



*Castle House
Great North Road
Newark
NG24 1BY*

Tel: 01636 650000

www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk

Monday, 28 November 2022

Chairman: Councillor D Lloyd

Members of the Cabinet:

Councillor K Girling
Councillor Mrs R Holloway
Councillor R Jackson
Councillor P Peacock
Councillor T Wendels

MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	Tuesday, 6 December 2022 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

	<u>Page Nos.</u>
1. Apologies for Absence	
2. Declarations of Interest from Members and Officers	
3. Notification to those present that the meeting will be recorded and streamed online	
4. Minutes from the previous meeting held on 1 November 2022	4 - 11
5. Chairman's Update	Verbal Report
Strategy, Performance & Finance Portfolio	
6. Update to the Medium Term Financial Plan 2022/23 to 2025/26	12 - 15
7. Local Area Energy Planning (Key Decision)	16 - 21
8. Cost of Living Response	22 - 25
Organisational Development & Governance Portfolio	
9. Establishment of Newark and Sherwood Community Partnership	26 - 28
Economic Development & Visitors Portfolio	
10. Infrastructure Funding Statement (Key Decision)	29 - 65
11. A46 Northern Town Bypass and Newark Towns Fund	66 - 69
12. Heritage and Culture National Portfolio Organisation Status and Strategic Development (Key Decision)	70 - 76
Homes & Health Portfolio	
13. Newark & Sherwood Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022 - 2026 (Key Decision)	77 - 101
14. Responsive and Programmed Works - Additional Programme	102 - 105
Cleaner, Safer, Greener Portfolio	
15. Adoption of a Newark & Sherwood District Council Tree Strategy (Key Decision)	106 - 158
16. Newark Safer Streets 4 Scheme and the Rural Crime and Prevention Programme (Key Decision)	159 - 163

17. Exclusion of the Press and Public

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.

None

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, 1 November 2022 at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor K Girling, Councillor Mrs R Holloway, Councillor R Jackson, Councillor P Peacock and Councillor T Wendels

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor Mrs B Brooks, Councillor L Goff, Councillor J Lee, Councillor Mrs S Michael, Councillor Mrs P Rainbow and Councillor Miss R White

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor D Lloyd (Chairman)

34 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

There were no declarations of interest.

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

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

36 MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 4 OCTOBER 2022

The minutes from the meeting held on 4 October 2022 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

37 CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

The Deputy Leader and Chairman reflected on the recent news regarding Robert Woodhead Construction Limited which had ceased trading and extended his sympathies to all those affected. He advised that Robert Woodhead had been working with the Council building 39 homes across 7 sites, all of which were at various stages of completion and he confirmed the Council had plans in place to make sure those homes were completed with minimal disruption. In addition, Arkwood Developments had been working with Robert Woodhead on their housing development at Bowbridge Road, Newark and they were in the process of appointing a new contractor to complete the remaining homes.

38 EXECUTIVE SHAREHOLDER COMMITTEE

The Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Organisational Development and Governance presented a report which sought to establish an Executive Shareholder Committee which would have oversight of the two Council owned companies, Active4Today and Arkwood Developments. The Committee would have the same composition as the Cabinet, meeting approximately once per quarter. The remit and Terms of Reference for the Committee were detailed in the report.

AGREED (unanimously) that Cabinet establish an Executive Shareholder Committee in accordance with the proposals contained in Section 2 of the report.

Reasons for Decision

To ensure appropriate decision making in respect of the two Council wholly owned companies.

Options Considered

The Cabinet could have taken decisions in relation to the two companies within their usual meetings, but it was considered having a separate committee for this would enable full and proper consideration of company matters separate from other Council business.

39 COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME AWARDS

The Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Organisational Development and Governance presented a report detailing recommendations made by relevant Portfolio Holders in respects of grant applications submitted under the District Council's Community Grant Scheme and recommendations for the extant awards under the former Parish and Town Council's Initiative Fund.

It was noted that following the launch of the new Community Grant Scheme, 21 applications were received for the first round and 20 were approved by the Cabinet at their meeting held on 12 July 2022, with the awards totalling £73,543. A further 14 applications had been received for this second round of the scheme, which totalled £55,959 which would effectively create an overspend of £29,902.

Each application had been considered by the relevant Portfolio Holder based on the primary focus of the proposals, and the recommendation for each submission was presented to the Cabinet for approval. In considering the applications the Portfolio Holders were mindful of the available budget and made a number of partial awards towards projects which reduced any overspend to £2,619.

AGREED (with 4 votes for an 1 abstention) that:

- (a) the recommendations of the Portfolio Holders as detailed in Appendices A and B of the report be agreed in order that the proposed projects can proceed;
- (b) the extant awards under the former Parish and Town Council Initiative Fund in Appendix A are approved as recommended; and the recommendations of the Portfolio Holders detailed in Appendix B be approved as proposed; and
- (c) officers be requested to consider and report back to the Cabinet on what additional support we could offer to community groups.

Reasons for Decision

The schemes have been assessed by Portfolio Holders and Members in respect of alignment to the Council's wider 'Community Plan' objectives and each will provide community value and benefit when delivered.

The extant awards approved under the former Parish and Town Council's Initiative Fund remain important community projects, therefore offering an extension of time to deliver the projects is appropriate.

The schemes submitted under Round 2 of the Community Grant Scheme as recommended will deliver valuable community benefits aligned to the current approved Community Plan objectives.

Options Considered

That the awards as recommended are increased which would require further additional budget provision or the awards are further reduced proportionately to meet the available budget.

40 SHERWOOD LEVELLING UP FUND UPDATE - OLLERTON TOWN CENTRE AND MANSFIELD ROAD, CLIPSTONE (KEY DECISION)

The Portfolio Holder for Economic Development & Visitors presented a report which provided an update on the Sherwood Levelling Up Fund (LUF) submission and sought approval to proceed with plans to redevelop the Clipstone Holdings site and to seek financial commitments towards the further development of the Ollerton and Clipstone LUF proposals.

The Sherwood LUF prospectus, developed in association with the Sherwood Steering Board and a range of partners, was submitted to the Government on 25th July 2022. The proposals sought £20m of grant funding across projects in Ollerton Town Centre and Mansfield Road, Clipstone as detailed in the report. It was envisaged the outcome of LUF Round 2 bids would be known in October/November 2022. The report recommended that work on the Ollerton and Clipstone proposals continued and in the absence of any LUF funding the Council utilises the UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan funding.

AGREED (unanimously) that Cabinet:

- (a) note and support the updates with respect of the Sherwood Levelling Up Fund proposals submitted to Government as part of the Sherwood Constituency LUF Round 2;
- (b) authorise the Director - Planning & Growth, in consultation with the Sherwood Steering Board and Portfolio Holders for Strategy, Performance & Finance and Economic Development & Visitors, to continue to develop plans for the Clipstone and Ollerton projects, subject to additional budget of £60k to be forward-funded pending the approval of the NSDC UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan, subject to endorsement by the Newark & Sherwood Place Board; and

- (c) authorise the Business Manager - Corporate Property to progress redevelopment plans for the Clipstone Holdings site to provide for a low carbon, low-running cost modern industrial scheme, including securing necessary planning permission and contractor(s) within the Maximum Budget envelope contained within the exempt appendix, which shall be added to the Council's Capital Programme.

Reason for Decision

The Sherwood Levelling Up proposals continue to represent an opportunity to act as catalysts for transformational change in tackling ongoing challenges of creating new employment opportunities, health inequality, lower pay, raising aspiration, and transport connectivity, in line with the Council's Community Plan and Sherwood LUF submission.

Options Considered

It remains an option to pause the progression of the Sherwood Levelling Up propriety projects in Clipstone and Ollerton. This has been discounted on the basis that irrespective of the outcome or timings of the LUF announcements there remains merit in continuing to engage with the partners involved to develop the schemes further such that they are funding ready.

The Council could also decide not to redevelop the Clipstone Holdings site at the current time, albeit as detailed separately in the main report and exempt appendix the redevelopment of this site is needed in order to provide modern, low carbon, low running-cost facilities to meet a significant unmet demand, allowing businesses of various scales to establish, relocate, expand, stabilise, and flourish.

41 NEWARK & SHERWOOD PLAN REVIEW - AMENDED ALLOCATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT PUBLICATION (KEY DECISION)

The Portfolio Holder for Economic Development & Visitors presented a report which sought approval from the Full Council of the publication of the Amended Allocations & Development Management Development Plan Document (DPD) for a period of public representation. The report provided an update progress on the Gypsy, Roma, Traveller Pitch Delivery Strategy and also proposed an amendment to the Plan Review timetable and the Local Development Scheme.

The Cabinet thanked the officers involved for their work in completing the document, particularly in light of the various legislative changes that had taken place during its production.

AGREED (unanimously) that:

- (a) the proposals contained within Appendix 1 form the basis of the Publication Amended Allocations & Development Management DPD and amended Policies Map;

- (b) approval be sought from Full Council (at the Extraordinary Meeting to be held on 9 November 2022) for this document be published for a period of Public Representation week commencing 14 November 2022;
- (c) the latest position on the Gypsy Roma Traveller Pitch Delivery Strategy be noted; and
- (d) the amendment to the Plan Review timetable (Local Development Scheme) as set in Section 4 of this report, to come into force on 8 November 2022 be adopted.

Reason for Decision

To approve the DPD for public representation, and to agree an amendment to the timetable so that the Local Development Scheme can be updated to comply with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and appropriate regulations.

Options Considered

As set out in Section 1 of the report, the District Council has considered a range of options as part of the Plan Review engagement and consultation process.

42 ECONOMIC GROWTH STRATEGY ACTION PLAN - ANNUAL UPDATE 2022

The Portfolio Holder for Economic Development & Visitors presented a report which updated Members on the progress of the interventions and activities identified in the Economic Growth Strategy 2021-2026. The second annual review of the Strategy provided an opportunity to reflect on the five priorities set given the changes and factors affecting the national and local economy. Two of the five priorities were recommended for change as follows:

Priority One - A focus on infrastructure and accessibility to areas across the District with poorest connectivity and or potential for impactful growth with the local economy; and

Priority Five - A prioritisation of work activity initially on Newark, Ollerton & Edwinstowe in 2023 for the district with a focus on key areas of deprivation.

These changes followed the resident survey and consultation on the Sherwood LUF bid where access and infrastructure were identified as poor and town centre regeneration was seen as a priority.

AGREED (unanimously) that Cabinet note and support the updates provided, the progress achieved and the direction of travel for 2023 in delivering the Economic Growth Strategy for the District's Businesses and Residents.

Reason for Decision

The delivery of economic growth is a central priority in the Newark & Sherwood Community Plan. To ensure the delivery of the Community Plan and Economic Growth Strategy, it is key an action plan on 'how' the Council seeks to implement the Strategies created, structured, delivered, and monitored and evaluated.

Options Considered

The Council has a number of options for delivery of economic growth, these include:

- 1) Not undertaking a local economic growth strategy; this has been discounted as NSDC has identified the need to support the economy through the resident survey and Community Plan.
- 2) To provide a reduced, modified or outsourced service for economic growth; This has been discounted as the level of investment is yielding results and comparably more successful to other local authorities in delivering projects and activities, securing external funding, and having a positive impact on the local business community.

43 NEWARK AND SOUTHWELL CONSERVATION AREA BOUNDARY CHANGES AND ADOPTION OF APPRAISAL DOCUMENTS (KEY DECISION)

The Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Visitors presented a report which sought approval of the proposed boundary changes to Newark and Southwell Conservation Areas and to agree the adoption of the associated Appraisal document which explained what was special about the areas, including management proposals which sought to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of the conservation areas.

The Council had a legal duty to review existing Conservation Areas in accordance with Section 69(2) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. In September 2018, the Economic Development Committee granted the Conservation Team delegated authority to proceed with a three-year plan to review a number of Conservation Areas within the District focussing on Edwinstowe, Newark, Ollerton, and Southwell. The work on these areas was summarised in the report.

The report and appendices detailed the consultees and responses which had shaped the reviews in Newark and Southwell, as well as the final proposals.

AGREED (unanimously) that Cabinet:

- (a) approve the designation of boundary changes to Newark and Southwell Conservation Areas;
- (b) adopt the Newark and Southwell Conservation Area Appraisal documents; and
- (c) give delegated authority to the Business Manager, Planning Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development & Visitors to implement the designation of the boundary changes and publication of the Appraisal documents.

Reason for Decision

To enable officers to carry out the Council's legal duty in respect of Section 69 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, and to provide clarity to landowners, residents, and potential investors on the heritage importance of defined areas within Newark and Southwell.

Options Considered

Officers consider that the proposed boundary changes accord with a rigorous methodology for assessing the special interest of existing and proposed conservation areas, as well as being subject to extensive public consultation and engagement. Alternative options have been considered and discounted throughout this process, ranging from making no changes through to a range of different amendments to the current boundary.

44 PROPOSAL FOR A KERBSIDE GLASS RECYCLING SERVICE IN NEWARK & SHERWOOD

The Portfolio Holder for Cleaner, Greener, Safer, presented a report which set out the recommendations of the Policy & Performance Improvement Committee in relation to the implementation of a kerbside glass collection scheme. The Policy & Performance Improvement Committee had recommended that any future service be based on a 140 litre bin on an 8 weekly collection cycle, with the service not being provided in the areas that were being served by Recycling Ollerton & Boughton which was a charity providing work-based training placements to adults with learning difficulties. The Committee had proposed a period of public consultation on their recommended service option.

The report considered by the Policy & Performance Improvement Committee at their meeting held on 17 October 2022, was attached as appendix and this detailed the costs associated and logistics of glass collections and processing for any future scheme.

AGREED (unanimously) that:

- (a) revenue and capital costs identified within the proposed methodology for the scheme are included in the Council's budget proposals for 2023/24;
- (b) a period of public consultation is undertaken in relation to the implementation of the scheme and recommended service option;
- (c) a market research company is commissioned to undertake a consultation exercise at a maximum cost of £15k funded from existing budgets; and
- (d) a further report is brought to Cabinet on 21 February 2023 in order for a final decision to be made taking into account consultation responses.

Reason for Decision

The kerbside collection of glass has been identified as a priority in recent resident surveys, and based on the National Waste Strategy, we can expect that the introduction of kerbside glass will become a statutory requirement in the future. If the Council already have a service, this can be shaped to be compliant to the nuances of any legislation.

Options Considered

These are detailed in the report to the Policy & Performance Improvement Committee attached as Appendix A to the report.

It remains an option for the Council not to progress implementation of a scheme; however it is proposed to allocate budget in this financial year on the basis of strong support in the Residents' Survey, in order to ensure implementation in the financial year 2023/4 if the final decision is to proceed.

Meeting closed at 6.44 pm.

Chairman



Report to: Cabinet Meeting – 6 December 2022
 Portfolio Holder: Councillor David Lloyd, Strategy, Performance & Finance
 Director Lead: Sanjiv Kohli – Deputy Chief Executive and Director - Resources
 Lead Officer: Nick Wilson, Business Manager – Financial Services, Ext. 5317

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open, Non-Key Decision
Report Title	Update to the Medium-Term Financial Plan 2022/23 to 2025/26
Purpose of Report	To update Members on the position of the currently approved Medium Term Financial Plan
Recommendations	Members note the update to the Medium-Term Financial Plan
Alternative Options Considered	None
Reason for Recommendations	To update Members on the current assumptions forecast in the Medium Term Financial Plan

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The current Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) was set at Council on 8 March 2022 for the period 2022/23 to 2025/26.
- 1.2 The tables below are extracts from that report and show the forecasted financial position of the authority at that point in time.

Table 1	2022/23 (£m)	2023/24 (£m)	2024/25 (£m)	2025/26 (£m)
Net Service Expenditure (less capital charges)	14.388	14.517	14.900	15.343
Total Other Expenditure	1.172	1.877	1.874	1.898
Total Expenditure	15.560	16.394	16.774	17.241
Business Rates: receivable annually	(6.744)	(4.413)	(5.082)	(5.639)
Business Rates: other adjustments	0.341	0.000	0.000	0.000
Council Tax: receivable annually	(7.646)	(7.966)	(8.299)	(8.646)

Council Tax: surpluses/(deficits)	(0.333)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Council Tax: other adjustments	0.047	0.000	0.000	0.000
Other Grants	(0.568)	(0.568)	(0.464)	(0.475)
Contribution (to) or from Reserves	0.657	3.447	2.929	2.481

Table 2	2022/23 (£m)	2023/24 (£m)	2024/25 (£m)	2025/26 (£m)
Contribution (to) or from reserves	0.657	3.447	2.929	2.481
Contribution (to) or from reserves other than MTFP reserve	(0.096)	0.200	0.200	0.200
Contribution (to) or from MTFP reserve, before proposed mitigations below	0.561	3.647	3.129	2.681
Use of MTFP reserve to offset contributions from reserves in future years	0.039	(2.947)	(1.979)	(0.635)
Contribution from Nottinghamshire Business Rates Pool	(0.600)	-	-	-
Dividends from Arkwood Developments Ltd	-	(0.500)	(0.500)	(0.500)
Savings from service reviews	-	-	(0.100)	(0.100)
Savings/efficiencies from making business processes more efficient	-	(0.100)	(0.200)	(0.200)
Increased income from the council becoming more commercial	-	(0.100)	(0.200)	(0.200)
Rental income from town centre regeneration	-	-	(0.150)	(0.150)
Contribution (to) or from MTFP reserve, after proposed mitigations above	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.896

- 1.3 The tables showed that over the four-year period of the MTFP that £0.896m would need to be found in order to fund the budget. This was after the mitigations described in Table 2, which are yet to be realised.
- 1.4 The national context around future local government funding is uncertain. At the time of writing the MTFP in January 2022 it was expected that a consultation paper would be published during Spring/Summer 2022 (prior to the Summer Recess) on the Fair Funding Review which would seek to rebalance the funding formula used to assess resource needs for local authorities.
- 1.5 The Budget Strategy presented to Cabinet on 12th July 2022 suggested that Civil Servant and Ministerial time has been diverted from the review of local government funding onto other activities (Omicron, War in Ukraine, Increase in the cost of living etc) and hence it is inevitable that a delay in the local government funding reforms until after 2023/24 will occur. The modelling in the table above assumed that the reforms would be implemented during 2023/24 and hence, as this is now unlikely, there will be a positive impact on the Councils current MTFP.

- 1.6 Officers have forecast for some time that changes based on the Fair Funding Review and the reset of the baseline funding levels for Business Rates will come into force. Originally these changes were meant to be implemented from the 2020/21 financial year, although Brexit was the main cause of the first delay. Since that point the pandemic has pushed the timetable backwards. Secretary of State Michael Gove (whilst he took that position over the summer period) described at the LGA conference that the Local Government Finance Settlement for the 2023/24 financial year would be a two year financial settlement, which would give ministers the time in order to properly consider the changes and the impacts on local authorities, whilst also giving local authorities the certainty of funding for a two year period.
- 1.7 Due to this Officers have used the assumptions set within the Budget Strategy and liaised with our external advisors regarding future government funding to complete a desktop review and revise the MTFP.
- 1.8 The tables below show the updated position based on the increases in inflation set within the Budget Strategy, together with the assumption that the changes in the local government finance system will not be brought in until 2025/26 at the earliest.

Table 3	2023/24 (£m)	2024/25 (£m)	2025/26 (£m)
Net Service Expenditure (less capital charges)	15.733	16.027	16.573
Total Other Expenditure	1.954	1.951	1.975
Total Expenditure	17.687	17.978	18.548
Business Rates	(8.474)	(9.430)	(7.722)
Council Tax	(7.966)	(8.299)	(8.646)
Other Grants	(0.568)	(0.420)	(0.316)
Contribution (to) or from Reserves	0.679	(0.171)	1.864

Table 4	2023/24 (£m)	2024/25 (£m)	2025/26 (£m)
Contribution (to) or from reserves	0.679	(0.171)	1.864
Contribution (to) or from reserves other than MTFP reserve	0.244	0.256	0.262
Contribution (to) or from MTFP reserve	0.923	0.085	2.126
Use of MTFP reserve to offset contributions from reserves in future years	0.177	1.665	(0.976)
Contribution from Nottinghamshire Business Rates Pool	(0.600)	(0.600)	0.000
Dividends from Arkwood Developments Ltd	(0.500)	(0.500)	(0.500)
Savings from service reviews	0.000	(0.100)	(0.100)
Savings/efficiencies from making business processes more efficient	0.000	(0.200)	(0.200)

Increased income from the council becoming more commercial	0.000	(0.200)	(0.200)
Rental income from town centre regeneration	0.000	(0.150)	(0.150)
Contribution (to) or from reserves, after proposed mitigations above	0.000	0.000	0.000

1.9 As can be seen from the two tables, the overall impact has had a positive impact over the revised MTFP. The gap of £0.896m in 2025/26 will be funded should all of the initiatives as described in Table 4 be implemented.

1.10 Should the initiatives identified in the table above not be implemented, this would require a contribution from the MTFP reserve in order to fund the budget.

1.11 The detailed budgets are currently being produced which will give further clarity over budget requirements going forward. The draft Local Government Finance Settlement will be released during December 2022, which will give clarity over the Councils' funding together with the parameters for any increases in Council Tax.

1.12 The MTFP will then be brought back to Cabinet in February 2023 to be recommended on to Council in March 2023 for approval, alongside the budget setting report for the 2023/24 financial year.

2.0 Implications

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

Background Papers and Published Documents

Medium Term Financial Plan 2022/23 to 2025/26



Report to: Cabinet Meeting - 6 December 2022

Portfolio Holder: Councillor David Lloyd, Strategy Performance & Finance

Director Lead: Matthew Finch, Director - Communities & Environment

Lead Officer: Briony Ashton, Environmental Policy & Projects Officer, Ext. 5357
Ella Brady, Transformation & Service Improvement Manager, Ext. 5279

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open, Key Decision
Report Title	Local Area Energy Planning
Purpose of Report	To inform Members of plans for Local Area Energy Planning (LAEP) across the East Midlands (East Midlands Mayoral Combined Authority geographical area) and ask for a member decision on investing in a Local Area Energy Plan for Newark and Sherwood, as part of the wider work of the region.
Recommendations	That Cabinet endorse progress with the LAEP to enable a focus on district wide carbon emissions across Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire.
Alternative Options Considered	The alternative option is to do nothing. In this situation the work will continue in partnership across the East Midlands without NSDC input, and NSDC will need to gather this information independently, as required, likely for a greater cost.
Reason for Recommendations	To help the Council deliver against its Carbon reduction target of net zero (direct emissions) by 2035, and to gather information to help the district determine potential pathways, technologies and scenarios, to achieving carbon net zero across the district. The Council have already made the commitment to reducing its own emissions. This is an opportunity to focus on the whole district and work towards a carbon net zero Newark and Sherwood.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 One of the biggest sources of carbon, at a district level, is energy. This includes the use of energy (gas and electric) in homes and energy (fuel) in vehicles. Therefore, reducing and/or decarbonising Newark & Sherwood's energy is an important step in reducing the carbon footprint of the district.
- 1.2 The work of the Climate Emergency Strategy, and associated Greening Newark & Sherwood Action Plan, lays out how the Council will reduce its carbon footprint. It outlines what it will do within the district within its direct control. For example, installing

solar panels on Council buildings, planting trees on Council land and working towards electrifying the Council's fleet.

1.3 Whereas the work of the Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP) is about identifying potential pathways, considering a range of technologies and scenarios, to achieving carbon net zero across the district in terms of energy consumption. A LAEP is a place-based data set outlining the district's current carbon energy usage, and a comprehensive plan outlining how to decarbonise the district's energy.

1.4 This LAEP forms a key focus point of the East Midlands Devolution Deal which features net zero ambitions at the forefront. This deal was supported at Cabinet and Full Council in October 2022. The ambition is that an East Midland wide plan can be used as evidence to attract additional investment, funding, and powers so more decisions can be made on carbon reduction locally.

2.0 The Proposal

2.1 We want to do this in partnership with the other Local Authorities within the future 'East Midlands Mayoral Combined Authority area' because there are economies of scale in terms of procurement, and we can identify opportunities for connected/joined up services or provision. This has the potential to unlock the cost savings associated with joint/larger procurement activities. Analysis completed by PwC for InnovateUK found that taking a place-based approach to decarbonisation could reduce the investment required by as much as 70%.¹

2.2 What does a LAEP look like?

The Local Area Energy Plan is a pathway broken down into components that show the district's route to achieve net zero. It will list the interventions and where they will have the most impact, for example, heating system installations in this area and public electric vehicle chargers in this town.

The LAEP will focus on three areas;

- Retrofitting of existing housing to improve energy efficiency of homes (private and Council owned homes)
- Switching to low carbon road transport (private and Council owned)
- Deployment of renewable generation (on Council owned land/properties)

2.2.1 Retrofit Housing

The plan will identify which homes in the district are currently in bands D to G. Then identify which of these are most suitable for fabric retrofit improvements and/or low carbon heating systems. The plan will also look to prioritise areas for early action based on suitability of the technology, cost effectiveness and the potential impact of these works in terms of tackling fuel poverty. Based on an initial assessment around 90% of the East Midlands housing stock has the potential to reach the regional target of EPC band C.

This will allow us to decarbonise energy in the district through the implementation of the 'right technology' in the right place, certain retrofit solutions may not be suitable for the entire district, this could be air source and ground source heat pumps for NSDC

¹ Page 6, Accelerating Net Zero Delivery: Unlocking the benefits of climate action in UK city-regions, March 2022, Innovate UK (www.ukri.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/IUK-090322-AcceleratingNetZeroDelivery-UnlockingBenefitsClimateActionUKCityRegions.pdf)

but may be more cost effective for other Councils such as Nottingham City to extend the District Heat Network already in place.

2.2.2 Electrification of Transport

Whilst households make individual decisions on the type of car or cars they own and operate we, as a local authority, can help to unlock electrification of private vehicles by enabling the installation of public charge points. This LAEP will assist with scoping out potential locations and areas of land where electric vehicle charging could possibly take place and consider the intricacies involved in on street charging for households without private off-street parking.

As a local authority, we can have a direct influence on our carbon emissions and operational costs as well as help to improve local air quality through switching Council owned vehicle fleets to low carbon alternatives. Whilst it is highly likely that cars and vans will follow the route of electrification to decarbonise which we have already begun exploring through the purchase of two electric vehicles, the technology options for medium and heavy-duty vehicles are less clear and something which currently hasn't been explored directly by Newark and Sherwood.

In the longer term, both electrification and hydrogen are options for reaching net zero. These technologies, for medium and heavy-duty vehicles, are still in the research, development and demonstration stages. For Newark and Sherwood due to the rurality and vast size of the district using and purchasing electric refuse vehicles may not be a feasible option, potential options for larger vehicles will be explored as part of the LAEP.

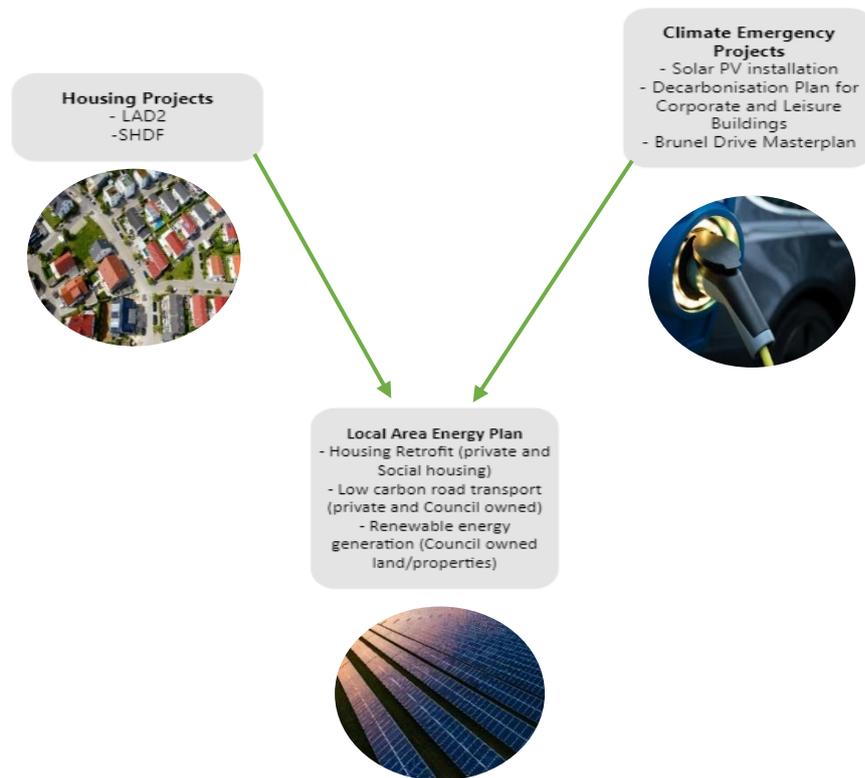
LAEPs can be used to understand the impact on energy demands resulting from vehicle decarbonisation and plan the provision of associated infrastructure optimally, considering vehicle charging alongside other aspects that will also impact the energy system (particularly heat decarbonisation). LAEPs can be used to highlight and prioritise areas for public charging points and hubs in addition to home/workplace charging infrastructure.

2.2.3 Renewable Energy Generation

Identification of local opportunities for renewable generation such as solar panels and wind turbines. The LAEP will also consider where we, as a local authority, can provide more direct intervention, for example, installing solar panels or charging points on Council land. The LAEP will also consider where there are economies of scale or shared infrastructure feasible for the planned developments, such as the combined electrification of local authority fleets.

2.3 **How does the LAEP link with our pre-existing work?**

The implementation of a LAEP will compliment our existing ongoing projects and work streams, this included housing specific projects which focus on energy efficiency improvements in the private and Council owned sectors. This is also aligned with our Climate Emergency Projects and our overall direction of travel in relation to becoming net carbon neutral. This also will give us the opportunity to consider each of the included aspects at a district level in combination with our direct emissions.



2.4 Associated Benefits

Undertaking the works outlined in the LAEP would realise considerable associated benefits, both socio-economic and health benefits, as undertaking this carbon reduction work across the East Midlands would likely lead to:

- The creation of new 'green' jobs as a result of low carbon investments in local areas,
- Benefits to health and comfort from warmer homes and improved air quality,
- A reduction in fuel poverty through lower cost warmth, and
- A lower delivery cost due to economies of scale with mass procurement and the opportunity for more grant funding.

The opportunities to obtain further grant funding will be extremely beneficial in meeting our individual net zero targets and making strides in carbon reduction at a district level. The LAEP will also enable the creation of an interconnected work stream between housing, energy generation and electrification of vehicles internally and at a district level.

2.5 Newark & Sherwood's LAEP

A LAEP is a complex document, so rather than create a single document covering all 17 Local Authorities within the East Midlands Mayoral Combined Authority area, there will be 8 LAEP's completed. Grouping geographical neighbours into 8 groups also allows economies of scale in terms of data analysis and stakeholder engagement.

Being able to adopt a collaborative approach to each of the focus areas has the potential to lead to joint procurement advantages, these are something which is already taking place in relation to current housing retrofit funding pots made available by national government.

Locally we are making progress in understanding what works best for Local Authorities in relation to carbon reduction, this LAEP enables us to do this on a greater scale, but from a position where we are more intelligent about what works as a result of progress to date.

2.6 **Delivery of the LAEP**

The aim is to deliver the LAEP over the next two years in partnership with other East Midlands Mayoral Combined Authority areas. The LAEP will be developed by specialist consultants and project managed by an advisor (over the two years) funded by the East Midlands Mayoral Combined Authority areas. This individual would coordinate and oversee delivery of the plan.

The aim is that in 2 years, once we have the plans, we will look to, at a combined authority level, pull in central government funding as part of Devolution to fund the rollout of these works. The aim is to go to the market in the early new year to undertake the LAEP work and procure a contractor by the start of the new financial year. Once this is in place work to produce the LAEP will begin. This is expected to be completed by autumn 2024, and at this point the outcome and suggested route to net zero for the district will be presented to Members.

2.7 **Governance**

In terms of governance, the development of the LAEP will be overseen by the 'D2N2 Low Carbon Board' which is managed by the D2N2 LEP attended by a blend of Local Authority, Business and Academic. This will be fed by information from the 'Environmental Strategy Working Group' (which covers the Nottinghamshire Local Authorities) and the 'D2 Energy Group' (which covers the Derbyshire Local Authorities). NSDC is already a member of the Environmental Strategy Working Group, both the strategic group and its supporting operational group. The progress on the LAEP will be reported to NSDC members as part of the Climate Emergency annual update report.

The Council have already made the commitment to reducing its own direct emissions. This is now an opportunity to focus on the district as a whole and offers the Council the opportunity to act as a catalyst for change in supporting the shift to a carbon net zero district.

3.0 **Implications**

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

3.1 **Financial Implications (FIN22-23/88)**

There would be a one-off spend of £75,000 to commission the creation of the LAEP. This spend would be £37,500 in 23/24 and £37,500 in 24/25.

There is the opportunity for the funding to be covered by a grant, and funding streams are currently being assessed, should this be successful then this expenditure may be part or fully refunded by a grant.

There would also be a further commitment of £7,000 for the LAEP advisor for a 2-year contract. This advisor will be employed by Nottinghamshire City and funded by all the authorities involved in the LAEP. This will be for the co-ordination of the data collection and development of the LAEP, with the role expected to start from April 2023.

	2023/24	2024/25
LAEP creation	£37,500	£37,500
Contribution to co-coordinator role	£3,500	£3,500
Total	£41,000	£41,000

The above £82,000 will need to be added to the revenue budget as a growth item for the two years as shown.

Background Papers and Published Documents

None



Report to: Cabinet Meeting - 6 December 2022
 Portfolio Holder: Councillor David Lloyd. Strategy, Performance & Finance
 Director Lead: Suzanne Shead - Director - Housing, Health & Wellbeing
 Lead Officer: Suzanne Shead - Director - Housing Health & Wellbeing, Ext. 5520

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open, Non Key Decision
Report Title	Cost of Living Response
Purpose of Report	To set out the Council’s approach to supporting the District through cost of living challenges and to commission further work on potential projects to support delivery of activities to help those who are in need.
Recommendations	<p>That Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) note how the Council has responded so far to cost of living challenges, and approve further work on potential projects as set out for example in paragraph 2.1.1 of the report with a view to the creation of a Cost of Living Response fund to support our community objectives of creating vibrant and self-sufficient local communities where residents look out for each other and actively contributing to the local area and to improve the health and wellbeing of local residents; and b) for a further report to be brought to Cabinet with costed proposals for consideration within a cost envelope of approximately £150,000. c) grant delegated approval to the Portfolio Holder – Strategy, Performance & Finance after consultation with the S151 Officer and the relevant Portfolio Holder for any urgent individual allocations required in the interim.
Alternative Options Considered	Not to consider further projects to address cost of living challenges, however it is considered appropriate to support residents and businesses during this period.
Reason for Recommendations	To provide practical support for residents and businesses through the cost of living challenges.

1.0 **Background**

- 1.1 The UK is facing unprecedented rises in the cost of living from rising interest rates, increased costs for services, high fuel, energy and food bills. These challenges are not only affecting those who are already in need, but those who have previously managed to navigate the challenges are likely to find themselves in uncharted waters with little or no knowledge of how and where to seek help.
- 1.2 From April to September 2022, the Trussell Trust reported 1974 emergency food parcels were distributed (638 of these were parcels for children) representing a staggering 44% increase in just one year.
- 1.3 So far, the Council has been responding to this situation by:
 - ensuring the Discretionary Housing Payments, NCC Household Support Grants and other available hardship funds are promoted and administered as quickly as possible
 - processing the Government's energy rebate scheme promptly with c.£7.4m allocated to households
 - Signposting residents to benefits and other support via its website
 - Working with partners to ensure residents are aware of the grants available and additional support they can receive
 - Helping its tenants with debt or income related problems through funding independent debt services
 - Supporting the Food Clubs across Newark to increase food security as well as signposting to other support available.
- 1.4 Recognising there is more that can be done, the Council have pulled together how current services support businesses, residents, tenants and colleagues with these challenges, with the main principle being to do what we already do – more quickly, acting as the landing site for partner organisations to feed initiatives to, to ensure accurate and timely signposting to support available and how we target support using data and local knowledge.
- 1.5 The Council has created a page on the website to co-ordinate all information including links to existing government support around:
 - Energy bills support scheme information
 - Cost of Living payment for people on means tested benefits
 - Pensioner Cost of Living payment
 - Disability Cost of Living payment
 - Household support fund
- 1.6 The Council recognise that partners and businesses have a role to play in addressing and improving the districts resilience around:
 - Information and Communication
 - Food Security
 - Fuel and Energy
 - Health and Well-Being
 - Education and Skills

- 1.7 In November 2022, the Community Partnership (which brings together businesses and partner organisations across the district) met to discuss the current situation and highlighted a number of areas of good practice and key areas where there would be added value – in particular, how we could boost volunteering to support delivery of activities and for the benefits of giving something back and health and well-being. The Council pledged to be the central co-ordination point to publicise support for agencies and share messages as widely as possible.
- 1.8 The first local roadshow “Fuelling you with support” is being held on the 30 November in Newark, with further roadshows planned across the Sherwood area of the district. These events bring together a range of appropriate agencies who can offer advice and support and offer an opportunity to make every conversation count.
- 1.9 At a Mid-Nottinghamshire level, the Place Based Partnership is co-ordinating a Cost of Living summit to be held on-line to bring together all partners to discuss activities that are available across Mid Notts with a view to identifying a number of areas where the partnership can add value. This will be supported by health data to target initiatives where they are needed most.

2.0 Proposal

- 2.1 Responding to cost of living challenges requires the Council to be fleet of foot, with the ability to respond swiftly to changing support demands. With this in mind, a potential budget of £150,000 (£100k General Fund and £50k Housing Revenue Account) has been identified to support residents and businesses, and where possible, supporting community partners to deliver services in their neighbourhoods rather than direct delivery.
- 2.1.1 Potential projects identified include (not exhaustive):
- Operating a Fuel Bank Scheme to help people on pre-payment gas or electricity meters who are struggling to pay their bills;
 - Reviewing fees and charges;
 - Supporting a holistic approach to debts, so the Council collect with care, and restate the “No Eviction” pledge made during the pandemic, to support tenants who are engaging with us to manage council debt.
 - Expansion of food clubs throughout the district and linking in health initiatives such as flu/covid vaccines where available;
 - Promoting and signposting residents to partners who are providing warm rooms and other community-based activities to help residents receive the support they need, when they need it;
 - In conjunction with the Community Partnership, boosting volunteering to help partner organisations deliver their services;
 - Prioritising tenants with inefficient boilers in their homes to upgrade to more high rated boilers, and also supporting tenants with oil heated homes to move to energy efficient, green energy.
- 2.1.2 It is proposed to undertake further work on potential projects and bring a report back to Cabinet with costed proposals. It may also be appropriate to allocate budget for pipeline projects and to delegate authority for oversight of spend to relevant Portfolio Holder/s.

- 2.1.3 In the interim it is proposed to delegate authority to the Portfolio Holder – Strategy, Performance & Finance after consultation with the S151 Officer and the relevant Portfolio Holder for any urgent allocations for individual projects.

3.0 Implications

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

Financial Implications (FIN22-23/6034)

- 3.1 In order to fund the proposals outlined above £100,000 may be allocated from the General Funds corporate contingencies annual budget allocation towards any of the projects that are General Fund related. A decision at project level will be determined as to which fund the projects will be charged to.
- 3.2 The £50,000 allocation from the HRA may be funded from the in-year efficiencies that were identified from the re-integration of the housing service from Newark and Sherwood Homes that are yet to be allocated.
- 3.3 As these two allocations are due to be funded from in-year budget allocations rather than reserves, where there are funds remaining at 31 March 2023, the remaining balance may be transferred into reserves in order to be utilised during the 2023/24 financial year.

Background Papers and Published Documents

None



Report to: Cabinet Meeting - 6 December 2022

Portfolio Holder: Councillor David Lloyd, Strategy, Performance & Finance

Lead Officer: John Robinson, Chief Executive, Ext. 5200

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open, Non-Key Decision
Report Title	Establishment of Newark & Sherwood Community Partnership
Purpose of Report	To endorse the establishment of Newark & Sherwood Community Partnership
Recommendations	That Cabinet approve the establishment of Newark & Sherwood Community Partnership in accordance with the proposed Terms of Reference as set out in the report.
Alternative Options Considered	Cabinet could choose not to establish the proposed partnership or could vary its role and responsibilities.
Reason for Recommendations	To satisfy Government funding requirements and to develop and sustain good relationships between partners for the benefit of local residents and local businesses.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 In recent years, the Council has been successful in securing substantial amounts of external funding from national Government, including the Towns Fund and Levelling Up Fund.
- 1.2 In order to secure such funding, Government requires local authorities to have in place local partnerships that bring together representatives from across the private, public and voluntary and community sectors.
- 1.3 To date, we have satisfied Government's funding expectations by creating local and funding specific partnerships i.e. a Newark Towns Fund Board and Sherwood Levelling Up Steering Group. These build on the many different partnerships that were already in place covering every aspect of local quality of life.
- 1.4 The requirement to produce a District-wide Investment Plan as part of the Shared Prosperity Fund has prompted us to take stock of our current arrangements and in particular the need for a new partnership covering the whole of Newark and Sherwood.

2.0 Proposal

- 2.1 Set out below are the proposed Terms of Reference for a new Newark & Sherwood Community Partnership.
- 2.2 It is important to emphasise that we are attempting to strike a balance here between creating sufficient formality to satisfy Government, along with the informality that encourages engagement and involvement.

3.0 Proposed Terms of Reference

3.1 Purpose

To build and maintain relationships and networks across Newark & Sherwood to improve the quality of life and prosperity for residents and businesses.

3.2 Core Functions and Responsibilities

- To provide a forum for the exchange of insight, information, best practice and ideas.
- 3.3 To inform and influence the plans, priorities and allocation of resources of partner organisations.
- 3.4 To contribute to the submission of funding bids to Government and other bodies
- 3.5 To contribute to the development of key projects and initiatives and maintain oversight of the progress of their delivery.
- 3.6 To identify emerging challenges and opportunities that have a significant impact on Newark & Sherwood.
- 3.7 To champion Newark & Sherwood at a sub-regional and regional level, bringing influence to bear on key partners including the emergent East Midlands Combined Authority.
- 3.8 To coordinate and add value to local plans and initiatives to maximise impact and reduce duplication.

4.0 Membership and Meetings

The Newark & Sherwood Community Partnership will meet at least quarterly and otherwise as and when required.

- 4.1 Membership of the Partnership will be drawn from across the public, private and voluntary/community sectors. While it is expected that there will be consistency of representation from 'core' members including the NHS, Nottinghamshire Police and local colleges, it is anticipated that attendance/representation at meetings will vary dependent upon the agenda items under consideration.

- 4.2 Newark & Sherwood District Council will administer meetings (prepare agendas, minutes, etc.) and members of the partnership will be invited to submit items for inclusion on the agenda. The Council will be represented by the Leader of the Council and other members will be invited dependent on the business under consideration.
- 4.3 The Leader of the Council will Chair meetings of the Partnership or in their absence another representative will be appointed at the meeting.

5.0 Implications

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

Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications associated with this proposal. The cost of administering the Partnership will be met from existing resources.

Background Papers and Published Documents

None



Report to: Cabinet Meeting – 6 December 2022

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Rhona Holloway, Economic Development & Visitors

Director Lead: Matt Lamb, Director - Planning & Growth

Lead Officer: Matthew Norton, Business Manager - Planning Policy & Infrastructure, Ext. 5852

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open, Key Decision
Report Title	Infrastructure Funding Statement
Purpose of Report	To update Cabinet on matters set out in the 2021/22 (the reported year) Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) and to approve the process for spend of Section 106 developer contributions.
Recommendations	That Cabinet: a) approve the publication of the Infrastructure Funding Statement, which has been produced in accordance with the legislative requirements, before the end of the calendar year; and b) approve the proposed process for spend of Section 106 Developer Contributions set out at paragraph 2.3 of the report.
Alternative Options Considered	None. There is a requirement to publish the IFS by the end of the calendar year.
Reason for Recommendations	a) To ensure that the District Council is operating in accordance with the requirements of the Community Infrastructure Regulations. b) To set out clearly the governance arrangements for spend of Section 106 contributions.

1.0 Background

1.1 As a reminder for Members, for the purpose of reporting developer contributions, National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG) defines 'infrastructure' as development within the following categories:

- Affordable housing
- Education (Primary, Secondary, Post-16 & Other)
- Health
- Highways
- Transport and travel
- Open space and leisure
- Community facilities
- Digital infrastructure
- Green infrastructure
- Flood and water management
- Economic development
- Land
- Section 106 monitoring fees
- Bonds (held or repaid to developers)
- Other (Neighbourhood CIL, CIL administration costs)

1.2 In establishing this as a national requirement, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) has prescribed a spreadsheet format in which the data underpinning the IFS should be published before 31 December. The accompanying statement therefore essentially provides context to the CIL income and developer contributions the Council has secured, allocated and spent over the last financial year.

1.3 The IFS presents information to a broad audience, therefore comprises the following sections:

- An introduction setting out the basic requirements and the context of planned growth in the District;
- National and local policy context, along with an explanation of the developer contributions it covers;
- A summary of CIL collected/spent during the reported year;
- A summary of S106 monies collected/spent during the reported year;
- Planned expenditure of CIL income over the next reporting period (April 2022 to March 2023).

2.0 Proposal/Details of Options Considered

2.1 The 2021 IFS has been finalised and the table below sets out the headline figures for Members' attention.

Description of Source	£
CIL	
Collected before 01/04/2021 (net of admin and all meaningful proportions)	£6,148,592.83
Demand notices issued 2021/22	£5,487,181.82
Received 2021/22 (including surcharges)	£2,215,235.58
NSDC CIL total 31/03/2022 (net of capital, admin and all meaningful proportions)	£7,170,753.43

Expenditure (Capital)	£620,000
Expenditure (Administration)	£92,812.58
Meaningful proportion to Town/Parish Councils	£480,262.40
Retained after contributions	£1,022,160.58
Retained on behalf of Parish Meetings	£0
Retained on behalf of Parish Meetings from previous years	£9,702.08
S106 Contributions	
Received before the reported year, remaining unallocated	£8,166,213.10
Received 2021/22	£1,413,939.34
Agreed 2021/22	£522,690.33
S106 contributions held by NSDC 31/03/2022	£7,179,373.23
Allocated but not spent 2021/22	£233,435.47
Balance held for longer term maintenance obligations	£19,494.93

- 2.2 The Tolney Lane Highway / Flood Alleviation Scheme contained in Table 7 of the IFS (line 8) is a new addition which is needed in order to support the proposals contained within Amended Allocations & Development Management Development Plan Document. This scheme cannot be funded by a single developer and its delivery is therefore reliant on CIL funding.
- 2.3 The IFS also includes details of the Council's Governance arrangements in relation to managing monies secured as part of Section 106 Agreements these reflect the wider changes in governance at the Council and replace those that existed under the previous Committee system. The provisions reflect the requirements of the Financial Regulations and are as follows:

On-site contributions and clearly defined off-site contributions collected for other public bodies

On-site contributions and clearly defined off-site contributions for Nottinghamshire County Council and the National Health Service, as set out in a section 106 agreement, shall be managed by the Director of Planning and Growth with the agreement having been approved by Planning Committee.

Non-specific off-site contributions

In terms of non-specific off-site contributions, the following procedure shall be adopted:

- a) Where the spend is up to £15,000 then this can be authorised by the S151 Officer in consultation with the Director of Planning and Growth.
- b) Where the spend is between £15,000 and £300,000 then this will be referred to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and the s151 Officer, who can either approve the request or refer it to Cabinet.
- c) Where the spend exceeds £300,000 and is therefore a key decision it should be added to the forward plan and considered by Cabinet.

With regard to sections b and c above:

- the Planning Committee Chairman and Members of affected Wards will be consulted on the proposed spend; and
- the spend shall be added to the Capital programme.

Community Plan

- 2.4 The IFS has potential to support the delivery of all Community Plan objectives that incorporate a need for infrastructure provision and enhancement. The growth agenda directed by the Local Plan underlines the corporate priorities set out in the Community Plan.
- 2.5 The only option to consider is whether or not to publish the IFS before the end of the calendar year.

3.0 Implications

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

Digital Implications

- 3.2 The base data underpinning the IFS should be published on the Council's website in CSV format in accordance with open data requirements, along with the aforementioned report.

Equalities Implications

- 3.3 Infrastructure delivery is fundamental to the implementation of the Amended Core Strategy which, as a whole has been subject to appraisal against the Integrated Impacts Assessment (IIA) Framework. The IIA incorporates Sustainability Appraisal, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) and Health Impact Assessment (HIA). The EqIA is a way of demonstrating the District Council is fulfilling the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty contained in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.
- 3.4 With the focus of the IFS being on providing greater transparency to the decision-making process and channelling infrastructure funding to areas of identified need as a result of development (thereby mitigating any perceived inequalities in accordance with adopted policy), an EqIA specifically for the IFS is not required. Members agreed with this view when the proposed approach was presented to the Committee in June 2020.

Financial Implications (FIN22-23/3635)

- 3.5 Financial Services work closely with colleagues on the Developer Contributions Officer Steering Group to ensure that funds from developer contributions are appropriately managed in line with the Council's financial procedures.
- 3.6 The IFS provides greater transparency for Members, service providers, developers and the community on how the Council deals with developer contributions.

- 3.7 CIL funded projects will progress from the IFS into the Council's Capital Programme in the usual way by a report to Cabinet as an when sufficient funding is available.
- 3.8 Currently there is one project included within the Capital programme, the A1 Overbridge at Fernwood with a total allocation of £5.6m.

Legal Implications (SLB 16/11/2022)

- 3.9 The proposed governance arrangements in relation to managing monies secured as part of Section 106 Agreements have been reviewed against relevant provisions in the Council's Constitution. The provisions for off-site contributions have been drafted to be consistent with the Financial Regulations and will therefore need to be kept under review over time to ensure they remain consistent.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Newark & Sherwood Infrastructure Funding Statement 2021/22

Contents

Page

Section 1	Introduction	1
Section 2	Developer Contributions	2
Section 3	Community Infrastructure Levy: collection and expenditure	5
Section 4	S106 Developer Contributions: collection and expenditure	7
Section 5	Planned Expenditure	13
Appendix 1	Infrastructure Funding Statement requirements checklist (adapted from CIL Regulations 2019, Schedule 2)	18



Introduction

- 1.1 This is Newark & Sherwood District Council's Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) for 2021/22, published in accordance with the [Community Infrastructure Levy \(Amendment\) \(England\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2019](#) which came into force on 1 September 2019.
- 1.2 Local authorities are required to produce an IFS on an annual basis, relating to the developer contributions from Section 106 agreements and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). Developer contributions are used to help fund development related infrastructure provision and to maximise the benefits and opportunities from growth.
- 1.3 In accordance with the regulations, the annual IFS comprises the following three parts:
- A report relating to the previous financial year on the Community Infrastructure Levy;
 - A report relating to the previous financial year on Section 106 planning obligations;
 - A report on the infrastructure projects or types of infrastructure that the authority intends to fund wholly or partly by the levy (excluding the neighbourhood portion).
- 1.4 Appendix 1 sets out the requirements of the regulations and the sections of this document where details can be found.
- 1.5 For the purpose of reporting developer contributions National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG) defines 'infrastructure' as development within the following categories:
- Affordable housing
 - Education (Primary, Secondary, Post-16 & Other)
 - Health
 - Highways
 - Transport and travel
 - Open space and leisure
 - Community facilities
 - Digital infrastructure
 - Green infrastructure
 - Flood and water management
 - Economic development
 - Land
 - Section 106 monitoring fees
 - Bonds (held or repaid to developers)
 - Other (Neighbourhood CIL, Mayoral CIL, Community Infrastructure Levy administration costs)

District Context

- 1.6 Across the current Local Plan period to 2033 the population of Newark & Sherwood is expected to grow by as much as 14,359. Recent monitoring data show the following figures relating to the development in the District:
- 2197 net (2224 gross) residential dwellings were granted planning permission from 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022
 - 3845 net residential completions over the five year period 2017/18-2021/22, giving an average of 641 (rounded from 640.83) completions per year

Newark & Sherwood District Council: Infrastructure Funding Statement 2022

- Within the plan period (to 31st March 2022) 45.88Ha of employment land has been developed since 2013 and 176.69Ha is deliverable within the plan period (up to 2033).

2.0 Developer Contributions

Paying for Infrastructure

- 2.1 Infrastructure is typically paid for in a number of ways, via:
- Service providers such as utilities companies (electricity, gas, water, waste water, communications) underpinned by income from customer bills and government grant/support;
 - Direct or indirect government grants to Local Authorities or via Local Enterprise Partnership;
 - Developers responding to site specific requirements through legal agreements (Section 106 or Section 278 agreements);
 - Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) collecting Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) on certain types of new development;
 - Town/Parish Council funds secured through Parish precepts, CIL or use of other monies or grants; and
 - Trusts or charitable organisations providing funding, often for local community-led projects.

Community Infrastructure Levy

- 2.2 Newark and Sherwood was the first Local Authority in the country to adopt CIL; the Charging Schedule and Regulation 123 List was approved by Council on the 20 September 2011 and came into force on 1 December 2011. As part of a wider review of the Local Plan a full review of the CIL Charging Schedule and Regulation 123 List was also undertaken. Following an independent examination in August 2017 and approval at full council on 12 December 2017, the Newark and Sherwood CIL Charging Schedule, including the associated instalment policy and Regulation 123 List came into force on 1 January 2018.
- 2.3 Changes to CIL legislation, taking effect from 1 September 2019, were introduced as the Government recognised that the complexity and uncertainty of the CIL system was potentially forming a barrier to the delivery of housing, something that the Government was keen to remove. Amendments to the regulations included the removal of 'pooling' restrictions and the deletion of Regulation 123 requiring charging authorities to produce a list of the projects or types of infrastructure they intend to fund, or may fund, through CIL (the 'Regulation 123 list').
- 2.4 CIL is chargeable on residential development at different rates across the Council's administrative area, ranging from £0 to £100 per square metre. A districtwide charge of £100 per square metre is levied on retail development, while all other commercial developments are CIL-exempt. Where a development is liable to CIL the amount will be non-negotiable. However, where a scheme will contain elements of social housing or will be for charitable purposes the amount may be reduced subject to an application for relief being submitted.

Section 106 Agreements

- 2.5 Planning obligations or developer contributions are made under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended). Commonly known as S106 agreements, they are a mechanism that helps make a development proposal acceptable in planning terms that would not otherwise be acceptable – i.e. to mitigate the impacts of development and ensure that the District Council’s planning policy requirements are fully met.
- 2.6 The legal tests for when S106 agreements can be used are set out in CIL Regulation 122. The ‘ask’ must be:
- (a) necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms;
 - (b) directly related to the development; and
 - (c) fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development.
- 2.7 Different combinations of the aforementioned sources of funding may be pooled to pay for new infrastructure.

Section 278 Highway Agreements

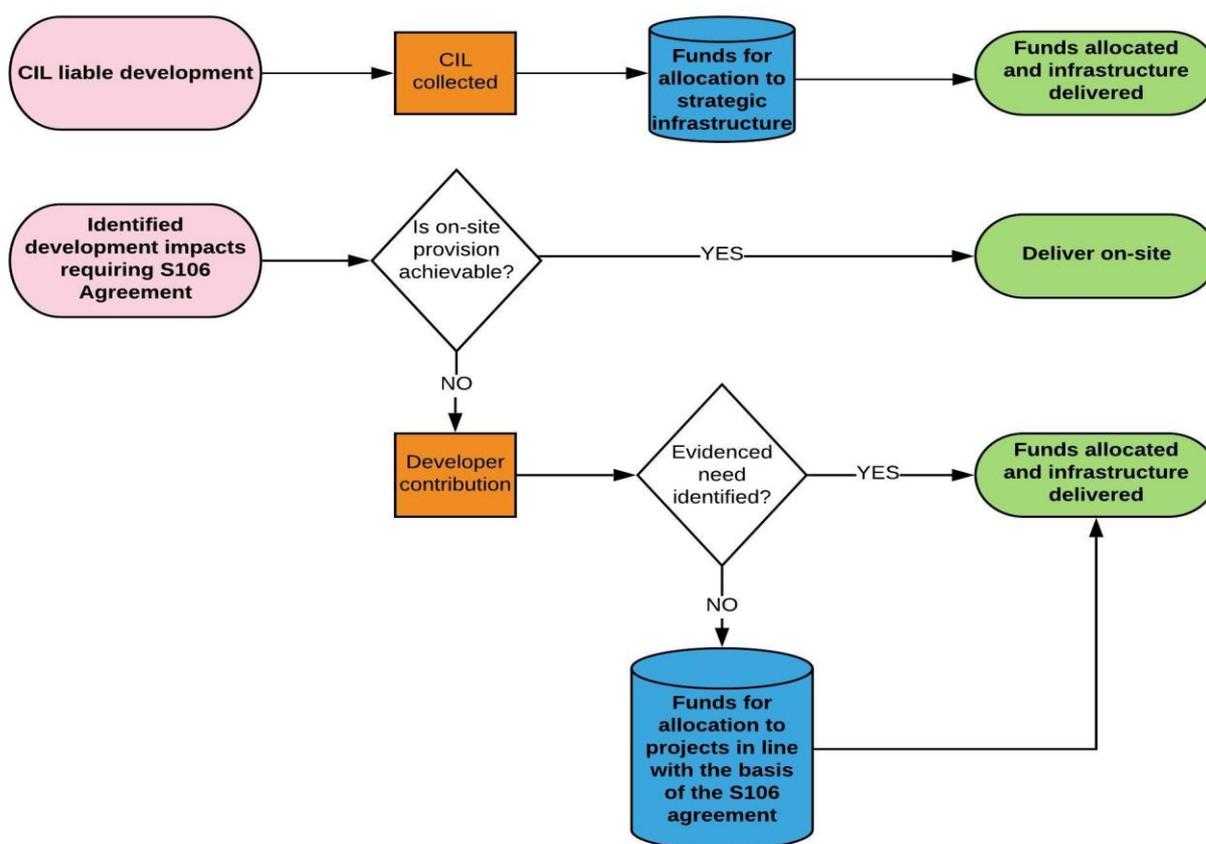
- 2.8 Additional legal agreements that can fund infrastructure are Section 278 Agreements (S278). These are legally binding agreements made under the Highways Act 1990 between Local Highway Authorities and Developers. S278 agreements are required to secure alterations or improvements to the highway. The Council will look at the possibility of including information for S278 agreements within future versions of the IFS. Information on S278 agreements may be available in Nottinghamshire County Council’s (NCC) IFS.

Local Policy Context

- 2.9 In Newark & Sherwood District Council’s Local Development Framework (LDF) Amended Core Strategy (Adopted March 2019) Spatial Policy 6: Infrastructure for Growth sets out the approach to ensuring the delivery of infrastructure to support growth. This policy gives specific emphasis to the Community Infrastructure Levy as the vehicle for funding Strategic Infrastructure. The policy defines ‘Strategic Infrastructure’ as improvements to the strategic highway network and other highway infrastructure as identified within the IDP, along with secondary education provision across the District.
- 2.10 Spatial Policy 6 identifies developer contributions and planning obligations as the primary means of securing local Infrastructure, including facilities and services that are essential for development to take place on individual sites, or which are needed to mitigate the impact of development at the site or neighbourhood level. The process of collecting and spending developer contributions is illustrated in Figure 1.
- 2.11 Directly related to Spatial Policy 6 is Policy DM3 in the Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD. This policy highlights the need for infrastructure to support planned growth, for planning applications to include appropriate infrastructure provision and signposts to the Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) which sets out the methods for calculating financial contributions.

2.12 The Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations SPD sets out the Council’s policy for securing planning obligations from new developments that require planning permission and how this will operate alongside CIL. The SPD makes clear that where a development is liable to CIL the amount will be non-negotiable, however, where site related infrastructure is needed this may be secured through planning conditions and S106 agreements. These needs will be assessed on a site by site basis and will involve consultation with relevant internal and external agencies e.g. the Health Authority and Nottinghamshire County Council. It is the District Council’s intention to update this SPD in the near future to reflect changes in legislation and local circumstances. Additionally, acknowledging that affordable housing is considered as a form of infrastructure, Amended Core Strategy Core Policy 1 is the District Council’s primary policy setting out site requirements in accordance with the NPPF.

Figure 1: Process of allocating developer contributions



3.0 Community Infrastructure Levy: collection and expenditure

3.1 The amount of CIL payable varies, depending the type of development and on its location within the district, ranging from £0, £45, £70 and £100 per square metre for residential development and £100 per square metre for retail uses. A £0 rate is levied on non-retail commercial development. Table 1 (below) provides an overview of CIL income and expenditure to date, with details of the figures provided throughout Section 3.

Table 1: Summary of CIL income and expenditure

Description of source	£
Collected before 01/04/2021 (net of admin and all meaningful proportions)	£6,148,592.83
Demand notices issued 2021/22	£5,487,181.82
Received 2021/22 (including surcharges)	£2,215,235.58
NSDC CIL total 31/03/2022 (net of capital, admin and all meaningful proportions)	£7,170,753.43
Expenditure (Capital)	£620,000
Expenditure (Administration)	£92,812.58
Meaningful proportion to Town/Parish Councils	£480,262.40
Retained after contributions	£1,022,160.58
Retained on behalf of Parish Meetings	£0
Retained on behalf of Parish Meetings from previous years	£9,702.08

Newark & Sherwood CIL Income

3.2 CIL came into operation in Newark & Sherwood in 2011/12. Prior to the reported year, the District Council had accumulated £6,148,592.83 from CIL receipts.

3.3 In the reported year (from April 2021 to March 2022) Newark & Sherwood District Council received £2,215,235.58 from CIL receipts and issued demand notices for £5,487,181.82. The largest sources of CIL income are identified from the following developments:

- Barratt/David Wilson Homes: £263,246 - Fernwood Phase 1B
- Barratt/David Wilson Homes: £837,201 - Fernwood Phase 3B
- Barratt/David Wilson Homes: £448,221 – Fernwood Phase 2
- Larkfleet : £112,196 – Fernwood Phase 1
- Arkwood Dev Ltd : £123,071 – Newark

3.4 Notwithstanding the large parts of the District to the west, which are £0 rate areas for CIL, the distribution of the developments to which these CIL receipts relate is generally focused on the eastern side of the District. Nonetheless, housing monitoring data show that the Council still has a healthy housing land supply and dialogue with developers operating within the district shows developments with planning permission are generally progressing well, reflecting the general buoyancy of the pre-Covid housing market and developer confidence in this area.

Newark & Sherwood District Council: Infrastructure Funding Statement 2022

Newark & Sherwood CIL Expenditure

- 3.5 The total amount of CIL expenditure for the reported year amounts to £92,812.58. This figure represents funds spent on the management, staffing, administration, information technology and legal costs involved in the collection of CIL; the setting up and maintenance of new systems to coordinate the administration of CIL; and on-going management of CIL spending. The increase in expenditure compared to the previous year reflects an increase in staffing.
- 3.6 A total of £480,262.40 (21.68% of CIL total receipts) has been passed on to Town and Parish Councils within the reporting period as a meaningful contribution share. At the end of the reported year, a total of £9,207.08 was held on behalf of Parish Meetings. Beyond administrative expenses, £620,000 CIL funds have been used for capital expenditure. As was the case in the previous year, the reason for this is the large costs associated with delivering priority strategic infrastructure projects. However, within the previous reported year (2020/21) NSDC did reach agreement with the County Council to make its first CIL capital expenditure on strategic infrastructure, supporting the expansion of Joseph Whittaker School at Rainworth. As a result of the timescales involved in finalising a legal agreement payment (£620,000) was made in the current financial year (2021/22) and allocated towards delivery of additional science provision at the school. This has now been completed.
- 3.6 The total amount of CIL retained by the Council at the end of the reported year, after all deductions, is £1,022,160.60.

4.0 S106 Developer Contributions: collection and expenditure

- 4.1 As stated above in Section 3, Amended Core Strategy, Spatial Policy 6 sets out the Council’s approach to ensuring the delivery of infrastructure to support the anticipated levels growth within the current plan period. Developer contributions and planning obligations are the primary means of securing local infrastructure, including facilities and services that are essential for allowing any particular development to take place.
- 4.2 Developer contributions income held by Newark & Sherwood District Council is summarised in Table 2.

Table 2: Summary of developer contributions income and expenditure

Description of source	£
Received before the reported year, remaining unallocated	£8,166,213.10
Received 2021/22	£1,413,939.34
Agreed 2021/22	£522,690.33
S106 contributions held by NSDC 31/03/2022	£7,179,373.23
Allocated but not spent 2021/22	£233,435.47
Balance held for longer term maintenance obligations	£19,494.93

Newark & Sherwood Developer Contributions Income

Contributions Agreed

- 4.3 In the reported year Newark & Sherwood District Council entered in to planning obligations giving contributions to the value of £522,690.32. The developments to which these funds relate are set out in Table 3.

Table 3: Monetary developer contributions agreed within the reported year

Planning ref.	Parish	Location	Contribution type	Funds secured
19/00854/OUTM	Clipstone	Site Adjacent to Goldcrest Lane and Skylark Way	Commuted Sum	£13,841.00
20/00873/FULM	Bilsthorpe	Eakring Road	Bus Stop Infrastructure Community Facilities Play Park Contribution	£18,500.00 £191,600.00 £47,900.00
20/01190/OUTM	Southwell	The Vineries, Kirklington Road	Community Facilities Health Contribution Highways	£62,283.15 £44,217.90 £7,000.00
19/02279/OUTM	Ollerton	Prospect House, Latimer Way	Bus Stop Infrastructure Open Space (Children and Young People’s Space) contribution Off Site Community Facilities	£6,000.00 £39,872.18 £59,515.01

Newark & Sherwood District Council: Infrastructure Funding Statement 2022

21/00501/FUL	Collingham	Land adjoining Braemar Farm, Station Road	Community Facilities	£9,688.49
20/02499/OUTM	Newark	Grove Bungalow, Barnby Road	Bus Stop Infrastructure Off Site Open Space	£13,000.00 £9,272.60

Contributions Received

- 4.4 Within the reported year developer contributions to the value of £1,413,939.34 were received. Details of the developments to which these funds relate are set out below in Table 4.

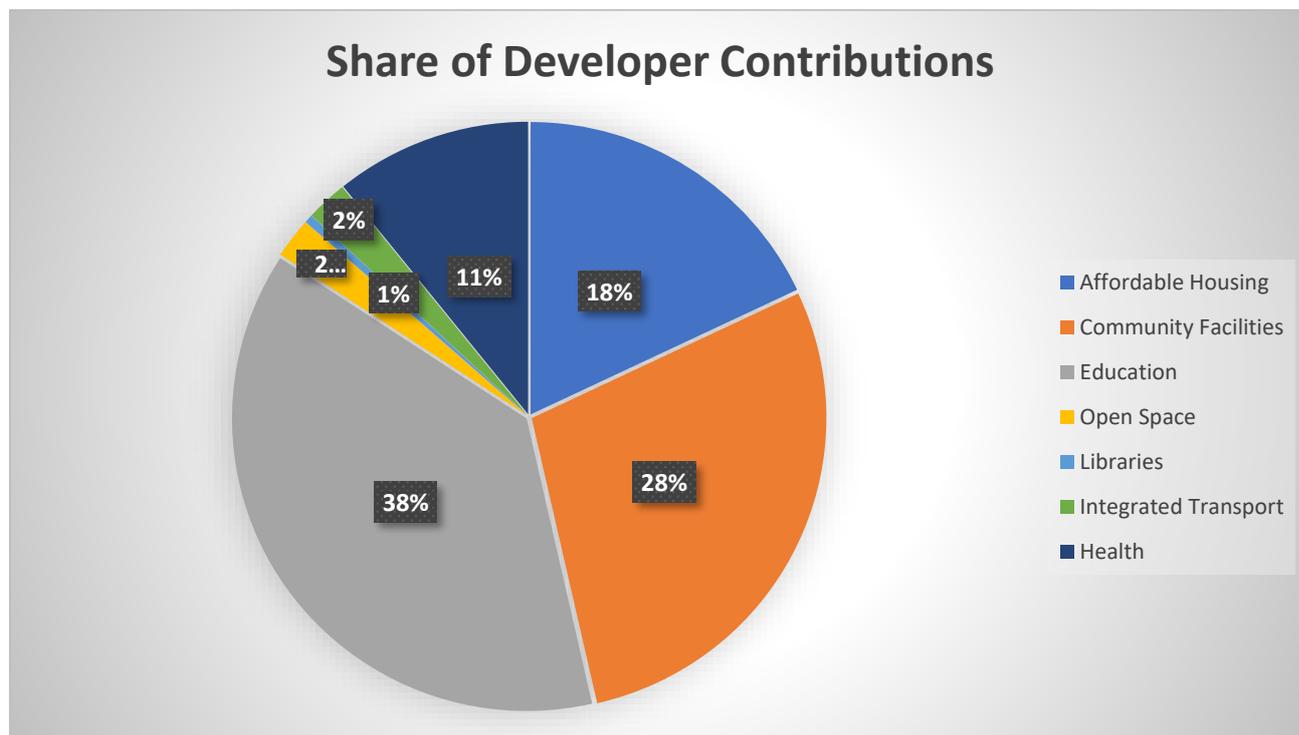
Table 4: Developer contributions received 2021/22

Planning ref.	Parish	Location	Contribution type	Funds secured
19/00585/FULM	Clipstone	Clipstone Drive (Bluebell Wood)	Affordable Housing	£112,459.80
14/01596/OUTM	Edwinstowe	Rufford Pastures	Affordable Housing	£41,789.05
16/00139/RMAM	Clipstone	Land at Cavendish Way Clipstone	Affordable Housing	£30,111.85
17/01729/FULM	Bulcote	Burton Joyce Car Centre, Old Main Road	Affordable Housing	£69,979.00
			Total	£254,339.70
16/00135/FULM	Edwinstowe	Edwinstowe House	Community Facilities	£26,305.70
14/00465/OUTM	Fernwood	Land North & East	Community Facilities	£134,609.21
16/00139/RMAM	Clipstone	Land at Cavendish Way Clipstone	Community Facilities	£16,767.20
20/00772/FUL	Clipstone	Goldcrest Lane	Community Facilities	£13,841.00
14/01596/OUTM	Edwinstowe	Rufford Pastures	Community Facilities	£46,277.21
17/01729/FULM	Bulcote	Burton Joyce Car Centre, Old Main Road	Community facilities	£29,757.01
14/00465/OUTM	Fernwood	Land North and East	Community facilities	£134,609.21
			Total	£402,166.54

Newark & Sherwood District Council: Infrastructure Funding Statement 2022

16/00135/FULM	Edwinstowe	Edwinstowe House	Education	£52,519.70
19/00585/FULM	Clipstone	Clipstone Drive (Bluebell Wood)	Education	£173,702.42
16/00139/RMAM	Clipstone	Land at Cavendish Way Clipstone	Education	£69,145.29
19/01053/RMAM	Fernwood	Fernwood Meadows South	Education	£239,280.68
Total				£534,648.09
16/00135/FULM	Edwinstowe	Edwinstowe House	Open Space - Childrens Play Space	£17,173.93
16/00139/RMAM	Clipstone	Land at Cavendish Way Clipstone	Open Space - Off Site Sports	£14,372.02
Total				£31,545.95
19/00585/FULM	Clipstone	Clipstone Drive (Bluebell Wood)	Library	£5,252.85
16/00139/RMAM	Clipstone	Land at Cavendish Way Clipstone	Libraries	£1,387.13
Total				£6,639.98
20/00642/FULM	Bilsthorpe	Oldbridge Way	Integrated Transport - Bus Stop Infrastructure	£32,000.00
Total				£32,000.00
17/00595/FULM	Ollerton	Petersmith Drive	Health	£152,599.08
Total				£152,599.08
TOTAL				£1,413,939.34

Figure 2: Percentage share of developer contributions received 2021/22 (by theme)



4.5 Contributions received during the reported year show a relatively even geographic spread of development across the Core Strategy settlement hierarchy (Spatial Policies 1 & 2). Compared to previous years there has been an increase in housing development in Newark Urban Area (NUA) - 42% of housing completions this year were delivered in NUA compared with 39% the previous year, and 26% in 2019/20. The differences in the value of contributions from different areas can appear quite starkly across different plan areas, reflecting differences in land value and therefore relative viability. As such, in circumstances where it is not always viable to provide the full range of contributions that may be required to make a development acceptable in planning terms, Planning Officers and Planning Committee Members must weigh the potential benefits of different options or available combinations and arrive at an informed judgement as to the acceptability of a development proposal.

Newark & Sherwood Developer Contributions Spending

4.6 In the majority of cases, funds received by the Council have specific criteria set out in the associated S106 Agreement that determines how they must be spent. However, where such clauses are less prescriptive they are referred to as ‘unrestricted’ funds. Where unrestricted funds are provided and no immediate need is identified for the specified area to which the agreement relates, these funds may be held by the Council until such a time that an appropriate need is identified. In the reported year there were no unrestricted funds collected.

4.7 The Council’s governance arrangements in relation to managing monies secured as part of Section 106 Agreements are as follows:

On-site contributions and clearly defined off-site contributions collected for other public bodies

Newark & Sherwood District Council: Infrastructure Funding Statement 2022

On-site contributions and clearly defined off-site contributions for Nottinghamshire County Council and the National Health Service, as set out in a section 106 agreement, shall be managed by the Director of Planning and Growth with the agreement having been approved by Planning Committee.

Non-specific off-site contributions

In terms of non-specific off-site contributions, the following procedure shall be adopted:

- a) Where the spend is up to £15,000 then this can be authorised by the S151 Officer in consultation with the Director of Planning and Growth.
- b) Where the spend is between £15,000 and £300,000 then this will be referred to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and the s151 Officer, who can either approve the request or refer it to Cabinet.
- c) Where the spend exceeds £300,000 and is therefore a key decision it should be added to the forward plan and considered by Cabinet.

With regard to sections b and c above,

- the Planning Committee Chairman and Members of affected Wards will be consulted on the proposed spend; and
- the spend shall be added to the Capital programme.

- 4.8 Within the reported year S106 funds held by the Council and allocated to a given project, but not spent amounts to £233,435.47.

Table 5: Funds allocated but not yet spent

Parish	Funds secured	Allocation
Southwell	£42,853.38	Southwell Leisure Centre
Newark	£56,182.79	YMCA Community & Activity Village – Newark
Southwell	£38,499.30	Southwell Leisure Centre
Newark	£45,900.00	Newark Highways
Rainworth	£50,000.00	Rainworth Village Hall
TOTAL	£233,435.47	

- 4.9 Throughout 2021/22, S106 funds received by the Council that have been both allocated and spent or transferred to another party amounts to £2,400,780.61. These contributions comprise the following:

Table 6: Funds spent

Parish	Location	Spend	Allocation
Blidworth	Belle Vue Lane	£5,000	Blidworth Parish Council
Clipstone	Land at Cavendish Way	£437,120.00	Affordable Housing in NSDC District
Clipstone	Land at Cavendish Way	£150,374.10	Paid to NCC for Education
Clipstone	Land at Cavendish Way	£148,937.20	Paid to NCC for Education
Clipstone	Land at Cavendish Way	£252,010.00	Paid to NCC for Education

Newark & Sherwood District Council: Infrastructure Funding Statement 2022

Clipstone	Land at Cavendish Way	£135,649.53	Paid to NCC for Education
Clipstone	Land at Cavendish Way	£117,880.95	Paid to NCC for Education
Clipstone	Land at Cavendish Way	£99,277.00	Paid to NCC for Education
Clipstone	Land at Cavendish Way	£173,702.42	Paid to NCC for Education
Clipstone	Land at Cavendish Way	£69,145.26	Paid to NCC for Education
Clipstone	Land at Cavendish Way	£3,000	Clipstone Bowls Club
Clipstone	Klyppr Village	£50,000.00	Paid to NCC for Highways
Collingham	Pitomy Farm	£6,018.09	Friends of Trent Vale Trail
Collingham	Pitomy Farm	£12,356.31	Friends of Trent Vale Trail
Collingham	Pitomy Farm	£6,381.23	Friends of Trent Vale Trail
Edwinstowe	Land off Rufford Avenue	£19,431.36	Paid to NCC for Education
Edwinstowe	Miners Welfare Ins	£83,756.44	Paid to NCC for Education
Edwinstowe	Land off Rufford Avenue	£178,685.86	Paid to NCC for Education
Edwinstowe	Land off Rufford Avenue	£52,519.70	Paid to NCC for Education
Edwinstowe	Edwinstowe House	£26,305.70	Edwinstowe Parish Council
Edwinstowe	Edwinstowe House	£17,173.93	Edwinstowe Parish Council
Farnsfield	Land off The Ridgeway	£162,900.86	Paid to NCC for Education
Farnsfield	Land at Southwell Road	£149,096.93	Paid to NCC for Education
Newark	Land North of Beacon Hill Road	£16,092.88	Paid to NCC
Newark	Land North of Beacon Hill Road	£4,200.00	Paid to NCC
Rainworth	Land off Warsop Lane	£7,750.00	Miners Welfare

Newark & Sherwood District Council: Infrastructure Funding Statement 2022

Rainworth	Land off Warsop Lane	£16,014.86	Miners Welfare
TOTAL		£2,400,780.61	

Non-monetary S106 Contributions

- 4.10 As stated above, in some cases S106 agreements make provision for delivery of infrastructure on site. In the reported year records show that 13 new affordable homes were delivered through s106 across the District (the total affordable homes delivered in the year is 124 which consists of Council Schemes, 100% Affordable Schemes, and s106 schemes). Agreements in relation to affordable homes granted planning permission in 2021 will deliver 35 new dwellings. A total of £437,120.00 was transferred to capital for affordable housing capital schemes in the reporting year.
- 4.11 No provision of school places has been agreed as a non-monetary contribution within the reported year.

5.0 Planned Expenditure

Matters affecting developer contributions income

- 5.1 This section sets out how CIL and S106 income will be spent over the next reporting period (April 2022 to March 2023) in Newark & Sherwood (as per the requirements set out in relevant planning practice guidance and the CIL regulations).
- 5.2 CIL income for the next year depends on the nature and scale of development occurring in the District. The level and timing of this income is subject to the implementation of planning permissions, build-out rates, S106 trigger points and the phasing of development. For residential development the Council's five year housing land supply trajectory provides a useful indication of what is likely to come forward and when. For other types of CIL-liable development, due to the uncertainty over forecasting, estimates for the amount of CIL funding will be based on the total receipts collected from the previous financial year and any unspent receipts from previous financial years. While the full extent of the impacts of the economic climate on the construction industry remain unclear, completion data indicates that build rates are progressing well.
- 5.3 S106 income varies more than CIL, insofar as contributions are negotiated on a site-by-site basis and depend on a range of factors, such as the viability of development and site-specific considerations. Generally speaking, S106 funding is more closely tied to the phasing of development set out in the terms of the legal agreement and this can also include clauses relating to the timing of spending said contributions, with a site's build-out rate determining when trigger points for different contributions are hit.
- 5.4 As noted above, although Covid-19 has had some impact on the planning system, planning applications have continued to be submitted at a good rate. However, at the time of writing there is uncertainty moving forward due to the cost of living crisis. Interest rates on mortgages have increased and this could have an effect on the housing market. The Government's growth agenda is seeking to increase house building through changes to the planning system.

Infrastructure to be funded by CIL

- 5.5 Tables 7 and 8 (below) provide an update on the status of NSDC's CIL expenditure priorities.
- 5.6 These outstanding strategic infrastructure projects remain the District Council's priorities for CIL spending priorities for 2022/23. In accordance with Amended Core Strategy Spatial Policy 6, it is considered that there is little scope to deviate from these identified priorities until such a time that these needs are met or the policy is amended.

Table 7: NSDC CIL Priority Highways Project Status

No.	Location	Existing Junction Type	Improvement	CIL/Other Public Contribution	Comments
Newark					
1	A1 Overbridge widening, Fernwood	N/A	Widening of A1 Overbridge	£5.6m	Identified as the highest priority highway improvement for CIL funding. The Council is currently liaising with National Highways to commission a detailed design.
2	London Rd, Portland St Junction	Signals	Improved Signal Control	£150,000	The operation of this junction changes to an 'F' LoS in the PM peak hour at the 2033 Forecast Year. An improvement is therefore likely to be required at this location. The junction is constrained on all sides by built development and space to deliver any carriageway widening is very limited. The most likely form of improvement will be providing improved signal control at the existing junction, however consideration is being given as part of the Newark Heritage Action Zone to potential improvements to the junction and townscape around it.
3	Lincoln Rd / Brunel Drive	Signals	Improved Signal Junction Layout – Monitor Operation Post A46 Improvement Opening	£TBC	The operation of this junction changes to an 'F' LoS in the PM peak hour at the 2033 Forecast Year. An improvement is therefore likely to be required at this location. There are wide verges present on Lincoln Road which may enable localised widening on these approaches. However, it is recommended that the junction operation be reviewed following completion of the A46 Improvement scheme as this is expected to improve the operation of the A46 Brownhills roundabout to the north, removing queues that currently interact with the Lincoln Road / Brunel Drive junction.
4	A616 Great North Rd / Ollerton Rd / Main St / Kelham Ln, South Muskham	Mini Roundabout	Monitor Performance Post A46 Improvement Opening	£TBC	The operation of this junction changes to a 'F' LoS in the PM peak at the 2033 Forecast Year. Providing a meaningful capacity improvement to this 5-arm junction will require third-party land to enable a larger roundabout to be provided and/or the closure or diversion of Kelham Lane to reduce the number of arms, which may then allow a signal controlled crossroads to be provided. Improvement of this junction will therefore be complicated and expensive. However, it is recommended that the junction operation be reviewed following completion of the A46 Improvement scheme as demand for the Great North Road corridor may reduce once the key congestion bottle necks on

Newark & Sherwood District Council: Infrastructure Funding Statement 2022

					the A46 are removed. It is therefore recommended that the operation of this junction be monitored post completion of the A46 Improvement to see if forecast conditions materialise.
5	B6166 Lincoln Rd / Northern Rd	Signals	Improved Signal Control	£150,000	The operation of this junction changes to an 'F' LoS in the PM peak hour at the 2033 Forecast Year. An improvement is therefore likely to be required at this location. The junction is constrained on all sides by built development and available space to deliver any carriageway widening is limited. The most likely form of improvement will be providing improved signal control at the existing junction.
6	Beacon Hill Rd / Northern Rd	Signals	Improved Signal Control	£150,000	The operation of this junction changes to an 'F' LoS in the AM and PM peaks at the 2033 Forecast Year. An improvement is therefore likely to be required at this location. The junction is constrained by an adjacent railway bridge and available space to deliver any carriageway widening is limited. The most likely form of improvement will be providing improved signal control at the existing junction.
7	London Rd / Sherwood Ave / Bowbridge Rd	Signals	Improved Signal Control	£150,000	The operation of this junction changes to an 'E' LoS in the AM and PM peak hours at the 2033 Forecast Year. An improvement is therefore likely to be required at this location. The junction was improved by NCC in 2014 to change lane allocations, upgrade the signal control and provide improved pedestrian facilities. The junction is constrained on all sides by built development and there is minimal space available within the highway to deliver any meaningful carriageway widening. The most likely form of improvement will be providing optimised signal control at the existing junction (if possible).
8	Tolney Lane, Newark	Highway Flood Alleviation	Flood alleviation and access resilience works	£5.9m	Improvements to Tolney Lane have been identified separately and comprise works to provide access resilience and property protection during flooding events. The proposed works comprise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising Tolney Lane and access into the traveller site. • Provision of a surface water pumping station. • Installation of a bypass channel. • Flood wall between the road and railway embankment. • Creation of a flood storage area.
Rural Areas					

Newark & Sherwood District Council: Infrastructure Funding Statement 2022

9	A614 / Deerdale Lane Road Junction	Ghost Island Priority Junction	TBC	TBC	Forms part of the DfT funded MRN improvement scheme being promoted by NCC. NCC are currently investigating a lower-cost alternative solution for this junction and details are not yet available.
10	A614 / A616 / A6075 Ollerton Roundabout	Priority Roundabout	Enlarged Priority Roundabout	£7.4m	Forms part of the DfT funded MRN improvement scheme being promoted by NCC.
11	Kelham Bypass	N/A	New bridge over the River Trent and a bypass to the village	£20m	Bypass with a new bridge over the River Trent with an indicative cost of £20m. To be implemented. Suggested funding split 33% CIL-67% D2N2 LEP
12	A6097 / A612 Lowdham Junction	Priority Roundabout	Enlarged Priority Roundabout	£4m	Forms part of the DfT funded MRN improvement scheme being promoted by NCC.
13	A614 / Mickledale Lane Junction	Ghost Island Priority Junction	New roundabout and link road connection to Mickledale Lane	£5.3m	Forms part of the DfT funded MRN improvement scheme being promoted by NCC.

Table 8: NSDC CIL Priority Secondary Education Project Status

Location	Estimated Cost	CIL /Other Public Contribution	Required works	Status/funding source
Education Projects				
Secondary Education Provision within the District	£3,938,100	£3,938,100	Potential requirement to expand a secondary school to the north east of Newark and Sherwood District – to provide 150 additional places (to be confirmed by NCC)	to be confirmed by NCC

5.7 In some cases other sources of funding, secured by Nottinghamshire County Council, are helping to deliver the items listed. While the estimated costs listed above were mostly derived from those in NSDC's Infrastructure Delivery Plan (2017), some costs have been updated through the ongoing development of the MRN Business Case.

CIL Spending Priorities

5.8 In 2017 the Council identified the A1 Overbridge between Balderton and Fernwood as its highest priority project to be delivered via CIL funding. Work commissioned by the Council investigated the scope of the need and potential options for the structure, specifying a cost estimate of c.£5.6 million. As the 2020 Infrastructure Funding Statement showed, this target figure has been reached, meaning that the Council is in a position to explore delivery options. As such, initial steps were taken, directly instructing National Highways and their consultant engineers at the time (Kier) to produce a task brief for the proposed bridge.

Newark & Sherwood District Council: Infrastructure Funding Statement 2022

- 5.9 A Task Brief has now been finalised, albeit this has been held in abeyance pending the end of the Kier contract with National Highways (in November 2021) and commencement of a third party contracting period. Following spend of an initial £6,000 to prepare the task brief, the next stage is expected to cost around £60,000, although the timescales for the further stages are yet to be confirmed (subject to instruction).
- 5.10 The A1 Overbridge remains at the top of the Council's strategic infrastructure priority list, given its need as part of the Fernwood development highways mitigation strategy and that the Settlement Hierarchy and Spatial Distribution of Growth policies (Spatial Policy 1 and 2) identify Newark, Balderton and Fernwood as the main location for new housing and employment growth in the District. Development on this site is progressing at pace, with Barratt/David Wilson Homes having hit a legal agreement trigger point and duly commencing works to upgrade the Goldstraw Lane roundabout, while the other parcels of land that make up this urban extension continue to progress through the planning system.
- 5.11 The Council is seeking to address highway constraints at Tolney Lane in relation to flood risk. This project has been added to the list of CIL projects in table 7 above.

CIL Spend 2021/22

- 5.12 Following receipt of a letter of enquiry during the previous reported year (2019/20) from Joseph Whitaker School in Rainworth, requesting funding support to deliver an expansion of the school in the form of a new science block, CIL monies were awarded to the project. As stated in Section 3 of this report, while NSDC reached agreement with the County Council to make its first CIL capital expenditure on strategic infrastructure within the 2020/21 reported year, the timescales involved in finalising the legal agreement for this payment (£620,000) was made in the current financial year 2021/22 and allocated towards delivery of additional science provision at the school. This scheme has now been completed.

Infrastructure to be funded by Developer Contributions

- 5.13 Under Amended Core Strategy Spatial Policy 6, local infrastructure that is essential for development to take place on individual sites, or is needed to mitigate the impact of development will be secured through S106 Agreements. The need for site related infrastructure secured through planning conditions and S106 Agreements will be assessed on a site by site basis and will involve consultation with relevant internal and external agencies.
- 5.14 Most policies relating to sites that are allocated for development in the local plan include site-specific infrastructure asks where particular needs have been identified. However, the District Council will endeavour to maintain robust evidence of needs through the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and other audits, supported by the Council's Community Plan which sets out other cross-cutting corporate priorities. Section 4 sets out the Council's procedures for dealing with unrestricted funds. In most other cases, however, the wording of the legal agreement through which physical on or off-site infrastructure is delivered will typically determine the manner in which any monetary contributions secured must be spent. All spending of monies secured through S106 agreements will be reported in the IFS.

Newark & Sherwood District Council: Infrastructure Funding Statement 2022

5.15 In terms of affordable housing delivery, the District Council seeks to secure 30% of new dwellings as affordable housing. While the Council's preferred approach is to see provision made on site, in some circumstances off site provision or contributions will be sought.

Anticipated CIL and Contributions Income 2021/22

5.16 National guidance suggests that councils should consider reporting on estimated future CIL income where possible. Using some assumptions and past data, it is possible to give a broad estimate of future CIL income, bearing in mind a number of variables, including:

- The Council's five year housing land supply data indicates that 509 dwellings are expected to be completed within 2022/23; however
- Contributions will not be required from all developments as not all parts of Newark & Sherwood are CIL charging areas;
- Different plan areas have different CIL charging rates;
- Only a limited number of CIL-liable strategic major sites are likely to commence development within 2022/23;
- At 30 September, demand notices to the sum of £567,807.10 have been issued.

Table 9 below shows CIL income since 2013/14. Across all years, average CIL income is £1,081,444.54.

Table 9: CIL income from 2013 to 2022 (excluding surcharges)

Year	Income
2013/14	£130,676.01
2014/15	£415,938.77
2015/16	£878,690.61
2016/17	£463,745.06
2017/18	£543,708.74
2018/19	£1,690,563.45
2019/20	£2,021,621.45
2020/21	£1,383,861.71
2021/22	£2,204,195.02

Appendix 1: Infrastructure Funding Statement requirements checklist (adapted from CIL Regulations 2019, Schedule 2)

Section Requirements	Sub sections	Amount	Additional details	Document section
1. The matters to be included in the CIL report are—				
(a) the total value of CIL set out in all demand notices issued in the reported year;		£5,487,181.82		Para. 3.3
(b) the total amount of CIL receipts for the reported year;		£2,215,235.58		Para. 3.3
(c) the total amount of CIL receipts, collected by the authority, or by another person on its behalf, before the reported year but which have not been allocated;		£6,148,592.83		Para. 3.2
(d) the total amount of CIL receipts, collected by the authority, or by another person on its behalf, before the reported year and which have been allocated in the reported year;		£0		N/A
(e) the total amount of CIL expenditure for the reported year;		£712,812.58	Administrative fees and Capital payment	Para. 3.5
(f) the total amount of CIL receipts, whenever collected, which were allocated but not spent during the reported year;		£0		Para. 3.6
(g) in relation to CIL expenditure for the reported year, summary details of—	(i) the items of infrastructure on which CIL (including land payments) has been spent, and	£620,000	Joseph Whittaker School, Rainworth	N/A

Appendix 1: Infrastructure Funding Statement requirements checklist (adapted from CIL Regulations 2019, Schedule 2)

	the amount of CIL spent on each item;			
	(ii) the amount of CIL spent on repaying money borrowed, including any interest, with details of the items of infrastructure which that money was used to provide (wholly or in part);	£0		N/A
	(iii) the amount of CIL spent on administrative expenses pursuant to regulation 61, and that amount expressed as a percentage of CIL collected in that year in accordance with that regulation;	£92,812.58	Equating to 4.19% of the income for the reported year	Para. 3.5
(h) in relation to CIL receipts, whenever collected, which were allocated but not spent during the reported year, summary details of the items of infrastructure on which CIL (including land payments) has been allocated, and the amount of CIL allocated to each item;		£0		Para. 3.6
i) the amount of CIL passed to—	(i) any parish council under regulation 59A or 59B; and;	£480,262.40	Passed to Town/Parish Councils (21.68% of CIL receipts)	Para. 3.6
	(ii) any person under regulation 59(4);	£0		N/A

Appendix 1: Infrastructure Funding Statement requirements checklist (adapted from CIL Regulations 2019, Schedule 2)

(j) summary details of the receipt and expenditure of CIL to which regulation 59E or 59F applied during the reported year including—	(i) the total CIL receipts that regulations 59E and;	£0		Para. 3.6
	59F applied to;	£9,702.08	Collected and retained on behalf of Parish Meetings	
	(ii) the items of infrastructure to which the CIL receipts to which regulations 59E and 59F applied have been allocated or spent, and the amount of expenditure allocated or spent on each item;	£0		N/A
(k) summary details of any notices served in accordance with regulation 59E, including—	(i) the total value of CIL receipts requested from each parish council;	£0	No requests issued	N/A
	(ii) any funds not yet recovered from each parish council at the end of the reported year;	£0		N/A
(l) the total amount of—	(i) CIL receipts for the reported year retained at the end of the reported year other than those to which regulation 59E or 59F applied;	£1,022,160.58	Minus meaningful proportion and administration fee expenditure	Para. 3.7
	(ii) CIL receipts from previous years retained at the end of the reported year other than those to which regulation 59E or 59F applied;	£6,148,592.83		Para. 3.2
	(iii) CIL receipts for the reported year to which regulation 59E or 59F applied retained at the end of the reported year;	£9,702.08	Parish meeting money held by NSDC	Table 1

Agenda Page 57

Appendix 1: Infrastructure Funding Statement requirements checklist (adapted from CIL Regulations 2019, Schedule 2)

	(iv) CIL receipts from previous years to which regulation 59E or 59F applied retained at the end of the reported year.	£9,702.08	Parish meeting money held back by NSDC from previous years	Table 1
2. For the purposes of paragraph 1—				
(a) CIL collected by an authority includes land payments made in respect of CIL charged by that authority;		N/A	N/A	N/A
(b) CIL collected by way of a land payment has not been spent if at the end of the reported year—	(i) development (within the meaning in TCPA 1990) consistent with a relevant purpose has not commenced on the acquired land; or	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(ii) the acquired land (in whole or in part) has been used or disposed of for a purpose other than a relevant purpose; and the amount deemed to be CIL by virtue of regulation 73(9) has not been spent;	N/A	N/A	N/A
(c) CIL collected by an authority includes infrastructure payments made in respect of CIL charged by that authority;		N/A	N/A	N/A
(d) CIL collected by way of an infrastructure payment has not been spent if at the end of the reported year the infrastructure to be provided has not been provided;		N/A	N/A	N/A

Appendix 1: Infrastructure Funding Statement requirements checklist (adapted from CIL Regulations 2019, Schedule 2)

(e) the value of acquired land is the value stated in the agreement made with the charging authority in respect of that land in accordance with regulation 73(6)(d);		N/A	N/A	N/A
(f) the value of a part of acquired land must be determined by applying the formula in regulation 73(10) as if references to N in that provision were references to the area of the part of the acquired land whose value is being determined;		N/A	N/A	N/A
(g) the value of an infrastructure payment is the CIL cash amount stated in the agreement made with the charging authority in respect of the infrastructure in accordance with regulation 73A(7)(e).		N/A	N/A	N/A
3. The matters to be included in the section 106 report for each reported year are—				
(a) the total amount of money to be provided under any planning obligations which were entered into during the reported year;		£522,690.32		Para. 4.3
(b) the total amount of money under any planning obligations which was received during the reported year;		£1,413,939.34		Para. 4.4

Appendix 1: Infrastructure Funding Statement requirements checklist (adapted from CIL Regulations 2019, Schedule 2)

(c) the total amount of money under any planning obligations which was received before the reported year which has not been allocated by the authority;		£8,166,213.10		Table 2
(d) summary details of any non-monetary contributions to be provided under planning obligations which were entered into during the reported year, including details of—	(i) in relation to affordable housing, the total number of units which will be provided;	35		Para. 4.10
	(ii) in relation to educational facilities, the number of school places for pupils which will be provided, and the category of school at which they will be provided;	0		Para. 4.8
(e) the total amount of money (received under any planning obligations) which was allocated but not spent during the reported year for funding infrastructure;		£233,435.47		Para. 4.8
(f) the total amount of money (received under any planning obligations) which was spent by the authority (including transferring it to another person to spend);		£2,400,780.61		Para. 4.9
(g) in relation to money (received under planning obligations) which was allocated by the authority but not spent during the reported year, summary details of the items of		£42,853.38	Southwell Leisure Centre	Table 5
		£56,182.79	YMCA Community & Activity Village – Newark	
		£38,499.30	Southwell Leisure Centre	

Appendix 1: Infrastructure Funding Statement requirements checklist (adapted from CIL Regulations 2019, Schedule 2)

<p>infrastructure on which the money has been allocated, and the amount of money allocated to each item;</p>		<p>£45,000.00</p>	<p>Newark Highways</p>		
<p>(h) in relation to money (received under planning obligations) which was spent by the authority during the reported year (including transferring it to another person to spend), summary details of—</p>	<p>(i) the items of infrastructure on which that money (received under planning obligations) was spent, and the amount spent on each item;</p>	<p>£50,000</p>	<p>Rainworth Village Hall</p>	<p>Table 6</p>	
		<p>£6,018.09</p>	<p>Friends of Trent Vale Trail</p>		
		<p>£12,356.31</p>	<p>Friends of Trent Vale Trail</p>		
		<p>£6,381.23</p>	<p>Friends of Trent Vale Trail</p>		
		<p>£16,092.88</p>	<p>Paid to NCC</p>		
		<p>£4,200.00</p>	<p>Paid to NCC</p>		
		<p>£437,120.00</p>	<p>Affordable Housing in NSDC District</p>		
		<p>£150,374.10</p>	<p>Paid to NCC for Education</p>		
		<p>£148,937.20</p>	<p>Paid to NCC for Education</p>		
		<p>£252,010.00</p>	<p>Paid to NCC for Education</p>		

Appendix 1: Infrastructure Funding Statement requirements checklist (adapted from CIL Regulations 2019, Schedule 2)

		£135,649.53	Paid to NCC for Education	
		£117,880.95	Paid to NCC for Education	
		£99,277.00	Paid to NCC for Education	
		£173,702.42	Paid to NCC for Education	
		£69,145.26	Paid to NCC for Education	
		£3,000	Clipstone Bowls Club	
		£5,000	Blidworth Parish Council	
		£162,900.86	Paid to NCC for Education	
		£149,096.93	Paid to NCC for Education	
		£19,431.36	Paid to NCC for Education	
		£83,756.44	Paid to NCC for Education	

Appendix 1: Infrastructure Funding Statement requirements checklist (adapted from CIL Regulations 2019, Schedule 2)

		£7,750.00	Miners Welfare	
		£16,014.86	Miners Welfare	
		£50,000.00	Paid to NCC for Highways	
		£178,685.86	Paid to NCC for Education	
		£52,519.70	Paid to NCC for Education	
		£26,305.70	Edwinstowe Parish Council	
		£17,173.93	Edwinstowe Parish Council	
	(ii) the amount of money (received under planning obligations) spent on repaying money borrowed, including any interest, with details of the items of infrastructure which that money was used to provide (wholly or in part);	£0		N/A
	(iii) the amount of money (received under planning obligations) spent in respect of	£0		N/A

Appendix 1: Infrastructure Funding Statement requirements checklist (adapted from CIL Regulations 2019, Schedule 2)

	monitoring (including reporting under regulation 121A) in relation to the delivery of planning obligations;			
(i) the total amount of money (received under any planning obligations) during any year which was retained at the end of the reported year, and where any of the retained money has been allocated for the purposes of longer term maintenance (“commuted sums”), also identify separately the total amount of commuted sums held.	(i) Total received;	£7,179,373.23		Table 2
	(ii) balance held for longer term maintenance obligations	£19,494.93		Table 2

Appendix 1: Infrastructure Funding Statement requirements checklist (adapted from CIL Regulations 2019, Schedule 2)



Report to: Cabinet Meeting – 6 December 2022

Portfolio Holders: Councillor Rhona Holloway, Economic Development & Visitors
Councillor David Lloyd, Strategy, Performance & Finance

Director Lead: Matt Lamb, Director - Planning & Growth

Lead Officers: Neil Cuttell – Business Manager, Economic Growth & Tourism, Ext. 5853
Frances Davies – Town Investment Plan Program Manager, Ext. 5874

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open, Non-Key Decision
Report Title	A46 Northern Town Bypass and Newark Towns Fund
Purpose of Report	To provide an update on the A46 Newark Northern Bypass, including inter-dependencies with the Newark Towns Fund program.
Recommendations	That Cabinet note the update provided in the report.
Alternative Options Considered	<p>No alternatives are considered appropriate at this time. The A46 Newark Northern Bypass proposals have long been an important aspiration of this Council, an aspiration supported by a raft of partners including Midlands Connect, Nottinghamshire County Council, Lincolnshire County Council, and a number of highway, LEP, and Local Planning Authorities from the Humber Ports to Tewkesbury.</p> <p>The development of the Newark Town Investment Plan and selection of priority Towns Fund projects was equally part of a significant assessment process undertaken by the Newark Towns Board, in consultation with a range of partners and industry, including this Council. The redevelopment of the Gateway site and relocation of the existing Newark Lorry Park remain an important part of this program.</p>
Reason for Recommendations	To keep Members updated on the A46 Northern Town Bypass and the Newark Towns Fund Program.

1.0 Background

Towns Fund

- 1.1 Members will recall that work to develop the Newark Town Investment Plan took place in the first half of 2020. This involved working with a range of partners, the newly formed Newark Towns Board, and undertaking consultation just as the Covid-19 pandemic and associated lockdowns took hold. The lockdowns were an opportunity to innovate, with Schools running on-line forums to seek the ideas of children and families; the CVS undertaking telephone interviews with clients; and the Council and its Consultancy Team hosting multiple on-line groups, briefings and workshops. In July 2020 the Council-backed Newark Town Investment Plan was submitted to Government as part of cohort 1 applications for Towns Fund Grant.
- 1.2 The March 2021 budget confirmed the welcome news that Newark had been successful in its bid for £25m of grant funding for 10 priority projects (now 9 following the removal of the Police Station relocation, with funds having been approved by Government for re-allocation across other Towns Fund projects). The Council was invited to enter into Heads of Terms with Government, which were executed on 20 April 2021.
- 1.3 Since that time the Council and its partners have worked tirelessly to ensure delivery, developing robust Assurance Frameworks and progressing Business Cases for each project. Upon completion of the first Business Case for a project (Outline or Full) the Council, on behalf of the Newark Towns Board, submits to Government a 'Summary Document' and 'Monitoring & Evaluation' form which has been assured by the Council's S151 Officer (with support from the independent Quod consulting). Upon submission of these documents funding is released from Government to the Council in accordance with the prescribed funding profile for the project and grant release dates identified by Government. No funding has been withheld to date, with all projects progressing as envisaged. Regular reporting on each project, and importantly outputs delivered will continue to be presented to the Portfolio Holder, Economic Development & Visitors.

Table 1: Progress to date

Project	OBC Assured	Summary Doc Approved by Government	FBC Assured
Construction College	Implemented prior to signing of the Newark Town Deal via accelerated funding. Approval process via Newark Town Board, Policy & Finance Committee on the 24.09.20, s151 officer and Grant Funding Agreement, (February 2021)		
YMCA Activity Village	N/A	December 2021	December 2021
Air and Space Institute	January 2022	January 2022	September 2022
20 Minute Cycle Town	December 2021	January 2022	Not required given OBC detail
Stodman Street	N/A	May 2022	February 2022
Newark Cultural Heart	April 2022	May 2022	Expected March 2023
SISCLOG	Expected Nov 2022	Exp Nov/Dec 2022	Expected summer 2023
Castle Gatehouse	May 2022	July 2022	Expected December 2023

A46 Newark Northern Bypass

- 1.4 Members will be aware that the A46 Newark Northern Bypass Statutory Consultation is currently live, with a deadline for comments of 12th December 2022. In accordance with

the October meeting the Council's reply is delegated to the Leader and Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Visitors, subject to strong support for the scheme being maintained, alongside the Council ensuring that its aspirations of the Towns Fund and retaining its lorry park provision for the Town are met. At the time of writing Officers are liaising with a range of internal and external consultees to draft a reply. It is not anticipated that any new issues will arise, in which case the Council's reply will be dealt with via the delegated process already approved. However, should this not be the case a further update report will be provided at the meeting.

- 1.5 The A46 Newark Northern Bypass could lead to a reduced Lorry Park offer for the Town. It therefore remains a priority for relocation and reconfiguration options to be concluded for presentation to a future Cabinet. Officers have considered other options including leaving the Lorry Park where it is with a reduced capacity, or doing nothing, which both significantly reduce the Council's income and importantly the capacity for the Lorry Park and its contribution to the sector and wider economy.
- 1.6 The ASI, Lorry Park (existing and expanded as part of relocation), and Gateway/SiSCLog are central to delivery of the Newark Town Investment Plan and raising aspiration and opportunity for young people, residents, and businesses within the Town. The projects, given their ambition and depth, accordingly contribute to all Community Plan objectives.

2.0 Implications

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

Financial Implications (FIN22-23/7519)

- 3.1 Of the Towns Fund schemes listed in section 2 of the report, all the schemes with full business case approval are now included (or if completed were included) in the Council's Capital Programme, along with the Castle Gatehouse, which is still at Outline Business Case Stage.
- 3.2 Once the two schemes have Full Business Case approval and an associated Capital budget is set up, any eligible capital expenditure can be transferred to the Capital Programme and the unused funds returned to the reserve.

Equality & Diversity

- 3.3 The creation of a new Lorry Park and development proposals at Newark Gateway will require a full Equalities and Impact Assessment (EIA), which will be completed as part of the development planning process.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Newark Town Investment Plan 2020

YMCA Community and Activity Village Full Business Case 2021
32 Stodman Street Full Business Case 2022
Newark Cultural Heart Outline Business Case 2022
Newark Castle Gatehouse Outline Business Case 2022
Newark Cycle Project Outline Business Case 2022
Air & Space Institute Outline Business Case 2022
Air & Space Institute Full Business Case 2022
Memorandum of Understanding (Dept. For Transport & NSDC) - Newark Southern Link Road
2022
Economic Development Committee Report, January 2022
Policy & Finance Committee Report, 17 March 2022
Cabinet Report, June 2022



Report to: Cabinet Meeting - 6 December 2022

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Rhona Holloway, Economic Development & Visitors

Director Lead: Matthew Finch, Director - Communities & Environment

Lead Officer: Carys Coulton-Jones, Business Manager - Heritage & Culture, Ext. 5773

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open, Key Decision
Report Title	Heritage & Culture National Portfolio Organisation Status and Strategic Development
Purpose of Report	To update Cabinet on Heritage & Culture’s successful application to become an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation, on the business unit’s recovery post-covid and in light of the cost of living crisis, and to reflect on the continuing challenges in the heritage sector and its effect on the museum service.
Recommendations	<p>That Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) recognises the success of the National Portfolio Organisation application and that the agreed grant amount of £309,000 annually be added to the budget for the three years of the funding agreement from April 2023, to be drawn down from the Arts Council in stages, in line with their funding agreement; b) approve the addition of three new funded roles to the establishment for the three years of the funding agreement from April 2023; c) approve the establishment of an Independent Board, as previously agreed through Policy & Finance Committee in March 2022, to meet the requirements of the National Portfolio Organisation status; d) approve a Cabinet Working Group to be set up to oversee the development of a refreshed strategy for Heritage & Culture as outlined in the report; e) approve that a budget of £20,000 be set aside in 2023-24 to undertake an options appraisal to support delivery of an agreed future strategy for Heritage & Culture; and

	f) support the National Civil War Centre continuing to offer free entry to residents during school holidays and for key, targeted activity and events, supporting residents to access welcoming, engaging and warm spaces over the winter period through the cost of living crisis and to interact with our heritage and cultural offer.
Alternative Options Considered	Do nothing, service delivery would continue, but this option does not acknowledge the challenge currently being seen in town centres and with visitor admissions and will therefore not enable a pro-active response to ensure our service remains relevant and fit for purpose and reflects value for money for the Council.
Reason for Recommendations	<p>These recommendations align to the Community Plan by clearly defining and evaluating Heritage & Culture’s remit and scope to:</p> <p>Deliver inclusive and sustainable economic growth through skills, educational development and the visitor economy;</p> <p>Improve the health and wellbeing of residents by responding to their needs through cultural engagement and outreach; and</p> <p>Create vibrant and self-sufficient local communities where residents actively contribute to their local area through co-creation via the NPO investment principles and activity.</p>

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Heritage & Culture operates the Palace Theatre, the National Civil War Centre – Newark Museum (NCWC), the Museum’s Resource Centre and Newark Castle and Gardens. The service provides an essential cultural offer to residents and has played a prominent role in the development of the visitor economy. The NCWC has nationally styled accreditation and tells the story of the British Civil Wars and their relevance today. Newark Museum preserves 95,000 objects including the internationally significant Newark Torc and connects people with their heritage through object storytelling and archive materials. The Palace has been centre stage in Newark for over 100 years, entertaining the district with a varied programme. Newark Castle, a scheduled ancient monument, has stood on the banks of the River Trent for nearly 900 years and is a key part of Newark’s history. Its Gardens offer welcome green space and an accessible and unique historic setting for activity and events.
- 1.2 Since the NCWC opened in 2015, the business unit has been through numerous changes, starting almost immediately with the integration of the Palace and the museum, creation of a new daytime café offer and combined visitor services with the Tourist Information Team, which created operational efficiencies, maximised opportunities for commercial activity such as conferences and events and led to the creation of the Heritage and Culture Business Unit. In 2019 Newark Castle was also brought under the umbrella of the service to create a more joined up, collaborative offer which also ensured that the professional expertise of the H&C team was able to assess the weaknesses and opportunities of the Castle site.

- 1.3 The transformation of the service has taken place against the backdrop of significant challenges in the wider landscape, from the four-year town-wide disruption of the Severn Trent works to covid and now the cost of living crisis. During covid, the majority of the buildings could not open to the public for an extended period of time, and numerous waves of restrictions, from social distancing and mask wearing to tier 3 closures, travel restrictions and the emergence of the Omicron, impacted on visitors' ability and willingness to visit indoor spaces. During this time, the theatre became an Emergency Food Hub working alongside the HART team, and the museum pivoted to offer online resources, home school assistance and outreach and engagement for isolated and vulnerable residents. Through prudent use of the furlough scheme, an operational review to reduce costs but also limit the opening hours of the business, and success with Culture Recovery Funding from the Arts Council, the business unit has been able to achieve its budget each year even when facing significant income losses.
- 1.4 In response to covid and the cost of living crisis the Heritage and Culture business unit has reimagined our offer to better meet the changing needs of residents as well as continuing to appeal to the tourism market. We have also reshaped and increased our schools programme, sought funding for key projects such as our Max Literacy creative writing project with 220 GCSE students to improve educational outcomes and raise aspirations, and delivered outreach and engagement to socio-economically deprived and under-represented communities through Arts Council England (ACE) culture recovery funding and the Gilstrap Trust.
- 1.5 Alongside this work, we have partnered with key local businesses and cultural institutions, including Inspire and Newark Town Council, to create a cultural consortium which is delivering a community-focussed cultural programme, funded by the High Street Heritage Action Zone. This responds to key objectives around increased activity and engagement in the HAZ area and has been led by consultation with residents. The consortium is currently developing a funding bid to the Arts Council's project grant fund for an additional £100,000 to deliver an exciting programme of art installations and events in the town centre throughout 2023. This bid will connect us and the Consortium more strongly with the economic regeneration agenda and the Cultural Heart of Newark Project which will match fund key elements of this work, reimagining and repurposing the town centre, piloting creative public realm and wayfinding interventions and driving footfall and dwell time.
- 1.6 Throughout this time, the business unit has remained ambitious and forward thinking, driving forward the plans for the £5.4 million Newark Castle Gatehouse Project through the Towns Fund and a successful Heritage Fund bid. These plans will create a new destination attraction for the town, however this project will not reach fruition until 2026. The business unit has also targeted prestigious National Portfolio Organisation status through ACE, first identified as an opportunity in Newark's Destination Management Plan and taken forward by Heritage and Culture as a key mechanism to lever additional cultural funding into the district specifically targeting underserved communities, increasing our reach through interventions across the district, driving footfall in the town centre through additional activity and supporting improved socio-economic benefits for residents. A report to Policy and Finance Committee in March 2022 identified the opportunities and ambition of this funding, and we subsequently submitted an application in May 2022.

- 1.7 The NPO process was highly competitive. A record 1,700 organisations applied nationally with bids totalling £674 million per annum, for an available budget of only £428 million per annum. In comparison, the previous round of NPOs funded 828 organisations with an annual budget of £416 million by year four.
- 1.8 In November, ACE announced 990 NPOs for 2023-26. NSDC's Heritage and Culture service was successful in being offered the full amount requested. This funding will create three new jobs and several opportunities for local freelance creatives and will deliver an agreed programme of activity across the district that meets the outcomes of ACE and aligns to the community plan, increasing cultural value within the district and positioning us as an industry leader within the region. It will also support development of our cultural strategy through ACE's four Investment Principles – Ambition and Quality, Environmental Responsibility, Inclusivity and Relevance, and Dynamism. As previously described to Policy and Finance Committee, part of the funding agreement is the creation of an independent Board to oversee the governance of this programme, which will need to be in place by April 2023.
- 1.9 Whilst the above approach has been positive, it is important to acknowledge the current challenges facing the heritage sector, which is still feeling the effects of the pandemic nationally, and which is set within the context of struggling town centres and reductions in footfall. The most recent data indicates that town centre footfall is on average 10.3% lower in 2022 compared to 2021, and business sales in 2022 have been approximately 20% lower than in 2021. The NCWC remains on reduced operating hours to contain costs and has been responding to the change in customer base, with the loss of some of our traditional, 65+ audiences post covid, a decrease in tourism and the changing environment for low income families feeling the impact of the cost of living crisis. We have experimented with free entry for residents during school holidays and events and have created targeted activity to increase engagement across our sites, working with partners such as the Foodbank.
- 1.10 The Audience Agency has reported lower attendance at exhibitions, galleries, museums, historic houses and castles than pre-pandemic across all types of heritage sites. The latest Visit Britain research indicates that visitor admissions across England remain at less than half of 2019 figures. As an example, in 2021 the Natural History Museum, London, recorded 1,571,413 visitors compared to 5,423,932 in 2019. This trend was reflected in last year's visitor numbers at the NCWC, which included 6 weeks of complete closure and the Christmas period where the Omicron variant was prevalent. In contrast, however, our schools programme has gone from strength to strength, with our highest ever annual figures in 2021-22. Our theatre programme is also showing signs of a quicker recovery, although shows are still subject to last minute booking and with a mix of productions both over and under-performing, leading to some unexpected variances within seasons.
- 1.11 Our revised approach to service delivery has yielded positive returns despite the continuing challenges:
- By end August, the NCWC had already achieved 83% of last year's visitor numbers (excluding schools)

- Interventions targeting residents and in response to the cost of living crisis have been successful, for example the Summer’s free entry Playhem campaign, designed to attract local families and link in with the Cultural Heart of Newark’s beach supporting increased footfall and spend within the town: 63% of visitors during August were residents, compared with only 26% last August. Analysis of postcode data in comparison to the Indices of Multiple Deprivation shows that, in August 2021 none of our visitors were from the two most deprived deciles, compared to 21% in August 2022.
- An exit survey asked visitors to rate their experience in the summer holiday. 96% of N&S residents said ‘I loved it’ compared to 93% of non-residents. Asked specifically about Playhem, 98% of residents said ‘I loved it’ compared to 93% of non-residents. This is in direct contrast to our previous visitor research, which indicated that, on average, residents rated their experience of the museum lower than visitors from further afield, indicating that residents’ perception of their visit is negatively affected by the price point.
- In addition to our on-site survey, feedback has been extracted from our social media feeds, which was overwhelmingly positive:
 - “Brilliant for all ages”
 - “I never thought a civil war museum would be so great for kids”
 - “Really enjoyed the day, would recommend”
- Current pantomime sales are on target with pre-covid figures and have already exceeded last year’s final sales figure.
- Our approach to inclusivity, engagement and outreach, targeting families, socio-economically deprived communities and reducing barriers to access is a key contributing factor to our successful Heritage Lottery and Arts Council England NPO applications.

2.0 Proposal

- 2.1 As we continue to emerge from these global challenges and as we start our journey as an NPO it is timely to reflect upon the past few years and the new environment we are operating in. Ten years on from the development of the NCWC, there are continuing tensions between a national offer for a struggling tourism market and a local offer that is accessible, welcoming and supports a broad range of the community to engage with culture in their local area. It is essential that we clearly identify the cost and benefits to residents across the whole district and the value being produced – both social and economic – how this is reflected in our performance indicators and monitoring data, and how this can be enhanced by the delivery of our NPO objectives.
- 2.2 It is therefore proposed to set up a working group of the Cabinet to oversee the development of a refreshed strategy for Heritage and Culture, setting out the strategic objectives and identifying opportunities and options for future service delivery. As part of this, we will explore our terminology and understanding of our offer across our buildings and assets, events, outreach and education and the wider aspirations for the district. There will also be an option to work with external support to undertake an

options appraisal and analysis. This process will establish the strategic approach and provide assurance that the funding, objectives, performance measures and outcomes for all our major funding streams – NSDC, The Heritage Fund and Arts Council England – are aligned and agreed.

- 2.3 This proposal, alongside the development of our NPO plans, will support the Community Plan objectives, enabling the Heritage and Culture business unit to clearly identify and evaluate its place in *delivering inclusive and sustainable economic growth* through skills and educational development and the visitor economy, *improving the health and wellbeing of residents* by responding to their needs through cultural engagement and outreach, and *creating vibrant and self-sufficient local communities where residents actively contribute to their local area* through co-creation via the NPO investment principles and activity.

3.0 Implications

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

3.1 Financial Implications (FIN22-23/6342)

The NPO grant is available from 2023/24 to 2025/26 and totals £927,000. It will need to be added to the revenue budget along with the three posts adding to the establishment.

- Programme Manager
- Creative Arts Officer
- Community Engagement and Partnership Development Officer

Other activity which the grant will be used for include:

- Fund 2 artists in residence each year to deliver workshops, and work creatively with disadvantaged communities
- Commission a major outreach project each year
- Deliver a language project working with diaspora communities and d/Deaf communities to better reflect their needs in our cultural activity
- Design and deliver a CPD programme for teachers and schools in the district
- Deliver an 'Our Heritage' project of workshops linked to our collection, co-create touring exhibitions across the district, and take our mini-museum on tour, to reach a wider audience and break down barriers to access
- Design and create both formal and informal learning programmes for the theatre that complements and enhances the work of the Learning and Participation team
- Deliver an annual festival in up to 3 locations across the district that celebrates the work of the community, creatives and organisations involved in the programme
- Increase our family offer and provide opportunities for young people to earn Arts Awards
- Deliver interventions to increase accessibility

Therefore, salary and other expenditure budgets will also need to be added to the revenue budget. Fully funded by the grant. If approved, £20,000 will also need to be added to the budget for one year only as a growth item. At 30 September, the forecast outturn on the Heritage Culture and Visitors Business Unit as a whole was £601,587, which is £11,908 under budget.

Background Papers and Published Documents

None



Report to: Cabinet Meeting - 6 December 2022
 Portfolio Holder: Councillor Tim Wendels, Homes & Health
 Director Lead: Suzanne Shead – Director – Housing, Health & Wellbeing
 Lead Officer: Helen Ellison – Senior Health Improvement Officer, Ext. 5990

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open, Key Decision
Report Title	Newark & Sherwood Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022 -2026
Purpose of Report	To seek approval to adopt the Newark and Sherwood Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2026
Recommendations	That Cabinet: a) approve and adopt the Newark & Sherwood Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2026; and b) approve the detailed Health Improvement Action Plan to be endorsed by the Strategic Health Partnership and the Portfolio Holder, Housing and Health.
Alternative Options Considered	Not applicable.
Reason for Recommendations	To ensure that the Council and its partners have a strategy that drives health and wellbeing improvements across the district.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The district council previously adopted a Health & Wellbeing Partnership Plan 2019-2022 which outlined its commitment to delivering the aims and objectives of the Nottinghamshire’s Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2022. Our strategy highlighted how we proposed to deliver the place-based element of Nottinghamshire County Council’s strategy.
- 1.2 Nottinghamshire County Council have recently agreed and shared their new Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2026. In line with this, we have developed a new strategy (**Appendix A**) that sets out how we propose to ‘Improve the health and wellbeing of our local residents’ - one of the seven objectives detailed in our community plan.

1.3 The priorities we adopted in 2019 will remain unchanged as detailed below:

- Ensuring the best start
- Improving healthy lifestyles
- Tackling physical inactivity
- Addressing the needs of an ageing population
- Improving housing and the environment
- Recognising mental health

Task and finish groups have been created and will drive forward partner and stakeholders' priorities in each one of these working groups.

1.4 The Newark & Sherwood Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2026 is timely insofar as it will align to other strategies and actions plan at a local, regional and national level.

1.5 A health improvement action plan is being designed which will form the basis of initiatives, interventions and programmes that will be delivered across the six task and finish groups and will work to improve the health and wellbeing of our local residents. This will be endorsed by the Health and Well-Being Strategic Health Partnership and approved by the Portfolio Holder.

2.0 Proposal

2.1 That Cabinet approve and adopt the Newark & Sherwood Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2026.

3.0 Implications

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

3.1 Financial implications (FIN22-23/8302)

The adoption of the proposed strategy does not include any direct financial implications. Where detailed activities and plans are developed in order to deliver schemes that are as a consequence of this plan, further reports will be brought to this cabinet to approve the concept and any financial implications where necessary.

3.2 Equality implications

Whilst there are no direct implications, this strategy does highlight the disparity in life expectancy that exists in our wards with 9.4 year gap in male and 9.1 year gap in females life expectancy from our most affluent to our most deprived wards. The work highlighted in our health improvement action plan will look to address those inequalities targeting interventions in hotspot areas which will be considered within the six task and finish groups.

Background Papers and Published Documents

None

Newark and Sherwood District Council

Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022 - 2026



Contents

Foreword

Our Vision

What makes us healthy

Newark and Sherwood infographic

Nottinghamshire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022 – 2026

Where are we now?

Reflections on the last 4 years

Health and Wellbeing Priorities

Addressing our priorities

Governance

Key Partners

Appendix 1: Linked Strategies

Appendix 2: Health data – A closer look at Newark & Sherwood

Appendix 3 Newark & Sherwood Strategic Health Partnership Key Principles

Appendix 4: Health Improvement Action Plan



Foreword Cllr Tim Wendells

Portfolio holder – Housing and Health

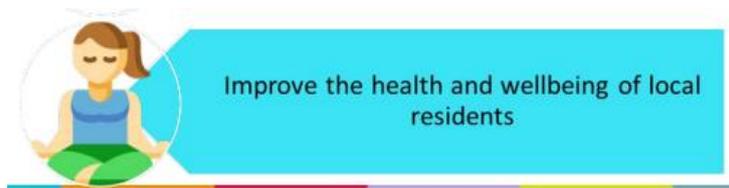
To follow

DRAFT



Newark & Sherwood's purpose, values and objectives

This strategy sets out our four-year plan for improving the health and wellbeing of local residents to support our community plan objective.

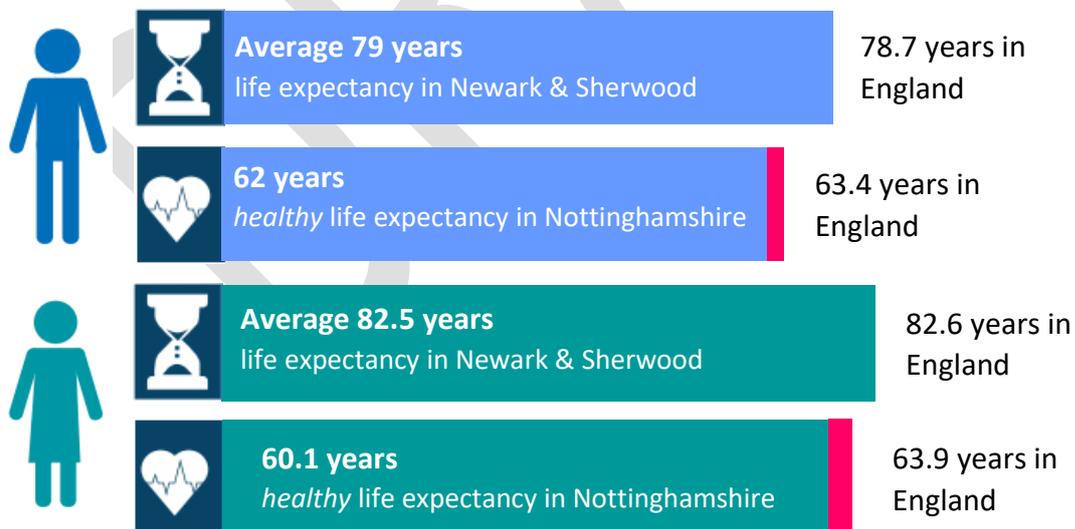


We want to serve our local community the best way we possibly can. As public servants we place a great emphasis on adopting a public sector ethos and seek to embody this in the way that we interact with residents, businesses and stakeholders. The Council's purpose and values make it clear what we are here to do and how we will go about it.

'Serving people, Improving lives'

As little as 10% of health and wellbeing is linked to the ability to access health care. The other 90% of health and wellbeing is a result of the wider factors that determine someone's healthy life expectancy. These factors shape the conditions in which we are born, grow, live, work and age. Creating a healthy population requires greater action on these factors, not simply on treating ill health in future years.

These factors result in the differences between people or groups caused by social, geographical, biological, or economical influences which can both cause advantages or disadvantages and are collectively termed Health Inequalities.



The gap in life expectancy across Newark and Sherwood is 9.1 years for men and 9.4 years for women. This means the people living in the most deprived areas of our district will live on average 9 years less than those in the most affluent areas.



This gap is explained not purely around access to a doctor and health care services but by differences in our experience of the things that make us healthy including good work, education, housing, resources, our physical environment, and social connections. These factors mean those in our communities who are 'worse off' experience poorer health and shorter lives.

To address some of the inequalities detailed above it may be necessary to prioritise resources to areas where the need is greatest driven by data and insight. Over the next four years we will work in the six task and finish groups with partners to identify where universal or targeted services are needed, this may require work within priority areas which will be agreed within the strategic health partnership. This may change from project to project and for example may mean one service delivered universally or many services working collaboratively in one area.

The fundamental role of the Newark and Sherwood Health and Wellbeing Strategy is to address these inequalities.

But we cannot do this alone, it's all about partnership



WHAT MAKES US HEALTHY?

We need to look at the bigger picture:

District population in 2021 – 122,900

% obtaining Maths & English at KS4 (16 years) **66.5%**



A good start

Infants being totally/partially breastfed at 6-8 week check **43%**

Smoking at time of delivery **13.9%**

1st time entrants to youth justice service is **17% higher** than county



Community Safety

Children under 16 living in low-income families **15%**

Population in employment **74.1%**



Finance

Population unemployed is **6.9%**

Households in fuel poverty **14.1%**



Housing

Adults meeting the recommended '5-a-day' on a 'usual day' **61.3%**

Households experiencing struggle with food insecurity **8.46%**



The food we eat

% Overweight or obese children in reception

Adults classified as overweight or obese **66.9%**

Physically inactive adults **19%**



Lifestyle factors

People with a long-term health condition or disability **20.3%**

Smoking prevalence in routine and manual occupations **34.8%**

Smoking prevalence in adults **15.4%**

Newark Primary Care Network Patients
Depression **10%**
Diabetes **7.1%**
Hypertension **15.6%**
Obesity **11.9%**

Sherwood Primary Care Network Patients
Depression **14.8%**
Diabetes **8.5%**
Hypertension **16.9%**
Obesity **10.6%**



Health care

Suicide rate **11** deaths per 100,000

% of adults who feel lonely often/always or some of the time (16yrs+) **21.7%**



Ageing well

Excess winter deaths index **9.3%**

Female - 82.5 years



Male - 79 years

Life expectancy

Hospital admissions emergency self-harm **200.6 per 100,000**

Mortality rate from causes considered preventable per 100,000 population **132.8**

Nottinghamshire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022 – 2026

The Newark and Sherwood Health and Wellbeing Strategic Partnership will act as the local place-based delivery group of the Nottinghamshire Health & Wellbeing Board, delivering the Strategy's four ambitions and nine priorities that affect length and quality of life the most. We have been mindful of these when designing this strategy.

Our ambitions

1. Give every child the best chance of maximising their potential
2. Create healthy and sustainable places
3. Everyone can access the right support to improve their health
4. Keep our communities safe and healthy

Our priorities

- Give every child the best start in life
- Improve everyone's mental health and wellbeing
- Ensure good food and nutrition for all
- Prevent homelessness and help those who are homeless to have better health outcomes
- Help people to stop smoking, as well as encourage others to not start smoking
- Reduce the levels of harmful drinking of alcohol in our communities
- Prevent domestic abuse and support survivors to rebuild their lives
- Support residents to have control and maintain a healthy weight
- Improve air quality in Nottinghamshire



Where are we? Reflections on the last four years



A good start

During the pandemic the impact of school closures has widened existing inequalities in educational attainment

More young people are seeking help to support their mental health

Reductions in social interaction for babies/toddlers has delayed milestone achievements



Community Safety

Domestic abuse increased during each lockdown from greater stresses and reduction in support services

Reduction in common crimes such as thefts and muggings due to lockdown.

Community cohesion increased 'neighbours become better neighbours' due to families being at home much more



Finance

Increase in fraudulent activity related to financial support through the pandemic

Household incomes fell due to changes to the benefits system meaning more of our residents are facing poverty

Furlough impacted on residents' financial situations

Emerging cost of living crisis – food and fuel poverty due to rising costs



lifestyle factors

Increased levels of smoking and alcohol consumption.

Adoption of unhealthy coping mechanisms – 'bad' habits

Increase in vaping habits amongst young people and those who aren't ex-smokers.

Changes to physical activity levels.

Increase in complex mental health issues.



Housing

NSDC transfer of housing stock

Yorke Drive Regeneration Programme commenced

New legislation introduced around housing

Getting to know you visits introduced including community engagement and wellbeing questions



Health care

Increased demand for healthcare services and significant delays in treatment.

Care for long-term conditions disrupted

Social isolation and loneliness impacted on wellbeing.

Increase in mental ill health as a direct and indirect impact of the pandemic.

Recruitment issues in social care and health – impacting on service provision.



the food we eat

Lockdowns exacerbated food insecurity & food need particularly for young children.

Poor diet led to increases in obesity across the country.

Increases in food costs has impacted on access to fresh produce.

Our most vulnerable residents experienced poor access to healthy, nutritious meals during the shielding period.



Ageing well

Delayed diagnosis and treatment of cancers and long-term health conditions such as dementia.

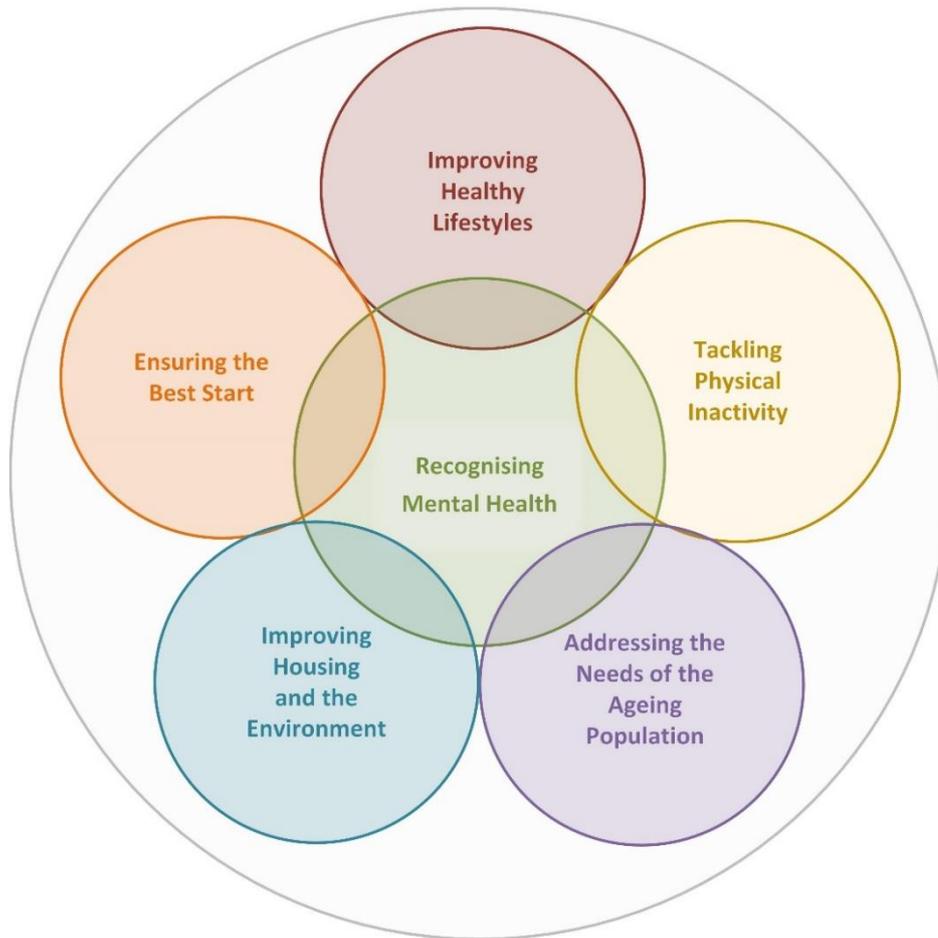
Increased waiting times and changes to health care provision.

Digital exclusion impacting on access to services and information.

Social care recruitment and retention challenges.



Health and Wellbeing Priorities for Newark and Sherwood



The above priorities form six task and finish groups to deliver work and projects with partners and stakeholders. This work will be delivered through a collaborative approach not only through these task and finish groups but through our strategic health partnership.

We recognise the importance of consultation in the work that we undertake. We see our role as developing and strengthening partnership working across the district. Communities will be invited to share ideas or give their opinions on health and wellbeing to inform decision making.

These priorities align with Nottinghamshire's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and will enable us to deliver the Mid-Notts Place Based Partnership objectives, as detailed over page.



Mid Notts Place Based Partnership Objectives

1. To give every child the best start in life	1.1 increase school readiness for school and the number of children with the skills needed to start school
	1.2 mothers and babies have positive pregnancy outcomes. Children and parents have good health outcomes.
2. To promote and encourage healthy choices, improved resilience, and social connections	2.1 Improve the connection and integration of the voluntary sector and current health and social services available to build effective services that support alcohol, diabetes, cancer, end of life and joint and bone pain (MSK)
	2.2 help people to know how to stop smoking
3. To support our population to age well and reduce the gap in healthy life expectancy	3.1 Build on the integration across the PCNs building on community-based services that include the voluntary sector, care homes and care in the community settings
	3.2 Make sure people who are known to be frail are looked after in the best possible way
4. To maximise opportunities to develop our built environment into healthy places	4.1 Continue to ensure that the physical environment within our communities is better used to ensure it has a positive impact on their health and wellbeing
	4.2 Continue to ensure that everyone lives in safe housing and there is increased availability of social housing
5. To tackle physical inactivity by developing our understanding of barriers and motivations	5.1 Increased awareness within targeted communities of the existing and new programmes and initiatives
	5.2 Building on our understanding of physical activity, work together to enable communities to move more.

This strategy via both our strategic health partnership and the six task and finish groups will support delivery of Nottinghamshire's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and report on the above Place Based Partnership objectives.



Task and Finish Group Objectives

Ensuring a Best Start

Priorities	Outcomes
Giving all children the best start in life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce smoking in pregnancy • Increase breastfeeding • Support parents and carers • Have the capacity to form and maintain positive relationships
Enable children to develop well into adulthood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support all children and young people's mental health • Empower young people to make informed choices • Enable positive decision making

Improving Healthy Lifestyles

Priorities	Outcomes
Promoting good physical health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce obesity • Reduce smoking • Increase physical activity • Reduce drug and alcohol misuse • Change attitudes to vaping
Supporting people to make informed choices, taking responsibility for their own health and wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce long term health conditions • Increase healthy life expectancy • Decrease use of health care services

Tackling physical inactivity

Priorities	Outcomes
Provide accessible, affordable activities to enable all to lead an active lifestyle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical activity messaging is advocated and championed across the system • Support those who are inactive to build activity into their day to day lives • Advocacy for physical activity is expanded across the wider system.
Enable active residents and workforces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More children and young people enjoy being active • People with lived experience are involved in developing opportunities that are right for them • Resource and capacity is proportionately focused on people and neighbourhoods experiencing the greatest inequality



Addressing the needs of an ageing population	
Priorities	Outcomes
Enable people to age well	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase healthy life expectancy, people living longer, healthier lives • Reduce people experiencing multiple complex health conditions
Maintain people living independently in their communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease the pressure on social care and health care services • Enable access to community facilities, activities, and support services
Improving housing and the environment	
Priorities	Outcomes
Living in a healthy home and environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People live in good quality and safe homes • Prevent and reduce homelessness • Increase use of greenspace
Building strong communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve community safety • Improve community cohesion • Develop communities that feel empowered
Recognising mental health	
Priorities	Outcomes
Promoting good mental health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase mental health awareness • Increase the awareness and access to mental health support • Build resilience in communities
Support those with mental health illness to live well	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce stigma • Raise awareness • Ensure opportunities are available and access to services



Addressing our priorities

Our Health Improvement Action Plan will be appended to this strategy, and provide the detail on how we aim to achieve our priorities. Over the next four years the task and finish groups will develop and strengthen partnership working using an evidence-based co-production approach.

Here is a selection of work streams and projects being undertaken by our teams alongside a variety of partners and stakeholders.

Ensuring the Best Start

Promote and increase participation in the Breast-Feeding Friendly Award to provide welcoming community spaces to breast feed.

Address nutritional needs through food clubs, crop drop and social eating schemes.

Ensure we remain an active member in the Family Hub development across the county.

Raise awareness of the health risks of smoking and second-hand smoke to the unborn, children and adults.

Community Alcohol Partnership – tackling and educating young people to prevent unhealthy consumption of alcohol and make healthier lifestyle choices

Co-ordination of secondary schools mental health network

Improving Healthy Lifestyles

Pop up events in the workplace and across communities

Raising awareness of the Integrated Wellbeing Service – Your Health Your Way

Addressing the challenges of communication and cultural beliefs that have a negative impact on lifestyle choices throughout engagement with workplaces.

Health Campaigns across internal and external workplaces

Nottinghamshire Smoking Strategy adoption and implementation

Tobacco declaration signed and promoted across the system

Tackling Physical Activity

Identifying, removing the barriers to people becoming more active with partners such as Active 4 Today

Identifying and addressing the root causes that prevent people becoming more active by delivering the physical activity insight work

Identification of funding available to increase community activities.

Town planning and re-generation work creating outdoor space



Addressing the Needs of an Ageing Population

Co-ordinate the Mid Notts Dementia Partnership to increase awareness around Dementia

Careline

Older person support officer links to PCN multi-disciplinary team meetings supporting patients who don't require medicinal intervention but support on the wider determinants inc. housing

Improving Housing and the Environment

Yorke Drive Regeneration

Disabled facilities grant scheme

Green flag parks

Informed Tenants

Recognising Mental Health

Building capacity within the workplace – provision of Mental Health First Aid training and recruitment of Wellbeing champions

Employers undertaking Carer Award Accreditation for their workplaces

Support third sector in creating service provision, funding, signposting and recruitment

Mental Health at Work Commitment completed and promoted to all businesses to support employees

Completion of The Prevention Concordat for Better Mental Health – allowing us to take a prevention-focussed approach to improving the public's mental health.

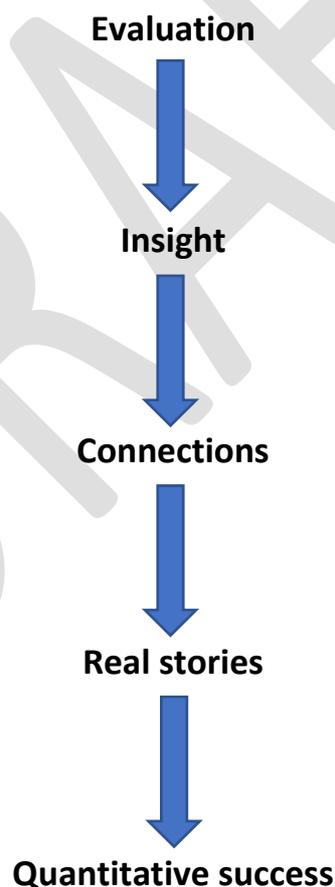


Measuring our success

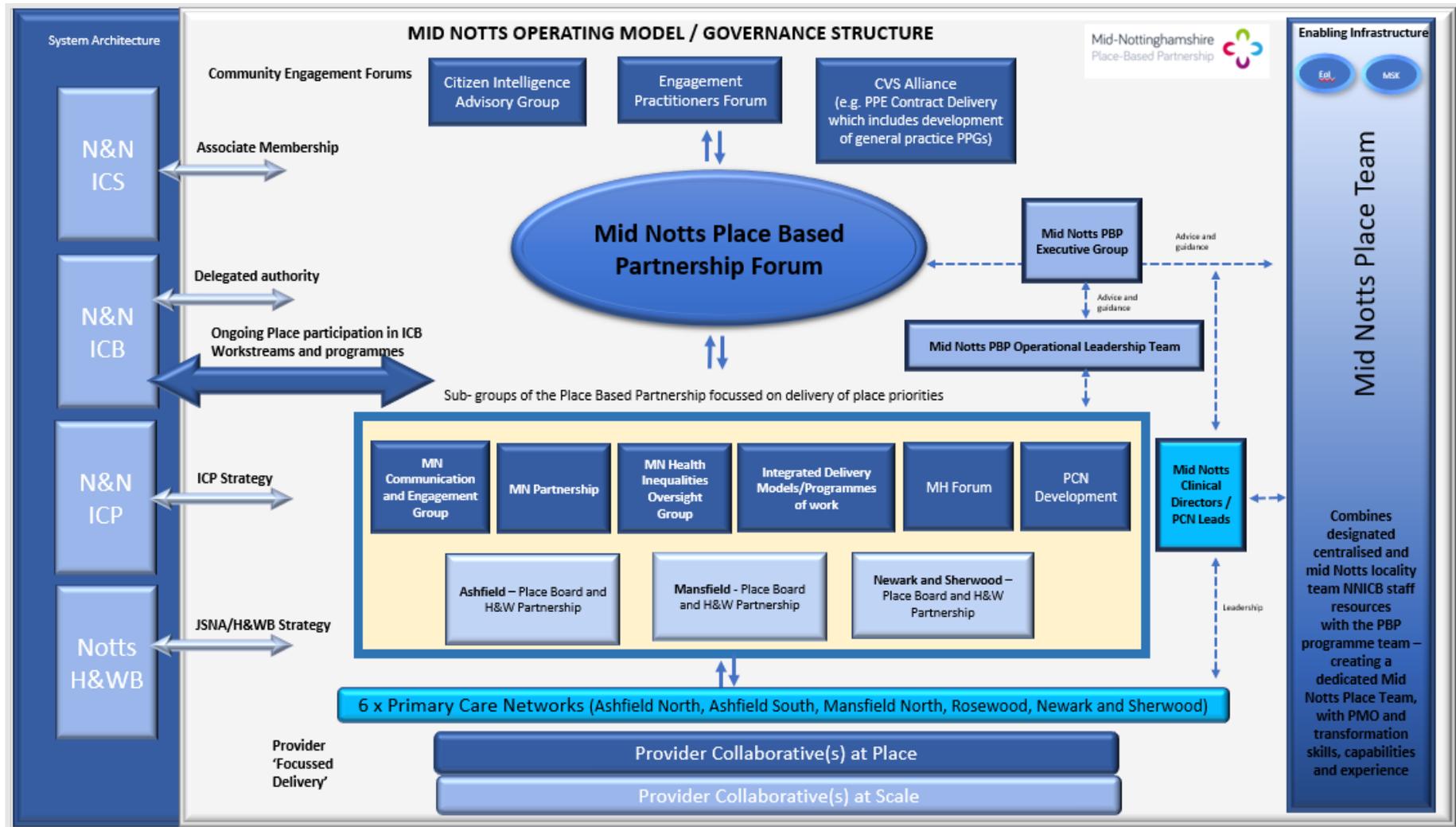
Each year an annual evaluation will be undertaken by the strategic health partnership. It will outline work undertaken within the six task and finish groups, including successes and challenges of the previous year. We will gather information on specific projects, data, reflections, and case studies.

The task and finish groups will each form their own priorities and cornerstones to work on over the 4-year strategy, they will take ownership, working collaboratively on these and feedback. Each task and finish group will identify issues that need to be addressed collectively. The strategic partnership will collate responses to both the place based partnership and Nottinghamshire County Council's Health and Wellbeing Board

Much of the data shared within this strategy will be difficult to move or improve over the next 4 years and we may see little progress but we will strive to improve collaboration and partnership working, empowering communities and increasing the opportunities in our district for residents and tenants to improve their own health and wellbeing.



Governance structure



Agenda Page 95

Key -

N&N - Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire
 ICS – Integrated Care System
 ICB – Integrated Care Board
 ICP – Integrated Care Partnership

H&WB – Health & Wellbeing
 JSNA – Joint strategic needs assessment
 PCN – Primary Care Network
 MN - Mid Notts

'IT'S EVERYONE'S BUSINESS WE CAN'T DO THIS ALONE'

We recognise the importance of collaboration – no one organisation can make the changes required to reduce health inequalities across our district

We ask partners to support us to work towards long term system change with our residents at the heart of everything we do

 <p>Mid-Nottinghamshire Place-Based Partnership</p>	 <p>Newark & Sherwood CVS</p>	 <p>citizens advice Sherwood & Newark</p>
 <p>active notts</p>	 <p>pics Primary Integrated Community Services Ltd</p>	 <p>Integrated Care System Nottingham & Nottinghamshire</p>
 <p>Your Health Your Way</p>	 <p>NOTTINGHAMSHIRE POLICE</p>	 <p>Academy Transformation Trust Further Education</p>
 <p>YMCA Here for young people Here for communities Here for you</p>	 <p>Newark College</p>	 <p>ACTIVE4TODAY LTD</p>
 <p>NHS Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust</p>	 <p>Nottinghamshire County Council</p>	 <p>NOTTINGHAMSHIRE Fire & Rescue Service Creating Safer Communities</p>
 <p>Nottinghamshire Health & Wellbeing Board</p>	 <p>Department for Work & Pensions</p>	<p>...giving children the best start</p>

For further support or advice relating specifically to health and wellbeing please email wellbeing@nsdc.info



Appendix 1

Local and National Strategies

There are a number of local and national strategies that have been considered in the life cycle of this four year strategy as having influence on the work of both our strategic partnership and the six task and finish groups.

Internal

- [NSDC Community Plan](#)
- [Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeper Strategy 2019-2024](#)
- ASB Policy
- Domestic abuse
- Local Air Quality Assessment and Review
- Food Safety Plan
- Disabled Facilities Grant Policy
- Housing Strategy
- [Physical Activity and Sports Plan 2018-2021](#) (going through current refresh)
- [Sport and Recreation Facilities Improvement Plan 2014-2021](#)
- [Newark and Sherwood Playing Pitch Strategy 2017](#)
- Spatial Planning Framework
- [Newark & Sherwood Economic Growth Strategy 2021-2026](#)
- [Newark Town Investment Plan](#)
- Strategic Housing Strategy

External

- [Nottinghamshire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy \(2022 – 2026\)](#)
- [Nottinghamshire Food Charter](#)
- [Nottinghamshire Best Start Strategy 2021-2025](#)
- Place based partnership objectives
- Core 20 plus 5
- SFHT transformation
- [Sport England Strategy – Uniting the Movement \(2021-2031\)](#)
- [Active Notts Shared Plan – Making our Move](#)



Appendix 2

Detailed Newark and Sherwood District health data

Data Description	Year	NSDC	Region	Notts	England
% obtaining Maths & English at KS4 (16 years)		66.50%		68%	
Infants being totally/partially breastfed at 6-8 week check	2018/19	43%			
Admission episodes for alcohol-specific conditions - Under 18s	2018/19 - 2020/21	27.2	23.9		29.3
Children gaining a Good Level of Development aged 5 (end of Early Years Foundation Stage)	2018	68.20%		69.70%	71.50%
% of mothers known to be smokers at time of delivery	2020/21	13.90%	12.60%	13.80%	9.60%
Excess winter deaths index	Aug 19 - Jul 20	9.30%	18.40%		17.40%
Hip Fractures in people 65 and over (per 100,000)	2020/21	588	565	543	529
Emergency hospital admissions due to falls in people aged 65 and over (per 100,000 aged 65+)	2020/21	1793	1927	2005	2023
First Time Entrants to Youth Justice System	2019-21	104		89	
Children under 16 living in low income families	2016	15%	16.60%		17%
Claimant Count	Jun-22	2,185	99,505	15,340	1,349,920
% households in fuel poverty	2020	14.10%	14.20%	13.60%	13.20%
Percentage of people in employment	2020/21	74.10%	74.7%	72.6%	75.10%
Population unemployed		6.90%			
Depression – Newark PCN	2022	10%			



Depression- Sherwood PCN	2022	14.8%			
Diabetes-Newark PCN	2022	7.1%			
Diabetes- Sherwood PCN	2022	8.5%			
Hospital admissions - emergency self harm:	2020/21	200.6 per 100,000	189.6	191.8	181.2
Hypertension – Newark PCN	2022	15.6%			
Hypertension- Sherwood PCN	2022	16.9%			
People with a long term illness or disability	2011	20.30%	18.60%	20.30%	17.60%
Suicide Rate	2018-20	11 per 100,000			
Inequality in life expectancy at birth (Female)	2018-20	7.2	7.6	7.7	7.9
Inequality in life expectancy at birth (Male)	2018-20	9.5	9.2	9.3	9.7
Percentage of physically inactive adults (aged 19+)	2020/21	19.00%	24.50%	22.70%	23.40%
Percentage of physically active adults	2020/21	72.50%	64.50%	67.3%	65.90%
Smoking Prevalence in adults in routine and manual occupations (18-64) - current smokers (APS)	2019	34.8%	25.5%	26.7%	24.5%
Smoking Prevalence in adults - current smokers	2019	15.4%	14.8%	14.4%	13.9%
% adults meeting the recommended '5-a-day' on a 'usual day'	2019/20	61.30%	55%	56.30%	55.40%
% of adults (aged 18+) classified as overweight or obese	2020/21	66.90%	66.60%	64.90%	63.50%
% Overweight & obese in Reception	2018/19	26.64%	26.19%	No data	27.73%



% Overweight & obese in year 6	2020/21	30.95%	40.26%	No data	40.19%
Obesity Adults – Sherwood PCN	2022	10.6%			
Obesity Adults – Newark PCN	2022	11.9%			
% of registered patients with Long term health conditions – Sherwood PCN	2022	46%			
% of registered patients with Long term health conditions – Newark PCN	2022	42.6%			
% households experiencing struggle with food insecurity	2021	8.46%	No data	No data	No data

DRAFT



Appendix 4

Newark and Sherwood Strategic Health Partnership - Key Principles

DRAFT





Report to: Cabinet Meeting - 6 December 2022

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Tim Wendels, Homes & Health

Director Lead: Suzanne Shead, Director of Housing Health & Wellbeing

Lead Officer: Steven Stone, Assistant Business Manager, Housing Maintenance & Asset Management, Ext.5220

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open, Non-Key Decision
Report Title	Responsive and Programmed Works – Additional Programme
Purpose of Report	To present with the current information on the number of Responsive and Programmed works in the system. To present recommendations to complete these and future management of works.
Recommendations	That Cabinet: a) approve an additional £100k be added to this year’s budget funding from the HRA Newark and Sherwood Homes Merger Transfer reserves; and b) note that any additional funding will be included in 2023/24 budget setting process.
Alternative Options Considered	To continue to use existing resources to gradually reduce repairs workload.
Reason for Recommendations	To support the Repairs Team to ensure tenants homes are well maintained whilst we make improvements to our service delivery.

1.0 Background

1.1. Through the pandemic, the Council restricted its repairs service to cover emergencies and some external planned works. All appointed repairs were held until restrictions and risk assessments allowed a return to normal arrangements. This resulted in around 800 repairs in the system which have been caught up within existing resources. However, combined with an increase in demand and a reduced resource to service them due to challenges with recruitment, this has then created a further high number of newer repairs outstanding.

1.2. Capita shows the service is experiencing an increase in the number of repairs reported, possibly as people report more repairs now they feel able to allow access.

1.3. Number of repair orders in and completed repairs by month:

Month	Repair Orders In	Completed Repairs
Apr-22	1578	1336
May-22	1919	1488
Jun-22	1780	1415
Jul-22	1812	1517
Aug-22	1735	1313
Sep-22	1832	1245
Oct-22	1998	1546

1.4 Over the past 12 months we have had approximately 10 vacancies for our trade posts which have been extremely difficult to recruit to. This has had an impact on the number of repairs being completed each month. We currently have 5 vacancies: 2 Electricians, 1 Joiner, 1 Plumber and 1 Builder/Plasterer.

1.5 Up to now, we did not have the relevant information to monitor operative performance easily available to enable us to challenge and improve performance (number of repairs completed and number of follow-ons per operative) as the systems do not enable us to do this automatically.

1.6 The current repairs workload cannot be reduced on current resources alone. Manual processes are being putting in place to record operative performance on follow-ons and number of jobs completed by each operative. This will allow us to challenge and improve operative performance resulting in higher numbers of repairs completed and reducing follow-ons. This will help prevent future issues.

1.7 Below is the current list of works, broken down to trade, category, cost and new adjusted average costs.

Trade	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	Grand Total
Builder		£4,284	£19,671		£415	£24,370
Drainage		£1,426	£3,655	£671		£5,752
Electrical	£269	£13,423	£7,960	£343	£217	£22,211
Fencing		£1,005	£5,003		£1,082	£7,090
Glazing		£2,936	£10,039	£259	£147	£13,381
Grounds	£114	£1,746	£7,382		£49	£9,291
Heating		£1,573	£944		£73	£2,590
Joiner			£406			£406
Joiner		£24,370	£23,785	£732	£1,680	£50,566
Plumber	£403	£22,115	£3,454	£592	£106	£26,670
Painter		£1,208	£2,487	£33	£3,988	£7,715
Roofing	£30	£5,331	£17,555	£91	£1,077	£24,086
Specialist	£14	£589	£11	£28	£10	£652
Grand Total	£831	£80,006	£102,353	£2,748	£8,844	£194,780

Trade	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	Grand Total	Average Cost	Adjusted average costs £150
Builder		44	156		4	204	£119.46	£30,600
Drainage		13	20	1		34	£169.17	
Electrical	8	208	84	1	2	303	£73.30	£45,450
Fencing		13	32		2	47	£150.86	

2.0 Proposals

- 2.1 Repairs is the single most used service by tenants, and it is essentially we get our performance back on track.
- 2.2 It is estimated that no more than £300k is required to clear the repairs on the system in full. In order to commence works, an additional £100k is required within the current financial year. The works will be distributed to several contractors currently working for us. This is an additional resource requirement.
- 2.3 Whilst the repairs could continue to be addressed with current resources, it will take a long time to do so, particularly with vacancies and this would not provide a good service to tenants. Alongside this, it is important that repairs are undertaken in a timely manner to maintain homes and to avoid falling foul of our legal responsibilities.
- 2.4 This recommendation will “clear the decks” for the team. Now performance monitoring is in place to look at jobs per day and follow-ons and performance will be clearly managed. From this performance can improve on completed jobs per day and reduced follow-ons and aborted calls.

3.0 Implications

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

3.1 **Financial Implications – FIN22-23/6007**

As stated in paragraph 2.2 above, the costs of undertaking the additional programme of works is estimated at £300k. As we have three months left of this year, it is proposed to request £100k for this financial year and future requirements will be secured through the budget setting process for 2023/24. This can be funded from the HRA Newark and Sherwood Homes Merger Transfer Reserve.

3.2 **ICT Implications**

Future IT systems will have automated operative performance reports.

Background Papers and Published Documents

None



Report to: Cabinet Meeting - 6 December 2022

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Roger Jackson, Cleaner, Safer, Greener

Director Lead: Matthew Finch, Director, Communities & Environment

Lead Officer: Matthew Adey, Development Manager, Environmental Services, Ext. 5253

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open, Key Decision
Report Title	Adoption of an NSDC Tree Strategy
Purpose of Report	For the committee to review the NSDC Tree Strategy and its implications.
Recommendations	<p>That Cabinet:</p> <p>(a) the draft Tree Strategy be shared with key partners (Sherwood Forest Trust, RSPB, Woodland Trust & Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust) and reviewed before being released for public consultation via the Council's website; the outcome of the consultation to be reported back to Cabinet for consideration prior to formal adoption of the final draft Strategy and;</p> <p>(b) the proposal to fund the increase in budget as set out in paragraph 3.2 of the report for essential tree survey and maintenance work be approved.</p>
Alternative Options Considered	Not to progress the Strategy at all, or to progress the Strategy but with a greater or lesser allocation of budget. On balance the recommendation is to progress a Strategy, subject to the outcome of consultation, in order to contribute to the Council's carbon reduction plan, and that the budget proposed is proportionate.
Reason for Recommendations	To support the Council's green ambitions to 'Enhance and protect the district's natural environment', as stated in the community plan.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Having adopted a carbon reduction plan in 2019 in response to the climate emergency, with the aim to be carbon neutral by 2035, the council has placed an increase emphasis on the planting and care for new and existing tree cover throughout the council. Our Community Plan sets out the council's objectives to Enhance and protect the district's natural environment, including a commitment to plant over 10,000 trees by 2023. This target has already been met through community giveaways and direct planting. This included the creation of a new woodland at Vicar Water Country Park in conjunction with Sherwood Forest Trust.
- 1.2 Throughout the process of identifying sites and funding, it was identified that the Council had an opportunity to develop a strategy, with associated supported policies, on the planting and care of trees, both on its own land and in the wider district. To begin the process, this strategy has been developed.

2.0 Proposal

- 2.1 The Tree Strategy for Newark and Sherwood has been developed by the Environmental Services Team in conjunction with the Planning Development and Planning Policy and Infrastructure teams to establish the council's objectives towards trees in Newark and to provide an action plan setting out the pathway to achieve those objectives. The objectives are:
- Objective 1 - Establish robust dataset of trees within the District, identifying:
 - Trees under District control (numbers and species composition)
 - Canopy coverage of remaining land
 - Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees in our control
 - Objective 2 - Develop policies and procedures to ensure:
 - The Council has a robust approach to biosecurity measures when planting or supplying trees
 - Trees are maintained and protected, where appropriate, to protect both biodiversity and public safety
 - Objective 3 - Review of upcoming changes to national and regional policy and guidance with regards to trees within the District.
 - Objective 4 - Work within the planning system to not only support and maintain the biodiversity of the District but actively improve it.
 - Objective 5 - Work with residents and partner organisations to maintain and improve the biodiversity of the District.
 - Objective 6 - Continue to plant more trees in suitable locations and encourage others to do the same.
- 2.2 The strategy sets out a series of actions designed to achieve these objectives and support the long-term health of tree within the district and to maintain coverage. Key actions to note are:

- A new target for planting at least a further 6,000 new trees over the next ten years (2022 to 2032).
- Develop a new Design SPD including guidance about street trees with consideration to be given to a minimum canopy cover target.
- The Council continues to commit to funds of £1,500 a year to the free tree give away scheme and continues to plough back money from Christmas tree recycling into environmental improvement works with the aim of providing a further 8,000 trees by 2032.
- Increase the trees survey budget to £10,000 every three years to develop a full tree asset register for District Council trees and to maintain the health and safety of our tree stock.
- increase investment in tree health and public safety by increasing the tree maintenance budget to £30,000, to ensure essential tree maintenance and safety works can be conducted. This new maintenance fund will enable us cover about 6% of our tree stock each year.

2.3 These actions will help us build on our existing successes and developments including the annual free tree giveaway, target hardening work and existing partnerships and joint working such as the recent secondment for Lynn Preece to the Sherwood Forest Trust.

2.4 For context we estimate the new maintenance fund will cover about 4% of our tree stock each year. The work is targeted by need with the tree survey identifying works on an urgency basis, with Red (Immediate) works being targeted immediately after the survey followed by Amber (Urgent) and then Green (Maintenance) works. The council will be liable for any damage or injury which occurs following failure to act upon the risks identified by the survey or issue which occurs.

2.5 For context our budget for tree maintenance on housing land (not including trees in gardens) is over £26,000pa and this covers 1325 trees identified on the last survey. The last survey conducted on trees outside of housing areas identified around 1,400 trees in our parks and gardens which are near footpaths, walkways and other accessible areas, however, this survey did not include groups of trees shielded by vegetation where no individual survey was possible, but where the public still have access (which we estimate brings the total up to around 2000). If our woodland areas are added to this figure the figure is likely to be over 4,000.

2.6 With additional trees being planted on NSDC land (over 7,900 so far) additional care and maintenance work is also required to ensure that these trees grow on into the future. The £38,000 would fully fund both the survey and maintenance works required to ensure that our tree stock is well maintained into the future.

2.7 One of the issues discussed in the strategy is the implementation of Biodiversity Net Gain which may necessitate a review of some council strategies, including this one. On this basis it is recommended that the strategy and action plan be reviewed on an annual basis.

- 2.8 The Policy & Performance Improvement Committee are to consider this report at their meeting to be held on 28 November 2022 and their recommendation will be reported to the Cabinet.

3.0 Implications

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

Financial Implications (FIN22-23/449)

- 3.1 There is currently there is no set budget for maintenance on trees that are owned by the District Council that aren't covered by the HRA. Budget is found from other areas where works are necessary, albeit this approach is therefore very reactive rather than proactive.
- 3.2 The proposal above is to add £38,000 into the General Fund budget to fund both a tree survey, once every three years, together with an annual allowance for maintenance work to be completed.
- 3.3 The tree survey is estimated to cost £10,000 every three years order to assess the health of the Council's tree stock and identify trees that require maintenance work completing in order to reduce the risk of injury from falling trees.
- 3.4 To supplement this, an annual allowance would be required to complete work identified from within the surveys on the higher risk trees within the Council's stock. This would allow for maintenance of around 4% of the stock each year. This figure would need to be reviewed depending on the outcome of the survey work, as clearly if there were a higher proportion of red risk trees, work would need to be carried out as urgently as possible. This annual allowance would range between £38,000 (in years where a survey does not need to be carried out) and £28,000 (once in every three years when the tree survey needs to be completed).
- 3.5 This would need to be included within the General Fund budget from the 2023/24 financial year.

Background Papers and Published Documents

None.

Newark and Sherwood District Council

Tree Strategy

2022 to 2032



Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	1
2. THE IMPORTANCE OF TREES	2
a. <i>The bigger picture</i>	2
b. <i>Trees in a national context - the race is on to reforest Britain</i>	2
c. <i>The Woodland Trust's Emergency Tree Plan for the UK</i>	3
d. <i>Trees in Newark and Sherwood</i>	5
3. OBJECTIVES OF THIS STRATEGY	6
4. CURRENT SITUATION	7
a. <i>Where are the District's trees?</i>	7
b. <i>Where are the District council owned trees?</i>	8
c. <i>How do we protect trees within the District?</i>	9
d. <i>Planning policies for trees</i>	9
5. IDENTIFYING THE GAPS	11
a. <i>Baseline survey of the District</i>	11
6. PROTECTING TREES	12
a. <i>Protecting trees through development</i>	12
Tree Preservation Orders (TPO)	12
b. <i>Felling licenses</i>	13
c. <i>Protecting ancient trees and woodlands</i>	13
d. <i>Protecting trees by reducing biosecurity risks</i>	16
7. PLANTING TREES	17
a. <i>Creating well planned quality woodland</i>	17
b. <i>Site surveys and planting plans</i>	17
c. <i>Landscape character</i>	18
d. <i>Natural regeneration</i>	18
e. <i>Planting projects</i>	18
f. <i>Securing additional trees through development</i>	20
g. <i>Tree canopy coverage policy</i>	20
h. <i>Tree pit size</i>	21
i. <i>Local Nature Recovery Strategies</i>	21
j. <i>Biodiversity Net Gain</i>	21
k. <i>Urban greening</i>	22
l. <i>Air Quality</i>	22

<i>m. Flooding</i>	23
8. <u>ENGAGING WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES</u>	26
<i>a. Promoting trees and tree planting</i>	26
<i>b. Supporting healthy lifestyles</i>	27
<i>c. Community Orchards</i>	28
<i>d. Miner 2 Major</i>	29
<i>e. Park volunteering</i>	29
<i>f. Park and woods friends groups</i>	30
<i>g. School engagement and Forest School</i>	30
<i>h. Encourage and support tree partnerships</i>	31
<i>i. Green Champions</i>	31
<i>i. External Funding for planting</i>	31
9. <u>MAINTAINING DISTRICT COUNCIL TREES</u>	32
<i>a. Tree and woodland policies</i>	32
<i>b. Tree risk surveys</i>	32
<i>c. Staff expertise and capacity</i>	33
<i>d. Aftercare of newly planted trees</i>	34
<i>e. Further ongoing considerations</i>	34
<i>Ash dieback</i>	34
<i>Other pests and diseases</i>	34
<i>Invasive species</i>	35
<i>Thinning new plantations</i>	35
<i>The importance of dead and decaying wood</i>	36
CONCLUSION	38
<u>Appendix1 - List of current and potential future partners</u>	39
<u>Appendix 2 - List of currently available funding opportunities</u>	41

• INTRODUCTION

Trees are essential to human life. They clean our air, store carbon, provide shade and provide a home for wildlife. They stabilise our soils and can help prevent flooding.

Having adopted a carbon reduction plan in 2019 in response to the climate emergency, with the aim to be carbon neutral by 2035, this Strategy sets out why trees are important and why emergency action is needed to protect, manage and plant more trees within the District.

This tree strategy has taken into account global environmental issues and the changing local landscape that we live in but also builds on the ongoing work that the Council is already doing under the Greening Newark and Sherwood agenda. From declaring a Climate Emergency in 2019, launching free-tree giveaways, managing and maintaining four Green-Flag award winning parks, helping communities look after their own patch through the work of Cleaner, Safer, Greener action days, and successfully applying for funding for tree planting, this Strategy is the next step in meeting our environmental aspirations.

Most importantly the Strategy will help us increase tree cover in the District and help us maintain and protect our existing trees. It will help us benefit residents and visitors through the opportunity to observe and enjoy nature, and it will help us raise awareness of local environmental and conservation work that is being undertaken.

The Strategy considers the importance of all the District's natural spaces and not just Council managed land. It considers urban areas, parks, woodlands and farmed land. It considers a variety of natural habitats and the role of the planning system in protecting trees and hedges. There is scope for enhancing the District for trees and wildlife with appropriate long-term funding, and whether it is the creation of a whole new woodland or a single tree planted in a resident's garden, every action has a value in enhancing the District's natural assets. In essence we want to see the *right tree in the right place*.

We acknowledge that we cannot deliver all of the elements of the strategy alone or all at once. We will continue to play a key role in strengthening our partnerships with tree agencies and trusts, regulatory organisations, parish councils, residents and landowners. We aim to lead, inspire and invite others to join us in this process. The Strategy includes a staggered action plan for short, medium and longer term actions.

The tree strategy provides us with an unprecedented opportunity to transform our District into a better place for people and wildlife.

- **THE IMPORTANCE OF TREES**

- ***The bigger picture***

Trees are often referred to as the lungs of the planet, taking in carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen into the atmosphere. Trees are a powerful tool in combating the effects of climate change, such as storm events, flooding, changes in weather patterns, and rising temperatures. Trees help by capturing carbon from the atmosphere and storing it (sequestration) along with providing cooling shade in urban areas.

The value of trees and nature came into sharp focus during the Covid-19 pandemic. Green spaces gave people respite and hope through difficult times. Trees play a vital role in the health and well-being of individuals and society as a whole.

An abundance of research shows that trees not only improve our air, soil and water quality but also improve our physical and mental health and provide a sense of place. Trees have been found to enhance mood, reduce stress, improve self-esteem and lower blood pressure. Research in the Netherlands and Japan indicated that people were more likely to walk or cycle to work if the streets were lined with trees, feel better and live longer as a result¹.

Trees and woodlands are home to a wealth of wildlife, from shade-loving plants and delicate fungi, to nesting birds, elusive mammals and rare species of flora and fauna. Ancient woodland, in particular, supports more species than any other land-based habitat in the UK. Often ancient trees and woodlands provide environments that are totally unique and irreplaceable.

However according to the Woodland Trust, a third of all woodland wildlife species are in decline, and one in ten are at risk of extinction. Working to protect ancient trees² and woodlands is of vital importance along with creating new habitats to try to maintain biodiversity and bridge the gap between the oldest trees and the next ones to come along.

On 28 September 2020, the UK Government signed the Leaders Pledge for Nature, at the United Nations Summit on Biodiversity seeking to reverse Biodiversity Loss by 2030. The Chartered Institute for Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) states “that the climate emergency and biodiversity crisis are inextricably linked and must be addressed together” and calls for “action through nature-based solutions”.

In summary having a Tree Strategy is not just about carbon emissions but also the opportunity for creating a better place for people and wildlife to live. The Council believes that urgent action is needed on a bold scale to prevent irreversible damage to climate and nature.

- ***Trees in a national context - the race is on to reforest Britain***

¹ Van den Berg et al. 2003, Environmental preferences and restoration: (how) are they related? Journal of Environmental Psychology 23, 135-146.

² An ancient tree is one that has passed beyond maturity and is old, or aged, in comparison with other trees of the same species, a veteran tree typically it will have a wide trunk, small crown and signs of decay. A veteran tree is a damaged tree which has developed some of the features found on an ancient tree, not necessarily as a consequence of time, but of its life or environment.

The UK Government has ambitious targets to plant trees, committing to 30,000 hectares per year by 2025. This is the equivalent to planting 50 forests the size of Sherwood Forest, every year. This was the annual rate recommended by the Committee on Climate Change in 2019 to help the UK meet their target of net zero emissions by 2050³. The government is committed to increasing UK woodland land cover, for England the aim is to increase from 10% to 12% by 2060 in the 25 Year Environment Plan⁴.

Government research shows that we need to go further and faster than we are now. Landowners, including local authorities, need to be assessing their land to determine what options there are for tree planting and protecting existing trees.

During summer of 2021 the government released the [England Tree Action Plan](#) outlining the Government's long-term visions for trees, woodland and forestry.

The role of local authorities within the action plan:

- Be part of Nature Recovery and Landscape Recovery Networks (the Government's commitment to protect 30% of UK land by 2030)
- Develop local tree and woodland strategies
- Plant trees particularly where they make the most difference, understanding what canopy you have and set targets to increase it
- Apply for grants and invest more funding in trees
- Join woodland creation partnerships
- Plant trees in urban spaces so that people can connect with nature
- Support community-led tree planting schemes
- Use planning and Tree Preservation Orders (TPO's) to protect increasing numbers of trees
- Protect, manage better and improve public woodland for resilience and wildlife
- Protect ancient and veteran trees and woodland
- Act for greater tree resilience by following UK Forestry Standards
- Plant the right tree, in the right place for the right reason(s)

We have used the Government's Tree Action Plan to help develop and plan our ambitious strategy.

○ ***The Woodland Trust's Emergency Tree Plan for the UK***

The Woodland Trust published an Emergency Tree Plan for the UK in early 2020⁵. The plan is directed at all levels of government and aims to address both climate change and the nature emergency.

³ Committee on Climate change, 2020, "Land Use: Policies for a Net Zero UK"

⁴ HM Government, 2018, "A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment"

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/25-year-environment-plan>)

⁵ Woodland Trust 2020, Emergency Tree Plan for the UK

(<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/publications/2020/01/emergency-tree-plan>)

It contains a number of key recommendations for local authorities:

- Look after the trees we have by protecting trees and restoring existing woodland
- Prioritise the protection and restoration of ancient and veteran trees⁶
- Create new policies and funding for woods and trees
- Have quality and quantity targets for new tree cover
- Lead the way by using public land to help with climate action and nature recovery
- Write an emergency tree plan or strategy
- Ensure all development land includes a minimum 30% tree cover
- Support the core principle that new trees should seek to maximise future wildlife value
- Consider all trees, including woodlands, hedges, urban trees and individual trees

The Woodland Trust has also issued a stark warning about ‘planting by numbers’ and advise that we must always plant the **right tree in the right place**.

In 2021 they issued the [State of the UK’s Wood and Trees 2021 Report](#).

The key findings are

- Existing native woodlands are isolated, in poor condition and there has been a decline in woodland wildlife
- Woods and trees are vital for a healthy, happy society. They lock up carbon to fight climate change, improve our health, wellbeing and education, reduce pollution and flooding, and support people, wildlife and livestock.
- Woods and trees are subject to a barrage of coinciding threats. Threats range from direct woodland loss through building developments and farming to more insidious influences from climate impacts, imported diseases, invasive plants and air pollutants.
- Not nearly enough is being done. The report warns that we urgently need to scale up the initiatives to create native woods, put more individual trees back in the landscape, and restore damaged woods.

⁶ An ancient tree is one that has passed beyond maturity and is old, or aged, in comparison with other trees of the same species, a veteran tree typically it will have a wide trunk, small crown and signs of decay. A veteran tree is a damaged tree which has developed some of the features found on an ancient tree, not necessarily as a consequence of time, but of its life or environment.

Priority actions:

- Expand woodland tree cover
- Enhance and protect existing woods and trees
- Improve the evidence with improved tree data and regular wildlife assessments
- Invest time, money and people to take on the challenge and create opportunities for woods and trees

We have used the Woodland Trust's reports to help develop and plan our new Tree Strategy.

○ ***Trees in Newark and Sherwood***

Our Tree Strategy will form part of the Council's response to the incoming governmental policy, but it will also set out our approach and leadership in terms of managing and protecting trees.

We will use our own assets and estate for tree planting, continue to use our powers as a planning authority and we will embrace partnership working. We will set our own targets and implement our own policies.

The Council's Community Plan (2020 to 2023) includes the objective to "enhance and protect the District's natural environment" – this is important, but also for the benefits created for residents and businesses in so doing.

The objective is supported by the action to "contribute to the Emergency Tree Plan for the UK by identifying sites and planting at least 10,000 trees". Through a mix of direct planting and community involvement Newark and Sherwood District Council passed this target in early 2022. This included the development of a new woodland at Vicar Water Park on the Vicardale site. In response to this success this Strategy sets the objective of planting or providing for planting a further 8,000 trees by 2030.

The creation of a Tree Strategy also supports the strategy and action plan produced in response to the declared climate emergency. The Climate Emergency Action Plan recognises that the Council will have some residual emissions requiring offsetting and although tree planting is not a means of offsetting at this time, the World Resource Institute and the Carbon Trust are developing a new accounting standard for greenhouse gas (GHG) removal, which is expected to be published in 2023.

- **OBJECTIVES OF THIS STRATEGY**

This Strategy has been developed with the aim of establishing the Council's objectives towards trees in Newark and Sherwood District and setting out an action plan to implement those objectives.

- Objective 1 Establish robust dataset of trees within the District, identifying:
 - Trees under District control (numbers and species composition)
 - Canopy coverage of remaining land
 - Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees in our control
- Objective 2 Develop policies and procedures to ensure:
 - The Council has a robust approach to biosecurity measures when planting or supplying trees
 - Trees are maintained and protected, where appropriate, to protect both biodiversity and public safety
- Objective 3 Review of upcoming changes to national and regional policy and guidance with regards to trees within the District.
- Objective 4 Work within the planning system to not only support and maintain the biodiversity of the District but actively improve it.
- Objective 5 Work with residents and partner organisations to maintain and improve the biodiversity of the District
- Objective 6 Continue to plant more trees in suitable locations and encourage others to do the same

- **CURRENT SITUATION**

- *Where are the District's trees?*

The name of the District being Newark and **Sherwood** gives a clue as to the woodland distribution within our District. Using the National Forest Inventory for Woodland 2017, Map 1, shows the extent of woodland cover around the western edge of the District. Notable woodlands over 100 hectares include Clipstone Forest (314ha), Sherwood Forest (600ha) and Wellow Wood (128ha). These are the remains of ancient hunting forests and wooded grazing land which would have been widespread across the Mercia Mudstone area of the District along with more modern Forestry England evergreen plantations.



Map 1: National Forest Inventory for Woodland 2017

The land to the east of the District is less wooded (although Stapleford Woods does provide 90ha of woodlands to explore). The trees and woodland within the Newark area are primarily found within parks and open spaces such as Sconce and Devon Park, and Beacon Hill Conservation Park (managed by Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust).

- **Where are the District council owned trees?**

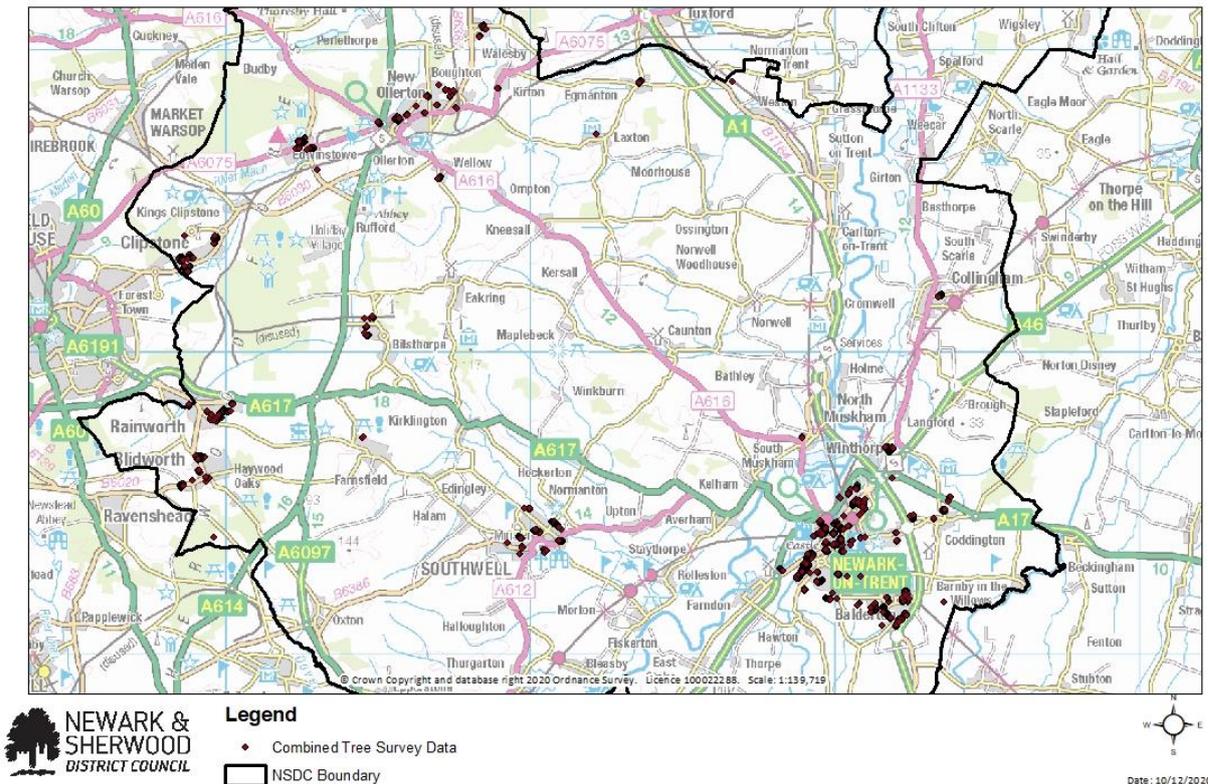
Current practice for the Council is that every three years a Tree Risk Survey is carried out. For District Council land, excluding housing land, the latest survey in early 2020 covered 892 trees, or groups of trees, conducting a visual tree assessment looking for gross or remedial defects.

The survey primarily looked at the risk to people and buildings, fences, highways and public footpaths so does not cover all of the trees on Council land and is only looking at trees with a diameter larger than 75mm. Trees on land managed as part of our housing stock were surveyed in a similar way in March 2022

These surveys have been used to identify where immediate tree work is needed and this work is then being carried out in priority order, ramping down to less immediate work prior to a new survey being carried out.

Combining data from tree risk surveys over the past few years, including housing land, shows the extent of where some of the District Council tree stock can be found, as shown in Map 2. Based on this combined data it is estimated that around 4,000 mature or semi mature trees, or groups of trees, that are managed by the Council.

Newark & Sherwood District Council Tree Survey Combined



Map 2: Combined Tree Survey Data

As these surveys are not looking at all sites, and only selected trees within some of those sites it is thought that this may only cover 70% of the District Council tree stock. However, it does

show that we do have a significant number of sites within the Newark area, and with Newark generally being less wooded, these sites become far more important than ever.

- ***How do we protect trees within the District?***

As the Local Planning Authority, we are responsible for Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) under the Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012. The law helps protect valuable trees which contribute to an area's landscape and amenity. A tree with a TPO applied is one which has significant public amenity value or potential for amenity value.

Currently Newark and Sherwood has over 350 TPOs but each one of them can include woodland areas (known as 'group TPOs') so across the District thousands of trees are covered by TPOs and are offered a level of protection, whereby any works to be carried out on them must be approved and agreed with by the Council.

Conservation Area legislation also provides some protection to trees. Conservation Areas are generally designated based on historical value of the buildings, structures, and spaces that form the setting of these elements. Trees form an important part of the character of a Conservation Area and for those trees that are not individually protected by a TPO, before an owner does any works on them, they must inform the Council. The Council will consider if the proposed works are acceptable or if the tree needs to be protected by a TPO.

- ***Planning policies for trees***

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. A principle, set out in the NPPF, is that "Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment" and which includes "minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures".

The NPPF seeks to ensure that the major pressure for significant housing development, to address the housing crisis, is balanced against the need to protect and enhance the environment. It expects new development to be well designed and to provide open space that "reflect current and future needs and support communities health, social and cultural well-being." Clearly trees play an important role in this.

The Council through its planning policy sets out, in the Amended Core Strategy and the Allocations and Development Management DPD, to protect trees and woodlands and to ensure new development is designed to ensure that it respects biodiversity assets already onsite.

Policy	Purpose
Core Policy 9 Sustainable Design	Requires high standard of sustainable design that both protects and enhances the natural environment
Core Policy 12 Biodiversity & Green Infrastructure	Protection of Ancient Woodland and seeks to secure development that maximises the opportunities to conserve, enhance and restore biodiversity.
Sherwood Area Policy 1	Promotes sustainable development which helps deliver the conservation aims of Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC (Sherwood Forest National Nature Reserve) and the other designated nature conservation sites
Policy DM 5 - Design	Part 5 Trees, Woodland, Biodiversity & Green Infrastructure seeks to secure natural features (such as trees) are protected and enhanced and integrated into GI. Part 7 Ecology requires developers to assess onsite biodiversity and seek to ensure that significantly harmful effects are designed out.
Policy DM 7 – Biodiversity & Green Infrastructure	Sets out the decision making criteria for the various nature conservation designations.

Alongside the District Council's planning policy individual communities can prepare Neighbourhood Plans which set more localised policies. These plans can include policies which protect important features of a village or town including identifying trees which are considered locally important.

Where sites come forward for development the Council will seek to ensure that trees are integrated into the development; an assessment of existing trees and hedgerows will identify those trees that are worthy of retention. It will not always be possible to retain all trees, particularly if the trees are of a poor standard, however the Council will seek to secure new trees as part of any landscaping scheme. The Council will seek to ensure that existing trees which are to remain as part of the development continue to be maintained by placing them in the public realm, securing their ongoing maintenance via separate arrangement or through protection via a TPO.

In terms of new tree planting, planning conditions can be included in new developments so that landscaping plans have to include tree planting, along with other appropriate green spaces.

- **IDENTIFYING THE GAPS**

- ***Baseline survey of the District***

With the UK Government aiming to increase woodland cover it is important to understand what the District's canopy cover is as a whole. England's cover is estimated at 10%, and in 1998 Nottinghamshire woodland was stated as being 8% of total landcover⁷. We currently only have a limited understanding, based on the small sample of our own trees found within the Tree Risk Survey. The Woodland Trust has also identified a lack of data for the Sherwood Forest area. A baseline figure needs to be obtained for the District, allowing us to compare and measure future planting and changes.

We know from previous research that the canopy cover across Newark Town is approximately 8%⁸, however the information for rest of the District is patchy, which means we don't have a clear assessment of the District's canopy cover. To rectify this, we will carry out a base-line audit to measure the canopy cover across the District. This survey will be carried out using i-Tree methodology⁹, which is the analysis of aerial photographs. This is the accepted method by many organisations, including the Woodland Trust, as the quickest way to estimate existing tree cover.

This baseline figure can be used to measure our own tree planting programmes over time but also enable us to compare the District's tree canopy with neighbouring authorities and national levels. It will help us prioritise areas for tree planting and demonstrate if we are achieving national requirements and goals set out by the Government's Climate Change Committee and England Tree Strategy.

The Woodland Trust is currently running a campaign to map the UK's ancient and veteran trees. We will encourage our residents to take part in this scheme and work with the Woodland Trust to share this information so that trees can be monitored and given tree preservation orders if appropriate.

ACTION – Carry out a baseline study in the short term with i-Tree.

ACTION – To work with the Woodland Trust and others to review collected data and identify gaps and shortfalls in ancient tree coverage identifying potential ancient trees for additional prevention measures.

⁷ Forestry Commission 2001, National Inventory of Woodland and Trees for England. ([National inventory of woodland and trees - England - Forest Research](#))

⁸ The Canopy Cover of England's Towns and Cities: baselining and setting targets to improve human health and well-being [Various Authors](#)

⁹ iTree Canopy, (<https://canopy.itreetools.org/>)

- **PROTECTING TREES**

The Council will prioritise the protection and restoration of existing trees and woodland within the District. An older, larger tree fixes significantly higher levels of carbon compared with smaller and mid-sized trees. Similarly in terms of biodiversity, larger and older trees have far greater value for wildlife. A large oak tree for example can support up to 2,300 species for at least part of their life. Like every species all trees will eventually decline and may require felling or remedial work for a number of reasons including disease and safety.



Photo 1: Mature Oak tree at Sherwood Forest 2022

- ***Protecting trees through development***

Tree Preservation Orders (TPO)

The Environmental Act was published in 2021 (although not all sections are currently in force), this and future planning reforms may mean changes to the TPO system, with the scope being widened with the aim to increase the number of protected trees.

The England Tree Action Plan states that the Government wants to make sure trees in the urban environment are no longer seen as a management liability because of the costs, rather that they are seen as an important asset.

Whatever the outcome of the national review it is acknowledged that the current Newark and Sherwood TPO list has not been comprehensively reviewed for many years meaning that

there may be trees that don't necessarily need the protection of a TPO or that new trees or woodlands need adding. Currently we register new TPO's when they are at risk and identified as important as part of new development, when a Tree Works in a Conservation Area application identifies a tree of amenity value or when a tree is nominated and assessed as being important by a town/parish council or member of the public and is at risk.

The review of current TPOs in the District, in line with tree regulations, requires capacity and expertise within the Planning Development Business Unit. This expertise was previously restricted to advice on current tree works applications. A dedicated Tree and Landscape Officer has been recruited to help provide this capacity. This will help ensure that the Council has the necessary resources to regularly review protected trees, consider trees as part of new development and assist the Council in the delivery of parts of this Strategy.

A TPO list review will also aim to ensure that all protected trees are available for the general public to view on a map based system via our website. Planning Development is working on upgrading the Council's GIS infrastructure and this will allow the Council to create interactive maps allowing local residents, developers and landowners to search and view GIS data on TPO's.

- ***Felling licenses***

Better regulation of tree management protecting and sustainably managing existing tree and woodland cover requires strong regulation. The Government introduced Felling Licence Online in 2019 to modernise the customer journey for felling licence applications.

The Environment Act (2021) contains several measures to improve enforcement against illegal tree felling. The England Tree Action Plan suggests reform of the felling licence system and controls, introducing greater flexibility, improved clarity around felling controls and UK Forestry Standard requirements, and improved enforcement capability.

The Act introduces 'Duty to Consult' which will give the public the opportunity to understand why a street tree is being felled and express any concerns regarding this. The Act also introduces Forestry Enforcement Measures which strengthens the Forestry England's power to clamp down on illegal tree felling across England.

- ***Protecting ancient trees and woodlands***

Ancient trees in wood pasture and parkland are totally unique and have decaying wood found nowhere else. They produce crucial habitats with very rich biodiversity.

Projects such as 'Back from the Brink' which is a £4.6 million, lottery funded, 4 year conservation project aims to protect 20 endangered species in the UK and has included 'ancient of the future' as one of its projects¹⁰. The project has targeted tree-dependent species to protect including invertebrates, lichens, fungi, mosses, bats and birds.

¹⁰ Natural England/ National Lottery Heritage Fund (<https://naturebftb.co.uk/>)

Tree species in ancient woodland commonly include Oak, Ash, Sweet Chestnut, Beech, Lime, Birch, Hawthorne and Willow. Nineteen sites have been identified as part of the project including Sherwood Forest in our District. Sherwood Forest is one of the Woodland Trust's 10 priority landscapes within the UK, with the ancient trees being a primary reason.

In Newark and Sherwood, we need to help identify, map and protect ancient woods, veteran trees and others of valued wildlife habitat. We need to ensure they are on national and local inventories by working with the Woodland Trust. As part of this process, we will identify 'future' ancient and veteran trees for protection.

A comprehensive District-wide tree survey would help us identify and record the most valuable ancient and veteran trees within the District.

In 2018, the UK Government strengthened protections for ancient woodland when considering planning decisions for development by amending the National Planning Policy Framework and seeking to do more to continue to raise the importance of this habitat.

The England Tree Action plans states the Government will:

- Introduce a new category of 'Long Established Woodland': woodlands that have been in situ since 1840, alongside ancient woodland
- Consult on the protections these woodlands are afforded in the planning system, recognising their high ecological and societal value
- Update the ancient woodland inventory to cover the whole of England. This will include mapping smaller ancient woodland sites of 0.25 hectares
- Update the Keepers of Time policy on management of ancient woodland and other semi natural woodland.

If we can identify ancient and veteran trees within Newark and Sherwood, we can work with landowners to help protect and care for them and promote their value to local residents.

ACTION – Protect ancient and long-standing woodlands, veteran trees and others of valued wildlife habitat in the District.

ACTION – Tree and Landscape Officer to carry out and then continue to maintain records of the District's TPOs and ensure that TPOs are easily assessable to the wider public.

ACTION – Review changes being brought about by the Environment Act (2021) and consider additional ways that the Local Planning Authority can protect trees as part of new development.



Photo 2: An example of an ancient Oak tree, Sherwood Heath 2020

○ ***Protecting trees by reducing biosecurity risks***

Biosecurity risks are increasing due to increased international trade of plant materials, and as climate change is altering the geographical range of many pests and diseases. Protecting our new and existing trees from biosecurity risks will be vital to delivering our long-term vision for trees and woodlands.

The Government is aiming to publish a new GB Plant Biosecurity Strategy during 2022 and drive higher international standards of biosecurity.

We will take the following steps to avoid being exposed to problems:

- We will commit to buying UK sourced and grown trees where possible from nurseries with clear Plant Health Management Standards in place. We will also use local nurseries and suppliers where possible and will ensure any partner organisations do the same
- We commit to procuring UK sourced timber from FSC (sustainable) sources and encourage use of hardwood timber sourced from existing and new woodland in the area
- Our Tree and Woodland Inspection Policy will include regular checks for new pests and diseases, with any issues requiring closer monitoring highlighted
- We will report unusual symptoms on Council trees to Forestry England via the online Tree Alert system

Education around biosecurity is an important element and we will encourage and communicate key biosecurity messages to local communities such as:

- Don't risk it: never bring any plants or cuttings back to the UK from abroad
- Buy safely: Source your new trees carefully. Collect local seed and grow your own trees whenever possible. When you buy trees, ensure that your trees have been grown in the UK and that you check the biosecurity policy of the organisation supplying you with trees. Don't just buy online and hope for the best
- Be vigilant: Report any unusual symptoms on trees to the Forestry England's Tree Alert system. <https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/tools-and-resources/tree-alert/>

ACTION – We will implement and communicate a robust approach to biosecurity risks across the District, both in our own planting schemes and through advice and partnership.

- **PLANTING TREES**

- *Creating well planned quality woodland*

As a local authority we need to be clear on our objectives for planting trees and woods

- **Climate change** – the capability of trees to affect climate is becoming ever more important
- **Biodiversity loss** – trees and hedges provide habitat, shelter and food for wildlife
- **Impact on air quality in urban settings** – trees are oxygenating, and they metabolize pollution
- **Reducing flood risk as our climate changes** - trees reduce the rate at how rain falls to the ground, slows it and absorbs it
- **Water quality and soil erosion due to run off**- planting trees along rivers and streams
- **Cooling affect in urban areas** - the shade value of trees is important and increasing as the climate warms up
- **Noise reduction** – trees and hedges can help reduce excessive noise from traffic or other sources
- **Landscape, amenity and recreation** - creating woodland and green spaces for locals to connect with and enjoy

Based on the survey work we would need to identify areas that need trees to be planted, and ensure we met these targets by setting our own targets.

Our core principles will be to plant the right tree in the right place and all new trees should seek to maximise future wildlife value.

The actual process of planting a young tree is not difficult although it must done properly and with care. However, the success of planting will depend on choosing the right species for the site, and on providing after care and the right environment in which the young trees will thrive. This will include keeping the ground around young trees weed-free, watering during dry spells and providing protection from animals and vandals.

Over the last 3 years though Newark and Sherwood District Council have given away over 10,000 trees and have planted over 7,900 trees on land we maintain. Although the number of currently identified sites provides some restrictions on additional direct planting, we plan to increase this figure by at least 6,000 trees by 2032.

- *Site surveys and planting plans*

Work has already started on auditing Council owned land, parks and green space for additional tree planting and improved biodiversity opportunities.

When a site has been allocated for potential tree planting a thorough site survey is undertaken. We consider factors including soils, topography, exposure, existing flora and habitats, scale, landscape and sense of place, access (current and future), species, the planting process and aftercare requirements.

When choosing trees for a particular site we will choose the best suited species, species that will contribute to the wildlife value of the site and species that will look right.

The need to plant trees while being sensitive to nature means that we will prioritise native tree species, preferably grown locally and but also consider longevity, oaks and yews for example can live for 1000 years and are great choices. We will always plant a diversity of tree species for future resilience. Note during 2020 Forestry England planted over 42 different species of tree.

We must also not forget the importance of hedges, urban trees and individual trees.

Greening urban areas is an important development area for the Council. Trees in gardens, streets, schools, shopping centres, town parks, and other publicly accessible places will provide shade, reduce air and ground temperatures, improve air quality by absorbing pollutants and help mitigate surface water flooding.

- ***Landscape character***

The Council's [Landscape Character Assessment Supplementary Planning Document](#) (LCA SPD) provides an objective assessment of the varied landscape in Newark and Sherwood. It also gives a greater understanding of what makes our landscape locally distinctive and provides a list of the most appropriate tree species for planting schemes in the area.

- ***Natural regeneration***

In addition to planting new trees, we will encourage natural regeneration in our larger parks and woodlands. Natural regeneration is the process by which existing woodland regenerate and it offers many benefits including:

- It provides a variety of different habitats
- It supports genetic mixing and natural selection
- Reduces the risk from bought trees
- Reduced costs



Photo 3: Naturally regenerated Birch trees, Sherwood Heath 2020

- ***Planting projects***

In response to objectives within the council's Community Plan work is already taking place to identify Council managed sites with the potential to plant new trees.

Urban Tree Challenge - in early 2021, in partnership with Newark Town Council we planted over 3,300 trees as part of a match funding bid through the Urban Tree Challenge. This involved planting on five sites in Newark and Coddington. The planting has created small, wooded areas within some of the town's key open spaces. The Government is expected to extend the Urban Tree Challenge fund in 2022.

Trees for Climate – in 2022, in partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council and the Sherwood Forest Trust 4000 trees will be planted at Vicardale in Clipstone.

Local Authority Treescapes Funding – in 2022, in partnership with VIA East Midlands a minimum of 38 large standard trees will be planted in urban parks and green spaces in Newark, North Muskham and Winthorpe.

Target Hardening – in 2022 a number of key sites will undergo natural landscaping including Newbury Road and Autumn Croft in Newark and Thorpe Oaks in Coddington. The landscaping will include the creation of wildflower bunds with additional tree planting.

Town and Country Parks – ongoing work will continue at key Council parks including Sconce and Devon Park and Vicar Water Country Park to renew hedgerows, create community orchards and plant memorial trees.

Corporate Property managed sites - the Corporate Property Team is undertaking an audit of their retail and workshop space in 2022 with a view to managing the sites with nature conservation in mind and assess opportunities for planting trees. This is a collaboration with Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust. There may be pockets of land that the Council own but are not a commercially viable option to rent, these could be potential sites for further trees.

The Council is also supporting tree planting on private and third-party land by working with local town and parish councils, schools, community groups and homeowners.

Annual free-tree give-way – the annual free tree give-away has taken place since winter 2019 and has given out over 9000 whips so far.

Trees for schools – each year the annual Christmas Tree Recycling project helps raise funds for tree planting in schools and with community groups.

Queen's Green Canopy – in addition to planting our own commemorative tree the Council will encourage all local parishes, schools, communities and businesses to plant a tree for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

- ***Securing additional trees through development***

The Government is currently reviewing the NPPF and is proposing to insert the following statement:

“Trees make an important contribution to the character and quality of urban environments and can also help mitigate and adapt to climate change. Planning policies and decisions should ensure that new streets are tree-lined, that opportunities are taken to incorporate trees elsewhere in developments (such as community orchards), that appropriate measures are in place to secure the long-term maintenance of newly planted trees, and that existing trees are retained wherever possible. Applicants and local planning authorities should work with local highways officers and tree officers to ensure that the right trees are planted in the right places, and solutions are found that are compatible with highways standards and the needs of different users.”

This clearly sets out an approach which expects the provision of new trees as part of new development. There are a number of ways that this can be implemented and the Council has already incorporated new policy wording on this in the Amended Allocations & Development Management DPD and will provide guidance within our upcoming Design Supplementary Planning Document.

- ***Tree canopy coverage policy***

The Woodland Trust recommends that all local authorities implement planning policies to secure delivery of 30% canopy cover on all new developments. This is a highly ambitious target, and as of September 2020 the highest agreed canopy cover target the Woodland Trust had seen approved was 25%, at Wycombe District Council¹¹. They came to that conclusion having undertaken a tree canopy assessment and found, in order to maintain a status quo, then new developments (away from town centres and on sites above 0.5ha) would need a 25% canopy cover to match their existing assessed cover.

Different trees clearly have different canopies and at different ages. Any assessment of canopy cover would need a time element as it will take many years for trees to grow to their potential. Guidance could be written on species and sub species which assumes certain canopy cover would be achieved over time.

There is the very obvious risk that if trees are being planted in private gardens once the property is occupied and the developer has left there is nothing to stop that tree being removed. This will decrease the overall canopy cover for the area; however, this should not stop the District from aspiring to increase canopy cover on new developments.

¹¹ Wycombe District Council, and Forest Research , “Canopy Cover Assessment & Recommendations for Wycombe District”. (<https://www.wycombe.gov.uk/uploads/public/documents/Planning/New-local-plan/Tree-canopy-cover-assessment-report.pdf>)

- ***Tree pit size***

There is a direct relationship between how well a tree can grow above the ground and the health and resources of the root system below. Trees need enough room at three levels, below (for roots), at ground level (for the stem), and above (for the crown). All of these elements must come together for success. Often trees on new developments may only be planted in a small pit, which is then surrounded by compacted inhospitable soil, as a result the trees barely grow to their full potential. This can also have the wider benefit of improving onsite drainage through uncompacted soil.

Recent developments such as Middlebeck has included some street trees. Street trees have the potential to provide great value to developments, not only helping with the visual appearance but also achieving all the benefits described earlier such as reducing pollution and mitigating urban heat. The NPPF has been updated with an expectation that new streets should be tree-lined, the District Council will need to work closely with the County Council to implement this approach. The Council's Planning Policy and Infrastructure Business Unit are working on a new Design Supplementary Planning Guidance which is due to be completed in the next 3 years and it will include guidance about street trees including guidance on tree pit size.

- ***Local Nature Recovery Strategies***

The Environment Act (2021) introduces provisions requiring the development of Local Nature Recovery Strategies across England. Local Nature Recovery Strategies will be produced locally to help identify priorities and opportunities for conserving and enhancing nature. This will of course include the consideration of new trees and woodlands.

The proposals focus on creating local collaboration with a partnership of organisations across roughly 50 Local Nature Recovery Strategies in the UK. A lead 'responsible authority' for each will be appointed. In Nottinghamshire, Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust submitted a proposal to pilot the Local Nature recovery Scheme in the Sherwood area. Newark and Sherwood have agreed to be a partner in this pilot scheme which is currently being held as a 'first reserve scheme.'

In 2020 officers from Planning Policy and Environmental Services took part in a BOM (Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping) exercise for Newark and Sherwood. The findings and a full report are now available on the Notts BAG website.

[Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Group](#)

In Nottinghamshire, the County Council together with Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust and Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Group (Notts BAG) are following developments very closely and even if the LNR pilot does not go ahead, there is value to be gained through the partnerships and information gathering conducted as part of the bid process.

- ***Biodiversity Net Gain***

The Environment Act's wider biodiversity provisions include the requirement that new development will need to achieve a 10% net gain in biodiversity. This requirement will lead to developers having to demonstrate how they have met the 10% net gain as part of the consideration of the planning application. This approach will, in many circumstances, lead to the planting of trees to increase biodiversity, and the Council will need to consider how this works with any canopy cover proposals. It is feasible that a biodiversity strategy will be required which could supersede this document. On that basis this strategy and the associated action plan should be reviewed annually.

- **Urban greening**

It is important for trees, planting and wildlife to be considered and encouraged during all Council building and development programmes including town centre developments. This includes a proactive approach towards new green spaces for residents to enjoy, new street trees and individual trees, biophilic¹² architecture and other urban greening opportunities.

Achieving biodiversity net gain in urban areas will help us find and create 'green routes' through town centres, which will greatly improve the options for walking and cycling.

The England Tree Action Plan talks of future planning reforms to ensure more urban trees are planted and ensure strong protections for existing trees.

"Protecting and improving our trees outside of woodlands Trees outside of woodlands are among the most valuable to society. People place great value on trees and green spaces in their local communities, which also provide connections in our fragmented treescapes and vital habitat for threatened biodiversity. Yet they often slip through the gaps between funding mechanisms, contributing to their long-term neglect and decline. We need to reclaim our neglected public land, create tree-based community green spaces and encourage new trees in non-woodland settings, for people and nature.

We will: open the Local Authorities Treescape Fund, to work in partnership with organisations, local land-owners and community groups to deliver strategic planting and natural regeneration of trees outside of woodlands for the benefit of local communities and nature"

- **Air Quality**

Currently the Council measure air quality across the District at 13 monitoring stations (mainly close to residential properties), measuring NO₂ in accordance with Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) guidance. We currently do not have any sites above the limit of 40mg/m³ and therefore do not have to declare an air quality management area with DEFRA. However, trees do have the potential to reduce air pollution at a local level.

Our higher level areas include Ollerton roundabout, Beaumont Cross road junction and Bowbridge Road in Newark and Newark town centre. Tree planting and urban greening

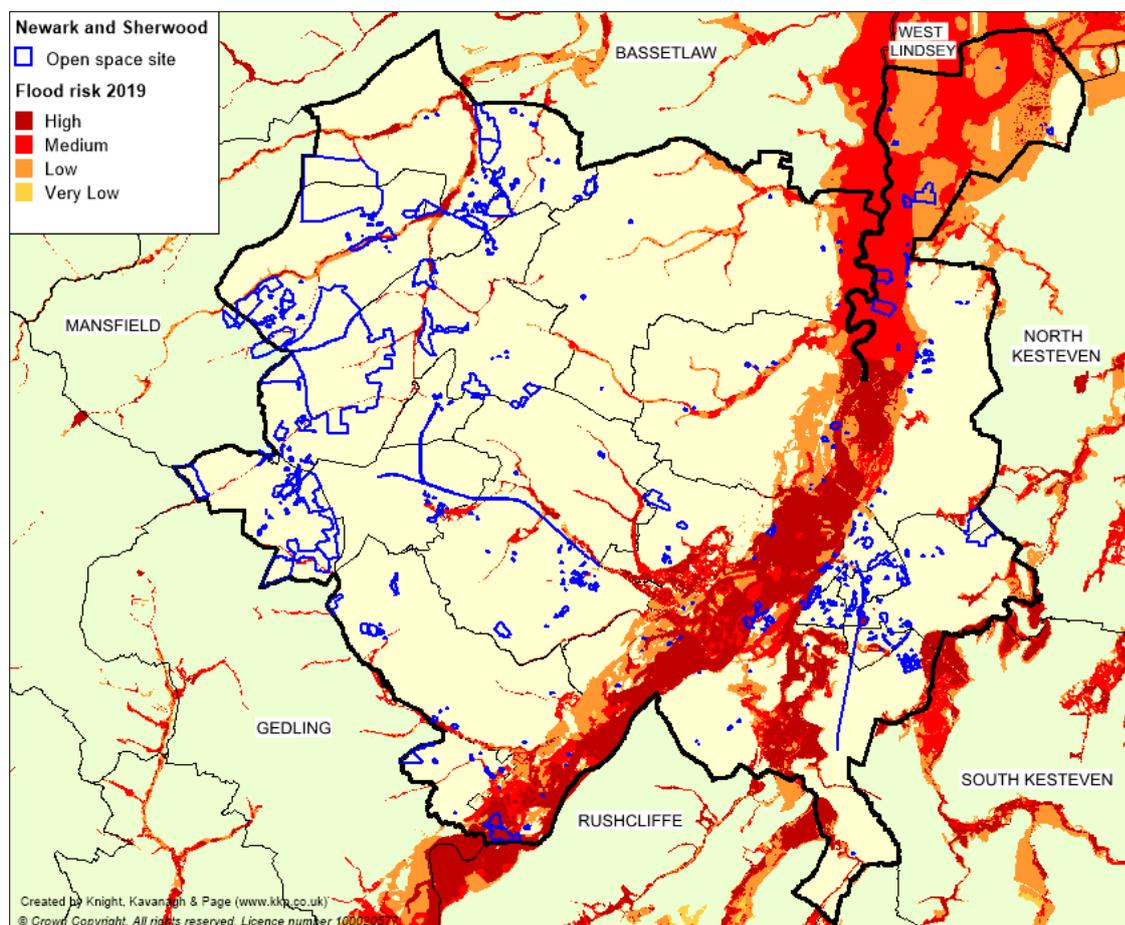
¹² Biophilic design is a concept used within the building industry to increase occupant connectivity to the natural environment through the use of direct nature, indirect nature, and space and place conditions.

should take place wherever possible around the areas of the District with the highest air pollution.

- **Flooding**

Many areas of the District are often seasonally affected by flooding, and with climate change impacts, this is only going to be more prevalent.

The Council's incoming Open Space Assessment and Strategy highlights the risks that much of the District faces, as show in Map 3. The map identifies 24 sites of open space that are at high risk to flooding. These are the same areas that are affected year after year with the difficulties and costs of dealing with flooding.



Map 3 Flood Risk and Open spaces, taken from the Open Space Assessment and Strategy 2020.

There is the potential with tree planting to target some of the often affected areas and to try to reduce the risk of flooding, whether this be on our land or encouraging others to do the same.

The Open Space Assessment and Strategy goes further to identify 16 sites within the District that have potential for greater climate resilience. This includes simple measures such as more

tree planting and wildflower meadow creation to potentially help reduce CO₂ levels, provide flood reduction, mitigate impacts of urban heat island effects, and poor air quality.

Table 1: Site with Potential for Climate change resilience, as taken from the Open Space Assessment and Strategy, 2020

Ref	Site name	Settlement	Resilience measure
15	Riverside Park A	Newark	Planting/meadow creation
23	Barnby Road Community Park	Newark	Greater planting
31	Cleveland Square Playing Field	Newark	Greater planting
32	Former Sconce School Playing Field	Newark	Greater planting
67	Jericho Road	Balderton	Greater planting
72	Hollowdyke Lane	Fernwood	Greater planting
88	Old School Lane	Newark	Planting/meadow creation
96	South Collingham Open Space	Collingham	Greater planting
105	College Close	Newark	Greater planting
214	Corner Chestnut Dr & Whitewater Rd	Ollerton & Boughton	Greater planting
260	Marina/rear of Sandhill Road	Farndon	Greater planting
294	Mill Field	Ollerton & Boughton	Meadow creation
303	Sherwood Heath	Ollerton & Boughton	Greater planting
305	Ollerton Pit Wood	Ollerton & Boughton	Greater planting
458	Willow Holt	Farndon	Planting/meadow creation
460	Millennium Wood	Farnsfield	Greater planting

ACTION – set a new target for planting at least a further 6,000 new trees over the next ten years (2022 to 2032).

ACTION – Develop a new Design SPD including guidance about street trees with consideration to be given to a minimum canopy cover target.

ACTION – Review the findings of the BOM mapping exercise and work with partners to secure new woodland development and tree planting opportunities.

ACTION - Work with Notts Wildlife Trust and other partners on the information gained from the Local Nature Recovery Network scheme and seek to secure new woodland planting and development opportunities.

ACTION - Review changes being brought about by the Environment Act (2021) and Biodiversity Net Gain and consider ways that the Local Planning Authority can secure new trees as part of new development.

ACTION – Continue to apply for appropriate funding for urban tree planting such as the Local Authorities Treescape Fund.

ACTION – Consider Street trees, biophilic architecture and other urban greening opportunities during all Council building and development programmes.

ACTION – Review the findings within the Open Space Assessment and Strategy and work to secure new woodland development and tree planting opportunities.

ACTION – This strategy and action plan should be reviewed annually to ensure its continued relevance.

- **ENGAGING WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES**

There is only so much land that the Council can plant on ourselves, it is important that all landowners do their bit, from residents, community groups, town and parish councils, farmers and businesses. We can use our position to try to positively influence local landowners to consider the options for tree planting or meadow creation.

We will continue to encourage residents to understand the benefits and value of planting trees and hedges in domestic gardens, allotments and community orchards across the District.

In 2019 the Council launched the first of its free tree giveaways, handing out over 4,000 trees to residents and community groups. This has been repeated in the winters of 2020 and 2021, with a further 5000 trees being given out.

Also starting in 2019 our Christmas Tree Recycling service not only helps ensure that all real Christmas trees can be recycled but it also raises money for more tree planting and conservation work within the District.



Photo 4: Tree planting at Chuter Ede School December 2020 funded by the Christmas tree recycling scheme

- **Promoting trees and tree planting**

We want to celebrate trees and help focus attention on trees at a local level. We will join in with national events and campaigns such as National Tree Week (23 November to 1 Dec). National Tree Week is organised by the Tree Council and promotes the winter tree planting season.

Other campaigns and celebrations include Clean Air Day, World Environment Day, Love Parks, Green Flag, Free Tree Give-aways, Southwell Bramley Apple Festival, the Major Oak Festivals, tree planting events and volunteer task days.

- ***Supporting healthy lifestyles***

We will support healthy lifestyles by promoting woodland access for recreation, exercise, engagement with nature and wellbeing.

The Environmental Services Team works with colleagues in the Health and Communities team and external partners including Newark and Sherwood Community and Voluntary Service, the Sherwood Forest Trust, Forestry England, Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust and local schools.

We will continue to promote local woodlands and encourage locals to explore local woodland walks and cycling opportunities at sites across the District.

Local woodland sites with good access include:

- Boughton Brake
- Clumber Park
- Farnsfield Millennium Wood
- Haywood Oaks and Blidworth Woods
- Intake Wood in Clipstone
- Ollerton Pit Woods
- Sconce and Devon Park
- Sherwood Forest
- Sherwood Heath, Cockglade Wood and Rotary Wood
- Sherwood Pines
- Stapleford Woods
- Thoresby Park
- Vicar Water Country Park
- Wellow Wood

Where suitable and feasible we will seek to improve access to these sites and work with our partners and landowners to ensure interpretation and communication boards are deployed where needed.



Photo 5: Boughton Brake family walk and orienteering trail, 2020

The District is fortunate to have many community organisations that carry our valuable nature conservation work within the District. The Council's Environmental Services team and the Health and Communities team supports, offers advice and promotes the work being undertaken by these groups and volunteers.

Our parks rangers offer outdoor school education opportunities and Forest School activities for children at our parks in Newark, Clipstone and Ollerton.

- **Community Orchards**

The Biodiversity Action Plan for the UK highlights community orchards as hotspots for biodiversity in the countryside, supporting a wide range of wildlife and containing UK BAP priority habitats and species, as well as an array of Nationally Rare and Nationally Scarce species.

We will investigate and support the development of community orchards within the District. Fruit trees have long been planted in gardens and orchards, and as well as contributing to our diet, provide the same important environmental benefits as other trees.

Fruit trees tend to be more expensive to buy and can require careful formative pruning for at least three years to form a balanced framework of branches. Fruit trees are also often prone to a variety of pests and diseases. The additional costs and maintenance requirements need to be considered when planting orchards. The District owns and maintains an ancient orchard

on Sconce and Devon Park and an additional orchard located within the Hawton Holt area of the park.

We assist the Tree Council by sharing their 'Orchards for Schools' programme and help promote the Woodland Trust's 'Free Trees for Schools' scheme.

We help promote The Bramley Fund (via the Notts Community Foundation) which offers small grants to grow apple trees locally.

- ***Miner 2 Major***

We are a partner in the Miner 2 Major (M2M) landscape partnership. This is an exciting five-year project (2019 to 2023) supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. The scheme is delivering a range of projects that celebrate and help protect the diverse wildlife, important habitats and rich heritage of Sherwood Forest.

There are many opportunities for local people to get involved with volunteering, have-a-go activities, restoring natural habitats, monitoring threatened species, planting hedges and trees, improving walking trails, free training and up-skilling courses, surveying historic woodland and learning traditional woodland crafts. There are opportunities to take part in activities at locations including Rainworth Heath, Budby South Forest, Sherwood Forest, Vicar Water Country Park, Intake Wood and Sherwood Heath.

Hedgerows and hedgerow trees are a key features of Sherwood's agricultural landscape. They are important not only for their wildlife and landscape value but have practical benefits such as reducing windblown soil erosion and water runoff. Miner 2 Major is delivering a number of projects with local farmers and landowners, one of them being trees and hedges.

Currently, we have limited information about hedgerows and hedgerow trees throughout Sherwood. Miner2 Major is working with landowners and managers to improve understanding of the number and condition of hedges. Trained volunteers including Council staff are undertaking surveys, recording information such as species, condition, connectivity, wildlife value and location of hedgerows and hedgerow trees. Hedgerow Health Reports are then given to the farmer or landowner.

The Miner 2 Major project is also helping the District Council with managing invasive species in our woodlands, wildlife surveying, volunteer maintenance tasks, Forest School Training opportunities and signage, community engagement, interpretation and trail access at Vicar Water Country Park, Intake Wood and Sherwood Heath.

[Miner2Major website](#)

- ***Park volunteering***

We have a well-established and rewarding volunteer programme in four of the Council's larger parks and woodlands – Sconce and Devon Park, Vicar Water Country Park, Intake Wood and Sherwood Heath. The park rangers work with regular volunteers, drop-in volunteers and organised groups including Duke of Edinburgh students and National Citizen Service (NCS) participants. Often the tasks involve tree care and tree planting for example thinning new

plantations, coppicing willow, creating dead-hedge habitats, creating log pile habitats and planting new trees.

The volunteering is open to all and no experience is needed, only enthusiasm.

- ***Park and woods friends groups***

We have park friends groups in our larger parks. The friends volunteer their time to meet up regularly, usually once a month and help us manage and maintain the parks and woods. This may involve providing us with feedback and giving us ideas for improvements, fundraising for new projects, helping with park events, helping to plant trees or simply joining us for organised walks and wildlife surveys. The friends groups are free to join and as the name suggests they are very friendly. We actively promote the activities undertaken by the friends through the park communications channels. As part of the new ten year management plan for Intake Wood we will aim to establish a new friends group for the wood.



Photo 6: Winter bird walk with the Friends of Sherwood Heath, 2020

Involvement in community action, community tree planting and conservation, volunteer task days, friends of groups, celebration events, school programmes, awareness raising, interpretation boards and so on will require funding to be available.

- ***School engagement and Forest School***

The Environmental Services team offer support to schools including visits, tree planting, regular newsletters, advice on school gardens in addition to outdoor activities in our parks including habitat building, pond dipping, wildlife surveying and nature trails.

Uniformed groups enjoy regular visits to our three main parks in Newark, Clipstone and Ollerton for guided activities. We plan to ensure park staff are Forest School trained and continue this offer in future years.

- ***Encourage and support tree partnerships***

Around the Newark and Sherwood area there are a large number of committed organisations and groups that have expertise in not just trees but all aspects of work that protects and enhances the natural environment.

Some of these groups are regularly contacted for advice and support and for partnership working on joined-up projects relating to trees and woodlands. For others there are opportunities to create new partnerships or to develop existing relationships.

- ***Green Champions***

2022 will see the launch of our Green Champions scheme. This scheme will provide a gateway for our environmentally minded residents to interact with the council. As the scheme develops we will work with its members to be our eyes and ears on the ground, reporting issues with existing trees, and planting or finding locations for new ones.

- i. External Funding for planting***

With an increased focus on trees nationwide, there are a growing number of funding opportunities available for certain groups. We will continue to monitor and apply for funding to help with tree planting where possible.

ACTION - The Council continues to commit to funds of £1,500 a year to the free tree give away scheme and continues to plough back money from Christmas tree recycling into environmental improvement works with the aim of providing a further 8,000 trees by 2032

ACTION - We will continue to promote tree schemes and volunteer days, using the Green Champions scheme as a resource to encourage residents to get involved with increasing tree coverage in their area.

ACTION – continue to build our community engagement, volunteering and ‘friends of’ offers to help more local residents connect with trees.

ACTION – Ensure all park rangers are Forest School trained. Develop and extend the Council’s school education and Forest School offer.

ACTION – Continue to monitor and review tree funding opportunities and work in partnership with others to increase tree planting in the District.

- **MAINTAINING DISTRICT COUNCIL TREES**

- ***Tree and woodland policies***

The Council follows national and local policies on the management of trees but there some identified opportunities to develop new tree policies and procedures to support this strategy.

New tree policies could include:

- **Tree Pruning and Felling Policy** the aim to establish a transparent approach of when we will do tree work and for what reasons.
- **Diseased tree management policy** ensuring management options are available in response to any tree die back and disease and bio security threats.
- **High Winds Policy** many of our woodland areas create a risk to site users from falling branches and trees. Having a procedure in place to respond to weather warning helps to mitigate that risk.
- **Tree and Woodland Inspection Policy** a clear procedure for Council staff to follow when inspecting trees and carrying out any associated works, such as the removal of ad hoc rope swings.
- **Approved tree supplier list** ensuring all trees purchased by the Council come from an approved supplier with the required bio-security checks.
- **Approved contractor list** ensuring all tree works are undertaken in line with industry standards for health and safety, tree health and wildlife regulations.

Developing a proactive approach to managing and maintaining the Council's tree stock will help us stay on track with the surveying and maintenance. If a member of the public complains about a tree blocking out light, for example, or dropping leaves the Council will have the polices in place to support our decisions.

- ***Tree risk surveys***

As identified earlier, the most recent Tree Risk Survey does not include all of the Council tree stock of around 4,000 trees. A new wider, all-inclusive survey combining all land within Council remit will give a clearer picture of the current situation. This will enable us to properly manage our trees as the assets they are into the future.

Moving forward, a planned full tree survey every three years will cost approximately £10,000. This could be staggered so that the costs are spread over a number of years in a rolling programme of inspections.

There is a risk at the moment, without specific tree policies in place that critical tree work is being missed. More regular and wider tree inspections will help keep trees on Council managed land in a healthier state for the future. It will also reduce the potential for costly health and safety issues.

While some of the current survey data can be mapped, as the survey is carried out by an external contractor, so we do not have full control of the data. We will develop and maintain a full tree asset register using current data that will then be built on over time. This register

will store the location, tree id, species, approximate age, canopy cover, records of work undertaken, all providing with readily available information to the Council.

○ ***Staff expertise and capacity***

We need to ensure we have enough qualified staff, contractors or partner resources available to implement our ambitions. Additional tree work being identified through wider surveys will have budgetary impacts.

The Planning Development Business Unit has recently recruited a new Tree/Landscape Officer. This role will deliver the majority of the Council's TPO and Tree Works in Conservation Areas service with assistance from the Planning Technical Support team in addition to initiating a review of historic TPOs keeping this under continuous review. As well as these core functions the role will also: -

- Provide technical arboricultural advice to colleagues in the Council's planning teams on planning applications and the development of planning policies which encourage trees as part of new development
- Provide technical arboricultural advice to colleagues in Environmental Services with regard to Council owned and managed trees and woodlands
- Be an advocate for trees within the Council and the community supporting tree planting schemes, conservation activity and owners of protected trees

However, there is concern that one person will not be able to achieve anywhere near this amount of work. The implications of this work and biodiversity net gain are currently being assessed.

For the Environmental Services Team, the Tree Risk Survey carried out in early 2020 highlighted approximately £60,000 worth of essential tree work that needs to be carried out. Having used the risk rating to identify where the immediate work is, some of this has been completed, by in-house staff or contractors. The work is prioritised so that the immediate and dangerous work is done as a priority and less important work is diarised for a later date. This is not simply tree felling work, but essential safety work to ensure trees are safely maintained and healthy so they can continue to be enjoyed and provide benefits to all.

Failure to conduct this work and to maintain the Council's tree stock puts residents, visitors and workers within the district at risk. Unlike our housing land where a dedicated budget exists for tree works, there is no budget set aside for tree works covering the rest of the district. It is proposed the maintenance budget for essential tree work needs to be created of at least £30,000 each year. For context it is estimated that this work will cover around 6% of the District's tree stock per annum.

- ***Aftercare of newly planted trees***

All newly planted trees require aftercare and on-going maintenance. The main priority in the first three years is weed control and watering. As we plant more trees the time and costs for ongoing care and maintenance will increase.

Newly planted trees ideally require a weed-free area of at least 1m diameter around the stem. Weeds, especially grasses compete strongly with new trees for water, light and nutrients. There are a number of options for weed control including herbicides, mulch mats, loose mulch and hand weeding. We will continue to use a combination all methods.

New trees and especially larger standard trees require regular watering during the growing season and during prolonged dry periods, saturating the ground if practicable. This is labour intensive and requires specialist equipment including a water bowser and water tanks.

The newly planted trees will need to be regularly checked for pest and diseases including predation by mammals such as rabbits or deer.

- ***Further ongoing considerations***

Ash dieback

Ash is the third most common broadleaved tree in Britain. There are an estimated 60 million ash trees outside woodlands in the UK. Ash trees are found in woodland and non-woodland settings, in both urban and rural landscapes across the District.

Ash dieback is a fungal disease affecting the common ash tree (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and other *Fraxinus* species. It is caused by a fungus called *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus* (formerly known as *Chalara fraxinea*) which is native to eastern Asia.

The disease is now widespread across Nottinghamshire and is starting to have a huge impact. Trees in woodlands with high proportions of ash are likely to decline more quickly as spores spread. Ash trees growing in open areas such as streets and hedgerows will probably deteriorate more slowly. A small proportion of trees will have a genetic tolerance to the disease. All infected trees can dramatically deteriorate in condition in as little as four years

As well as the cost of felling, the loss of benefits provided by Ash trees will also be costly for example air purification and carbon sequestration. Many wildlife species rely on Ash trees. As a Council and landowner we must consider our Ash dieback management options.

Other pests and diseases

We need a good awareness and regular checks for other pests and diseases such as Oak processionary moth (*Thaumetopoea processionea*).

The oak processionary moth was first found in London in 2006 and has been spreading ever since. It was accidentally imported to the UK in egg form in the canopy of trees for planting. The Council need to help tree health authorities identify and manage outbreaks early.

Acute oak decline is another example of problems Council staff must look out for. Acute oak decline is essentially a tree's response to environmental stresses including drought,

waterlogging and pollution. Insects, fungi and bacteria then move in on the vulnerable tree and push it into decline. We can help by planting as many new oaks as possible and manage areas so that oaks can naturally regenerate to make sure that the next generation of trees is better adapted to our changing climate.

Some tree pests and diseases are notifiable, which means that, in England they must be reported to Forestry England. The preferred way to make a report is with TreeAlert the online pest and disease reporting tool.

<https://www.forestryresearch.gov.uk/tools-and-resources/fthr/tree-alert/>

Invasive species

The park ranger team undertake an annual woodland maintenance plan that involves controlling invasive species. For example, at Vicar Water Country Park there is invasive Italian Alder in Portland Meadow. Removing alder saplings each winter helps keep the meadow as grassland and protects the early Marsh Orchids which are quite rare in Nottinghamshire. Italian Alder was often planted on former pit tips to stabilise the ground as they can survive on nutrient poor and compacted ground. They can soon take over though and herb-rich grassland is more valuable and precious for wildlife.

Similarly at Sherwood Heath we undertake a programme of tree thinning to protect the important health and grassland of this SSSI site.

Himalayan Balsam is a very invasive plant found on riverbanks, ditches and in woodlands, where it prevents native species from growing. We have balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) in Intake Wood and on Sherwood Heath. The park's team has however recently joined forces with conservation officers from the Miner2Major Project, Notts Biodiversity Action Group (BAG) and the Sherwood Forest Trust to try and eradicate the plant via a 3 year programme of 'balsam bashing' with volunteers beginning in the spring of 2021.

Although not currently recorded on any of our parks or green spaces Japanese and other Knotweeds are highly invasive species which can grow from a piece of rhizome (root) as small as 1cm.

Thinning new plantations

The Council's park ranger team work with volunteers to thin new plantations at Vicar Water Country Park, Intake Wood and Sherwood Heath. All the wood is left in the woodland or made into habitat piles which helps mimic the conditions in natural woodland.

The Council's Street Scene team work to thin and manage small woody areas on council managed green spaces across the District. Thinning can help let in light to the woodland floor and help strong trees thrive.

As we plant up more areas of the District with new trees it is recommended that the sites are thinned after around 10 years. This involves selecting some of the poorer, struggling trees and removing them. The timber from these trees will usually be sold on for paper pulp or stacked on site for habitat creation. On occasion it may be sold on as firewood which will result in a release of the carbon which has been captured over the trees life, however, by removing these smaller trees you promote healthier growth in the remaining stock. These stronger

trees will be able to capture more carbon throughout their lifespan and should mature specimens need to be felled their trunks may be suitable for timber which will result in any carbon being held indefinitely.



Photo 7: Tree at Sherwood Heath marked for removal, 2021

The importance of dead and decaying wood

As part of our tree and woodland maintenance programmes we will value the importance of standing dead wood, fallen branches and log piles. Dead and decaying wood has huge ecological and wildlife value. This is why we do not remove it and 'tidy up' our woodlands too much, where appropriate.

Decaying wood is a hive of activity, food and home to huge a range of fungi, thousands of invertebrate species and even birds and mammals. It can also look beautiful and be a sculptural feature of our parks, woodlands. Where appropriate, fallen trees and branches will be left.

Retrenchment is the very slow decline of aging trees and it is an enormously important phase of their lifecycle. We will not be too eager to cut down aging trees and replace them. Dependant on location, we will only remove a tree in decline if it creates a risk to the public.



Photo 8: Deadwood covered in moss, winter at Vicar Water Country Park, 2021

ACTION – Create and adopt policies for District Council managed trees and woodlands

ACTION – Increase the trees survey budget to £10,000 every three years to develop a full tree asset register for District Council trees and to maintain the health and safety of our tree stock

ACTION – increase investment in tree health and public safety by increasing the tree maintenance budget to at least £30,000, to ensure essential tree maintenance and safety works can be conducted.

CONCLUSION

It is time to take action for trees and woodlands. On both a national and local level, targets are being set for expanding UK tree cover and the District Council can help.

Often in the past, local authorities have viewed trees as a burden rather than as an asset but things have significantly changed. The climate emergency and the biodiversity crisis require urgent and prolonged action. Now councils are being asked to provide a long-term commitment to investing in trees and woodlands. If the Council wish to become carbon neutral by 2035 then time is critical.

The value of trees and nature has also come into sharp focus during the Covid-19 pandemic. Green spaces have helped us through difficult times. We must all do more to protect, plant and restore new woods and trees, for people, nature and climate. The District needs a green recovery and trees need to be a part of it.

It is easy to rush in to planting trees but we need to be clear on the Council's objectives and undertake due diligence in assessing our base-line tree data. Our tree objectives will prioritise climate, wildlife and people.

Our strategy is comprehensive and considers trees and woodlands across the whole District as well as specifically the trees and woodlands on Council owned land. We will also consider urban greening provision and crucially the landscape of the District with its local characteristics, constraints and opportunities.

We will aim to lead, inspire and enable local communities, businesses and landowners to become involved with trees. The enormity of climate change and biodiversity crisis can be terrifying to people and so making people feel empowered and able to help, even if it just means planting an acorn and growing a tree is incredibly important.

Some trees can live for hundreds and even thousands of years. Such timescales dwarf human lifetimes and so we aim to deliver this Strategy not for ourselves but for generations to come.

Appendix1 - List of current and potential future partners

- **The Environment Agency** – looking at natural flood prevention through Natural Flood Management, advice of riverside trees and tree planting
- **Natural England** for advice and guidance, licencing, wildlife conservation and protected species, tree planting, funding and maps and data and Countryside Stewardship grants (from the Rural Payments Agency)
- **DEFRA** for funding and nature recovery schemes
- **Nottinghamshire County Council** for highway trees, woodland management advice, rights of way and wildlife conservation advice, tree planting and funding support
- **Notts Biodiversity Action Group (BAG)** for wildlife and special habitat advice, help with invasive species, biodiversity opportunity mapping (BOM), partnership work and the local biodiversity action plan (LBAP)
- **Forestry England** – for advice, licenses and information, community engagement, joined up events and volunteering opportunities
- **The Woodland Trust** for advice on tree and woodland strategy, tree data, community tree planting, protection of ancient and veteran trees and general tree advice
- **Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust** for advice and support on local flora, fauna and habitat on all Council managed green space, wildlife walks and talks in our parks, joined up projects, habitat mapping, funding opportunities and local nature recovery networks
- **RSPB Sherwood Forest** for wildlife advice and support, woodland events and community engagement
- **Sherwood Forest Trust** our partner organisation helping with the management of our Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in Ollerton, Sherwood Heath. Also, assistance with community engagement, ecological expertise, tree planting, woodland events, wildlife expertise and volunteering
- **Local environmental groups** that look after parish trees and woodlands including Green Southwell, Friends of Southwell Trail, Bilsthorpe Green Spaces and Farnsfield Green Spaces
- **Nottingham Trent University** we link in with the NTU species recovery team, and NTU provides staff education opportunities through the Miner 2 Major partnership. In turn we offer student volunteering opportunities within our parks.

- land owners to protect and maintain their existing trees, plant new woodland and undertake more agroforestry
- **Neighbouring authorities** – explore partnership opportunities at the District’s borders and information sharing.
- **Miner2Major** are helping to deliver a number of projects including Trees and Hedges, Better Habitats and Connecting Trails
- **Schools and uniformed groups** we help with education on climate change, nature and the importance of trees in order to help inspire future generations

Appendix 2 - List of currently available funding opportunities

England Woodland Creation Offer

Landowners, land managers and public bodies can apply to the England Woodland Creation Offer (EWCO) for support to create new woodland.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/england-woodland-creation-offer>

Urban Tree Challenge Fund (UTCf)

This is a government fund (which requires match funding) to plant trees in urban environments.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/urban-tree-challenge-fund>

Local Authority Treescapes Fund

This fund is aimed at establishing more trees in non-woodland settings such as in riverbanks, hedgerows, parklands, urban areas and beside roads and footpaths.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-authority-treescapes-fund>

Trees for Climate (Nottinghamshire County Council) part of the Government's 'Nature for Climate Fund'

Ambitious plans to plant 280,000 over five years starting in 2021.

The Woodland Trust MOREwoods - Where 500+ trees are planted as woodland on at least half a hectare. The Woodland Trust can help us design the woodland, create a bespoke species mix, supply the agreed trees and tree protection and cover up to 75% of costs.

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/large-scale-planting/morewoods/>

The Woodland Trust MORE hedges – The Woodland Trust can subsidise up to 75% of the cost if we plant more than 100 metres of new hedging allowing a large tree to grow every six metres.

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/large-scale-planting/morehedges/>

The Woodland Trust also offer free support and tree packs to community groups and schools.

Woodland Carbon Code

For businesses with a carbon reduction strategy. Creating woodland with the Woodland Carbon Code allows you to sell the carbon units from your woodland.

<https://www.woodlandcarboncode.org.uk/>

Woodland Carbon Guarantee (WCaG)

The woodland carbon guarantee is available in England and is an additional income stream for woodland owners, with thirty-five year contracts for guaranteed payments of woodland carbon budgets.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/woodland-carbon-guarantee>

Tree Appeal

Free trees for schools, community green spaces and nature reserves.

<https://www.treeappeal.com/index.html>

The Tree Council

Grants for planting and orchards for schools

<https://treecouncil.org.uk/>

Crowdfunding and local fundraising

Other local authorities have invited members of the public to help fundraise for local trees

Objective	Action	Business Unit	Target	Resource Requirements
Objective 1 Establish robust dataset of trees within the District	Carry out a baseline study in the short term with i-Tree.	Environmental Services	Apr-23	Officer Time
Objective 1 Establish robust dataset of trees within the District	Protect ancient and long-standing woodlands, veteran trees and others of valued wildlife habitat in the District.	Environmental Services	To begin May-23	Officer Time
Objective 1 Establish robust dataset of trees within the District	Tree and Landscape Officer to carry out and then continue to maintain records of the District's TPOs and ensure that TPOs are easily assessable to the wider public.	Planning Development	Ongoing	Officer Time
Objective 1 Establish robust dataset of trees within the District	Increase the trees survey budget to £10,000 every three years to develop a full tree asset register for District Council trees and to maintain the health and safety of our tree stock	Environmental Services	Apr-23	New fund to be established
Objective 1 & 5 Establish robust dataset of trees within the District & Work with residents and partner organisations to maintain and improve the biodiversity of the District	To work with the Woodland Trust and others to review collected data and identify gaps and shortfalls in ancient tree coverage identifying potential ancient trees for additional prevention measures.	Environmental Services	To begin May-23	Officer Time
Objective 2 Develop policies and procedures to ensure - Trees are maintained and protected to protect both biodiversity and public safety	Increase investment in tree health and public safety by increasing the tree maintenance budget to £30,000, to invest in upskilling staff in Environmental Services and invest in appropriate arboricultural equipment and tools.	Environmental Services	Apr-23	New fund to be established
Objective 2 Develop policies and procedures to ensure - Trees are maintained and protected to protect both biodiversity and public safety	This strategy and action plan should be reviewed annually to ensure its continued relevance.	Environmental Services/Planning Policy/Planning Development	Dec-23	Officer Time

Objective 2 Develop policies and procedures to ensure - Trees are maintained and protected to protect both biodiversity and public safety	We will implement and communicate a robust approach to biosecurity risks across the District, both in our own planting schemes and through advice and partnership.	Environmental Services	Formal Policy to be developed by June 23	Officer Time
Objective 3 Review of upcoming changes to national and regional policy and guidance	Review changes being brought about by the Environment Act (2021) and consider additional ways that the Local Planning Authority can protect trees as part of new development.	Planning Development	Currently Ongoing	Officer Time
Objective 4 Work within the planning system to not only support and maintain the biodiversity of the District but actively improve it.	Develop a new Design SPD including guidance about street trees with consideration to be given to a minimum canopy cover target.	Planning Policy / Environmental Services	To begin in 2024	Officer time and LDF budget
Objective 4 Work within the planning system to not only support and maintain the biodiversity of the District but actively improve it.	Consider Street trees, biophillic architecture and other urban greening opportunities during all Council building and development programmes.	Planning Development	Nov-23	Officer Time and subject to appropriate staffing resource
Objective 5 Work with residents and partner organisations to maintain and improve the biodiversity of the District	We will continue to promote tree schemes and volunteer days, using the Green Champions scheme as a resource to encourage residents to get involved with increasing tree coverage in their area.	Environmental Services	Ongoing	Officer Time
Objective 5 Work with residents and partner organisations to maintain and improve the biodiversity of the District	Continue to build our community engagement, volunteering and 'friends of' offers to help more residents connect with trees.	Environmental Services	Ongoing	Officer Time
Objective 5 Work with residents and partner organisations to maintain	Ensure all park rangers are Forest School trained. Develop and extend the Council's school education and Forest School offer.	Environmental Services	Ongoing	Officer Time

and improve the biodiversity of the District				
Objective 6 Continue to plant more trees in suitable locations and encourage others to do the same	Review the findings of the BOM mapping exercise and work with partners to secure new woodland development and tree planting opportunities.	Environmental Services	Ongoing	Officer Time
Objective 6 Continue to plant more trees in suitable locations and encourage others to do the same	Set a new target for planting at least a further 6,000 new trees over the next ten years (2022 to 2032).	Environmental Services	Ongoing	TBC
Objective 6 Continue to plant more trees in suitable locations and encourage others to do the same	Work with Notts Wildlife Trust and other partners on the information gained from the Local Nature Recovery Network scheme and seek to secure new woodland planting and development opportunities.	Environmental Services	Ongoing	Officer Time
Objective 6 Continue to plant more trees in suitable locations and encourage others to do the same	Review changes being brought about by the Environment Act (2021) and Biodiversity Net Gain and consider ways that the Local Planning Authority can secure new trees as part of new development.	Planning Policy	Ongoing	Officer Time
Objective 6 Continue to plant more trees in suitable locations and encourage others to do the same	Continue to apply for appropriate funding for urban tree planting such as the Local Authorities Treescape Fund.	Environmental Services	Ongoing	Officer Time
Objective 6 Continue to plant more trees in suitable locations and encourage others to do the same	Review the findings within the Open Space Assessment and Strategy and work to secure new woodland development and tree planting opportunities.	Environmental Services/Planning Policy	Ongoing	Officer Time
Objective 6 Continue to plant more trees in suitable locations and encourage others to do the same	The Council continues to commit to funds of £1,500 a year to the free tree give away scheme and continues to plough back money from Christmas tree recycling into environmental improvement works with the aim of providing a further 8,000 trees by 2032	Environmental Services	Apr-23	Officer Time

Objective 6 Continue to plant more trees in suitable locations and encourage others to do the same	Continue to monitor and review tree funding opportunities and work in partnership with others to increase tree planting in the District.	Environmental Services	Ongoing	Officer Time
Objective 6 Continue to plant more trees in suitable locations and encourage others to do the same	Create and adopt policies for District Council managed trees and woodlands	Environmental Services	Policy set to be drafted by June 23	Officer Time



Report to: Cabinet Meeting - 6 December 2022
 Portfolio Holder: Councillor Roger Jackson, Cleaner, Safer, Greener
 Director Lead: Matthew Finch Director – Communities & Environment
 Lead Officer: Alan Batty, Business Manager – Public Protection, Ext. 5467

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open, Key Decision
Report Title	Newark Safer Streets 4 Scheme and the Rural Crime and Prevention Programme
Purpose of Report	To update Cabinet on the Safer Streets 4 initiative and the Rural Crime and Prevention Programme and to agree funding for these projects
Recommendations	That Cabinet: (a) note the progress in the implementation of the Safer Streets 4 project and Rural Crime and Prevention Programme; (b) agree the use of the overage for match funding the schemes; (c) agree to the addition of £305,000 to the Capital Programme for Safer Streets 4; (d) agree to the addition of £49,500 to revenue budgets for Safer Streets 4; and (e) agree to the addition of £39,000 to the Capital Programme for the Rural Crime and Prevention Programme.
Alternative Options Considered	The alternative option is to find alternative to the match funding identified in the report.
Reason for Recommendations	By delivering the Safer Streets and rural crime initiative the council will contribute to reducing crime and anti-social behaviour.

1.0 Background

1.1 In January 2022 the Home Office released the prospectus to allow submission of bids for the Safer Streets 4 Fund 2022/23. SLT may recall that NSDC was successful in bidding for and delivering a Safer Streets 1 scheme and in delivering locally funded Safer Streets 2 initiative. There were some changes to the criteria for this round of bidding. The bids were required to be made via the Community Safety Partnership and were required to be endorsed by the Police and Crime Commissioner.

1.2 The crime targets for the bids were also amended and could include:

Burglary (household and vehicle)
Anti-social Behaviour
Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)
Feelings of Safety

1.3 Police data was used to identify the areas of the district that met the above criteria. Two areas of Newark were selected as they were the most appropriate for meeting the criteria and increasing the opportunity for the bid to be successful. Two areas of Bassetlaw, centred on Worksop town centre were also selected.

1.4 The Community Safety Partnership put together a small project team to work on the bid and to identify the types of interventions that would be delivered if the bid was successful. The draft bid was submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner for endorsement and subsequently submitted to the Home Office

1.5 In July it was announced by the Home Office that the Nottinghamshire bid had been successful and an award of £750,000 had been made to deliver the actions set out in the bid. The NSDC share of this was £374,000. Since this time the project board and lead officers have been developing and delivering a range of local schemes and activities to ensure that the project aims are met.

1.6 The project has to be completed by 30th September 2023. An update on all the projects that the district council is leading on is detailed below.

- **Target Hardening Tithe Barn and Queen's Court** –The existing door entry system is to be upgraded to provide a remote video entry system and improved door closure and locking system. Housing Colleagues are overseeing this work.
- **St Mary Magdalene Church Gardens** – This area was identified as a hot spot of ASB and an area where poor lighting and lack of CCTV resulted in an overall feeling that the area was not safe. The scheme to be delivered in this area is improved illumination by using 'Wayfinder' column lighting on the paths, additional CCTV and a joint project with the church to improve up lighting to the church and surrounding areas. Benches present within the gardens will also be relocated to improve lines of sight for CCTV.
- **Increased CCTV** – a number of town centre locations were identified as having poor CCTV coverage. Three additional cameras are being provided at locations agreed with the police to improve town centre coverage.
- **St Marks Precinct** – the area used for parking and deliveries below the precinct has been a location of crime, ASB and enviro-crime (graffiti and flytipping). A scheme to provide a new secure gated entrance is being delivered.
- **Shop Theft** – A small initiative to reinvigorate the shopwatch scheme and improve communication between business is funded under Safer Streets 4.

- **By-Stander Training** - to address the feelings of safety and address violence against women and girls a series of training events and campaigns will be delivered for night time economy staff.
- **Environmental Improvements** – crime and ASB is driven by many factors, one of which is the local environment. Localised improvements to the look and feel of the areas in the bid will be undertaken. This will include additional litter bin provision, relocation of street furniture and improved lighting.

1.7 The success of the Safer Streets 4 bid builds on the previous work that has been undertaken from the successful completion of previous Safer Streets funded projects. Over the past 4 years there has been investment of over £1 million in schemes to reduce crime. This has included target g-hardening of properties to reduce the risk of burglary, improved street lighting, provision of secure cycle pods, installation of video door entry at Chatham Court and additional Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras around Newark. All of this designed to reduce crime and make people feel safer within the district.

1.8 In addition to the Home Office funded Safer Streets 4 project the Community Safety Partnership has also been successful in securing funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner’s Target Hardening Safer4All Grant fund. This project is a Rural Crime and Prevention Programme for Bassetlaw and Newark and Sherwood.

1.9 The Scheme is being led by Chief Inspector Heather Maelor (the Notts police lead on rural crime). A grant of £200,000 has been secured to deliver the following interventions:

- Rural location risk assessment – business and homes
- Target Hardening of business and homes to include access locations against flytipping
- Crime Prevention advice
- Partnership days of action and awareness campaigns to prevent rural crime.

1.10 This project will use the same governance structure as the one put in place for Safer Streets 4. The police are identified as the responsible accounting body for this scheme and therefore the Council will not be responsible for administering any grant monies.

1.11 Where specific interventions are identified for Newark and Sherwood it is anticipated that match finding could be used to supplement any actions put in place from the grant fund.

2.0 **Proposal**

2.1 Set out below is the breakdown of funding for each area of work.

Provide 3 x door entry system (Tithe Barn and Queens Court)	£125,000
Lighting Feasibility study and engineering report for improved lighting	£30,000
Gating St Marks Precinct	£4,000
Provide Way finder lighting	£100,000
Provide up lighting	£80,000

Environmental survey and improvements	£3,000
VAWG training (Workers in NTE)	£2,500
Shopwatch and Pubwatch Data Sharing App	£2,000

- 2.2 Within the bid there were elements of capital match funding from the council. These are set out below

CCTV upgrades	£10,000
CCTV new provision	£30,000

2.3 Rural Crime and Prevention Programme

In order to ensure that the Rural Crime and Prevention Programme delivers effective interventions within Newark and Sherwood it is proposed that the remaining £39,000 from the Police overage money received in 2021/22 for the use of Newark police station by East Midland's Ambulance service is used as match funding.

3.0 Implications

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

Financial Implications (FIN22-23/7956)

- 3.1 The following table shows the breakdown of the funding, broken down into Capital and Revenue.
- 3.2 Of the Newark funding, £20,000 will be delivered and claimed directly by Newark Police. Therefore, £354,500 will be available to the Council to claim based on expenditure incurred.

Deliverable	Capital	Revenue	Claimed by Police
Provide 3 x door entry system (Tithe Barn and Queens Court)	£125,000		
Lighting Feasibility study and engineering report for improved lighting		£30,000	
Gating St Marks Precinct		£4,000	
Provide Way finder lighting	£100,000		
Provide up lighting	£80,000		
Environmental survey and improvements		£3,000	
VAWG training (Workers in NTE)		£2,500	
Shopwatch and Pubwatch Data Sharing App		£2,000	
Vehicle crime			£20,000
Street furniture		£8,000	
Total	£305,000	£49,500	£20,000

- 3.3 £49,500 will need to be set up within the revenue budget, with equivalent grant to cover the expenditure.
- 3.4 Capital Programme changes requiring approval by Cabinet/Portfolio Holder Decision are as follows:
- £125,000 in the HRA Capital Programme for the works to Tithe Barn Court and Queens Court, financed by the grant
 - £180,000 General Fund Capital for the lighting works, financed by the grant.
- 3.5 Match Funding Expenditure
£30,000 increase in current CCTV Replacement budget, financed by capital receipts.
- 3.6 It is considered appropriate that the £30,000 match funding is funded from the £69,818.75 Police overage money received in 2021/22 for the use of Newark police station by East Midland's Ambulance service. This is currently held in capital receipts and will leave a balance of £39,818.75 for future community safety initiatives.
- 3.7 There is an agreed capital programme for upgrading the public realm CCTV and it is anticipated that the CCTV upgrades of £10,000 will be met from that existing budget.
- 3.8 The remaining £39,000 from the Police overage money received in 2021/22 for the use of Newark police station by East Midland's Ambulance service is used as match funding for the Rural Crime and Prevention Programme

Crime & Disorder Implications

- 3.9 The enforcement of enviro-crime has positive implications for the Council's Cleaner Safer Greener agenda and is supporting the community plan objectives.

Background Papers and Published Documents

None