



North Tyneside Council

Cabinet

Date Not Specified

Monday, 29 July 2019 0.02 Chamber - Quadrant, The Silverlink North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY **commencing at 6.00 pm.**

**Agenda
Item**

Page(s)

1. **Apologies for Absence**

To receive apologies for absence from the meeting.

2. **To Receive any Declarations of Interest and Notification of any Dispensations Granted**

You are invited to **declare** any registerable and/or non-registerable interests in matters appearing on the agenda, and the nature of that interest.

You are also invited to **disclose** any dispensation in relation to any registerable and/or non-registerable interests that have been granted to you in respect of any matters appearing on the agenda.

Please complete the Declarations of Interests card available at the meeting and return it to the Democratic Services Officer before leaving the meeting.

3. **Minutes**

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 24 June 2019 (previously circulated).

4. **Report of the Young Mayor**

To receive a verbal report on the latest activities of the Young Mayor and Young Cabinet.

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting and receive information about it.

North Tyneside Council wants to make it easier for you to get hold of the information you need. We are able to provide our documents in alternative formats including Braille, audiotape, large print and alternative languages.

For further information about the meeting please call (0191) 643 5320.

Agenda Item	Page(s)
5. 2019/20 Financial Management Report to 31 May 2019 (All Wards)	1 - 62
To receive the first budget monitoring report for the current financial year which reflects the forecast financial position as at 31 March 2020.	
6. Education in North Tyneside (All Wards)	63 - 86
To consider a report on the progress against the recommendations of the Education Review, the current position of education for North Tyneside and the proposed approach in the context of national changes and local challenges.	
7. Annual Equality and Diversity Review (All Wards)	87 - 122
To receive a report presenting the 2018/19 Annual Equality and Diversity Review.	
8. Housing Services Domestic Abuse Policy (All Wards)	123 - 144
To consider a report seeking approval of the draft Housing Services Domestic Abuse Policy.	
9. Adoption of Coastal Mitigation Supplementary Planning Document (All Wards)	145 - 210
To consider a report seeking approval of a proposed Coastal Mitigation Supplementary Planning Document for adoption to inform the consideration of planning applications for development.	
10. Stairlift, Through Floor Lifts, Step Lifts & Ceiling Track Term Contract 2020-23 (All Wards)	211 - 216
To consider a report seeking approval to undertake a procurement exercise in order to appoint a preferred provider to install and maintain stairlifts, through floor lifts, step lifts and ceiling track hoists in domestic properties.	
11. Exclusion Resolution	
This is to give further notice in accordance with paragraphs 5(4) and 5(5) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 of the intention to consider item 12 below in private.	
Cabinet is requested to consider passing the following resolution:	
Resolved that under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government	

Act
1972 (as amended) and having applied a public interest test as
defined in Part 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act, the press and public
be
excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on
the
grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information
as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

Reasons for taking the item in private: The report contains
information relating to the financial or business affairs of any
particular person (including the authority holding the information).

**12. European Social Funding to facilitate steps into employment
for Residents aged 29 and over (All Wards) 217 - 224**

To consider a report seeking approval to accept a successful bid
for European Social Fund funding to facilitate employment for
residents aged 29 and over.

13. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday 9 September 2019 at 6.00pm.

Circulation overleaf ...

Circulated to Members of Cabinet: -

N Redfearn (Elected Mayor)
Councillor B Pickard
Councillor G Bell
Councillor C Burdis
Councillor S Cox
Councillor S Day
Councillor P Earley
Councillor R Glindon
Councillor M Hall
Councillor C Johnson

**Young and Older People's Representatives and Partners of
North Tyneside Council.**

North Tyneside Council Report to Cabinet 29 July 2019

Item 5(a)

Title: 2019/20 Financial
Management Report to 31
May 2019

Portfolios: Elected Mayor Finance and Resources	Cabinet Member: Norma Redfearn Councillor Ray Glindon
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Report from: Finance

Responsible Officer: Janice Gillespie, Head of Resources **Tel:** 643 5701

Wards affected: All

PART 1

1.1 Executive Summary:

This report is the first monitoring report to Cabinet on the 2019/20 financial position. The report brings together financial and performance information with the intention of explaining the current financial position in the context of the policy priorities in the Our North Tyneside Plan. It provides the first indication of the potential revenue and capital position of the Authority at 31 March 2020.

The report explains where the Authority continues to manage financial pressures. Like most local authorities, North Tyneside Council continues to face significant financial pressures. These were reported in the 2018/19 Outturn Report and continue to manifest in 2019/20.

In considering the financial outlook for 2019/20, Services have considered the financial pressures they will face in 2019/20 and how they will mitigate these. The initial forecast for the year being a projection of a residual gap of £5.263m.

At this stage in the financial year, Cabinet will understand that there are still aspects of the £10.533m 2019/20 savings programme to be met to deliver the General Fund budget approved by Council on 21 February 2019. A number of sessions have already been held by the Senior Leadership Team to give early consideration as to the actions required to manage the financial risks identified for 2019/20, including what additional actions can be taken in line with the Authority's Efficiency Statement. As a result, £2.800m is included within the £5.263m overall pressure outlined above, which represent the residual balances of the challenging cross-cutting savings targets.

This is the first report of the financial year and necessarily reflects these known pressures the Services will be required to manage during the financial year. As well as an explanation of any previously identified risks that have crystallised, this report sets out any new risks that may have a financial impact on the Authority. It is

anticipated that the overall in-year pressures will be managed by the Services, enabling the Authority to again deliver a balanced position at year end.

The report includes details of any additional grants received by the Authority since the budget was set. The report also advises Cabinet of the position so far on the 2019/20 Schools budgets, planning for 2020/21, Schools funding and the forecast outturn for the Housing Revenue Account as at 31 May 2019.

Finally, the report provides an update on the 2019/20 Investment Plan, including delivery so far this year, along with details of variations and reprofiling of the Investment Plan which are presented to Cabinet for approval.

1.2 Recommendations:

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- (a) notes the forecast budget monitoring position for the General Fund, Schools' Finance and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and as at 31 May 2019 (Annex sections 1, 5 and 6);
- (b) approves the receipt of £0.352m new revenue grants (as outlined in Annex section 3);
- (c) notes the Authority's Investment Plan spend of £2.283m to 31 May 2019 and the financing of the Plan to the end of the year (Annex Section 7); and
- (d) approves variations of £4.531m and reprogramming of £8.106m for 2019/20 within the 2019 – 2023 Investment Plan (Annex Section 7).

1.3 Forward Plan:

Twenty-eight days' notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 18 April 2019.

1.4 Authority plan and policy framework:

The budget is a key strand of the Authority's Budget and Policy Framework.

1.5 Information:

1.5.1 Financial Position

This report is the first monitoring report presented to Members on the Authority's 2019/20 financial position. It provides an early indication of the expected revenue and capital financial position of the Authority as at 31 March 2020.

The report covers:

- The forecast outturn of the Authority's General Fund and HRA revenue budget including management mitigations where issues have been identified;
- The delivery of 2019/20 approved budget savings plans; and
- An update on the Capital Investment Plan, including details of variations and reprogramming, that is recommended for approval.

General Fund Revenue Account:

The budget for 2019/20 was approved by full Council at its meeting on the 21 February 2019. The net General Fund revenue budget was set at £155.730m. This included £10.533m of savings to be achieved (£6.875m relating to 2019/20).

The forecast overall pressure is estimated at £5.263m against an approved net budget of £155.730m. This is driven mainly by Health, Education, Care & Safeguarding reflecting the continued pressures in Children's Services of £3.083m and Adult Services of £2.528m, partly mitigated by the contingency balances that were created by Cabinet as part of the 2018/19 budget setting process and continue to be held centrally to reflect the on-going pressures in social care being felt locally and nationally.

Included in this projection is £2.572m of pressures in Corporate Parenting and Placements, £1.741m in Wellbeing and Assessment and £0.791m in Disability & Mental Health. The drivers for these pressures continue from 2018/19 and arise from:

- Continued growth in demand in Adult and Children's Social Care Services;
- The timing of delivery of some aspects of the Efficiency Savings Programme to the extent that achievement of some savings may be at risk;
- The shared pressure with the North Tyneside Clinical Commissioning Group around agreeing adequate levels of contributions for clients with health needs and to support social care; and
- Negotiations with care providers to assess the impact of the National Living Wage and the consequential impact on our commissioning costs are at an early stage for 2019/20.

The other main movement from the initial outlook is £0.730m in Environment, Housing & Leisure. The Service is still expecting to be able to manage pressures of £1.378m by year end but the monitoring reflects the fact that some of the management actions are still being formulated and as such a prudent approach has been taken at this early stage of the financial year.

It is anticipated that the overall outturn forecast will improve over the course of the financial year as planned remedial actions being to impact on both expenditure and income.

New Revenue Grants:

The following revenue grants have been received during April and May 2019:

Table 1: Revenue Grants Received during April and May 2019

Service	Grant Provider	Grant	Purpose	2019/20 value £m
Environment Housing and Leisure	Without Walls Consortium Ltd	Without Walls	To support street entertainers for the Mouth of the Tyne Festival	0.010
Environment Housing and Leisure	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	Local Authority EU Exit Preparation	To support costs associated with Brexit	0.105
Environment Housing and Leisure	Arts Council England	Arts Council National Lottery Project Grant	To support delivery of the Front and Centre Project	0.015
Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding	Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumberland	Early Intervention Youth Fund	To provide support for young people on the periphery of serious crime	0.005
Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding	Education and Skills Funding Agency	School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering Grant	To support the monitoring of school performance and to broker school improvement provision	0.110
Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding	Youth Custody Service	Remands to Secure Accommodation	Supports the transfer of responsibility to Local Authorities for the cost of remand for youth detention	0.013
Commissioning and Asset Management	Department for Education	Looked After Children Mental Health Assessment Pilot	Piloting a new mental health assessment framework for Looked After Children	0.048
Commissioning and Asset Management	Council for Disabled Children	Information, Advice and Support Programme Grant	To ensure children and young people with special educational needs have access to free and impartial advice.	0.046
Total				0.352

School Funding:

Schools are required to submit their rolling three year budget plan by 31 May each year. The total planned deficit for 2019/20 is £5.045m. Cabinet will be aware that the Authority has been working with schools for a number of years with regard to the long-term strategic issue of surplus secondary places and the associated financial pressures which continue to be compounded by rising employment costs. As anticipated, 2018/19 was the fourth year of balances decreasing following a long term trend of rising balances in North Tyneside and the overall projected balances for 2019/20 continues this trend.

As well as school balances reducing overall, some individual schools continue to face significant financial challenges. There were nine schools with approved deficits in 2018/19 and five of these schools continue to be in deficit for 2019/20. Six schools are also new to deficit in 2019/20.

Cabinet will recall that the High Needs Block ended 2018/19 with a pressure of £0.920m. Initial forecasting of the budget position for 2019/20 indicates a similar level of pressure within the year. There has been a rise in demand for special school places and the Authority is planning for places at the end of 2019/20 to total approximately 762. This compares to a total of 664 places at the beginning of 2018/19.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA):

The HRA is forecast to have year-end balances at 31 March 2020 of £5.087m, which are £1.216m higher than budget which was set at £3.871m. The higher than forecast balances are mainly as a result of higher opening balances due to the impact of the previous year's financial performance (£3.190m) but there is also an in-year estimated underspend of (£0.115m), against an in-year budget of £2.331m, due to additional income of (£0.061m) combined with reduction to expenditure of (£0.054m).

Universal Credit was fully implemented across North Tyneside on 2 May 2018. As of June 2019, 2,284 North Tyneside Homes tenants have moved on to Universal Credit and a team is working proactively with tenants to minimise arrears. This position will be closely monitored as the year progresses to identify any adverse impacts on the budget position.

Investment Plan:

The 2019-2023 Investment Plan, as adjusted for proposed reprogramming, totals £199.127m (£73.326m 2019/20) and is detailed in table 28 of the Annex. The Annex to this report also sets out in Section 7 delivery progress to date, planned delivery for 2019/20, reprogramming and other variations identified through the Investment Programme Governance process.

1.5.2 Performance against Council Plan

The 2018-2020 Our North Tyneside Plan (Council Plan) sets out the overall vision and policy context within which the Financial Plan and Budget are set. The Council Plan has three key themes – Our People, Our Places and Our Economy. For each one there is a set of policy outcomes that the Authority is seeking to deliver as set out

below.

Our People will:

- Be listened to so that their experience helps the Council work better for residents.
- Be ready for school – giving our children and their families the best start in life.
- Be ready for work and life – with the skills and abilities to achieve their full potential, economic independence and meet the needs of local businesses.
- Be healthy and well – with the information, skills and opportunities to maintain and improve their health, well-being and independence.
- Be cared for, protected and supported if they become vulnerable.
- Be encouraged and enabled to, whenever possible, be more independent, to volunteer and to do more for themselves and their local communities.

Our Places will:

- Be great places to live by focusing on what is important to local people.
- Be a thriving place for choice of visitors through the promotion of our award winning parks, beaches, festivals and seasonal activities.
- Offer a good choice of quality housing appropriate to need, including affordable homes.
- Benefit from the completion of the North Tyneside Living project and by North Tyneside Council's housing stock being decent, well managed and its potential use maximised.
- Provide a clean, green, healthy, attractive and safe environment.
- Have an effective transport and physical infrastructure - including our roads, cycle ways, pavements, street lighting, drainage and public transport.
- Continue to regenerate Wallsend and Whitley Bay while ambitious plans will be developed for North Shields, Forest Hall and Killingworth.

Our Economy will:

- Grow by supporting new businesses and building on our strengths, including our existing world class companies, and small and growing enterprises.
- Be business friendly by ensuring the right skills and conditions are in place to support investment, and create and sustain and sustain new high quality jobs and apprenticeships for working age people.
- Continue to support investment in our business parks, units and Town Centres.

The Authority has plans in place to deliver all elements of the Council Plan and performance against these plans is carefully monitored. The area under most financial pressure is Health Education Care and Safeguarding.

In common with most local authorities, and in line with the national picture, North Tyneside has seen costs within adult social care continue to rise. Although the number of adults supported remains relatively stable, their individual needs have increased due to living longer with multiple complex conditions. Supporting those needs requires more intensive packages of care which are more expensive to provide. In addition to older people, younger adults with learning disabilities and physical disabilities are also living longer, often with multiple complex issues.

In Children's Services, good progress continues to be made on engaging with children in

the early years of life to ensure that they are ready for school. Safeguarding vulnerable children and maximising their educational attainment remain key priorities.

Over recent years, there has been an increase nationally in demand for children's residential placements but with no corresponding increase in central government funded provision. As such, the levels of looked after children (LAC) and children who require supervision after leaving care continue to generate a significant financial pressure. In year data suggests that our LAC levels, whilst fluctuating, are on average, remaining constant (as per Section 4.2 in the Annex) but there are a wide range of levels of care provided, with more complex cases now being faced.

Increasing complexity continues to drive financial pressure in 2019/20. The Authority is forecasting a pressure of £2.572m in Corporate Parenting and Placements, however on-going management of this pressure by the Service, including the implementation of the New Model to Support Children has seen a positive movement from the outturn pressure for 2018/19 of £3.580m.

1.5.4 Investment Plan

An officer led review of the Investment Plan has resulted in proposals for reprogramming of (£8.106m) and variations of £4.531m of which more details are set out in Section 7 of the Annex to this report. The revised Investment Plan stands at £73.326m for 2019/20 and to the end of May 2019 spend of £2.283m had been incurred which represents 3.11% of the revised plan.

1.6 **Decision options:**

The following decision options are available for consideration by Cabinet:

Option 1

Cabinet may approve the recommendations at paragraph 1.2 of this report.

Options 2

Cabinet may decide not to approve to recommendations at paragraph 1.2 of this report.

1.7 **Reasons for recommended option:**

Option 1 is recommended for the following reasons:

Cabinet is recommended to agree the proposals set out in section 1.2 of this report as it is important that Cabinet continues to monitor performance against the Budget, especially given the current level of financial pressures faced by the public sector.

1.8 **Appendices:**

Annex : Financial Management Report to 31 May 2019
Appendix 1: 2019 – 2023 Investment Plan

1.9 Contact officers:

Janice Gillespie – Corporate Finance matters – Tel. (0191) 643 5701
Claire Emmerson – Corporate Finance matters – Tel. (0191) 643 8109
David Dunford – (Acting) Senior Business Partner – Tel. (0191) 643 7027
Cathy Davison – Investment Plan matters- Tel. (0191) 643 5727
Darrell Campbell – Housing Revenue Account matters – Tel. (0191) 643 7052

1.10 Background information:

The following background papers and research reports have been used in the compilation of this report and are available at the offices of the author:

- (a) Revenue budget 2019/20
<https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/sites/default/files/web-page-related-files/NTC%20Revenue%20Budget%20201920.pdf>
- (b) Investment Plan 2019-23
<https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/sites/default/files/meeting/related-documents/2019-2023%20Financial%20Planning%20and%20Budget%20Process%20Final%20Report.pdf> (page 22-25)
- (c) Reserves and Balances Policy (Appendix G)
https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/sites/default/files/meeting/related-documents/cabinet%20ex%20agenda%20for%2021%2001%202019_0.pdf
(page 128-133)
- (d) Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Performance Report
<https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/sites/default/files/meeting/related-documents/6.%20OSPD%20Performance%20report%20%28June%202019%29.pdf>

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

As this is a financial report, implications are covered in the body of the report. This report will also be presented to the Authority's Finance Sub-Committee at its meeting on 30 July 2019.

2.2 Legal

The Authority has a duty to ensure it can deliver a balanced budget. The Local Government Act 2003 imposes a duty on an authority to monitor its budgets during the year and consider what action to take if a potential deterioration is identified.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

2.3.1 Internal Consultation

Internal consultation has taken place with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, the Elected Mayor, Cabinet Members, the Senior Leadership Team and Senior Finance Officers.

2.3.2 External Consultation / Engagement

The 2019/20 budget was completed after widespread consultation and community engagement in line with the Authority's approved Budget Engagement Strategy.

2.4 Human rights

The proposals within this report do not have direct implications in respect of the Human Rights Act 1998.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

There are no direct equalities and diversity implications arising from this report.

2.6 Risk management

Potential future financial pressures against the Authority are covered in this report and registered through the Authority's risk management process.

2.7 Crime and disorder

There are no direct crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

There are no direct environmental and sustainability implications arising from this report.

PART 3 - SIGN OFF

- Chief Executive
- Head of Service
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s)
- Chief Finance Officer
- Monitoring Officer
- Head of Corporate Strategy

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2019/20 Financial Management Report Annex

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SECTION 1 - GENERAL FUND SUMMARY

1 General Fund Revenue Forecast

- 1.1 This report is the first monitoring report to Cabinet on the 2019/20 financial position. The report brings together financial and performance information with the intention of explaining the current financial position in the context of the policy priorities in the Our North Tyneside Plan. It provides the first indication of the potential revenue and capital position of the Authority at 31 March 2020. The report explains where the Authority continues to manage financial pressures. Like most local authorities, North Tyneside Council continues to face significant financial pressures. These were reported in the 2018/19 Outturn Report and continue to manifest in 2019/20.
- 1.2 The Authority's approved net revenue budget of £155.730m is forecast to outturn with a pressure of £5.263m. The budget includes £6.875m of savings as agreed at Council on 21 February 2019. Table 1 in paragraph 1.2 below sets out the variation summary across the General Fund.
- 1.3 Members will recall that the 2018/19 outturn position for the Authority was an underspend of £1.031m. However, within this position the Authority was required to manage pressures of £7.654m.
- 1.4 Taking these pressures from last financial year into account, along with budgetary changes made in setting the 2019/20 budget, the Authority is continuing to take a prudent approach to forecasting. This is the first report of the financial year and at this stage it is anticipated that the Authority will need to manage around £13.600m worth of pressures. Initial work suggests that management actions should see all but £5.263m of these pressures mitigated.
- 1.5 The most significant amount of these pressures continue to exist within Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding, primarily relating to demand and complexity driven pressures within adults and children's social care. Children's

Services are forecasting a year end pressure of £3.083m and Adults Services are forecasting a pressure of £2.528m. As Members will recall from 2018/19, the Authority is currently holding two contingency balances centrally for Children's (£2.616m) and Adults (£1.800m). If these two contingencies are to be applied the remaining pressures the Authority would be required to deal with would be £0.467m in Children's and £0.728m in Adults. Further details are contained within this report in Section 4.2.

- 1.6 On-going pressures relate to Customer Journey Programme and the development of the Outsystems software. Further details can be found in section 4.7 on this report.
- 1.7 In Environment, Housing & Leisure initial forecasts suggest that the service will outturn with a pressure of £0.730m. The main pressures are staffing, energy and rates, fleet and PFI. Currently the Service has identified £0.430m worth of potential management actions that may be able to offset these pressures at year end. The Service is committed to delivering a balanced position and is continuing to work on identifying options around the remaining £0.300m worth of pressures. Further details can be found in section 4.4.
- 1.8 Central Items is forecasting an underspend of £2.455m. This includes contingencies of £4.636m, which if allocated to the Service's would produce pressures in Central Items of £2.181m. The remaining pressure is as a result of Central Items holding the targets for the cross-cutting savings proposals, offset by forecasted underspends generated by management actions around Strain on the Fund and the Authority's Treasury Management Strategy.

1.8 Table: 1 2019/20 General Fund Revenue Forecast Outturn as at 31 May 2019

	Gross Expenditure			Income			Net Expenditure		
	Budget	Forecast	Variance	Budget	Forecast	Variance	Budget	Forecast	Variance
Services	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding	179.780	187.412	7.632	(111.711)	(113.732)	(2.021)	68.069	73.680	5.611
Commissioning and Asset Management	207.629	209.585	1.956	(185.327)	(187.109)	(1.782)	22.302	22.476	0.174
Environment, Housing and Leisure	70.732	72.766	2.034	(28.980)	(30.284)	(1.304)	41.752	42.482	0.730
Regeneration and Economic Development	2.242	2.237	(0.005)	(1.071)	(0.913)	0.158	1.171	1.324	0.153
Corporate Strategy	1.807	2.043	0.236	(1.609)	(1.729)	(0.120)	0.198	0.314	0.116
Chief Executive	0.432	0.382	(0.050)	(0.486)	(0.486)	0.000	(0.054)	(0.104)	(0.050)
Resources	79.499	73.051	(6.448)	(78.338)	(70.966)	7.372	1.161	2.085	0.924
Law and Governance	3.666	3.822	0.156	(3.811)	(3.907)	(0.096)	(0.145)	(0.085)	0.060
Central Items	17.774	14.116	(3.658)	(16.511)	(15.308)	1.203	1.263	(1.192)	(2.455)
Support Services	20.013	20.013	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	20.013	20.013	0.000
Total Authority	583.574	585.427	1.853	(427.844)	(424.434)	3.410	155.730	160.993	5.263

SECTION 2 - DELIVERY OF BUDGET SAVINGS PROPOSALS

2.1 The combined budget savings of £6.875m in 2019/20 approved by Council in February 2019 bring the total savings the Authority has had to find in the nine years following the 2010 Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) to £126.951m.

2.2 Table 2: Year on Year savings since 2010 CSR

Year	£m
2011/12	16.169
2012/13	16.739
2013/14	12.240
2014/15	16.552
2015/16	14.158
2016/17	15.737
2017/18	18.338
2018/19	10.143
2019/20	6.875
Total Savings	126.951

2.3 In addition to the £6.875m of savings proposals required in 2019/20, £3.658m of prior year savings require a permanent solution in 2019/20. These savings were successfully achieved by in-year management actions during 2018/19. The total amount of savings that need to be achieved in 2019/20 is therefore £10.533m.

2.4 In tracking progress made against each individual saving proposal (as set out in table 5 below) £6.219m (59% of the target) is already forecast to be saved in 2019/20. An additional £1.100m (10% of the target) of management actions have been identified as achievable via Central Items in 2019/20. At this early stage in the financial year, a prudent approach is taken to reporting efficiency savings and they will only be reported as achieved in the forecast position when the impact can be seen flowing into the general ledger. As such it is projected that 31% of the target still needs to be achieved. Table 3 below shows the delivery by Service;

2.5 Table 3: Efficiency Savings by Service at May 2019

Service	2019/20 Target £m	Projected Delivery £m	Management Actions £m	Still to Achieve £m
Regeneration and Economic Development	0.103	0.082	0.000	0.021
Central Items	6.058	2.376	1.100	2.582
Commissioning & Asset Management	0.176	0.176	0.000	0.000
Corporate Strategy	0.042	0.022	0.000	0.020
Environment, Housing & Leisure	0.886	0.886	0.000	0.000
Health, Education, Care & Safeguarding	3.268	2.677	0.000	0.591
Total	10.533	6.219	1.100	3.214

- 2.6 The governance structure of the Efficiency Savings programme includes a monthly review of progress by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). In addition, in-year budget and performance progress meetings are held between officers and Cabinet Members to consider progress and actions being taken to deliver savings. The main variations in relation to the savings still to be achieved are outlined in the sections below.

Central Items

- 2.7 The £2.582m of savings targets, currently forecast as still needing achievement, relate to cross-cutting targets from the following Efficiency Statement categories; A Focus on the Social Care Customer Experience (£0.903m), How We Are Organised (£0.687m) and Delivering Our Fees & Charges Policy (£0.992m).
- 2.8 These ambitious cross-cutting savings proposals were identified as being challenging to achieve and, as such, Cabinet and SLT have been working to formulate a permanent solution to meet these targets. In the previous financial year, the Authority was able to take advantage of its Treasury Management Strategy to secure in-year mitigations to offset these targets. Continued benefits of this Strategy have enabled management actions of £1.100m to be identified, which will provide in-year mitigations to these targets in 2019/20. SLT is continuing to work on identifying further activity, actions and plans to achieve the residual target.
- 2.9 One of the cross-cutting savings targets that is yet to be achieved relates to a proposal to maximise the Authority's resources in relation to sourcing, supply chain and commercials. The initial business case was developed in 2017/18 and included an ambitious target of £2.000m to be delivered by the end of 2018/19. A range of work has been performed in 2017/18 and 2018/19 which has allowed the Authority to realise £0.408m of this saving. A further £0.400m is expected to be achieved during 2019/20 and management actions of a further £0.200m are expected to be available to support the delivery of this target in 2019/20. Despite the level of work performed so far, the residual target remains a significant challenge for the Authority. SLT is working on developing new activities, actions and plans to deal with this residual target.

Central Items – Procurement

- 2.10 The review of the Procurement arrangement with Engie has proven that the original savings targets were overestimated. The Authority has a track record of delivering greater than anticipated savings from Procurement than previously expected. The Authority has already delivered substantial Procurement savings, which can be demonstrated within Construction but this has mostly been seen within the HRA. Following work completed in the early part of 2019/20, it is now estimated that the Authority can deliver a further £0.400m of savings within the General Fund from Procurement.

Central Items – Management

- 2.11 The initial management savings target was £2.500m and to date the Authority has achieved £1.300m. Actions currently underway which may have an impact and generate further savings are:-

- Contracted Services returning in-house;
- Redesigning Housing & Construction with wider impact on Environment Housing & Leisure; and
- Service restructures.

Central Items – Customer Service / Community Hubs

- 2.12 The initial savings target was £2.000m and to date the Authority has achieved £0.600m. Currently it is expected that a maximum of £0.200m can be achieved from the Community Hubs project due to a range of factors such as the Authority's commitment to its Customer Services offer, its commercial boundary with Engie and property costs at Wallsend and Whitley Bay. Through a range of available management actions, the Authority may be able to allocate an additional £0.300m against these tasks to reduce the overall residual balance.

Health Education, Care and Safeguarding

- 2.13 The Service is forecasting to deliver £2.677m (82%) of its targets at this stage in the year. A total of £0.375m of the target that is still to be achieved relates to the Efficiency Statement category of Responding to Rising Complex Needs. Work is still ongoing within HECS to deliver savings relating to enablement and the alternative delivery model.
- 2.14 In addition the following still require achievement as at May 2019; an amount of £0.100m relating to the implementation of assistive technology under the Efficiency Statement category of A Focus on the Social Care Customer Experience, £0.050m relating to a review of service delivery options under How We Are Organised, £0.050m relating to generating new income streams under Leading Sector-Led Improvement and £0.016m relating to a review of the Family Gateway under Continue to Redesign 0-19 Services.
- 2.15 A prudent view is being taken around savings to be achieved as these are delivered over the course of the year by on-going robust review and management actions rather than as a one-off activity with a discrete start and end date as in, for example, a staffing restructure. These targets are all viewed as on track in terms of management actions and the Service is confident of delivering fully against targets in cash terms in due course. However, at this early stage in the year, these savings have been assumed as still requiring achievement whilst careful monitoring of actual results continues.

SECTION 3 – NEW REVENUE GRANTS

3.1 The following revenue grants have been received or notified during April and May 2019.

Table 4: Revenue Grants Received or Notified in April and May 2019.

Service	Grant Provider	Grant	Purpose	2019/20 value £m
Environment Housing and Leisure	Without Walls Consortium Ltd	Without Walls	To support street entertainers for the Mouth of the Tyne Festival	0.010
Environment Housing and Leisure	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	Local Authority EU Exit Preparation	To support costs associated with Brexit	0.105
Environment Housing and Leisure	Arts Council England	Arts Council National Lottery Project Grant	To support delivery of the Front and Centre Project	0.015
Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding	Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumberland	Early Intervention Youth Fund	To provide support for young people on the periphery of serious crime	0.005
Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding	Education and Skills Funding Agency	School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering Grant	To support the monitoring of school performance and to broker school improvement provision	0.110
Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding	Youth Custody Service	Remands to Secure Accommodation	Supports the transfer of responsibility to Local Authorities for the cost of remand for youth detention	0.013

Service	Grant Provider	Grant	Purpose	2019/20 value £m
Commissioning and Asset Management	Department for Education	Looked After Children Mental Health Assessment Pilot	Piloting a new mental health assessment framework for Looked After Children	0.048
Commissioning and Asset Management	Council for Disabled Children	Information, Advice and Support Programme Grant	To ensure children and young people with special educational needs have access to free and impartial advice	0.046
Total				0.352

SECTION 4 – SERVICE COMMENTARIES

4.1 Meetings have been held between finance officers and budget managers to review the forecast positions for 2019/20, with forecasts being prepared on a prudent basis at this early stage in the financial year. An initial meeting took place with Lead Members to review the 2018/19 outturn and discuss the initial outlook for 2019/20. Further meetings have been planned for July and quarterly thereafter with officers, the Elected Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, and other relevant Cabinet Members to discuss the in-year finance and performance position. Heads of Service and their senior teams will also attend to discuss plans in progress to mitigate any pressures.

4.2 Health, Education, Care & Safeguarding (HECS)

4.2.1 HECS is forecasting a pressure against its £68.069m net controllable expenditure budget of £5.611m. This forecast position excludes the application of contingency budgets set aside in Central Items for pressures in Adult Services of £1.800m and within Children’s Services of £2.616m.

4.2.2 Table 5: Forecast Variation for HECS at May 2019

	Budget £m	Forecast £m	Variance May £m	Variance 2018/19 £m
Corporate Parenting and Placements	16.374	18.946	2.572	3.580
Early Help and Vulnerable Families	1.593	1.608	0.015	(0.081)
Employment and Skills	0.546	0.546	0.000	(0.077)
Integrated Disability and Additional Needs Service	2.269	2.765	0.496	0.347
School Improvement	0.088	0.088	0.000	(0.130)
Regional Adoption Agency	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Children’s Services Sub-total	20.870	23.953	3.083	3.639
Wellbeing, Governance & Transformation	2.299	2.236	(0.063)	(0.360)
Disability & Mental Health	31.279	32.070	0.791	1.383
Wellbeing & Assessment	10.299	12.040	1.741	1.412
Integrated Services	2.919	2.875	(0.044)	(0.457)
Business Assurance	0.298	0.401	0.103	(0.183)
Adult Services Sub-total	47.094	49.622	2.528	1.795
Public Health	0.105	0.105	0.000	0.000
Total HECS	68.069	73.680	5.611	5.434

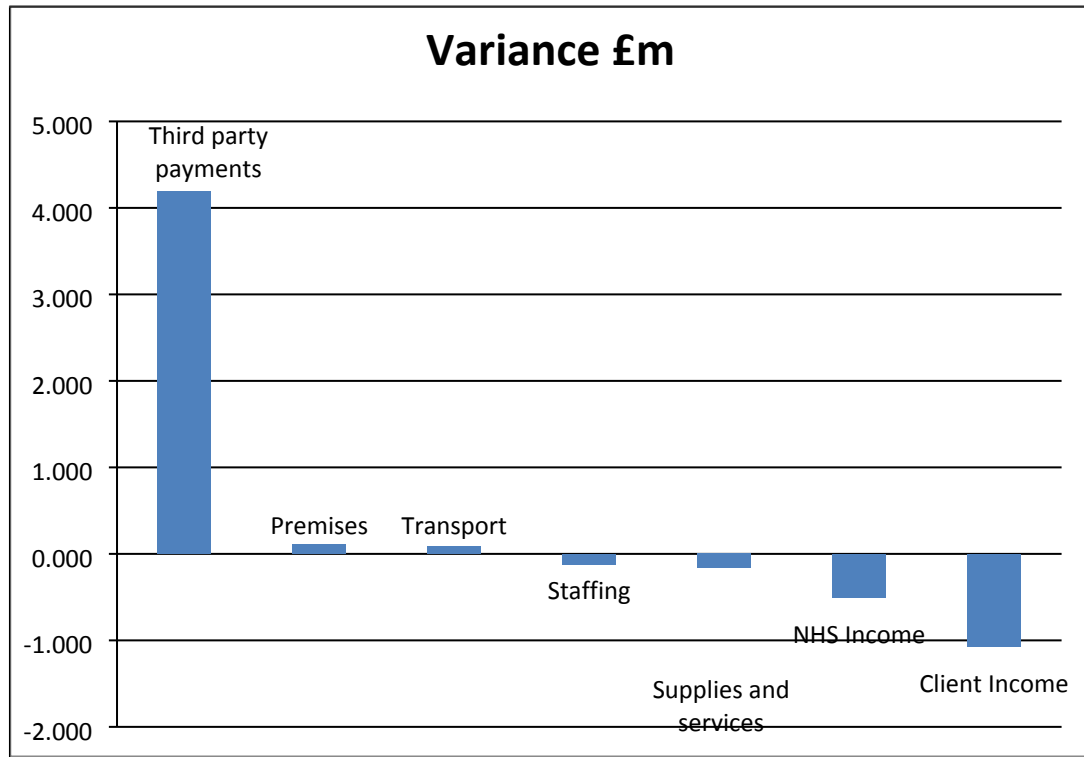
Main budget pressures across HECS

- 4.2.3 In addition to its normal complex budget management, HECS has been required to deal with a combination of pressures and national policy changes. There are continuing upward pressures on care providers' fees partially resulting from the National Living Wage and an on-going challenge around ensuring that the NHS makes a fair contribution for clients with health needs as the North Tyneside Clinical Commissioning Group (NTCCG) faces continuing budget constraints.
- 4.2.4 The main factor behind the pressure is third party payments in relation to fees for care homes and community-based packages for adults. In addition, there remains significant pressure within Corporate Parenting and Placements in relation to care provision for Looked After Children (LAC) and Care Leavers despite the overall numbers of LAC being relatively stable (see 4.2.22 below). This has combined with the on-going pressures in the workforce arising from staff retention costs and recruitment costs.

Adult Services

- 4.2.5 In Adult Services, the £2.528m pressure relates to third party payments for care provision which is £4.187m above budget levels. There are also smaller pressures relating to premises costs (£0.114m) and transport costs (0.088m). These pressures are partially offset by a higher than budgeted level of client contributions (£1.070m), and contributions from the NHS for clients with a health need (£0.504m). There are also underspends against supplies and services and staffing budgets of £0.163m and £0.124m respectively. The demand pressures were foreseen by Cabinet and backed by £1.800m of contingencies held centrally.
- 4.2.6 The factors behind the overall pressure of £2.528m are represented graphically below:

Chart 1: Breakdown of Budget Variances within Adult Social Care



- 4.2.7 In common with most local authorities, North Tyneside has seen demand for adult social care continue to rise as the success story of longer lifespans means there are many more people with care and support needs arising from a mixture of physical health and mental health conditions including dementia and frailty in old age. In addition to older people, younger adults with learning disabilities and physical disabilities are also living longer, often with multiple complex issues.
- 4.2.8 In order to manage this demand as effectively as possible and ensure that the most intensive services are targeted at those in the greatest need, HECS has been going through transformation to develop an asset-based approach that focuses on enhancing an individual's strengths and informal support networks to maximise their independence. This has had the impact of containing the overall size of the population in receipt of services with a cost to the Authority, but the average cost of those services has increased due to the increased average complexity of the needs of those clients.
- 4.2.9 Pressures within external payments for care provision total £4.187m above budget. These are analysed into the following service types:

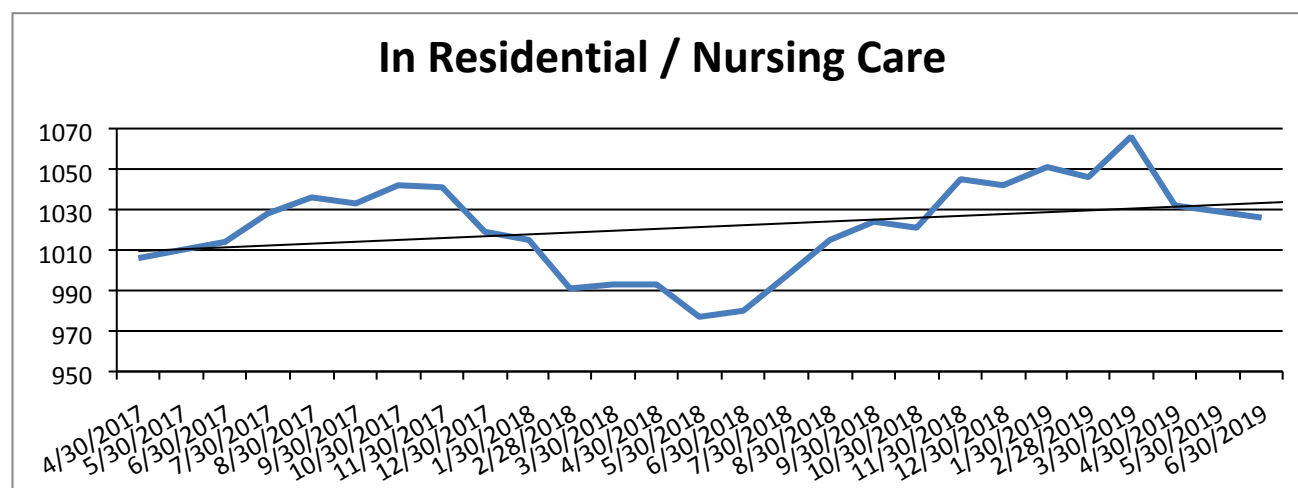
Table 6: Analysis of Adult Services Care Provision Pressure by Service Type

Type of Service	May 2019/20 £m	2018/19 £m
Residential and Nursing Care	2.520	2.234
Homecare and Extra Care	0.955	1.376
Other Community-Based Care	0.712	0.660
Total	4.187	4.270

Residential and Nursing Care

- 4.2.10 In relation to Residential and Nursing Care, an increase in short-term placements in the later part of 2018/19 saw numbers of placements overall rise to 1,066. Internal processes to monitor the use of short-term placements have been strengthened and numbers of placements overall have fallen in April and May 2019. However, there are still challenges, for example the options to move clients from short-term placements to community provision diminishes after longer lengths of stay in short-term placement as clients lose skills and family concerns increase around risks at home.
- 4.2.11 Alternative provisions of services are being identified for short-term placements to prevent admission to long-term residential care such as Reablement services, community based intermediate care or extra care provisions. HECS is continuing a focused review of all short-term placements with support from colleagues from sheltered accommodation and with a view to maximising the appropriate use of assistive technology to identify exit plans for those people needing to move on from short-term residential placements.
- 4.2.12 The numbers of placements overall for Residential and Nursing Care is starting to fall, reducing from 1,066 in March 2019 to 1,026 at the end of May 2019. However, the numbers in care at May 2019 (1,026) are higher than May 2018 which stood at 977.

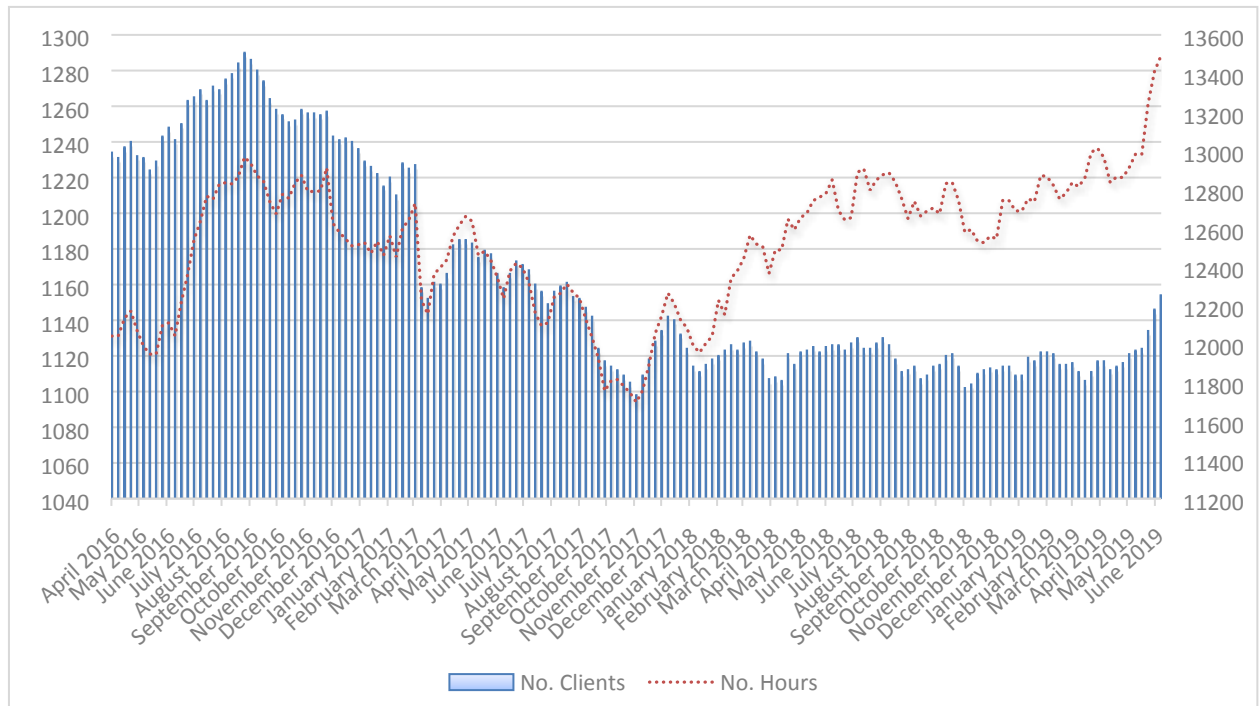
Chart 2: Movement in Numbers of Clients in Residential and Nursing Care since April 2017



Homecare and Extra Care

4.2.13 As reported during 2018/19, the Authority, in line with the national trend, has seen an increase in the number of homecare hours provided despite a fall in the total number of clients receiving this type of service. This is demonstrated by chart 3 below:

4.2.14 **Chart 3: Trend in Annual Cost per Client of Homecare/Extra Care Services**



4.2.15 HECS is working hard to continue embedding the asset-based approach by re-engineering the customer pathway through the service to ensure that assessments are proportionate and that clients receive the appropriate level of support to meet their needs to the extent that they are eligible under the Care Act as cost-effectively as possible.

CCG Income

4.2.16 There is an over-achievement of s117 Mental Health Aftercare income of £0.521m and a £0.060m budget surplus on general recharges for items such as staffing costs. This is offset by a shortfall of income for jointly funded packages of care where a client has a significant health need (£0.077m). Recharges for jointly funded packages of care have been reducing for a number of years falling from £2.440m in 2017/18 to £1.680m in 2018/19. The forecast for 2019/20 at May is £1.634m. In relation to jointly funded care, the Authority is working collaboratively with the CCG on a case by case basis where it is identified that a client has significant health needs. However, if a client has not been assessed as fully meeting the threshold for continuing healthcare, there has been an absence of clear statutory guidelines outlining the CCG's responsibility. New national guidance around jointly funded cases was published in late 2018 with

revised national tools to support the assessment of continuing healthcare; the Authority is continuing to work through these issues in conjunction with the CCG.

Client Income

- 4.2.17 Client income is forecast to over-recover against budget by £1.070m. This includes an additional £0.120m relating to the full year impact of the new contributions policy agreed by Cabinet in 2018.

Transport and Premises

- 4.2.18 There are pressures in transport costs of £0.088m relating to vehicles for teams providing community-based care. In addition there are pressures of £0.114m in premises costs relating mainly to rent for respite premises for clients with a learning disability and accommodation costs for teams based within the community.

Children's Services

- 4.2.19 In Children's Services the £3.083m pressure relates mainly to demand pressures of £2.572m in Corporate Parenting and Placements and £0.496m in Integrated Disability and Additional Needs, which were foreseen by Cabinet and backed by £2.616m of contingencies held centrally.

Corporate Parenting and Placements

- 4.2.20 The pressures within Corporate Parenting and Placements can be broken down as follows:

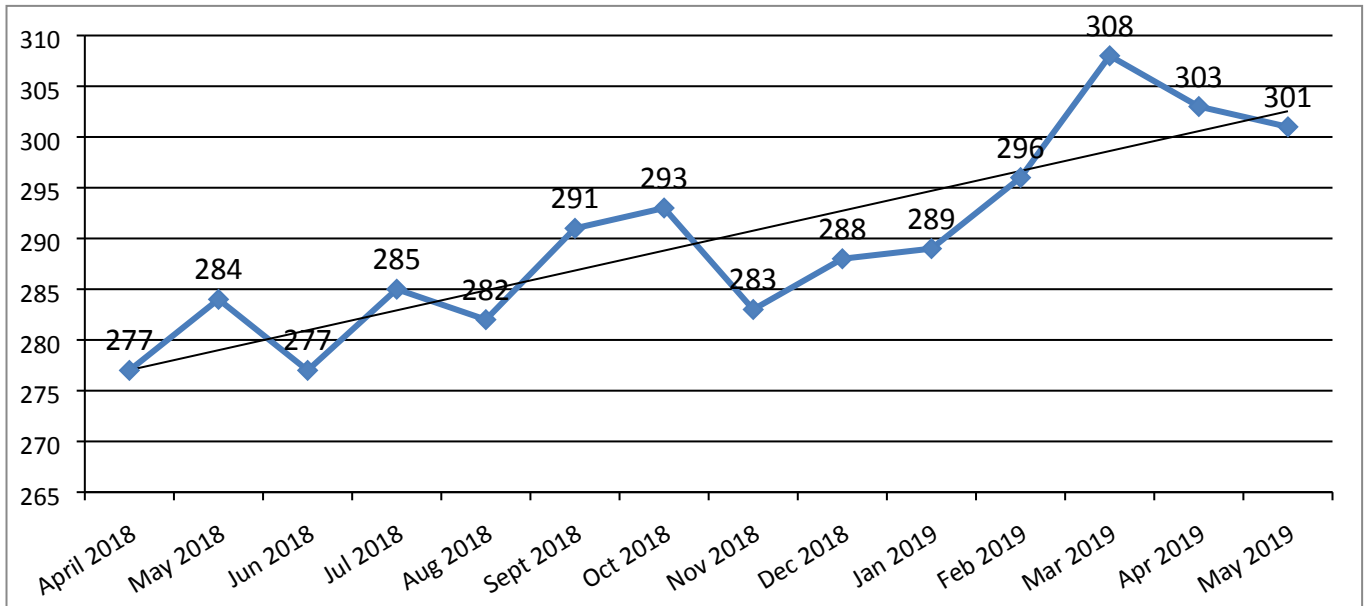
Table 7: Analysis of Pressures in Corporate Parenting and Placements

Type of Service	Budget 2019/20 £m	Variance May £m
Care provision - LAC	9.186	1.658
Care provision – Non LAC	3.202	0.472
Management and Legal Fees	0.098	0.112
Social Work	3.844	0.330
Safeguarding Operations	0.044	0.000
Total	16.374	2.572

Care Provision – LAC

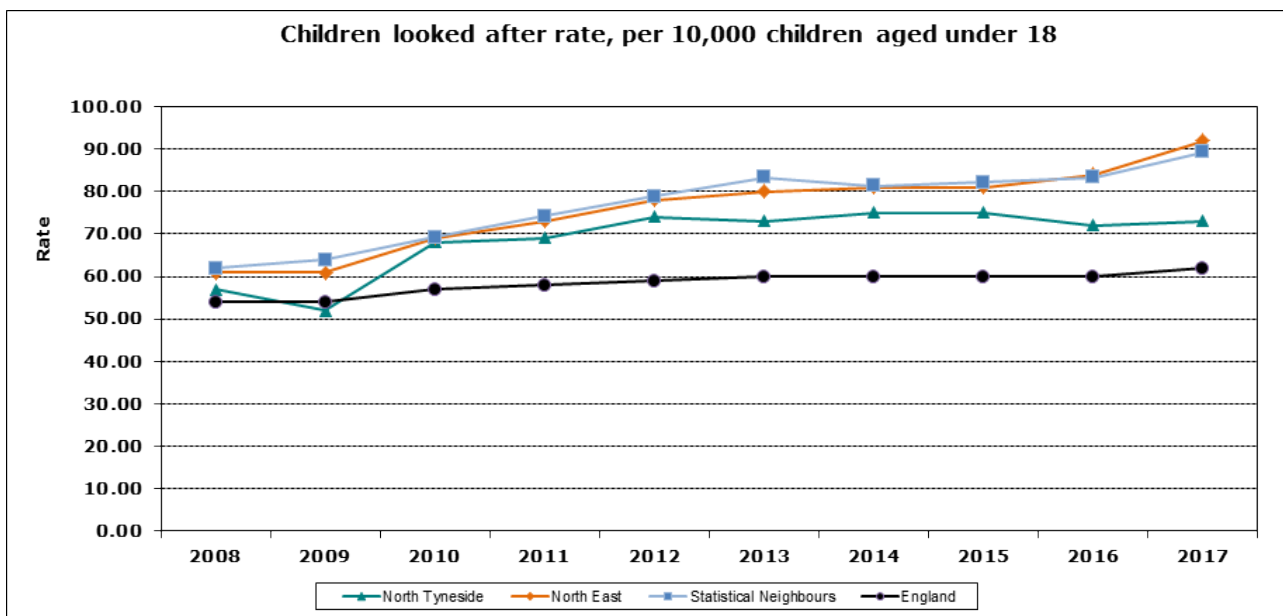
- 4.2.21 Over recent years, there has been an increase nationally in demand for children's residential placements but with no corresponding increase in central government funded provision. In North Tyneside over the last few years the overall number of Looked After Children (LAC) has mirrored the increases felt nationally. Numbers were however, steady through 2018/19 before rising to 308 at the year end. Numbers of LAC have fallen to 301 at the end of May 2019. The increase seen at the end of the 2018/19 financial year related to delays in the Courts resulting in fewer LAC leaving the system.

4.2.22 **Chart 4: Looked After Children Numbers at the End of Each Month**



4.2.23 The most recent available national comparators from 2017/18, as demonstrated by chart 5 below, shows that North Tyneside, although above the England average, performs well within the North East region in relation to the rates of LAC. Updated national figures for 2018/19 will be available in autumn 2019.

4.2.24 **Chart 5: Comparative Performance in Rates of LAC per 10,000 Children under 18**



4.2.25 In addition to the recent rise in overall numbers of LAC since February 2019, placement mix also continues to change. Placements for adolescents (particularly males) with a combination of risks including aggressive behaviour, offending, substance use and sexualised behaviour are increasingly difficult to source. This has resulted in the use of more costly bespoke individual

placements, where it is not suitable to place young people in group environments. This is demonstrated in the table below where the main pressure results from residential placements which, in terms of total bed nights, represents only 7% of provision but is very costly amounting to 33% of the overall placement cost. The average cost of a residential care placement at present is £0.249m; however this is very volatile and is dependent on the individual needs of the cohort of children and young people in externally provided residential placements at a point in time. External supported accommodation can also be expensive and there is currently a cohort of four young people with very complex needs being supported at an average cost in excess of £0.005m per week. Forecasts assume these young people will be moved to less costly provision for the second half of the year.

4.2.26 Table 8: Forecast cost, forecast variance, average placement cost and placement mix

Placement Type	19/20 Forecast Variance	Average Annual Placement cost £m	19/20 Bed nights	Placement Mix	No. of LAC at May 19
External Residential Care	0.912	0.249	6,765	6%	22
External Fostering	0.067	0.036	10,431	10%	24
In-House Fostering Service	0.000	0.020	76,188	69%	208
External Supported Accommodation	0.679	0.112	3,078	3%	10
Other*	0.000	various	13,482	12%	37
Total	1.658		109,944	100%	301

*Other includes Placed for Adoption, Placed with Parents/Parental Responsibility and NTC Children's Homes.

4.2.27 Children's Services has been successful in reducing the use of externally provided supported accommodation, which is the next most expensive form of provision after residential care. This has been achieved by making full use of the Authority's in house provision jointly working with the housing team and supporting young people who have been involved in risk taking behaviour with stable and resilient staff teams. This has allowed the placement of young people within internal services that may otherwise have required an external placement at significant additional cost.

Care Provision – Non-LAC

4.2.28 The pressure of £0.472m relating to care provision for non-LAC relates predominantly to children under a Special Guardianship Order (SGO). Cabinet will recall that the Authority's policy for supporting children in SGOs was amended in 2018 and that this brought about additional costs. The contingency

budget of £2.616m established in Central Items in 2018/19 was, in part, intended to mitigate against these costs.

Management and Legal Fees

- 4.2.29 There is an over-commitment in management staffing costs of £0.012m within the overall pressure of £0.112m, but the main pressure shown here relates to a prudent assumption of achievement of 50% of the savings target in relation to sector-led improvement income leaving a £0.050m pressure and a forecast of £0.050m of the saving against legal fees as yet to be achieved.

Social Work

- 4.2.30 Within the overall pressures of £2.572m for Corporate Parenting and Placements, there are staffing pressures of £0.330m. Cabinet is aware of the particular challenges faced across the children's social care sector nationally. The net pressure is due to the need to establish an additional team, to support with case load management, which is forecast to be in place for six months (£0.150m) and market supplement payments (£0.180m). At the time of reporting, no agency staff are currently required and case loads are in line with good practice.

Integrated Disability and Additional Needs

- 4.2.31 There is a pressure of £0.496m as at May 2019. This pressure relates to operational staffing costs within in-house residential services of £0.200m, and an associated unachieved health income target of £0.085m. In addition, there are pressures relating to the delivery of the Authority's statutory duties in relation to Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) with additional management capacity and loss of grant funding forecast to cause a pressure of £0.077m. There are also staffing pressures of £0.135m in Educational Psychology partly relating to cover arrangements associated with maternity leave.

4.3 Commissioning and Asset Management

- 4.3.1 Commissioning and Asset Management is forecasting a pressure of £0.174m as set out in table 9 below compared to the 2018/19 position of £0.335m.

4.3.2 Table 9: Commissioning and Asset Management Forecast Variation

	Budget £m	Forecast £m	Variance May £m	Variance 2018/19 £m
School Funding & statutory staff costs	18.289	18.289	0.000	(0.106)
Commissioning Service	0.402	0.402	0.000	(0.026)
Child Protection independent assurance and review	0.674	0.684	0.010	0.011
Facilities and Fair Access	0.247	0.411	0.164	0.222
Community and Voluntary Sector Liaison	0.439	0.439	0.000	0.007
Strategic Property and Investment	0.795	0.795	0.000	0.072
High needs Special Educational Needs	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Property	1.357	1.357	0.000	0.171
Commissioning & Asset Management & support	0.154	0.154	0.000	(0.004)
Procurement	(0.055)	(0.055)	0.000	(0.012)
Total Commissioning & Asset Management	22.302	22.476	0.174	0.335

4.3.4 The main budget pressures across Commissioning and Asset Management relate to Facilities and Fair Access where there are inflationary pressures of £0.042m within Catering and £0.048m in Cleaning. In addition, there are pressures within Home to School Transport of £0.074m due to the increasing number of pupils attending special schools. There has been a 5% increase in the specific Consumer Price Index for food and beverages over the last three year period which on an annual spend of £2.2m equates to a pressure of £0.110m across the Service; this has been partially mitigated by cost efficiencies and by raising additional income.

4.3.5 The Service is continuing to look at additional ways to achieve further efficiencies across the Catering and Cleaning services and within Home to School Transport work is actively progressing on route rationalisation using the new QRout system.

4.3.6 The pressures which existed in Property at the 2018/19 year end are forecast to be mitigated by more efficient delivery of the in-house service in relation to repair and maintenance and security costs at the Sir G.B. Hunter Memorial Hospital site have been reduced.

4.4 **Environment, Housing & Leisure (EHL)**

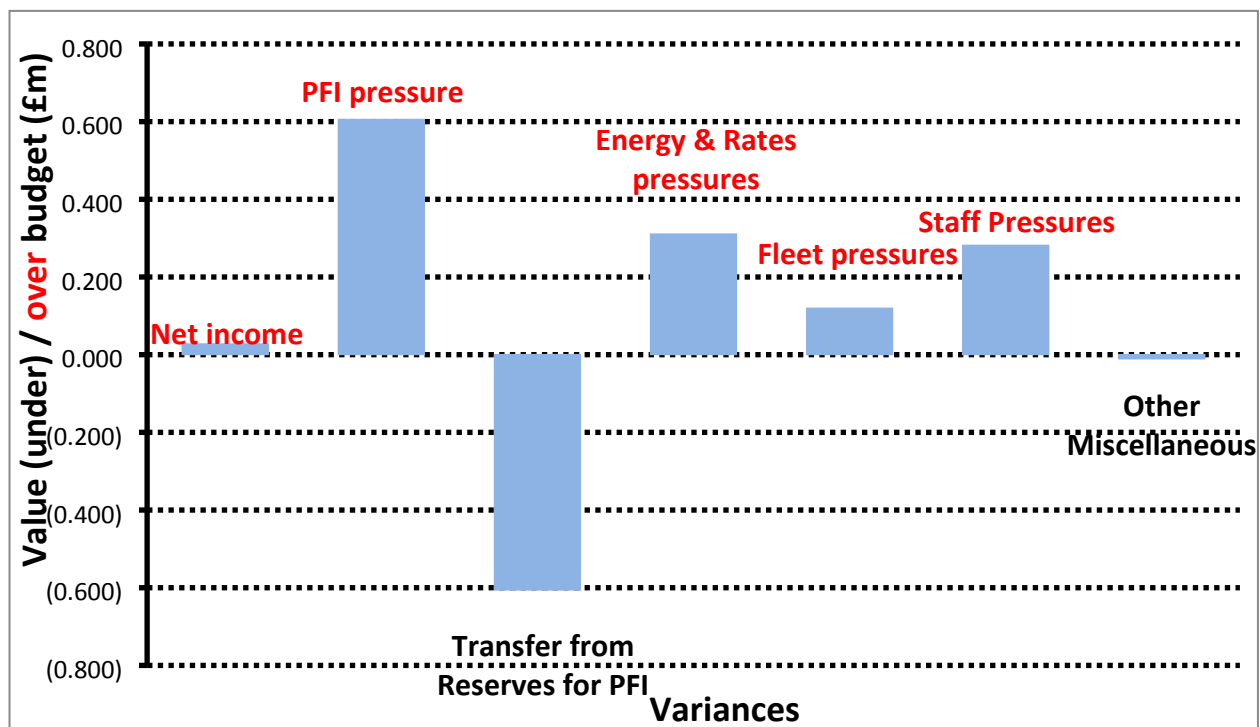
4.4.1 EHL is forecasting a pressure of £0.730m against the £41.752m budget, as set out in Table 10 below. The initial outlook for 2019/20 shared with Lead Members during the recent Budget and Performance session indicated that the Service was working hard to mitigate pressures of £1.378m and, by year end, expected to be able to manage those pressures in their entirety. This first monitoring position continues to take a prudent view at this early stage in the year as planning for mitigating savings is still in progress. This monitoring position reflects a £0.606m transfer from reserves to cover Private Finance Initiative (PFI) pressures. EHL is committed to delivering a balanced position.

4.4.2 **Table 10: Forecast Variation in Environment Housing & Leisure**

	Budget £m	Forecast £m	Variance May £m	Variance 2018/19 £m
Sport & Leisure	3.101	3.367	0.266	0.291
Cultural Services	6.927	7.149	0.222	0.000
Security & Community Safety	0.302	0.306	0.004	0.054
Fleet Management	0.808	0.928	0.120	(0.022)
Waste and Recycling Disposal	7.230	7.181	(0.049)	(0.530)
Waste Management	3.607	3.744	0.137	0.222
Local Environmental Services	7.247	7.276	0.029	(0.043)
Head of Service and Resilience	0.133	0.155	0.022	(0.006)
Street Lighting PFI	4.396	4.397	0.001	0.000
Consumer Protection & Building Control	0.829	0.818	(0.011)	0.090
Transport and Highways	6.091	6.094	0.003	(0.027)
Planning	0.170	0.170	0.000	0.006
General Fund Housing	0.911	0.897	(0.014)	(0.009)
Total Environment, Housing and Leisure	41.752	42.482	0.730	0.026

4.4.3 The main pressures are identified in chart 6 below as energy and rates pressures across the service areas of £0.299m and historical staff-related pressures of £0.282m. In addition there are new pressures in Fleet Management due to the capital financing of the new vehicles of £0.120m, offset by small gains in income and other miscellaneous operational savings.

4.4.4 Chart 6: EHL Underlying Pressures and Achieved Mitigation Savings 2019/20



4.4.5 The following paragraphs 4.4.6 to 4.4.18 outline the pressures in each service area;

Sport and Leisure

4.4.6 Sport and Leisure is predicting a pressure of £0.266m, which is a small improvement on 2018/19. Whilst income budget targets around gyms have increased by £0.600m compared to 2018/19, EHL is still expecting a £0.109m improvement against these revised targets.

4.4.7 The improved income is offsetting historical pressures within Sport and Leisure around staffing and utility costs. EHL is planning to mitigate the overall pressures by continuing the promotional work which was successful in 2018/19, which saw increases to the numbers using leisure facilities across the year.

Cultural Services

4.4.8 Cultural Services within North Tyneside are showing a forecast pressure of £0.222m, which includes historical pressures due to utility and rates costs and income shortfalls. EHL is expecting to mitigate these pressures primarily by maximising the return from the Playhouse and Mouth of the Tyne Festival, along with close management of operational expenditure.

Security and Community Safety

4.4.9 This service area has reviewed and realigned both structure and finances to increase its overall viability. Following this review it is expecting to come close to

break-even in 2019/20, an improvement over the outturn pressure of £0.054m in 2018/19.

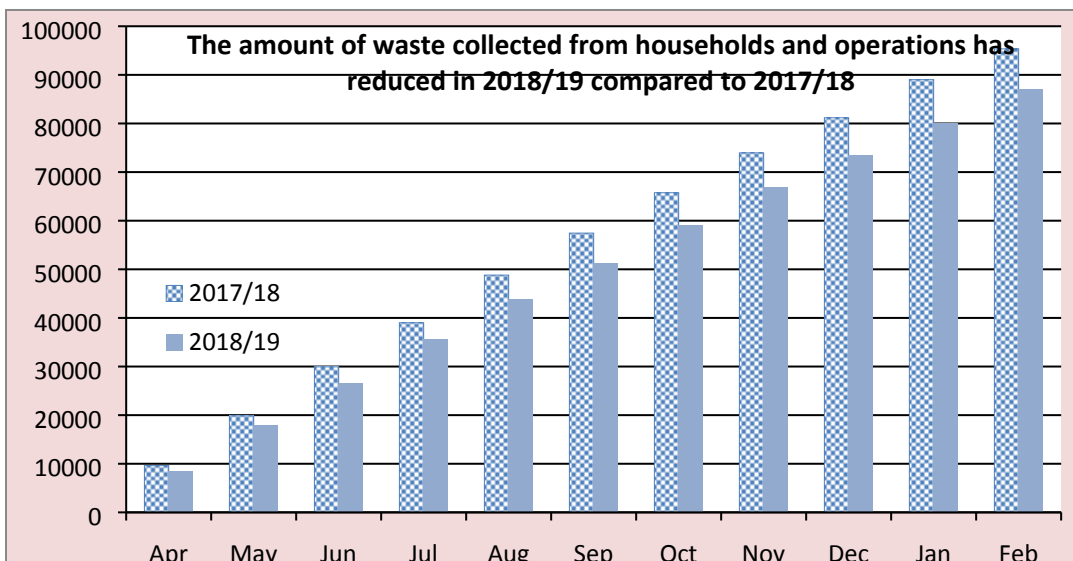
Fleet Management

4.4.10 Fleet Management is starting 2019/20 with a recognised pressure in relation to increased capital financing costs for newly purchased vehicles. This service area is prudently forecasting other costs, such as maintenance, materials and other operational expenditure whilst it carries out a review of recharging and maintenance plans. In past years the additional cost of financing new vehicles has been successfully offset by the associated reduction in servicing and maintenance costs of newer vehicles and EHL is working hard to identify further mitigating savings to deliver a balanced budget position.

Waste Management including Recycling and Disposal

4.4.11 Waste Management is currently predicting pressures associated with staffing and transport in relation to additional routes for new housing. However, these pressures are forecast to be partially offset by a review of transport charges and management of staffing resources. Provisional tonnage information at April reflects the continuing reduction in household waste generated that occurred in 2018/19 and is reflected in Chart 7 below:

4.4.12 **Chart 7: Overall Waste Tonnage – Comparison of 2018/19 to 2017/18**



4.4.13 In 2018/19 a 9% decrease in waste volumes was experienced compared to 2017/18. This decrease reflects the beneficial impact of the measures implemented at the Household Waste Recycling Centre from July 2017 to tackle illegal usage of the site and the introduction of alternate weekly waste collections at the end of August 2018.

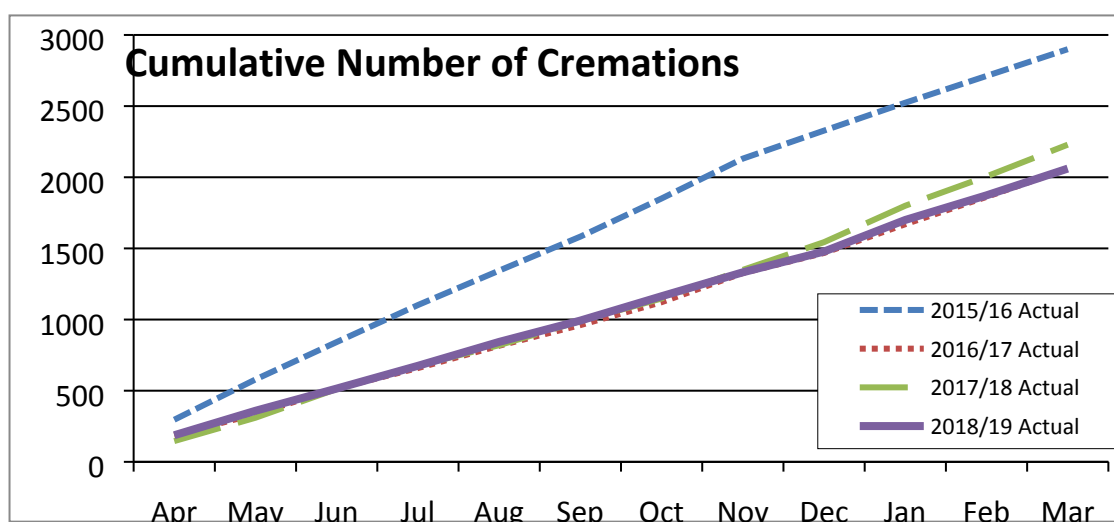
4.4.14 The recycling disposal contract is due for renewal in 2019/20 and is currently going through the appropriate re-procurement process. Due to events affecting the global market for recyclable material, it is envisaged that the costs to the Authority of the new contract will be higher. It now appears unlikely that the long term impacts of this will be met within existing budgets. However, in 2019/20 it is

projected that, due to the Authority still benefiting from the favourable terms of the existing contract for the first six months of 2019/20, EHL should be able to mitigate the impact of this re-procurement in 2019/20 using all available Waste resources.

Local Environmental Services

4.4.15 This service area is predicting an overall pressure which is mainly in relation to an expected income shortfall in Bereavement. In previous years this area has achieved or surpassed income targets, but 2018/19 reflected the lowest burial and cremation numbers for four years, as reflected in Chart 8. The drop in income will be taken into account when the management review charges for its services for October, with a view to mitigating the current shortfall. EHL will continue to manage overall costs and look for opportunities to make additional savings whilst closely reviewing the income levels.

4.4.16 **Chart 8: Annual Number of Cremations (2015/16 to 2018/19)**



Street Lighting PFI

4.4.17 The Street Lighting PFI is predicting a cost pressure, which for 2019/20 is forecast to be £0.606m, mainly caused by increased energy costs. As the Authority has planned for this issue, this pressure will be mitigated by a draw-down from the PFI reserve established for this purpose and this will deliver a balanced budget position.

Consumer Protection & Building Control

4.4.18 In 2018/19 this service area reported an outturn pressure of £0.090m, including a £0.122m shortfall in taxi licensing. In 2019/20 Capita, the Authority's Technical Services partner, has agreed to undertake a review of the service to mitigate this pressure and the risk to the Authority.

4.5 **Regeneration and Economic Development**

4.5.1 Regeneration and Economic Development is forecasting a pressure of £0.153m at 31 May 2019 as summarised in table 11 below:

4.5.2 **Table 11: Forecast Variation for Regeneration and Economic Development**

	Budget £m	Forecast £m	Variance May £m	Variance 2018/19 £m
Regeneration	0.309	0.429	0.120	0.418
Business & Enterprise	0.754	0.772	0.018	(0.019)
Resources & Performance	0.108	0.123	0.015	(0.014)
Total Business and Economic Development	1.171	1.324	0.153	0.385

4.5.3 The pressures result from a forecast shortfall against budget for berthing fee income of £0.148m and for rental income for business units at the Swans Centre for Innovation of £0.063m. These pressures are partially offset by savings in supplies and services at Swans Quay mainly relating to security services.

4.6 **Corporate Strategy**

4.6.1 Corporate Strategy is forecasting a pressure of £0.116m as set out in table 12 below. Staffing pressures are partially offset by savings in supplies and services mainly in relation to subscriptions to various bodies. Corporate Strategy are looking to partly mitigate the pressures through the year by focused vacancy management and identifying opportunities to increase income and reduce non-essential spend.

4.6.2 **Table 12: Forecast Variation Corporate Strategy**

	Budget £m	Forecast £m	Variance May £m	Variance 2018/19 £m
Corporate Strategy Management	(0.019)	0.005	0.024	0.032
Policy, Performance & Research	(0.059)	(0.086)	(0.027)	0.147
Marketing	0.092	0.162	0.070	0.051
Elected Mayor and Executive Support	(0.003)	0.008	0.011	0.013
Children's Participation & Advocacy	0.187	0.225	0.038	(0.001)
Total Corporate Strategy	0.198	0.314	0.116	0.242

4.7 **Resources**

4.7.1 The forecast pressure of £0.874m within Resources, as set out in table 13 below, mainly relates to Customer Journey and Digital Strategy, within ICT Retained Services.

4.7.2 **Table 13: Forecast Variation Resources**

	Budget £m	Forecast £m	Variance May £m	Variance 2018/19 £m
Chief Executive	(0.054)	(0.104)	(0.050)	(0.016)
ICT Retained Services	1.805	2.689	0.884	1.189
Finance Service	(0.449)	(0.449)	0.000	(0.331)
Internal Audit	(0.088)	(0.088)	0.000	(0.049)
Revenues, Benefits and Customer Services	(0.020)	(0.025)	(0.005)	0.087
Human Resources	(0.334)	(0.289)	0.045	0.021
Organisational Development	0.247	0.247	0.000	0.000
Total Resources	1.107	1.981	0.874	0.901

4.7.3 Within ICT Retained Services, the main pressures relates to continuing staffing pressures associated with the Customer Journey project (£0.162m). There is also an on-going pressure of £0.262m relating to the Outsystems software development and hosting platform for the production of custom applications. The reduction in pressure from 2018/19 results from costs relating to support for the Customer Journey project provided by ENGIE that will end by 30 September 2019.

4.7.4 Also within ICT Retained Services are budget pressures within Digital Strategy which relate to ICT costs for systems which are outside the ENGIE contract. These include telephony, network and storage support and maintenance packages amongst other smaller items.

4.7.5 Human Resources is showing a pressure of £0.045m due to staffing pressures following the transfer of the Service back to the Authority from ENGIE.

4.7.6 Within Revenues, Benefit and Customer Services, pressures remain relating to reduced enforcement income and bank charges; however, these are entirely offset by an improved benefits subsidy position, an improved bad debt position and savings on supplies and services.

4.8 **Law and Governance**

4.8.1 Law and Governance is forecasting a pressure of £0.060m, reduced from 2018/19, due to the replacement of more costly locums with directly-employed staff. In addition, in 2018/19 there was a one-off backdated cost relating to the Coroners Service (£0.090m).

4.8.2 Table 14: Forecast Variation for Law and Governance

	Budget £m	Forecast £m	Variance May £m	Variance 2018/19 £m
Customer, Governance and Registration	(0.075)	(0.046)	0.029	0.053
Democratic & Electoral Services	(0.064)	(0.058)	0.006	0.010
Information Governance	(0.113)	(0.135)	(0.022)	0.040
Legal Services	(0.186)	(0.162)	0.024	0.109
North Tyneside Coroner	0.293	0.316	0.023	0.119
Total Law and Governance	(0.145)	(0.085)	0.060	0.331

4.8.3 There is a forecast pressure from operational costs within the Coroner Service based on activity levels for 2018/19, comprising of costs relating to fees from funeral directors for removal of bodies and for post mortem costs (£0.023m) and a staffing pressure with Legal Services (£0.024m). Within Customer, Governance and Registration there is a forecast shortfall against income targets of £0.015m and supplies and services pressures of £0.011m with the balance being minor operational staffing pressures of £0.003m.

4.9 Central Items

4.9.1 The 2018/19 forecast outturn set out in Table 15 below reflects an underspend of £2.455m on central budgets, including contingency budgets relating to pressures in adult and children's social care of £4.416m.

4.9.2 Table 15: Forecast Variation Central Budgets and Contingencies

	Budget £m	Forecast £m	Variance May £m	Variance 2018/19 £m
Corporate & Democratic Core	9.545	9.545	0.000	(0.259)
Other Central Items	(8.282)	(10.737)	(2.455)	(8.626)
Total Central Items	1.263	(1.192)	(2.455)	(8.885)

4.9.3 Within Other Central Items there are several areas where spend and income is forecast to deviate from budget. Continued savings have been identified resulting from the application of the Authority's Treasury Management Strategy. There is a saving of £0.730m relating to Public Works Loan Board loans taken out at a lower rate of interest than budgeted for (£0.355m) and a reduction in borrowing costs resulting from higher internal borrowing (£0.375m). In addition, reprogramming within the Investment Plan has delivered a credit against Minimum Revenue Provision of £0.370m at this stage in the year. This total saving of £1.100m could provide in-year mitigation to the cross cutting savings targets which are yet to be permanently saved as outlined in sections 2.7 to 2.9. There is also a saving against budget of £0.600m for Strain on the Fund costs.

There are contingency budgets of £4.636m including the £4.416m held against pressures in social care. There is a total of £0.218m other smaller savings.

- 4.9.4 These underspends are partially offset by savings targets forecast as still to be fully achieved. These relate to the following Efficiency Statement Categories; A Focus on the Social Care Customer Experience, How We Are Organised and Delivering Our Fees and Charges Policy. There is an increase to the bad debt provision of £0.250m.

SECTION 5 - SCHOOLS FINANCE

Schools Balances in 2018/19

- 5.1 Cabinet will recall that during 2018/19, collective school balances in North Tyneside maintained schools reduced from a surplus of £3.357m at the start of the year to a surplus of £1.599m at year end. This position was significantly better than the initial forecast when the outturn was expected to be an overall deficit of £4.716m, an improvement of £6.315m.

School Budgets 2019/20

- 5.2 Schools are required to submit their rolling three year budget plan to the Authority by 31 May each year. The total planned deficit for school balances is £5.045m in 2019/20. The total planned school balances by phase is shown below:

Table 16: Summary of Planned School Balances for 2019/20 by Phase

Phase	Outturn 2018/19 £m	Budget Plan 2019/20 £m
Nursery	0.009	0.002
Primary	3.789	2.603
Secondary	(3.279)	(7.866)
Special/PRU	1.080	0.216
Total	1.599	(5.045)

- 5.3 Cabinet will be aware that the Authority has been working with schools for a number of years with regard to the long-term strategic issue of surplus secondary places and the associated financial pressures which continue to be compounded by rising employment costs. As anticipated, 2018/19 was the fourth year of balances decreasing following a long term trend of rising balances in North Tyneside and the overall projected balances for 2019/20 continues this trend.

School Deficits

- 5.4 As well as school balances reducing overall, some individual schools continue to face significant financial challenges.
- 5.5 There were nine schools with approved deficits in 2018/19 and five of these schools continue to be in deficit for 2019/20. Schools Forum and senior officers worked closely with these schools during the year which, for the five schools remaining in deficit in 2019/20, contributed to an improved outturn of £7.247m compared to the approved deficit budgets planned totalling £7.827m. Two schools, Monkseaton Middle School and Whitley Bay High School, ended 2018/19 in a surplus position and are no longer in deficit in 2019/20. In addition, Backworth Park Primary School and Percy Main Primary School have submitted budget plans for 2019/20 which forecast an improved position, as a result both schools will no longer require a Licenced Deficit Agreement. The progress of the five individual schools remaining in deficit is outlined in table 17 below:

5.6 **Table 17: Schools in a Continuing Deficit Position**

School	Deficit Approval 2018/19 £m	Outturn 2018/19 £m	Improvement £m	Budget Plan 2019/20 £m
Ivy Road Primary	(0.278)	(0.223)	0.055	(0.357)
Marden High	(0.646)	(0.533)	0.113	(0.603)
Norham High	(1.549)	(1.462)	0.087	(2.057)
Longbenton High	(1.702)	(1.544)	0.158	(2.195)
Monkseaton High	(3.652)	(3.485)	0.167	(4.492)
Total	(7.827)	(7.247)	0.580	(9.704)

5.7 There are also six schools new to deficit in 2019/20 and details are provided in Table 18 below:

Table 18: Schools New to Deficit in 2019/20

School	Outturn 2018/19 £m	Budget Plan 2019/20 £m
Beacon Hill	0.301	(0.211)
Fordley Community Primary	(0.033)	(0.019)
Forest Hall Primary	0.000	(0.025)
Holystone Primary	(0.034)	(0.023)
St Aidan's RC Primary	(0.022)	(0.025)
St Bartholomew's C of E Primary	(0.005)	(0.033)
Total	0.207	(0.336)

5.8 Further work is underway with special schools to look at appropriate levels of funding for the needs of their current cohort of pupils. A review of High Needs provision in North Tyneside is also being undertaken and the outcome of this review will be reported to Cabinet in due course.

5.9 Deficit challenge sessions have commenced for schools with a continuing deficit and these will be concluded in June. A session has been held with schools new to deficit in 2019/20 to explain the process of deficit approval and challenge sessions with these schools are planned for early July.

5.10 In April 2019 Schools Forum approved changes to the Scheme for Financing Schools in respect of Licenced Deficit Agreements. It is anticipated that the changes made to the scheme for financing schools will improve financial governance for 2019/20 and beyond.

5.11 Under the revised Scheme all schools that are new to deficit and require a Licenced Deficit Agreement in 2019/20, will be required to return to financial balance within a maximum timescale of 3 years. Previously the maximum timescale allowed was 5 years. Those schools that are already operating under a Licenced Deficit Agreement will need to produce robust financial recovery plans which show the school achieving an in-year balanced position within 3 years with a view to start repaying the deficit in year 4 and subsequent years.

- 5.12 The Authority recognises that school budgets are under increasing pressure with rising costs relating to pay awards including the implications of the Nation Living Wage and North Tyneside Living Wage, pension contributions, apprenticeship levy and inflationary pressures on premises, equipment and materials costs. As a consequence the Authority is introducing a Support and Challenge process to help schools to deliver excellent outcomes for pupils within available resources.
- 5.13 The Support and Challenge Framework is aimed at helping schools currently in deficit recover financial sustainability as quickly as possible but it is also intended to introduce earlier intervention and prevention measures for schools showing signs of future financial difficulties. Under the framework the Authority will allocate an annual RAG rating to each school based on the three year budget plan produced by 31 May each year. Additional support will then be offered appropriate to the RAG rating of the individual school.
- 5.14 In 2018/19, Schools Forum agreed to delegate an amount of £0.131m for schools in financial difficulty often referred to as ‘headroom’ funding. Schools Forum agreed to offset the costs of the Schools Procurement Officer of £0.010m against this fund. Schools Forum also agreed to centrally retain a sum of £0.250m to support schools with falling rolls. A sub group of Schools Forum met during 2018/19 to develop criteria for allocation of this funding. As this agreement was outstanding at 31 March 2019, these amounts have been carried forward into 2019/20 for allocation in the current financial year. In addition to the 2018/19 centrally retained and de-delegated budgets, an amount of £0.432m was also carried forward from 2017/18 (net of repayments of funding back to academies during the year) into 2019/20 as summarised in Table 19 below:

5.15 **Table 19: Centrally retained and de-delegated funds to support schools in Financial Difficulty**

	£m
Carried forward from 2017/18	0.467
Less repayments to academies	(0.035)
Falling rolls funding 2018/19	0.250
Headroom funding 2018/19	0.131
Procurement Officer costs	(0.010)
Carried forward into 2019/20	0.803

- 5.16 A sub group of Schools Forum has met with schools applying for assistance and an allocation of the funding available. Initial recommendations will be taken to the July 2019 meeting of Schools Forum and any funding agreements will be reported to Cabinet in due course.
- 5.17 As in previous years, the details of schools balances will be reported to the Department for Education (DfE) through the Consistent Financial Reporting (CFR) return. This return will be co-ordinated by the Authority and will be submitted by the deadline in July 2019. The CFR is then used to populate parts of the s251 Outturn return which will be submitted to the DfE by the end of August 2019 for verification in September. Full details of each individual school’s balance will then be reported to Cabinet.

High Needs Block

- 5.18 Cabinet will recall that the High Needs block ended 2018/19 with a pressure of £0.920m. Cabinet should note that the High Needs block forms part of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) which is ringfenced and does not form part of the General Fund. This overall pressure in the High Needs block is in line with the national and regional picture and Members will be aware of the high level of interest in special needs provision and associated funding issues in the national media.
- 5.19 Initial forecasting of the budget position for 2019/20 indicates a similar level of pressure within the year. There has been a rise in demand for special school places and the Authority. The total number of places the Authority is planning for at the end of 2019/20 is approximately 762. This compares to a total of 664 places at the beginning of 2018/19. These additional places create pressures in relation to place funding of £10,000 per place and the associated top-up funding reflecting each child's level of need. A breakdown of the in-year pressure is shown in Table 20 below:

5.20 **Table 20: Breakdown of High Needs Pressures at May 2019**

Provision	Budget £m	Provisional Outturn Variance £m	Comment
Special schools and PRU	11.833	1.098	Pressure on places for children with profound, Multiple Learning Difficulties, Social Emotional and Mental Health problems and Autism Spectrum Disorder
ARPs/Top ups	3.145	0.085	Pressures in pre 16 top ups e.g. Norham ARP, Melrose ARP
Out of Borough	1.730	(0.181)	
Commissioned services	3.524	(0.050)	
Subtotal	20.232	0.952	

Managing the High Needs Block

- 5.21 Work continues to manage expenditure within the High Needs block. A review of Additionally Resourced Places (ARPs) and commissioned services is in progress with initial findings reported in April and May 2019 respectively. The Authority is working through the findings and recommendations with stakeholders to agree the next steps to delivering improvements and identifying efficiencies.
- 5.22 Sufficiency planning is being strengthened to better align the availability of special school places in North Tyneside with needs, in light of the increase in children with Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties (PMLD) and to reduce the requirement for more expensive out of borough placements.

- 5.23 A comprehensive special educational needs review is also underway which is examining all processes associated with Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). This has resulted in action to increase efficiency, strengthen gatekeeping and improve partnership working across education, health and social care. The review is looking at the statutory assessment process, quality assurance arrangements, decision making panels and tribunal outcomes.

Early Years Block

- 5.24 The Early Years block outturn for 2018/19 was a surplus of £0.881m. This included a brought forward deficit of £0.020m from 2017/18. An adjustment to funding takes place each May/June when the DfE reviews funding estimates based on the January pupil census prior to the new financial year. The Authority is anticipating a clawback of funding as a result of this review. Initial indications for 2019/20 show that services can be delivered within the budget available.

Planning for 2020/21

- 5.25 The Authority is currently working with the Schools Forum finance sub group to review modelling the conversion of the Authority's local funding formula to the National Funding Formula. The review is due for completion during July 2019 and the outcome will be reported to Schools Forum at its July meeting. The process will continue in line with the key milestones outlined below:

Table 21: Process to Agree the Schools Allocation Formula for 2020/21

	Task	Timescales
1	To review the current formula	May/June 19
2	Suggest a number of scenarios showing how it could be changed to move towards the National Funding Formula	3 June 19
3	Model the scenarios	3-24 June
4	Analyse the impact	24 June 19
5	Agree proposal for Schools Forum	July 19
6	Schools Forum agree proposals to consult on	12 September 19
7	Consult with all schools (providing support to interpret)	16 September to 31 October 19
8	Results of consultation back to Schools Forum	13 November 19
9	The Authority decides on the allocation formula taking into account views of schools and Schools Forum	November 19

SECTION 6 - HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

Forecast Outturn

- 6.1 The forecast set out in Table 22 below is based on the results to May 2019 and reflects a balanced position or underspends across all cost areas. Rental income continues to perform well against budget forecast due to the continued reduction in the number of empty homes being maintained, leading to a forecast over-recovery against budget (£0.134m). Income from Garages also continues to perform above budget (£0.027m), however, this is partially offset by a reduction in service charge income (including furniture packs) of £0.100m. Based on this early performance the rental income could continue to improve throughout the remainder of 2019/20, however, some of this improved position may be offset by the continuing impact of Universal Credit and the potential of an increase in the bad debt provision, both of which will be closely monitored throughout the year.

It is anticipated that significant savings in repairs and management costs will be realised as a result of benefits realisation from the insourcing of the Kier Joint Venture and the creation of the new Housing Property and Construction Service. However, at this stage the service is still bedding in and getting used to new systems and processes. A lot of work is on-going to establish the true level of saving that will be realised, and as soon as this can be established it will be reported to Members through the budget monitoring process.

6.2 **Table 22: Forecast Variance Housing Revenue Account**

	FULL YEAR - 2019/20			Variance 2018/19 £m
	Full Year Budget £m	Forecast Outturn		
		Actual £m	May 2019 Variance £m	
INCOME				
Rental Income	(58.697)	(58.758)	(0.061)	(1.185)
Other Rental Income - Shops & Offices etc.	(0.275)	(0.275)	(0.000)	(0.094)
Interest on Balances	(0.050)	(0.050)	0.000	(0.023)
PFI Credits	(7.693)	(7.693)	0.000	0.000
	(66.715)	(66.776)	(0.061)	(1.302)
EXPENDITURE				
Capital Charges - Net Effect	12.110	12.110	0.000	(0.027)
HRA Management Costs	12.036	12.030	(0.006)	(1.816)
PFI Contract Costs	9.641	9.641	0.000	0.000
Repairs	11.959	11.911	(0.048)	(0.002)
Revenue Support to Capital Programme	9.053	9.053	0.000	(0.517)
Contribution to Major Repairs Reserve – Depreciation	12.392	12.392	0.000	0.517
Contingencies, Bad debt Provision & Transitional Protection Payments	1.000	1.000	0.000	(0.043)
Pension Fund Deficit Funding	0.855	0.855	0.000	0.000
	69.046	68.992	(0.054)	(1.888)
	2.331	2.216	(0.115)	(3.190)
BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD	(6.202)	(7.303)	(1.101)	(1.443)
BALANCES TO CARRY FORWARD	(3.871)	(5.087)	(1.216)	(4.633)

6.3 Universal Credit was fully implemented across North Tyneside on 2 May 2018. The Authority continues to work with residents to provide ICT support to help them make applications and to provide personal budget support to help residents manage their household finances. A team is working proactively with tenants to minimise arrears, and this is being closely monitored as the year progresses to identify any adverse impacts on the budget position. For the first time in the last 15 years there was a pressure on the bad debt provision in 2018/19, which is an indication of the impact this change is having on levels of arrears. At 1 April 2019 there were 2,005 North Tyneside Homes' tenants on Universal Credit with arrears totalling £1.163m. As at 17 June 2019 this number had increased to 2,284 with related arrears of £1.464m.

Right to Buy (RTB) Trends

6.4 The impact of RTB is critical to long-term planning for the HRA. Prior to the introduction of self-financing in 2012, average RTB sales had dropped to around 25 per annum, mainly due to the capped discount (£0.022m) which had

remained static as property values had increased, making RTB less attractive financially to tenants. Shortly after self-financing began, Central Government announced a change to RTB significantly increasing the maximum discount, initially to £0.075m and then subsequently annual inflation was added to the maximum. The table below shows the trend in RTB sales since that time, and the financial impact this has had on income for the HRA.

6.5 Table 23: RTB Trends and Financial Impact

	Sales assumed by self-financing	Actual RTB Sales	Additional RTB Sales above Budget assumptions	Estimated lost rent per annum £m	Capital Receipts £m
2012-13	40	85	45	0.315	3.477
2013-14	47	122	75	0.457	4.957
2014-15	53	100	47	0.397	3.938
2015-16	55	135	80	0.577	5.548
2016-17	55	136	81	0.557	5.632
2017-18	56	158	102	0.630	7.758
2018-19	56	135	79	0.538	6.533
2019-20 YTD	9	16	7	0.063	0.782
Total	371	887	516	3.534	38.625

6.6 In the period (2012-2019), the Authority has built over 175 new homes through the HRA, which has helped mitigate a portion of the revenue loss from the 887 sales in the same period. However, the cumulative impact on HRA annual rental income from RTB over this period is in excess of £3.500m

SECTION 7 - INVESTMENT PLAN

Review of Investment Plan - Position Statement

7.1 The Authority's Investment Plan represents the capital investment in projects across all Service areas. The vast majority of the 40+ projects are currently on target to deliver on time and on budget. Some of the key highlights of the Investment Plan due to be delivered during 2019/20 are summarised below:

Affordable Homes New Build and Conversion Works

7.2 2 projects have been completed to date in 2019/20:

- The construction of 13 new affordable homes in Battlehill, on the former Bonchester Court site. Completed May 2019; and,
- The construction of 9 new affordable homes in Battlehill, on the former Beadnell Court site. Completed May 2019.

There are a number of projects that the Authority will progress following Cabinet approval gained on 28 May 2019. These include:

- The development of 12 affordable homes at Cedars, North Shields;
- The demolition of the existing building and development of 3 affordable homes at Edwin Grove, Howdon;
- The development of 11 affordable homes on the former site of Bawtry Court, Battle Hill;
- The refurbishment and remodelling of 2 properties at Wellfield, Whitley Bay following compulsory purchase; and,
- Develop plans for affordable homes at Murton.

Housing Investment Work

7.3 The Housing Capital delivery programme will see the following works delivered across the borough during 2019/20:

- Kitchens and bathrooms to 654 homes;
- Heating upgrades to 600 homes;
- Boundary improvements to 1,281 homes;
- External decoration to 1,928 homes;
- Roof replacements to 260 homes;
- External Brickwork Repairs to 190 homes;
- Footpath repairs throughout the borough; and,
- Firedoor replacement to 630 flats within communal blocks.

Education Investment Works

- 7.4 Delivery of the priority condition related projects across the school estate as part of the schools condition investment programme.

Priority Schools Building Programme (PSBP) 2 (Off Balance Sheet):
Cullercoats Primary School – this project is being delivered as part of PSBP2 as a heavy refurbishment programme rather than a new build. Works commenced in May 2018 and follow a 5 phase programme extending to January 2020.

Highways and Infrastructure Works

- 7.5 The main Highways & Infrastructure works include:

- Delivery of the Local Transport Plan (LTP) including the annual resurfacing programme and integrated transport projects;
- Delivery of the Additional Highway Maintenance Programme including footway improvements in line with the Mayor's priorities;
- Works to the Southern Promenade sea wall repair scheme;
- Completion of final phase of A1058 Coast Road Cycle Scheme;
- Completion of the North Bank of Tyne highway improvements; and,
- Completion of construction on the A189 Salters Lane major highways scheme.

Regeneration Works

- 7.6 Regeneration Works for 2019/20 include:

Swans – the next phase consists of:

- CFI Phase 2 – works started May 2019 with completion expected November 2019; and,
- Plot 6 basement demolition – the contract will be tendered with completion expected during 2019/20.

Variations to the 2019-2023 Investment Plan

- 7.7 In addition to the regular investment programme monitoring process, officers have carried out an in-depth review of the Investment Plan to confirm the expected spend profiles of projects. As result of this, reprogramming of £8.106m has been identified from 2019/20 into 2020/21. In addition, there have been a number of funding announcements since the original budget was set in February that require variations.

Table 24 below details the changes to the approved 4-year Investment Plan, as agreed at Council on 21 February 2019.

7.7.1 Table 24: 2019 - 23 Investment Plan changes identified

	2019/20 £m	2020/21 £m	2021/22 £m	2022/23 £m	Total £m
Approved Investment Plan – Council 21 February 2019	62.758	42.463	37.008	37.055	179.284
Previously Approved Reprogramming/Variations					
Cabinet 1 April 2019 (Appendix 1)	6.828	0	0	0	6.828
Cabinet 28 May 2019	8.484	0	0	0	8.484
Approved Investment Plan	78.070	42.463	37.008	37.055	194.596
April/May 2019 Variations					
Variations	3.362	1.169	0	0	4.531
Reprogramming	(8.106)	8.106	0	0	0
Total Variations	(4.744)	9.275	0	0	4.531
Revised Investment Plan	73.326	51.738	37.008	37.055	199.127

7.8 The details of the main elements of the £4.531m variations are shown below:

- (a) **HS004 Disabled Facilities Grant £1.867m** – The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government announced the 2019/20 allocation, £1.647m in May 2019. The budget is also to be adjusted by £0.220m to reflect the actual grant brought forward from 2018/19;
- (b) **EV076 Operational Depot Accommodation Review £2.012m** – European Funding has been approved towards the Killingworth Depot Project. This will enable a site solution approach to energy reduction and generation with energy efficiency and functionality as the key principles. This will use a range of energy efficient systems, alongside energy generation and energy storage/distribution solutions to support a progressive move to an electric powered operational fleet;
- (c) **Transforming Cities Fund £0.949m** - The Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) is capital funding managed by the Department for Transport (DfT). As part of the Joint Tranche 1 bid North Tyneside has been awarded the following funding:
 - **Coast Road Cycle Route £0.237m** – The majority of this cycle route has been upgraded utilising Cycle City Ambition Funding. The additional funding will allow the completion of the final phase and further enhancement of the route;
 - **Tyne View Terrace £0.427m** – this will upgrade the existing cycle route on the south side of A187 Tyne View Terrace, improving the route to the Tyne Pedestrian and Cycling Tunnel; and
 - **Northumberland Park to Cobalt £0.285m** – a section of the cycle route is being upgraded utilising Early Measures Funding, the additional funding would allow additional linkages to the route to be upgraded;

- (d) **BS029 Wallsend Customer First Centre (CFC) Alcohol Treatment Capital Fund £0.411m** – Following a successful bid, Public Health funding has been awarded to relocate the existing integrated alcohol and drug treatment service from their current premises into a bespoke unit in the Wallsend Customer First Centre;
- (e) **DV058 Swan Hunters Redevelopment £0.936m credit** – Following the decision of Cabinet on 28 May 2019 the Quay Infrastructure Local Growth Fund (LGF) Stage 2 business case will not currently be developed any further, therefore, the LGF funding (£0.144m) has been removed from the plan and the council contribution element of £0.126m transferred to contingencies. The deferral of the business case for the Centre for Innovation (CFI) Phase 3 enabling works (South Block demolition) has resulted in the assumed LGF funding of £0.666m relating to this also being removed;
- (f) **EV034 Local Transport Plan £0.144m** – This reflects The Department for Transport 2019/20 Pothole Fund allocation;
- (g) **BS026 Asset Planned Maintenance £0.100m** – relates to the demolition to part of the Sir G.B. Hunter Memorial Hospital site and premises which will be funded by a contribution from the Health Service for dilapidation costs for the premises that were previously leased to the Health Service;
- (h) **IT027 Self Service Kiosk Replacement £0.100m** – Transfer from GEN03 Contingencies to fund replacement self-service kiosks at Customer First Centres. The current machines are not PCI (Payment Card Industry) compliant;
- (i) **CO076 Lockey Park Play Improvement £0.074m** – Section 106 funding for new play equipment at Lockey Park; and
- (j) **CO078 Coastal Revival Fund £0.048m** – As the accountable body, North Tyneside Council are to administer the grant awarded to The Exchange North Tyneside Ltd to fund refurbishment of the theatre and kitchen area.

7.9 As outlined in paragraph 7.7, an exercise has been undertaken to review all projects in the Investment Plan to align the budget profile with the project's expected delivery. Total reprogramming to the end of May 2019 of £8.106m has been identified and is detailed in Table 25 below:

7.9.1 Table 25: Reprogramming by Project

	2019/20 £m	2020/21 £m	2021/22 £m	2022/23 £m	Total £m
DV066 Investment in North Tyneside Trading Company	(0.800)	0.800	0	0	0
ED075 Devolved Formula Capital	(1.000)	1.000	0	0	0
EV076 Operational Depot Accommodation Review	(2.469)	2.469	0	0	0
HS004 Disabled Facilities Grants	(1.437)	1.437	0	0	0
HS044 HRA New Build	(2.400)	2.400	0	0	0
Total Reprogramming	(8.106)	8.106	0	0	0

7.10 The impact of the changes detailed above on capital financing is shown in Table 26 below.

7.10.1 Table 26: Impact of variations on Capital financing

	2019/20 £m	2020/21 £m	2021/22 £m	2022/23 £m	Total £m
Approved Investment Plan – Cabinet 28 May 2019	78.070	42.463	37.008	37.055	194.596
Council Contribution	(3.269)	3.269	0	0	0.000
Grants and Contributions	0.925	3.606	0	0	4.531
HRA Capital Receipts	(1.796)	1.796	0	0	0.000
HRA House Building Fund	(0.604)	0.604	0	0	0.000
Total Financing Variations	(4.744)	9.275	0	0	4.531
Revised Investment Plan	73.326	51.738	37.008	37.055	199.127

Capital Receipts – General Fund

7.11 General Fund Capital Receipts brought forward at 1 April 2019 were £1.100m. The capital receipts requirement for 2019/20 approved by Council on 21 February 2019 was £Nil. To date no capital receipts have been received in 2019/20. The receipts position is shown in Table 27 below.

7.11.1 Table 27: Capital Receipt Requirement – General Fund

	2019/20 £m	2020/21 £m	2021/22 £m	2022/23 £m	Total £m
Requirement reported to 21 February 2019 Council	0	0	0	0	0
Receipts Brought Forward	(1.100)	0	0	0	(1.100)
Useable Receipts received 2019/20	0	0	0	0	0
Balance to be generated	(1.100)	0	0	0	(1.100)

Capital receipts – Housing Revenue Account

7.12 Housing Capital Receipts brought forward at 1 April 2019 were £7.251m. The Housing receipts are committed against projects included in the 2019-2023 Investment Plan. The approved Capital Receipt requirement for 2019/20 was £4.286m. This, together with the reprogramming reported to 29 May 2019 Cabinet, gives a requirement of £3.938m. As part of the May monitoring £1.796m receipts are to be reprogrammed to 2020/21. To date, £0.732m receipts have been received in 2019/20 of which a proportion may be pooled as part of the quarterly returns to Central Government. In total, subject to future pooling, this leaves a surplus balance of £5.841m to be carried forward to fund future years.

7.12.1 Table 28: Capital Receipt Requirement - Housing Revenue Account

	2019/20 £m	2020/21 £m	2021/22 £m	2022/23	2019-23 £m
Requirement reported to 21 February 2019 Council	4.286	3.685	3.748	2.019	13.738
Reprogramming 2018/19	(0.348)	0	0	0	(0.348)
Reprogramming 2019/20	(1.796)	1.796	0	0	0.000
Revised Requirement	2.142	5.481	3.748	2.019	13.390
Receipts Brought Forward	(7.251)	(5.841)	(0.360)	3.388	
Receipts Received 2019/20	(0.732)	0	0	0	
Receipts Pooled Central Government	0	0	0	0	
(Surplus)/ Balance To be generated to fund future years (subject to further pooling)	(5.841)	(0.360)	3.388	5.407	

The final figure for useable receipts and pooled receipts in year will depend on the final number of Right to Buy properties sold during 2019/20.

Investment Plan Monitoring Position to 31 May 2019

7.13 Actual expenditure, for 2019/20, in the General Ledger was £2.283m, 3.11% of the total revised Investment Plan at 31 May 2019. This is after adjusting for £2.195m of accruals and retentions relating to 2018/19 expenditure.

7.13.1 Table 29: Total Investment Plan Budget & Expenditure to 31 May 2019

	2019/20 Revised Investment Plan £m	Actual Spend to 31 May 2019 £m	Spend as % of revised Investment Plan %
General Fund	47.362	1.270	2.68%
Housing	25.964	1.013	3.90%
TOTAL	73.326	2.283	3.11%

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				2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Total
				£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
General Fund								
Maintaining Our Assets								
BS026 Asset Planned Maintenance								
			Council Contribution	1,522	1,500	1,500	1,500	6,022
			Private Contribution (NHS)	100	0	0	0	100
BS026 Asset Planned Maintenance Total				1,622	1,500	1,500	1,500	6,122
BS029 Wallsend CFC Alcohol Treatment Capital Fund								
			Public Health England	411	0	0	0	411
BS029 Wallsend CFC Alcohol Treatment Capital Fund Total				411	0	0	0	411
CO064 Social Care Information System								
			Better Care Fund	99	0	0	0	99
CO064 Social Care Information System Total				99	0	0	0	99
CO076 Lockey Park Environmental and Play Improvements								
			Section 106	74	0	0	0	74
CO076 Lockey Park Environmental and Play Improvements Total				74	0	0	0	74
CO078 Coastal Revival Fund								
			Coastal Revival Fund (HCLG)	48	0	0	0	48
CO078 Coastal Revival Fund Total				48	0	0	0	48
DV071 Section 106 Contributions to Set Up Health Facilities								
			Section 106	90	0	0	0	90
DV071 Section 106 Contributions to Set Up Health Facilities Total				90	0	0	0	90

		2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000	Total £000
ED075 Devolved Formula Capital						
	Education Funding Agency	1,279	1,579	579	579	4,016
ED075 Devolved Formula Capital Total		1,279	1,579	579	579	4,016
ED120 Basic Need						
	Education Funding Agency	184	113	113	113	523
ED120 Basic Need Total		184	113	113	113	523
ED132 School Capital Allocation						
	Education Funding Agency	3,781	3,534	3,534	3,534	14,383
ED132 School Capital Allocation Total		3,781	3,534	3,534	3,534	14,383
ED186 Backworth Park Primary						
	Council Contribution	-2,374	0	0	0	-2,374
	Section 106	2,374	0	0	0	2,374
ED186 Backworth Park Primary Total		0	0	0	0	0
EV034 Local Transport Plan						
	Dept for Transport LTP ITA	958	958	958	958	3,832
	Dept for Transport LTP Maint	2,504	2,195	2,000	2,000	8,699
	DFT Pothole Funding 19/20	144	0	0	0	144
EV034 Local Transport Plan Total		3,606	3,153	2,958	2,958	12,675
EV056 Additional Highways Maintenance						
	Council Contribution	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	8,000
	Department For Transport	876	0	0	0	876
EV056 Additional Highways Maintenance Total		2,876	2,000	2,000	2,000	8,876
EV069 Vehicle Replacement						
	Council Contribution	1,300	500	0	0	1,800

		2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000	Total £000
	EV069 Vehicle Replacement Total	1,300	500	0	0	1,800
	IT020 ICT Strategy					
	Council Contribution	1,234	1,000	1,000	1,000	4,234
	IT020 ICT Strategy Total	1,234	1,000	1,000	1,000	4,234
	Maintaining Our Assets Total	16,604	13,379	11,684	11,684	53,351
	Corporate					
	EV076 Operational Depot Accommodation Review					
	Council Contribution	4,279	3,366	0	0	7,645
	ERDF	843	1,169	0	0	2,012
	EV076 Operational Depot Accommodation Review Total	5,122	4,535	0	0	9,657
	EV086 Clean Bus Technology Fund					
	Department For Transport	358	0	0	0	358
	EV086 Clean Bus Technology Fund Total	358	0	0	0	358
	GEN03 Contingencies					
	Council Contribution	3,559	2,125	500	500	6,684
	GEN03 Contingencies Total	3,559	2,125	500	500	6,684
	IT026 ICT Citizen Interaction					
	Council Contribution	0	0	0	0	0
	IT026 ICT Citizen Interaction Total	0	0	0	0	0
	IT027 Self Service Kiosk Replacement					
	Council Contribution	100	0	0	0	100
	IT027 Self Service Kiosk Replacement Total	100	0	0	0	100

		2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000	Total £000
Corporate Total		9,139	6,660	500	500	16,799
Education						
ED100 30 Hours Capital Grant						
	Education Funding Agency	75	0	0	0	75
ED100 30 Hours Capital Grant Total		75	0	0	0	75
ED188 SEND						
	Education Funding Agency	400	449	0	0	849
ED188 SEND Total		400	449	0	0	849
Education Total		475	449	0	0	924
Housing General Fund						
DV064 Council Property Investment						
	Council Contribution	253	0	0	0	253
DV064 Council Property Investment Total		253	0	0	0	253
HS004 Disabled Facilities Grant						
	Better Care Fund	1,500	1,437	0	0	2,937
HS004 Disabled Facilities Grant Total		1,500	1,437	0	0	2,937
HS051 Private Sector Empty Homes						
	Council Contribution	469	431	0	0	900
	Homes & Communities Grant	244	93	0	0	337
	Revenue Contribution (NHB)	76	0	0	0	76
HS051 Private Sector Empty Homes Total		789	524	0	0	1,313
Housing General Fund Total		2,542	1,961	0	0	4,503

		2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000	Total £000
Investments						
DV066 Investment in North Tyneside Trading Co						
	Council Contribution	6,249	2,200	0	0	8,449
	Section 106	1,623	0	0	0	1,623
DV066 Investment in North Tyneside Trading Co Total		7,872	2,200	0	0	10,072
Investments Total						
		7,872	2,200	0	0	10,072
Regeneration						
CO077 Amberley Playing Field Artificial Grass Pitch						
	Football Foundation Grant	500	0	0	0	500
	Section 106	214	0	0	0	214
CO077 Amberley Playing Field Artificial Grass Pitch Total		714	0	0	0	714
DV054 Spanish City Dome						
	Council Contribution	45	0	0	0	45
DV054 Spanish City Dome Total		45	0	0	0	45
DV058 Swan Hunters Redevelopment						
	Council Contribution	300	0	0	0	300
	LGF	1,885	0	0	0	1,885
DV058 Swan Hunters Redevelopment Total		2,185	0	0	0	2,185
DV067 Northern Promenade						
	Council Contribution	378	0	0	0	378
DV067 Northern Promenade Total		378	0	0	0	378
DV068 Southern Promenade						
	Environment Agency Grant	550	0	0	0	550
DV068 Southern Promenade Total		550	0	0	0	550

		2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000	Total £000
DV070 Forest Hall Regeneration						
	Revenue Contribution (Feasibility)	37	0	0	0	37
DV070 Forest Hall Regeneration Total		37	0	0	0	37
EV080 Coast Road Cycle Route						
	Cycle City Ambition Fund	231	0	0	0	231
	Transforming Cities Fund	237	0	0	0	237
EV080 Coast Road Cycle Route Total		468	0	0	0	468
EV082 North Bank of Tyne Infrastructure						
	NELEP Growth Deal	1,214	0	0	0	1,214
EV082 North Bank of Tyne Infrastructure Total		1,214	0	0	0	1,214
EV084 A189 Improvements Haddricks Mill to West Moor						
	DFT National Productivity Fund	2,333	0	0	0	2,333
	Section 106	0	0	0	0	0
	Section 278	1,554	0	0	0	1,554
EV084 A189 Improvements Haddricks Mill to West Moor Total		3,887	0	0	0	3,887
EV087 Air Quality Early Measures Fund						
	DEFRA - Air Quality Grant	350	0	0	0	350
	Transforming Cities Fund	285	0	0	0	285
EV087 Air Quality Early Measures Fund Total		635	0	0	0	635
EV088 Tyne View Terrace Cycleway						
	Transforming Cities Fund	427	0	0	0	427
EV088 Tyne View Terrace Cycleway Total		427	0	0	0	427
GEN12 Local Infrastructure						

		2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000	Total £000
	Council Contribution	190	100	100	100	490
	GEN12 Local Infrastructure Total	190	100	100	100	490
	Regeneration Total	10,730	100	100	100	11,030
	General Fund Total	47,362	24,749	12,284	12,284	96,679
HRA						
Housing						
	HS015 Refurbishment / Decent Homes Improvements					
	See HRA Financing	21,225	20,664	20,862	21,144	83,895
	HS015 Refurbishment / Decent Homes Improvements Total	21,225	20,664	20,862	21,144	83,895
	HS017 Disabled Adaptations					
	See HRA Financing	1,041	1,051	1,062	1,072	4,226
	HS017 Disabled Adaptations Total	1,041	1,051	1,062	1,072	4,226
	HS039 ICT Infrastructure Works					
	See HRA Financing	110	107	108	109	434
	HS039 ICT Infrastructure Works Total	110	107	108	109	434
	HS041 Housing PFI					
	See HRA Financing	254	0	0	0	254
	HS041 Housing PFI Total	254	0	0	0	254
	HS044 HRA New Build					
	See HRA Financing	1,835	5,167	2,692	2,446	12,140
	HS044 HRA New Build Total	1,835	5,167	2,692	2,446	12,140
	HS050 Construction Options Project					

			2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000	Total £000
		See HRA Financing	1,499	0	0	0	1,499
		HS050 Construction Options Project Total	1,499	0	0	0	1,499
		Housing Total	25,964	26,989	24,724	24,771	102,448

		2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000	Total £000
HRA Total		25,964	26,989	24,724	24,771	102,448
Total £000		73,326	51,738	37,008	37,055	199,127

Investment Plan Financing

		2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000	Total £000
General Fund						
	Council Contribution	19,504	13,222	5,100	5,100	42,926
	Grants & Contributions	27,745	11,527	7,184	7,184	53,640
	Revenue Contribution	113	0	0	0	113
General Fund Total		47,362	24,749	12,284	12,284	96,679
HRA Financing						
	HRA Capital Receipts	2,142	5,481	3,748	2,019	13,390
	HRA Revenue Contribution	9,136	8,079	7,702	9,014	33,931
	HRA MRR	12,392	12,825	13,274	13,738	52,229
	HRA House Building Fund Reserve	1,785	604	0	0	2,389
	HRA PFI Reserve	509	0	0	0	509
HRA Financing Total		25,964	26,989	24,724	24,771	102,448
Total£000		73,326	51,738	37,008	37,055	199,127

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North Tyneside Council Report to Cabinet Date: 29 July 2019

ITEM 5(b)

Title: Education for North
Tyneside

Portfolio: Children, Young People and Learning

Cabinet Member: Councillor Peter Earley

Responsible Officers:

Jacqui Old, Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding	Tel: 0191 643 7317
Mark Longstaff, Head of Commissioning and Asset Management	Tel: 0191 643 8089
Janice Gillespie, Head of Resources	Tel: 0191 643 5701

Wards affected: All

PART 1

1.1 Executive Summary:

North Tyneside has an education system to be proud of. A strong performer regionally and nationally, this is a reflection of the hard work done by our Head Teachers and their teams, governing bodies, Elected Members, Authority staff and our fantastic children and young people.

Education in England continues to change. This is the second year of the National Funding Formula (NFF) which was introduced in 2018/19 and the Fostering and Adoption Act passed in 2016 provided the Secretary of State with a power to convert schools judged as Inadequate or “Coasting” to academy status. In November 2016 the Government published a Green Paper, “Schools that work for everyone.” While the policy intention of the Green Paper was to use incentives to encourage private schools, universities, selective schools and Faith schools to provide more good school places, the headlines focussed on a suggestion that selection would return and grammar schools expanded. Working with Chairs of Governing Bodies and Head Teachers, the Authority responded to the consultation in December 2016. The Government finally published its response in May 2017. However, there are no plans for an education bill in this parliamentary session. Recent announcements have included a simpler accountability system in which the Department for Education (DfE) will only intervene if Ofsted judge a school’s performance as Inadequate, the pilot sites for T Levels and for the new Institutes of Technology.

All of this continues to happen in the local context of the Education Review carried out in North Tyneside between 14th October 2013 and 12th January 2015. This report considers progress against the recommendations of that review, the current position of education for North Tyneside and asks Cabinet to consider the issues and the proposed approach in the context of national changes and local challenges. It pays particular attention to the need to continue to manage the impact of surplus places at secondary level and as a consequence the financial challenge for the Dedicated Schools Grant; the challenges faced in relation to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities provision (SEND) and the approach to the North of Tyne Devolution Deal Education Challenge.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- (1) note progress on the recommendations of the Education Review;
- (2) note the improved position between April 2014 and June 2019;
- (3) note the continued financial challenges faced by schools and the joint work to deal with those challenges;
- (4) agree the next set of priorities which will be important to the Authority and schools;
- (5) agree the approach being taken to work with schools
- (6) note the work undertaken with schools in relation to SEND provision and agree to enter pre-publication consultation with schools, parents and other interested parties in relation to the amendment of the structure of provision for pupils with Special Educational Needs;
- (7) agree to support the work of the North of Tyne Education Challenge; and
- (8) agree to receive further reports as required.

1.3 Forward Plan:

Twenty eight days notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 21st June 2019.

1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

This report is directly concerned with:

- “Our People will be ready for school”
- “Our People will be ready for work and life; and
- “Our Economy will be business friendly, ensuring the right skills and conditions are in place to support investment.”

1.5 Information:

1.5.1 Background

North Tyneside has an education system to be proud of. A strong performer regionally and nationally, this is a reflection of the hard work done by our Head Teachers and their teams, governing bodies, elected members, Authority staff and our fantastic children and young people.

Education in England continues to change. This is the second year of the National Funding Formula (NFF) which was introduced in 2018/19. Statutory powers to academise failing schools are still in force. In practice, however, the Regional School

Commissioner's office has encountered problems in finding suitable academy sponsors for schools deemed by Ofsted to require special measures, owing to funding constraints. The definition of a 'coasting school' has now been discontinued. A 'Free School' remains the only way to open a new school at present.

In November 2016 the Government published a Green Paper, "Schools that work for everyone." While the policy intention of the Green Paper was to use incentives to encourage private schools, universities, selective schools and Faith schools to provide more good school places, the headlines focussed on a suggestion that selection would return and grammar schools expanded. Working with Chairs of Governing Bodies and Head Teachers, the Authority responded to the consultation in December 2016. The Government published its response in May 2017. However, there are no plans for an education bill in this parliamentary session.

All of this is happening in the local context of the Education Review carried out in North Tyneside between October 2013 and January 2015. Cabinet will remember that the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Learning worked with the officer team, Head Teachers and governors to consider education for North Tyneside and, after extensive consultation, made a number of proposals which were subject to further consultation and agreed by Cabinet at its meeting in 12th January 2015.

The body of this report covers four issues:

- An update on the recommendations of the Education Review and progress since it was last considered by Cabinet in July 2018;
- A summary of the issues for North Tyneside implied by the current position and the national context;
- An updated proposal for how the Authority, Head Teachers, governing bodies and other partners will work together on the key issues; and
- The proposed approach to the North of Tyne Devolution Deal Education Challenge developed in partnership with the North of Tyne Authorities, Head Teachers and other school leaders.

1.5.2 What matters most to children, young people, their families and carers

Before discussing the policy and technical matters, Cabinet will wish to be assured the absolute focus of everyone involved is what matters most to children, young people, their families and carers. In particular

- At the end of the reception year, 72.8% of children reached a good level of development in 2018. This is higher (2.6 percentage points) than in 2017 and in line with the national average (71.5%)
- 84% of pupils in year 1 reached the threshold score in the phonics test. This is in line with the national figure
- At key stage 1 across reading, writing, maths and the combined measure, North Tyneside have performed significantly better than the national figure at both the expected level and at the higher, greater depth standard
- 68% of pupils achieved at least the expected level in reading, writing and mathematics (combined) at key stage 2. This is 3% above the national figure and

2 percentage points increase from 2016. Therefore, at the expected standard at key stage 2 the local authority performance is significantly above the national level

- At key stage 4 attainment in 2017 remains higher than the latest national averages: 65% of students achieved 4 or above in English and maths well above the national average of 59%
- Attainment 8 (the attainment of students across 8 qualifications) is 47.0 points which is above the national average of 44.6 points
- 25% of pupils in North Tyneside achieved the English Baccalaureate in 2017; this is above the national average (all schools 22%). The Government's target, however, is for 75% of pupils to achieve the English Baccalaureate.
- At key stage 5:
 - The point score per academic entry is 31.4 which is above the England state-funded schools but below all schools and colleges. When expressed as a grade this is grade C
 - The average point score per vocational entry is 42.4 (distinction*-). This is well-above last year's national average of 35.7 points (distinction).
- 84.4% of children go to a good or outstanding school. The National percentage of pupils in good or outstanding schools is 84.7%
- 92% of parents and carers received their first choice Primary School compared to 91% nationally
- 84% of parents and carers received their first choice Secondary School compared to 81% nationally.

1.5.3 Update on the recommendations of the Education Review and Progress since July 2018

Cabinet will remember that one of the tools used in the Education Review was a "rich picture which looked at the secondary school system in terms of pupil numbers, performance, finance and building condition. Appendix 1 contains the original rich picture (based on April 2014) presented to Cabinet as part of the review and an updated version (based on June 2019), drawing out some of the changes. Cabinet will note some continued challenges but also some significant improvements which are described below.

1.5.4 The delivery of major investment projects to improve the education estate

2016/17 saw the successful completion of 4 schools in the Governments Priority Schools Building Programme Phase 1:

- Whitehouse Primary School
- Longbenton Community High School
- John Spence Community High School
- Marden High School

Since then a £5.05m project to relocate and expand Backworth Park Primary School was completed in September 2018. The school has completed the transition into their new accommodation and has seen an increase in popularity and rising pupil numbers. This project was funded via S106 contributions from local housing developments.

Work is underway in relation to Cullercoats Primary School which has been engaged in an extensive refurbishment project. The works commenced in June 2018 and are due to

complete in the Autumn of 2019. The works are centrally funded as part of the Government's Priority Schools Building Programme, phase 2.

1.5.5 The Development and delivery of Ready for School Services

Work has continued to develop and deliver an entitlement to ensure that all children are ready for school. This clearly outlines what every child in the borough needs to be able to do by the time they enter Reception class at age 4. The Authority knows that the vast majority of parents and carers in the borough do not need any support to provide the right sort of experiences for their children in order for them to be school ready. However a very small minority do and it is this group which have been the focus of a whole family approach where the Authority and other agencies will work together to ensure parents deliver the entitlement for their children.

Cabinet will be very clear that the child care review and the work to reshape our 0-19 services have been specifically done with this in mind. Successful partnerships with our primary schools have meant they have taken the lead in early years work and the Authority services are increasingly focussed on those families who are at risk of not supporting children to be ready for school. We have ensured a sufficiency of high quality provision to deliver the 2 year old offer for economically disadvantaged families, the 3 and 4 year old universal offer and 30 hours of free childcare for working parents. Over 99% of all nurseries, playgroups, childminders and after schools clubs are judged by Ofsted to be good or better.

The school nursing and health visiting staff are now well embedded with locality teams and the service has been subject to an Inspection by CQC with very favourable outcomes. This move has meant a step change for the Authority's Locality Teams who work with families and schools to ensure children are ready for school. The focus has been on ensuring good quality universal contact in the perinatal period for all families and ensuring that those families who require additional support receive this as early as possible. The impact can be seen in the numbers of young people who are reaching a good level of development. At the end of reception, 72.8% of children reached a good level of development in 2018 this is in line with the national average of 71.5%.

1.5.6 Development and delivery of Ready for Work and Life

Cabinet received a report and presentation titled 'Employment and Skills: Ready for Work and Life' on 16 January 2017. The report set out that that the prosperity of North Tyneside flows from its economy supported by the employment and skills of residents and those who work here. Cabinet had previously considered the Authority's approach to employment and skills in 2013.

The proposed approach was relatively straight forward and set out under some key priorities. Progress and impact against each of these is shown below:

- **Delivery of a universal offer for young people**
 - North Tyneside is held up as an exemplar in providing Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance
 - The Authority, North Tyneside Learning Trust, North East LEP, North Tyneside Business Forum and schools are all working in partnership to promote and embed the eight Gatsby Career Benchmarks
 - NEET rates continue to be low (2.9% in 2018)
 - 84.4% of children go to a good or outstanding school

- **Delivery of a targeted offer for young people and adults**
 - The Connexions service continues to provide effective targeted support for Looked after Children, Care Leavers and those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
 - Participation rates for 16-17 year olds with SEND are the highest in the region and above the national average
 - The number of LAC and Care Leavers who were Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) reduced by 27% in 2018

- **Delivery of a universal offer for employers**
 - The Authority worked with Cobalt, Quorum and Silverlink Parks to deliver a programme of Recruitment and Job Fairs that supported more than 4,000 people in 2018
 - In partnership with the North Tyneside Learning Trust, North Tyneside Business Forum and the North East LEP, the Authority has delivered Schools into Work and World of Work programmes with schools across the borough

- **Delivery of a targeted offer for employers**
 - The Authority has worked with STEM businesses to identify and address demand, including delivering the STEMtastic programme, in partnership with VODA
 - The Working Roots study programme for 16-19 year olds continues to be highly successful, with more than 100 young people supported on the programme since 2014

- **Trying to be an exemplar employer**
 - In support of the opening of Spanish City, the Authority worked with the managing agents to promote employment vacancies, including a two-day recruitment fair and helping the company to fill more than 50 roles
 - Using the Apprenticeship Levy, 133 apprentices have been recruited into the Authority, with 43 currently on the programme – 84% have moved into employment and 81% are residents of North Tyneside

- **Influencing the local, regional and national picture**
 - The Authority supports the North Tyneside Business Forum and works closely with the Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Small Business and chambers of trade to ensure the Authority listens to business and shapes its approach accordingly
 - The Authority has played an active role in the North of Tyne Combined Authority's approach to inclusive growth and led the development of a Good Work business pledge

1.5.7 An updated financial picture

Cabinet know that school funding is a matter for the Department for Education; either by direct funding agreements with Academy Sponsors or delegated by local authorities to schools where budget management is the delegated responsibility of each Governing Body. Cabinet also know that, while some funding is retained by the Authority the vast majority of North Tyneside funding for services to schools comes from the schools themselves, who pay in the order of £8m per annum for a full range of support services.

Governing Bodies, Head Teachers and their teams, the members of the Schools Forum and the Officer team have continued to work hard to handle the financial challenges

outlined to Cabinet as part of the Education Review. At the end of the financial year 2018/19 the position was:-

- Overall level of School Balances at the end of March 2019 was £1.599m compared to £3.356m as at March 2018. A reduction of £1.757m. This position is significantly better than forecast at the start of the year where the position for schools was expected to be an overall deficit balance of £4.716m - a £6.315m improvement;
- The total initial deficit approval requested at the start of 2018/19 was £8.484m. the outturn position for those schools in deficit was £7.256m which was an improvement of £1.229m from initial forecasts and;
- Of the nine schools who requested deficit approval in 2018/19 four schools have reported an improved forecast position for the 2019/20 financial year and are no longer in deficit.

As an indication of the scale of the work done; the position predicted during the “Rich Picture” discussions during the summer of 2014 was that at the end of 2015/16 10 Secondary schools would be in deficit with a total deficit value of £4.4m. The prediction for the financial year 2018/19 at June 2018 was a deficit of £6.472m. The actual overall position for our Secondary schools at the end of 2018/19 was an overall net deficit of £3.278m and 4 schools in deficit.

The 3 year budget planning submissions received from Schools in June 2017 relating to the period 2017-2020 indicated that 42 schools would require deficit approval in 2019/20. Revised 3 year budget plans received in May 2019 have seen this position improve significantly. Despite this improvement the emerging position for 2019/20 is one of continued financial challenge for a number of schools, both in terms of deficit approvals and reduced surplus balances held by schools. 11 Schools (4 Secondary, 6 Primary and 1 Special) have sought deficit approval for 2019/20 to the value of £10.281m. Cabinet should be aware that at the time of writing this report deficit clinics are underway and the number of schools requiring a Licenced Deficit Agreement and the total value of deficit approval may change.

It is important to note that this position is based on two sets of issues. In the first instance, the pressure in some parts of the Secondary School system is a direct consequence of the current surplus capacity. This has dropped from the peak of 20% explained during the Education Review to 15%, and is expected to reduce further, to less than 10%, by 2022/23. It is also the case, as a consequence of parent choice, settlement patterns and individual school choices, that surplus is concentrated in three Secondary Schools and specifically causes the challenges at Norham High School and Monkseaton High School. Appendix 2 shows the surplus places picture for all schools, Secondary and Primary.

However, as has been widely publicised, school budgets are also under pressure as a consequence of national policy and, while the move to the full implementation of the National Funding Formula has once more been postponed until 2021 Head Teachers in all of our schools are facing rising costs.

Work continues with schools to manage the situation and establish long term sustainable solutions. The proposed next steps are described below as part of an update on work with specific schools and localities.

1.5.8 Whitley Bay and Monkseaton

Cabinet will remember specific work was proposed for the Whitley Bay and Monkseaton group of schools

- *“Propose work with Head Teachers and Governing Bodies across the Whitley Bay and Monkseaton group of schools to retain the three-tier system while managing places, raising standards and controlling costs. This would mean work to develop a stronger federation or federations to share costs and resources but preserve the aspects of the system that are important to many families in the area”*

Work with Head Teachers and Governing Bodies continued during the last year. More recent work has focussed on specific issues in the Monkseaton area where the Authority and both Governing Bodies have generated significant joint working between Monkseaton High School and Monkseaton Middle School. This joint working ended by mutual agreement in August 2018. At present, the two schools have the same chair of governors, but she has indicated her intention to step down at Monkseaton Middle School, continuing to act as chair at the high school

Following a period of leadership instability at Monkseaton Middle School, the Head Teacher was appointed in 2018. A monitoring visit by Her Majesty’s Inspector in February 2019 confirmed that senior leaders, including governors, are taking appropriate steps to improve the school. The school has accepted an invitation to be part of the Opportunity North East Schools Vision programme, funded by the Department for Education. The school is working closely with Benton Dene Primary School.

Whitley Bay High School’s financial position has improved significantly and is now not in a deficit position. However Monkseaton High School continues to face a significant financial challenge as consequence of surplus capacity within the school .

It is expected that achieving its Outstanding rating and population changes will improve this but that is not a short term solution. The building at Monkseaton High School continues to pose significant challenges. A recent example is that, owing to serious water ingress in June 2019, one third of the school was flooded. The school was closed to pupils for four days. Public examinations continued to be held in the school.

Following a recent recruitment process Monkseaton High School was able to appoint a new Head Teacher who will take up post in September 2019.

1.5.9 The Seaton Burn area

In 2017, the Governing Body of Gosforth Academy agreed to sponsor Seaton Burn. Conversion took place in January 2018. The Authority continues to build on existing relationships and support to the new North Gosforth Academy.

1.5.10 Norham High School

Cabinet will remember the specific work proposed at Norham High School was

- *“Acknowledging family choice already being made*
- *Managing a reduction in size, not just letting it happen*
- *Working to create a new model*
- *Continuing to deliver the National Curriculum*
- *Building a plan to redevelop the campus”*

The partnership, particularly between Churchill Community College and Norham has proven particularly effective with the Principle of Churchill taking over as Executive Head Teacher. An OFSTED Inspection moved the school from Inadequate to Requires Improvement and in summer of 2016 Norham High School saw a 19% increase in its GCSE results.

Norham have made every effort to support pupils, particularly those from more deprived areas, to deal with the increased examination content of the changing GCSEs. Following a downturn in GCSE results in 2017 and 2018, the School was once more inspected by Ofsted in October 2018. The judgement was that the school was offering an inadequate standard of education, and that it required special measures.

The academy order from 2015 remains in place, and the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) despite some initial interest from two different academy trusts has now confirmed in writing that the DfE is unable to find an academy sponsor owing to concerns around the financial viability and longer term future of the school.

As well as the focus on improving results, a great deal of work has been done to ensure Norham High School becomes financially sustainable. This has proven a significant challenge and will remain central to the work between the Authority and the School.

An independent report was commissioned from a CIPFA consultant in February 2019. This proposed four options; do nothing, seek an academy sponsor, perhaps with a financial incentive from the LA; offer additional financial and school improvement support; or closure. The option that is being pursued is to increase the resources available to the school and broker additional support from other local schools. Harton Academy has provided support between January and July 2019.

An appointment process has taken place to recruit senior leaders for Norham. A Head Teacher, Deputy and an Assistant Head Teacher have been appointed, to take up post in September 2019 and the Local Authority are looking forward to working positively with the new senior team.

1.5.11 Other specific areas of work agreed at Cabinet on 8 September 2014

There were other specific areas where Cabinet agreed to further work

- **Reviewing the Post-16 Offer;** since the Education Review and, as reported to Cabinet last year, the work done at Post-16 has now placed North Tyneside above the national average. While there is work to do, this represents significant progress. The next steps for the local team will be paying close attention to the introduction of T Level¹ for 2020/21.
- **Planned Admission Numbers and Catchment Areas;** this work has continued to focus on the impact of the proposed level of growth in the draft Local Plan. At its meeting on 18th December 2017 Cabinet agreed the Master Plans for Killingworth and Murton Gap. These spatial plans now allow the Officer Team to work with schools and communities to review current Planned Admission Numbers and Catchment Areas making any necessary adjustments and planning for the additional Secondary and two Primary schools required by 2032. Paragraph 1.5.34 below, provides Cabinet with an update of current progress.

¹ T Levels are courses, which will be on a par with A levels and are designed to provide young people with a choice between technical and academic education post 16. Courses in construction, digital and education & childcare will be first taught from September 2020. A further 22 courses are planned to be rolled out in stages from 2021

- **Transport and accessibility;** the Transport Strategy for North Tyneside was agreed by Cabinet at its meeting on 8th June 2017. The needs and priorities for young people are included in that strategy and the associated delivery plan. At its meeting on 12th March 2018, Cabinet agreed the Travel Safety Strategy for North Tyneside, aspects of which were specifically shaped by our young people.

1.5.12 A summary of the issues for North Tyneside implied by the current position and the national context

The current national position means that local authorities are responsible for sufficiency, standards and additional needs as well as a list that runs to 43 pages. To date, the Government has not made any practical changes to those responsibilities and the issues raised by the 2016 White Paper were overtaken by the change of Prime Minister, change in Secretary of State and the publication of the Green Paper “Schools that work for everyone.”

The only other practical actions taken at this stage are the deferral of the new National Funding Formula to 2018/19 with full implementation in 2020/21. And some signals that the Government considers Local Authorities to have an important role in school improvement; going as far to include some modest funding in the 2016 Budget and providing some additional capital and revenue funding opportunities for alternative provision, additional need and healthy eating related to the “Sugar Tax”.

Following the 2017 General Election, the Government announced there will be no education bill during this Parliament. While this uncertainty continues it has been as important as ever to focus on the needs of our children and young people and to listen to Head Teachers and their Governing Bodies.

1.5.13 Listening to Head Teachers and Governing Bodies

The Mayor, Cabinet and the officer team have been listening to Head Teachers and governors to identify the issues for the Authority and the issues for schools.

Cabinet will remember that work included an extensive series of one to one conversations, discussions with Secondary Head Teachers, a detailed session at Head Teachers’ Briefing on 13th May 2016, a Mayor’s Listening Event on 10th June 2016 and a session at the Primary Head Teachers Conference. A further follow-up Listening Event, led by the Mayor, took place on 8th December 2016. This informed the Authority’s response to the Government Green Paper and reflection on the next set of priorities for education in North Tyneside. Further work has continued to be done via a customer survey of Head Teachers and their teams asking about services to schools and in discussion with Head Teachers at their regular briefings.

A number of Finance and Resources sessions were held during the year with Head Teachers, Business Managers and Officers from the Authority. The focus of the sessions has been to consider and review initiatives which will support schools with the financial challenges they face. The sessions have been well received and have helped the Authority to formulate changes to the way in which Service Level Agreements for Finance and Human Resources are delivered.

In November 2017, building on the report to Cabinet at its meeting on 19th July 2017, Head Teachers agreed to a programme of work to tackle the issues agreed with Cabinet. Through the Spring of 2018, including an event on 2nd May 2018, and at Head Teacher

Briefing on 18th May 2018, Head Teachers tested and contributed to the programme of work supporting the North of Tyne Education Challenge.

1.5.14 Issues for education in North Tyneside – the next set of priorities

Cabinet will remember the proposed approach is to focus on areas that make the most difference for children and young people and are therefore a priority for Head Teachers and their teams, Governing Bodies and the Authority; but also represented those areas where the Authority has most influence on the system. Those areas were finance, school improvement, alternative provision and additional needs.

Working with Head Teachers, the specific work has been described as

- Financial review and analysis
- Planning and modelling
- Tools for schools
- Keeping children and young people in school; and
- Closing the gap
- Special educational needs and disability provision and resources

These are being managed as individual workstreams with direct Head Teacher involvement. Progress is regularly reported to Head Teacher Briefings. The rest of this report explains what is being done.

1.5.15 Financial review and analysis

This workstream includes the local work to convert the new National Funding Formula (NFF) into local action. Schools Forum has been particularly involved in leading this preparation through its established finance sub group. Schools Forum agreed to maintain stability for all North Tyneside schools by continuing to apply the local funding formula to distribute Schools Block funding in 2018/19 and 2019/20. This has afforded schools sufficient time to be able to work collaboratively with the Authority to model the impact of the National Funding Formula and ensure schools can plan for the changes due to be implemented in 2020/21.

An officer group is currently working with the finance sub group to review modelling the conversion of the Authority's local funding formula to the NFF. The review is due for completion during July 2019 and the outcome will be reported to Schools Forum at its July meeting. In addition, the Authority and schools have worked together to sharpen individual schools forecasts, looking at those schools who do it well and those who require more support.

A financial governance review has been undertaken and the Head of Resources and the Head of Education, Care and Safeguarding have reviewed and revised processes including the approach to Deficit Clinics. Both have also been directly involved with the schools with the greatest Deficit challenge. Deficit Clinics took place in May 2018 for those schools who were subject to deficit approval during the 2018/19 financial year. This was a month earlier than in previous years. The changes implemented following the

review were well received by schools and the standard of deficit plans submitted had improved from those submitted previously.

In April 2019 Schools Forum approved changes to the Scheme for Financing Schools in respect of Licenced Deficit Agreements. It is anticipated that the changes made to the scheme for financing schools will improve financial governance for 2019/20 and beyond. Under the revised Scheme all schools that are new to deficit and require a Licenced Deficit Agreement in 2019/20, will be required to return to financial balance within a maximum timescale of 3 years. Previously the maximum timescale allowed was 5 years. Those schools that are already operating under a Licenced Deficit Agreement will need to produce robust financial recovery plans which show the school achieving an in-year balanced position within 3 years with a view to start repaying the deficit in year 4 and subsequent years.

The Authority recognises that school budgets are under increasing pressure with rising costs relating to pay awards including the implications of the Nation Living Wage and North Tyneside Living Wage, pension contributions, apprenticeship levy and inflationary pressures on premises, equipment and materials costs. As a consequence the Authority is introducing a Support and Challenge process to help schools to deliver excellent outcomes for pupils within available resources.

The Support and Challenge Framework is aimed at helping schools currently in deficit recover financial sustainability as quickly as possible but it is also intended to introduce earlier intervention and prevention measures for schools showing signs of future financial difficulties. Under the framework the Authority will allocate an annual RAG rating to each school based on the three year budget plan produced by 31 May each year. Additional support will then be offered appropriate to the RAG rating of the individual school.

Finally work has also begun to develop an approach to longer term planning. In particular, helping schools and their Governing Bodies to look further into the future and plan accordingly. Officers from the Authority have visited schools to review systems and best practice with regards to forecasting. This has been crucial to allow officers to understand the complexities involved and the challenges that schools face when trying to make estimates for the future.

1.5.16 Planning and modelling

Appendix 2 shows the overall picture that has been shared with Head Teachers and relates directly back to the Local Plan and the work done with the Education Funding Agency to secure the investment in Longbenton, Marden and John Spence.

Work under way includes a review of pupil admission numbers and revised pupil modelling with ongoing support to Head Teachers, Governing Bodies and school leaders.

Within the Authority, the focus is increasingly on planning for the implications of the Local Plan and the Master Plans for Killingworth and Murton. Some work has already been done to tidy up Secondary Catchment Areas while the spaces involved have no residents. However, more work will be required as the strategic sites come on line.

In the first instance it is important Cabinet note any changes of catchment areas would only result from the following:

- the relocation of an existing school to a new site

- the establishment of a new school
- the closure of a school
- significant housing developments or road infrastructure changes
- changes to existing school capacities
- changes to admission arrangements as a result of change in status of schools; and/or
- the need to simplify catchment anomalies

Where changes are required it is suggested to Cabinet that some guiding principles will be applied. Those principles are that catchment areas should as far as possible:

- reflect changes in the status of schools
- reflect infrastructure developments in the locality (housing, highways and transport)
- reflect a sense of place; and
- be clear, logical and easily understood

Progress to date

- Work has been carried out within the catchment system to simplify minor anomalies in the existing network. This work has aligned primary and secondary borders, where necessary, without affecting any residential addresses.
- Work is progressing with the Head Teachers of Backworth Park, Holystone and Shiremoor Primary Schools to identify changes to the boundaries of each of these schools as a consequence of significant housing developments in the locality, the relocation and enlargement of Backworth Park Primary School and changes to road infrastructure.
- Work with existing schools to consider changes to catchments not affected by the Local Plan but have existing anomalies that might see areas not aligned between primary and secondary families of schools. This will simplify arrangements between Primary and secondary catchments.

Head Teachers and Governing Bodies are aware of the issues but Cabinet will wish to note that any changes can only happen through a statutory consultation process which would be subject to both Governing Body and Cabinet consideration and approval.

1.5.17 Tools for schools

This work stream includes reviewing the Finance Service offer to schools and the financial systems which underpin that service. It also includes considering how to move to cashless transactions, applying for and handling grants as well as procurement best practice. Analysis and tools are being provided and developed to help staff benchmarking and demand planning. Finally, the workstream seeks to identify financial training needs.

1.5.18 Keeping children and young people in school

This workstream seeks to provide strategic leadership to a whole system solution to how children and young people are kept in a stable educational placement and preferably in their mainstream school. The primary driver being that, for the majority of students educational outcomes will be better if they are retained in mainstream education.

Head Teachers are exceptionally committed to addressing the challenges this presents and have agreed a range of policies and procedures to secure consistent practice across all schools. This has included improving managed move and fair access processes and transition arrangements when a change of educational placement is needed.

A review of our alternative provision offer is underway to ensure when young people are not able to be maintained in a mainstream school they experience high quality provision that addresses their underlying issues and prepares them effectively for the next steps in education, employment or training. This also includes a review of the outreach support available to mainstream schools to enable them to maintain the educational placement for a vulnerable student.

The workstream also focuses on early intervention and how to tackle the rising number of complex mental health issues as well as promoting positive mental health among all of our young people. An extensive training programme has been available for school staff to enable them to be more effective in their support of vulnerable students and this has included the roll out of the Thrive programme. A full social, emotional and mental health review of alternative provision will be completed with a view to significant redesign.

Work has already begun with Head Teachers to look at funding distribution and additional leadership and governance to begin to manage the challenge differently.

1.5.19 Closing the gap

There is clear evidence that the attainment gap begins in early years and then widens at an accelerated rate through primary and secondary school. North Tyneside's challenge is reflective of the national picture but our gaps are above national average at key stage 2 and particularly wide at key stage 4. Changes to GCSE content in 2018 contributed to the weaker performance by disadvantaged students. There is significant variability in outcomes for disadvantaged pupils between schools with similar levels of disadvantage.

To address this issue a Primary Head Teacher has been seconded into the School Improvement Service to provide strategic leadership and a steering group of Head Teachers across all phases has been established. The work is closely aligned to the work on Keeping Children in School as addressing the issues creating vulnerability for students will lead to higher educational outcomes.

HMI have been supporting our work with Secondary Head Teachers to review their pupil premium strategies and ensure plans are suitably focussed and effective. A pupil premium review process has been established and all schools are being encouraged to engage not just those with the widest gaps. The best practice in meeting the needs of disadvantaged students is being identified and shared across schools. This work is being led by the Teaching School arm of Churchill Community College. Schools have been grouped together and a programme of peer reviews has taken place.

1.5.20 Emerging issues regarding Special Educational Needs provision and resources.

National Context

The Local Government Association (LGA) Education Funding Report (June 2019) highlights the significant national increase since 2014 in the number of children with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) and the proportion educated in special schools. Councils are increasingly concerned about the level of High Needs funding to meet need.

In recognition of the growing level of need across the country, the Department for Education (DfE) has allocated limited additional revenue and capital funding to each local authority. Demand has continued to rise and the government has been heavily lobbied by pupils, parents and representative groups during the past year to increase the funding available for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). A current case, brought by parents, against the government is being heard in the High Court in June 2019.

SEND in North Tyneside

North Tyneside, like many local authorities both regionally and nationally, is experiencing an increase in the numbers of children with SEND. There has been a notable increase locally in the numbers of children with: Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and/or Social, Emotional and Mental Health difficulties; and profound and multiple learning difficulties.

Responding to this increase in needs is creating pressure on the High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant. In January 2019 North Tyneside Schools Forum acknowledged the pressure on the High Needs Block and agreed to transfer some additional funding from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block. However, the increase in volume and complexity of needs mean that there is an on-going pressure on the High Needs Block.

All Authorities are required to keep High Needs SEND provision under review. In North Tyneside strategic work is on-going to strengthen early identification of need and place planning. This includes improving data and intelligence to inform the future pattern of educational provision and the nature of services commissioned from the High Needs Block over the next three to five years. This work involves the Statutory Assessment and Review Service, the Special School Heads, the Clinical Commissioning Group, therapeutic services and other stakeholders on the SEND Strategic Board.

The Parent Carer Forum will continue to play a key role in the co-production of educational provision and services for children and young people aged up to 25. The views of children and young people with SEND will also be important and plans are in place to inform, consult, involve and collaborate on changes to provision.

Notwithstanding the budget pressures, work has continued with schools and partners over the past year to increase the capacity of educational provision. DfE SEND capital funding is being used to create additional educational places to meet the immediate needs of children in September 2019. The funding is being deployed at Beacon Hill School, Silverdale School and Longbenton High School at the Melrose Additionally Resourced Provision. Plans for the physical works are well advanced at each of the schools.

Work is also well underway to consider all of the Additionally Resourced Provisions (ARPs) in mainstream schools. Many of the ARPs were established in 2004/05 to meet the needs of children with Moderate Learning Difficulties which was then more prevalent. The ARP review will inform changes required to enable the needs of children to be met more effectively in mainstream schools, highlight where places could be decommissioned in light of changing needs and identify action needed to ensure that there are smooth transition routes from primary to secondary schools.

1.5.21 A Model for High Performing Local Authority Areas

As explained to Cabinet last year in the absence of any national indication of what this is, the Authority has set about creating one. That has included working with Governing Bodies, Head Teachers and school leaders to ensure our service offering meets their needs. Despite competition for services, the Authority continues to deliver a sustainable business with an annual turnover in excess of £8.6m.

We have streamlined the ordering process for schools with all services now available to purchase on line from our Education Services Website. These include:

Services Purchased for 19/20	£m
Catering Services	3.64
Claims and Insurance	1.33
ICT Technical Support	0.60
School Improvement	0.58
SIMS Support	0.43
Payroll / Pensions	0.39
Financial Services	0.38
Cleaning Services	0.17
HR Advisory Service	0.26
Capital Support	0.25
Other Services	0.61
Total	8.64

1.5.22 North of Tyne Education Challenge

The text of the North of Tyne Combined Authority's devolution agreement with government stated:

"The NTCA will introduce a North of Tyne Education Improvement Challenge focused on:

- improving the marked disparities in educational attainment that exist within the area;*
- increasing attainment in STEM subjects;*
- deepening the approach to careers, information, advice and guidance through the adoption of the Good Career Guidance benchmarks; and*
- achieving excellence in teaching, leadership and school governance.*

The constituent local authorities of the NTCA will work together to explore the scope for developing a unified approach to school improvement for the schools they maintain, initially through the preparation of a Joint School Improvement Strategy that would significantly assist in identifying constituent strengths and weaknesses, and support efforts to work together to learn from and replicate good practice as appropriate.

On 24 April 2019, the North of Tyne Cabinet agreed six priorities for a Joint School Improvement Strategy, which are:

- Ready for school
- Educational achievement for all
- Closing the gap
- Career pathways; and
- Leadership recruitment and retention

Specifically, the North of Tyne Cabinet agreed its priorities for an Education Challenge proposal as Ready for School; Achievement for All; and Leadership, Recruitment and Retention. As part of this, the North of Tyne Cabinet also agreed six Ambitions, which are:

- Making sure every young person is ready for school
- Making sure all schools North of Tyne are Good or Outstanding
- Aiming to make sure no one is left behind
- Developing and delivering a universal mental health offer to all schools
- Creating a North of Tyne Teacher Deal
- Creating a North of Tyne Leadership Deal

A series of policy development workshops with a range of stakeholders are planned throughout July 2019, to develop proposals for each of the ambitions, as well as further engagement with all Head Teachers in the North of Tyne area.

Cabinet will note that the priorities and ambitions for the Joint School Improvement Strategy and the Education Challenge are consistent with the priorities in North Tyneside. Cabinet are asked to support the ongoing work at a North of Tyne level and receive future reports as it develops.

1.6 Decision options:

The following decision options are available for consideration by Cabinet.

Option 1

Agree the recommendations in paragraph 1.2

Option 2

Not agree the recommendations in paragraph 1.2 and request further work

Option 1 is the recommended option.

1.7 Reasons for recommended option:

Option 1 is recommended for the following reasons:

It reflects the recommendations agreed by Cabinet as part of the Education Review and the work done with the Elected Mayor, Cabinet Member, Head Teachers and Chairs of Governing Bodies.

1.8 Appendices:

Appendix 1: Rich picture at 2014(1) and at 2019 (1a)

Appendix 2: Surplus place, all schools, Secondary and Primary

1.9 Contact officers:

Jacqui Old, Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding, tel. 0191 643 7006

1.10 Background information:

The following background papers/information have been used in the compilation of this report and are available at the office of the author:

- (1) [Review of Secondary School Provision Cabinet Report 14th October 2013](#)
- (2) [Education Review Cabinet Report 8th September 2014](#)
- (3) [Education Review – Feedback from Prepublication Cabinet Report 10th November 2014](#)
- (4) [Education Review – Feedback from Publication Consultation 12th January 2015](#)
- (5) [Education Review – Feedback from Publication Consultation Supplementary Report 12th January 2015](#)
- (6) [Education Review Update Report 13th July 2015](#)
- (7) [Education Review Cabinet Report 11th July 2016](#)
- (8) [Education for North Tyneside Cabinet Report 10th July 2017](#)
- (9) [Education for North Tyneside Cabinet Report 30th July 2018](#)
- (10) [LGA Education Funding Report, House of Commons, 4 June 2019](#)

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

There are no direct financial implications from this report. The net overall financial position has improved between April 2014 and June 2019. Schools continue to face financial challenges and the Authority is working with them to deal with those challenges. Any future proposals as a result of national policy or local decisions that have financial implications will be brought to Cabinet as appropriate.

2.2 Legal

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

2.3.1 Internal Consultation

- Discussions have been held with the Elected Mayor and Cabinet Members and with the senior team leading services for our schools.

2.3.2 External Consultation/Engagement

- Discussion with all Secondary Head Teachers on 21st March 2016
- Discussion with all Head Teachers at Head Teacher Briefing on 13th May 2016

- Mayor’s Listening Event with Chairs of Governing Bodies and Head Teachers on 10th June 2016
- Discussion with Primary Head Teachers 16th June 2016
- Mayor’s Listening Event with Chairs of Governing Bodies and Head Teachers on 8th December 2016
- One to one discussions with a range of Head Teachers between March and June 2017
- Head Teacher Briefing, 24th November 2017
- Visioning Event – North of Tyne Education Challenge, 2nd May 2018
- Head Teacher Briefing, 10th May 2019

2.4 Human rights

There are no human rights issues arising directly from this report

2.5 Equalities and diversity

There are no equalities and diversity issues arising directly from this report

2.6 Risk management

There are no risk issues arising directly from this report

2.7 Crime and disorder

There are no crime and disorder implications arising directly from this report.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

There are no environment and sustainability implications arising directly from this report.

PART 3 - SIGN OFF

- Chief Executive X
- Head(s) of Service X
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s) X
- Chief Finance Officer X
- Monitoring Officer X
- Head of Corporate Strategy and Customer Service X



NORTH TYNESIDE COUNCIL
Children, Young People and Learning / Commissioning and Fair Access
RAG rating of Secondary Schools as at April 2014 - School Estate

	Surplus Capacity		Financial Summary (Outturns)					Intake year - Pupils from within catchment	Ofsted As at April 2014	Building Condition As % of PSBP** rebuild costs
	2013	2018 (projected)	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17			
Burnside Business & Enterprise College										
Churchill Community College										
George Stephenson High										
John Spence Community High										
Longbenton Community College										
Marden Bridge Middle										
Marden High										
Monkseaton High										
Monkseaton Middle										
Norham High										
Seaton Burn College										
St. Thomas More RC Academy										
Valley Gardens Middle										
Whitfield Middle										
Whitley Bay High										
Kings Priory Academy										
Tyne Mev/Queen Alexandra College										

* Including pupils in catchment attending NT Mainstream and Academics, Northumberland and Newcastle schools
** Priority Schools Building Programme

Key

> 25% surplus	Surplus	> 80% Green	Good or Outstanding	< 20% Green
>10%-<25% surplus	Deficit	50% - 80% Amber	Satisfactory or Requires Improvement	20% - 30% Amber
> 10% over subscribed		<50% - Red	In Category	> 30% Red



NORTH TYNESIDE COUNCIL
Commissioning and Asset Management

RAG rating of Secondary Schools as at June 2019 - Secondary School Estate

Page 83

	Surplus Capacity			Financial Summary (Outturns)					Intake year - Pupils from within catchment - Sept	Ofsted	Building Condition
	Jan-13	Jan-19	Jan-21	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20 (projected)	20/21 (projected)		As at June 2019	As % of PSBP** rebuild costs
Burnside Business & Enterprise College	Yellow	Red	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Green
Churchill Community College	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
George Stephenson High	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Green
John Spence Community High	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Green
Longbenton Community College	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Green
Marden Bridge Middle	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Green
Marden High	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Green
Monkseaton High	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Green
Monkseaton Middle	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Yellow	Green
Norham High	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Yellow	Red	Green
Valley Gardens Middle	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Green
Wellfield Middle	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green
Whitley Bay High	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Green
St. Thomas More RC Academy	Green	Green	Green	White	White	White	White	White	Red	Green	Green
North Gosforth Academy	Red	Red	Red	Red	White	White	White	White	Green	White	White
Kings Priory Academy	Green	Green	Green	White	White	White	White	White	Red	Green	White
Tyne Coast College	White	White	White	White	White	White	White	White	White	Green	White

* Including pupils in catchment attending NT Mainstream and Academies, Northumberland and Newcastle schools

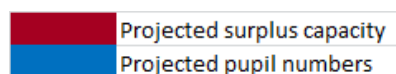
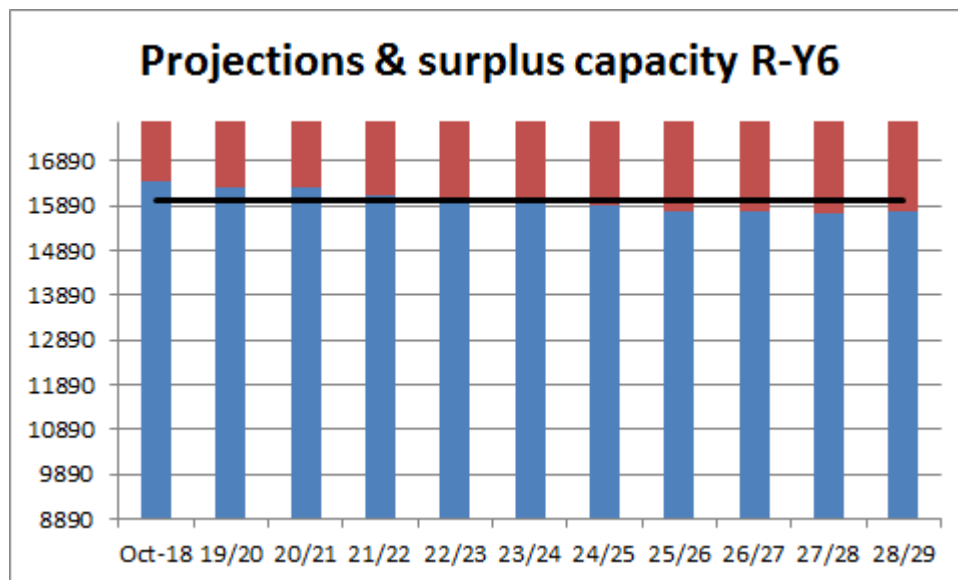
** Priority Schools Building Programme

Key

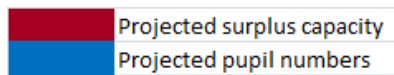
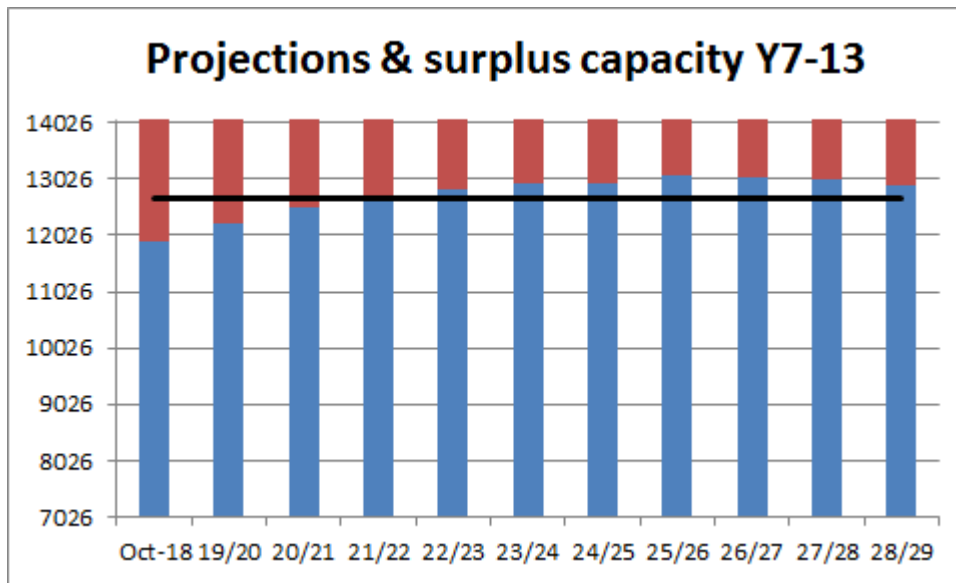
> 25% surplus	Surplus	> 80% Green	Good or Outstanding	< 20% Green
> 10% < 25% surplus	Deficit	50% - 80% Amber	Satisfactory or Requires improvement	20% - 30% Amber
> 10% over subscribed		< 50% - Red	In Category	> 30% Red
No date held				

The charts show the projected number of pupils (blue) and therefore the projected surplus capacity (red).

			Surplus capacity										
	Cap.	10% cap	Oct 18	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29
Primary phase	17,779	1,778	8%	8%	8%	9%	10%	10%	11%	11%	11%	12%	11%



			Surplus capacity										
	Cap.	10% cap	Oct 18	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29
Secondary phase	14081	1,408	15%	13%	11%	10%	9%	8%	8%	7%	7%	8%	8%



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North Tyneside Council Report to Cabinet Date: 29 July 2019

ITEM 5(c)
Title: Annual Equality and Diversity Review

Portfolio(s): Deputy Mayor	Cabinet Member(s): Councillor Bruce Pickard
Report from Service Area:	Corporate Strategy
Responsible Officer:	Jacqueline Laughton Head of Corporate Strategy and Customer Service
Wards affected:	All wards

PART 1

1.1 Executive Summary:

The Public Sector Equality Duty of the 2010 Equality Act requires that public sector organisations publish:

- information annually relating to people with protected characteristics who are its employees or are affected by its policies and practices; and
- the equality objectives it thinks it should achieve to meet the general equality duty – this needs be done at least once every 4 years.

North Tyneside Council fulfils these duties through the publication of its Annual Equality and Diversity Review every June. This report presents the 2018/19 Annual Equality and Diversity Review to Cabinet, in accordance with the Authority’s Equality and Diversity Policy governance arrangements.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- (1) note the findings of the 2018/2019 Annual Equality and Diversity Review at Appendix 1 of this report; and
- (2) identify any queries or comments Cabinet Members may wish to make about the Review.

1.3 Forward Plan:

Twenty eight days notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 17 May 2019.

1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

The Annual Equality and Diversity Review demonstrates how the Authority seeks to fulfil its equality duties and embed equality and diversity considerations in everything we do. Therefore it is relevant to all of the priorities in the Our North Tyneside Plan 2018-20.

1.5 Information:

1.5.1 Background

The Public Sector Equality Duty of the 2010 Equality Act requires that public sector organisations publish:

- information annually relating to people with protected characteristics who are its employees or are affected by its policies and practices; and
- the equality objectives it thinks it should achieve to meet the general equality duty – this needs be done at least once every 4 years.

The Authority fulfils these duties through the publication of its Annual Equality and Diversity Review every June.

The governance arrangements for the Authority's Equality and Diversity Policy include a commitment to present the latest Annual Equality and Diversity Review to Cabinet every July.

1.5.2 The 2018/19 Annual Review

The review:

- outlines the Authority's equality highlights for 2018/19;
- provides a final review of performance against the 2016-19 Corporate Equality Objectives;
- describes initial progress against the new Corporate Equality Objectives agreed by Cabinet in January 2019 and implemented from April 2019
- identifies service area equality priorities for 2019/20 (drawing on actions identified within service plans to support the achievement of the new Corporate Equality Objectives);
- gives an overview of employee equality data; and
- reviews performance against service area equality actions during 2018/19.

1.5.3 Consultation

A draft of the review was circulated for comment to a range of external stakeholders, including: AgeUK, Barnardos, North Tyneside Carers, North East Sikh Service, North Tyneside Coalition of Disabled People, Leaning Disability North East, representatives from the Jewish community, Church of England and Catholic Church, North Tyneside Disability Forum and North Tyneside Women's Voices.

Internally feedback was sought from members of the Corporate Equality Group, Senior Leadership Team and the Deputy Mayor (portfolio holder).

Six responses were received to this consultation and minor amendments were made to produce the final review document.

1.5.4 Publication

The review was published on the Authority's website on 27 June 2019. A copy can be found in the Appendix.

1.6 **Decision options:**

The following decision options are available for consideration by Cabinet:

Option 1

To note the findings of the 2018/19 Annual Equality and Diversity Review and identify any queries or comments Cabinet Members may wish to make about the Review.

Option 2

To note the findings of the 2018/19 Annual Equality and Diversity Review.

1.7 **Reasons for recommended option:**

Option 1 is the recommended option as:

The Public Sector Equality Duty of the 2010 Equality Act requires that public sector organisations publish information annually relating to people with protected characteristics who are its employees or are affected by its policies and practices. Publication of the Annual Equality and Diversity Review fulfils this duty.

Cabinet's consideration of the Review ensures compliance with the governance arrangements it agreed for the Authority's Equality and Diversity Policy.

1.8 **Appendices:**

Appendix: 2018/19 Annual Equality and Diversity Review

1.9 **Contact officers:**

Anne Foreman, Policy and Performance Manager, tel. (0191) 643 2225

1.10 **Background information:**

The following background papers/information has been used in the compilation of this report and is available at the office of the author:

(1) [Cabinet Report Equality and Diversity Policy – 21 January 2019](#)

(2) [Equality Act 2010: Guidance](#) Government Equalities Office and Equality and Human Rights Commission – updated 16 June 2015

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

The costs of delivery are included in existing service budgets and no additional costs are anticipated.

2.2 Legal

Publication of the Annual Equality and Diversity Review demonstrates the Authority's commitment to equality and diversity and to compliance with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty provided by that Act.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

2.3.1 Internal Consultation

As outlined in section 1.5.2 feedback was sought from members of the Corporate Equality Group, Senior Leadership Team and the Deputy Mayor.

2.3.2 External Consultation/Engagement

As also outlined in section 1.5.2 comments on the Draft Annual Equality and Diversity Review were sought from external stakeholders, including: AgeUK, Barnardos, North Tyneside Carers, North East Sikh Service, North Tyneside Coalition of Disabled People, Learning Disability North East, representatives from the Jewish community, Church of England and Catholic Church, North Tyneside Disability Forum, North Tyneside Women's Voices.

2.4 Human rights

The 2010 Equality Act created a legal framework to protect the rights of individuals and advance equality of opportunity for all. The human characteristics protected by the Act are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation. The Act is therefore of particular pertinence to the Human Rights of freedom of thought, belief and religion; freedom of expression; the right to marry; and protection from discrimination.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

Publication of the Annual Equality and Diversity Review fulfils the authority's duties under the Public Sector Equality Duty of the 2010 Equality Act to publish: information annually relating to people with protected characteristics who are its employees or are affected by its policies and practices and the equality objectives it thinks it should achieve to meet the general equality objective.

2.6 Risk management

The effectiveness of the Authority's equality and diversity processes are monitored every quarter as part of North Tyneside Council's risk management processes and are reported via the Corporate Strategic Risk Register.

2.7 Crime and disorder

There are no crime and disorder implications arising directly from this report.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

There are no environment and sustainability implications arising directly from this report.

PART 3 - SIGN OFF

- Chief Executive
- Head(s) of Service
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s)
- Chief Finance Officer
- Monitoring Officer
- Head of Corporate Strategy and Customer Service

Appendix:

Annual Equality and Diversity Review 2018-19

Date: June 2019 **Version:** 1 **Author:** Policy, Performance and
Research and Human Resources



1. Introduction

North Tyneside Council aims to ensure that:

North Tyneside is a place where people feel safe and no one experiences discrimination or disadvantage because of their [characteristics](#), background or personal circumstances.

Our strategic plan, [Our North Tyneside Plan](#), is focused on ensuring that the council works better for residents. So as one of the borough's leading service providers and employers, we are committed to developing North Tyneside to be an inclusive place in which to live, work, visit and invest; and seek to achieve this through implementation of our [Equality and Diversity Policy](#).

Our equality and diversity work is everyone's business and managed by Corporate Strategy and Customer Service and supported by the Deputy Mayor as Cabinet Champion for equality and diversity, our Senior Leadership Team (SLT), Corporate Equality Group, Young Mayor and Member of the UK Youth Parliament, Human Resources Service, trades unions, business partners, and the North East Regional Employers' Organisation's regional network of equality officers.

This review outlines what we have done to progress our equality work over the past year and how we will continue to seek to meet the aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty and the policy priorities of the Our North Tyneside Plan during the coming year through our focus on delivery of our Corporate Equality Objectives.

If you require a copy of this document in a different format please e-mail anne.foreman@northtyneside.gov.uk or call 0191 643 2225.

2. Our highlights in 2018 - 2019

In 2018-19 we have:

- reviewed, refreshed and published our Equality and Diversity Policy and new Corporate Equality Objectives;
- developed cancer locality posts, action plans and community interventions in areas of high socio-economic deprivation;
- completed needs assessments for Domestic Abuse, End of Life Care, Drug and Alcohol, Breast Feeding, children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and mothers who have multiple children removed;
- achieved [UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative](#) stage 3 accreditation;
- procured a specialist all age drug and alcohol service;
- led a citizen research project with young people on the subject of mental health;

- implemented an on line digital platform for mental health support across all high schools;
- led a successful Public Health England innovation bid to support children of alcohol dependent parents;
- achieved 'continuing excellence plus' in the Better Health at Work Awards;
- reviewed Council's approach to [Mental Health First Aiders](#) and implemented a new programme of support.
- maintained accreditation for being a Disability Confident Employer Level 2, with Capita maintaining Level 1 as a Disability Confident Committed Employer;
- worked with Beach Access North East to support provision of a specialist beach wheelchair at Whitley Bay beach (Property Services);
- ensured all new web and mobile applications are compliant with the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018;
- developed standard questions for the collection of equality/demographic data across the Authority;
- raised staff awareness of equality issues through promotion of our equality calendar activities;
- completed a Cumulative Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) of Cabinet's Budget Proposals;
- undertook the council's Staff and Health and Wellbeing Surveys and analysed the results by equality characteristic;
- North Tyneside Customer Service Programme proposals agreed by Cabinet;
- begun a review of the Council's Lettings Policy ensuring due regard to the potential impacts on applicants with protected characteristics;
- introduced an in-depth risk assessment matrix to assess the individual support needs of each victim of crime or anti-social behaviour and tailor support to vulnerable victim;
- introduced our Any Day Tenancies approach, which has enabled us to make council housing available quicker to those in need;
- introduced the Rentsense system which enables us to identify and support those in priority need to reduce their rent arrears and maintain their tenancy;
- revised our rent collection procedure to ensure more contact with customers to help us identify issues early i.e. Universal Credit (which has negative impacts in particular for lone parent families and people with disabilities) we can sign post to supporting services and prevent evictions;

- ensured that our £9.00 minimum rate of pay matches that recommended by the Living Wage Foundation;
- seen 67% of managers complete Equality and Diversity training;
- rolled out devices in all of our 70 plus kitchens to help us engage over 400 employees (predominately part time female workers, some based remotely in areas outside of North Tyneside) in online learning opportunities;
- introduced an Employee Assistance programme to enable employees to self-refer to a 24/7 phone line service providing a range of resources and help tailored to individual need. The services include: counselling, a financial helpline, and support for carers and help with parenting issues;
- added 11,026 electors to the Electoral register following changes to the wording of our Household Enquiry Forms to make them more understandable and visits by personal canvassers to non-responding properties, which included people with protected characteristics;
- reduced the number of temporary polling stations to six and improved their accessibility;
- ran two Going the Extra Mile conferences for professionals and educational leaders and four cohorts of Thrive training to enable school staff to manage young people who have mental health issues or display challenging behaviours more effectively;
- prioritised improving outcomes for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Completing audits and evaluations of all aspects of current provision to identify priorities for improvement, strengthen collaborative decision making and improve governance arrangements;
- promoted the benefits of the My Care and SIGN Directory websites to not just service users, but to all residents and ensured all of our frontline and social care teams are able to support residents to access online information and advice websites to find the right support for them. As a result North Tyneside Council is ranked 3rd nationally (out of 152 local authorities) for customers reporting that they find it easy or fairly easy to find information and advice about the support they need.

(See Appendix B for updates on service level performance against 2018/19 equality priorities)

3. Our Corporate Equality Objectives:

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requires local authorities to set and publish equality objectives 'at least every four years'. Given the status of our 2016 equality objectives (as set out below), the requirements of the PSED and the Equality and Diversity Policy review, it was timely to update North Tyneside Council's Corporate Equality Objectives. The review, including trade union representation, was undertaken in winter 2018.

3.1 Performance against our 2016 Corporate Equality Objectives

Objective 1: Good employer

Objective: Increase the proportion of North Tyneside Council staff agreeing in the Staff Survey that "I am treated with fairness and respect" to 75% by January 2019.

Outcome: The proportion of staff agreeing that they are treated with fairness and respect did increase, but narrowly missed the target – achieving 74% by January 2019 (12% higher than the Ipsos MORI UK local authority norm).

Next steps: This target will continue to be monitored under our new equality objective 'be a good employer and promote an inclusive workforce that feels valued'.

Objective 2: Business Management System

Objective: To better communicate to the workforce how equality data is processed, stored and used in order to ensure a minimum 50% of the workforce provide equality data for each of the equality characteristics listed on the Business Management System (BMS) by March 2020.

Progress: An exercise to update personal details on BMS will be undertaken in mid-2019.

Next steps: This target will continue to be monitored under our new equality objective to 'improve the collection and use of both internal and external quality data'.

Objective 3: Equality Training

Objective: To ensure 80% of staff and 100% of managers have up to date equality training by March 2020.

Progress: Following the introduction of reminders via our Learning Pool system, the development of a range of new learning resources, and targeting of specific services; by May 2019 54.6% of staff were up to date with their equality and diversity training, as were 67% of managers.

Next steps: This target will continue to be monitored under our new equality objective to 'be a good employer and promote an inclusive workforce that feels valued'.

Objective 4: Smoking prevalence

Objective To improve (reduce) the percentage of mothers smoking at time of delivery to be in line with the England rates by 1% by March 2018 and a further 1% by December 2018, as measured by the National Smoking Status at Time of Delivery return (SATOD).

Outcome: Smoking prevalence at time of delivery for North Tyneside decreased from 12.2% in 2016/17 to 11.3% in 2017/18. The corresponding figures for England were 10.7% and 10.8%.

Next steps: Performance will continue to be monitored by the Public Health Team.

Objective 5: Cumulative Impact of Welfare Reform

Objective: Pilot the collection of data on the equality characteristics of residents impacted by welfare reform initiatives, in order to assess the feasibility of undertaking a cumulative impact assessment as individual reforms are implemented.

Outcome: The pilot was completed and found that although it would be feasible to undertake a cumulative impact assessment as individual reforms are implemented, the introduction of Universal Credit has meant the Authority no longer has access to claimants' equality data as this is held by DWP, thus this objective was unable to be progressed.

Next steps: The Mayor's Task Force on Welfare Reform continues to meet and retain oversight of the impacts of welfare reform and actions that can be taken to address them including support to people with disabilities, foster carers and lone parents.

Objective 6: Carer Satisfaction

Objective: Increase the overall satisfaction of carers with social services from 43.4% (2014/15) to 47% (2018/19).

Outcome: In 2016/17 satisfaction with social care services had increased to 45.5%. However by 2018/19 satisfaction was 42.7%; we also found that 15% of carers taking part in our biennial Carer Survey do not recognise that they are a carer, something that will be addressed through a review of service delivery against the Care Act.

Next steps: Performance will continue to be monitored by Adult Social Care, who will work with partners and providers to ensure their focus on customer service aligns with our new Customer Service Programme.

3.2 2019 Equality Objectives

It was agreed that our new objectives would ensure firm foundations so that actions against each one can evolve and develop over the next four years.

Our new Corporate Equality Objectives and key actions were agreed by Cabinet in January 2019, ready for implementation to begin from April 2019. The objectives are outlined below, alongside targets and progress to date.

Objective 1: Improve North Tyneside Council's EIA process

Key actions:

- a. Review, update and promote EIA guidance and documentation
- b. Appoint new EIA 'champions' who will be trained and supported to help team members complete EIAs
- c. Develop and implement a plan for the re-introduction of a fit for purpose electronic system for EIAs.

Next steps:

- a. A new form and guidance will be approved by the Corporate Equality Group in September 2019
- b. New EIA champions will be appointed and trained by November 2019
- c. The potential for developing a new ICT system for the storage and monitoring of EIAs will be assessed by May 2019.

Objective 2: Be a good employer and promote an inclusive workforce that feels valued

Key actions:

- a. Undertake and implement findings from the staff and staff health and wellbeing surveys
- b. Understand the specific equality and diversity issues arising from both surveys and make recommendations for action
- c. Develop and promote an annual equalities events calendar, encouraging employees to contribute to the development of the activities it delivers
- d. Ensuring that the authority's mental health first aid approach provides increased awareness of the issues associated with specific protected characteristics.

Progress:

- a. Information shared with Senior Leadership Team by May 2019 and analysis by service available in the Health and Wellbeing Survey Report.
- b. Significance testing by protected characteristic has been completed and reported within the Health and Wellbeing Survey Report
Corporate Equality Group has established a task and finish group to produce recommendations for action. Work is planned to better understand and address issues raised by employees with disabilities

- c. An equalities calendar that identifies 6 key themes for 2019 and a number of other areas has been agreed and is being promoted by the Communications Team.

Next steps:

- b. Initial contact with employees with disabilities will be established through internal communications and at the June Market Place Events, after which focus groups and one to one discussions will be held
- d. Provide additional training on protected characteristics for mental health first aiders by July 2019.

Objective 3: Ensure staff and elected members are kept informed about the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty

Key actions:

- a. Continue to develop and deliver a programme of equality training
- b. Develop a handbook to help staff consider and respond to the needs of customers and colleagues with specific protected characteristics
- c. Ensure that our equality duties are considered as part of the review of the North Tyneside Council Constitution.

Progress:

- a. Participation in our equality training programme is growing with 54.6% of employees and 67% of managers up to date with their equality training. Provision of on-line training for managers, the roll out of devices to enable kitchen staff to participate in on-line training and the on-going development of new learning methods have all contributed
- c. Development of the handbook is underway and is due to be completed in September 2019.

Next steps:

- a. Continue to monitor and report on engagement with our equality training programme
- b. Publicise the handbook
- c. Complete the review of the Constitution by March 2020.

Objective 4: Improve the collection and use of both internal and external quality data

Key actions:

- a. Provide guidance on the appropriate and consistent collection of equality data
- b. Improve collection of staff equality data on our Business Management System to increase by 50% the number of staff who complete BMS data by March 2020
- c. Use staff equality data to inform the development of initiatives to support our commitment to make our workforce more representative of the borough's population

- d. Use equality data to ensure service delivery and community engagement is balanced and proportionate.

Progress:

- a. Standard equality/demographic questions have been developed and guidance drafted
- b. As illustrated in Appendix A our Human Resources team uses equality data to inform its service priorities and duties, which for example shows how the apprenticeship programme has resulted in an increase in the proportion of 16-24 years employed by the Authority to 5%.

Next steps:

- a. The equality/demographics questions guidance will be finalised and publicised in June 2019
- b. An exercise to update personal details on BMS is planned for mid-2019
- c. Opportunities to advertise more widely on the Regional Recruitment Portal to promote North Tyneside Council as a Disability Confident Employer will be investigated during 2019
- d. This will follow on from action 4a and recommendations discussed at Corporate Equality Group in autumn 2019.

Objective 5: Ensure our buildings and communications are accessible

Key actions:

- a. Review and publish accessibility statements for all of our public buildings
- b. Review and act on the findings of our EIA on council communications
- c. Deliver additional equality actions identified within our Customer Service Programme

Progress:

- a. Discussions have been held with [AccessAble](#) who can undertake up to 200 access audits, from a user perspective, of buildings identified by the Authority and publish accessibility statements.
- c. Customer Service Programme agreed by Cabinet in May 2019

Next steps:

- a. Explore the opportunities for partners and local businesses to take part in the audit and share the costs and benefits
- b. To produce a communication grid by equality characteristic by July 2019
- c. Lead the development of the Customer Service Programme ensuring that equality and diversity are integral to the approach.

4. Service Priorities for 2019/20

All council services write annual service plans to demonstrate how they will contribute to the delivery of the Our North Tyneside Plan and other key business priorities, including actions taken to achieve our Corporate Equality Objectives.

Corporate Strategy and Customer Service

Our focus in 2019-20

- Lead the development and publication of new EIA guidance (Objective 1).
- Review the Corporate Strategy approach to developing, agreeing and reviewing EIAs (Objective 1)
- Lead on the analysis of the Staff Health and Wellbeing Survey, ensuring that the findings from Corporate Strategy employees are considered (Objective 2)
- Engage with employees (particularly those with disabilities) to better understand issues highlighted by the Staff and Health and Wellbeing Surveys (Objective 2).
- Lead on promotion of the annual equalities events calendar, as part of the wider corporate communications plan (Objective 2)
- Support the Youth Council to deliver an Equality and Diversity Conference for Young People in January 2020 (Objective 2)
- Support the running of the Youth Council's Anti-Bullying Writing Competition (Objective 2)
- Work with Organisational Development to support the delivery of a programme of equality training, including the training of EIA champions (Objectives 1 and 3).
- Ensure that all members of Corporate Strategy are up to date with their equality training (Objective 3)
- Deliver equality and diversity training to all Youth Council members (Objective 3)
- Provide best practice to the council on the collection and analysis of equality data, as part of service planning (Objective 4)
- Deliver the Annual Equality and Diversity Review (Objective 4)
- Lead on the development of the Customer Service Programme ensuring that equality and diversity are integral to the approach (Objective 5)
- Work with Procurement and the North east Purchasing Organisation (NEPO) to procure the Authority's new translation and interpretation contracts, including on-line interpretation provision (Objective 5).

Commissioning and Asset Management

Our focus in 2019-20

- Ensure all new business cases include EIAs which have been reviewed and agreed in accordance with the Authority's EIA guidance (Objective 1).
- Explore the reasons behind the issues raised in the Employee Health and Wellbeing Survey that employees with disabilities are less likely to be satisfied at work, and act to address this (Objective 2).

- Play a key role in delivery of our Corporate Equality Objective action of reviewing and publishing accessibility statements for all of the Authority's public buildings (Objective 5).

Environment, Health and Leisure

Our focus in 2019-20

- Conduct and act on Equality Impact Assessments in relation to consultations and service or policy changes (Objective 1).
- Review existing EIA's (Objective 1).
- Ensure employees carry out EIA training as appropriate to role (Objective 1).
- Deliver equality awareness events in Libraries and Sport and Leisure Facilities to contribute to the council's annual equalities events calendar (Objective 2).
- Ensure employees take part in mandatory Equality and Diversity training (Objective 3).
- Ensure equality data is collected, stored and used in line with GDPR requirements (Objective 4).
- Improve the collection and storage of equality data through the introduction of new databases, including the Library Management System and Sport and Leisure Management System (Objective 4).
- Encourage staff to provide equality data on the Authority's Business Management System (Objective 4).
- Support the implementation of a programme of accessibility audits in EHL run buildings (Objective 5).
- Conduct and reviewed Health and Safety Risk Assessments giving due regard to people with protected characteristics (Objective 5).

Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding (separate entry for Public Health)

Our focus in 2019-20

- Complete EIAs for any service change (Objective 1).
- Ensure there is an EIA champion in the team (Objective 1).
- Develop a plan to respond to the findings from the Staff and Health and Wellbeing surveys (Objective 2).
- Lead specific campaigns within the equalities calendar (Objective 2).
- Use the 3 key questions approach with staff to gather their views on working in the service (Objective 2).
- Conduct the annual social work health check (Objective 2).
- Participate fully in equality training and ensure 95% compliance (Objective 3).
- Have equality champions across the service (Objective 3).
- Comply with guidance on the collection and use of equality data (Objective 4).
- Encourage staff to record equality data (Objective 4).
- Include equality issues in audit of case recording (Objective 4).
- Provide a service link to any corporate work to improve accessible communications. (Objective 5).
- Review our communications materials against the accessible communication standard annually (Objective 5).

Law and Governance

Our focus in 2019-20

- To ensure equality and diversity is a regular agenda item at team meetings.
- To attend Corporate Equality Group.
- To contribute to the Annual Equality Review.

Public Health

Our focus in 2019-20

- Undertake EIAs during the review, planning and any changes to services we provide (Objective 1).
- Ensure there is an EIA champion in the team (Objective 1).
- Develop a plan based on staff survey findings and contribute to its delivery (Objective 2).
- Develop a plan to respond to the employee health and wellbeing survey and lead the delivery within the Health at Work Programme (Objective 2).
- Lead specific campaigns within the equalities calendar, specifically those on mental health, suicide prevention, maternity and early years e.g. breast feeding promotion, and HIV/AIDS (Objective 2).
- Lead the approach to and support for Mental Health First Aiders within the workplace (Objective 2).
- Participate fully in employee equality training and ensure 95% compliance (Objective 3).
- Adhere to guidance on the collection and use of equality data across the service (Objective 4).
- Encourage managers and employees to record appropriate equality data (Objective 4).
- Contribute to increasing the accessibility of our communications through the development of SEND pathways and notifications (Objective 5).

Resources

Our focus in 2019-20

Contribute to the delivery of the Corporate Equality Objectives:

- Appoint an additional EIA Champion (Objective 1).
- Review EIAs as part of our programme of policy (including health and wellbeing) and practice reviews (including pay and grading, job evaluation and terms and conditions of employment) to ensure equitable application (Objective 1).
- Ensure EIAs are completed for all restructures to understand and respond to any potential impacts on employees with protected characteristics and to the diversity of our workforce (Objective 1).
- Agree an action plan to address any issues for the Human Resources and Organisational Development teams from the Staff and Health and Wellbeing Surveys (Objective 2).

- Contribute to the Council wide action plan arising from the Staff and Health and Wellbeing Survey (Objective 2).
- Contribute to the development and promotion of the Equalities Calendar (Objective 2).
- Continue to monitor that all service areas (including our own) are compliant with Equality and Diversity mandatory training requirements (Objective 3).
- Contribute to the development of the staff equality handbook (Objective 3).
- Conduct an annual update of employee's personal data (Objective 4).
- Complete implementation of a Human Resources Analytical Tool to enable better on-going management of workforce data, including equality data (Objective 4).
- Investigate opportunities to advertise more widely on the Regional Recruitment Portal to promote North Tyneside Council as a Disability Confident Employer (Objective 4).

Apprenticeships:

- Use the Apprenticeship Levy to develop pathways and access to learning and development for our lowest paid employees to help address in work poverty.
- Investigate how we can improve the career opportunities of women in frontline services by opening up apprenticeship opportunities.
- Evaluate use of the Apprenticeship Levy in 2018/19 and its profiled use over 2019/20.
- Continue to work with service areas and learning providers to identify pre-apprenticeship pathways for our hardest to reach young people.
- Continue to identify how we can better engage with looked after children and care leavers to increase their interest in a targeted apprenticeship offer.
- Continue to fully support looked after children within council recruitment processes to enable them to prepare for adult working life.
- Continue to provide additional support and developmental opportunities to apprentices who are Looked After Children while on the programme, to improve retention and progression into employment.
- Analyse workforce data to address in-work poverty within the Authority's workforce and create developmental pathways for roles identified through this analysis, linked to maximising the apprenticeships available.

Learning and Development:

- Promote resilience, stress management and mental health specific learning to increase employee engagement and knowledge.
- Launch learning pages and offer alternative methods of learning to hard to reach employees and groups to encourage engagement within learning.
- Develop a personal learning page in Learning Pool specific to carer needs to enable them to access targeted training.

Housing Property and Construction Service:

- Monitor and assess the equality impacts (including the gender pay gap) on the overall workforce to March 2020 of the Housing Property and Construction Service joining the authority.
- Ensure all employees in our Housing Property and Construction Service have taken part in a culture programme, which includes mandatory Equality and Diversity training, by October 2019.

Regeneration and Economic Development

Our focus in 2019-20

- Develop and monitor an action plan based on the Annual Equality Review.
- Circulate and comment on Equality Impact Assessments across service area and comply with corporate EIA guidance (Objective 1).
- Regularly review and act on function level EIAs (Objective 1).
- Attend and actively participation in the Corporate Equality Group.
- Identify and respond to any equality training issues in the service area (Objective 3)
- Contribute to the annual equality review process.

Technical Services Partnership with Capita

Our focus in 2019-20

- Ensure EIAs are completed and acted upon (Objective 1).
- Continue to focus our employment procedures and practices on maximising the potential of each unique individual (Objective 2)
- Work to ensure our workforce is diverse and reflects the communities we work in; through a range of activities including: engagement with schools and universities; membership of groups such as Women in Property, Women in Engineering and working with STEM ambassadors; provision of work experience placements and (paid) internships; and support for flexible working (Objective 4).
- Attend and actively participate in the Corporate Equality Group.

Appendix A: Employee Data

We use the information highlighted in this appendix to support our employees, meet our equality duties and inform delivery of our Human Resources Service priorities:

- paid correctly and on time
- working in a safe environment
- healthy
- happy and capable

Sex: The percentage breakdown of men and women employed by North Tyneside Council has remained fairly static for a number of years. However this has changed recently with the return to the Authority of 350 staff delivering our Housing Property and Construction Service. They are a predominantly male workforce which takes the percentage of men in the workforce to 37% (Source: [NTC Business Management System 2019](#)). This contrasts to the population of the Borough population of 48% men and 52% women (Source: [2017, Mid Year Population Estimates](#)).

Age profile: 5% of our employees are aged 16-24 which is an increase of 1.5% since last year (Source: [NTC Business Management System 2019](#)). This is most likely due to the success of the Authority's Apprenticeship Programme over the past four years. Whereas 9% of the population of North Tyneside are in this age group (Source: [2017, Mid Year Population Estimates](#)). There have been no other notable changes in the percentage of other age groups within the workforce.

Disability: At 3% there has not been a notable change in the number of employees reporting as having disabilities (Source: [NTC Business Management System 2019](#)); this contrasts with a borough population of 20.6%. (Source: [2011 Census](#)).

Ethnicity: 81% of our employees are white, 3% are from black and minority ethnic (BME) communities, which is an increase of nearly 1% from last year. 16% have not declared this information. (Source: [NTC Business Management System 2019](#)). This compares with the Borough population of 97% white, 3% (BME) with the main group Asian or Asian British (Source: [2011 Census](#)).

Faith/Religion: 47% of our employees are Christian, 2% combined are Buddhist, Muslim, Sikh, Hindu, Jewish and other religions. 51% have no religion recorded (Source: [NTC Business Management System 2019](#)). This contrasts with the Borough population where 53% are Christian, 2.6% combined are Buddhist, Muslim, Sikh, Hindu, Jewish and other religions, while 44% have no religion (Source: [Office for National Statistics Annual Population Survey January - December 2018](#)).

Sexual orientation: 13% of employees identify as heterosexual, 1% bisexual, gay or lesbian. 86% of employees have not declared their sexual orientation (Source: [NTC Business Management System 2019](#)). These figures remain largely the same as the previous year with a slight increase in the number of employees identifying as gay or lesbian. The population estimate for gay, lesbian and bisexual people within the North East region is 1.8% (Source: ONS Sexual Identity based on APS; [Office for National Statistics Sexual Identity based on the Annual Population Survey](#)).

Marital Status: 41% of employees are married, 27% single, 4% divorced, 1.5% living together, 0.6% widowed, 0.4% have a domestic partner, 0.4% are legally separated and 0.1% are in a civil partnership. 25% have not declared this information. (Source: [NTC Business Management System 2019](#)). There have been small changes to the percentages compared to last year's figures, with a slight decrease in employees identifying as married. This compares to the Borough population where 46% are married, 32% are single, 10% are divorced, 8% are widowed, 0.2% are in a same sex civil partnership and 2.8% are separated (Source: [2011 Census](#)).

Recruitment and retention rates: Of all job applications received, 65% are from females and 60% of new starters within the council are female. This compares to 64% and 72% last year. Overall female representation within the workforce over 12 months has decreased from 68.8% to 63% due to the return to the Authority of 350 staff delivering a Housing Property and Construction Service (Source: [NTC Business Management System 2019](#)).

8% of all applications received were from BME communities, a slight increase since last year (Source: [NTC Business Management System 2019](#)).

Senior Pay Scales: The gender breakdown in the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) is 4 women and 6 men. This is a change from last year of 56% women and 44% men due to a combination of turnover, a restructure of the SLT and new appointments (Source: [NTC Business Management System 2019](#)).

In the Senior North Tyneside Pay Scales the breakdown is 53% women and 47% men and therefore no change from last year (Source: [NTC Business Management System 2019](#)).

Flexible Working Applications: 10.4% of female employees and 3.5% of males requested flexible working. This is a slight decrease in female employee requests and double that of last year for males (last year 11.4% of females and 1.7% of males made requests).

83% of all flexible working requests were made by females and 17% by males (Source: [NTC Business Management System 2019](#)).

Length of service: Length of service monitoring data shows that 35% of employees have been employed by the Authority for between one and ten years.

10% of the workforce have less than one year's service (of that group female employees account for 60% and 40% are male). The percentage of the workforce with less than one year's service has recently changed with the return to the Authority of 350 staff delivering a Housing Property and Construction Service. In addition there has been an increase in the number of apprenticeships.

This pattern changes when employees reach 31-40 years of service, where representation is 43% female and 57% male.

After 40 or more years of service the breakdown is 6% female and 94% male, indicating that more women leave the Authority after 31 years of service. This reflects

changes in the workforce profile during this time (Source: [NTC Business Management System 2019](#)).

Leavers vs recruited: There has been no change in the proportion of leavers since last year, as 67% of leavers are female and 33% male.

Based on employees with less than 12 months service, 60% of new starters* were female compared to 40% male. This is similar to the workforce makeup which is 63% female and 37% male (Source: [NTC Business Management System 2019](#)).

This shows that while more women are leaving the organisation, more men are being recruited. The success of the Authority's Apprenticeship Programme over the past four years is likely to have had an impact on this.

*For any employees who have transferred to the Council under TUPE the date on which the period of continuous employment started is the date on which the employee started work with the old employer.

2018 Staff Survey: The majority of our workforce (74%) believe that they are treated with fairness and respect which is well above UK Local Authority norm of 62%.

82% believe that the council is an equal opportunity employer which is above the UK Local Authority norm of 79%.

We have seen an increase from 62% in 2016 to 67% in 2018 of employees who have confidence that the Council will deal effectively with harassment and bullying if an issue is raised.

Overall the survey revealed that females were more likely than males to give positive responses, likewise the proportion of negative responses increased with age. The survey suggested employees with disabilities have a less positive experience of employment with the Authority when compared to all other employees, therefore further research is being undertaken.

2018 Staff Health and Wellbeing Survey: We aim to ensure our workforce is mentally and physically well enough to carry out their role and has the resilience to meet the challenges of now and the future. Our Staff Health and Wellbeing Survey helps us to identify and respond to health and wellbeing issues.

The 2018 survey achieved a response rate of 32% and found:

- although 66.2% of respondents feel their physical and mental health is good, those with disabilities or who identify as LGB are significantly less likely to agree
- 69% of respondents said they were happy, but those with disabilities were significantly least likely to feel this way
- Although 65% of respondents rated the things they do at work as worthwhile, those with disabilities were significantly less likely to feel this way
- 9.9% of respondents smoke, which is lower than the Borough and national rate. Employees aged 25-34 were significantly least likely to smoke at 1%

- Only 24.4% of respondents achieve healthy eating guidelines by consuming 5 or more portions of fruit and vegetables a day, with those aged 55-64 years being significantly least likely to achieve the target
- 56% are drinking at increased risk, with LGB respondents one of the groups significantly most likely to be at risk
- Only 18.4% meet physical activity levels which make them breathe harder
- Only 37.8% meet strengthening activity guidelines, with females and those aged 55-64 years being significantly least likely to achieve the guideline
- 46% have troubled sleep
- 23% feel they are in high stress jobs, with carers and employees with disabilities significantly most likely to feel this way
- 31% have high anxiety scores, with employees with disabilities significantly most likely to report high anxiety
- 18% have suffered an injury or illness caused or made worse by their job, with those with disabilities significantly most likely to identify this
- 75% have gone into work when they should have taken the day off sick, this is significantly most likely for employees who are carers or have disabilities
- 20% do not feel they work in a supportive environment.

Gender Pay Gap: In April 2019 we reported a gender pay gap of 7.6% between men and women and a median average gap of 2.2% between men and women (Source: [NTC Business Management System 2019](#)).

We are monitoring the impact of the Housing Property and Construction workforce coming back into the Authority from 1 April 2019. This data will help us to understand the impact of large organisational change.

Our analysis shows that there are more women than men in our lower pay grades. Many of the job roles on offer are taken by our female employees due to the part time nature of the contracts, particularly those that offer term time working in a school environment. These are generally in our catering and cleaning front line services. We are working to better understand what more we can do to offer career opportunities for employees in these service areas.

The work we are undertaking, linked to in-work poverty, will contribute towards bridging the gender pay gap of those in our female frontline services. The in-work poverty analysis will identify the key roles within services that are the lowest paid and enable the creation of development pathways, including apprenticeships. This will provide a clear route for career progression for those individuals and help support up skilling of the workforce.

Apprentice Programme: In 2018 58% of the Authority's apprenticeship posts were filled by people from our target groups - Looked After Children (LAC), care leavers, those not in education, employment or training (NEET) and those with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND). The proportion of apprentices with a disability increased from 1% in 2015 to 7.7% in 2018 and represents almost a 2 percentage point increase on last year (Source: [NTC Business Management System](#)

[2019](#)). We continue to work to increase these numbers, as set out in our service priorities for 2019-20.

Learning and Development: One of our equality objectives is for 80% of staff to complete equality and diversity training by 2020. Currently 54.6 % of staff have achieved this. The corporate Workforce Development Team are working closely with frontline services to provide this training in appropriate formats, as a result over 400 frontline employees now have access to a device in the workplace providing easier access to training.

We have seen 2001 training completions on additional equality and diversity themed courses during 2018. Courses include autism awareness, transgender awareness and learning disability awareness.

The equality objective also includes the target of 100% managers completing equality and diversity training by 2020. So far 67% of our managers have completed this training (3 yearly refresher) (Source: NTC Learning Pool 2019).

To continue to provide flexible learning options the Workforce Development team are developing a bespoke online training programme for managers, this can be used as initial or refresher training at a time and place that is suitable to individual.

Personal resilience, stress management training has been released and promoted across the council and is mandatory for all employees. Participation continues to rise with 544 completions in the last 12 months.

Completion of all mandatory training, which includes equality and diversity, is now tracked by managers across all services using the workforce development performance dashboard. In addition bi-monthly reporting is provided to the Senior Leadership and Senior Management teams at Leadership Forum and biannually to all managers through the managers briefing. It is hoped that this additional level of monitoring and scrutiny on the take up of mandatory training will help support achieving the mandatory targets set by the Authority.

Appendix B: Review of Service Equality and Diversity Actions for 2018/19

Corporate Strategy

Actions	Progress – end of March 2019
Communications Review: to complete and implement the recommendations from the review of communications with D/deaf people.	Now incorporated into work to be delivered through the Customer Service Programme now due to be approved by Cabinet in May 2019
Website Accessibility: To work with ICT to ensure compliance with the EU Directive on Web Accessibility as part of the development of a new website for the Authority.	Since autumn 2018 all new web based projects have been compliant with the directive, a review of existing provision will be delivered as part of the Customer Service Programme
Single customer record. To roll out delivery of a single customer record, to include collection of customer communication needs.	A long term aim - actions to ensure consistent collection and use of information on customer communication needs will be considered as part of the Customer Service Programme
Customer Experience: To produce North Tyneside Council's Customer Experience Strategy, demonstrating due regard to customers with protected characteristics.	The Customer Service Programme Cabinet Report highlights our Corporate Objective to "ensure our buildings and communications are accessible" and states that 'It is expected that this objective will be delivered, in part, through additional equality actions that will be identified through the development of this Plan'.
Awareness Raising: To deliver the Equality Calendar Communications Plan in partnership with services across the organisation, strategic partners and trades unions.	On-going: during 2018/19 we ran campaigns and activities to promote Holocaust Memorial Day, LGBT History Month, Time to Talk Day, Northern Pride, World Dementia Awareness Month, Black History Month, World AIDS Day

<p>Translation and Interpretation: To manage and seek to develop provision through the Authority's Translation and Interpretation contract.</p>	<p>The contract continues to be delivered, the option to provide on-line interpretation will be progressed through the Customer Experience Plan .</p>
<p>Budget setting: In partnership with Finance, implement the review of the Authority's budget setting process, giving a higher profile to equality impacts.</p>	<p>Completed for 2018. Will also be addressed through Corporate Equality Objective 1 to review NTC's EIA process.</p>

Environment, Housing and Leisure

Actions	Progress – end of March 2019
<p>Housing needs of the most vulnerable: To establish housing need for people living in North Tyneside who are most vulnerable, living 'chaotic lifestyles' or have mental health issues.</p>	<p>From July 2019 four advisors will start work supporting new and current tenants applying or transferring onto Universal Credit in partnership with the Department for Work and Pensions, Work Coaches and Citizens Advice Bureau.</p> <p>We have four new Employment and Housing Advisors who will engage with unemployed and economically inactive tenants to provide 'total person employment support', move them into or closer to work and help them to sustain their tenancies.</p> <p>We have developed and are awaiting approval for a pre-eviction panel for adults with vulnerable issues.</p> <p>Agreed a Domestic Abuse Policy</p>
<p>Care Concept: To develop a design brief for delivering a 'care concept' within the Murton development for people aged 55 and over and people with a range of physical, learning or mental health issues.</p>	<p>We received funding to undertake research with Newcastle University to identify good practice and design homes for older people. This has informed the proposed layout of the development, and type and style of homes and a planning application is being prepared.</p> <p>We plan to provide (although numbers may be subject to change) 45 extra care apartments, 18 bungalows for people with either learning or physical disabilities, 8 bungalows for people with dementia, 29 affordable</p>

	rent bungalows and 21 bungalows for sale.
Audit of sport and leisure activities: To undertake an audit of activities for people with disabilities across the service and develop specific marketing plan for these groups.	Audit completed and marketing plan developed to promote the new sessions and activities for people with disabilities. These include: Sign and Play and Sign and Splash sessions at Tynemouth Pool and The Parks and No Limits Disability sessions that are now part of the mainstream programme attracting between 12 and 15 children. Weekly adapted bike sessions are planned as part of the summer of cycling programme.
Refuse Collection: To develop and implement an exception criteria for residents receiving the new Alternate Weekly Refuse Collections.	Completed – we now offer larger bins to households of six people or more or to residents with genuine medical need.
Mouth of the Tyne Festival: To extend the provision of BSL signing to include key events at Whitley Bay Playhouse.	There will be BSL signing in Front Street. Discussions have taken place with Whitley Bay Playhouse – they will make provision in accordance with their policies and practices.
Library Management System (LMS): To introduce a new Library Management System, which will refine the collection of equality characteristics and enable a more targeted approach to stock selection.	<p>The new system was introduced on 25 June 2019 and collects information about gender and age.</p> <p>As other equalities information is not required in order to be a member of the library, this is not being collected on the LMS in line with GDPR, but customers are asked to voluntarily complete an equality monitoring form anonymously if they wish to provide this information and it is being collated separately.</p>

Parks User Survey: To revise the customer satisfaction survey undertaken in our main parks to collect user satisfaction and equality data.	The review is on-going.
Street Environment: To introduce a policy to control street furniture on our pavements to ensure a safer environment for all users this will in particular assist those with a disability.	A policy to control street furniture in the borough is being drafted, prior to internal consultation with the aim of adopting the policy before April 2020.

Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding

Actions	Progress – end of March 2019
Education Placements: To stabilise educational placements to ensure good educational outcomes for all children and young people.	<p>Since September 2018 secondary head teachers have been seconded to lead work to stabilise educational placements and limit the number of times vulnerable young people move educational establishment. They have reviewed of alternative provision and made recommendations that are being implemented. This has included ensuring greater consistency in the quality of referral documentation, strengthening panel arrangements and access to alternative provision, improving the governance of Moorbridge Pupil Referral Unit and delivering training to people who manage the systems in schools.</p> <p>Training has also been given to school staff to enable them to manage young people who have mental health issues or display challenging behaviours more effectively.</p>
Improved SEND outcomes: To strengthen partnership working between education, health and social care to improve outcomes for children and young people with SEND.	We have audited and evaluated all aspects of current SEND provision to identify priorities for improvement, strengthen collaborative decision making and improve governance arrangements.
Awareness raising: To reinforce the dangers of radicalisation and extremism so learners and apprentices develop a sound understanding of these risks and how they relate to their daily lives.	WRAP (Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent) training is mandatory for all staff. It highlights issues relating to radicalisation and provides information about what actions to be taken in respect of the government's PREVENT counter terrorism strategy.

<p>SIGN Directory: To actively encourage and support organisations, services and activities that work with people with protected characteristics to sign up to our SIGN directory. This will ensure that the advice and information we offer reflects the needs of local people and that a wide ranging, and locally relevant, offer is available to help local people to improve their health, wellbeing and care and support choices.</p>	<p>We have promoted the benefits of the My Care and SIGN Directory websites to not just service users, but to all residents and ensured all of our frontline and social care teams are able to support residents to access online information and advice websites to find the right support for them.</p> <p>For those needing more detailed or specialist information and advice our social care teams, including Care & Connect, Gateway and Community and Specialist Social Work Teams, are also able to support customers in using these sites.</p> <p>An average of 230 users access the My Care North Tyneside site every month. The most used pages views are reporting safeguarding concerns about residents, information and advice pages, and questionnaires exploring support needs.</p> <p>The SIGN Directory has over 600 services and events for residents to search for and access. It sees an average of 1050 users a month. The most used pages are Care Call services delivered by North Tyneside Council, the Loan Equipment service, Tai-Chi, and Care & Connect.</p> <p>North Tyneside Council is now ranked 3rd nationally (out of 152 local authorities) for customers reporting that they find it easy or fairly easy to find information and advice. This success is as a direct result of partnership working through the SIGN North Tyneside network, where local information and advice providers work together to support residents and signpost them to relevant support.</p>
<p>Assessment and support planning documentation: To review Adult Social Care assessment and support planning documentation and guidance; to ensure that it promotes equality of opportunity for all individuals including those from protected groups. This includes language, prompts and specific questions that capture individual needs and focuses on personal outcomes that encourage people from protected groups to participate in public life.</p>	<p>The assessment and support planning documentation has been reviewed in light of the Care Act</p>

<p>Engagement: To ensure people with a current disability, their carers and the wider public will have an opportunity to comment on and shape future proposals on direct payment rates, changes to the charging policy, and changes to charges for Court of Protection activity.</p>	<p>A full consultation process was undertaken. All customers and their providers (to provide support) were written to. A report of the outcomes of consultation was provided to Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny, and were published.</p>
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Law and Governance

Actions	Progress – end of March 2019
<p>Electoral Register: Monitor the impact of the wording and style of the information provided with the Household Enquiry forms to ensure it is user friendly and readily understandable by all.</p>	<p>Considerable changes were made to the wording on both the envelopes and Household Enquiry Forms to make them more easily understandable. Responses to the initial form increased from 50.9% in 2017 to 58.9% in 2018 with the overall response rate increasing from 85% in 2017 to 85.8% in 2018.</p>
<p>Electoral Register: Contact residents, including those with protected characteristics, who are not on the electoral register to encourage them to register.</p>	<p>98,387 Household Enquiry Forms were sent to households in the Borough. Anyone not already registered was encouraged to do so. Personal canvassers visited non-responding properties. 11,827 Invitations to Register were sent to potential new electors and 11,026 electors were added to the Register including those with protected characteristics.</p>
<p>Polling stations: Reduce or remove the need to use temporary polling stations improving accessibility and customer experience.</p>	<p>We have reduced the number of temporary polling stations to 6. As part of the statutory polling station review we have identified a better specification for those temporary polling stations which aims to provide better accessibility and overall a better customer experience for those voting in person.</p>

Public Health

Actions	Progress – end of March 2019
<p>Drug and Alcohol Service: To undertake a needs assessment of drugs and alcohol in North Tyneside and review the requirements for a drug and alcohol service, with a view to re-procuring and awarding a new contract.</p>	<p>Complete health needs assessment in place and new contract awarded</p>
<p>Pregnant women: To promote the health and wellbeing of pregnant women and children by:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieving accreditation under the UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative to support and promote breastfeeding in North Tyneside. 	<p>We completed the UNICEF stage 3 assessment accreditation for 0-19 Children's Public Health service. We continue to ensure UNICEF standards are being delivered and consideration is now being given to an application for Gold assessment.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rolling out training to promote perinatal mental health. 	<p>Three members of staff have received train the trainer training and roll out to staff has commenced.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing a whole systems approach to tackling childhood accidents. 	<p>A task and finish group completed an initial assessment of childhood accidents and developed an action plan.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addressing the oral health needs of preschool children. 	<p>Newcastle University Dental School has trained early years staff across Wallsend, Howdon, Chirton and Riverside.</p>

Human Resources

Actions	Progress – end of March 2019
<p>Recruitment: To explore the possibility of advertising more widely including using specific websites such as Disability Now and Diversity Jobs, as outlined in our Disability Confident Self-assessment to promote North Tyneside Council as a Disability Confident Employer.</p>	<p>We are having discussions with the organisation that manages the Local Authority Recruitment Portal to explore the possibility of promoting the Disability Confident Employer accreditation through the North East Jobs Recruitment Advertising Portal.</p>

Apprentice Programme: To:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a cross council working group to identify how we can better engage with LAC (Looked After Children) and care leavers to increase their interest in a targeted offer. 	<p>The Authority has developed a draft proposal for a two year programme to support Looked After Children in accessing the world of work. Part of the proposed offer will aim to focus on independent living and community participation the first year. While the second year the proposal recommends focusing on exploring vocational areas and preparing individuals for employability, job search and functional skills. Throughout the two years the work placement element will increase in complexity and duration. The Employment and Skills team are currently investigating funding opportunities for this programme.</p> <p>The agreement and implementation of this model will involve joint working between key council partners in Childrens' Services, Raising the Health and Education of Looked After Children Team, Prevention and Early Intervention Team, as well as external organisations in education and the voluntary sector.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure LAC are fully supported within council recruitment processes to enable them to prepare for adult working life. 	<p>Prior to apprenticeship opportunities being advertised the apprenticeship lead meets with the LAC Connexions adviser to discuss the support needs, circumstances, vocational interests and work readiness of individual looked after children. The Connexions adviser has 1-1 meetings with her clients to tell them about available opportunities and then supports them through the process.</p> <p>The apprenticeship lead also liaises with the Leaving Care Manager, the Authority's residential childcare staff and the Working Roots team. Personal advisers working with the young people in residential homes also provide support with completing applications, preparing for interviews and coping with travel requirements. Traineeships have been developed each year as a pathway into apprenticeships. Looked after children are targeted for these programmes and each year the majority of trainees come from this group. On completing the traineeship, they are guaranteed interview for an apprenticeship.</p> <p>All looked after children, care leavers and Working Roots trainees are guaranteed apprenticeship interviews where they meet essential criteria.</p>

	<p>Work experience tasters are offered to looked after children within service areas that are recruiting apprentices in order to raise confidence levels and increase the young people’s awareness and understanding of what an apprenticeship entails.</p> <p>The apprenticeship lead works with recruiting managers to advise on appropriate selection processes with looked after children in mind e.g. incorporating practical exercise and tasks which allow the young people to demonstrate ability in a more informal environment and tailoring interview formats and questions to an appropriate level.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure LAC apprentices are given additional support and developmental opportunities while on programme to improve retention and progression into employment. 	<p>LAC apprentices are supported by partnership working between their workplace mentor, personal advisor and training provider to identify additional support needs. A pastoral mentor can provide additional support.</p> <p>Young person centred meetings are arranged with the young people to discuss any challenges they are facing and any barriers to them staying engaged at work. These meetings bring together the apprentice, their tutor, work mentor/manager and the apprenticeship lead. We have recently agreed to assign a named Human Resource Business Partner, who will act as the sole Human Resources link for all apprentices and their managers. This ensures the Authority can provide a more consistent and supportive approach to managing the performance of this group who are often dealing with complex and challenging lifestyles issues that impact on their working practices.</p> <p>The Authority has been successful in achieving its public sector apprenticeship target for 2018/19 and has continually engaged with our targeted groups, which includes looked after children. In 2018 58% of the Authority’s apprenticeships posts were filled from our targeted groups.</p>
<p>Tackle work poverty and improve the career opportunities of women in frontline services: within the Authority’s workforce by using the levy, where</p>	<p>The Authority is identifying its lowest paid employees and their characteristics, including sex and whether they live in a deprived part of the borough. This data will enable the Authority to develop pathways,</p>

appropriate, to develop pathways and access to learning and development for our lowest paid employees, to help to up skill and create a workforce for the future, while also supporting our local economy and addressing deprivation and work poverty.	including apprenticeships, for key roles and individuals across our lowest paid workforce. Discussions will then begin with service teams about up skilling and potential service redesign to maximise development opportunities and address in-work poverty within our workforce
Learning and Development: To:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> develop and launch equality and diversity e-learning for managers 	Launched in August 2018, 60 managers have completed via this method of learning.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure 50% of staff engage in equality and diversity training 	Completion target has now been increased to 80% by 2020.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure 50% of managers engage in equality and diversity training 	67% of managers are now complete target has now been increased to 100% by 2020.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> launch online induction programme providing equality of access to training 	Induction programme was launched in October 2018, providing online access to all employees via work or personal devices. A review of the programme is now underway to identify areas for improvement and enhance engagement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> promote resilience, stress management and mental health specific learning to increase engagement and knowledge 	We have seen 1021 completions in mental health related courses. 48% of individuals who completed the course evaluation for personal resilience training felt that the training enhanced their current knowledge skills and behaviour. 43% felt that it helped improve their practice.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> launch learning pages to hard to reach employees/groups to encourage engagement within learning. 	Launched across catering services providing online access and bespoke learning and easy navigation to over 400 employees
Kier TUPE Transfer (Housing Repairs and Maintenance): To examine workforce data to establish what the gender pay gap is in relation to this workforce to understand the impact of bringing a predominantly male workforce into the Authority in April 2019.	Further analysis is being carried out to look at the data in more detail to assess longer term impacts on the workforce.

<p>Staff Survey: To complete a staff engagement survey with the workforce to continue to monitor the behaviours and attitudes of employees in relation to fair treatment, fairness and respect.</p>	<p>The staff survey was undertaken by IPSOS Mori and completed in autumn 2018. The findings were analysed by service, grade and equality characteristic and reported to SLT. Action plans are being developed to address the issues raised.</p>
<p>Pay and Grading: To undertake an EIA to understand the impact of the 2018/19 Local Government Pay Award on the Authority's pay and grading structure, alongside changes to the National Pay Spine to be introduced on 1 April 2019.</p>	<p>No Grades were changed as a result of the new pay model. As this new model only came in 1 April 2019 with an increase in overall workforce numbers due to the new Housing Property and Construction service coming back in house further analysis will be undertaken to look at the impact of the 2019 Pay Award.</p>

In addition during 2018/19 Human Resources have:

- carried out a self- assessment of our policies and practices around the recruitment and retention of employees with disabilities.
- begun to deliver our Action Plan on initiatives to support the Authority's Mental Health & Wellbeing Policy.
- reviewed our Occupational Health and Safety provision and have a new contract in place from 1 April 2019.
- introduced an Employee Assistance Programme that will be integrated into our policies and procedures. The programme provides a self-referral option for employees to access 24/7 phone line service to help them access a range of resources and help tailored to the individual need. The services include: counselling, a financial helpline and help with parental issues.
- begun to provide a programme of training (Supporting Employees with Mental Health Issues) for managers to support anyone in teams with mental health issues.
- begun training managers to support anyone in teams with mental health issues.

and continued to:

- offer a range of Health Promotion programmes and activities to promote a sustainable culture of health and wellbeing within the workforce.
- provide a programme of Health Safety and Wellbeing promotional activities and run an on-going focussed a marketing campaign to encourage healthy lifestyles and behaviours
- retain our 'Mindful Employer' status
- retain our Disability Confident status with the Department of Works and Pensions
- offer personal resilience training to our entire workforce.
- expand the range learning methods available to employees to include toolbox talks, workbooks, competency quizzes, e-learning and, videos. They provide consistent information and learning; which can be accessed 24 hours a day to all learners via any device and do not require manager approval.

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North Tyneside Council Report to Cabinet Date: 29 July 2019

Agenda Item 8 ITEM 5(d)

Title: Housing Services
Domestic Abuse Policy

Portfolio(s): Housing and Transport

Cabinet Member(s): Councillor Steve
Cox

Report from Service

Area: Environment, Housing and Leisure

Responsible Officer: Phil Scott, Head of Environment,
Housing and Leisure (Tel: 0191 643 7295)

Wards affected: All

PART 1

1.1 Executive Summary:

Domestic abuse is still a largely hidden crime and happens in all communities, regardless of sex, age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity. Domestic abuse is underreported and disproportionately affects women and children. Given that domestic abuse is largely perpetrated at home, as a housing provider, the service is well placed to recognise the signs of domestic abuse.

The Authority is aiming to achieve accreditation from the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance, as highlighted in 1.5.1 in the cabinet report. Although the Authority has a corporate Domestic Violence Policy which all staff refer to, to achieve this accreditation and to meet its standards there is a requirement to have a stand alone Housing Domestic Abuse Policy.

The Domestic Abuse Policy sets out how North Tyneside Council's Housing Service will assist and support any person experiencing or threatened with domestic abuse. The policy aims to ensure that our customers should not live in fear of violence, abuse or harassment from a partner, former partner or member of their family.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Cabinet approve the draft Housing Services Domestic Abuse Policy as set out in Appendix 1 of this report.

1.3 Forward Plan:

Twenty eight days notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 5 April 2019.

1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

This report relates to the following priorities in the 2018/20 Our North Tyneside Plan

Our People will:

- Be listened to
- Be cared for, protected and supported
- Be healthy and well

Our Places will:

- Offer a good choice of quality housing
- Be great places to live

Tackling domestic abuse is a key priority for the Safer North Tyneside Partnership and the Children, Young People and Learners Partnership.

1.5 Information:

1.5.1 Background

Housing Services current Domestic Abuse Policy is part of the Authority's Anti-Social Behaviour Policy. Housing Services are aiming to achieve accreditation from the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) in the autumn of 2019. One of the DAHA's national service standards relates to policies and procedures and requires housing organisations to create a 'stand alone' Domestic Abuse Policy.

The National Policy Context

In March 2016 the Government published the new Ending Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy (VAWG). The strategy committed to ongoing reductions in the prevalence of domestic abuse by:

- Breaking the intergenerational cycle of abuse
- Giving greater attention to the risk of becoming a perpetrator
- Challenging attitudes and beliefs about abuse
- Improving awareness among children and young people about healthy relationships

1.5.2 Definition of Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse is defined by the Home Office as:

'Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender or sexuality'. It can include but is not limited to the following types of abuse:

- Psychological
- Physical
- Sexual
- Financial
- Emotional

Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance

This is a partnership between three agencies:

- Standing Together (Standing Together Against Domestic Violence)

- Peabody
- Gentoo

These three agencies have a longstanding commitment to tackling domestic abuse and promoting best practice. The DAHA's mission is to improve the housing sector's approach to domestic abuse through an established set of eight national domestic abuse service standards. These service standards bring together best practice in responding to domestic abuse in the housing sector. The DAHA is recognised by the Home Office for its work at a national level.

Make a Stand – The Pledge

The housing service has also signed the **Make a Stand** pledge. The Make a Stand pledge has been developed by the Chartered Institute of Housing in partnership with Women's Aid and the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance. It was created to encourage housing organisations to make a commitment to support people experiencing domestic abuse. Number one, out of the four commitments under the pledge, is to put in place and embed a policy to support residents who are affected by domestic abuse.

1.5.3 Aims of the Domestic Abuse Policy

North Tyneside Council's customers should not live in fear of violence, abuse or harassment from a partner, former partner or any member of their family.

Anyone reporting domestic abuse to the council will be treated in a sympathetic, supportive and non judgemental way. Any disclosure of abuse will be taken seriously and advice and assistance given as a priority. The service will work with statutory and voluntary organisations to support victims. The service will take action against perpetrators of domestic abuse where it is safe and appropriate to do so. In addition the service will assist perpetrators who wish to positively change their behaviour by helping them access advice and support.

The service aims to:

- Raise awareness of domestic abuse.
- Ensure that employees of North Tyneside Council's housing service understand the role they can play in tackling domestic abuse and to develop a consistent approach across the borough.
- Create a safe environment where victims of domestic abuse feel that they can approach the Authority, are encouraged to talk and are listened to, thus enabling them to make informed decisions about their lives.
- Ensure employees are trained to deal with disclosures of domestic abuse effectively
- Support people who are experiencing domestic abuse, or who have experienced abuse, by working in partnership with them and other support agencies.
- Support victims to take appropriate legal measures to protect themselves and their families.
- Make appropriate safeguarding referrals if it is believed that a child, or a vulnerable adult, is at risk due to an abusive relationship.
- Support victims to make decisions around their housing needs, whether they wish to remain in their home or move to a new home.
- Signpost perpetrators of domestic abuse who recognise and seek to change their behaviour to agencies, including a Multi Agency Task and Co-ordination (MATAC) referral, who can offer them support in order to prevent the abuse occurring.

1.5.4 Disclosure of Domestic Abuse

The housing service recognises that victims will often find it extremely difficult to make a disclosure and ask for help. It is vitally important therefore that if a disclosure is made that it is dealt with in a sensitive and supportive manner.

Confidentiality

Any disclosure of domestic abuse will be treated in strictest confidence however, under the General Data Protection Regulation; the Authority has a duty to disclose information in order to:

- Protect the victim
- Prevent harm to someone else
- Prevent or detect a crime

Safeguarding

When dealing with domestic abuse full consideration will be given to the service's safeguarding responsibilities. A significant number of adults who need safeguarding are often experiencing domestic abuse.

Use of tools and powers

Every case of domestic abuse will be assessed on its own circumstances, taking into account the wishes and needs of the victim, the severity of the abuse and any additional criminality.

The housing service will make use of the appropriate tools and powers to support victims of domestic abuse including injunctions, Notice of Seeking Possession and possession proceedings.

Review

The Authority's Housing Service's Domestic Abuse Policy will be reviewed as a result of any changes in legislation and in line with best practice.

1.6 Decision options:

The following decision options are available for consideration by Cabinet:

1. To approve the draft Housing Services Domestic Abuse Policy as set out at paragraph 1.2.
2. To approve the draft Housing Services Domestic Abuse Policy subject to amendments or conditions.
3. To reject the draft Housing Services Domestic Abuse Policy and request Officers to consider the Authority's response to this matter further.

Option 1 is the recommended option.

1.7 Reasons for recommended option:

Option 1 is recommended for the following reasons:

- Housing service's Domestic Abuse Policy currently forms part of the Anti-Social Behaviour Policy. The housing service is aiming to achieve accreditation from the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance, which requires housing organisations to create a 'stand alone' Domestic Abuse Policy.
- The Authority's housing service has also signed the **Make a Stand** pledge which requires the service to put in place and embed a policy to support residents who are affected by domestic abuse.
- The policy has been developed in accordance with good practice guidance and the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance's eight national service standards. It sets out how the Authority's Housing Service will assist and support any person experiencing or threatened with domestic abuse. The policy has been produced in consultation with tenants, residents and stakeholders.

1.8 Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Draft North Tyneside Council Housing Service's Domestic Abuse Policy.

1.9 Contact officers:

Phil Scott, Head of Environment, Housing and Leisure, tel. (0191) 643 7295
 Paul Worth, Senior Manager Housing Operations, tel. (0191) 643 7554
 Toby Hartigan-Brown, Housing Services Manager, tel. (0191) 643 7736
 Dawn Statham, Neighbourhood Housing Operations Manager, tel. (0191) 643 7915

1.10 Background information:

The following background papers/information have been used in the compilation of this report and are available at the office of the author:

- [Council Plan 2018 – 2020](#)
- [Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance – Policies and Procedures Service Standard](#)
- [Make a Stand Pledge – Our homes, our people, our problem](#)
- [Ending Violence against Women and Girls Strategy, 2016-2020. Home Office](#)
- [Equality Impact Assessment - Housing Services Domestic Abuse Policy](#)

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

The financial cost of not dealing with domestic abuse is significant. There are also cost implications associated with the training required for Housing Services employees. The cost is approximately £1500 and will be funded by existing training budgets within the Housing Revenue Account.

2.2 Legal

- The Housing Act 1985 specifies domestic abuse as an anti-social behaviour ground for possession.
- Domestic abuse is a clear breach of section 10.1 (Anti-social and criminal behaviour) of the Tenancy Agreement.
- The Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 concentrates on legal protection and assistance to victims of crime, particularly domestic violence.
- The Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 introduced Civil Injunctions to tackle anti-social behaviour. They **Page 127** in domestic abuse cases. Breaching an

injunction may result in a mandatory ground for possession. Under mandatory ground 7A if the circumstances are proven then the court must make an order for possession

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

2.3.1 Internal Consultation

Internal consultation has taken place with teams within the housing service and Customer Services.

Consultation has taken place with the Cabinet Member for Housing and Transport and the Housing Sub Committee, both of which support the contents of the draft policy.

2.3.2 External Consultation/Engagement

External consultation has taken place via the Council's website and the Residents Panel.

Consultation has also taken place with the Neighbourhood Housing Group. This is a group of involved Council tenants who scrutinise the performance of the housing neighbourhood operations teams.

A focus group was held with domestic abuse professionals, including attendees from Harbour, who provide the refuge service in North Tyneside.

Consultation has also taken place with the North Tyneside Domestic Abuse Partnership.

2.4 Human rights

- Right to life
- Protection from torture
- Protection from slavery and enforced labour
- Right to liberty and security
- Right to respect for private and family life
- Freedom of thought, belief and religion
- Freedom of expression
- Protection of property
- Right to education

2.5 Equalities and diversity

The Authority's housing service is committed to the principles of equality and diversity. Housing service's Domestic Abuse Policy aims to:

- Meet the needs and choices of people from all backgrounds and take into consideration sex, age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity.
- Ensure the housing service is responsive and meets the needs of our existing and prospective customers.
- Understand the cultural implications and barriers to reporting domestic abuse.
- Ensure that all sections of the community have access to housing services.

An Equality Impact assessment has been undertaken. There may be a potential positive impact upon the groups with protected characteristics.

2.6 Risk management

There are no risk management implications directly arising from this report.

2.7 Crime and disorder

The housing service is a key participant of the North Tyneside Domestic Abuse Partnership's multi agency approach to tackling domestic abuse and supporting victims on a one-to-one basis.

Every case of domestic abuse will be assessed on its own circumstances, taking into account the wishes and needs of the victim, the severity of the abuse and any additional criminality. The housing service will make use of the appropriate tools and powers including injunctions and possession proceedings.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

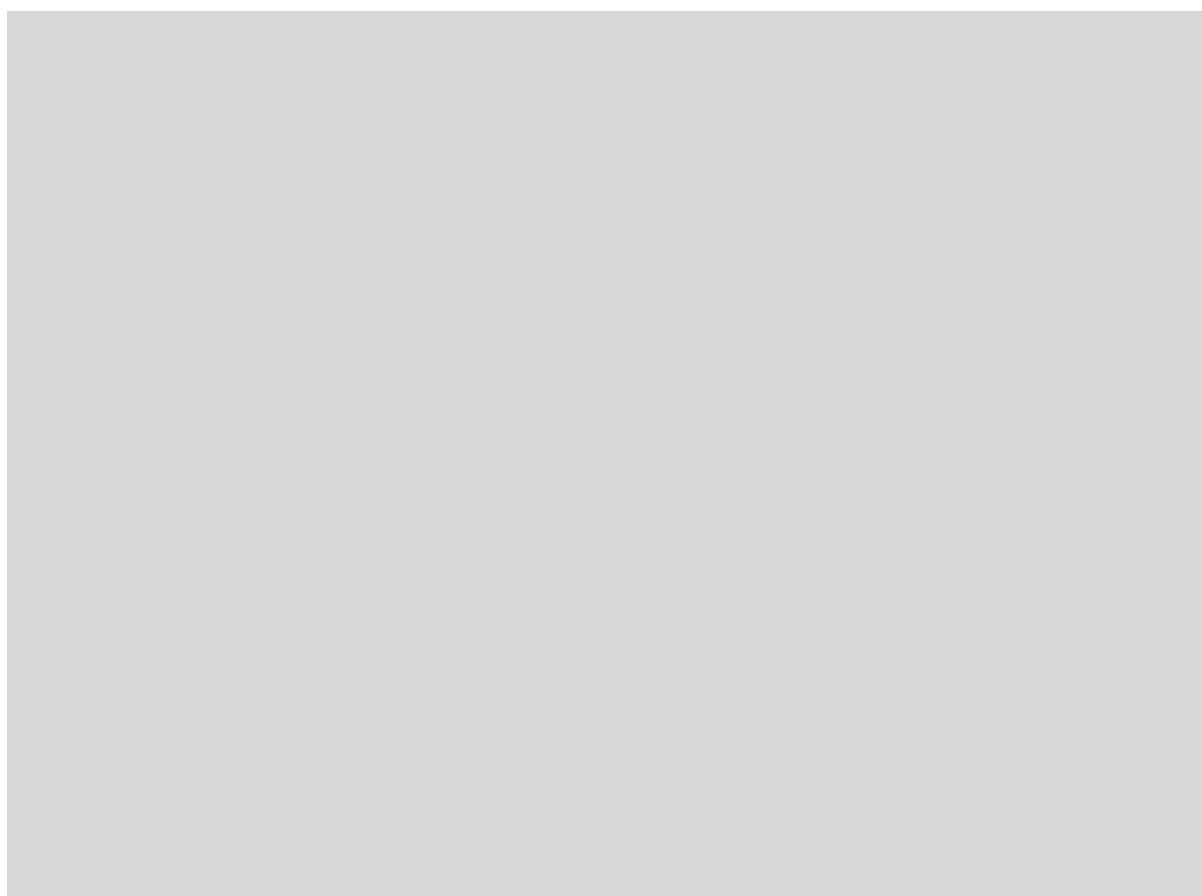
There are no environment and sustainability implications arising from this report.

PART 3 - SIGN OFF

- Chief Executive X
- Head(s) of Service X
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s) X
- Chief Finance Officer X
- Monitoring Officer X
- Head of Corporate Strategy and Customer Service X

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North Tyneside Council Housing Services Domestic Abuse Policy



Date: November 2018 **Version:** One **Author:** Dawn Statham



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1. Introduction

The Domestic Abuse Policy sets out how North Tyneside Council's Housing Service will assist and support any person experiencing or threatened with domestic abuse.

Domestic abuse is still a largely hidden crime and happens in all communities, regardless of gender, age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity.

As a housing provider we are well placed to recognise the signs of domestic abuse. We take all reports of domestic abuse seriously and work positively and proactively with the victim to offer support. We will take action against perpetrators of domestic abuse and, in addition, we will assist perpetrators who wish to positively change their behaviour by helping them access support and assistance.

We also recognise that our staff may be experiencing domestic abuse and are committed to supporting them in accordance with North Tyneside Council's Employee Domestic Abuse Policy.

2. Aims of Domestic Abuse Policy

North Tyneside Council's customers should not live in fear of violence, abuse or harassment from a partner, former partner, or any member of their family.

Anyone reporting domestic abuse to the council will be treated in a sympathetic, supportive, non-judgemental way. Any disclosure of abuse will be taken seriously, and advice and assistance given as a priority. We will work with statutory and voluntary organisations to support victims, and to take action against perpetrators, where it is safe and appropriate to do so. We aim to:

- Raise awareness of domestic abuse;
- Ensure that employees of North Tyneside Council understand the role they can play in tackling domestic abuse and to develop a constant approach across the borough;
- Create a safe environment where victims of domestic abuse feel they can approach us, are encouraged to talk and are listened to, thus enabling them to make informed decisions about their lives;
- Ensure employees are trained to deal with disclosures of domestic abuse effectively;
- Support people who are experiencing domestic abuse, or have experienced abuse, by working in partnership with them and other support agencies;
- Support victims to take appropriate legal measures to protect themselves and their families;
- Make appropriate safeguarding referrals if we believe that a child, or a vulnerable adult, is at risk due to an abusive relationship;
- Support victims to make decisions around their housing needs, whether they wish to remain in their home or move to a new home; and
- Signpost perpetrators of domestic abuse, who recognise and seek to change their behaviour, to agencies, including a Multi Agency Task and Co-ordination (MATAC) referral who can offer them support in order to prevent the abuse reoccurring.

3. Definitions of Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse is defined by the Home Office as:

'Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence, or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender or sexuality'.

Domestic abuse can encompass, but is not limited to, the following types of abuse:

- Psychological;
- Physical;
- Sexual;
- Financial;
- Emotional;
- Discriminatory;
- Controlling behaviour;
- Coercive behaviour;
- Honour based violence;
- Forced marriage;
- Female genital mutilation (FGM);
- Family and intergenerational abuse; and
- Elder abuse.

Physical abuse can include hitting, punching, kicking, slapping, hitting with objects, pulling hair, pushing, shoving, cutting or stabbing, restraining, strangulation, choking.

Sexual abuse can include rape and coerced sex, forcing a victim to take part in unwanted sexual acts, refusal to practice safe sex or use contraception, threatened or actual sexual abuse of children.

Financial abuse can include controlling money and bank accounts, making a victim account for all their expenditure, running up debts in a victim's name, allowing no say on how monies are spent, and refusing to allow them to study or work.

Psychological and emotional abuse has a profound effect upon victims and their children. It can leave a victim with little confidence that they can do anything to change the situation. Examples include:

- Creating isolation e.g. not allowing them to see other people, preventing them from making their own friendships, not allowing them to go anywhere on their own, causing them to be depressed and then using this against them.
- Use of threats e.g. threats to kill their family, children, friends, pets, to throw them out and keep the children, to find them if they ever leave, to have them locked up, to tell everyone they are mad.
- Putting them down e.g. humiliating and undermining them in front of others or in front of their children, telling them they are stupid, hopeless, unlovable, that no-one would believe them, or that they are a bad parent.

Discriminatory abuse is motivated by an oppressive and discriminatory attitude towards a person's:

- Disability;
- Physical appearance;
- Learning disability;
- Mental ill health;

- Sensory impairment;
- Race;
- Religion;
- Gender/gender identity;
- Age;
- Culture;
- Sexual orientation; and
- Appearance.

In 2014 the Government announced a new domestic abuse offence – controlling and coercive behaviour. The Serious Crime Act 2015 (the 2015 Act) received Royal Assent on 3 March 2015 and was enacted December 2015.

The Act introduces a new offence of controlling or coercive behaviour in intimate or familial relationships (section 76):

Controlling behaviour is a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependant by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

Coercive behaviour is an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish or frighten their victim.

Coercive and controlling behaviour underpins domestic abuse. This law helps to protect victims by outlawing sustained patterns of behaviour that stop short of serious physical violence, but amount to extreme psychological and emotional abuse. Victims of coercive behaviour can have every aspect of life controlled by their partner, often being subjected to daily intimidation and humiliation.

Honour based violence is defined by the Crown Prosecution Service and Association of Chief Police Officers as:

‘a crime or incident which has or may have been committed to protect or defend the honour of the family and/or community’.

Forced marriage is defined by the Crown Prosecution Service as:

‘a marriage conducted without the valid consent of one or both parties and where duress is a factor’.

Female genital mutilation (FGM) is defined by the Crown Prosecution Service as: ‘a collective term for a range of procedures which involve partial or total removal of the female genitalia for non medical reasons’.

Family and intergenerational abuse. Domestic abuse approaches historically have had an emphasis on partner abuse. More focus is now being given to family and intergenerational abuse, and the way in which it may be different to partner abuse, for example, if the perpetrator is the victim’s (adult) sibling, child or grandchild. Abuse of an adult or a child may also be used by a perpetrator to exercise control over their victim.

Elder abuse. Research has found that domestic abuse is experienced by both women and men regardless of age, disability, and ethnic background. Elder abuse can be even more detrimental to a victim’s wellbeing due to problems with mobility, mental health and social isolation.

Older people may have come to accept some aspect of domestic abuse as the ‘norm’ dependent upon their generation. For example, in the past the male of the

relationship was traditionally seen as the breadwinner and thus would have control over their finances, and limit their partner's access to money.

4. Legislation

The following legislation has been taken into account when developing our approach to supporting victims of domestic abuse:

- Housing Acts 1985, 1988 and 1996
- Family Law Act 1996
- Protection from Harassment Act 1997
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004
- Police and Justice Act 2006
- Equality Act 2010
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Anti-social Crime and Policing Act 2014
- Care Act 2014
- Serious Crime Act 2015
- Claire's Law/Domestic Abuse Offender Disclosure Scheme
- General Data Protection Regulation 2018

4.1 The National Policy Context

In March 2016 the Government published the new 'Ending Violence against Women and Girls Strategy'. The strategy committed to on-going reductions in the prevalence of domestic abuse by:

- Breaking the intergenerational cycle of abuse
- Giving greater attention to the risk of becoming a perpetrator
- Challenging attitudes and beliefs about abuse
- Improving awareness among children and young people about healthy relationships

Relationship education is to be made compulsory in primary schools, and sex and relationship education will be compulsory in secondary schools in 2020.

4.2 Local Policy Context

4.2.1 North Tyneside Domestic Abuse Partnership

The partnership coordinates strategy and resources to afford protection, provision and prevention for people exposed to domestic abuse in North Tyneside. There is an action plan that sets out agreed priorities for the coming year. The action plan has four priorities:

- Prevention;
- Provision;
- Partnership working; and
- Justice outcomes and risk reduction.

4.2.2 'Our North Tyneside Council Plan' Priorities

Our Domestic Abuse Policy is underpinned by 'Our North Tyneside Council Plan 2016/19' priorities of:

- **Our People**

Will be listened to and involved by responsive, enabling services

- **Our Places**

Will be great places to live, and attract others to live and work here

4.2.3 Links to other North Tyneside Council policies:

- Anti-Social Behaviour Policy
- Allocations Policy
- Tenancy Agreement
- Safeguarding Adults and Children's Policies
- Employee Domestic Abuse Policy

5. Disclosure of domestic abuse

North Tyneside Council recognises that victims will often find it extremely difficult to make a disclosure and ask for help. It is vitally important therefore that if a disclosure is made, it is dealt with in a sensitive and supportive manner.

Reports of domestic abuse must be responded to within 24 hours.

At first contact, when interviewing either in person or over the telephone, the interviewing officer will:

- Offer same sex interviews and a translation service if necessary;
- Offer an interview either in a local office, the home or another venue that the victim is comfortable with;
- Believe the victim;
- Reassure the victim of confidentiality;
- Prioritise the safety of the victim and children;
- Handle all cases sensitively;
- Accept the information given by the victim as accurate;
- Discuss which agencies the victim is willing to share information with. The council has a duty to share information in relation to share information with. The council has a duty to share information in relation to child protection issues;
- Complete the Risk Indicator Checklist (RIC) on all incidents reported to ascertain the victim's level of risk. We currently use SafeLives Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Honour Based Violence (DASH) checklist.;
- Following completion of RIC, ensure appropriate referrals made to agencies;
- Discuss contact with the police and medical services;
- Discuss immediate housing options and tenancy rights;
- The interviewing officer may need to refer to specialist agencies. They may need to speak to a housing advice officer if temporary accommodation is required, and/or victim support agencies; and
- Ensure that those experiencing domestic abuse receive on-going support.

5.1 Advice should be offered to victims of domestic abuse regarding:

- How the council can help support the victim;
- Advice on remaining in the home (e.g. Sanctuary Scheme);
- Housing options if the victim cannot remain in the home;

- Temporary accommodation, where appropriate;
- Taking enforcement action against the perpetrator;
- Support services available; and
- Advice on claiming benefits.

5.2 Multi-agency risk assessment conference (MARAC)

A MARAC is a weekly local meeting to discuss how to help victims at high risk of murder or serious harm. The four aims of MARAC are:

- To safeguard victims of domestic abuse;
- Manage perpetrator behaviour;
- Safeguard professionals; and
- Make links with other safeguarding processes.

Information concerning the highest risk domestic abuse cases is shared between representatives of police, probation service, health services, child protection specialists, housing practitioners, independent domestic violence advisors (IDVAs) and other specialists from the statutory and voluntary sectors.

Representatives discuss options for increasing the safety of the victim and these are developed into a co-ordinated action plan. The MARAC also makes links with other bodies to safeguard children and manage the behaviour of the perpetrator. At the heart of the MARAC is the working assumption that no single agency can see the complete picture of the life of a victim, but all may have insights that are crucial to the safety of the victim. The meeting is confidential.

Any referrals to MARAC will be made after discussion with, and consent from the victim. However, if consent is not granted, and there is an immediate or potential risk to the victim or the victim's family, a referral may be made without consent the consent of the victim. This is to protect the victim and their family from potentially serious harm.

5.3 Barriers to ending an abusive relationship

It is important to understand that victims may not seek, or respond to, offers of help, choosing to remain in the abusive relationship. Reasons for this may include:

- Fear of the abuser and/or what they will do;
- Lack of knowledge of other victims who have successfully left an abusive partner;
- Doubt about any action taken by the police or the courts, and fear of pressure to pursue a criminal case;
- Lack of knowledge or awareness on how to access support services;
- Lack of resources, financial or otherwise;
- Fear of not being believed;
- Love, loyalty, attachment to their partner and the hope that they will change;
- Feelings of shame or failure;
- Pressure from family, children or friends;
- Religious or cultural expectations;
- Long term effects of abuse e.g. self neglect, depression, low self esteem;

- Drug and/or alcohol addiction; and
- Anticipated impact on children, or fear of losing contact with children, other relatives and friends.

People from a black and minority ethnic (BAME) community may also have additional barriers including:

- Language barriers;
- Family honour, shame or stigma;
- Fear of rejection by their community;
- Immigration status/no recourse to public funds;
- Cultural or community expectations;
- Racism (perceived or actual);
- Fear of 'honour based violence' ; and
- Lack of appropriate services.

Disabled people also have additional barriers to accessing services which can include:

- Lack of accessible information about abuse and legal rights;
- Lack of accessible domestic abuse services;
- Fear that interpreters (e.g. British Sign Language) may not keep confidentiality;
- Assumptions that physical and sensory impairments prevent people from making their own decisions;
- Being used to 'dependency' and lack of respect and dignity, leading to them assuming that abuse is normal and minimising its impact;
- Fear of having to live in a care home;
- Reliance on the abuser for care and support;
- The victim may be the carer of the abuser and feel an obligation to maintain the support and endure the abuse; and
- The abuser may be the only person with whom the victim has any contact.

6. Confidentiality

Any disclosure of domestic abuse will be treated in the strictest of confidence however, under the General Data Protection Regulation; we have a duty to disclose information in order to:

- Protect the victim;
- Prevent harm to someone else, or
- Prevent or detect a crime.

The Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS), also known as Claire's Law, allows the police to disclose to individuals the details of their partner's abusive past in order that they can make an informed decision about their situation.

7. Safeguarding

When dealing with domestic abuse full consideration will be given to our safeguarding responsibilities. A significant number of adults who need safeguarding are often experiencing domestic abuse in some form.

If domestic abuse is an isolated issue and there are no other safeguarding concerns then support can be sought via the MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference). If there is more than one safeguarding issue present, such as domestic abuse in addition to physical or mental health disabilities, then a referral should be made to Adult Social Care via the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) to ensure that services can be co-ordinated to deal with the potentially complex issues.

Exposure to domestic abuse is always detrimental to children, although the impacts may vary. Children exposed to abuse at home may be affected by physical and/or emotional abuse, neglect and ongoing psychological damage. In domestic abuse cases where children are present a referral should be made to Children, Young People and Learning (via the MASH) to ensure that children are adequately safeguarded.

The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) was set up in October 2017 to co-ordinate support and protection services to children and vulnerable adults. It is led by North Tyneside Council in partnership with Northumbria Police. Health services, North Tyneside Harbour Domestic Abuse Support Service, Northumbria Police, and probation services are also involved. The hub model aims to improve information sharing between the partners so that safeguarding concerns can be identified earlier and managed more effectively.

8. Wellbeing

The Care Act 2014 specifies that freedom from abuse and neglect is a key to a person's wellbeing. The guidance outlines that abuse takes many forms and practitioners should not be constrained in their view of what constitutes abuse or neglect. It describes numerous types of abuse including:

- Domestic abuse;
- Psychological abuse;
- Financial and material abuse;
- Sexual abuse; and
- Physical abuse.

The Care Act guidance specifies aims to stop abuse and neglect, prevent harm, and address what has caused the abuse.

9. Use of tools and powers

Every case of domestic abuse will be assessed on its own circumstances, taking into account the wishes and needs of the victim, the severity of the abuse and any additional criminality.

We will make use of the appropriate tools and powers to sanction and support victims of domestic abuse including injunctions, Notice of Seeking Possession, and possession proceedings.

9.1 Housing Act 1985

The Housing Act 1985 specifies domestic abuse as an anti-social behaviour ground for possession where:

'The dwelling house is occupied (whether alone or with others) by a married couple or a couple, living together as husband and wife, and

- a) One of both of the partners is a tenant of the dwelling house
- b) One partner has left because of violence or threats of violence by the other towards that partner, or a member of the family of that partner who was residing with that partner immediately before the partner left, and
- c) The court is satisfied that the partner who has left is unlikely to return'.

Domestic abuse is a clear breach of the Tenancy Agreement which states:

Section 10.1 Anti-social and criminal behaviour

10.1.4 You must not harass, threaten to harass, use or threaten violence or discriminate against anyone because of their age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation and you must not encourage or allow anyone to do so.

10.1.5 You must not use any words or take any other actions to humiliate, ridicule, embarrass, intimidate, frighten, distress or threaten anyone.

10.1.6 You must not carry out acts of domestic abuse against your partner or anyone else living in your home, visiting or working in the area. Your tenancy will be at risk if you threaten or carry out any acts of domestic abuse.

10.1.7 You must not allow your home to be used for any activity that is criminal, illegal, immoral, dangerous or offensive.

If a person reports that they have left a council tenancy because of domestic abuse the case should be discussed with the Community Protection and Public Spaces Team who will investigate and take the appropriate action.

As well as the tools available to us as a landlord, we will also work closely with partners to ensure a holistic approach to tackling domestic abuse and that the tools and powers available to these partner agencies are fully considered.

10. Domestic Violence Protection Notices and Orders

If the police have a reasonable belief that domestic abuse has occurred, they are able to serve the perpetrator with a Domestic Violence Protection Notice (DVPN) as the first step to acquiring a Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO).

A DVPO can prevent a perpetrator from returning to a residence, and from having contact with the victim, for up to 28 days. This allows the victim some time to consider their options and to engage with some support.

The law allows a magistrate to make a DVPO against the abuser even if the victim does not agree to it. In addition the magistrates will take into account the welfare of anyone under 18 who the police consider will be affected by the DVPO.

10.1 Restraining orders

These can be made in court in relation to a criminal case alleging domestic abuse, whether or not the case is upheld. A restraining order is made when there is a need

for the order to protect a named person or persons from harassment or conduct that will put them in fear of violence.

A restraining order imposes prohibitions and may cover a range of behaviour. It can, for example, exclude a person from a specific geographical area, from contacting specific people, or behaving in a particular way.

A restraining order lasts for one year from the date it is signed by the court, or until it is revoked. It can be renewed for one year at a time if the courts believe the victim is still in danger. It is a crime to breach a restraining order and a person doing so can be arrested and charged.

10.2 Civil law – Part one injunction

Civil injunctions to tackle anti-social behaviour were introduced by the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014. They can be used in domestic abuse cases. The injunction can be used to exclude persons from the home in cases of violence or risk of harm, regardless of tenure. One of the conditions to be met in injunctions containing this power is that:

- The court considers that the anti-social behaviour includes the use or threatened use of violence against persons, or there is a significant risk of harm to other persons, from the perpetrator.

Positive requirements – the injunction can require the perpetrator to do anything described in the injunction i.e. be assessed for/attendance on a perpetrator programme to address their behaviour or to address their alcohol misuse.

Attaching a power of arrest to an injunction – a court granting an injunction can attach a power of arrest to it where it considers that:

1. The anti-social behaviour in which the perpetrator has engaged in, or threatens to engage, consists of or includes the use or threatened use of violence against another person.
2. There is significant risk of harm to other persons from the perpetrator.

The power of arrest can be attached to a positive requirement i.e. if the perpetrator failed to attend a perpetrator programme.

Breaching an injunction – may result in a mandatory ground for possession.

Mandatory ground 7A – if the circumstances are proven then the court **must** make an order for possession.

10.3 Non molestation orders

A non molestation order can protect a person and any relevant child from violence or harassment. A person can obtain a non molestation order against someone who has not been physically violent but has been harassing, intimidating or pestering her.

If an order is breached, a criminal offence will have been committed. With the victim's consent and support, and if appropriate, the council may be able to use this as evidence to take action for breach of tenancy. Non molestation orders can be for a fixed period or indefinitely.

10.4 Occupation orders

An occupation order can order the abuser to move out of the home, or to keep a certain distance from the home. It can order the abuser to stay in certain parts of the home at certain times or order them to continue to pay the rent or bills. It can order the abuser to let the victim back into the home if locked out.

An order can last for 12 months and can be renewed. A breach of an occupation order is not a criminal offence unless a power of arrest is attached. Breaching an occupation order with a power of arrest could result in a prison sentence of up to 2 years or a large fine.

11. Security measures

North Tyneside Council will support victims to remain in their homes should they choose to do so. To support the victim the council may carry out additional works and install security measures under the Sanctuary Scheme.

The **Sanctuary Scheme** is a multi- agency, victim centred initiative which aims to enable households at risk of violence remain in their own homes and reduce the risk of repeat victimisation through the provision of enhanced security measures and support. Examples of additional security measure and repairs could include:

- Locks to doors and windows;
- Door chain;
- Letter box jammer;
- Dusk till dawn lights (comes on at dusk and stays on until dawn);
- Window film (strengthens the windows);
- Door viewer; and
- Personal attack alarms.

The works are requested by the completion of a form which is sent to the Housing Advice Team. Sanctuary Scheme measures are not available to joint tenancies.

12. Equality and diversity

North Tyneside Council is committed to the principles of equality and diversity. Our Domestic Abuse Policy aims to:

- Meet the needs and choices of people from all backgrounds and takes into consideration gender, age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion, or belief, sexual orientation, marriage or civil partnership and pregnancy or maternity;
- Ensure our service is responsive and meets the needs of our existing and prospective customers ; and
- Understand the cultural implications and barriers to reporting domestic abuse
- Ensure that all sections of the community in which we work have access to our services.

13. Review

This policy will be reviewed as a result of changes in legislation and in line with best practice.

North Tyneside Council Report to Cabinet Date: 29 July 2019

ITEM 5(e)

Title: Adoption of the Coastal Mitigation Supplementary Planning Document

Portfolio: Deputy Mayor	Cabinet Member: Councillor Bruce Pickard
Report from Service Area:	Environment, Housing and Leisure
Responsible Officer:	Phil Scott – Head of Environment, Housing and Leisure
Wards affected:	All Wards
	Tel: (0191) 643 7295

PART 1

1.1 Executive Summary:

This report outlines a proposed Coastal Mitigation Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for adoption to inform the consideration of planning applications for development. Following delegated approval on 1 May 2019 to publish a draft Coastal Mitigation SPD, public engagement with a range of key stakeholders took place between May 17 2019 and 1 July 2019. The feedback received from this consultation has been considered to help prepare this proposed SPD.

The SPD is required to support implementation of policy DM5.6 *Management of International Sites* within the North Tyneside Local Plan adopted by Full Council in July 2017. This policy sets out a range of criteria to ensure that planning applications in North Tyneside do not lead to adverse effects upon international sites. International sites of relevance to North Tyneside are locations on the north east coast that provide important habitat for protected bird species and important geological features. These locations are the Northumbria Coast Special Protection Area (SPA), which extends along the coastline between the Tweed and Tees Estuaries and includes the rocky foreshore at Browns Point, St Marys and the mouth of the Tyne; and the Durham Coast Special Area of Conservation (SAC) which extends from Blackhall Rocks to Trow Rocks, south of the Tyne. Given their location, both designations could experience increased disturbance from visitors associated with new development in this Borough. The Authority has a duty under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 to ensure that it does not give consent, such as through a planning application, to any plan or project that could have an adverse effect upon the integrity of an SPA or SAC.

Evidence prepared to inform development of the Local Plan established that any development that potentially increases the number of visitors to the coast, such as new homes or visitor accommodation, could have a potential adverse effect upon European sites. The SPD set out in this report has been prepared to provide clear guidance for applicants on the likely impact of their proposals upon European sites and potential mitigation. The SPD identifies for consultation, a proposed standard charge for new

development and identifies the creation of a Coastal Mitigation Service and delivery of physical projects as the primary form of mitigation against potential adverse effects.

1.2 Recommendation:

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- (1) Note the responses received to the engagement on the draft Coastal Mitigation Supplementary Planning Document; and
- (2) Agree to adopt the proposed Coastal Mitigation Supplementary Planning Document.

1.3 Forward Plan:

Twenty eight days notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 21 June 2019.

1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

This report presents a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) based upon the North Tyneside Local Plan for adoption and contributes to a number of the objectives of the Our North Tyneside Plan 2018-20, including:

- Our places will be great places to live, offer a good choice of quality housing, provide a clean, green, healthy, attractive, safe and sustainable environment, be a thriving place of choice for visitors, be great places to live;

The SPD provides guidance that supports the Local Plan's objectives specifically to support protection of the environment and environmental value. The key policies are:

- S5.4 *Biodiversity and Geodiversity*
- DM5.5 *Managing effects on Biodiversity and Geodiversity*
- DM5.6 *Management of International Sites*

These policies commit the authority to the protection, enhancement, management and creation of biodiversity where appropriate through the development process. This is in line with national planning policy as set out in Chapter 15 *Conserving and enhancing the natural environment* of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), and particularly paragraphs 171 and 174 to 177.

1.5 Information:

1.5.1 Requirement for the Coastal Mitigation Supplementary Planning Document

1.5.2 This SPD has been prepared to provide additional guidance and information on the mitigation expected to be required from development within North Tyneside to prevent adverse effects on the habitats and species along our internationally protected coastline. The Northumbria SPA is designated to protect a range of important bird species and the Durham SAC because it is the only example of vegetated sea cliffs on magnesian limestone exposures in the UK.

1.5.3 The Authority has a duty to protect European Sites from adverse effects under European Directive (92/43/EEC) on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna (the "Habitats Directive") and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. A Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) concluded that implementation of the Local Plan could cause adverse effects to European Sites through increased recreational

disturbance at the coast. This would arise from development particularly within a 6km buffer zone of the coast, but also with some impacts from a wider catchment as a result of the cumulative impact of overall growth.

- 1.5.4 Local Plan policy DM5.6 *Management of International Sites* recommends a range of actions and mitigation that would be appropriate to avoid or reduce adverse effects upon European Sites. Mitigation agreed for applications to date has involved provision of information to residents regarding the protected sites to raise awareness of the impacts of their activities and measures to make existing parks and open space more attractive. However, there is a limit to the overall effectiveness of such measures and it has become increasingly difficult for schemes to demonstrate effective mitigation for the cumulative impacts of growth could be secured through individually agreed mitigation. This has raised the prospect of applications for development of homes and visitor accommodation in North Tyneside being refused because suitable mitigation of their impacts upon the international designated sites cannot be achieved.
- 1.5.5 Advice received from Natural England has highlighted that if a strategic approach to coastal mitigation was adopted by the Authority a route to securing suitable mitigation of the cumulative impacts of growth could be identified. This strategic approach would collect planning obligations to fund a Coastal Mitigation Service. This service would operate wardens who would identify the most appropriate action required to mitigate the effects of recreational disturbance and undertake many activities in delivery of the recommended mitigation. This could include awareness-raising, monitoring and identifying potential mitigation projects at the coast that could be implemented by the Authority. These projects could include installation of fencing and provision of new footpaths, or other initiatives.
- 1.5.6 Whilst this SPD proposes that securing funding towards a Coastal Mitigation Service is the Authority's preferred method of securing suitable mitigation at the coast, applicants would be free to continue to seek alternative measures to mitigate their impacts upon the coast. This would require submission of further evidence of the impacts of their development and agreement from the Authority and Natural England that impacts would be mitigated.
- 1.5.7 Over the remaining period of the Local Plan to 2032 contributions collected and activities undertaken by the Coastal Mitigation Service will be reported and published on an annual basis. Proposed mitigation identified as required on the basis of on-going monitoring will be considered by a steering group and agreed by the Authority as an Annual Action Plan for Coastal Mitigation. The evidence supporting the proposed mitigation will be published alongside this action plan.
- 1.5.8 Funding of Coastal Mitigation
- 1.5.9 To secure delivery of the approach outlined in the Coastal Mitigation SPD it is recommended that applicants make a financial contribution through a planning obligation connected to the grant of planning permission.
- 1.5.10 For residential development and new tourist accommodation a tariff based approach, where a charge is levied for each additional dwelling or unit of visitor accommodation, is proposed as the most appropriate means of identifying a suitable financial contribution from planning applications. As ascertained within the HRA, development within 6km of the coast is likely to generate higher levels of recreational visitors to the coast. However, overall journey times from all parts of North Tyneside to the coast can be made in under 20 minutes by car and the HRA indicates that effects also arise from growth between 5

miles and 10 miles. Therefore, it is proposed that development in all parts of the borough is required to contribute to the tariff with a greater share of the cost, and a higher rate, funded by development within 6km of the designated sites at the coast.

- 1.5.11 For other development that may lead to an increase in visitor numbers to the coast, the specific impacts arising from each proposal cannot be predicted and a tariff based approach is not considered effective. A financial contribution agreed between the applicant, North Tyneside Council and Natural England is proposed as the most appropriate means of mitigation for such development in most circumstances.
- 1.5.12 A contribution to the tariff means that the applicant has fulfilled their contribution to the recreation impacts of development. However, any other impacts on the internationally designated sites will need to be considered separately, with the developer supplying whatever information the Local Planning Authority requires to undertake a Habitats Regulations Assessment. When engaging in pre-application discussions or through the planning application process, applicants would be advised whether the proposed tariff is sufficient to address the impacts of their scheme or whether additional impacts may arise and further information is required.
- 1.5.13 Calculation of Contribution
- 1.5.14 The level of financial contribution from each planning application for housing development required to support the Coastal Mitigation Service and delivery of physical projects is informed by an estimate of the cost of providing a viable and effective service and the amount of development anticipated to come forward up to 2032 (the life of the North Tyneside Local Plan).
- 1.5.15 The financial cost of delivery of the identified coastal mitigation is comprised of a budget for the delivery of physical projects at the coast, salaries for Coastal Wardens, associated costs and overheads to enable the Coastal Wardens to undertake their day to day activities, and a contingency to allow for continued maintenance should the level of new development decline.
- 1.5.16 The overall cost of delivering the identified mitigation over the Local Plan period to 2032 is £2,231,044.
- 1.5.17 Local Plan policy S4.2(a) *Housing Figures* provides for at least 16,593 homes over the Plan period of 2011/12 to 2031/32. At 2019, 7,939 of these dwellings have been built or already benefit from planning permission. There are therefore 8,654 potential additional dwellings from which a financial contribution could be secured. 4,963 of these potential additional dwellings would be located within 6km of the coast and 3,691 would be in other parts of the borough.
- 1.5.18 There are no forecasts of future development of tourist accommodation but over the life of the Local Plan some development that could include new hotels, caravans or other accommodation is anticipated. Therefore a contribution from each individual accommodation unit created, proportionate to the impact that could arise from each additional new home, is considered appropriate.

1.5.19 The proposed tariff is:

- Residential development within the 6km buffer zone
£337 for each net additional dwelling/ unit
- Residential development beyond the 6km buffer zone

£151 for each net additional dwelling/ unit

- Tourist accommodation within the 6km buffer zone, e.g. caravan parks and hotels
£153 for each net additional unit of accommodation
- Tourist accommodation beyond the 6km buffer zone, e.g. caravan parks and hotels
£69 for each net additional unit of accommodation

1.5.20 Monitoring and updating the Supplementary Planning Document

1.5.21 Actual housing delivery will inevitably vary to some extent from the projections set out in the Local Plan. The Authority will monitor coastal mitigation contributions and review the level of contributions regularly to ensure that they remain fairly and reasonably related in scale to the developments from which they arise.

1.5.22 A key aim of the Warden Service would be to monitor the amount and condition of the European Sites and the level of disturbance they experience. Monitoring data will be reported annually in the Authority Monitoring Report. Wardens will also regularly report to a Steering Group attended by Officers from both North Tyneside Council and Northumberland County Council and by relevant stakeholders including Natural England.

1.5.23 The above calculations are based on current costs. It is proposed to update the SPD on an annual basis following adoption, to adjust the tariff in line with inflation.

1.5.24 Requirements for applicants

1.5.25 Contributions set out in the Coastal Mitigation SPD are not mandatory. Applicants who do contribute will:

- not be required to submit any additional evidence to demonstrate that their proposals will not lead to adverse effects upon European Sites as a result of recreational disturbance; and,
- benefit from greater certainty that their proposal is in accordance with policy DM5.6 *Management of International Sites*.

1.5.26 If an applicant seeks to provide individual measures to avoid and mitigate for recreational pressure they will have less certainty and face potential delays in the consideration of the planning application and they must:

- provide additional evidence to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Authority and Natural England that the proposed development would have no adverse impact upon European Site, either alone or in-combination; and
- provide necessary mitigation, alternatives, imperative reasons of overriding public interest or compensation to the enable the Authority in consultation with Natural England to conclude that adverse effects on European Site integrity have been prevented.

1.5.27 Contributions set out in the Coastal Mitigation SPD relate to the mitigation of adverse effects upon European Sites only. Applicants must still submit necessary evidence and if required, measures to avoid or mitigate impacts upon other species or habitats that their proposals would affect.

1.5.28 Public engagement

1.5.29 In accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, draft SPDs must be consulted upon for a period of at least 4 weeks. The draft SPD was approved through the delegated authority afforded to the Head of Environment, Housing and Leisure on the 1 May 2019. The preparation of the draft SPD included engagement with the Deputy Mayor, Legal and Democratic Services and with the advice and guidance of Natural England. The Draft SPD was subject to consultation undertaken between 17 May and 1 July 2019 with a total of 9 responses received.

1.5.30 Details of the consultation approach, of each representation made and the action taken or response to the comments are outlined at Appendix 1 of this Report. This includes detailing those changes made between the draft SPD and proposed SPD for adoption.

1.5.31 The next steps

1.5.32 Following Cabinet approval for adoption of the SPD included at Appendix 2 the document will be placed on the Authority's website and referenced in the future consideration of planning applications. Contributions will be sought on relevant planning applications immediately following the adoption of the SPD. Collected funds will enable the inception and delivery of the Coastal Mitigation Service and the delivery of physical projects at the coast to enable the recreation impacts of development to be mitigated.

1.5.33 The process for creation and future governance of the Coastal Mitigation Service and the delivery of physical projects will be a matter for the Authority to progress in accordance with its established processes. As the proposed SPD will secure s106 planning obligations the contributions sought and delivery of projects associated with the funding will be governed in accordance with the s106 Planning Obligations protocol established following Cabinet's decision of 14 May 2018.

1.6 **Decision options:**

The following decision options are available for consideration by Cabinet:

Option 1

Agree with the recommendations as set out at paragraph 1.2 of this report.

Option 2

Do not agree the recommendations as set out at paragraph 1.2 of this report.

Option 1 is the recommended option.

1.7 **Reasons for recommended option:**

Option 1 is recommended for the following reasons:

- The adoption of a SPD will allow for the authority to fulfil the requirements of international and national legislation, and local and national planning policy, ensuring that adverse effects upon European Sites are avoided.
- A failure to introduce the strategy risks the Authority being unable to demonstrate that the impacts of development on European Sites are mitigated. This would potentially render the approval of development in the Borough through the grant of planning permission unlawful.

1.8 Appendices:

Appendix 1: Draft Coastal Mitigation Supplementary Planning Document Summary of Engagement, March 2019

Appendix 2: Coastal Mitigation Supplementary Planning Documents, July 2019

1.9 Contact officers:

Martin Craddock, Team Leader Planning Policy (0191) 643 6329

Jackie Palmer, Planning Manager (0191) 643 6336

Jackie Hunter, Biodiversity Officer (0191) 643 7279

Colin MacDonald, Senior Manager, Technical & Regulatory Services (0191) 643 6620

Cathy Davison, Principal Accountant, Investment (Capital) and Revenue (0191) 643 5727

1.10 Background information:

The following background information has been used in the compilation of this report and is available at the office of the author:

1. [Town and Country Planning Act 1990](#)
2. [Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004](#)
3. [Planning Act 2008](#)
4. [Town & Country Planning \(Local Planning\)\(England\) Regulations 2012](#)
5. [National Planning Policy Framework \(2019\)](#)
6. [Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017](#)
7. [European Directive 92/43/EEC](#)
8. [Statement of Community Involvement 2013](#)
9. [North Tyneside Local Plan \(2017\)](#)
10. [Habitat Regulations Assessment and Appropriate Assessment 2017](#)

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

The staff, printing and other costs to publish the Coastal Mitigation SPD will be met from within the existing Authority budgets.

Funding for the projects and warden service identified as mitigation through the Coastal Mitigation SPD will be secured through developer contributions in accordance with Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as planning obligations agreed as part of a wider agreement with the Authority or as a unilateral undertaking where no other planning obligations would be required. This process will be managed through the developer contributions governance arrangements agreed by Cabinet at its meeting of 14 May 2018.

2.2 Legal

The Coastal Mitigation SPD is an issue to be considered during the planning process.

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2000 and Regulations made under that Act, responsibility for adoption of the SPD following consultation is the responsibility of Cabinet.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

2.3.1 Internal Consultation

Internal consultation was undertaken throughout late 2018 and 2019. The matter has been subject to engagement with the Deputy Mayor, Cabinet Member for Finance, the Chief Finance Officer and the Head of Law and Governance. The SPD has been prepared in consultation with the Authority's Biodiversity Officer.

2.3.2 External Consultation/Engagement

SPDs must be subject to statutory consultation. A six week consultation on the Draft SPD was held between May 17 2019 and 1 July 2019. The Draft SPD was made available on the Authority's consultation portal. Statutory consultees (Natural England, the Environment Agency and Historic England) and other relevant non-statutory consultees including landowners, developers and other stakeholders were directly consulted.

The consultation methods will comply with both the statutory consultation requirements and the requirements of the Authority's adopted Statement of Community Involvement. Further details of this process and the feedback received will be included within the Summary of Engagement provided at Appendix 1 of this Report.

2.4 Human rights

There are no human rights implications directly arising from this report.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

There are no direct implications arising from this report.

2.6 Risk management

The Cabinet Member has been involved in dialogue relating to Draft SPD and is aware of the risks identified. The risks associated with the proposed SPD have previously been assessed.

2.7 Crime and disorder

There are no direct implications arising from this report.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

The SPD enables the protection of the natural environment.

A Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report draft concludes that the impact of the Draft SPD, through responses to the SEA Directive Criteria, would not result in any significant environmental effects beyond those already assessed as part of the preparation of the Local Plan. A full Strategic Environmental Assessment is therefore not required.

PART 3 - SIGN OFF

- Chief Executive X
- Head(s) of Service X
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s) X
- Chief Finance Officer X
- Monitoring Officer X
- Head of Corporate Strategy and Customer Service X

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Supplementary Planning Document

Cabinet, 29 July 2019

Title: Approval to adopt the Coastal Mitigation SPD

Appendix 1: Engagement Statement

1. Introduction

The proposed Coastal Mitigation Supplementary Planning Document (“proposed SPD”) provides guidance for applicants and an identified tariff in order to fund a coastal mitigation service and the delivery of mitigation to address the impacts of recreational disturbance upon internationally designated sites along the coast. The proposed SPD sets out the basis upon which this tariff will be charged and the strategy for future management and delivery of coastal mitigation.

2. Engagement on the draft Coastal Mitigation SPD

The draft SPD was open to public engagement from the 17 May – 1 July 2019. The engagement methods complied with both the statutory engagement requirements and the requirements of the Council’s adopted Statement of Community Involvement.

The list of consultees included house developers, consultants, land owners, statutory and public bodies, planning consultants, registered housing providers, North Tyneside Council consultees and neighbouring Local Councils.

The following statutory consultees were notified by email:

- Environment Agency
- Historic England
- Natural England

The document could be read and commented on via the Council’s online engagement portal (<http://northtyneside-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal/>). In addition to the online engagement portal, comments were invited by letter or email.

9 stakeholders made representations. The schedule of all representations made and officer response is set out in the next section.

Schedule of Comments and Officer Response

Consultee	Section	Comment	Council Response	Proposed Changes
Natural England	General comments	<p>Natural England welcomes the approach taken by North Tyneside Council in looking to address the indirect issues arising from new housing allocations and developments. We consider that the production of an SPD is an appropriate method for identifying how mitigation will be funded and put in place to address these impacts.</p> <p>We do however, feel that further detail is required to provide the confidence that the mitigation will be adequate to address potential impacts from increased recreational activity from new housing provision within North Tyneside. This is detailed in the section below [further responses].</p>	Thank you for the general support to the approach taken.	None
Natural England	General comments / Section 2	Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) is the name of the overall process for assessing the implications of plans and projects against the interest features of European designated sites. Appropriate Assessment is one of the stages within the HRA process, which is undertaken when it has been determined that a plan or project is likely to have a significant effect (LSE) on the site interest features.	Comments noted.	Status of work undertaken amended in document o clarify references to Habitat's Regulations and correct identification of the Appropriate Assessment undertaken.
Natural England	Section 3	While the creation of a Coastal Wardening Service will help to mitigate some of the impacts of increased recreational activity at the coast resulting from new housing, this should be set alongside other measures such as the provision	Comment noted, whilst the coastal wardening service will not mitigate in full the effects on the coast the Council	Additional reference made within the SPD to the activities of the wardens and mitigation that will be delivered. This enhances

Consultee	Section	Comment	Council Response	Proposed Changes
		<p>of suitable alternative greenspace to provide alternatives to coastal recreation. We do not consider that coastal wardening alone will be sufficient to offset and mitigate all impacts.</p> <p>We note that the proposed activities for the wardens include a number of elements of identifying locations which are disturbance hotspots or where temporary management measures are required. Natural England does not consider the identification of locations for future activity to be mitigation; it is evidence to inform mitigation, not mitigation in its own right.</p> <p>The Coastal Mitigation Service is a form of strategic mitigation, and should be implementing identified mitigation. There is no detail provided on identified mitigation which could be implemented by the wardens. Also identifying future mitigation which 'could be implemented' does not provide sufficient assurance that the measures will actually be implemented and appropriate mitigation put in place. Other measures for coastal access management include interpretation and education of visitors, and managing access points to the coast.</p>	<p>consider some of the direct activities of the wardens will bring about mitigation through prevention of effects – due to direct management and education of visitors.</p> <p>The primary role of the Coastal Mitigation Service as a whole will be to identify actions necessary to deliver the most effective mitigation for recreation impacts.</p>	<p>in particular proposed activities within the first 18 months of the life of the Mitigation Service.</p> <p>Additional reference made to arrangements for clarity and transparency for the mitigation service including the operation of a Coastal Mitigation Steering Group, publication of monitoring information on an annual basis, agreement of a Annual Action Plan with costed activities and publication of an annual review of the funding that should be sought through the tariff.</p>
Natural England	Section 4	<p>We note in this section that the coastal mitigation will be the most effective way to avoid adverse impacts for 'most' schemes within North Tyneside. It is unclear how those schemes not covered by coastal mitigation will be mitigated, and provides a degree of uncertainty that all</p>	<p>This section was making reference to the fact that applicants would continue to have the option to make alternative measures to address</p>	<p>Additional discussion and amendments made to clarify that the impacts arising from development as a result is matters other than recreational</p>

Consultee	Section	Comment	Council Response	Proposed Changes
		impacts will be mitigated. The level of financial contribution is not for Natural England to agree – this should be based on calculations of the cost to deliver identified mitigation (see comments below in relation to Appendix C). The most appropriate mitigation would be a mixture of the coastal wardening and physical interventions including the provision of alternative greenspace. It is likely that mitigation designed to address impacts on European site features will also provide suitable mitigation to address any impacts on the Northumberland Coast SSSI.	there recreation impacts if these are fully evidenced, appraised in accordance with the Habitat Regulations and agreed as appropriate by the Council and Natural England. This section also sought to discuss schemes where effects on the designated sites other than as a result of recreational disturbance might arise – in these instances additional or alternative contributions to those made through the tariff would be necessary.	disturbance would continue to require assessment.
Natural England	Section 5	The recognition that new tourist accommodation could also have an impact is welcomed. We assume that there is no allowance for seasonal opening against year round operation. It is also unclear which category residential caravans would fall into.	An adjustment has been made to take into account occupancy rates and likely activities of visitors to hotel or other tourist accommodation. This is outlined at Appendix E. A caravan that is permitted in use class C3 would be required to pay the full residential tariff. Caravans with planning permission that falls under	None proposed

Consultee	Section	Comment	Council Response	Proposed Changes
			a sui-generis use class would be treated as visitor accommodation in accordance with Appendix E.	
Natural England	Annex B	C3 - It should be noted that Natural England would only consider mitigation to be required where there is a net increase in residential accommodation. Changes of use – A definition is needed to clarify 'recent' use.	Noted.	Reference to "recent" when determining how to calculate a tariff for a vacant unit subject to change of use has been deleted.
Natural England	Appendix C	Further detail is needed in this section to justify the annual cost. This is particularly relevant for the 'Project Budget'. Ideally potential schemes should have been identified and costed, and the tariff then set based on these figures alongside the other elements. Without this detail there is a considerable risk that funding received will not be sufficient to actually deliver the mitigation required to address potential impacts.	The Council is developing a separate preliminary Action Plan that will provide further detail on activities and potential costs. This will be updated on a regular basis in accordance with the process set out within the new section on Transparency and Review within the proposed SPD.	None proposed within the SPD. Additional supporting document to be prepared.
Natural England	Strategic Environmental Assessment / Habitat Regulations Assessment	A SPD requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment only in exceptional circumstances as set out in the Planning Practice Guidance here. While SPDs are unlikely to give rise to likely significant effects on European Sites, they should be considered as a plan under the Habitats Regulations in the same way as any other plan or project. If your SPD requires a	Comment noted, SEA screening was undertaken in advance of the preparation of the draft SPD with feedback received from Natural England, Environment Agency and Historic	No changes proposed to the SPD.

Consultee	Section	Comment	Council Response	Proposed Changes
		<p>Strategic Environmental Assessment or Habitats Regulation Assessment, you are required to consult us at certain stages as set out in the Planning Practice Guidance.</p> <p>Should the plan be amended in a way which significantly affects its impact on the natural environment, then, please consult Natural England again.</p>	<p>England. The SPDs sets out a mechanism to enable delivery of proposed requirements identified with Appropriate Assessment of the Local Plan in accordance with Habitat Regulations and introduces no new proposed for development. However, it is noted based upon the comments provided that formal screening may be required.</p>	
Persimmon Homes	Section 4	<p>Paragraph 4.3 of the SPD states that it is recommended that applications make a financial contribution towards coastal mitigation connected to the grant of planning permission and goes on to state exemptions. The exceptions state that <i>"there may be circumstances where the nature of a development mean a standard tariff based approach is not appropriate"</i>. It is stated that this could include <i>"particularly large-scale development or schemes with a specific direct impact upon European Sites"</i>. The wording of the exemptions and the use of 'could' does not clearly set the exemptions and this goes on to refer to 'large-scale' development. There is no clear definition of large scale or a set threshold and we would assume for residential schemes</p>	<p>The purpose of the tariff will be to secure mitigation of the effects from recreational disturbance as a result of additional residential and visitor accommodation. However, it is not possible to establish the effects of all potential forms of development over the life of the Local Plan and as such in those circumstances payment of the tariff along may not be appropriate.</p>	<p>Wording amended to reduce uncertainty regarding exceptions and clarify that additional or alternative mitigation may be required where the impacts other than as a result of recreational disturbance might arise.</p>

Consultee	Section	Comment	Council Response	Proposed Changes
		<p>this would relate to a 'major' development which are developments of 10 units or more residential units. The SPD suggests that large scale sites with a specific direct impact on European Sites may not be considered appropriate to adopt the standard tariff based approach. The draft document goes on to state that in such circumstances, other forms of mitigation delivered directly by the applicant would be required. It is not clear whether this is in addition to a financial contribution, or whether a financial contribution will not be sought and alternative mitigation will need to be brought forward as part of a proposed development and delivered directly by the developer. It is acknowledged that mitigation is required where there adverse impacts on European Sites however there is no supporting evidence base which demonstrates that the provision of other forms of suitable mitigation has been fully considered and viability tested in light of the full requirement set through the SPD and other policy burden. There is also no clarification as to why the tariff based approach would not be considered suitable for large scale developments. We question how the tariff approach is considered appropriate for all developments within neighbouring authorities such as Northumberland, however it is not appropriate in this location.</p> <p>On this basis we would like to highlight the issue this raises with the residential allocation at</p>		

Consultee	Section	Comment	Council Response	Proposed Changes
		<p>Murton. As set out in the consultation response from the Murton Consortium, objections are raised due to a lack of detailed consideration of viability as a result of adopting this SPD which underpins sites across North Tyneside.</p> <p>It is noted that this is yet another requirement and planning obligation which we will be required to provide and as discussed at the EIP with the inspector, a specific reason why Persimmon Homes and the Murton Consortium requested that Murton Gap not be singled out as having to provide SANG as part of the policy.</p> <p>As you may recall in the EIP when representing both Persimmon Homes and the Murton Consortium we mentioned that there was and would likely end up with additional or duplicate payments or delivery of mitigation if the (now adopted) course of action was followed. We now end up in a situation where we are being forced through the policy and the recent objections / adoption of this SPD to provide the following as part of application(s) for Murton Gap:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide onsite SANG within the site boundary (at our cost and with no contributions being levied from or provide towards from external sources) 2. Provide direct mitigation for our "impact" to local wildlife in addition to the above through the provision of ecological habitat enhancement and 		

Consultee	Section	Comment	Council Response	Proposed Changes
		<p>off site land provision (again fully at the consortiums cost).</p> <p>3. Now having to provide an off-site contribution in the region of £1.8m towards impacts which the SANG was designed or specified to mitigate for.</p> <p>As you will see from the above, it is worse than stated at the EIP and we are now in a situation of almost triple mitigation requirements from this strategic site, the costs of which have not been taken into account suitably through your viability assessment works for the reasons stated at the EIP.</p>		
Persimmon Homes	Section 4	<p>The draft SPD states that development types other than residential will need to provide a financial contribution to be agreed between the applicant, North Tyneside Council and Natural England. We consider that at the application determination stage, the Local Authority and Natural England will establish a basis for generating an appropriate contribution based on the context and impacts of the development however this SPD should be transparent in establishing how "other" developments will be assessed, what types of development and any baseline which North Tyneside Council will use in this assessment. The current draft is at present too ambiguous in this respect and does not provide any clarity for developers as to how their development will be assessed in terms of suitable mitigation and subsequently how this</p>	<p>This SPD has been prepared to introduce an effective mechanism for mitigating the recreation impacts arising from development. Other impacts and effects of development upon the international designated sites could be wide ranging and would require specific assessment in accordance with the Habitat Regulations to be considered effective. This falls beyond the scope of the SPD.</p>	<p>Wording relating to exceptions clarified as noted above.</p>

Consultee	Section	Comment	Council Response	Proposed Changes
		will impact on the viability or deliverability of a development.		
Persimmon Homes	Part 5	<p>Part 5 of the draft document discusses how the tariff has been calculated, by taking into account various factors which should be accounted for within the budget. There is no evidence in support of the tariff set within the document which provides a detailed breakdown of how the annual costs have been calculated and to support the assumptions made in this respect. It is acknowledged that neighbouring local authorities have calculated a significantly lower annual cost. This section of the document goes on to identify the tariff for residential development and tourist accommodation, however there is no supporting evidence alongside the SPD which demonstrates that the contribution sum generated per dwelling has been viability tested and that full consideration of the viability burden and viability which underpins sites across North Tyneside has been considered.</p> <p>Paragraph 5.7 of the document refers to sites which may come forward whose boundaries extend across the 6km buffer zone. In such circumstances the Council will advise on a proportionate contribution to be made in accordance with nature of the site and area covered by the zone. The map included for within Appendix B of the document draws the extent of the 6km boundary from the SPA</p>	<p>The Council is developing a separate preliminary Action Plan that will provide further detail on activities and potential costs. This will be updated on a regular basis in accordance with the process set out within the new section on Transparency and Review within the proposed SPD.</p> <p>Whilst the proposed aim in recommending an adjustment to boundaries is recognised as potentially helpful the Council considers that it would be more accurate and effective to consider the appropriate charge to be applied when reference can be made to the proposed application itself. To adjust the boundaries across the Borough will inevitably add some areas to the 6km buffer whilst</p>	None proposed within the SPD. Additional supporting document to be prepared.

Consultee	Section	Comment	Council Response	Proposed Changes
		<p>however the map could be amended to draw the 6km boundary while utilising existing edge of settlements or road infrastructure to form a clearly defined boundary, which would reduce the need for further advise and assessment by the Council to determine the appropriate tariff for a proposed scheme and provide certainty up front.</p> <p>The SPD para 5.10 states that other types of development should also contribute to coastal mitigation however due to the unknown or variable nature it is not possible to set a tariff. On this basis the SPD states that the required contribution should be determined by the Council and the applicant before a planning application is submitted. We acknowledge the attempt to streamline the determination process of a planning application however, it is considered that this requirement can unnecessarily delay the submission of planning applications in order to undertake such discussions, which can be had during the determination of an application and requires all assessment work to be undertaken well in advance of submission. It is acknowledged that to some degree there is a variable nature associated with developments of this sort which causes difficulty in generating an appropriate tariff.</p> <p>Should a contribution continue to be sought for</p>	<p>removing others. Neither of these adjustments would necessarily reflect the nature of future development proposals or their accessibility to the coast.</p> <p>The concern about potential delay to the planning process whilst the correct approach to coastal mitigation is established is noted. The Council's view is that in the majority of cases, the introduction of the SPD will significantly accelerate the planning process. Where other schemes that would lead to impacts not covered by this approach to mitigating recreational disturbance come forward it is essential that the proper process is followed in accordance with Habitat Regulations. In these instances this remains unchanged from the current position pre-SPD</p>	

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		<p>such uses, the SPD should positively fit alongside the Local Plan and identify a baseline against which applications will be assessed to provide a framework which developers can utilise, to determine how the impact of a development will be considered in light of mitigation or a contribution to mitigate any adverse impacts. This could include defining a zone in which a tariff contribution will be sought based on an assessment and local knowledge applied by the Council, to determine a zone in which development of other Use Classes will have any adverse impacts.</p> <p>For the reasons as set out in this letter, we object to the current adoption of the SPD. This objection will be maintained until further clarity can be provided as part of the requirements and an assessment can be undertaken to account for the disproportionate requirement which will be applied to sites or until further information has been provided which demonstrates how the Council will seek to ensure a more fair distribution of requirements across the borough with full consideration of the viability which underpins sites across North Tyneside.</p>	for all development.	
Northumberland County Council	General	The County Council generally support the SPD as being reflective of its own approach. In combination, this should bring substantial benefits along the wider coastline. Nevertheless we hope that you will be able to take account of the following comments:	<p>Support for the approach set out is welcomed.</p> <p>The North Tyneside HRA sets out the evidence for which effects arising in</p>	Enhanced reference to the role of Cross boundary effects has been added to the SPD to note the importance of cross boundary working.

Consultee	Section	Comment	Council Response	Proposed Changes
		<p>1. Whilst the Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) 2017 of North Tyneside's Local Plan has been circulated with the draft SPD, which says that a wardening approach needs to be developed, what is now required is an HRA of the draft Coastal Mitigation Strategy to assess its effectiveness in providing the required mitigation for European sites. It is noted that the Local Plan HRA (2017) identifies that increasing housing in North Tyneside is likely to increase the spread of pirri-pirri bur on dunes in Northumberland, so the document does acknowledge cross-boundary effects.</p>	<p>North Tyneside are likely to occur. Whilst reference is made to potential spread of Pirri Pirri Bur this also notes that significant effects arise within 10 miles. The North Northumberland Dunes SAC lies beyond this 10 mile zone so presently mitigation of this issue from development in North Tyneside is not required.</p> <p>Notwithstanding this point in relation to the Northumberland Coast SPA it is important that co-operation between the Authorities's in the delivery of coastal mitigation is undertaken.</p>	
Northumberland County Council	Section 5	<p>It is noted that North Tyneside are proposing a 0-6km zone rather than the 0-7km zone Northumberland County Council currently have; <i>contributions to the Coastal Mitigation Service for major developments vary for sites within 7 kilometres of the coast and sites 7 to 10 kilometres from the coast, while minor developments contribute within 7 kilometres of the coast and are exempt beyond that. These</i></p>	<p>The boundaries proposed within the SPD are based upon the discussion provided within the North Tyneside Local Plan Appropriate Assessment.</p>	None

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		<p><i>bands have been established to ensure that a proportionate approach is taken, as evidence shows that about 75% of dog-walking visits originate within 7 kilometres and a further 15% from 7 to 10 kilometres of the coast¹.</i></p> <p>Northumberland County Council would be interested in having sight of the evidence that underlies North Tyneside's proposed 0-6km zone?</p>		
Northumberland County Council	General	<p>3. We would welcome the opportunity to work with North Tyneside Council on coastal mitigation, especially given the importance of cross-border issues. The Strategy is seeking to address the impact of recreational disturbance on designated sites that extend into both North Tyneside and Northumberland, and it is important that cross-border issues such as new housing within one local authority area causing an increase in recreational disturbance within an adjoining local authority area are addressed.</p>	<p>Comment noted. Ongoing joint working and co-operation is welcomed in delivery of this SPD.</p>	None
Banks Group	Section 5	<p>On behalf of Banks Property Ltd I would like to submit comments on the North Tyneside Draft Coastal Mitigation SPD. As you are aware Banks Property is the developer for approximately one third of the strategic housing allocation at Killingworth Moor. We object to the proposal to charge a levy on housing constructed beyond the established 6km threshold of need for coastal mitigation. The HRA specifically identifies the 6km zone as</p>	<p>Whilst the HRA notes that a higher proportion of visits to the coast are likely to arise within 6km of designated sites, it is clear that recreational disturbance also occurs from a 5 to 10 mile zone. This encompasses the whole of North Tyneside.</p>	<p>Discussion of the approach to the tariff zones expanded within section 5.</p>

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		<p>being in need of mitigation. It highlights the Murton strategic housing site which is within this area and it does not identify the Killingworth site which is beyond it.</p> <p>The South Tyneside SPD 23 adopted in 2018 sets a tariff purely for new dwellings within the 6km zone. We suggest that this is a sound way of ensuring that local impacts are mitigated by necessity.</p> <p>The HRA acknowledges that “following data analysis of visitor numbers, both the Durham and Sunderland Plans have used a 6km buffer to determine impacts as a result of increased recreational disturbance resulting from housing development”.</p>	<p>Reflecting the overall ease of accessibility through the borough by car, cycling and public transport and consistent built up area straddling the 6km boundary it is appropriate in this instance for schemes in all parts of the borough to make a contribution proportionate to the likely visits to the coast.</p>	
Banks Group	General	<p>In fact the work undertaken by BSG for the Sunderland Plan focused on the need for high quality public open space within large developments. The site at Killingworth Moor will provide a large amount of public space which will in itself mitigate development pressure elsewhere.</p> <p>In a recent report NTC has suggested the development needs 60 dog bins within the site which suggests a high level of confidence that the site would be extensively used by dog walkers. The HRA refers (para 5.3.11) to the option of providing on-site SANGS but the SPD does not appear to acknowledge this.</p>	<p>The requirement for provision of open space with large schemes such as Killingworth Moor is important to address the immediate recreation needs of residents. A range of parks and areas of open space are already available in existing areas of the Borough for existing residents but those residents also visit the coast. The impact of open space on site is therefore important to avoid a deficit</p>	None

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			in open space provision but there is no evidence that residents of new development in a location like Killingworth Moor will be less likely to visit the coast due to the open space provided.	
Banks Group	Appendix D	Even if setting a tariff beyond 6km was justifiable (which it is not) we object to the fact that it is almost half the financial cost of the <6km houses which clearly have a much greater impact and therefore need to mitigate. We note that the method of calculating this is to attribute 75% of the cost of mitigation to sites within 6km and then charge the remainder to those beyond. This is unfair because there is no charge to sites beyond the council boundary which would notionally contribute to the problem. Sites in the outer zone would effectively be carrying this cost.	As noted the contribution is divided on the basis of what proportion of visits come from which zone and is broadly in accordance with the evidence set out in the HRA and similar analysis undertaken for Northumberland. The role of visitors from beyond North Tyneside's boundaries is a valid observation but at this time evidence is not in place to establish that this would be reasonable.	None
Banks Group	Appendix B	We object to the imposition of the tariff on affordable housing. Such housing is normally provided at a loss to the overall development project. By penalising the provision of affordable housing with additional cost the SPD would act against the policy of providing 25% new affordable houses in the Borough.	Whilst noted affordable housing would impact the coast as much as market housing. Whilst a discount is provided in CIL for social housing relief, s106 planning obligations are	None

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			typically based on the development as a whole as they are calculated to address the impacts of all residents of a development with subsequent negotiation if viability affecting deliverability.	
Taylor Wimpey (Barton Wilmore)	General (SANGS)	Our Client welcomes the principle of the SPD and the need to ensure that sites designated under the European Directive are protected, and any adverse impacts mitigated against. However, they have a number of concerns regarding the content of the SPD and the lack of evidence supporting the document. Our Client objects to the SPD as it is not considered to be justified or positively prepared and is therefore not sound.	Comment noted	None
Taylor Wimpey (Barton Wilmore)	Section 3	Section 3 of the SPD states that the mitigation measures proposed in the North Tyneside Local Plan ('NTLP') Policy DM5.6 is likely to be "disproportionally costly and ineffective in the longer term when delivered on a case-by-case basis". The Council believe that, to be more effective over the longer term, a more strategic approach is required and therefore a Coastal Warden Service is proposed as well as implementing a range of targeted and coordinated projects at the coast.	The Council is developing a separate preliminary Action Plan that will provide further detail on activities and potential costs. This will be updated on a regular basis in accordance with the process set out within the new section on Transparency and Review within the proposed SPD.	None proposed within the SPD. Additional supporting document to be prepared.

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		<p>It is proposed that the Coastal Warden would implement many of the mitigation measures outlined in Policy DM5.6. The Warden would also identify potential mitigation projects at the Coast which could be implemented by the Council. This could include physical projects to steer visitors away from the most sensitive locations and any other initiatives that could assist in protecting the coast from the impacts of development.</p> <p>Our Client is concerned that potential projects at the coast may be implemented on anecdotal evidence without proper justification, consultation, scrutiny or input from Councillors, developers and communities. Projects should be identified by gathering a comprehensive and robust evidence base which should be published to keep residents, businesses and other interested parties informed.</p> <p>Furthermore, the only project highlighted for funding in the SPD is that of the Warden. Our Client is also concerned that no other projects have been definitively identified (only examples of potential projects are highlighted) and therefore they are being asked to make financial contributions on projects which have not been determined, evidenced or scrutinised yet.</p>		

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Taylor Wimpey (Barton Wilmore)	General (SANGS)	<p>As we will refer to later in our Representations, the Council include the provision of Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace ('SANGS') within their Community Infrastructure Levy ('CIL') Regulation 123 List. The whole premise of SANGS, as taken from the CIL Regulation 123 List, is to:</p> <p>“Create and enhance areas for recreational use providing mitigation in accordance with the Local Plan Appropriate Assessment for potential impacts of growth upon the Northumbria Coast Special Protection Area.”</p> <p>North Tyneside's CIL only came into effect on 14 January 2019, which is only 5 months before the Consultation on this SPD began. SANGS are specifically identified as a form of mitigation in NTLP Policy 5.6, under criteria i. – Provision of a Suitable Accessible Natural Green Space. This is taken to be the same as Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace, as named in the CIL Regulation 123 List. So, the pooling of CIL money to provide SANGS has not even been collected for 12 months.</p> <p>Further to that, the NTLP itself was only adopted in July 2017. For the SPD to claim that the criteria in NTLP Policy DM5.6 are “disproportionally costly and ineffective in the</p>	<p>The inclusion of SANG within CIL Regulation 123 list was considered appropriate in development of the schedule as a means of supporting coastal mitigation.</p> <p>The Authority are now advised by Natural England that provision of a SANG would only mitigate the recreation effect of development in part due to the specific nature of the coast and other forms of mitigation are required. At this time we do not expect the Coastal Mitigation Service funding to be directed to SANG creation.</p> <p>In addition, whilst included in CIL there is presently no active project towards delivery of a SANG in North Tyneside and even were a proportion of CIL funding dedicated to</p>	None

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		<p>longer term when delivered on a case-by-case basis”, in under two years, and 5 months in the case of SANGS money from CIL, needs some form of evidence to support it, which has not been provided.</p> <p>The lack of evidence is a key issue in general when considering the SPD. There has been no viability work undertaken and no discussion with developers and housebuilders. The only evidence document is the Appropriate Assessment. This does not examine the financial impact of the proposed tariff.</p>	<p>SANG provision the evidence presented at the examination of the Local Plan highlighted that there was a shortfall between projected CIL revenue and the total cost of Regulation 123 infrastructure.</p>	
Taylor Wimpey (Barton Wilmore)	Section 5	<p>Section 5 of the SPD sets out the level of financial contribution expected from each planning application which is required to support mitigation. This is informed by “an estimate of the cost of providing viable and effective coastal mitigation and the amount of development anticipated to come forward up to 2032”. Our Client objects to this and several other parts of Section 5.</p> <p>2 Planning policies should be based upon a robust and comprehensive evidence base. The draft SPD clearly states that the proposed tariffs are based on an “estimate of costs”. Whilst our Client recognises that not all future costs cannot be identified now, these should be based on more than an estimate. In terms of costs, the</p>	<p>The tariff is based upon a clear budget regarding the servicing of a coastal warden service, whilst an allowance for £60,000 per year is included for delivery of projects. As noted already further information on an initial range of projects will be prepared and will be informed by initial survey work which would be carried out via the warden service.</p> <p>The concept that funding for mitigation isn't</p>	None

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		<p>SPD does not take into account the impact that the tariff will have on viability and there has been no developer input prior to the publication of the SPD. Most Councils hold workshops and/or forums with developers in order to understand the potential impacts of proposals.</p> <p>3 The SPD goes on to state that the financial costs comprise “a budget for the delivery of physical projects” as well as Warden salaries and associated costs. As highlighted in Section 3 above, our Client is concerned that no projects have been identified, but that a budget for the delivery of these projects has already been identified. Our client considers that this is not reasonable or justifiable.</p> <p>4 A contingency is also allowed for to ensure “continued maintenance should the level of new development decline”. Our Client is also concerned that the Council’s approach to a contingency is not justified. If the level of new development declines, then there will be less housing and therefore less people visiting the coast. This will in turn mean that there is less impact on the coast and the protected species and habitats.</p> <p>5 However, it appears that the Council are building in a contingency although there is not as much development coming forward. This will</p>	<p>required should development levels fall is understood. However, even should development proceed as forecast for only the next five years it will be important for the Coastal Service to continue in operation. The scale of projects required may be reduced but the activities of the Coastal Wardens will need to continue so the service is in place when development picks up again. A contingency allowance enables such fluctuations in income to be evened out over the life of the plan.</p>	

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		mean that those developers building much needed homes in the district are being penalised by having to pay for developers that are not bringing allocated sites forward.		
Taylor Wimpey (Barton Wilmore)	Section 5	<p>Paragraph 5.1.6 of the supporting Habitats Regulation Assessment (March 2017) sets out that a combination of mitigation measures should be used within the 6km buffer. It goes on to state that these are likely to be more stringent than those for the wider 5 – 10 miles buffer radius to reflect the source and pathways of predicted impacts.</p> <p>What the calculation of the tariff in the SPD does not fully take into account is the tourist accommodation aspect, or indeed further tourism and leisure attractions. The per dwelling calculation is set out in part in Appendix D of the SPD and uses a figure of 8,654 dwellings, split between those inside and outside the 6km buffer line, which are those needing to be built between 2019 and 2032 for North Tyneside to meet its stated Housing Target.</p> <p>Any collection of financial contributions from new tourist accommodation is therefore additional, over and above the required total cost of the Coastal mitigation up to 2032, and not factored into the residential development tariff. This is a wholly unsound approach given</p>	<p>It is acknowledged that should a large number of tourist accommodation units come forward during the plan period additional funding than that forecast would be secured. However, over the longer term our analysis suggests that whilst it is important such development makes a fair contribution it is of such a limited scale and incapable of forecasting that it would be inappropriate to discount residential development to reflect this.</p> <p>Three hotel developments / expansions have come forward in North Tyneside since 2009 providing a total of 115 hotel rooms have come forward. Based on the proposed</p>	None

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		<p>there is evidence of tourist accommodation development on the past 5 years (Premier Inn - Ref: 15/01696/FUL at Spanish City and 16/00546/FUL at Holystone) and the SPD itself states, in paragraph 5.5, that some tourist accommodation 'is anticipated'. The provision of a financial contribution through tourist accommodation should be factored into the calculation of the tariff, and the residential development tariff reduced.</p> <p>The SPD also fails to consider new leisure developments and the impacts these can have due to the "unknown and variable nature of these types of development" and that a required contribution should be discussed with the Council prior to the submission of an application. These types of development have the potential to have significant impacts on the protected coastline, and the contributions may therefore be considerable. The Council must commit to including any of these forms of contribution into its annual update of the tariff, so as to reflect the correct level of financial contributions required for coastal mitigation up to 2032.</p>	<p>tariff they would have contributed an average of £1,759 to the annual budget.</p>	
Taylor Wimpey (Barton Wilmore)	General (CIL)	The SPD does not make mention of the adopted CIL in North Tyneside. The existing CIL 123 List sets out a list of those projects, or types of infrastructure, that the Council intends to fund	Our response in relation to the relationship between funding for SANG and this tariff is set	None

Consultee	Section	Comment	Council Response	Proposed Changes
		<p>through the levy. Included in this is the provision of Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANGS) which is the mechanism used at the moment to provide coastal mitigation measures.</p> <p>Our Client is concerned that developers and housebuilders will potentially be charged twice (first from SANGS and then through the proposed tariff). The SPD does not make clear the status of the CIL and how it will work alongside the SPD particularly as the CIL is already adopted. This is a clear oversight by the Council which will significantly impact upon viability and the delivery of new homes and visitor accommodation in the district.</p>	<p>out above in relation to SANGs.</p>	
Taylor Wimpey (Barton Wilmore)	General (Windfall)	<p>The draft SPD does not take into account the development of windfall housing. It is presumed that if windfalls are to come forward then they would also have to pay the tariff. However, the council have not considered this in terms of calculating the tariff. The 2019 Annual Monitoring Report outlines that on average between 2005/06 and 2017/18, 69% of completions were on non-allocated sites. Although the Local Plan was adopted in 2017, and windfalls are expected to reduce as allocated sites are delivered, our Client objects that no allowance whatsoever has been made for the development of windfalls particularly since the Council has a long history of</p>	<p>The tariff has been calculated with reference to forecast delivery in the North Tyneside SHLAA. This includes all presently known potential development sites and an allowance for windfall and other small sites. It is acknowledged that housing delivery may not occur as forecast and consideration of this will be made when undertaking the annual review of the tariff.</p>	<p>Additional information on transparency and review of the SPD has been added.</p>

Consultee	Section	Comment	Council Response	Proposed Changes
		permitting non-allocated sites.		
Taylor Wimpey (Barton Wilmore)	General (Policy)	<p>Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) states that SPD's "should build upon and provide more detailed advice or guidance on policies in an adopted local plan" (Reference ID: 61-008-20190315). Regulation 5 of the Town and Country Planning Regulation 2012 sets out that any document that contains statements regarding the "development management and site allocation policies which are intended to guide the determination of applications for planning permission" should be prepared as a Local Development Document (LDD).</p> <p>Paragraph 4.5 sets out additional requirements which will be required to be submitted alongside a planning application. Our Client objects to this as the inclusion of these two points is not in accordance with PPG and seek to guide the determination of applications and therefore should be in an LDD rather than an SPD.</p> <p>Paragraph 4.5 states that where applicants seek to provide individual mitigation matters, its planning application will have less certainty and could face potential delays. Our Client objects to this as it is pre-empting the content of a planning application. There may be specific issues raised by the development of a particular site which may best be tackled through individual measures.</p>	<p>This SPD introduces a mechanism for making planning contributions that are already established as required through Local Plan Policy DM5.6 and supporting evidence.</p> <p>The proposed approach provides a streamlined mechanism by which a suitable contribution can be made and an effective means of mitigation that can be supported by both large and small schemes.</p> <p>This SPD does not make payment of the tariff compulsory. However, once adopted the SPD will set out an approach that is agreed by Natural England as addressing the recreation impacts of development. If an alternative approach is taken applicants must provide suitable evidence to inform a Habitat</p>	None

Consultee	Section	Comment	Council Response	Proposed Changes
			Regulation compliant assessment of the development and funding of mitigation that demonstrably mitigates the proposals impacts on the international sites.	
Taylor Wimpey (Barton Wilmore)	General (Evidence)	<p>2 Regulation 8 of the Town and Country Regulations 2012 states that an SPD “must contain a reasoned justification of the policies contained in it”. One of our Client’s key objections is that this is simply not the case. There is very little evidence underpinning the SPD comprising only of the 2017 update to the Appropriate Assessment. No assessment of viability has been undertaken.</p> <p>3 Furthermore, our Client considers that there has not been sufficient engagement with appropriate partners (including our Client and other stakeholders including other house builders and developers). There appears to be little attention given to the impact the guidance will have upon viability and house building in the City contrary to the Government’s key objective of significantly boosting the supply of homes as set out in paragraph 59 of the National Planning Policy Framework (‘NPPF’).</p>	<p>The SPD is a mechanism to deliver mitigation highlighted as required within the Local Plan.</p> <p>The implications for viability of development are noted. However, all schemes must provide appropriate mitigation to address their impacts. Consequently the viability impacts are not directly relevant as a failure to make appropriate mitigation will result in schemes being refused. It is feasible that having commissioned consultants to develop site specific evidence and mitigation that can be agreed with Natural England and the Council; that a cheaper alternative</p>	Additional discussion regarding viability included within the SPD.

Consultee	Section	Comment	Council Response	Proposed Changes
			might exist for some schemes. However, the details of such alternatives are unknown and the SPD would not prevent an applicant from pursuing this approach.	
Tyne and Wear Archaeologists	General	Thank you for the consultation on this Draft SPD, which Jennifer has passed to me to review. I have read the document and I do not think the proposals will have any implications for archaeology in North Tyneside.	Comment noted.	None
Highways England	General	Thank you for consulting Highways England regarding the North Tyneside Draft Coastal Mitigation SPD. I can confirm that Highways England do not wish to comment on the contents of the Draft SPD as it does not materially impact the Strategic Road Network.	Comment noted.	None
Historic England	General	Thank you for consulting Historic England on the draft Coastal Mitigation Supplementary Planning Document. As the adviser on all matters relating to the historic environment in England, we are responding as a statutory consultee for local plans. Historic England has no comments to make on the proposals to manage the internationally	Comment noted, the scope for any works undertaken to have incidental benefits for the historic environment will be noted and considered in accordance with national policy and the Local Plan. However,	None

Consultee	Section	Comment	Council Response	Proposed Changes
		<p>important nature conservation sites. However, it is worth noting that the Special Protection Area, and the areas within its vicinity, also encompass numerous designated heritage assets. There may be opportunities to deliver joint benefits for both the natural and historic environment, and we would be happy to discuss these further with you.</p> <p>Historic England also produces a range of advice on sustaining and enhancing the historic environment, including a series of Advice Notes on planning. These can be found on our website at www.historicengland.org.uk.</p> <p>We hope that these comments are helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any further information.</p>	<p>additional costs beyond those reasonable to meet the ecological impacts of recreational disturbance could only be justified if works to or affecting heritage assets was essential to deliver mitigation and such works must inevitably fulfil the Authorities obligations in relation to those assets.</p>	

4. Engagement on Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report

A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Report on the draft SPD was subject to a six week engagement with the statutory consultees Historic England, Natural England and the Environment Agency. Historic England responded; they agreed with the Local Planning Authority's conclusion that the proposed SPD did not require to be subject to its own SEA. Natural England also responded; the topic of the Supplementary Planning Document does not relate to their interests to any significant extent and therefore they did not wish to comment.

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North Tyneside Coastal Mitigation Supplementary Planning Document

North Tyneside Council
July 2019

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1) Introduction

- 1.1 This Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) has been prepared to provide additional guidance and information on the mitigation expected to be required from development within North Tyneside to prevent adverse impacts on the internationally protected coastline.
- 1.2 The aim of this SPD is to enable North Tyneside Council to adequately protect European sites and be compliant with its duties under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, and the requirements of the Government's National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).
- 1.3 This SPD sets out a recommended developer contribution that would contribute to the avoidance or mitigation of adverse impacts on internationally protected species and habitats that arise from development within North Tyneside. This SPD provides a simple and effective way of ensuring developer compliance with requirements relating to the protection of habitats and species.

2) Policy context

- 2.1 As a SPD, this document supplements and provides further guidance on the implementation of Local Plan policy DM5.6 *Management of International Sites*:

DM5.6 Management of International Sites

In accordance with European Legislation, proposals that are likely to have significant effects on features of internationally designated sites, either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects, will require an appropriate assessment. Proposals that adversely affect a site's integrity can only proceed where there are no alternatives, imperative reasons of overriding interest are proven and the effects are compensated.

Expert advice will be sought on such proposals and, if necessary, developer contributions or conditions secured to implement measures to ensure avoidance or mitigation of, or compensation for, adverse effects. Such measures would involve working in partnership with the Council (and potentially other bodies) and could include a combination of two or more of the following mitigation measures:

- a. Appropriate signage to encourage responsible behaviour;
- b. Distribution of information to raise public awareness;
- c. Working with local schools, forums and groups to increase public understanding and ownership;
- d. Use of on-site wardens to inform the public of site sensitivities;
- e. Adoption of a code-of conduct;
- f. Zoning and/or seasonal restrictions to minimise disturbance in particular sensitive areas at particularly sensitive times;
- g. Specially considered design and use of access points and routes;
- h. Undertaking monitoring of the site's condition and species count;
- i. Provision of a Suitable Accessible Natural Green Space (SANGS).

- 2.2 The purpose of policy DM5.6 *Management of International Sites* is to avoid adverse impacts upon habitats and species of European nature conservation importance

(“European Sites”). European Sites are protected under the European Directive (92/43/EEC) on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna (the “Habitats Directive”). The Habitats Directive establishes a network of internationally important sites designated for their ecological status. These comprise of Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs). Additionally, it is a matter of policy throughout the UK that Ramsar sites identified through the Ramsar Convention (1971) should receive the same protection. The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (the “Habitats Regulations 2010”) transpose the Habitats Directive in England and Wales. The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (the “Habitats Regulations 2017”) consolidate and update the Habitats Regulations 2010.

- 2.3 The European sites that are within and around the North Tyneside area are set out under Appendix A, including a map of the extent of European sites on the North East coast. North Tyneside and adjacent authority areas’ coasts are also designated as the Northumberland Shore Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). This designation is of national importance for their bird populations or plant communities. It is likely that mitigation designed to address impacts on European site features will also provide suitable mitigation to address any impacts on the Northumberland Coast SSSI.
- 2.4 The Habitats Directive requires Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) to be undertaken on proposed plans or projects with an Appropriate Assessment (AA) as part of the HRA undertaken where proposals are likely to have a significant effect on one or more European Sites either individually, or in combination with other plans and projects.
- 2.5 The AA carried out for the Local Plan¹ advised that the Northumbria Coast SPA/Ramsar and Durham Coast SAC are the sites where likely significant effects as a result of increased recreational disturbance may occur. Northumbria Coast

¹ North Tyneside Council Local Plan Habitat Regulations Assessment - Appropriate Assessment, March 2017, Capita
<https://my.northynteside.gov.uk/sites/default/files/web-page-related-files/Habitat%20Regulations%20Assessment%20March%202017.pdf>

SPA/Ramsar and Durham Coast SAC extend along the coast both north and south of North Tyneside.

- 2.6 The AA concluded that implementation of the Local Plan could cause adverse impacts to the Durham Coast SAC and particularly to the Northumbria Coast SPA /Ramsar through residential pressure within a local catchment and visitor pressure from a wider catchment. This would arise from development particularly within a 6km buffer zone of the coast, but also with some impacts from a wider catchment. The HRA/AA therefore identified that appropriate mitigation would be required for development to take place without leading to adverse impact.

3) Cross boundary effects

- 3.1 The extent of potential impacts for development highlighted in the North Tyneside Appropriate Assessment indicate that designated features within the boundary of Northumberland County Council and South Tyneside could be impacted by development in the Borough.
- 3.2 The cross-boundary effects relating to South Tyneside are associated with the Durham Coast SAC and Northumberland Coast SPA. The likely effect from development in North Tyneside is likely to be considered limited with the River Tyne providing a barrier and the availability of alternative attractive and more accessible coastline in North Tyneside and Northumberland restricting regular visitors. South Tyneside have adopted an interim SPD² that outlines measures to mitigate the impacts of development upon the Coast. With these measures the residual impact of development in North Tyneside is considered to be mitigated. Equally, any residual impacts arising from development in South Tyneside upon international sites within North Tyneside would be of a residual nature and addressed through the approach set out in this SPD.

² South Tyneside Interim SPD – Mitigation Strategy for European Sites https://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/media/36902/Interim-Supplementary-Planning-Documents-23-Mitigation-Strategy-for-European-Sites/pdf/Interim_Supplementary_Planning_Document_23_Mitigation_Strategy_for_European_Sites_.pdf

1.1 The cross boundary effects relating to Northumberland County Council relate solely to the Northumberland Coast SPA. There is potential, particularly for new development to the north and east of North Tyneside to have significant recreational impacts into Northumberland, with Blyth approximately 6km to the north of the northern boundary of North Tyneside. Development within the coastal zone within North Tyneside and Northumberland will consequently have the potential to create recreational impacts within the neighbouring Authority area. Any strategy to introduce mitigation of these impacts and the operation of the Coastal Mitigation Service will require close and ongoing co-operation between the two Authorities to ensure cross boundary effects are appropriately addressed and the most effective mitigation of the harm potential caused to the SPA is achieved.

4) Preventing adverse impacts

- 4.1 Local Plan policy DM5.6 *Management of International Sites* recommends a range of actions and mitigation that would be appropriate to avoid or reduce adverse impacts upon European Sites. However, this mitigation is likely to be costly and ineffective in the longer term when delivered on a case-by-case basis.
- 4.2 To be most effective over the longer term, a strategic approach is required. It is proposed to introduce a coastal wardening service as part of a wider Coastal Mitigation Service that will implement a range of targeted and coordinated physical projects to mitigate the impacts at the coast. Coastal Wardens would undertake many of the activities encompassing the recommended mitigation measures set out in Local Plan policy DM5.6 *Management of International Sites*. These measures will also be reviewed in accordance with the objectives of the Northumberland Coastal SPA Site Improvement Plan³.
- awareness-raising and education, focussing on high-risk activities such as off-lead dog walking;
 - guided walks;

³ [Northumberland Coastal Site Improvement Plan](http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5340976100933632): <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5340976100933632>

- identification and monitoring of locations of particular sensitivity to birds such as high tide roosts;
- identification of locations where management activities such as temporary fenced enclosures at sites being prospected by pre-breeding terns might be required;
- identification of areas of functional land such as important roosts or feeding areas on farmland, to influence the design of agri-environment schemes;
- identification of locations that are particular disturbance hotspots and therefore require particular interventions;
- interpretation strategy and events strategy to expand knowledge and understanding of the value of the designated coastline and appropriate behaviours;
- ensure enforcement of existing Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) and consideration of PSPOs requiring owners to put their dogs on lead when directed to do so, and;

identification of potential projects to assist in reducing recreational impacts including identification of alternative locations that could support protection of protected sites.

- 4.3 The Coastal warden's Service would identify potential mitigation projects at the coast that could be implemented by the Authority. This could include physical projects to steer visitors away from the most sensitive locations and any other initiatives that could assist in protecting the coast's most sensitive locations from the cumulative impacts of development.

5) Securing appropriate funding for the delivery of Coastal Mitigation

- 5.1 The Coastal Warden Service and delivery of coordinated physical projects at the coast is the Council's preferred approach to delivering mitigation for development proposals in compliance with Local Plan policy DM5.6 *Management of International Sites*. This coastal mitigation will be the most effective way to avoid adverse impacts for most schemes within North Tyneside.

- 5.2 In accordance with the findings of the North Tyneside Local Plan AA, development with likely significant effects upon the international designated sites include new

residential development and proposals for tourist accommodation. Meanwhile, a wide range of other types of development that may increase visitor numbers to the coast could result in adverse impacts. Please see Appendix B for a full record of the use classes this SPD applies to.

5.3 To secure delivery of this coastal mitigation it is recommended that applicants make a financial contribution through a planning obligation connected to the grant of planning permission.

- **New residential and tourist accommodation development** For residential development and new tourist accommodation, a tariff based approach is proposed as the most appropriate means of identifying a suitable financial contribution from each planning application in most circumstances. As ascertained within the AA, development within 6km of the coast is likely to generate higher levels of recreational visitors to the coast but effects can arise from 5 to 10 miles. Overall journey times from all parts of North Tyneside to the coast are under 20 minutes by car and residents are likely to view the coast as an attractive location to visit. Development in all parts of the borough will therefore be expected to make a contribution.. Reflecting the greater frequency of visits likely to occur for residents within 6km of the coast a greater contribution for developments within this area is required. At this time the proportionate contribution is based on the 6km zone meeting 75% of the costs of the Coastal Mitigation Service and the remainder of the Borough meeting the remaining 25%. This reflects the evidence reported within the HRA that 75% of visits to the coast are from within 6km. This 6km area is illustrated in Appendix F.
- **Other types of development** For other development that may lead to an increase in visitor numbers to the coast, the specific impacts arising from each proposal cannot be predicted. These schemes would require screening and Appropriate Assessment to establish the effects and appropriate mitigation., A financial contribution agreed between the applicant, North Tyneside Council

and Natural England or alternative agreed measures in accordance with Policy DM 5.6 would be required.

Other exceptions There may be circumstances where the specific nature of a development means that impacts other than recreational disturbance upon the internationally designated site may arise. These schemes would require screening and Appropriate Assessment to establish the effects and appropriate mitigation to be delivered.

- 5.4 Pre-application discussions are encouraged by applicants at an early stage to identify whether a standard financial contribution based upon the defined tariff will address the potential impacts upon the international designated sites in full or further screening and appropriate assessment in accordance with the Habitat Regulations is required. Other ecological impacts arising from development will continue to require consideration.
- 5.5 Contributions to the identified coastal mitigation is not mandatory. Applicants who do contribute will:
- not be required to submit any additional evidence to demonstrate that their proposals will not lead to adverse impacts upon European Sites; and,
 - benefit from greater certainty that their proposal is in accordance with policy DM5.6 *Management of International Sites*.
- 5.6 If an applicant seeks to provide individual measures to avoid and mitigate for recreational pressure they will have less certainty and face potential delays in the consideration of the planning application, and they must:
- provide additional evidence to enable the Local Authority to undertake a Habitat Regulation Assessment with their planning application. They must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Council and Natural England that the proposed development would have no adverse impact upon European Site qualifying species and habitats, either alone or in-combination; and
 - identify and agree to deliver suitable mitigation to the enable the Council in consultation with Natural England to conclude that adverse impacts on

European Site integrity have been prevented. If mitigation to fully prevent adverse effects is not appropriate or achievable, suitable alternatives, imperative reasons of overriding public interest or compensation must be provided. If these requirements are not satisfied by the application, in accordance with DM5.6 of the Local Plan planning permission for the development would be refused.

- 5.7 Contributions to the identified coastal mitigation relate to the mitigation of adverse impacts upon European Sites only. Applicants must still submit necessary evidence and if required, measures to avoid or mitigate impacts upon other species, habitats, or designated sites that their proposals would affect.

6) Calculating the tariff

- 6.1 The level of financial contribution from each planning application required to support the coastal mitigation is informed by an estimate of the cost of providing viable and effective coastal mitigation and the amount of development anticipated to come forward up to 2032 (the life of the North Tyneside Local Plan, the “Local Plan period”).
- 6.2 The financial cost of delivery of the coastal mitigation is composed of salaries for Coastal Wardens, associated costs and overheads to enable the Coastal Wardens to undertake their day to day activities, a budget for the delivery of physical projects at the coast and a contingency to allow for continued maintenance should the level of new development decline.
- 6.3 The overall cost of delivering the identified mitigation over the Local Plan period is £2,231,044. Please see Appendix C for a breakdown of the estimated costs.
- 6.4 Local Plan policy S4.2(a) *Housing Figures* provides for at least 16,593 homes over the Plan period of 2011/12 to 2031/32. At 2019, 7,939 of these dwellings have been built or already benefit from planning permission. There are therefore 8,654 potential additional dwellings from which a financial contribution could be secured.

6.5 There are no forecasts of future development of tourist accommodation but over the life of the Local Plan some development that could include new hotels, caravans or other accommodation is anticipated. Therefore a contribution from each individual accommodation unit⁴ created, proportionate to the impact that could arise from each additional new home, is considered appropriate.

- i. Residential development within the 6km buffer zone
£337 for each net additional dwelling/unit**
- ii. Residential development beyond the 6km buffer zone
£151 for each net additional dwelling/unit**
- iii. Tourist accommodation within the 6km buffer zone, e.g. caravan parks and hotels
£153 for each net additional unit of accommodation**
- iv. Tourist accommodation beyond the 6km buffer zone, e.g. caravan parks and hotels
£69 for each net additional unit of accommodation**

6.6 Appendices D and E provide further detail on how the proposed tariffs have been identified.

6.7 It is possible that a development site may come forward whose boundaries extend across the 6km buffer zone. In such circumstances the Council will advise on a proportionate contribution to be made in accordance with nature of the site and area covered by the zone.

6.8 The contribution will apply to applications for full or outline planning permission. Developers making outline planning applications will need to provide complete information on the number of dwellings / units, so that the required calculations for contributions may be made. Without this information, the Council cannot satisfy itself

⁴ For hotels, guest houses, etc. this would be per bedroom, for campsites this would be per pitch, for caravan parks this would be per caravan.

that the level of any proposed contribution is adequate and would be unable to grant planning permission as a result.

- 6.9 The above calculations are based on current costs of delivering the identified coastal mitigation, and upon the projected housing delivery over the Local Plan period. Inflation will affect costs over the Local Plan period and actual housing delivery will inevitably vary to some extent from the projections set out in the Local Plan. The Council will monitor the level of contributions regularly to ensure that they remain fairly and reasonably related in scale to the developments from which they arise, and monitor the effectiveness of the coastal mitigation. The contribution will be revised on an annual basis from the date of adoption of this SPD to account for inflation and to ensure the delivery of a fair and effective approach to mitigation.
- 6.10 There will be other types of development such as leisure facilities and food and drink outlets, that when developed on or close to the coast, may play a role in attracting visitors and thus contribute to recreational disturbance. Such developments should contribute to mitigate any adverse impacts they could cause, but because of the unknown and variable nature of these types of development it is not possible to set a tariff. The required contribution should be determined in discussion between applicant and North Tyneside Council before a planning application is submitted. The amount of contribution will be commensurate with the nature and size of the development and degree of negative impact.

7) How will the contributions be made?

- 7.1 For developments where there will be a Section 106 Agreement, contributions will be secured through a Schedule in that Agreement.
- 7.2 For developments that would not otherwise be subject to a Section 106 Agreement, contributions will be secured through a unilateral undertaking. If the developer prefers, a contribution to be secured by unilateral undertaking can be paid in advance, so that it does not become a land charge and so there is no need for it to be signed by a mortgage company.

7.3 **Viability**

- 7.4 Unless an applicant provides alternative evidence, and proposed alternative mitigation agreed with Natural England and the Council to demonstrate that it will address the recreational disturbance impacts upon development, a contribution to the Coastal Mitigation Service will be necessary for that development to be lawfully permitted by the Local Planning Authority. If a development cannot make the appropriate contribution to mitigate its effects, the impact arising from the development would be unlawful. As a result if a contribution to this tariff or any other agreed form of mitigation, in combination with other planning obligations leads to a scheme being unviable, the contribution to coastal mitigation will not be negotiable.

DRAFT

8) Transparency and annual review

8.1 Once the Coastal Mitigation Service is in place and active it is expected to provide a framework for the delivery of a range of mitigation measures along the coast to address the impacts of development over at least the 14 years to 2032 remaining of the adopted Local Plan. However, the need for appropriate management and wardening at the coast is likely to continue as long as evidence indicates that increasing numbers of visitors can lead to harmful recreational disturbance of international sites.

8.2 Funded by developer contributions, a robust and ongoing framework to enable the mitigation measures necessary to be identified, agreed and delivered in an open and transparent manner is essential. A number of key safeguards will be in place to achieve this:

- **Coastal Mitigation Steering Group:** Comprised of senior wardens, and officer representation from North Tyneside and Northumberland
- **Authority Monitoring Report:** The monitoring of bird populations and visitor surveys undertaken by the Coastal Mitigation Service will be reported regularly to the Steering Group and will be published on an annual basis within the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). The AMR will also publish information on the developer contributions collected and spent in the previous year alongside its reporting of all section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy information.
- **Annual Action Plan:** Informed by the findings of the most up to date monitoring information an Annual Action Plan will be prepared by the Coastal Mitigation Service. The Action Plan will be submitted to the Steering Group for approval and agreed with the Council, and adjacent Council's in Northumberland and South Tyneside if any cross boundary activities are considered necessary. The Annual Action Plan will identify immediate costed actions for the next 12 months and any longer term objectives or trends that may require action in future years. The action plan will be published online and reported within the AMR.
- **Funding review:** Alongside each Annual Action Plan, informed by analysis of the funding collected to date, spending and effectiveness of the measures

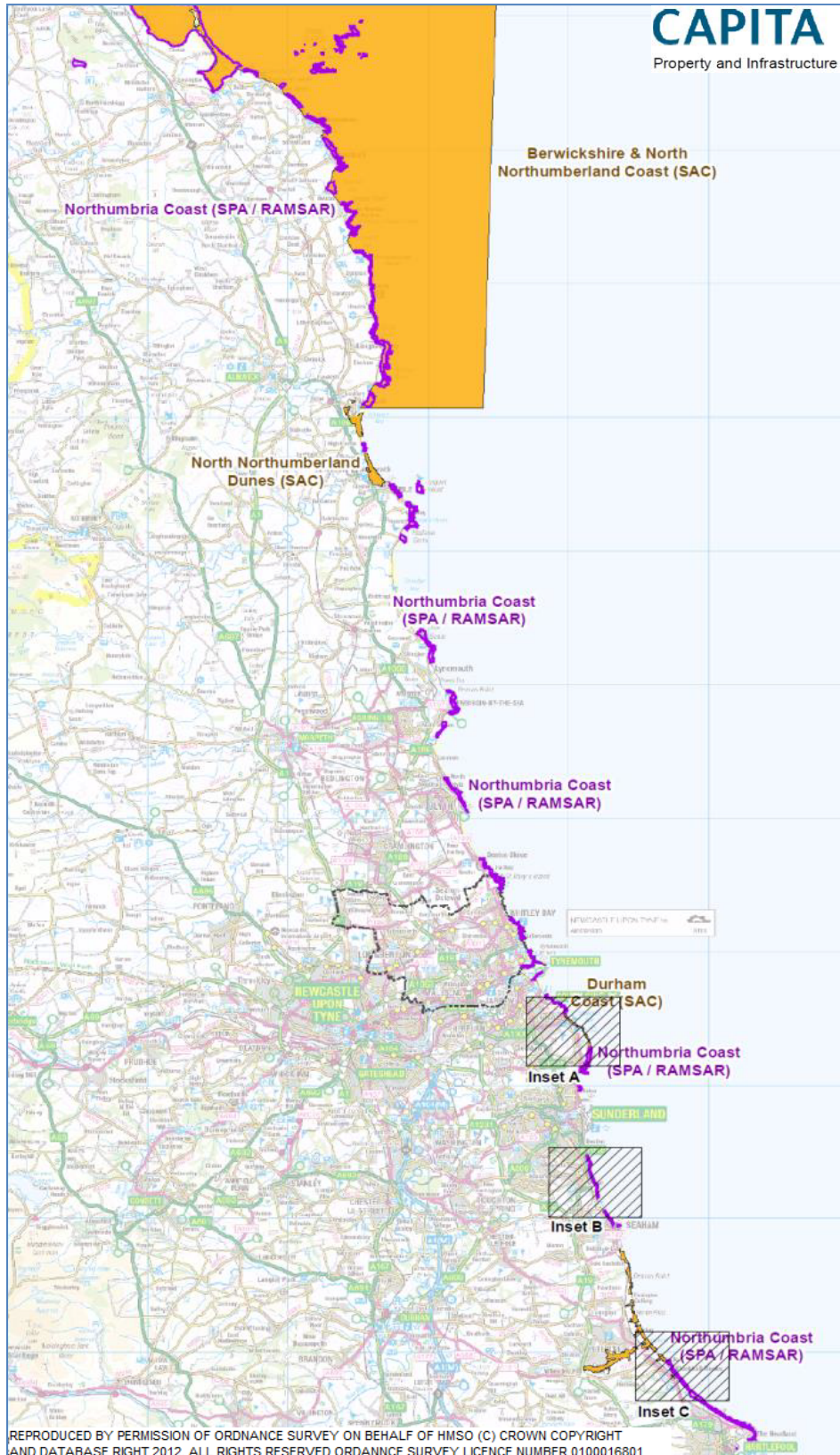
being undertaken to mitigate the recreational impacts of development a Funding Review will be prepared and published on the Council's website. This will consider whether any adjustments are necessary to the tariff up or down to ensure a proportionate contribution continues to be sought from development. This funding review will also identify any adjustment to the tariff for the coming year to reflect the rate of inflation.

8.3 Upon adoption of the SPD the initial eighteen months will be an ongoing process of gearing up. This will reflect the timeframes for commencement and completion of contributing developments that are consented from this year following adoption of the SPD. The primary activities moving forward therefore are expected to be:

- July 2019: Adoption of the Coastal Mitigation SPD
- Late 2019 to early 2020: Recruitment of staff to manage and deliver the Coastal Mitigation Service
- Mid to late 2020: Delivery of baseline activities including:
 - Erection of interpretation boards and engagement with visitors
 - Initial visitor surveys
- Autumn / Winter 2020: Commencement of wintering bird monitoring.
- Winter / Spring 2021: On-going monitoring and visitor surveys.
- Summer 2021: Year 1 review and agreement of Annual Action Plan 2021/22

9) Appendix A

Extent of international designated sites in the at the North East coast



European Site	Qualifying Features	Conservation Objectives
Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide • Large shallow inlets and bays • Reefs • Submerged or partially submerged sea caves • Grey seal 	<p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species, • The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats, • The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species, • The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely, • The populations of qualifying species, and, • The distribution of qualifying species within the site.
Durham Coast SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts 	<p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats, • The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats, and • The supporting processes on which the qualifying natural habitats rely.
North Northumberland Dunes SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embryonic shifting dunes • Shifting dunes along the shoreline with marram grass (<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>) • Shifting dunes with marram • Fixed dunes with 	<p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species, • The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats,

European Site	Qualifying Features	Conservation Objectives
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> herbaceous vegetation • Dune grassland • Dunes with creeping willow (<i>Salix repens</i>) • Humid dune slacks • Petalwort 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species, • The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely, • The populations of qualifying species, and, • The distribution of qualifying species within the site.
<p>Northumbria Coast SPA / Ramsar</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purple sandpiper (<i>Calidris maritima</i>) (non-breeding) • Ruddy turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) (non-breeding) • Little tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>) (breeding) 	<p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species, • The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats, • The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species, • The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely, • The populations of qualifying species, and, • The distribution of qualifying species within the site.

10) Appendix B

10.1 The types of development that are included are described as follows against the relevant use classes:

C1 Hotels

The coastal mitigation contribution will apply to purpose built hotels, staff accommodation, boarding and guest houses and the change of use to such where levels of guest accommodation are considered by the Council to increase upon any previous levels of accommodation provided. The coastal mitigation contribution will also apply to extensions to existing C1 uses that would increase levels of accommodation. The contribution for new tourist accommodation is based upon the calculated contributions for new residential units, adjusted for the difference in number of guests compared to average household size, and for accommodation occupancy rate.

C2 Residential Institutions

The coastal mitigation contribution will be applied to developments within the C2 use class (i.e. residential care homes, hospitals, nursing homes, boarding schools, residential colleges and training centres) on a case by case basis. In general, developments such as hospitals and residential care/nursing homes will not be considered to have a likely significant effect with regard to recreational impacts but will be considered on a case by case basis taking into account potential “in combination” effects and any associated net change in residential occupancy for carers residing on the site.

Certain types of C2 residential accommodation may also be considered to have little to no recreational impacts, including:

- Purpose built schemes for the frail elderly where there is an element of close care provided on site 24 hours a day. This level of care is above that of provision of an on-site warden service provided for sheltered accommodation. It would be expected that there would normally be an

age restriction of 60+ years for the occupants of the units and that the planning permission would be conditioned in such a way that the units could not become open market housing.

- Purpose built schemes for the accommodation of disabled people, where by the nature of the residents' disabilities, they are unlikely to have any impact on the coastal protected sites.

Relevant conditions may need to be attached to any planning permission to ensure that no significant effects can arise for the lifetime of the development including for example, preventing further changes of use within the C2 use class and ensuring that units will not become open market housing.

C3 Dwelling Houses

The coastal mitigation contribution will apply to dwelling housings, including affordable houses, flats, annexes, retirement and age restricted properties and the change of use to such.

C4 Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO)

The coastal mitigation contribution will apply to purpose built HMOs, including proposals for large HMOs (i.e. 6 or more people sharing) that are unclassified by the Use Classes Order and are 'sui generis'. The coastal mitigation contribution will also apply to the extension of existing HMOs where they are considered by the Council to provide additional levels of occupancy. The coastal mitigation contribution will apply to the change of use from C3 to C4 where levels of occupancy increase.

Other Types of Development (Sui Generis)

Camp and caravan sites -The coastal mitigation contribution will apply to proposals for temporary, seasonal and permanent camp and caravan sites and extensions to such where the number of pitches or guest accommodation increases. This includes applications to extend temporary planning consent. If subsequently made permanent, no additional contribution will be sought. The contribution for new tourist accommodation is based upon the calculated contributions for new residential units,

adjusted for the difference in number of guests compared to average household size, and for accommodation occupancy rate.

Mobile and temporary dwellings - The coastal mitigation contribution will apply to proposals for mobile or temporary dwellings. If subsequently made permanent no additional contribution will be sought.

Temporary and permanent gypsy and traveller pitches - The coastal mitigation contribution will apply to proposals for temporary and permanent gypsy and traveller pitches and the extension of sites for such. If subsequently made permanent no additional contribution will be sought.

The coastal mitigation contribution will apply to proposals that are considered likely to increase the visitor draw and appeal of the coast.

Changes of Use or Replacement Development

The coastal mitigation contribution will apply where there is a net increase in units, with the charge required informed by the difference in levels of disturbance created between the previous/existing and proposed use.

11) Appendix C

Annual cost of coastal mitigation, including:

- Full time senior warden
- Full time assistant warden
- Van and fuel
- Equipment
- Training
- Project budget
- Contingency for periods of low housing delivery

Total annual cost of coastal mitigation = £159,360

Local Plan period from 2019 to 2032 = 14 years

Total cost of coastal mitigation over Local Plan period:

£159,360 p.a. x 14 years

=

£2,231,044

12) Appendix D

Calculation of contribution per net new dwelling

Total cost of coastal mitigation over Local Plan period:

£2,231,044

Number of dwellings proposed over Local Plan period within 6km of the coast:

4,963 homes

Number of dwellings proposed over Local Plan period beyond 6km of the coast:

3,691 homes

- New residential units within 6km of the coast to contribute 75% of total cost of coastal mitigation:

$$(\text{£}2,231,044 \times 0.75) / 4,963$$

=

£337 per net new residential unit

- New residential units beyond 6km of the coast to contribute 25% of total cost of coastal mitigation:

$$(\text{£}2,231,044 \times 0.25) / 3,691$$

=

£151 per net new residential unit

13) Appendix E

Calculation of contribution per net new accommodation unit

The contribution for new tourist accommodation is based upon the calculated contributions for new residential units, adjusted for the difference in number of guests compared to average household size, and for accommodation occupancy rate.

The calculation uses:

- The North Tyneside average household size of 2.2 persons,
- An anticipated average of two guests within an accommodation unit, and
- An anticipated average of an annual occupancy rate of 50%.

The calculation is:

$$\begin{aligned} & ((\text{Number of guests per unit} / \text{average household size}) \\ & \quad \times \\ & \quad \text{contribution per net new residential unit}) \\ & \quad / \\ & \quad \text{Occupancy rate} \end{aligned}$$

For new accommodation units within 6km of the coast:

$$\begin{aligned} & ((2 / 2.2) \\ & \quad \times \\ & \quad \text{£337}) \\ & \quad / \\ & \quad 0.5 \\ & \quad = \end{aligned}$$

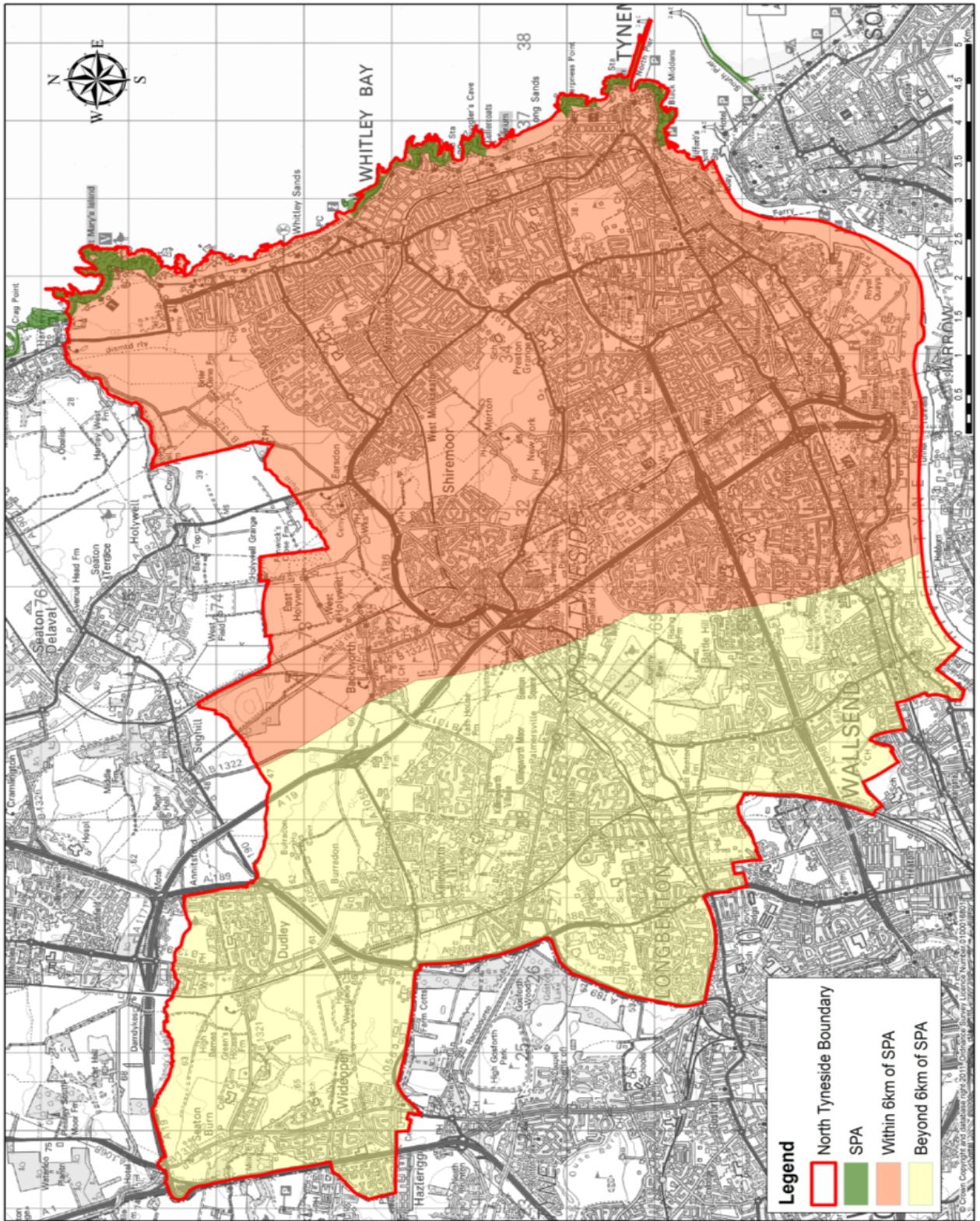
£153 per net new accommodation unit

For new accommodation units beyond 6km of the coast:

$$\begin{aligned} & ((2/2.2) \\ & \quad \times \\ & \quad \text{£151}) \\ & \quad / \\ & \quad 0.5 \\ & \quad = \end{aligned}$$

£69 per net new accommodation unit

14) Appendix F



North Tyneside Council Report to Cabinet Date: 29 July 2019

ITEM 5(f)

Title: Stairlift, Through floor lift, Step Lifts & Ceiling Track Term Contract 2020-23

Portfolio(s): Adult Social Care

Cabinet Member(s): Councillor Gary Bell

Report from Service

Area: Adult Social Care

Responsible Officer: Jacqui Old
Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding. **Tel: (0191) 643 7317**

Wards affected: All

PART 1

1.1 Purpose:

The purpose of the report is to seek approval for the Authority to undertake a procurement exercise in order to appoint a preferred provider to install and maintain stairlifts, through floor lifts, Step Lifts and ceiling track hoists in domestic properties. In accordance with Contract Standing Order 8(4), this report requests approval to proceed with a procurement exercise as the estimated potential contract value is in excess of £500,000.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Cabinet authorise the Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding in consultation with the Head of Law and Governance, the Head of Resources and the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, to

- (a) undertake a procurement exercise compliant with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 in order to identify a preferred provider for the installation and maintenance of stairlifts, through floor lifts and ceiling track hoists in domestic properties; and
- (b) to award a contract for the installation and maintenance of stairlifts, through floor lifts, Step Lifts and ceiling track hoists in domestic properties for a period of 3 years, commencing April 2020 with an option to extend for one year, on the basis of the most economically advantageous tender.

1.3 Forward Plan:

Twenty eight days notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 3 May 2019.

1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

This report relates to the following priority(ies) in the 2018/21 Our North Tyneside Plan:

Our People will:

- Be listened to so that their experience helps the Council work better for residents.
- Be healthy and well.
- Be cared for, protected and supported if they become vulnerable.
- Be encouraged and enabled to, when ever possible, be more independent.

1.5 Information:

1.5.1 Background

1.5.2 The Care Act 2014 (the Act) sets out a range of duties and responsibilities on the Authority in relation to this matter and defines 'eligibility criteria' for care and support. Section 13 of the Act includes a duty for the Authority to determine whether an individual's needs meet the eligibility criteria under the Act. Once the Authority has determined that they do, Section 18 of the Act imposes an obligation on the Authority to meet that individual's needs for care and support.

1.5.3 In order to contribute towards its fulfilment of the duty referred to at 1.5.2 above, the Authority has a contract with an external contractor for the installation and maintenance of stairlifts, through floor lifts, Step Lifts and ceiling track hoists in domestic properties. This contract was awarded on 1 April 2016 and expires on the 31 March 2020.

1.5.4 The contract is not tenure specific meaning that it covers installations for council housing tenants and, through the Disabled Facilities Grant process, includes non-council tenants and owner occupiers.

1.5.5 The Authority maximises resources where it can by removing and re-cycling installations when they are no longer required. All of the installations are serviced in accordance with statutory requirements and breakdowns are responded to in accordance with agreed timescales.

1.6 Decision options:

The following decision options are available for consideration by Cabinet:

Option 1

In accordance with the recommendations at paragraph 1.2 above:

(a) to approve the recommendation to undertake a procurement exercise compliant with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 in order to identify a preferred provider for the installation and maintenance of stairlifts, through floor lifts, Step Lifts and ceiling track hoists in domestic properties; and

(b) award a contract for 3 years, to commence April 2020 with an option to extend for one year, on the basis of the most economically advantageous tender.

Option 2

Not to approve the recommendation to undertake a procurement exercise in order to identify a preferred provider for the installation and maintenance of stairlifts, through floor lifts and ceiling track hoists in domestic properties.

Option 1 is the recommended option.

1.7 Reasons for recommended option:

Option 1 is recommended for the following reasons:

As identified above, the Authority has a statutory obligation to meet the care and support needs to those individuals within the Borough that meet the various eligibility criteria as defined by the Care Act 2014. The procurement exercise and ultimate contract award recommended by this Report, is aimed at ensuring continuity of service provision so to enable the Authority to award a contract for the provision of this service when the current contract comes to an end on 31 March 2020. This will ensure continuity of statutory provision and is the best way of achieving best value for money for the Authority.

1.8 Appendices:

None.

1.9 Contact officers:

Eleanor Binks, Assistant Director for Service Integration tel. (0191) 643 7076
Michael Cavagin, Manager of Adaptations, Loan Equipment & Governance, tel. (0191) 643 7947
Cathy Davison, Principal Accountant, Investment (Capital) and Revenue. Tel (0191) 6435727
Darrell Campbell, Senior Business Partner (Interim), Housing Property and Construction & HRA. Tel (0191) 6437052

1.10 Background information:

The following background papers/information have been used in the compilation of this report and are available at the office of the author:

- (1) The Care Act 2014
http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/pdfs/ukpga_20140023_en.pdf
- (2) Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/53/section/108>

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. The costs of undertaking the tender exercise will be met within existing revenue budgets within the relevant service areas.

Delivery of the contract will be funded from several existing budgets: Disabled Facilities Grant Programme, Housing Capital, Housing Revenue Account and Social Services Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Adaptations. It is anticipated that the new contract will be able to be delivered within these existing budgets. If, following the tender process, the contract cannot be delivered within the existing budgets, a further report will be brought to Cabinet or Council, as appropriate, for a decision before the contract is awarded. The proposed contract will seek to secure value for money for the Council.

2.2 Legal

The provisions of the Care Act 2014 and the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 place statutory duties on the Authority to carry out assessments of the needs of the individuals within the Borough. Once needs have been identified, the Authority has a statutory obligation to meet those needs.

As the value of the proposed contract as a whole exceeds £500,000 the Authority's Contract Standing Orders require Cabinet approval for this process. Any procurement process will be undertaken in accordance with the Authority's Contract Standing Orders and EU and UK public procurement requirements. Any award will be based on the most economically advantageous tender and the successful contractor will be appointed on terms and conditions approved by the Head of Law and Governance.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

2.3.1 Internal Consultation

The proposal to go out to tender has been discussed with and is supported by Councillor Gary Bell, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care.

2.3.2 External Consultation/Engagement

The tender exercise will provide the necessary external consultation at this point in line with statutory procurement rules.

2.4 Human rights

There are no human rights implications directly arising from this report.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

There are no equalities and diversity implications directly arising from this report.

2.6 Risk management

There are no significant risks associated with the proposed tender exercise.

2.7 Crime and disorder

There are no crime and disorder implications directly arising from this report.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

There are no environment and sustainability implications arising directly from this report.

PART 3 - SIGN OFF

- Chief Executive X
- Head(s) of Service X
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s) X
- Chief Finance Officer X
- Monitoring Officer X
- Head of Corporate Strategy and Customer Service X

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

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