but highly significant site for capital investment, providing a unique opportunity to transform the visitor offer for Newark. The project is expected to complete and open in Summer 2027, with works on site continuing to progress. The grounds are both Grade II listed gardens and the location of an Anglo-Saxon burial site that predates the castle, requiring all works to be undertaken under a carefully managed archaeological watching brief. Any discoveries are handled with due sensitivity, ensuring the preservation of the site's rich heritage.

1.16 As previously reported to Cabinet in June 2026, unexpected archaeological discoveries within the grounds and fragile high-level masonry in the tower have required design amendments and revised consents with Historic England, resulting in programme adjustments and significant cost pressures. While such findings are inherent to a site of this importance, they have ensured that the project continues to meet the highest standards of heritage conservation.

1.17 As the project approaches 60% completion, with key structural elements such as the ticketing pavilion steelwork and gatehouse roof nearing completion, attention is now turning to the detailed design and integration of interfaces between the historic fabric and new construction.

1.18 Elements of the scheme were initially procured through provisional sums, a common approach on historic sites where the full scope of works cannot be established until structures are opened up and investigated. These packages have now been tested against current market rates, resulting in costs higher than originally anticipated. This reflects both the complexity of the site and wider market conditions. Cost pressures have been further influenced by an extended pre-construction period and archaeological delays, which have led to approximately 18 months of construction inflation being applied to certain work packages, alongside ongoing volatility in global materials markets.

1.19 Early project cost planning could not anticipate the extent of these potential market fluctuations and site-specific uncertainties. Recognising the significance of this emerging risk, the project team has undertaken a comprehensive review of the cost plan. These updated forecasts identify a required capital budget increase of £ *(information within Exempt Appendix),* able to be funded by LRF grant following recent approval of the funding by the Newark Town Board on 2 September 2026.

1.20 The revised budget reflects a more developed understanding of site conditions, current market costs, increased professional fees over the extended construction period, time-related costs, inflationary impacts on contractor overheads and profit, and contingency allowances. This provides a robust and realistic financial position for the remainder of the project. With the proposed funding increase in place, the scheme continues to demonstrate value for money and remains compliant with the Benefit Cost Ratio requirements set out in the Newark Town Board's Local Assurance Framework.

Paragraphs 1.21 to 1.23 - *Information within Exempt Appendix.*

2.0 Implications

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection; Digital & Cyber Security; Equality & Diversity; Financial; Human Resources; Human Rights; Legal; Safeguarding & Sustainability and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

Implications Considered Yes – relevant and included / NA – not applicable			
Financial	yes	Equality & Diversity	n/a
Human Resources	n/a	Human Rights	n/a
Legal	yes	Data Protection	n/a
Digital & Cyber Security	n/a	Safeguarding	n/a
Sustainability	n/a	Crime & Disorder	n/a
LGR	n/a	Tenant Consultation	n/a

Legal Implications

2.1 Market Place; The legal issues are contained within the body of the report.

Financial Implications (FIN26-27/3619)

2.2 Stodman Street

The project is progressing well within the current budget and remains regularly monitored.

2.3 The loan facility to Arkwood Developments Ltd was originally approved at an interest rate of 2.5%. Since that approval, market interest rates have increased and updated advice has been obtained to assess whether the agreed rate gives rise to a subsidy under the UK Subsidy Control Regime. Based on the current disposal strategy and a weighted average repayment profile, rather than the full contractual 40-year loan term, the present value of the subsidy is estimated at £256,999.

2.4 This value is below the Minimal Financial Assistance threshold. However, as it exceeds £100,000, the award is expected to be subject to subsidy transparency requirements and publication on the Subsidy Control Database. The calculation will be reviewed if there is any material change to the repayment profile, disposal assumptions, or loan arrangements.

Paragraphs 2.25 - 2.27

Market Place

Information within Exempt Appendix.

Paragraphs 2.28 to 2.29
Castle Gatehouse
Information within Exempt Appendix.

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.

Levelling Up White Paper, 2022
Levelling Up Fund Prospectus and Guidance, 2022
Sherwood Levelling Up Bid, July 2022
Cabinet Report, Levelling Up Submission and UK Shared Prosperity Fund, June 2022
Cabinet Report, Sherwood Levelling Up Fund Update, November 2022
Cabinet Report, Ollerton Hall, July 2023
Cabinet Report, Ollerton Town Centre Regeneration and Bank purchase, December 2023
Cabinet Report, Sherwood Levelling Up 3 Update – Ollerton & Clipstone, March 2024
Cabinet Report, Sherwood Levelling Up 3 Update 2 – Ollerton & Clipstone, June 2024
Cabinet Report, Levelling Up Fund (LUF) 3 Update, July 2024
Cabinet Report, Sherwood Levelling Up, Long Term Plan for Towns Fund and UKSPF / UKRPF Fund Update, November 2024
Cabinet Report, Levelling Up 3 Programme Update, December 2024
Cabinet Report, Levelling Up 3 Programme Update, April 2025
Cabinet Report, Local Regeneration Fund and Newark Capital Projects Update, February 2026
Cabinet Report, Local Regeneration Fund Update, June 2026

NEWARK & SHERWOOD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report to:	Cabinet Meeting: 15 September 2026
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Claire Penny - Sustainable Economic Development
Director Lead:	Matt Lamb, Director – Planning & Growth
Lead Officers:	Matthew Norton, Assistant Director of Planning & Economy Matthew Tubb, Planning Policy Team Leader

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open Report/Key Decision
Report Title	Newark & Sherwood Local Plan – Gateway 1
Purpose of Report	• To update Cabinet on progress towards meeting the Council's Local Plan timetable. • To seek approval for the various delegated authorities required to progress the Local Plan in line with the agreed timetable. • To seek approval to progress through gateway 1 and publish the Gateway 1 self-assessment and Scoping Consultation summary.
Recommendations	That Cabinet agree: a) the proposed decision-making arrangements for the New Local Plan set out in Table 1, including delegated authority to the Portfolio holder where specified; b) to progress through gateway 1 and commence the 30-month programme for preparing the New Local Plan; and c) to publish the Gateway 1 self-assessment findings and the Scoping Consultation summary.
Alternative Options Considered	If all Local Plan decisions were required to be taken by Cabinet, progress would be unlikely to align with the Government's requirement to prepare a Local Plan within 30 months. Progressing through Gateway 1 will commence the 30-month plan-making process in accordance with the Council's published Local Plan timetable.
Reason for Recommendations	To enable progression through Gateway 1 and support delivery of the new Local Plan within the 30-month programme.

1.0 Background

1.1 On 31 March 2026, the District Council gave notice of its intention to prepare a new Local Plan under the new plan-making system. A timetable was published alongside the notice, setting out the key stages of the process. The new system is structured around three Gateways: Gateway 1 requires self-assessment by the Council, while Gateways 2 and 3 involve the Planning Inspectorate. Subject to passing through Gateway 1, the Council will commence a 30-month plan-making programme.

1.2 Key milestones (Gateways denoted in bold) include:

- Scoping Consultation (1 July – 31 July 2026)
- **Gateway 1 (1 September 2026)**
- Public Consultation on the Proposed Plan Content and Evidence (1 June -28 July 2027)
- **Gateway 2 (16 November 2027)**
- Public Consultation on the Proposed Local Plan (3 March – 12 April 2028)
- **Gateway 3 (1 July 2028)**
- Public Examination of the Proposed Local Plan (4 September 2028 – 5 March 2029)
- Adoption (2 April 2029)

1.3 The timetable extends beyond the life of this Council, with responsibility for the new Local Plan to transfer to the successor local authority after 1 April 2028. Under the current timetable this would occur after publication of the Proposed Local Plan in March 2028.

1.4 In accordance with the timetable, a Scoping Consultation was undertaken during July, resulting in 88 responses. The consultation sought early views on the key issues facing the District, the matters the Local Plan should address, and how stakeholders (including Town and Parish Councils, residents, developers and landowners etc) wish to be consulted. An approach to engagement was set out and this will be formalised into an Engagement Strategy following Gateway 1.

1.5 The Scoping Consultation forms part of the pre-plan-making stage and therefore sits outside the formal 30-month plan-making process. The responses received are currently being reviewed and, in accordance with the regulations, a consultation summary will be published once Gateway 1 has been passed. The timetable anticipates publication of the summary in October, and this report seeks approval for its publication once complete.

1.6 Gateway 1 is therefore the next milestone in the process, enabling the Council to commence the formal programme for production of the new Local Plan.

2.0 Proposal

2.1 The Council may progress through Gateway 1 following publication of a Local Plan timetable, the provision of at least four months' notice of plan-making, and completion of a scoping consultation.

2.2 In addition to these requirements, the Council must publish a self-assessment summary. This records the preparatory work undertaken for Gateway 1 and identifies activities that will continue to be developed throughout the plan-making process, including project management arrangements, baseline information gathering, early work on the draft Local Plan vision, land availability assessment and evidence gathering.

2.3 The draft self-assessment summary is attached at Appendix A. It confirms that the Council has taken the necessary preparatory steps to support production of the new Local Plan within the Government's 30-month timeframe. These include publication of the timetable, early scoping consultation, establishment of governance and project management arrangements, and commencement of evidence and environmental assessment work.

2.4 To inform the Council's understanding of land availability, the Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment is being progressed. Three rounds of the Call for Sites have been undertaken, the most recent of which coincided with the Scoping Consultation, and initial assessments of submitted sites are now underway.

2.5 The principal risks to the programme are well understood and include the challenging 30-month timeframe, securing an up-to-date and proportionate evidence base, managing environmental assessment requirements and responding to the potential implications of local government reorganisation during the plan-making process.

2.6 These risks are being managed through a realistic timetable and consideration of the budgetary and resource implications of the 30-month programme. Early engagement has been undertaken through the scoping consultation, and a clear programme is in place to secure the timely commissioning of specialist evidence and assessment work, including Strategic Environmental Assessment, to support preparation of the Local Plan.

2.7 Once established, engagement with the shadow authority will be undertaken to support continuity of plan preparation during reorganisation.

2.8 Notwithstanding these measures, suitable governance arrangements will need to be put in place to support effective and efficient decision-making within a challenging programme, while ensuring appropriate oversight is maintained at key stages of the process. This will require clear decision-making responsibilities and appropriate use of delegated authority to the Portfolio Holder to maintain progress against the published timetable.

2.9 Accordingly, the following approach to decision-making on the new Local Plan is proposed.

Table 1 Proposed Decision-Making Arrangements

Decision-Making	Proposed Method
The **Local Plan timetable** should be reviewed on a monthly basis.	Given the requirement to quickly update the timetable it is proposed that Cabinet give delegated authority to the Portfolio Holder to be able to update the timetable This will be published in the usual way and reported to the next available Planning Policy Board
Publish **Gateway 1 findings**	Cabinet Approval (15 September 2026)
Publish the Summary of the **Scoping Consultation**	Cabinet Approval (15 September 2026)
Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) – Draft Findings Winter 2026/27 The SHELAA is a technical assessment of land potentially available for development. Ahead of consultation on the Local Plan next summer, it is proposed that submitted sites are made publicly available to view.	A two staged approach is proposed. Ward members will be invited to provide feedback on technical issues, identified through their local knowledge. This input will then be considered by officers. It should be emphasised that the SHELAA will not determine site selection decisions. Given the technical nature of the SHELAA the proposed approach for approval to publish will be; a) Members will be provided with details of all sites in their wards to allow them to feedback on issues they believe exist. This feedback together with the assessment findings will be presented to the Planning Policy Board for consideration and endorsement. b) Subject to delegated authority being granted, the Portfolio Holder would then approve publication of the Draft SHELAA results.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Scoping Report Consultation The SEA will provide an assessment of the significant effects of the new Local Plan on the environment, helping to ensure that these considerations are integrated into the plan-making process. Consultation on the Scoping Report will help establish the environmental baseline, identify relevant sustainability issues, and set the framework for assessing the likely significant effects of the emerging Local Plan.	It is proposed that Cabinet give delegated authority to the Portfolio Holder in consultation with the Planning Policy Board to publish the SEA Scoping Report for consultation.
Proposed Local Plan content and evidence base consultation Public consultation on plan proposals and evidence base results	Cabinet Approval following consultation with all members through the Planning Policy Board.
Proposed Local Plan Consultation Public consultation on the Proposed Local Plan (i.e. the Draft Local Plan)	Full Council Approval following consideration by Cabinet and the Planning Policy Board.

2.10 Subject to approval of the decision-making arrangements set out above, the Council can be confident that the necessary preparatory work, governance and project management arrangements are in place to proceed through Gateway 1. This will establish the foundations required to progress the new Local Plan within the 30-month plan-making programme.

3.0 <u>Implications</u>

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection; Digital & Cyber Security; Equality & Diversity; Financial; Human Resources; Human Rights; Legal; Safeguarding & Sustainability and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

Implications Considered Yes – relevant and included / NA – not applicable			
Financial	Y	Equality & Diversity	n/a
Human Resources	n/a	Human Rights	n/a
Legal	Y	Data Protection	n/a
Digital & Cyber Security	n/a	Safeguarding	n/a
Sustainability	Y	Crime & Disorder	n/a
LGR	Y	Tenant Consultation	n/a

Financial implications FIN26-27/2255

3.1 In April 2026, the Council received £108,474.57 from the MHCLG Local Plan Implementation Funding programme. This funding will be used to provide additional capacity within the Planning Policy and Infrastructure Service for a two-year period to support delivery of the new Local Plan.

3.2 The Planning Policy and Infrastructure Service has an existing budget to support the commissioning of evidence base work and environmental assessment and other Local Plan activity.

3.3 Any additional budget pressures in the future will be considered through the Council's budget-setting process.

Legal Implications - LEG2627/8249

3.4 Once adopted the New Local Plan will provide the statutory Development Plan for the District. The statutory requirements have been identified throughout the report and the necessity to adhere to the planning making timetable.

Sustainability Implications

3.5 The new Local Plan will provide the framework for delivering sustainable development across the District, supported by Strategic Environmental Assessment. The plan-making process will ensure that environmental, social and economic considerations are embedded in the plan.

Local Government Reorganisation

3.6 Government has been clear that councils should continue to prepare Local Plans notwithstanding local government reorganisation. Any order establishing a new authority will provide that the adopted Development Plan continues to apply to the part of the area it covers.

3.7 Based on the current timetable for the new Local Plan, this would comprise the Amended Core Strategy, the Amended Allocations & Development Management DPD, subject to adoption, 'made' Neighbourhood Plans, and the Nottinghamshire Minerals and Waste Local Plans. The order is also expected to set a deadline for preparing a new development plan covering the whole area, which has typically been five years from vesting day.

3.8 The successor Local Authority would assume responsibility for the new Local Plan following Public Consultation on the Proposed Local Plan in March 2028. Once established, engagement with the shadow authority is proposed to support continuity of plan preparation during reorganisation.

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.

New Local Plan Timetable
Scoping Consultation

How we got ready to prepare a new local plan

We started preparing a new local plan for Newark & Sherwood District on 1st September 2026.

Government policy says we should adopt the new plan within 30 months of this date. This is to help ensure we have an up-to-date local plan that responds to the needs of the area and our communities.

This page explains what we did to get ready to meet the 30-month timeframe. It also has links to further information and where you can get updates.

We published a timetable for preparing the plan

The timetable shows when we expect to carry out the different stages and activities for preparing a plan. It helps us check if and how we can adopt the plan within the 30-month timeframe. We'll keep this updated as we make more progress.

Our timetable sets out a clear programme of work from the publication of the Notice of Plan Making in March 2026 through to adoption in April 2029, including the public consultation stages, gateway checks, examination and ultimately onto adoption in April 2029.

To support timely plan preparation, we have undertaken a Scoping Consultation between the 1st and 31st July 2026. This sought early input from key stakeholders, infrastructure providers, community organisations and interested members of the public, helping us refine our understanding of the issues the new Local Plan will need to address. It has also raised awareness of the plan-making process, our proposed programme, and the type of input we will require from stakeholders as the plan progresses.

This early engagement has helped establish an informed foundation for the preparation of the plan and should support more efficient consultation and evidence-gathering as the process moves forwards. We will continue to work closely with stakeholders throughout plan preparation and promote the use of digital engagement tools to help manage and analyse consultation responses effectively, reducing the risk of delays and supporting delivery of the plan within the published timetable.

Local government reorganisation will occur during the plan preparation period, with the successor authority expected to assume responsibility for the Local Plan from April 2028. We have identified this as a potential delivery risk and will work with the shadow authority, once established, to develop appropriate mitigation measures and seek to ensure continuity of plan preparation in accordance with the published timetable.

The timetable is available at: https://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/planning-building-control/planning/planning-policy-guidance/new-local-plan

We established project management and governance arrangements

Preparing a local plan is a complex process. It involves many people across the council and from other organisations. Thinking early about how the work is planned, managed and signed off helps us monitor our progress and keep the work on track. It also helps us anticipate and manage any risks to us adopting the plan within 30 months.

We have already established a number of key foundations, including an agreed Local Plan timetable, approved budget provision for 2026/27, additional Government funding to support plan preparation, and a programme of work to develop the evidence base required to support the plan. A detailed project plan is also being developed to coordinate the activities needed to progress through the plan-making process and the Gateway assessments.

Project management and governance arrangements were considered by the Planning Policy Board in June 2026 as part of preparations for the Scoping Consultation. This reviewed how existing governance structures, including the Planning Policy Board, Cabinet and the Council's scheme of delegation, would likely interact with a 30-month plan preparation programme. This discussion identified the need to establish clear decision-making responsibilities and appropriate delegated powers to maintain progress against the published timetable.

Alongside this, we are developing a detailed risk register and monitoring framework to identify, manage and mitigate risks to plan delivery. Project management and governance arrangements will be finalised by Members in September 2026, alongside the decision to proceed through Gateway 1.

We planned how we'll consult on the plan

Public consultation is essential for the local plan to represent the needs of our communities. It must be easy for people to have their say in a way that works for them, so they can influence the way the area develops. By planning this early, we can ensure people are aware in advance and can get involved from the start.

We have undertaken a scoping consultation to get people's views on what the plan could contain and how we propose to consult on the plan at key stages. The consultation included a detailed draft Engagement Strategy setting out how we intend to consult and communicate throughout plan preparation. The strategy includes a range of engagement methods designed to maximise participation and ensure that consultation is accessible to different audiences. These include online consultation platforms, digital mapping tools and story maps, targeted stakeholder engagement, public events, workshops, meetings with infrastructure providers and community groups, and the continued use of the Council's website and communication channels to keep people informed.

We are currently reviewing responses received through the Scoping Consultation and will use this feedback to refine the Engagement Strategy before it is finalised. This will help ensure that our approach reflects local preferences for engagement and provides opportunities for people to participate in different ways.

The final Engagement Strategy will also integrate the project management and governance arrangements to be agreed by Members in September.

Further information on the proposed approach to engagement is available through the Scoping Consultation document:

https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/b36370be0d7b4fa388badbda7888dac6

We began scoping the content of the plan

Scoping includes considering how well the existing plan is working and gathering baseline information about the area. This helps to identify our future needs and ambitions. Starting this early means we can begin preparing the new plan with a clear vision, making it quicker and easier to consult on the plan and make decisions about it.

We have begun scoping the content of the new Local Plan through an early scoping consultation carried out across July this year, supported by baseline information about the district and an initial review of the key planning issues the plan will need to address. The consultation set out why a new plan is being prepared, including changes to national policy and the need to maintain an up-to-date development plan, and explained that the plan will establish a vision for the district, local planning policies, development requirements and, where necessary, the locations for future growth.

As part of this scoping work, we have prepared a District Profile to identify key information about Newark and Sherwood and the potential issues that may need to be addressed through the plan. We have also started to consider the scope of the plan itself, the evidence base required to support it, how the plan will be appraised, and the approach to consultation and engagement. This provides a structured basis for understanding future needs and ambitions before the plan-making process enters its more detailed phases after Gateway 1.

The responses to the Scoping Consultation are being reviewed and a summary will be published following the Council passing through Gateway 1.

Further information is available to view below.

Scoping Consultation Document:
https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/b36370be0d7b4fa388badbda7888dac6

District Profile:
https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/a69990f5805244ee92c6c39b576c6a51

We began a Strategic Environmental Assessment

We're legally required to identify, describe and evaluate likely significant effects on the environment of:

- implementing the local plan
- reasonable alternatives, taking into account the plan's objectives and scope

This process will consider how community, national and international environmental protection objectives and any other environmental challenges are taken into account in the plan. It will help us to predict significant environmental effects and develop ways of preventing, reducing and offsetting these.

It is important we start this work early and are transparent about how we're doing the assessment when engaging stakeholders and communities.

We have therefore begun the early stages of the Strategic Environmental Assessment process by identifying relevant plans and programmes in the Scoping Consultation document, and baseline information and environmental constraints through the District Profile which will support the new Local Plan. This includes recognition of the district's major biodiversity assets and designations, including sites of international, national and local importance, including the district's key biodiversity assets and designations, such as the Birklands and Bilhaugh Special Area of Conservation, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Sherwood Forest National Nature Reserve, Local Nature Reserves, Local Wildlife Sites and the Sherwood Forest Possible Potential Special Protection Area. This provides an initial basis for understanding the environmental issues and sensitivities that will need to be considered when assessing the likely significant effects of the plan and reasonable alternatives.

We are currently commissioning specialist consultants to undertake the Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations Assessment for the new Local Plan. The commission has been structured to ensure that the assessment work can support the proposed plan-making timetable, including the ability to consult on the scope of the SEA at an early stage. This will help ensure that the assessment is transparent, proportionate and available to inform engagement with stakeholders and communities as the plan progresses.

The scope of the SEA will build on the baseline information already identified through the Scoping Consultation and District Profile and will consider relevant environmental objectives, existing designations, potential environmental issues and the reasonable alternatives available for the plan. This will allow significant environmental effects to be predicted early and provide a framework for identifying measures to prevent, reduce or offset adverse effects as the Local Plan is prepared.

Further information is available below.

District Profile:
https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/a69990f5805244ee92c6c39b576c6a51

How to stay up to date

For updates about the New Local Plan, including consultation activities, please email planningpolicy@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk and ask to be added to the consultation database.

Further information can also be found on the New Local Plan webpage:

https://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/new-local-plan

Document is Restricted

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

Document is Restricted