



North Tyneside Council

Overview, Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee

Monday, 8 March 2021

Monday, 15 March 2021 This meeting will be held remotely via Teams - Remote Meeting commencing at 6.00 pm.

Agenda Item	Page
1. Apologies for Absence	
To receive apologies for absence from the meeting.	
2. Appointment of Substitute Members	
To receive a report on the appointment of Substitute Members.	
3. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations	
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 and dispensation in relation to any registrable and/or non-registerable interests that have been granted to you in respect of any matters appearing on the agenda.	
4. Minutes	5 - 8
To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2021.	
5. Accommodation Update March 2021	9 - 28
To receive a presentation that provides an update on changes within the Authority's operational accommodation.	
6. Efficiency Savings Programme - update report	29 - 52
To receive an update on projects and business cases within the Efficiency Savings Programme.	

Members of the public are entitled 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.

Agenda Item	Page
7. Our North Tyneside Plan Performance Report	53 - 82
To receive an update report on the progress that has been made to delivering the Our North Tyneside Plan.	
8. Engie Sub-group Report	To Follow
To receive the findings of the scrutiny undertaken by the Engie Sub-group into the Authority Partner.	
9. Scrutiny Annual report	83 - 94
To receive the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2020/21.	

Circulation overleaf ...

Members of the Overview, Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee

Councillor Jim Allan (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Brian Burdis
Councillor Sandra Graham (Chair)
Councillor Janet Hunter
Councillor Andy Newman
Councillor Martin Rankin
Councillor Joe Kirwin

Councillor Alison Austin
Councillor Karen Clark
Councillor Muriel Green
Councillor Anthony McMullen
Councillor Pat Oliver
Councillor Debbie Cox
Councillor Willie Samuel

Mrs Michelle Ord, Parent Governor Representative
Rev Michael Vine, Church Representative
Mr Stephen Fallon, Church Representative

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Overview, Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee

Tuesday, 2 February 2021

Present: Councillor S Graham (Chair)
Councillors J Allan, A Austin, B Burdis, K Clark, M Green,
Janet Hunter, A McMullen, A Newman, P Oliver,
M Rankin, M Ord, D Cox, J Kirwin and S Fallon

In attendance: Councillors J OShea and R Glendon
S Fallon – Church Representative
M Ord – Parent Governor Representative

Apologies: Councillor W Samuel and Rev Vine – Church
Representative

OV72/21 Appointment of Substitute Members

Pursuant to the Council's constitution the appointment of the following substitute Member was reported: - Councillor J O'Shea for Councillor W Samuel.

OV73/21 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Cllr Karen Clark declared a registerable personal interest in Item 5 Children and Young Peoples Plan 2021-2025 as she holds the position of Chief Executive Officer for the Community Interest Company (CIC) Justice Prince.

Stephen Fallon – Church Representative declared a non-registerable personal interest in Item 5 Children and Young Peoples Plan 2021-2025 & Item 6 Children's Readiness for School report, he is a Head Teacher in a primary school in North Tyneside.

Stephen Fallon – Church Representative declared a non-registerable personal interest in Item 6 Children's Readiness for School report, he is a Head Teacher in a primary school in North Tyneside

Councillor Pat Oliver declared a non-registerable personal interest in Item 5 Children and Young Peoples Plan 2021-2025. She has a family member in receipt of SEND services.

Councillor Janet Hunter declared a non-registerable personal interest in Item 6 Children's readiness for school report, she is a governor for Benton Dene school.

OV74/21 Minutes of the meeting 18 January 2021

Resolved that the minute of the meeting held on 18 January 2021 be confirmed.

OV75/21 Children and Young People's Plan 2021 - 2025

In line with the Councils Policy Framework a further report in relation to the Children's and

Young Peoples Plan 2021 -2025 was received that provided additional information in relation to queries raised by the Committee that met on the 18 January 2021;

- The number and rate of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) and approaches to support young people
- The proportion of children with SEND educated outside of North Tyneside
- The priorities within the developing Autism Strategy
- The priorities within the developing SEND Inclusion Strategy

The Assistant Director, SEND was in attendance and responded to members questions.

In relation to the young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET), it was noted that information was expressed in percentage terms. Members requested the numeric figure in relation to the percentages be provided.

A member asked for clarification in the understanding of the percentages of NEETS, with the comparisons with both the North East region and nationally. In response it was confirmed that the majority of measures for North Tyneside were better than those nationally except in relation to 16-17year olds who are NEET.

A member raised that the impact from Covid-19 on NEET young people in the last year, would have been excessive as they would have had no contact with teachers. It was asked what strategy or plans were in place to ensure no young person would be further disadvantaged. In response, assurance was given that cross service approach in keeping in contact and supporting young people and their families throughout the Covid -19 pandemic had continued.

A further question was asked if the availability and delivery of college courses over the last year had changed and would impact young people. It was stated there was not a great difference in courses available to young people, however, they may choose to extend their learning due to the interruption to their studies and services were working on an individual basis to support young people to find the most appropriate plan for them.

A member stated that there were some great positives and there were some very noticeable good cross service/agency partnerships supporting and working together to help young people in employment, education and training programmes.

There was concern that children were losing contact or ground during covid-19 especially when there is reliance on external agencies for support and guidance and it was raised that there was inconsistency over this period. It was stated that some agencies would not engage with children and families after the schools had brokered meetings with parents for assessments to take place.

It was stated that this did not match the aspirations to meet the needs of children in the strategies and plans often put forward. There was frustration that some agencies could opt out of providing support. It was asked what joined up thinking was there between agencies?

In response it was stated that there was an aim to ensure support was joined up as much as possible, there were services working under differing remits, health, social care and education and guidance given for each had not been consistent. An offer was made that any

particular instances could be raised with service leads. It was asked if this could be pursued as the most vulnerable children would be impacted more through the current situation and that looking forward there needed to be more joined up approach as feeling was many agencies opt out.

It was stated that there was a fear that some children that had been disproportionately affected from current situations and aid was required quickly to support these young people.

Clarification was asked to the increase in, out of borough placements and in response it was explained there were two types of out of borough placements, pre and post 16. Of the 215 approximately 160 are post 16 and attend education facilities outside of North Tyneside. The remaining are pre 16, where some attended educational facilities in the locality, some attended facilities across the country which could have a residential aspect, and the remaining receiving care that was not available within North Tyneside.

A member questioned the size of the consultation group to aid the production of the All Age Autism Strategy and asked if consultation was undertaken with carers and parents in supported living. In response the officer offered to forward the information required to the member.

A member asked and was advised that the comparisons in attainment of young people in NEET who were looked after children compared to those not, would be provided to the member.

Agreed that the Children's and Young Peoples Plan 2021-2025 report be noted.

OV76/21 Children's Readiness for School

The Committee received the report of the Children's Readiness for School sub-group.

The sub-group was set up by the Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee to review the early intervention support available to parents in North Tyneside to enable children to be ready for school and to identify any improvements.

Councillor M Thirlaway, Chair of the sub-group attended the meeting to present the findings.

All North Tyneside, first, primary schools and nurseries were surveyed a number of times to elicit their views on provision available through the circulation of a questionnaire. The sub-group met representatives from Private Nurseries and officers from the Early Help Services Team, Health Visiting and School Nurse Service to aid the scrutiny.

It was stated that the engagement responses from schools had been disappointing, where only five schools responded. Gratitude was given to the Head Teachers of the schools, the officer teams and private nurseries that did engage. It was thought greater engagement would have benefited the scrutiny and would have allowed the opportunity to make more definitive recommendations.

A member proposed that a future approach could be to use Head Teacher briefings as an alternative to the approach to the individual schools.

Overview, Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee

Members discussed the importance of ensuring the children were ready for school and suggested that the engagement with and listening to parents' concerns was paramount.

Agreed that the Children's Readiness for School sub-group report be referred to Cabinet.

Accommodation Update March 2021

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North Tyneside Council

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Executive Summary

This presentation provides an update on changes within the Authority's operational accommodation.

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These changes align with the Authority's three year Estates Strategy 2018-2021



The Estates Strategy – Aims and Objectives

- The **aim** of the Estate Strategy is to ensure the Authority has an estate that represents maximum efficiency and supports the priorities of the Mayor, the Cabinet Our North Tyneside Plan, and the Ambition for North Tyneside.
- Maximum efficiency means; the optimum numbers of buildings and land holdings, used as effectively as possible, with minimum carbon impact and running costs and maximum benefit.



The objectives of the Estate Strategy are to:

- Maintain the optimum number of buildings to meet the needs of North Tyneside
- Ensure that the buildings are fit for their intended purpose
- Maximise the use of those buildings
- Reduce the Authority's Carbon Footprint
- Reduce the running cost of the estate
- Develop and maintain the right asset management plan for that estate
- Maximise income from the estate
- To maximise the value of our land and property
- Maintain the best land and property holdings for economic development and investment.



Overview of Completed Accommodation Changes

Property	Change/Achievement
Meadow Well Centre, Avon Avenue, North Shields	Vacated as an operational base in 2014. Sold to the Cedarwood Trust in August 2016.
66 Marine Avenue, Whitley Bay	Former residential accommodation for people with learning difficulties. Service re-provided in private accommodation. Building sold in October 2017.
Shiremoor Centre	Moorbridge School relocated to the building in July 2018 with North Tyneside Disability Forum taking occupation of the school building at the same time.
Camden House, North Shields	The building was vacated as an operational office base in 2013. The building was subsequently sub-let to the CAB in March 2017. The lease to the Authority has now terminated with effect from September 2019.
White Swan	Care Call and the CCTV Operation Teams relocated to the building by March 2018



Overview of Completed Accommodation Changes

Property	Change/Achievement
Youth Village, North Shields	Part NTC operational (PALS top floor), part leased to Barnardos training provider (ground floor) and Health (top floor). Remaining space being actively marketed.
Oaktrees Nursery	The building was leased to a private nursery provider in June 2018
Wallsend Children's Centre	The building was leased to a private nursery provider in June 2018
Howdon Community Centre	Building now managed by Family Gateway under a long lease arrangement which commenced in April 2019
Battle Hill Community Centre	Building now managed by the Linskill Trust under a long lease arrangement which commenced on 2019
Royal Quays Community Centre	Building now managed by the Linskill Trust under a long lease arrangement which commenced in April 2019
Dial Cottage, Westmoor	Sold for refurbishment as a holiday let in January 2020



OUR PEOPLE - will be ready for work and life

With the right skills and abilities to achieve their full potential, economic independence and meet business needs



- New Training Provider for the Youth Village
- Improved Employment Prospects for Young People
- Rental Income
- Revenue Savings

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OUR PEOPLE - will be ready for school

Giving our children and their families the best start in life

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Oaktrees Nursery



Wallsend Children's Centre

- The Future of Two Nurseries Secured
- Continued Under 5's Provision
- Employment Opportunities
- Revenue Savings

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Our People will be encouraged and enabled to be more independent, volunteer and do more for themselves and their local communities



Battle Hill Multi Use Centre



Royal Quays Community Centre



Howdon Community Centre

- Three Community Centres Being Managed by Community Organisations
- Improved footfall
- Increase in community activities and volunteering
- Revenue savings

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Key Ongoing Projects – Depot Accommodation Review

- Killingworth Site
 - New Welfare Facilities
 - New Fuel Facility
 - New Staff Car Park
 - Block A Refurbishment Complete Spring 2021
 - Solar PV Works Commencing Spring 2021
 - Fleet Workshop Refurbishment Commencing Spring 2021
- Norham Road Depot Refurbished
 - New Welfare & Office Facilities
 - New Fuel Facility
- E1 Depot Vacated



Key Ongoing Projects – The Killingworth Site (Block A / New Staff Car Park)



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Key Ongoing Projects – Norham Road Depot



Key Ongoing Projects – Quadrant East and West

Quadrant East

- 7 desks leased to Multi Agency Support Hub

Quadrant West subletting

- Ground floor – a paying Capita business occupy the open plan office at the rear. Also on the ground floor, are the Credit Union and the Social Care Family Visit Facilities
- 1st floor – Accenture continue to occupy – lease ends April 2022
- 2nd floor – the Capita Partnership now occupy the whole floor
- 3rd floor – North of Tyne Combined Authority occupy on a temporary basis until their new offices in Newcastle are complete. The space is being actively marketed



Key Ongoing Projects – Wallsend Customer First Centre



- New ground floor Police office in former community room
- New second floor NHS recovery clinic in part of the former vacant second floor
- Both new tenants expected to move in Spring 2021

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Key Ongoing Projects – Wallsend Customer First Centre

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- Current phase of works aims to continue the development of the building into a true Community Hub, aiming to benefit the Boroughs residents
- Next proposed phase (pending funding award) is to develop the remaining second floor into a voluntary and community hub.

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Other Key Property Projects – The Cemetery Review

A review of the cemetery estate was presented to the Strategic Property Group in February 2019 and officers were asked to progress the disposal of the following cemetery buildings and reinvest the proceeds of sale into the remaining cemetery estate in accordance with an agreed Cemetery Estate Asset Management Plan

- The Lodge at Holy Cross Cemetery (now sold)
- The Lodge, East and West Chapels with associated Outbuildings (Church Biers) at Church Bank Cemetery.
- The Lodge at Benton Cemetery (future years)

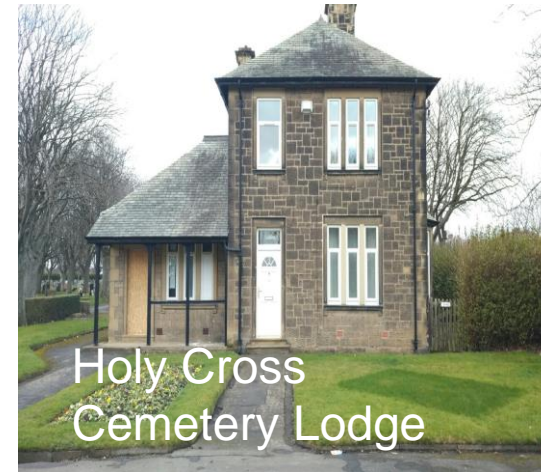
Additional funding of £100k per annum for five years from the Asset Planned Maintenance Budget for investment in the cemetery estate.



Church Bank Chapel



Church Bank Lodge



Holy Cross Cemetery Lodge

Other Key Property Projects – Housing Delivery

- **Wallington Close, North Shields** – Former residential home now developed as 12 bungalows by Aurora Properties
- **Northumberland Square, North Shields** – Former Council offices now developed with 12 new refurb and 16 new build homes completed by Aurora Properties
- **Former Cedars Care home, North Shields** – currently being developed for 12 HRA houses

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Wallington Close, North Shields



Northumberland Square Development

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Other Key Property Projects - Housing Delivery

- **Edwin Grove, Wallsend** – Former children’s home demolished and rebuilt as HRA homes
- **Former Backworth School** – Demolished with planning approval in place for 7 new homes by Aurora Properties
- **Tynemouth Library** – Cabinet approval to demolish and re-provide a new library/building society and 6 residential homes.

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What we need to do next:

- Achieve the optimum number of operational buildings through the potential relocation of services to the Killingworth site by the end of 2021 to provide a Borough wide depot service.
- Continue to reduce the overall running costs of operational estate
- Continue to reduce the revenue cost of the Quadrant Campus through sub-letting/sharing opportunities
- Bring the remaining vacant space on the second floor of Wallsend Customer First Centre into beneficial use
- Maintain a compliant operational estate
- Reduce the Authority's backlog maintenance on its operational estate
- Consider new corporate operating models post lockdown
- Draft a new Estates Strategy for the period 2021-25.



Meeting: Overview, Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee

Date: Monday 15th March 2021

Title: Efficiency Savings Programme:
2020/21 Quarter 3: Progress Report

Author: Janice Gillespie

Tel: 0191 643 5701

Service: Resources

Wards affected: All

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to update Overview, Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee on the Quarter 3 position of key 2020/21 projects and business cases within the overall Efficiency Savings Programme.

2. Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to note the position of the projects, in terms of both project and savings delivery.

3. Summary

The overall savings requirement for the 2020/21 business cases agreed by Council in February 2020 is £3.622m. This is made up of £0.805m of business cases new to 2020/21, £1.346m for the impact of prior year business cases on 2020/21 and £1.471m of business cases within Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding that were previously achieved by management actions that require permanent delivery in 2020/21.

The delivery of some of the savings proposals in 2020/21 are expected to be significantly impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic especially within Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding and Commissioning & Asset Management. These services are actively exploring all options to ensure the delivery of the savings in 2020/21 but a red RAG rating has been applied to the majority of these savings as the impact of Covid-19 is still being considered.

The Authority has implemented significant change to support delivery of its Efficiency Savings Programme and its six key priority outcomes:

- Ready for School
- Ready for Work and Life
- Cared for, Safeguarded and Healthy
- Great Place to Live, Work Visit
- Fit for Purpose Organisation
- Maximising Resources

As part of the 2020-2024 financial planning process, the Cabinet and Council agreed an Efficiency Plan which set out a series of projects which would deliver required savings whilst delivering priority outcomes. These projects form the basis of this report.

The Authority's financial position at the end of quarter three reports that:

- £0.017m has been delivered against the overall target via project activities outlined in associated business cases;
- A further £1.714m is expected to be delivered against the targets during the course of the financial year;
- £1.891m of the overall target remains to be delivered at this stage of the financial year.

Currently the full £1.891m of the amount to be achieved is being reported as having been impacted by Covid-19 and as such is forecasted to be allocated against the available Local Authority Support Fund.

4. Background Information

The following documents have been used in the compilation of this report:

- Efficiency Savings Programme 2020/21 Update Report: Quarter 3 (attached)

Efficiency Savings Programme

2020/21
Quarter 3 Report



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Executive Summary

This is the 2020/21 Quarter 3 Progress Report summarising the delivery status of the Efficiency Savings Programme as at 30 November 2020.

The overall savings requirement for the 2020/21 business cases agreed by Council in February 2020 is £3.622m. This is made up of £0.805m of business cases new to 2020/21, £1.346m for the impact of prior years' on 2020/21 and £1.471m of business cases within Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding that were previously achieved by management actions that require permanent delivery in 2020/21.

The delivery of some of the savings proposals in 2020/21 are expected to be significantly impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic especially within Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding and Commissioning & Asset Management. These services are actively exploring all options to ensure the delivery of the savings in 2020/21 but a red RAG rating has been applied to the majority of these savings as the impact of Covid-19 is still being considered.

This report shows the outcome of both the project work and the realisation of associated savings, broken down by the six key outcomes: Ready for School; Ready for Work and Life; Cared for, Safeguarded & Healthy; Great Place to Live, Work and Visit; Fit for Purpose Organisation; and Managing Resources.

The Authority's Quarter 3 position shows that:

- £0.017m has been achieved and coded out in the general ledger;
- £1.714m is forecast to be achieved (total of RAGs below); and,
- £1.891m is still to be achieved.

Currently the full £1.891m of the amount to be achieved is being reported as having been impacted by Covid-19 and as such is forecasted to be allocated against the available Local Authority Support Fund.

As part of the Council's programme management arrangements, all business cases and projects within the Efficiency Savings Programme are monitored on a regular basis. Each project is given a RAG rating for project delivery and savings delivery. The definitions and numbers of projects falling into those categories are shown in the table below.

Work Delivery			Savings Delivery			£m
Total Savings Requirement						3.622
Blue	All milestones complete	10	Blue	Full saving realised and coded in the General Ledger	7	0.017
Green	All milestones are forecasted to be met within timescales; no concerns about delivery of future milestones	6	Green	Full saving forecasted to be realised but not yet coded in the General Ledger.	6	1.360
Achieved savings						1.377
Amber	Some milestones delayed and/or minor concern about delivering some future milestones	4	Amber	Projected shortfall in savings up to a value of £0.050m.	4	0.224
Red	Milestones significantly delayed and/or major concern about delivering future milestones	3	Red	Projected shortfall in savings in excess of £0.050m	6	0.130
Forecasted to be achieved						0.354
Total projected to be achieved						1.731
Still to achieve						1.891

Ready for School

Continue to Redesign 0-19 Services (2020/21 target: £0.153m)

Starting with ante-natal services this proposal aims to continue our work to target our services at need and to manage demand for more specialist services. Critical to delivery will be the Healthy Child Programme and the work to increase the richness and consistency of the Early Help offer. This approach links to Government Policy and best practice through concentrating on prevention and developing more schools to deliver Early Years, which, in turn, saves money and avoids cost.

Savings from Full Year Effect of 2019/20 Saving	(£0.265m)
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Troubled Families Income ((£0.265m))

This proposal from 2019/20 represented a continuation of the effective redesign and delivery of 0-19 services that had previously included the introduction of locality teams in 2015 and their expansion in 2017, the establishment of a Ready for School Centre in 2018, and a partnership approach to helping turn around troubled families. In addition to the attachment fees and transformation grant linked to the national Troubled Families programme, there was an opportunity to secure additional “payment by results” income for the work done with children and families, when a series of success measures were met. North Tyneside’s programme achieved payment by results income for 100% of the families that it worked with and secured £0.265m of income linked to this. This was a one-off income proposal in 2019/20, separate to the core transformation grant that the Authority receives, and this represents the removal of the £0.265m in 2020/21.

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Complete	RAG (this period)	Complete
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The removal of the £0.265m of the prior year savings target was completed and coded into the base budget for 2020/21 and is therefore completed.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Complete	RAG (this period)	Complete
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The saving was fully achieved in 2019/20 and as planned has been removed in the 2020/21 base budget.

A. Early Help & Vulnerable Families (£0.065m)

A review will be carried out of the range of partnership services commissioned to deliver 0-19 services and seek opportunities to maximise their efficiency and ensure they are aligned to the overall delivery model in North Tyneside.

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Green	RAG (this period)	Complete
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The full savings target of £0.065m has been achieved.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Green	RAG (this period)	Complete
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Contracts have been reviewed and re-negotiated or ceased and, therefore, the savings are achieved.

B. Selling Capacity at Riverdale (£0.025m)**Savings Delivery Status**

RAG (last period)	Amber	RAG (this period)	Amber
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The current forecast is that the full saving target of £0.025m is still to be achieved. The current forecast is that the saving will not be achieved via the original intention of generating income from selling capacity, however, there is evidence that the use of this internal provision, as opposed to the use of externally commissioned care, is significantly more cost-effective and is, therefore, avoiding significantly increased costs.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Amber	RAG (this period)	Amber
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The demand for and sufficiency of placements for children in care will continue to be closely monitored and managed. There has not been any internal capacity in 2020/21 as a result of caring for children in North Tyneside homes, including Riverdale. This is more cost-effective than commissioning external placements, where this is appropriate, but the position will continue to be closely monitored and, where there is internal capacity, this may be sold via regional commissioning arrangements.

C. Public Health (£0.328m)

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Complete	RAG (this period)	Complete
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The entire £0.328m has been achieved in 2020/21. The original milestone aimed for the saving to be coded in the General Ledger in April 2019 however, this was mitigated in 2019/20 and has now been realised in this financial year.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Complete	RAG (this period)	Complete
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This proposal was agreed as part of the 2018/19 budget and related to plans to renegotiate contracts relating to drug and alcohol, 0-19 service, sexual health, stop smoking, health checks, and health promotion within the Public Health service. Work has taken place during 2018/19 and 2019/20 and new contracts are in place to enable a saving to be realised in 2020/21.

Ready for Work and Life

Delivering Whole System Support to Children with Additional Needs (2020/21 target: £0.228m)

Changes in legislation and national policy regarding children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) have placed significant additional demands on local authorities. These changes also place an additional emphasis on the role of “local areas” to meet the needs of children with additional needs, including the full range of partners involved.

Rising demand has created significant pressures for all local authorities and their partners and reinforced the need for a whole-system response. We will build resilience in the universal offer to prepare young people with additional needs for adult life by developing an integrated approach across education, health and care services.

Savings carried forward from 2019/20	£0.100m
Savings from Full Year Effect of 2019/20 Business Case	£0.100m

Children’s Health Funding (£0.200m)

As part of a wider strategy, this budget proposal is particularly concerned with ensuring needs are appropriately funded by the relevant agency, in line with statutory responsibilities and policy. The Service will ensure that there is a clear policy for funding decisions and a consistently applied process for ensuring funding is appropriate and that the source of funding is in line with the agreed policy. This will ensure that the Authority maximises the levels of Continuing Care funding received from the CCG where health needs have been clearly identified and are being met by packages of care commissioned by the Authority.

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Red	RAG (this period)	Amber
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£0.156m of the target is expected to be achieved, leaving £0.044m as still to be achieved. The proposal’s original target was for the saving to be reflected in the general ledger by the end of Quarter 1, however due to the Covid-19 pandemic this has not been achieved. The amber RAG rating for the outstanding balance is based on the uncertainty in the care market in the current circumstances.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Green	RAG (this period)	Green
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The Service has worked on ensuring there is a clear policy for funding decisions in place and a consistently applied process for ensuring funding is appropriate and the source of funding is in line with the agreed policy. This work will ensure the Authority can maximise the levels of Continuing Care funding it receives from the CCG or the wider NHS where health needs have been clearly identified and are being met by packages of care commissioned by the Authority.

School Improvement (£0.028m)

School Improvement currently make use of external School Development Partners to carry out specific school development projects. This proposal involves ceasing the contracting of external partners and the performing of the role using resources within the existing staffing establishment.

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Complete	RAG (this period)	Complete
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The entire £0.028m savings target has been achieved. The proposal’s original target was for the saving to be reflected in the general ledger by the end of Quarter 1; whilst this target was not met, the saving has been fully coded in Quarter 2.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Complete	RAG (this period)	Complete
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The offer can be delivered by a skilled team of staff with differing backgrounds and who are able to offer a wide range of effective interventions. This work will see a universal offer for schools but also a more bespoke offer to individual schools depending on their needs and the needs of their communities.

Cared for, Safeguarded & Healthy

Responding to Rising Complex Needs (2020/21 target: £0.850m)

Whilst there will be a continuing clear focus on preventing health and social needs from occurring and escalating, the need for formal care and support will continue. Complexity of need is increasing and the cost of providing services is rising exponentially. From a public health perspective, the Service will continue to focus on the principal preventable causes of ill health – tobacco, obesity, alcohol misuse and poor mental health (including social isolation). The Service will seek to reduce costs by ensuring that the Authority secures the appropriate contributions from our partners in accordance with the legislative framework, balancing the need to mitigate against the rising costs of care whilst still ensuring that people are ‘cared for and safeguarded’. The Service will carry out a review of all current funding to voluntary organisations not currently on a commissioned framework. This will provide an opportunity to review the total spend holistically and ensure any work complements and is not duplicated by the work to create new community hubs. Over the past five years the number of people supported in extra care and independent supported living schemes has continued to rise in the Borough and we know that using this approach can delay and prevent the use of more costly residential care and that our residents prefer to be supported in their own homes. This journey will continue with increased provision of specialist housing in the Borough, which is affordable now and in the longer term.

Savings from Full Year Effect of 2018/19 Saving

£0.350m

A. Responding to Rising Complex Needs (£0.250m)

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Red	RAG (this period)	Green
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The entire savings target is forecast to be achieved. New processes and governance were implemented during 2018/19 that helped secure additional CHC and S117 funding in both 2018/19 and 2019/20 however, the Service are working to ensure that additional funding is still possible due to the impact of Covid-19.

During the initial Covid-19 period, CHC assessments were stayed. In addition, from 19 March to 31 August, where people needed a new or higher package of care to prevent admission to hospital or to facilitate a faster discharge, this was allocated to the Covid-19 funding and not from base budget. This cohort of people are known as being in scheme 1. Government issued a letter on 31 July 2020 indicating the requirement to resume CHC assessments from 1 September 2020. The detailed guidance around this was not issued until 21 August 2020. This guidance identified that people in scheme 1 needed to be assessed and transferred onto either social care or CHC funding streams as soon as practicable. This work has been completed and North Tyneside is the only regional local authority at this point to have completed the work.

People needing a new or higher package of care to prevent admission to hospital or to facilitate a faster discharge from 1 September 2020 would be classed as being in schedule 2 and these people would have their package allocated to Covid funding for up to 6 weeks. The Authority and the CCG have had to commit to fully assessing and agreeing ongoing funding within that 6-week window.

In addition to this work, consideration needs to be given to people who received Fast Track CHC funding that are still alive 12 weeks after that agreement who also need a full assessment as well as review of ongoing CHC and shared care cases and identifying people whose needs have deteriorated as part of the progression of the disease. Therefore whilst there are risks, the Service has a robust and clear plan in place that is starting to bear fruit and is confident to report the achieved status at the end of quarter 3, as there are currently 58 people from schemes 1 and 2 where full CHC funding has been agreed with the CCG.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Complete	RAG (this period)	Complete
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Significant work has been undertaken. The Service has identified 6 experienced staff to work as Champions. These staff, along with the case worker have a pre-meet with the Assistant Director to discuss each individual’s needs and to agree the narrative around the Authority’s position at the Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) in relation to where a person’s needs are more than incidental and ancillary to social care. Two other managers are supporting with this work. The Champion then represents the Authority at the MDT. This ensures that the Authority’s position is clearly articulated and hopefully helps to build a trusted relationship with the nurse assessors. There is early evidence that this is a successful strategy. The Service has had to pull this together at short notice and the hard work of the teams is noticeable and to be commended. The teams themselves are articulating the benefit of this way of work, although it is time consuming. In addition, amendments have been made to the documentation to succinctly evidence areas of need that sit outside the Care Act domains and therefore are ineligible for social care. This not only helps evidence the Authority’s position for the CCG, it helps ensure that the Authority remains Care Act compliant and does not exceed the remit of the Care Act. Work is now being extended to clients who’s care needs are funded jointly by the Authority and the CCG.

B. Disability and Mental Health (£0.100m)

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Red	RAG (this period)	Red
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The entire £0.100m savings target is still to be achieved. The milestone set out in the proposal was for the saving to be recognised by year end. The Service is working to ensure efficiencies can still be delivered, however additional efficiencies have not been realised as a result of the impact of Covid-19 on placements.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Complete	RAG (this period)	Complete
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Both the Charlton Court and Bonchester sites were opened for clients in July 2019. This completes the work the Service set out to achieve this proposal.

C. Learning Disability (£0.500m)**Savings Delivery Status**

RAG (last period)	Red	RAG (this period)	Red
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This is the continuation of a budget proposal agreed and implemented during 2018/19. This target relates to the development of in-house or Local Authority Trading Company delivery model for complex non-residential packages, plus on-going work re partnerships and governance, which was anticipated to deliver further savings by March 2021. At the end of quarter 3, £0.065m of the target is forecast to be achieved with the remaining £0.435m still to be achieved. In prior years the Service has been able to use alternative methods to achieve this saving in-year. It is unclear whether that will be possible in 2020/21, due to Covid-19 and as such, the Service is exploring all available alternatives to deliver this saving.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Red	RAG (this period)	Red
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Whilst an in-house trading company model has not been established, the Service has delivered this saving in previous years by achieving additional CCG income. A review of all current funding to voluntary organisations, not currently on a commissioned framework has taken place to provide an opportunity to review expenditure holistically and ensure the work complements and is not duplicated by the work on the community hubs. This work will need to continue in the remainder of 2020/21 and beyond to ensure that savings can be achieved as the Authority recovers from Covid-19.

A Focus on the Social Care Customer Experience (2020/21 target: £0.450m)

Health and Social Care is a complex set of systems often governed by distinct pieces of legislature and delivered by multiple services, even within a single organisation such as the Authority. In 2017 the Service reviewed the adult social care customer journey and ensured that our customers had a named worker, based in a local team, who would remain with that person throughout their social care journey. This has proved successful and is enabling better quality customer relationships to develop, as well reducing costly, duplicate processes from occurring. The Service aims to go further and whilst there are limited direct cost savings at this stage, it is clear that getting the right person to do the right thing correctly first time means that the Service is able to direct resources more effectively and mitigate against the increasing demand for good quality advice and information. This proposal will:

- *Continue with the highly successful case management modernisation programme, to ensure that social care payments and processing are accurate, clear and efficient; and,*
- *Make best use of the new 'My Care' portal in the initial screening and contact service gateway to support NHS and other wellbeing professional to self-serve or make online referrals; this will create more time for resident calls. The new community hubs will provide close, comfortable locations for customers to meet with social work teams and reduce the number of costly home-based visits workers current undertake.*

Savings from Full Year Effect of 2019/20 Saving	£0.225m
Savings carried forward from 2019/20	£0.225m

A. Social Care Customer Experience – Assistive Technology (£0.400m)

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Red	RAG (this period)	Red
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Currently, £0.065m of the £0.400m savings target is forecast to be achieved with the remaining £0.335m still to be achieved. Whilst the strategy over recent years has been successful in reducing admissions to residential and nursing care, and supporting more people to live at home, the costs associated with home care have increased significantly. During 2017/18, officers worked to reduce the number of home care packages that involved two carers visiting a home, through an increased use of equipment, adaptation and technology. The Service plans to take this work further by investing in cutting-edge, modern technology which can help people do more for themselves, maintaining their independence and wellbeing. The associated financial benefit will be a reduction in the number of home care hours commissioned.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Amber	RAG (this period)	Amber
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At this stage further work is expected to be required to achieve the £0.400m target and, as such, an amber rating has been applied. Digital Champions have been identified and a project plan has been established and implemented to cover both the operational and strategic working groups with the aim of achieving the full saving in 2020/21. Further work is underway to explore alternative options for achieving this saving permanently.

A Support Through Technology Strategy has been launched. This focuses on technology being at the heart of the assessment process. The use of devices to meet identified needs is being tested. Officers are looking at ways to work with volunteers through VODA to support with shopping activity, both actual and internet shopping. Officers are also working on a pilot to introduce virtual support to individuals through existing domiciliary care providers. The next step is to incorporate this into Liquid Logic in order to capture the use of technology and track all savings.

B. Social Care Customer Experience – Provider Payments (£0.050m)

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Amber	RAG (this period)	Amber
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The entire saving is still to be achieved. £0.025m of the target was achieved in 2019/20 through management actions and a permanent solution is required in 2020/21. The £0.025m target for 2020/21 was set to be achieved by September 2020. The Service is exploring all options to ensure this saving is achieved on a permanent basis in 2020/21.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Green	RAG (this period)	Green
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In 2018, HECS implemented a new case management system for children's and adult social care. Alongside this a new payment system called ContrOcc was implemented. The Service continues the development of this system to ensure that all payments, invoices and charges are made via this system. Linked to this is an opportunity to streamline and reduce the amount of staff time currently involved in these processes.

Whilst some of the implementation plan has been completed, several aspects have been delayed due to Covid-19, in particular, the installation of the provider portal which will enable payments on actuals not commissioned services. The plan was to reduce the staffing establishment to meet this saving target. This will be delayed until June 2021 to allow time for the completion of this work. The risk is if the staff complement is reduced prior to that there will not be enough staff to implement the changes required. This delay and pressure have occurred due to impact of Covid-19, as this work was put on hold while payments and uplifts to providers were processed as part of the Covid-19 response.

Leading Sector-Led Improvement (2020/21 target: £0.200m)

North Tyneside has developed a national reputation for the quality of its children's services, including receiving Partners in Practice status from the Department for Education and the opportunity to deliver sector-led improvement (SLI) to other authorities in the country. This work will develop a long-term offer for SLI as well as exploring opportunities for North Tyneside to provide ad hoc and bespoke support to authorities that seek it. This will bring additional income.

Savings from Full Year Effect of 2019/20 Saving	£0.100m
Savings carried forward from 2019/20	£0.100m

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Green	RAG (this period)	Green
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The total income target is forecast to be achieved via income from the Department for Education for delivery of the Partners in Practice programme. However, it is dependent on the receipt of quarterly payments from the DfE, on the basis of work delivered with other local authorities. Full income has been received from the PiP programme for the past two years and the Quarter 1 payment has been received in full, giving confidence that the target will be fully achieved.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Green	RAG (this period)	Green
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North Tyneside Council continues to work with a number of local authorities through the Partners in Practice programme to share advice, guidance and expertise, and provide practical improvement support. This has continued to be delivered through remote methods during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Delivering our Accommodation Strategy for Social Care (2020/21 target: £0.520m)

Early work on the Cabinet's Affordable Homes Programme has demonstrated the Authority's ability to deliver specialist housing which supports independent living and reduces costs. This proposal aims to continue to shape the Authority's housing growth plans to include specialist housing products and services for children and adults with additional needs, Looked After Children and older people. The Authority has had significant success with recent developments at Mitford Gardens and Elm House, which have also proved better value for money than external options, and the joint team with commissioning, housing and social care expertise that was created for this work will continue to explore opportunities to develop a range of other internal accommodation services in line with the strategy in order to save costs on existing pilot work to deliver at scale. Specifically, the accommodation strategy for children in care and care leavers is focused on keeping children and young people connected to their communities, maintaining relationships with families and support networks, and promoting independent living with specialist housing in the Borough, which is affordable now and in the longer term.

Savings from Full Year Effect of 2018/19 Saving	£0.260m
Savings carried forward from 2019/20	£0.260m

Keeping our Children in Care within the borough - 2019/20 (£0.520m)

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Red	RAG (this period)	Red
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Whilst there continues to be significant pressures on the budget for children in care, there is reduced expenditure compared with the last financial year, demonstrating the impact of some of the measures being taken to reduce cost. Processes to review 'high cost' placements are helping keep costs as low as possible whilst ensuring the safety of children in care, the impact of our Keeping Families Connected service evidences significant cost avoidance, and the Fostering Strategy is contributing to reduced spend on external foster placements as we increase the use of internal placements. Despite this progress, the savings target is currently forecast to not be achieved in the context of wider financial pressures relating to children in care placements.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Red	RAG (this period)	Red
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The rate of children in care in North Tyneside remains the lowest in the region, with North Tyneside the only local authority in the region to reduce its rate during Covid-19, where regionally and nationally there have significant increases in the number of children entering care. Alongside this, processes to monitor and develop plans for those children in 'high cost' placements continue to demonstrate impact in reducing spend on placements whilst keeping children safe and close to home.

The new Fostering Strategy, agreed in 2019, is continuing to have a positive impact, despite the challenging circumstances of Covid-19, with continued recruitment of new carers and reduced use of external foster placements, with reduced spend as a result.

Great Place to Live, Work and Visit

Profit from Property Development (2020/21 target: £0.260m)

This business case involves three separate projects. Firstly, the increase in the charges made by the Authority to the Trading Companies in respect of Technical and Project Management Services by 2.5% above annual inflation. Secondly, interest income from loans made by the Authority to Aurora Properties (Sales) Limited in line with the latest approved Investment Plan to enable the construction of properties for outright market sale. Loan interest will arise from primarily in respect of the development at 13 – 16 Northumberland Square in North Shields; , the construction phase of the scheme is now complete, with sales now forecast to be complete by the end of the next financial year. A limited amount of interest income will also be generated from costs incurred on the initial stages of the acquisition of land and construction of the site at the former Backworth Primary school, as approved by Cabinet on 14th October 2019. The third project relates to income arising from project management of HIF projects at Killingworth Moor and Murton Gap.

Savings from New 2020/21 Projects	£0.260m
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Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Green	RAG (this period)	Green
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The full £0.260m savings target is forecasted to be achieved and this is expected to be unaffected by Covid-19. The saving is not expected to be realised until year end and as such will hold a green RAG rating. Officers continue to review the position regularly, especially with the impact of Covid-19, to ensure that the saving is still on course to be achieved.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Green	RAG (this period)	Green
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Work is on plan and will continue throughout the year to maintain/increase profits.

10 Year Plan for Waste (2020/21 target: £0.100m)

For ecological and financial reasons, it is imperative that local authorities have long term plans for waste. This proposal aims to establish a 10-year plan to increase recycling and contain the growth of waste costs as well as developing a post 2022 solution for disposal of residual waste.

The Authority has a statutory duty to make arrangements to collect household waste that is capable of being recycled. This responsibility is met primarily by providing householders in the Borough with a grey bin and collecting it at the kerbside. As part of waste operations the material is delivered to a contracted processor who is responsible for separating it and finding markets to secure value from it. The contract arrangements have recently been re-tendered resulting in a new contract commencing with a new contractor in October 2019. This new contract will provide the Authority with efficiencies in operational costs.

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Green	RAG (this period)	Complete
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Current projections suggest that the operational costs will be reduced and the saving will be achieved in-line with the business case.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Green	RAG (this period)	Complete
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The new contract commenced in October 2019. This saving has been achieved through operational changes that the Service was able to implement as a result of the introduction of the new contract, saving on fuel and vehicle costs. The Service is continuing to monitor the impact of Covid-19 on Waste. Volumes of waste collected have increased in 2020/21 due to the Covid-19 restrictions that have been in place during the majority of 2020/21 but this is not expected to impact the delivery of this saving.

A Fit for Purpose Organisation

How We Are Organised (2020/21 target: £0.735m)

As services change the organisation must change with them. This proposal aims to ensure the organisation is reshaped to reflect changes in services and reductions in resources. In addition to changes in service delivery it also aims to ensure the organisation's infrastructure is changed and shrinks in line with the rest of the organisation with resultant changes in overheads and recharges. This will include taking opportunities to streamline the Authority's decision-making infrastructure and processes where appropriate; in addition making sure that infrastructure is tested against best practice, the priorities of the Mayor and Cabinet and the market.

Savings from Full Year Effect of 2018/19 Saving	£0.100m
Savings carried forward from 2019/20	£0.100m

A. Youth Offending and Early Help (£0.200m)

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Red	RAG (this period)	Red
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The entire £0.200m target is currently still to be achieved. The original milestone was for the permanent saving to be achieved by March of the respective financial years. The saving for 2019/20 was achieved in that year through the holding of vacancies and the generation of external income from delivering services on behalf of other authorities but a permanent solution is being explored for 2020/21. Whilst the target is currently forecast to not be achieved, there are a range of temporary and permanent measures being explored that can contribute to this.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Amber	RAG (this period)	Amber
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Officers continue to explore the development of a new Adolescent Service, which will rationalise some existing support provided across early help and youth justice services, and we expect to lead to service efficiencies. In the meantime, vacancies continue to be held across services, as well as continuing to deliver youth justice services on behalf of another local authority, which is generating income for the service.

Savings from Full Year Effect of 2019/20 Saving	£0.200m
Savings carried forward from 2019/20	£0.268m

B. Additional External Income (£0.300m)

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Red	RAG (this period)	Green
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The £0.300m target relating to external funding is forecast to be achieved in 2020/21 through income received in relation to the Partners in Practice programme.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Amber	RAG (this period)	Green
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A significant amount of work continues to work with other local authorities, linked to the Partners in Practice programme and the income that is received for this work. North Tyneside Council has also been asked to lead work nationally to evaluate and share learning regarding the response to Covid-19 in children's services.

C. Budget Reductions (£0.168m)

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Red	RAG (this period)	Red
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The £0.168m target relating to legal and professional fees was met in 2019/20 through management actions but is currently forecast to not be achieved in 2020/21 due to an increase in requirement for use barristers to support court proceedings relating to children. The red RAG rating relates to this element of the target.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Amber	RAG (this period)	Red
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Work is on-going to identify a permanent solution for this savings target. Prior to the covid-19 pandemic small savings were being realised in both areas; legal and professional fees. However, this has not been maintained during the pandemic. The service is exploring alternative methods to mitigate this target in 2020/21.

Savings from New 2020/21 Projects

£0.067m

Strategic Property & Commissioning (£0.067m)

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Green	RAG (this period)	Complete
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The entire £0.067m saving has been achieved.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Green	RAG (this period)	Complete
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The proposal was to reduce 1 FTE post in Strategic Property and 0.6 FTE post in the Commissioning Service.

Maximising Resources

Fees and Charges (2020/21 target: £0.182m)

The Authority has an agreed Fees and Charges Policy that reflects policy priorities, need and the wider market in which we operate. This proposal will continue our work to regularly review our Fees and Charges.

Savings from Full Year Effect of 2018/19 Saving	£0.082m
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Facilities and Fair Access (£0.082m)

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Amber	RAG (this period)	Amber
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£0.068m of the saving is forecast to be achieved at this stage through increased income based on a rise in the charges on school meals. The remaining £0.014m is forecast as still to be achieved whilst the service continues to work on the impact of Covid-19 on Schools.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Amber	RAG (this period)	Amber
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The fee increase has been postponed due to the impact of Covid-19.

Savings from New 2020/21 Projects	£0.100m
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Facilities and Fair Access (£0.100m)

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Amber	RAG (this period)	Green
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£0.100m of the saving is forecast to be achieved through increased income based on SLA charges to schools for Catering and Cleaning services. Due to the impact of Covid-19, this saving is being closely monitored by Officers to ensure it will be achieved.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Complete	RAG (this period)	Complete
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The fee increase has been applied to school SLA charges in 2020/21.

Treasury Management (2019/20 target: (£0.056m))

The current, sustained, low interest rate climate is allowing some significant work to be done to ensure the Authority's Treasury functions are effective and the debt portfolio optimised. This proposal takes a short, medium and long-term look at the requirement with a view to reducing costs.

Savings from Full Year Effect of 2019/20 Saving

(£0.306m)

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Complete	RAG (this period)	Complete
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The entire £0.306m saving was achieved in 2019/20 and the medium-term financial plan included the reversal of this saving in 2020/21 and as such has been achieved.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Complete	RAG (this period)	Complete
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This was a one-off saving in 2019/20 and included a planned reversal in 2020/21. The reversal was fully coded into the 2020/21 base budget and as such the work is complete.

Savings from New 2020/21 Projects

£0.250m

Savings Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Green	RAG (this period)	Green
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The entire £0.250m saving is forecast to be achieved via a reduction in interest costs in line with the March 2020 milestone date.

Work Delivery Status

RAG (last period)	Green	RAG (this period)	Green
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The current, sustained, low interest rate climate is allowing some significant work to be done to ensure the Authority's Treasury functions are effective and the debt portfolio optimised. This saving will be generated by reviewing the maturity structure of the debt and new debt will be taken for a term that will be most advantageous to the overall maturity structure over various terms ranging between 1 and 50 years.

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Meeting: Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development

Date: 15 March 2021

Title: Our North Tyneside Corporate Performance Report

Author: Jacqueline Laughton

Tel: 0191 643 7070

Service: Corporate Strategy

Wards affected: All

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. This report provides the Committee with an update on progress delivering the Our North Tyneside Plan 2020-2024.
- 1.2. It provides an overview of performance since the start of the plan and identifies the agreed activities that the Authority will pursue in the future. In addition, it provides comparator information, such as national or regional performance.
- 1.3. The report also shows areas for further development; some of which have already been acknowledged by the Cabinet. This includes perception of residents regarding the service that is delivered by the council. This is being addressed through the Customer Service programme that Cabinet agreed on 28 May 2019.
- 1.4. Inevitably the pandemic has had an impact on residents and the economy, particularly during periods of lockdown and local restrictions. The Our North Tyneside Plan priorities formed the basis of the Framework for Covid-19 Recovery in North Tyneside. During the pandemic dashboard reports have been produced for all Members on a weekly basis. This report reflects on performance over the lifetime of the Our North Tyneside Plan.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that the Committee notes the progress that has been made to deliver the objectives of the Our North Tyneside Plan.

3. Details

Background

- 3.1. As the Committee is aware the Authority manages performance at two levels;
 1. Strategic objectives, as defined in the Our North Tyneside Plan, are monitored and managed twice a year through regular reports to Cabinet and Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

This is supplemented by quarterly discussions with Lead Members, which tracks performance and the financial implications.

2. Operational performance is managed on day to day basis by service areas, with a regular overview on a monthly basis. This

3.2. At a strategic level, the highlights of this report are

Our People

Based on an analysis of the latest data, North Tyneside has strong performance with

- Continued progress with supporting young people to be ready for school

72% of pupils reach a good level of development at foundation stage, which is in line with the North East

In North Tyneside, 8 in 10 young people attend a school that is ranked as Good or Outstanding.

- More young people being 'ready for work'.

2.6% of young people are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET), which is an improvement compared to 2.9% the previous year and lower than the regional rate. Despite the abandonment of public examinations in 2020, most young people accessed their first-choice destination.

- People being cared for and supported, especially if they become homeless.

Only 45 people were accepted as homeless in 2019/20. Since the introduction of the Homeless Reduction Act in 2018, there has been a significant improvement in the number of residents becoming homeless, as the act placed a greater focus on prevention and triage work in order to prevent an individual becoming homeless. During the pandemic all rough sleepers have been placed in emergency accommodation throughout and a Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) has been initiated.

There continues to be strong performance in supporting people through both adult and children's social care. In March 2020, Ofsted judged Children's Social Care as Outstanding overall. 74% of users feel that the Adult Social Care service has made them safe, which is higher than the national position.

In March 2020, the Authority set up a Local Support Hub to support residents identified by the NHS and general practitioners as clinically extremely vulnerable and a high risk of serious complications from Covid-19. There were 10,000 residents initially, which has since increased to 14,700. The Local Support Hub, in partnership with VODA has provided regular support with shopping, prescriptions and welfare calls to 2,000 clinical extremely vulnerable residents advised to stay at home.

The Prevent and Protect Team provided enhanced support to care homes, as a high risk setting as part of the council's Outbreak Control Management Plan, including embedding of IPC measures (hands and respiratory hygiene, use of PPE), risk assessments and quality assurance. Regular testing for staff and residents was carried out. Mutual aid and workforce capacity was supported and the restriction of care home staff moving between care homes was implemented.

In June 2020, Cabinet agreed the priorities and initiatives funded by the Poverty Intervention Fund to support key groups impacted by poverty; children, older people and families with children. Initiatives include-

- Poverty proofing the school day
- Benefits take-up campaign and support
- School appropriate clothing
- Holiday food

Our Places

Based on an analysis of the latest data, North Tyneside has strong performance with

- People being happy to live in North Tyneside.

78% of people are satisfied with their local area as a place to live. This is in line with the national average (76%), but slightly lower than the LGA average of 83%.

- Delivering a clean, green, healthy, attractive, safe and sustainable environment.

The amount of municipal waste collected during 2019/20 decreased by 1.2k tonnes compared to the previous year. The improvement was attributable to the authority moving to alternate weekly waste collections and also operating changes at the Household Waste Recycling Centre. The proportion of recycling increased to 39% and amount of waste sent to landfill in year was also its lowest level recorded for any year. However, due to periods of lockdown and local restrictions, this year there is a rise in the level in the waste collected by the Authority. As residents are spending more time at home and less time in the office, restaurants and bars, more household waste is being generated for the Authority to process, rather than by Commercial Waste Traders.

At the end of 2020/21 the Authority's carbon footprint had decreased by 49% since the baseline year of 2010/11. In July 2019 Council declared a Climate Emergency, setting a target to reduce the carbon footprint of the Authority and the Borough by 50% by 2023 and to become carbon neutral by 2050.

North Tyneside is one of the safest areas of the country to live, work and visit with comparatively low levels of crime. For the majority of residents Environmental Crime and ASB is not an issue, however the perception of feeling safe after dark is lower in some areas of the borough. The Authority continues to work in partnership with key services represented on the Safer North Tyneside Partnership, which is vital to our commitment to address community and public safety, crime and disorder and environmental crime issues. In October 2020, Cabinet agreed the new Environmental Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour Policy, which provides a consistent approach and framework to tackle ASB and environmental crime. The policy ensures that any enforcement action is clear, concise, proportionate, consistent and targeted to ensure a responsive, effective and value-added service.

- Regeneration as part of the 15 year "Ambition for North Tyneside" plan.

Highlights of the Ambition for North Tyneside plan include:-

- The sale of the former Swan Hunter site
- successful opening of the Centre for Innovation
- the restoration of Grade 2 listed Georgian terrace on Northumberland Square

- replacing derelict and eyesore sites along the coastline with attractive high-quality family housing

What we're about to do:-

- Continue to deliver the projects in the North Shields Masterplan including improvements to key gateways into the town centre, a proposed new bus station integrated with the existing Metro Station as well as other improvements to the highway network and public realm to improve the appearance of the town centre and enhance the visitor experience. Other interventions will see new housing identified for the former Tyne Brand Site and Unicorn House which was acquired by the Authority in 2020.
 - Improvement works on the Northern Promenade to renovate the Rendezvous Café, associated toilets and car park. Resurface the Northern Promenade and link the Briar Dene path to the St Mary's Island Promenade.
 - A 15 Year Master Plan and investment programme for the Segedunum site is being developed, which will underpin future business planning and will help grow the visitor offer making it a more sustainable entity.
 - Further investment is planned in Killingworth Lake to build on the investment in Flood Defences and broaden and expand the visitor offer by further developing facilities and unlocking additional opportunities and activities. Proposed investment will include a Multi-Use Games Area, a new café opportunity and a health and fitness trail.
 - Further development of the Borough's Wagonways to improve connectivity, take a consistent approach to surfacing and treatment and promote the heritage of the network.
- Good choice of quality housing appropriate to need

The delivery target of the council's Affordable Homes Programme has been increased from 3,000 affordable homes to 4,000 by 2032. 1,650 Affordable homes have been completed so far.

- Benefit from the council's housing stock being decent and well managed, as well as maximising potential use.

All the council housing stock continues to meet the Decent Homes Standard and 99% of homes are occupied, including the North Tyneside Living Schemes.

- Promotion of parks, beaches, festivals and seasonal activities

Three beaches in North Tyneside are among a group of only 42 beaches in the country to win both a Blue Flag and Seaside Award. Half of the Blue Flag awards given to North East beaches were presented in respect of North Tyneside beaches. Six of the warden managed parks in North Tyneside have retained their Green Flag Awards.

Our Economy

Based on an analysis of the latest data, North Tyneside has strong performance with

- Grow by supporting new businesses and building on our strengths, including our existing world class companies, and small and growing enterprises.

The number of registered businesses in North Tyneside has grown every year since 2011, which has led to an increase of around 15,000 jobs in the borough since 2013. there are now 85,000 jobs.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on both businesses and residents from an economic point of view. The Authority has supported businesses to recover during the pandemic, through access to practical and financial support, advice and information and signposting to local and national grant opportunities. Some initiatives include:-

- Establishing a dedicated helpline for businesses
- Administered £34m of Govt grant funding to over 3,000 eligible businesses
- Administered Track and Trace Self Isolation Grant
- Securing match funding through the North of Tyne Capacity Fund, which enabled the Voluntary and Community Sector to continue to deliver their employability project.
- Delivering a joint communications campaign with the North Tyneside Business Forum to inform, support and signpost businesses to relevant help.
- Introducing a pavement licensing scheme to support the hospitality sector
- Delivering a Town Centre Recovery Plan to successfully reopen town centres in June in a Covid Secure way, including the introduction of Covid Marshalls.
- Supporting eight categories of suppliers with supplier relief
- Providing free advertising for local businesses in the Our North Tyneside magazine.

In addition, the North of Tyne Combined Authority is acting as a Representative for employers operating in the Newcastle, North Tyneside or Northumberland area wishing to participate in the Kickstart Programme. The programme provides funding to employers to create 6-month job placements for 16-24 year olds on Universal Credit to prepare young people to enter work.

4. Future Work

Work is underway to understand the impact of the pandemic and national restrictions on residents with protected characteristics and socio-economic inequalities in the borough. This project will inform where further work will be needed as part of the stage 3 recovery programme.

5. 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) Our North Tyneside Plan,

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OUR PEOPLE WILL... OUR PLACES WILL... OUR ECONOMY WILL...

Our North Tyneside Performance Update



Be ready for work and life



Be cared for, protected and supported



Be great places to live



Benefit from the completion of the North Tyneside Living project



Have an effective transport and physical infrastructure



Be a thriving place of choice for visitors



Be business friendly, ensuring the right skills and conditions are in place to support investment



Page 59

Be listened to



Be healthy and well



Encourage residents to be more independent, volunteer and do more for themselves and local communities



Offer a good choice of quality housing



Provide a clean, green, healthy, attractive, safe and sustainable environment



Continue to regenerate Wallsend and Whitley Bay and deliver new schemes in Killingworth and Forest Hall



Grow by supporting new businesses and building on our strengths



Continue to support investment in our business parks, units and town centres

2018

2021

OUR JOURNEY TO 2021

Contents

Key

Unless otherwise stated please use the following key throughout this document

North Tyneside

England

North East

Our People

Page 3: Be listened to so that their experience helps the Council work better for residents

Page 4: Be ready for school – giving our children and their families the best start in life

Page 5 - 6: Be ready for work and life – with the right skills and abilities to achieve their full potential, economic independence and meet business needs.

Page 7: Be healthy and well – with the information, skills and opportunities to maintain and improve their health, well-being and independence, especially if they are carers

Page 8 - 9: Be cared for, protected and supported if they become vulnerable including if they become homeless

Page 10: Be encouraged and enabled to, when ever possible, be more independent, to volunteer and to do more for themselves and their local communities.

Our Places

Page 12: Be great places to live by focusing on what is important to local people, such as by tackling the derelict properties that are blighting some of our neighbourhoods

Page 13: Offer a good choice of quality housing appropriate to need, including affordable homes that will be available to buy or rent

Page 14: 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

Page 15 - 16: Provide a clean, green, healthy, attractive, safe and sustainable environment. This will involve creating a cycle friendly borough, investing in energy efficiency schemes and by encouraging more recycling

Page 17: Have an effective transport and physical infrastructure - including our roads, pavements, street lighting, drainage and public transport.

Page 18: Continue to be regenerated in Wallsend and Whitley Bay, through effective public, private and community partnerships, while ambitious plans will be developed for North Shields, Forest Hall and Killingworth

Page 19: Be a thriving place of choice for visitors through the promotion of our award winning parks, beaches, festivals and seasonal activities ..

Our People

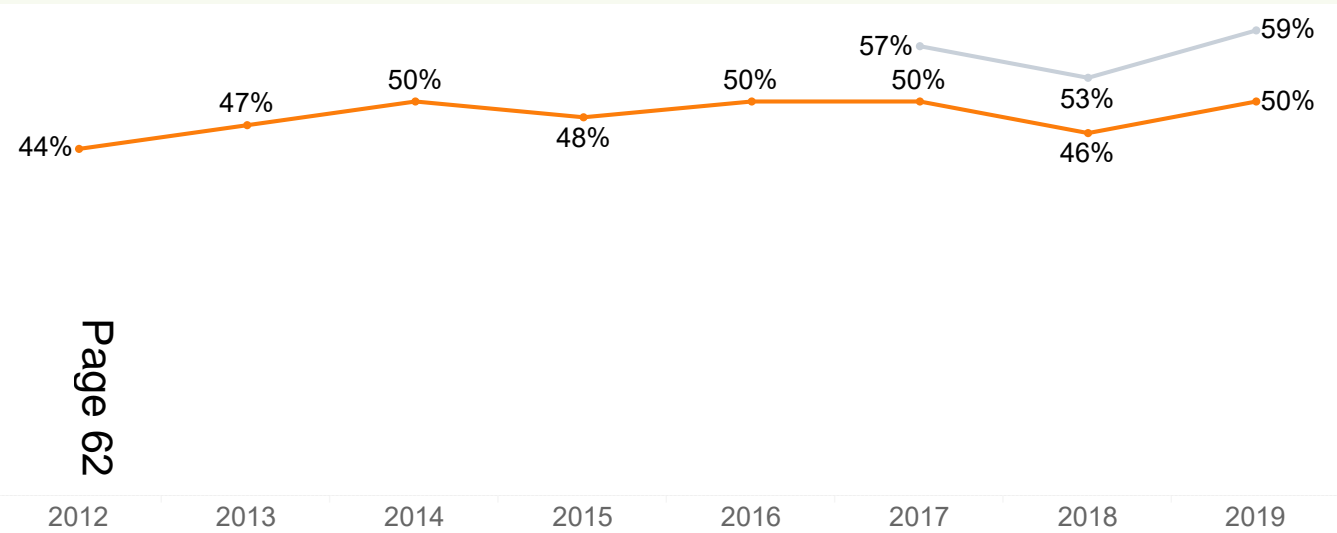
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Our People will

Key
■ England
■ North Tyneside

Be listened to so that their experience helps the Council work better for residents

% residents feel the council acts on the concerns of its local residents a great/fair amount
 (Higher is better)



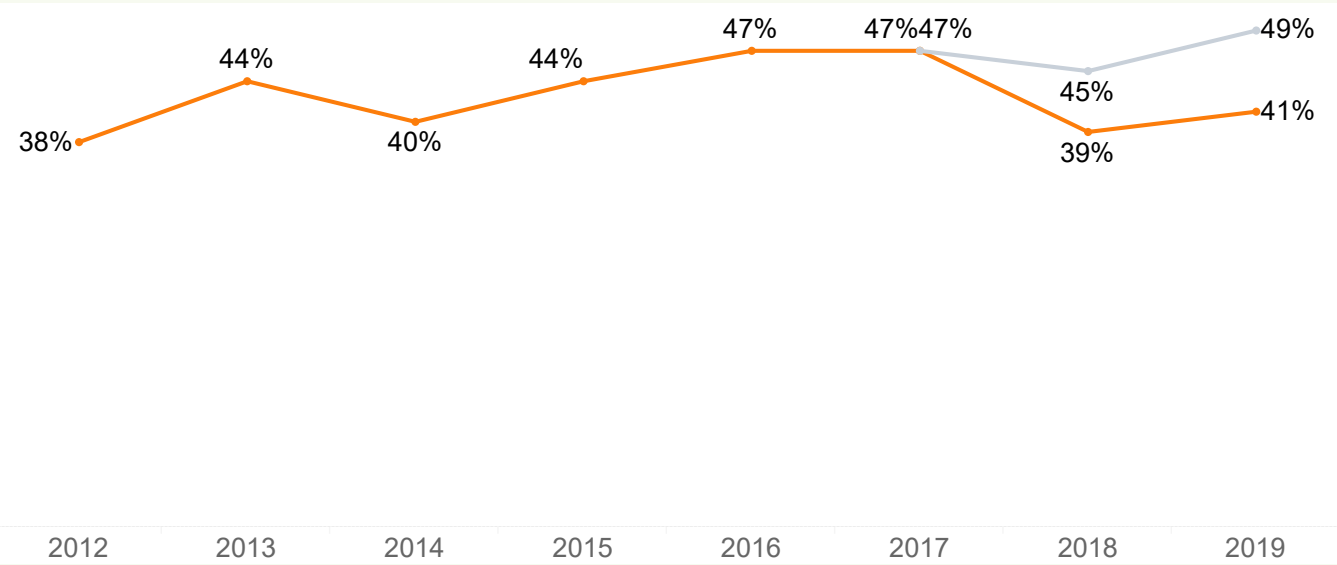
Update on performance

A key priority for the Our North Tyneside plan is that people are "listened to so that their experience helps the Council work better for residents".

Belief that the council acts on the concerns of its residents is a key driver of local area and council satisfaction and value for money. In 2019 there has been a positive shift in the opinion of residents, with 50% now saying that the council acts on the concerns of its residents, higher than it was in 2018 (46%), although slightly lower than the England average (59%).

These results have shown that there are opportunities to improve and the Customer Service Programme agreed by Cabinet on 28 May 2019 demonstrates the Authority's ambition to improve customer service; fulfil key commitments made in the Authority's Equality and Diversity Policy and to demonstrate that "we listen and we care".

% of residents who believe that the council provides value for money (Higher is better)



A key driver for resident satisfaction has been perception of whether we provide good value for money. Although more residents agree the council is providing value for money (41%) than disagree 28%, this proportion is below the national average of 49%. There has been a positive shift in the proportions disagreeing we provide good value for money from 35% to 28% in 2019.

North Tyneside Council has a good track record in balancing the budget, delivering savings and investing in public services. Building upon that track record, the approach for 2021-22 is to:

- *deliver the priorities as set out in the Our North Tyneside Plan;
- *protect and improve the things which matter most to residents – with no cuts to frontline services;
- *drive forward the regeneration ambitions for the whole of the Borough;
- *support residents and businesses to enable North Tyneside to recover and grow;
- *tackle poverty and inequalities to ensure that no-one is left behind;
- *keep North Tyneside as a great place to live, work and visit; and
- *ensure a sustainable Medium-Term Financial Plan.

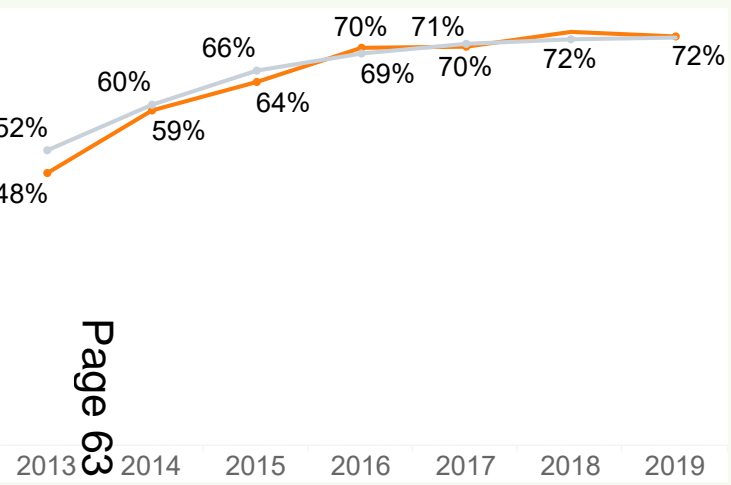
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Our People will

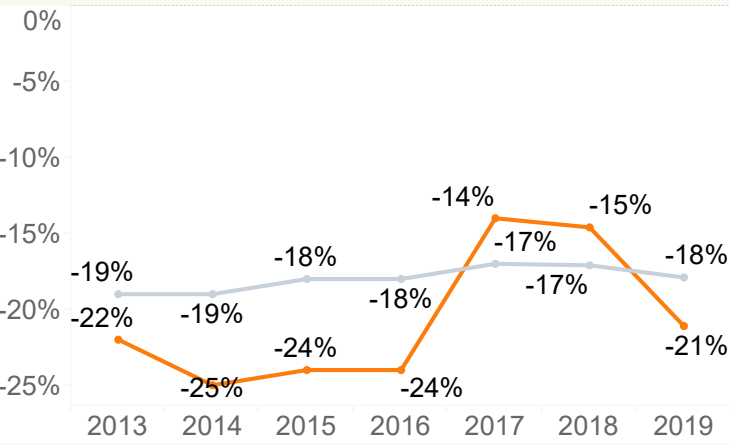
Key
■ North East
■ North Tyneside

Be ready for school – giving our children and their families the best start in life

% pupils reaching a Good Level of Development at Foundation Stage (Higher is better)



The gap between disadvantaged (FSM) pupils and their peers reaching the expected level (GLD) at foundation stage. (Higher is better)



Update on performance

The research is clear that the benefits of a good start in life for a young person are likely to support them in later years.

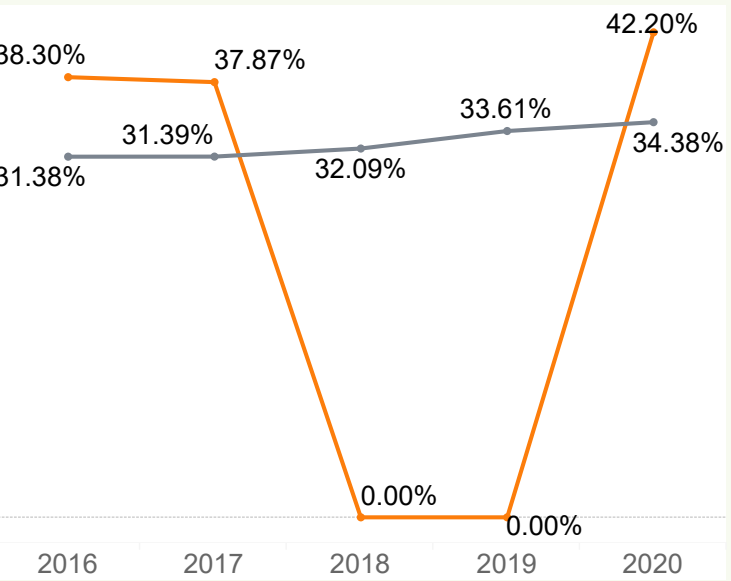
Overall, North Tyneside has a good record with ensuring that the majority have the best start in life. Locally, the improvement in pupils reaching a Good Level of Development has been greater than that seen nationally.

During 2020/21, the pandemic has disrupted pupils learning during lockdown periods, with only children of keyworkers and vulnerable children able to attend school. Schools have invested heavily in improving their approach to remote learning and laptops have been provided to those in need. Attainment measures have been abandoned during the 2019/20 and 2020/21 academic years.

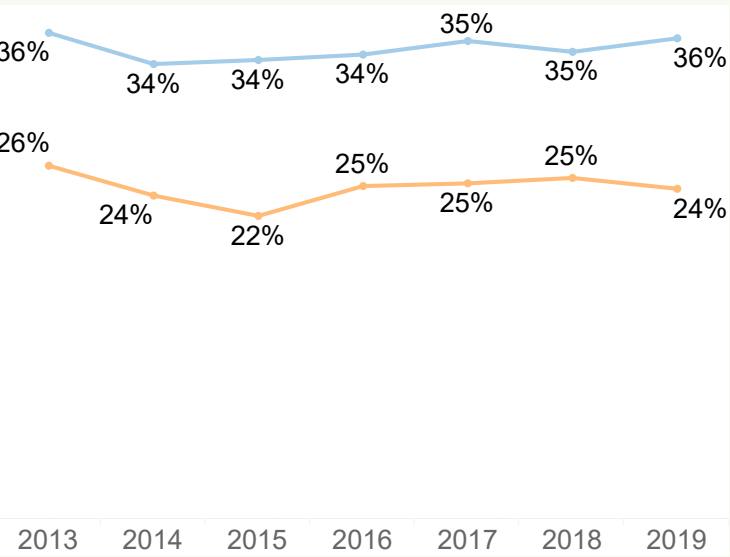
In January 2021, Cabinet approved the education strategy "Ambition for Education in North Tyneside 2020-2024" with the ambition that by 2024 the Authority will:

- * Have mitigated the impact of COVID-19 on all children and young people's achievement, particularly those who are disadvantaged.
- * Improve the health and communication of the Authority's youngest learners to make sure that they are ready to thrive in school and achieve their full potential.
- * Work in partnership to maintain vulnerable children and young people in their local communities accessing their local mainstream schools wherever that is possible.
- * Champion the learner, so that every young person has access to appropriate and engaging education, employment or training.
- * Commit to transforming the lives and wellbeing of children and young people in the borough, ensuring every school has the resources to support them to be emotionally healthy and resilient.

2.02ii - Breastfeeding prevalence at 6-8 weeks after birth - current method (Higher is better)



Overweight children (including obesity) (Lower is better)
 (Reception / Year 6)



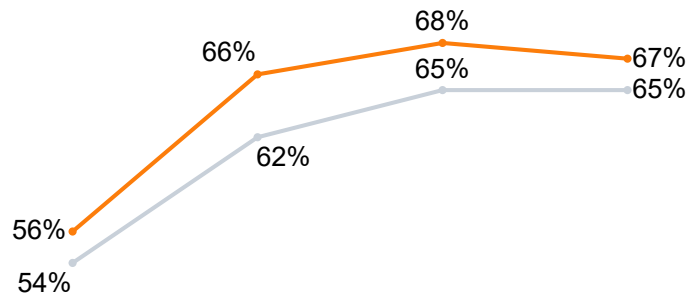
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Our People will

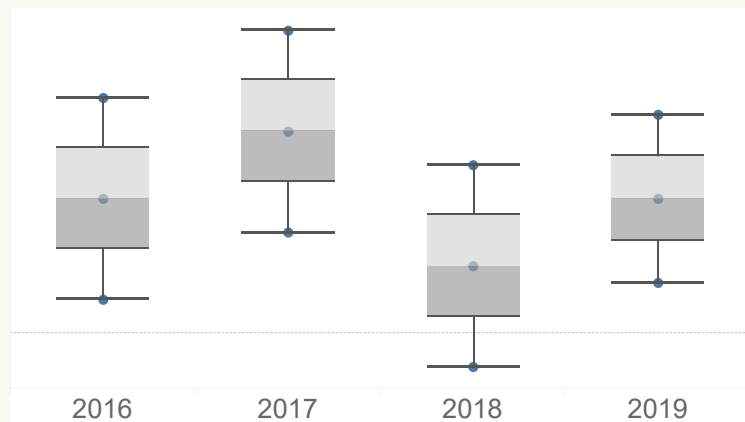
Key
■ England
■ North Tyneside

Be ready for work and life – with the right skills and abilities to achieve their full potential, economic independence and meet business needs.

% of pupils reaching the Expected level in Reading, Writing and Maths at KS2 (Higher is better)



KS1 to KS2 Value Added (Reading) (Higher is better)



Update on performance

North Tyneside has an education system to be proud of. A top performer regionally and nationally. This reflects the hard work done by our head teachers and their teams, governing bodies, elected members, authority staff and our fantastic children and young people.

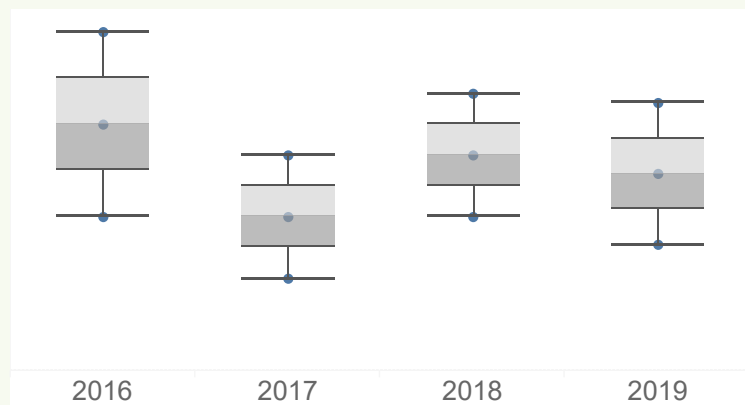
North Tyneside also has a track record of high attainment; at Key Stage 1, local pupils (aged 5- 7 years) performed significantly better than the national figure across reading, writing and maths.

North Tyneside continues to focus on closing the attainment gap between the most vulnerable people and their peers. At Key Stage 2, disadvantaged pupils performance is slightly higher than disadvantaged pupils nationally.

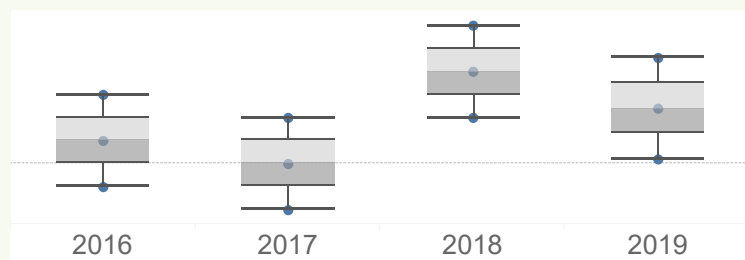
At Key Stage 2, when pupils are aged between 7 - 11 years, 67% of pupils met the expected level in reading, writing and maths. This was 2% higher than the national position.

We continue to monitor progress against the recommendations of the Council's Education Review; paying particular attention to the need to manage the impact of surplus places at secondary level, the financial challenge for the Dedicated Schools Grant and the approach of the North of Tyne Education Challenge.

KS1 to KS2 Value Added (Writing) (Higher is better)



KS1 to KS2 Value Added (Maths) (Higher is better)



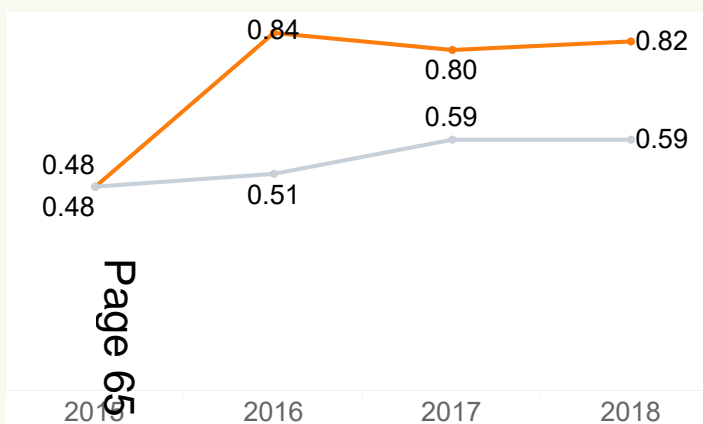
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Our People will

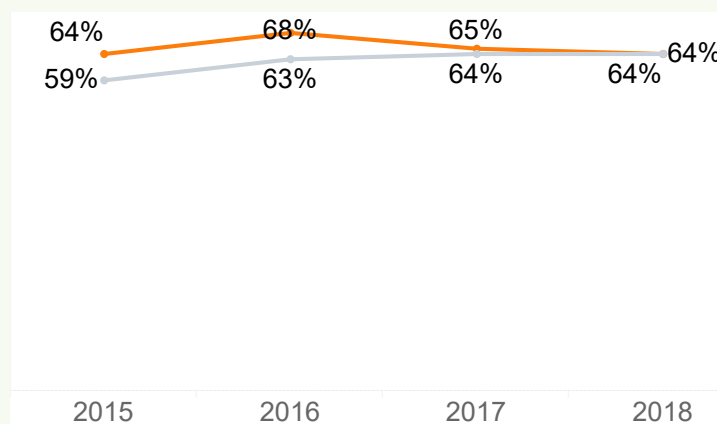
- Key**
- England
 - North East
 - North Tyneside

Be ready for work and life – with the right skills and abilities to achieve their full potential, economic independence and meet business needs.

Progress 8 gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers (Lower is better)



% Pupils achieving Basics (A* to C/9 to 4) in English and Maths at) KS4 (Higher is better)



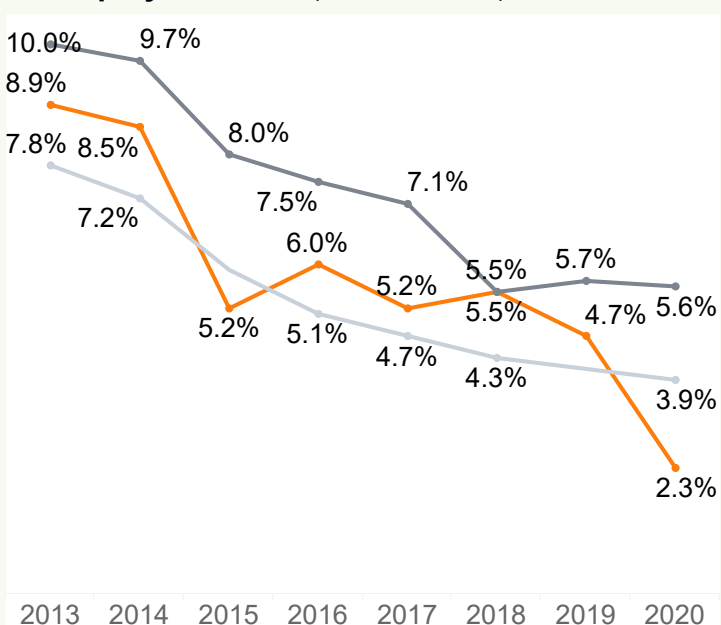
Update on performance

North Tyneside has been working with schools, businesses and other agencies to ensure that all young people are as ready for work and life as possible when they leave school at 16 or 18.

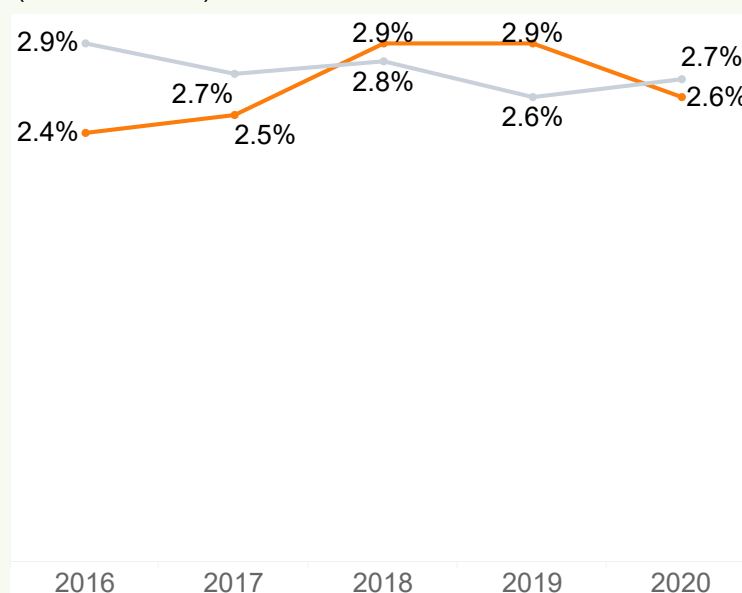
The Authority also wants to support adults to be ready for employment through their working life. Evidence show that being out of education, employment or training (NEET) at 16 or 17 years old is linked to later unemployment as well as poor mental health. Higher rates of NEET can be indicative of a local mismatch between education and economy.

The unemployment rate in North Tyneside remains low, compared to the North East rate and in line with the England rates, however as a result of the pandemic 11% of employments are currently furloughed on the Job Retention Scheme and the number of residents claiming Universal Credit has sharply increased from 11,000 claimants in April 2020 to 19,500 in January 2021.

Unemployment rate (Lower is better)



% Not in Education, Employment or Training (Lower is better)

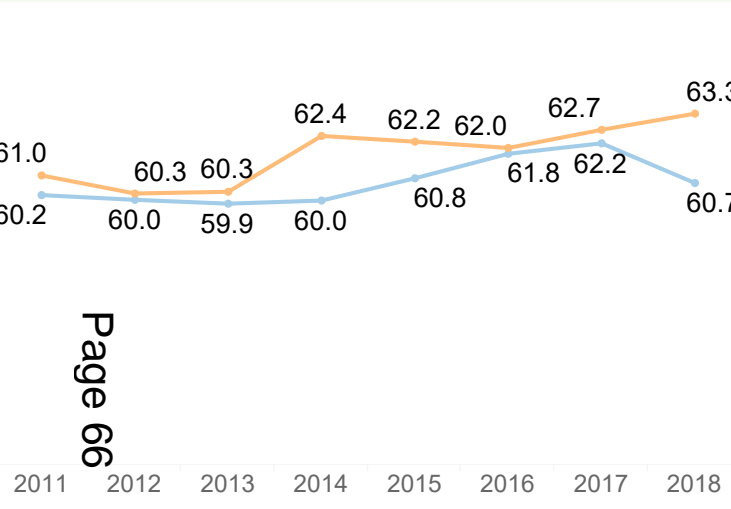


Our People will

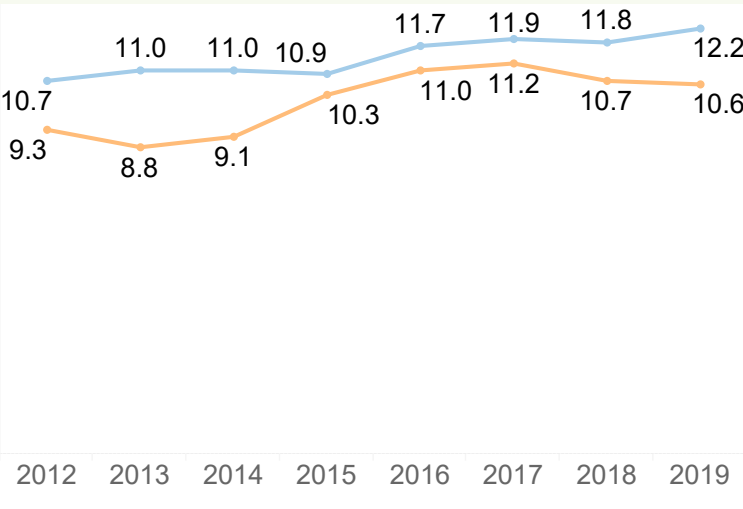
Key
■ North East
■ North Tyneside

Be healthy and well – with the information, skills and opportunities to maintain and improve their health, well-being and independence, especially if they are carers

Healthy life expectancy (Higher is better)
 (Male / Female)



Inequality in life expectancy (Lower is better)
 (Male / Female)



Update on performance

The Our North Tyneside Plan has a clear focus on ensuring that residents have a healthy start to life, which continues through their life. A key part of this is the continued focus on addressing the causes of poor health.

Average life expectancy in the borough is 80 years. However healthy life expectancy for women stands at 63 years and 61 years for men.

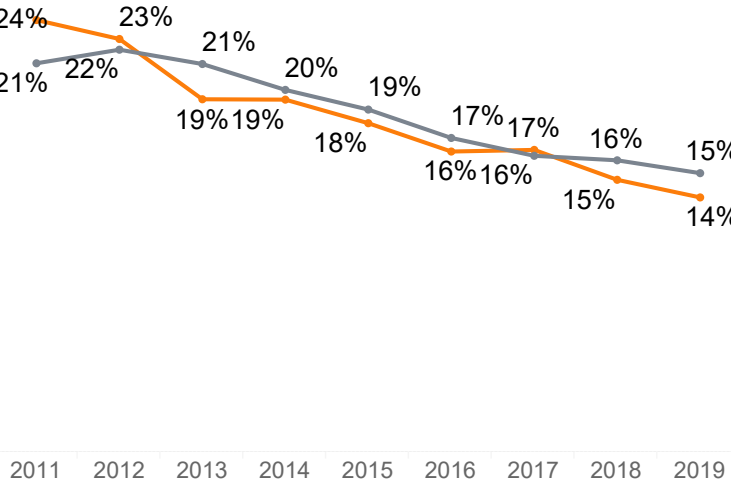
While both figures are above their respective regional average, male healthy life expectancy is below the national average, whereas female healthy life expectancy is similar to the national average. There is also a significant inequality gap within the borough.

Deaths due to cancer and cardiovascular disease (heart disease) are declining, deaths due to respiratory disease have increased slightly. These diseases still remain the leading causes of premature death in the borough.

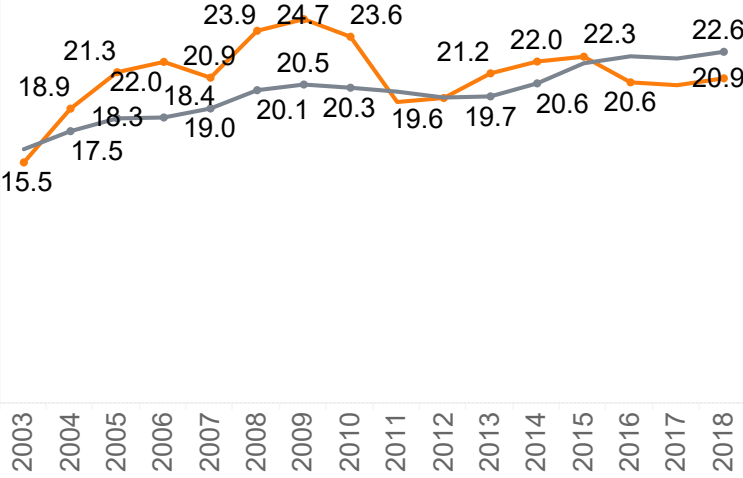
Much of this premature mortality is preventable. However social factors, exposure to risk factors (such as smoking, harmful levels of alcohol consumption, poor diet and low levels of physical activity), as well as late presentation, diagnosis and treatment are all key contributors to the diseases that lead to early deaths.

Work continues to tackle these issues, including through the delivery of the North Tyneside Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

C18 - Smoking Prevalence in adults (18+) - current smokers (APS) (Lower is better)



E06b - Under 75 mortality rate from liver disease considered preventable (2016 definition) (Lower is better)



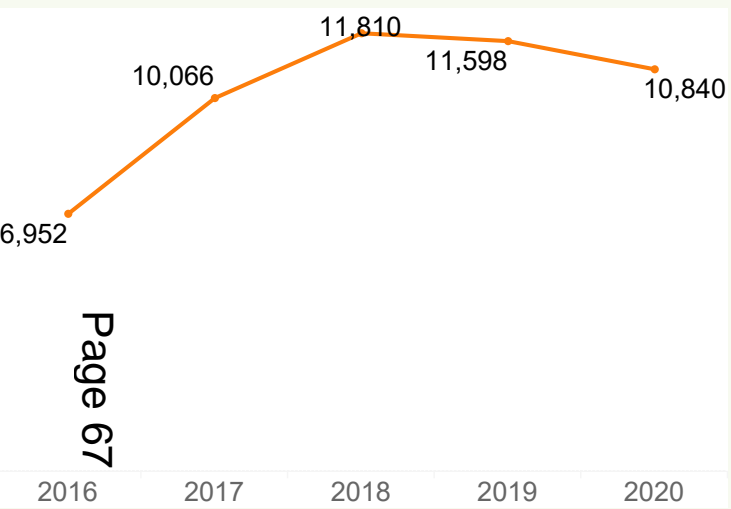
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Our People will

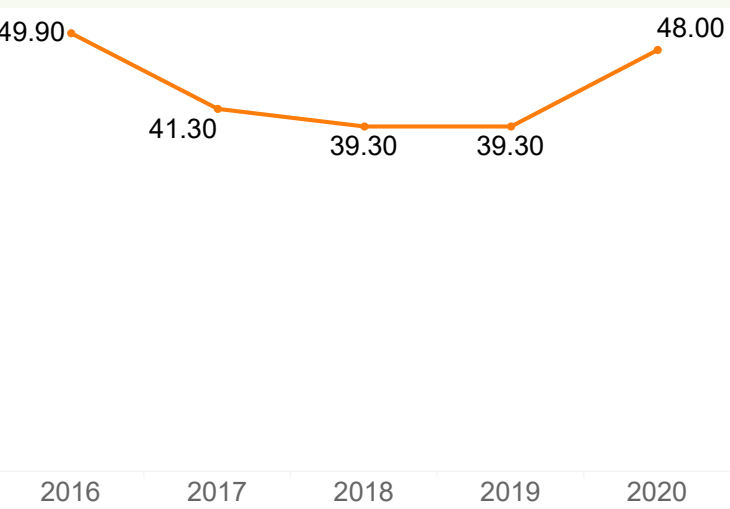
Key
■ England
■ North Tyneside

Be cared for, protected and supported if they become vulnerable including if they become homeless

Number of contacts to safeguarding services - children



Children subject to a child protection plan during the year



Update on performance

Ensuring that all residents are cared for, safeguarded and healthy is a key priority.

Our Children in Care rate is the lowest in the north east region and close to the England average.

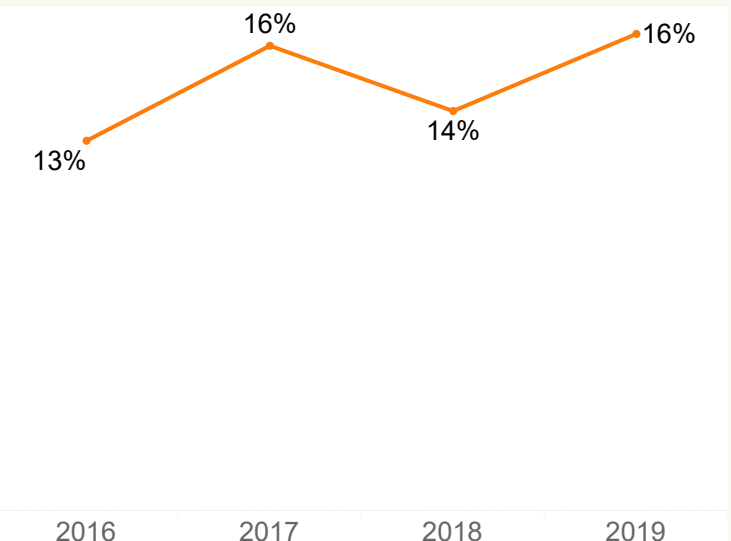
In March 2020, Children's Services were judged Outstanding by Ofsted, noting that "strategic partnerships are mature, well-developed and highly effective". We have a strong track record and in August 2020 we introduced a new early help Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) pathway to help us to meet the needs of children and families at the earliest opportunity while delivering the right support to make a positive difference.

In February 2021, Cabinet agreed the third Children and Young People's Plan 2021-25, developed by the Children and Young People's Partnership and building on the successes and service changes of the previous plans. The vision for children and young people in North Tyneside is: "Making North Tyneside an even greater place for children and young people to thrive; where all, including those who are vulnerable, disadvantaged or disabled, are ready for school, ready for work and life, cared for and supported."

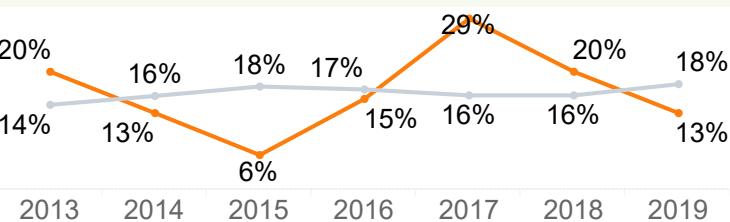
The priorities and deliverables set out in the Plan are aligned to the 5is strategic outcomes the Authority and partners wants to see for children and young people, which are:

- Outcome 1: I am Safe
- Outcome 2: I am Healthy
- Outcome 3: I have Opportunities
- Outcome 4: I have a Voice
- Outcome 5: I am Happy

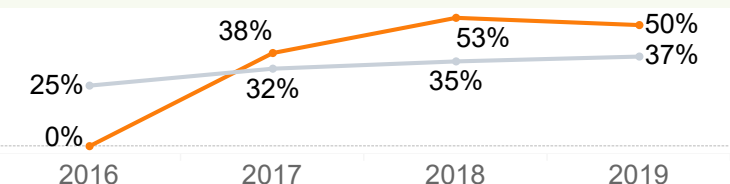
Looked After Children Stability - 3 or more Placements % (Lower is better)



% LAC Pupils (SSDA903 cohort) attaining Basics (A*-C / 9-4 E&M) at KS4 (Higher is better)



% LAC Pupils (SSDA903 cohort) reaching the Expected Level in Reading, Writing and Maths at KS2 (Higher is better)



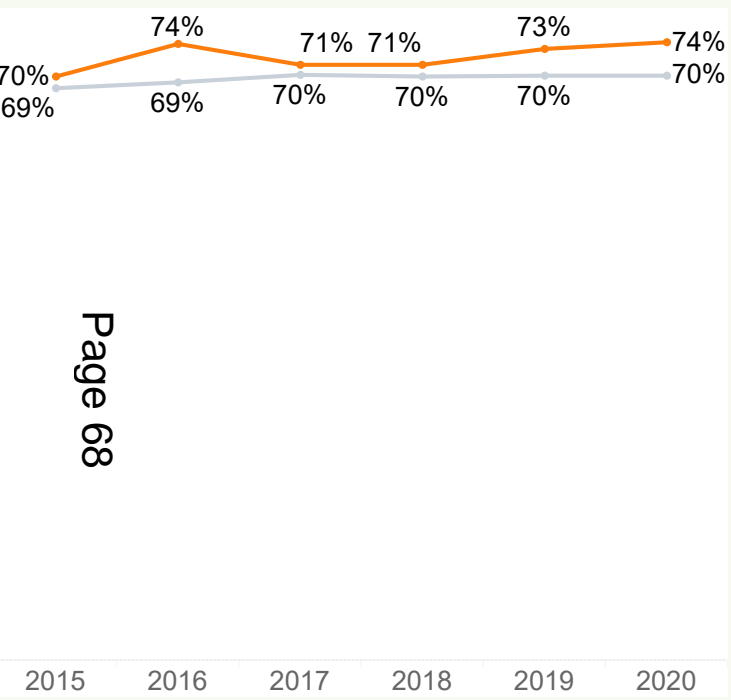
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Our People will

Key
■ England
■ North Tyneside

Be cared for, protected and supported if they become vulnerable including if they become homeless

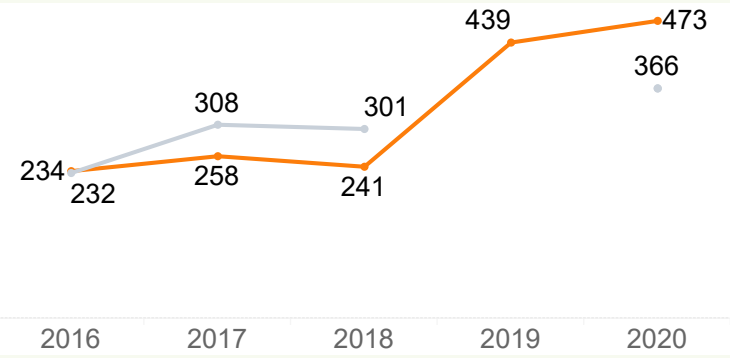
The proportion of people who use Adult Social Care services who feel safe (Higher is better)



ASC Safeguarding Concerns per 100,000 population & No. of ASC Safeguarding Contacts per year



ASC Safeguarding Enquiries per 100,000 population



Update on performance

The rate of adult safeguarding concerns reported reduced during 2020, but remain higher compared to previous years. In part, this reflects a change in recording during 2019 where safeguarding concerns are reported without any pre-screening.

- The priorities for the Safeguarding Adults Board are:
- * Transitional Safeguarding arrangements - ensure robust and consistent responses are in place to manage safeguarding for vulnerable young people
 - * Early identification and Prevention of Domestic Abuse. To support the work of the Strategic forum
 - * Focus on forms of Criminal exploitation - including County Lines, Sexual Exploitation, Cuckooing, Hate Crime and Criminal Gangs.
 - * Making Safeguarding Personal – further embedding and scrutiny of current arrangements.

The Homeless Reduction Act 2017, placed new duties on local authorities to intervene at earlier stage to prevent homelessness, work with all those affected, not just those with a "priority need" and supporting households already homeless to secure accommodation, This has had a positive effect, reducing the number of people becoming homeless.

During the pandemic, rough sleepers have been placed in emergency accommodation throughout and a Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) has been initiated.

Number of homeless presentations accepted as priority homeless



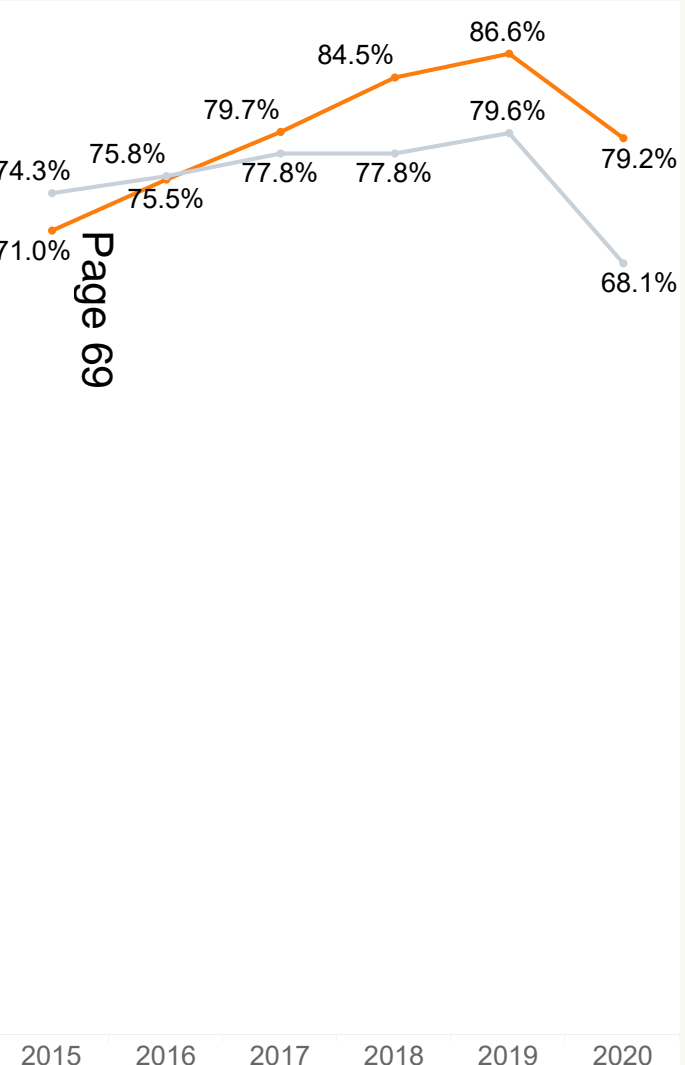
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Our People will

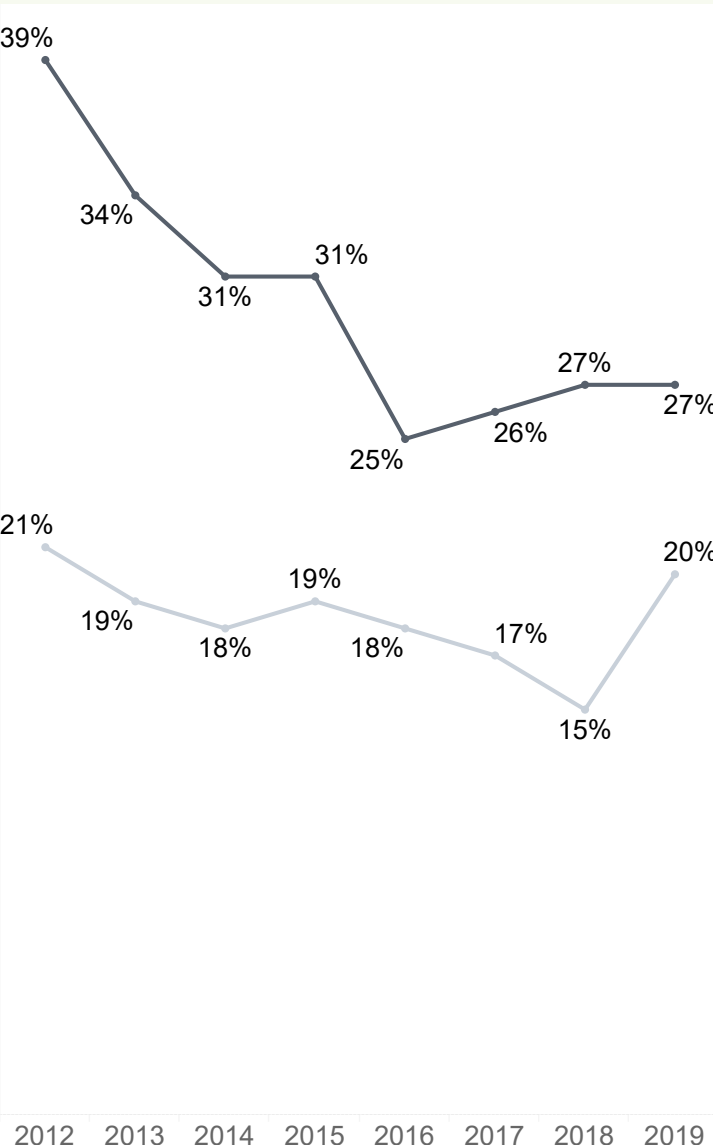
Key
■ England
■ North Tyneside

Be encouraged and enabled to, when ever possible, be more independent, to volunteer and to do more for themselves and their local communities.

Proportion of people who received a short-term service during the year where the sequel was either no ongoing support or support of a lower level (Higher is better)



Residents who volunteer (Higher is better)
 Informal / Formal



Update on performance

A key approach to the plan is to enable residents to be able to do more for themselves and their community.

In North Tyneside, one in five residents volunteer formally on a monthly basis, which is an increase compared to the previous year and brings the Borough in line with the national average. Just over a quarter of residents informally volunteer, which is similar to previous years. There was also an increase in the proportion of residents who would be willing to volunteer formally and informally monthly in the future.

Throughout the pandemic, there has been a huge outpouring from residents to volunteer to support the most vulnerable residents across the borough. Their inspiring effort has played a huge part in the success of the Covid-19 response and recovery effort boroughwide.

VODA, in particular, have been integral to the council's response. The Good Neighbours Scheme, was able to "scale up" rapidly to support clinically extremely vulnerable residents with essentials such as food parcels, shopping and prescription collections. Their Digital Champions have been teaching residents how to use their devices to become more digitally connected to reduce their isolation. Their Community Health Champions have worked with residents, sharing trusted and accurate health messages, cutting through the misleading and inaccurate information. VODA volunteers are also co-ordinating the running of the Vaccination Centres in the borough.

During the pandemic, there has also been periods where staff have been "displaced" as some services have been "paused" during lockdowns and local restrictions. These staff have volunteered to support the Local Support Hubs contacting clinically vulnerable residents, co-ordinating the Community Rapid Testing Programme, working with Bay Food Bank or have been transferred to other essential council services.

Our Places

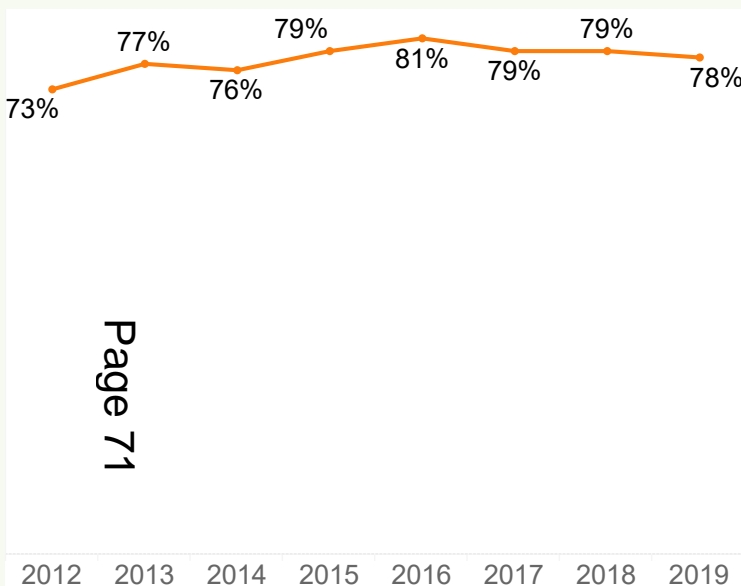
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Our Places will

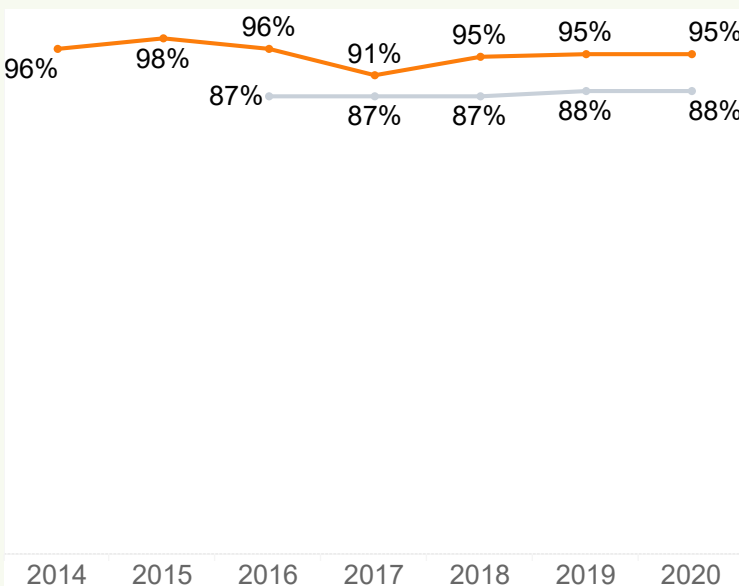
Key
■ England
■ North Tyneside

Be great places to live by focusing on what is important to local people, such as by tackling the derelict properties that are blighting some of our neighbourhoods

% of residents satisfied with their local area as a place to live (Higher is better)



% of Primary Schools rated Good or Outstanding by OFSTED (Higher is better)



Update on performance

The Our North Tyneside plan is focused on ensuring that the borough is a great place to live.

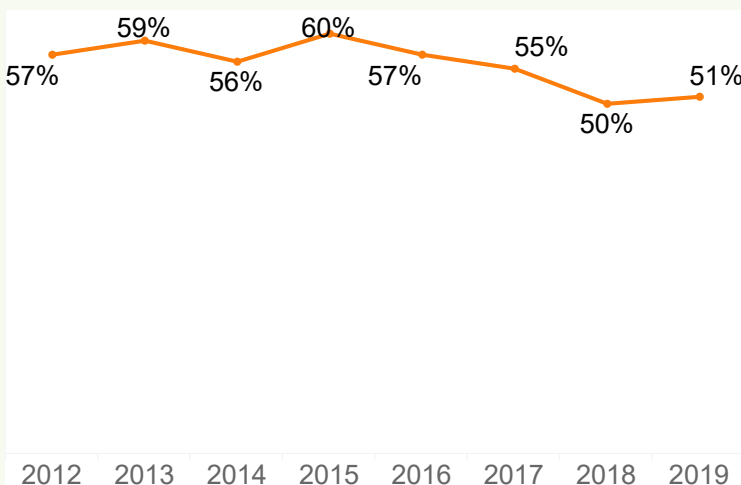
Overall 4 in 5 residents believe that North Tyneside is a good place to live. Local people have identified the following factors, specific to council services, as the most important in making somewhere a good place to live; health services, clean streets and education provision.

As a place North Tyneside is now one of the less deprived, relative to the rest of England. In 2004 the borough was ranked the 80th most deprived area in England (1 = most deprived). In 2019 it was ranked 128th.

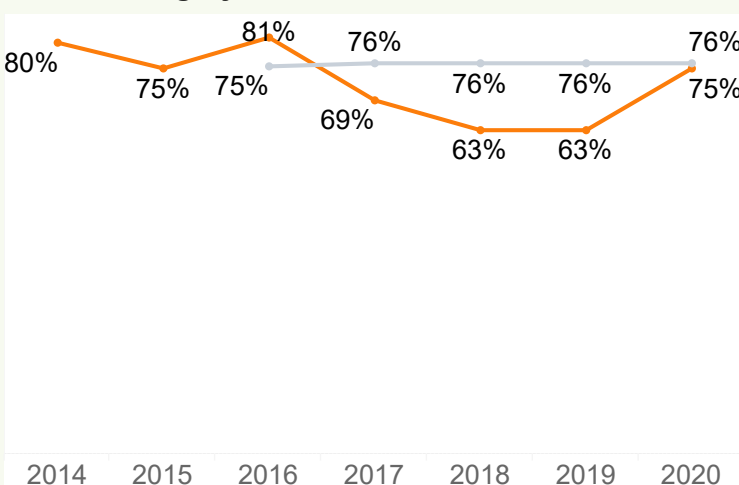
Tackling derelict properties was raised by residents and included as a priority in the plan. In-line with the Housing Strategy, we continue to work with homeowners, private landlords, landlord groups and our communities to focus on bringing empty homes back into use, where possible as affordable homes.

We will continue to use the Repair and Manage programme to refurbish long-term empty homes and take ownership of them until all costs have been repaid. This approach will deliver at least 6 affordable homes in 2020/21.

% of residents satisfied with street cleaning (Higher is better)



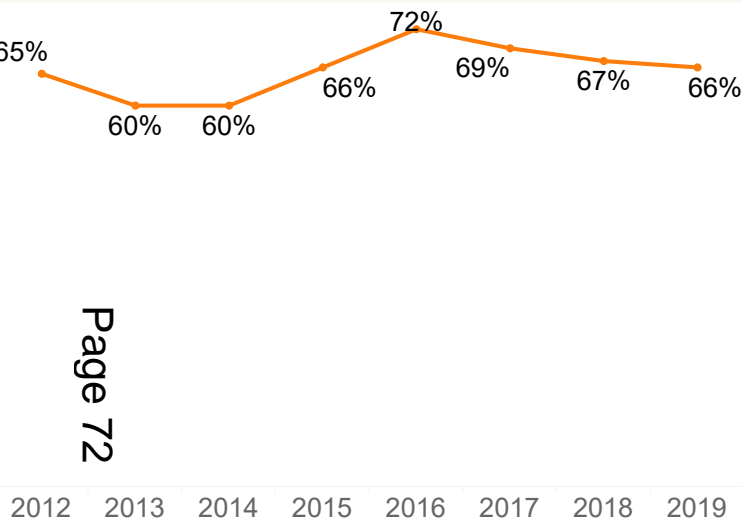
% of Secondary Schools rated Good or Outstanding by OFSTED (Higher is better)



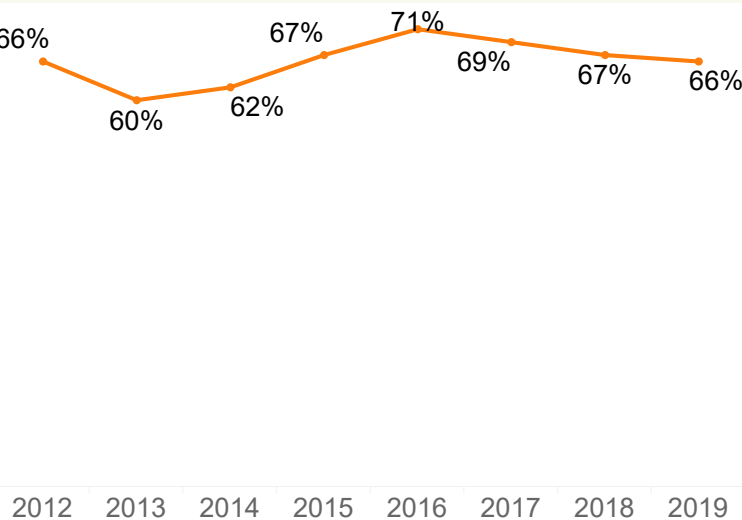
Our Places will

Offer a good choice of quality housing appropriate to need, including affordable homes that will be available to buy or rent

% of residents satisfied with the choice of housing (Higher is better)



% of residents satisfied with the quality of housing (Higher is better)



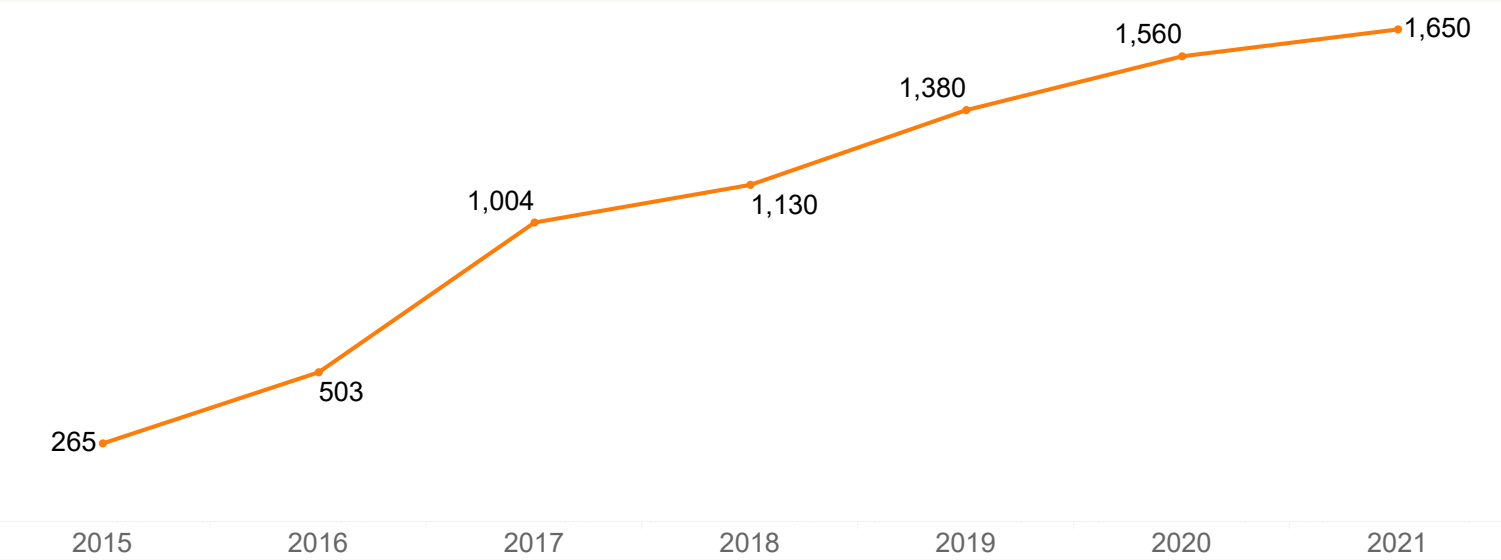
Update on performance

The Local Plan shows how land will be used for housing, employment and retail across the borough over a 15-year period. The Local Plan recommends the number of homes to be built in the borough each year.

These new homes will be built mainly by private developers; 25% will be affordable new homes and will include a mix of new council housing and homes managed by registered providers. Working through the Local Plan, the Authority will work with developers to encourage them to build homes that are not only affordable but meet the needs of everyone, including self-build and specialist housing.

At its meeting on 25th January 2021, Cabinet agreed a new ten-year Council delivery plan called 'Supporting the Ambition for the Borough through Housing Growth', which aligns the Affordable Homes Delivery Programme and the Local Plan. This plan increases the delivery target from 3,000 affordable homes to 4,000 by 2032 and aims to deliver at least 350 new Council houses by 2030.

Number of affordable homes delivered (gross) (Higher is better)

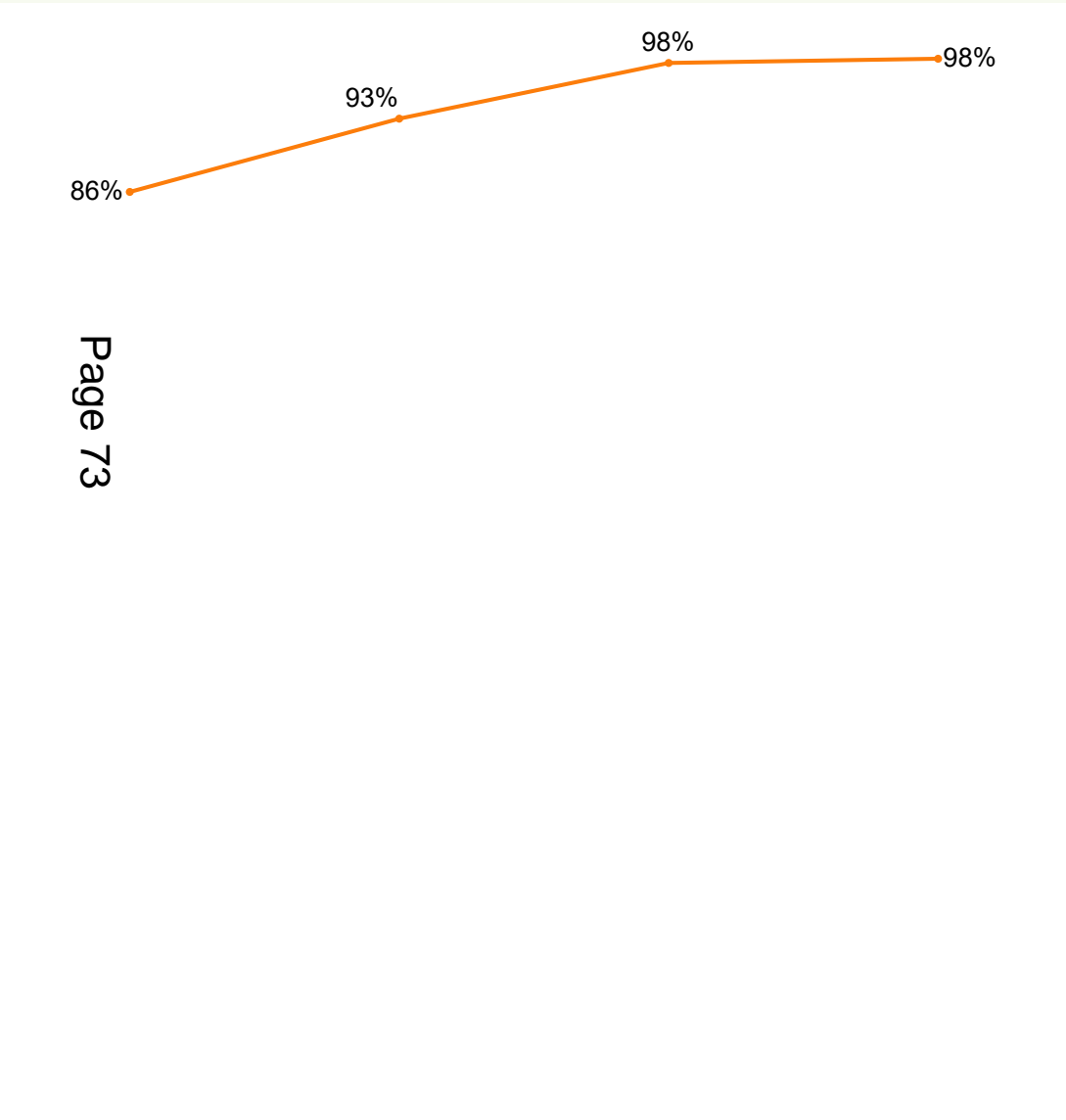


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Our Places will

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

% North Tyneside Living properties Occupied (Higher is better)



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Update on performance

The £300 million North Tyneside Living programme has transformed the council's retirement accommodation to modern, attractive, fit for purpose homes for the over-60s. The programme has successfully delivered 26 North Tyneside Living schemes; a mix of newly built and refurbished existing schemes to create 924 new homes to support independent living. The new homes are highly sought after and consistently well occupied.

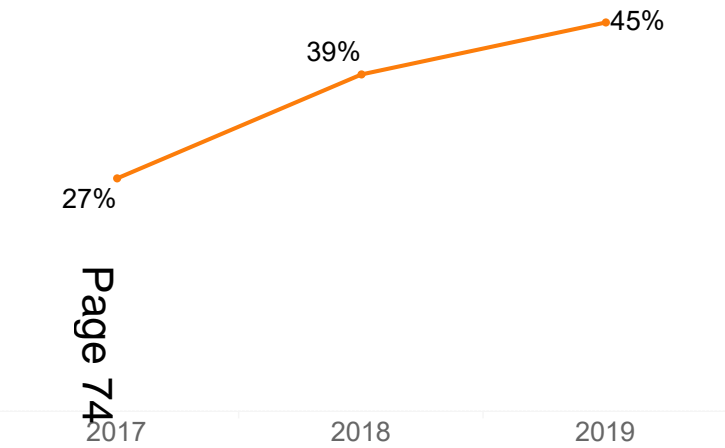
The Housing Property and Construction Service delivered a range of works this year to the value of circa £40m, to keep council homes to the Decent Homes Standard including:

- Completing 26,491 responsive repairs.
- Delivering compliance works - Gas servicing and repairs, fire risk assessment [FRA] works etc.
- 2,646 Aids and adaptations delivered to make life easier for those tenants in need.
- Empty Home Repairs to 717 homes to enable these to be re-let.
- Programme improvement works to circa 5,000 council owned homes such as kitchen and bathroom replacements, heating upgrades, roof replacements, fencing replacements and boundary wall repairs, replacement of fire doors and redecoration and remodelling works.

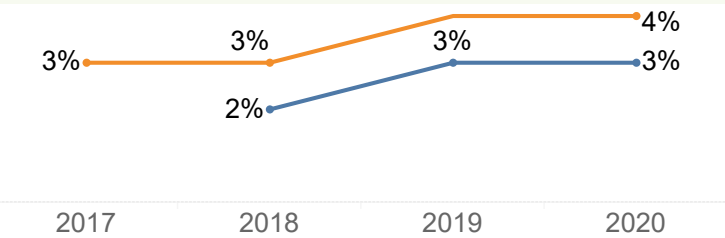
Our Places will

Provide a clean, green, healthy, attractive, safe and sustainable environment. This will involve creating a cycle friendly borough, investing in energy efficiency schemes and by encouraging more recycling

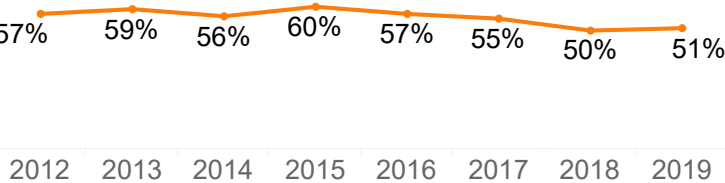
Reduction in carbon emissions in Council operations against base line year 2010/11 - actual (Higher is better)



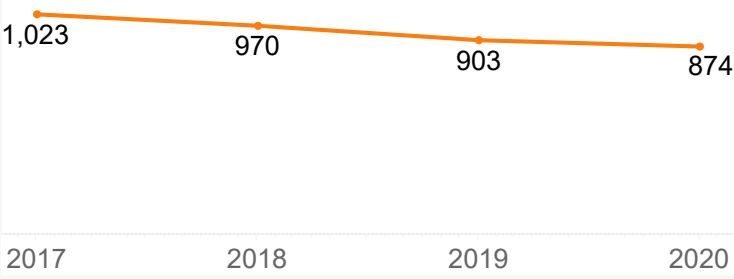
% of areas that do not meet the Keep Britain Tidy standard for detritus and litter (Lower is better)
 Detritus / Litter



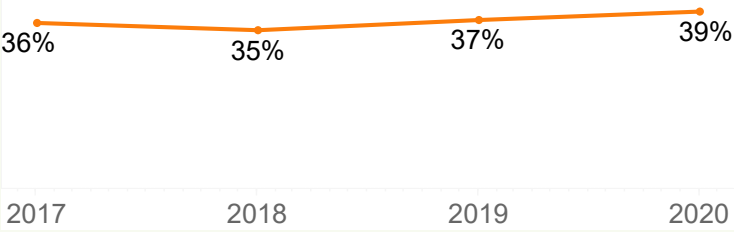
% of residents satisfied with street cleaning (Higher is better)



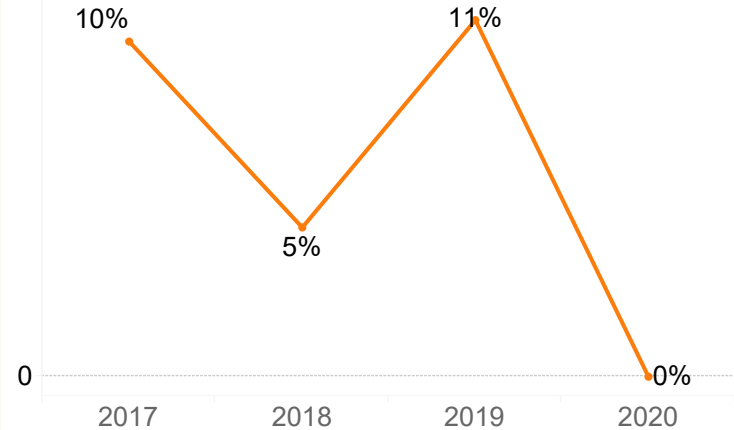
Total waste produced per household (Kg) - actual (Lower is better)



Household waste sent for reuse, recycling & composting - actual (Higher is better)



Percentage of municipal waste sent to landfill - actual (Lower is better)



Update on performance

In July 2019 Council declared a Climate Emergency, setting a target to reduce the carbon footprint of the Authority and the Borough by 50% by 2023 and to become carbon neutral by 2050. At the end of 2020/21 the Authority's carbon footprint had decreased by 49% since the baseline year of 2010/11. Given this current performance, it is likely that the Authority will achieve the 50% reduction target by the 2023 target date.

As a growing borough we need to plan to reduce the amount of waste generated by households, and to ensure we maximise any waste generated as a resource. During 2018/19, alternate weekly waste collection was introduced. The change led to an increase in the borough's recycling rate by increasing householders' awareness of the waste they throw away and different ways to deal with it.

This builds upon the previous changes at the Household Waste and Recycling Centre, when restrictions on large vehicles and a resident permit scheme were introduced.

In 2019/20, the amount of waste sent to landfill was at it's lowest level recorded for any year.

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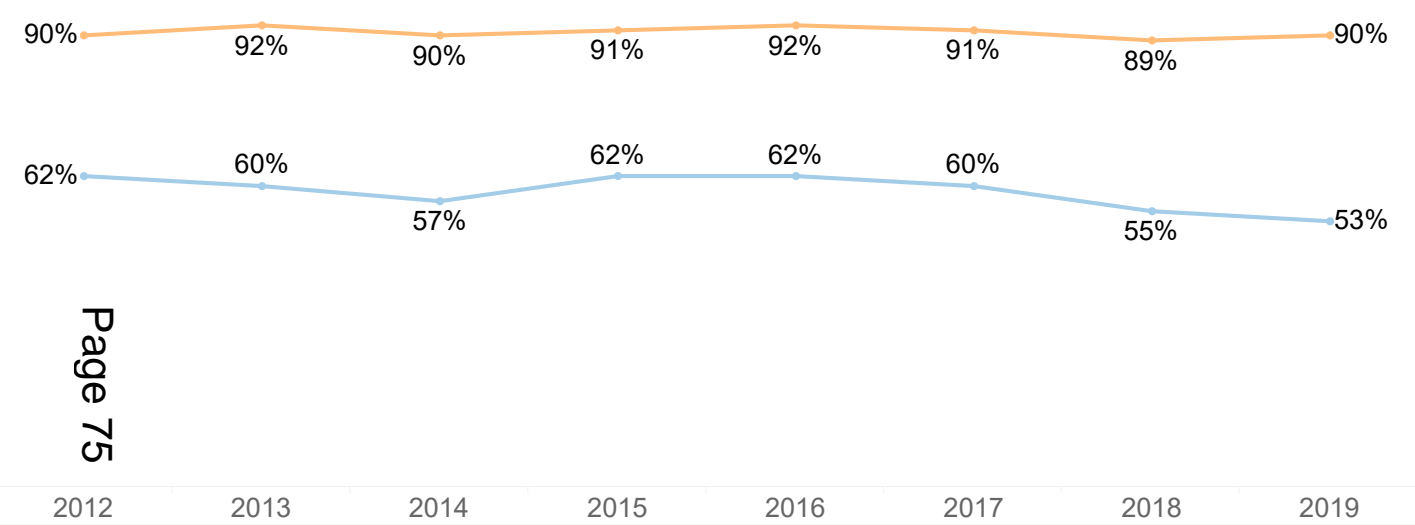
Our Places will

- Key
- England
 - North East
 - North Tyneside

Provide a clean, green, healthy, attractive, safe and sustainable environment. This will involve creating a cycle friendly borough, investing in energy efficiency schemes and by encouraging more recycling

% of residents who feel safe (Higher is better)

During the day / after dark

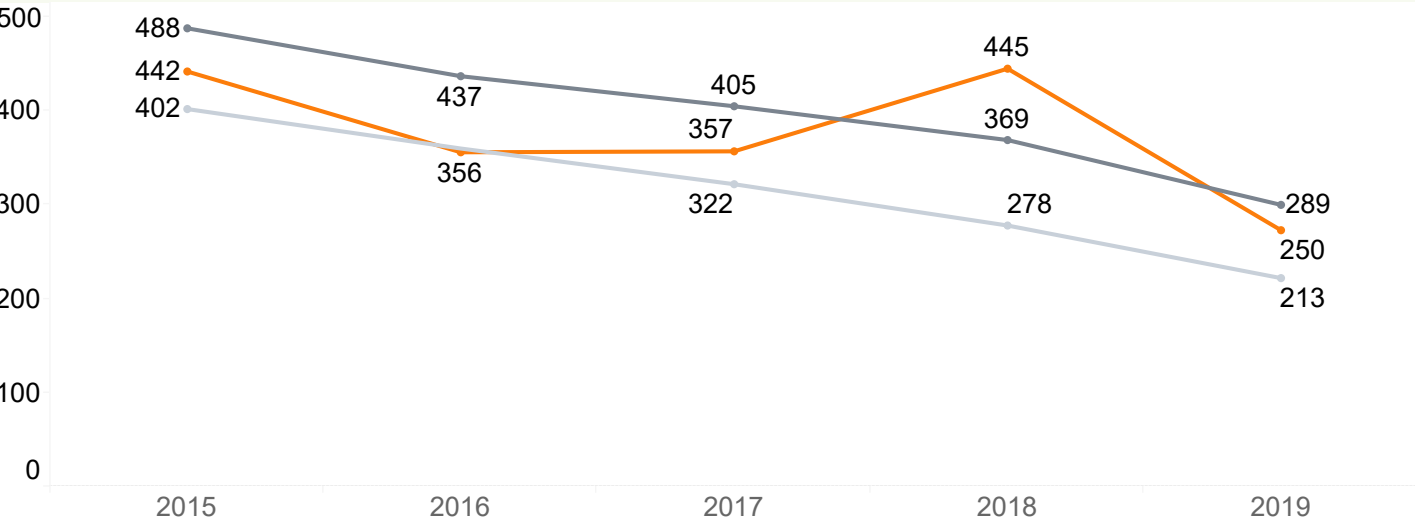


Update on performance

North Tyneside is one of the safest areas of the country to live, work and visit with comparatively low levels of crime. Nine in ten residents state they feel safe in their local area during the day, which is slightly lower than the national benchmark (94%). However, 53% feel safe after dark, a slight drop since 2018 (55%) and significantly lower than the national rate (75%). Residents in the Southern area of the borough are more likely to state they do not feel safe after dark (47% compared to 28% overall).

In October 2020, Cabinet agreed a new combined Environmental Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour Policy, which provides a consistent approach and framework to tackle ASB and environmental crime. The policy ensures that any enforcement action is clear, concise, proportionate, consistent and targeted to ensure a responsive, effective and value-added service.

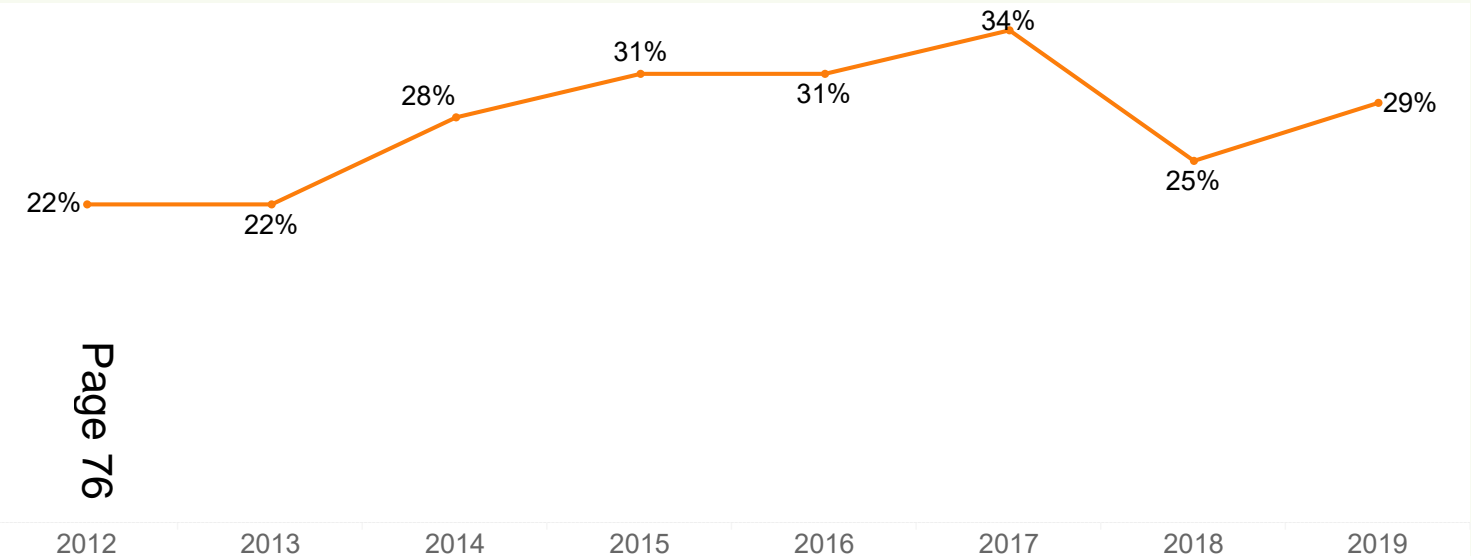
Number of young people who are first time entrants into Youth justice system - PNC Rate Per 100,000 of the 10 - 17 population (Lower is better)



Our Places will

Have an effective transport and physical infrastructure - including our roads, pavements, street lighting, drainage and public transport.

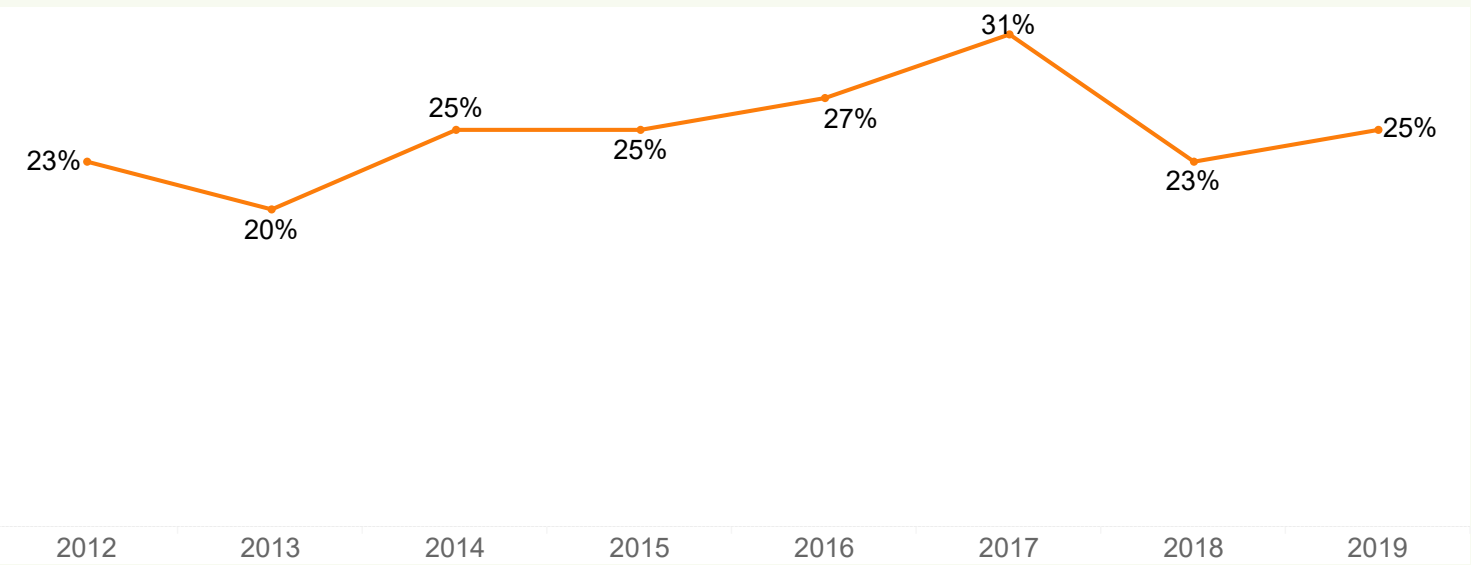
% of residents satisfied with road maintenance (Higher is better)



Update on performance

North Tyneside is growing as a place to live, work and visit. A range of transport and sustainable infrastructure projects are being delivered to support this expansion and provide the facilities our future population will need.

% of residents satisfied with pavement maintenance (Higher is better)



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Our Places will

Continue to be regenerated in Wallsend and Whitley Bay, through effective public, private and community partnerships, while ambitious plans will be developed for North Shields, Forest Hall and Killingworth

Update on performance

The Ambition for North Tyneside Plan agreed by Cabinet on 26th November 2018 is the framework for regeneration of the borough. The plan aims to improve transport links and connectivity from town centres to other parts, redevelop unused buildings, create more and better jobs and develop sustainable communities, meet housing needs, continue to attract visitors and investment and close the gap in life chances by tackling working poverty.

Highlights during 2020/21 include:-

- *The sale of the Swan Hunter Site, which will see the site brought back into beneficial economic use and create jobs.
- *Completion of the second phase of the Centre for Innovation, which opened in the summer 2020.
- *The restoration of the grade 2 listed Georgian terrace on Northumberland Square
- *A 15 Year Master Plan and investment programme for the Segedunum Roman Fort site is under development, which will help grow the visitor offer.
- *Replacing derelict and eyesore sites along the coastline with attractive high quality family housing

Following the award of £200k funding from the North of Tyne Combined Authority, work has progressed to develop a masterplan for North Shields Town Centre and Fish Quay. The Masterplan proposes improvements to key gateways into the town centre, a proposed new bus station integrated with the existing Metro Station as well as other improvements to the highway network and public realm to improve the appearance of the town centre and enhance the visitor experience. Other interventions will see new housing identified for the former Tyne Brand Site and Unicorn House which was acquired by the Authority in 2020.

Improvement works on the Northern Promenade to renovate the Rendezvous Café, associated toilets and car park. Resurface the Northern Promenade and link the Briar Dene path to the St Mary's Island Promenade.

A 15 Year Master Plan and investment programme for the Segedunum site is being developed, which will underpin future business planning and will help grow the visitor offer making it a more sustainable entity.

Further investment is planned in Killingworth Lake to build on the investment in Flood Defences and broaden and expand the visitor offer by further developing facilities and unlocking additional opportunities and activities. Proposed investment will include a Multi-Use Games Area, a new café opportunity and a health and fitness trail.

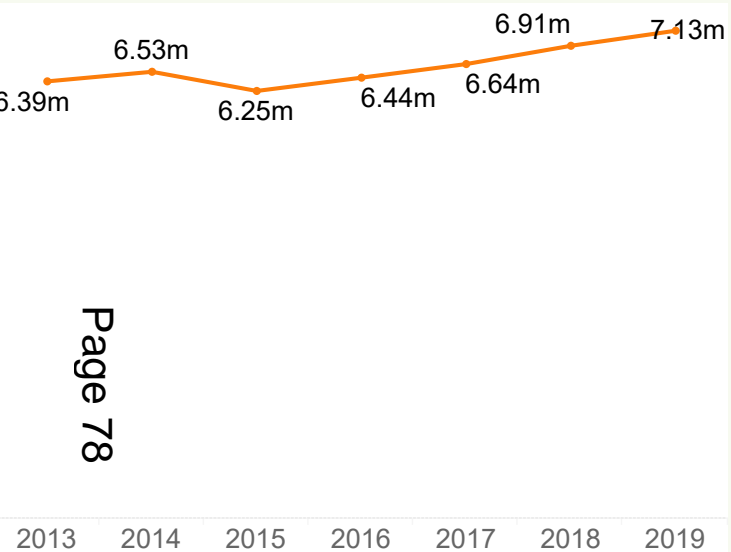
Further development of the Borough's Wagonways to improve connectivity, take a consistent approach to surfacing and treatment and promote the heritage of the network.

Our Places will

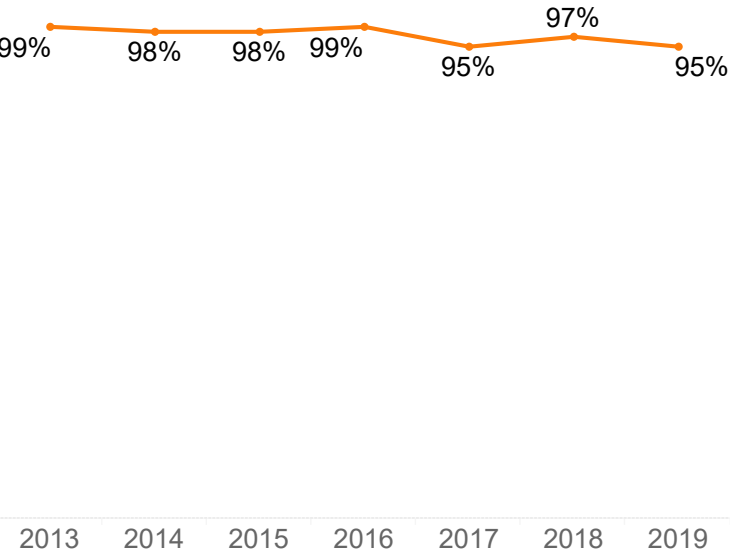
Key
■ North Tyneside

Be a thriving place of choice for visitors through the promotion of our award winning parks, beaches, festivals and seasonal activities

Number of day visits and overnight stays to North Tyneside (STEAM) (Higher is better)



Satisfaction of visitors to North Tyneside (Higher is better)



Update on performance

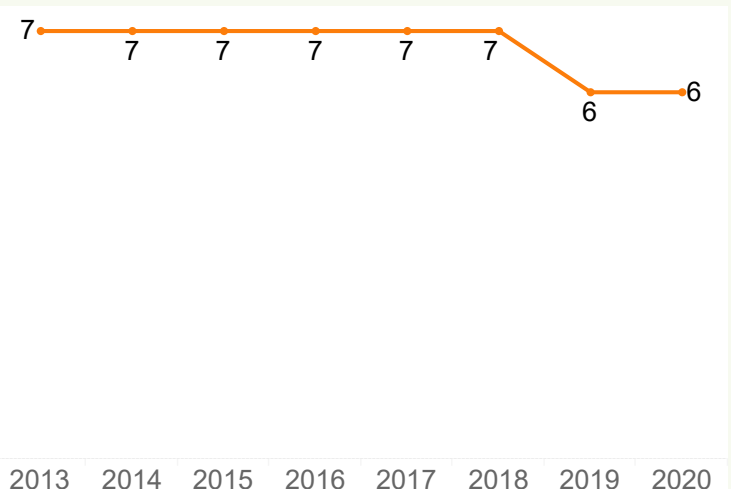
The Our North Tyneside plan is also focused on ensuring the borough is a great place for visitors.

The borough attracts around 7.13 million visitors, who contribute around £339 million to the local economy. Tourism supports almost 4,019 jobs, two out of five in the food and drink and accomodation sector. The pandemic and lockdowns will significantly impact on future visitor numbers and income generation.

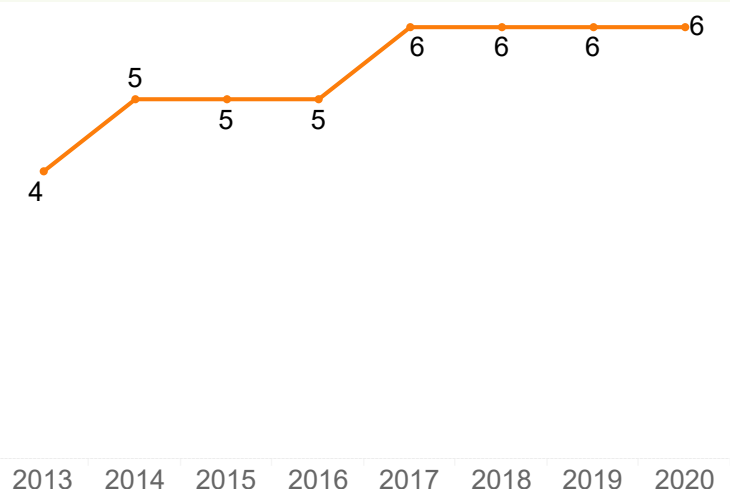
Environmental standards across North Tyneside have been maintained with the borough's park and beaches achieving a number of awards.

Three beaches in North Tyneside are among a group of only 52 beaches in the country to win both a Blue Flag and Seaside Award. Half of the Blue Flag awards given to North East beaches were presented in respect of North Tyneside beaches.

Number of Blue Flag and Seaside Awards achieved (Higher is better)



Number of Green Flag Awards achieved (Higher is better)



Six of the warden managed parks in North Tyneside have retained their Green Flag Awards this year including Northumberland Park, Wallsend Park, the Rising Sun Country Park, Benton Quarry, Killingworth Lakeside and Marden Quarry. In addition, the Friends of Brierdene retained their Green Flag Community Award, every year since 2012. Chirton and Redburn Dene Park in North Shields were awarded the Green Flag for the first time.

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Our Economy

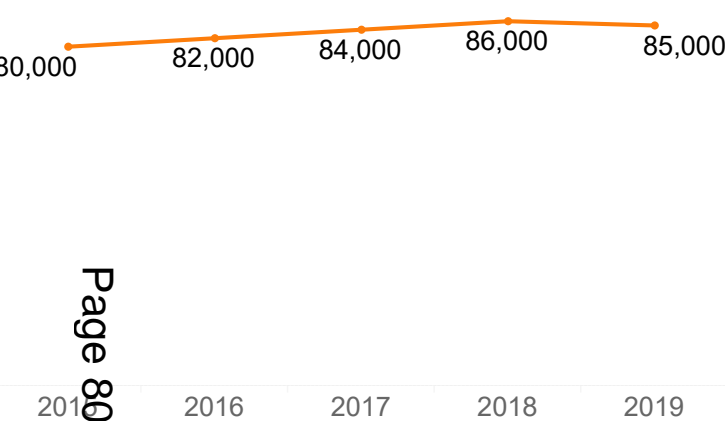
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Our Economy will

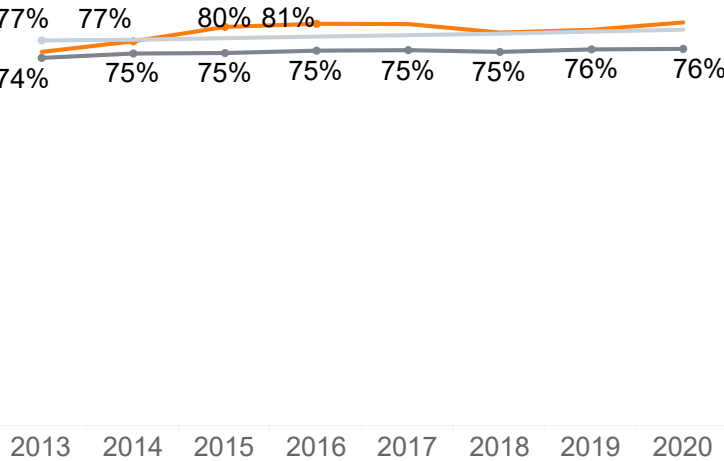
Key
■ England
■ North East
■ North Tyneside

Grow by supporting new businesses and building on our strengths, including our existing world class companies, and small and growing enterprises.

Jobs in North Tyneside (as measured by ONS Business Register and Employment Survey - total employment measure) (Higher is better)



Economic activity rate for residents aged 16-64 (Higher is better)



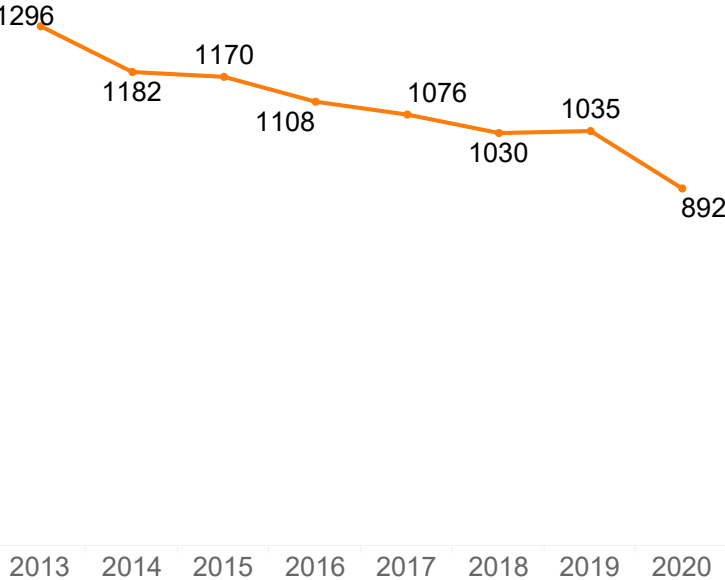
Update on performance

A key strand of the plan is to ensure that North Tyneside is a great place to work.

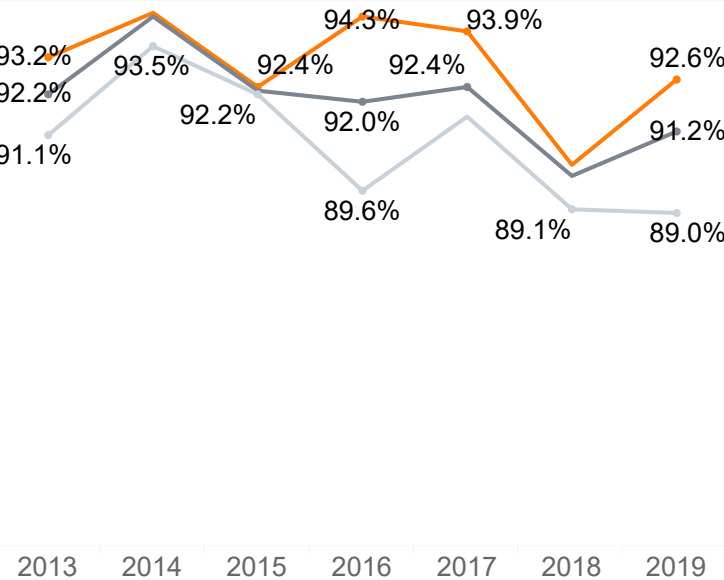
The number of registered businesses in North Tyneside has continued to grow and has increased by 5,000 jobs since 2015. There are now 85,000 jobs.

- The main industries that these enterprises operate in
- * Professional, scientific and technical
 - * Construction
 - * Accomodation and food services
 - * Retail
 - * Business administration and support services
 - * Information and communication
 - * Arts, entertainment, recreation and other services
 - * Manufacturing

Number of small business start ups (Higher is better)



Businesses surviving one year after being started (Higher is better)



The increase in businesses in the borough directly benefits residents, as almost 8 in 10 residents are economically active.

There has been a national decline in the number of business start ups, since 2013. Locally, the award winning Business Factory supports around 200 new business start-ups per annum and more intensive assistance is given to high potential start-ups through the Aspire programme, which is also supported by our large companies.

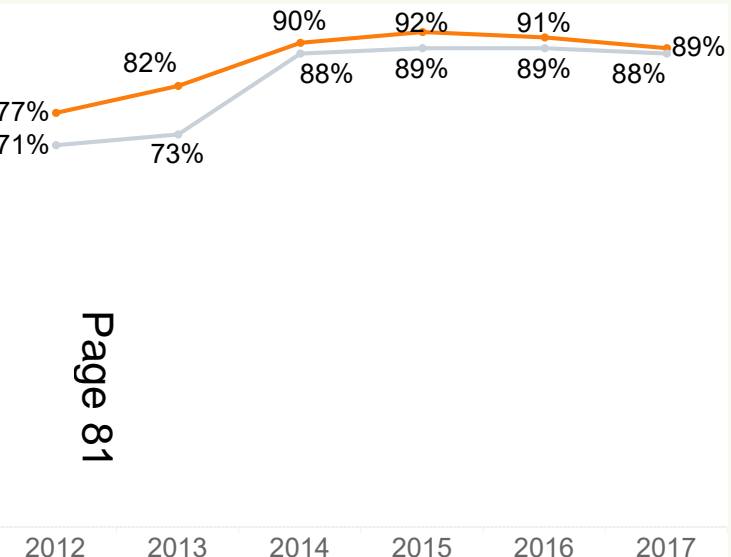
During 2020-21, the Authority has supported businesses to recover during the pandemic, through access to practical and financial support, advice and information and signposting to local and national grant opportunities.

Our Economy will

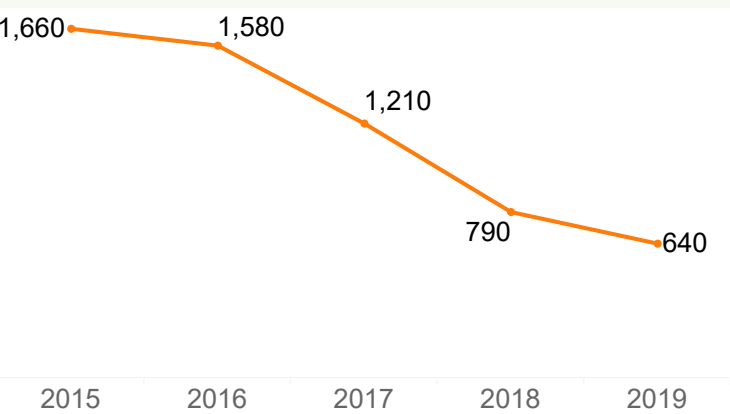
Key
■ England
■ North Tyneside

Be business friendly, ensuring the right skills and conditions are in place to support investment, and create and sustain new high quality jobs and apprenticeships for working age people

Positive destination, post KS5 (A level) (Higher is better)



Number of level 1 (intermediate) apprenticeships starts (Higher is better)



Update on performance

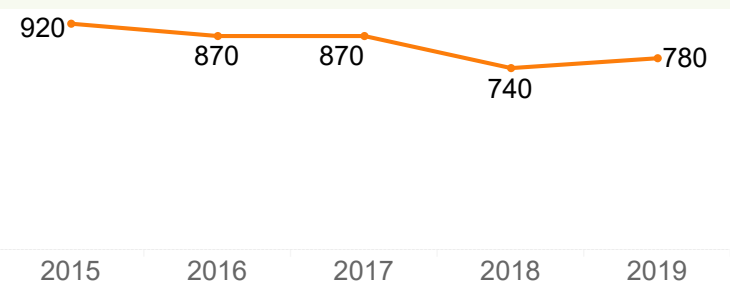
Over the past decade there has been a reduction in the percentage of residents with no qualifications; down from 14% in 2008 to 7.2% in 2018. At the same time, 33.6% of residents are now qualified to Level 4 or higher which is the highest ever level for North Tyneside.

91% of young people progress onto a positive destination after Key Stage 5. This has been increasing year on year over the past few years and continues to be higher than the national rate.

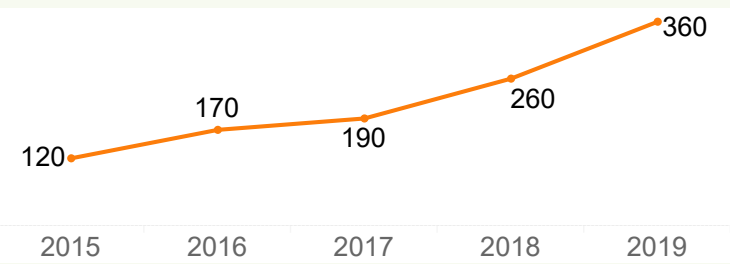
In terms of skills gaps, the availability of reliable data continues to be difficult at a Local Authority level and the main indicator continues to be the UK Employer Skills Survey, which was last published in July 2018. It shows that three quarters of the hard to fill vacancies were for associate professional and technical occupations. This includes sectors such as 'science', 'engineering and technology', 'health and social care' and 'businesses and public sector'.

The number of apprenticeships is decreasing is linked to national policy changes. However North Tyneside remains in the top quintile performance band. In a national study, North Tyneside was ranked 70th out of 150 for Apprenticeship starts as a proportion of 16-24s in the local area.

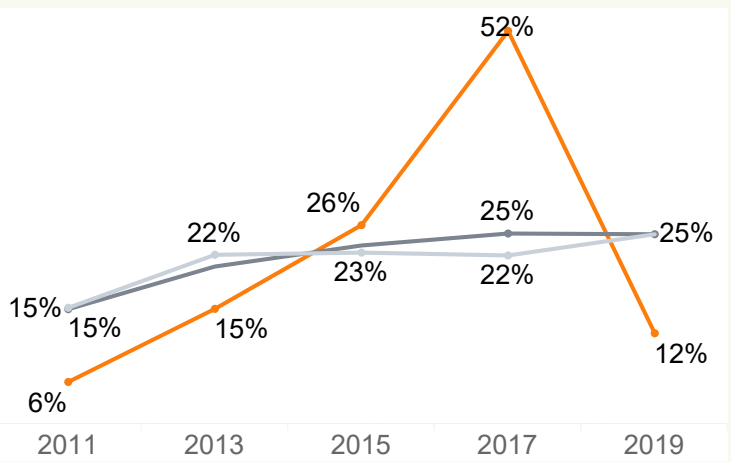
Number of level 2 (advanced) apprenticeships starts (Higher is better)



Number of level 3 (higher) apprenticeships starts (Higher is better)



Skills gap - measured by skills shortage vacancies as a proportion of all job vacancies (Lower is better)



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Our Economy will

Continue to support investment in our business parks, units and Town Centres

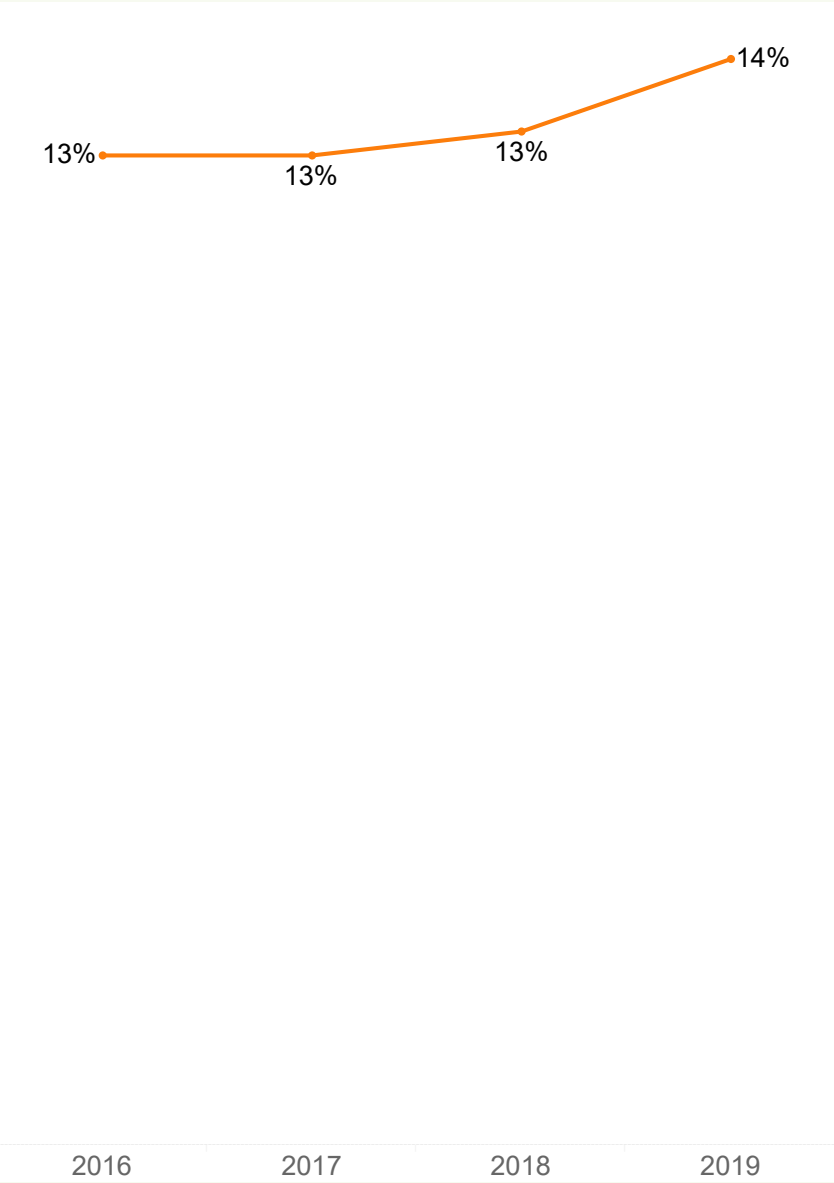
Business Park (Higher is better)

Cobalt
 80% occupied
 14,000 staff

Quorum
 70% occupied
 6,000 staff

Page 82

Town Centre vacancy rate (Lower is better)



Update on performance

The Covid-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on both businesses and residents from an economic point of view. The Authority has supported businesses to recover during the pandemic, through access to practical and financial support, advice and information and signposting to local and national grant opportunities. Some initiatives include:-

- * Establishing a dedicated helpline for businesses
- * Administered £34m of Govt grant funding to over 3,000 eligible businesses
- * Securing match funding through the North of Tyne Capacity Fund, which enabled the Voluntary and Community Sector to continue to deliver their employability project.
- * Delivering a joint communications campaign with the North Tyneside Business Forum to inform, support and signpost businesses to relevant help.
- * Introducing a pavement licensing scheme to support the hospitality sector
- * Delivering a Town Centre Recovery Plan to successfully reopen town centres in June in a Covid Secure way, including the introduction of Covid Marshalls.
- * Supporting eight categories of suppliers with supplier relief
- * Providing free advertising for local businesses in the Our North Tyneside magazine.

Meeting: Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

Date: 15 March 2021

Title: Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report

Author: Democratic Services Tel: 0191 643 5315

Service: Law and Governance

Wards affected: All

1. Purpose of Report

To introduce the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2020/21 and progress the next steps in the approval process for the annual report.

2. Recommendations

To agree the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2020/21 as attached and refer to Annual Council on 20 May 2021.

3. Details

- 3.1 At the end of each municipal year a report is produced which summarises the activities and performance of scrutiny over the last year and sets out the approach to the development of the work programme for the year ahead.
- 3.2 Attached at Appendix A is the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2020/21. The report highlights the work of scrutiny over the last year in scrutinising the authority's response to the pandemic and reflecting the views of local residents in relation to the public health crisis and the continued provision of essential services across the borough. The report also highlights the process in place for the development of the 2021/22 work programme.
- 3.3 Members are recommended to approve the report as attached and refer the report to the Annual Council meeting on 20 May 2021.

4. Background Information

The following documents have been used in the compilation of this report and may be inspected at the offices of the author.

N/A

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Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2020-21



Date: March 2021

Author: Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee



Introduction

Welcome to the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2020-21

This report provides a summary of the work of Overview and Scrutiny during 2020-21. This has not been a normal year for anyone, and the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on the work of local authorities and the implications for all local authority decision makers has been dramatic.

Scrutiny members, along with all members and officers of the authority, have had to quickly adapt to new ways of working, including a move to virtual and live-streamed meetings.

Over the year, Scrutiny has played an important role in scrutinising the response of the local authority to the pandemic, as well as reflecting the views of local residents in relation to the public health crisis and the continued provision of essential services across the borough.

For practical reasons scrutiny has been taken forward through both formal and informal routes. Scrutiny members have worked to maintain oversight of the work of the local authority, while wishing to avoid unnecessary additional burdens being placed on officers, both inside and outside of the authority, who are already dealing with unprecedented challenges arising from the pandemic.

It was agreed in early summer 2020 that scrutiny sub-committees would resume meetings on an informal basis, to allow officers and Members to acclimatise to the new environment of remote virtual meetings.

The Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee and the Finance Sub-committee were the first to begin holding formal live-streamed virtual meetings. Towards the end of 2020 all scrutiny committees had begun holding virtual live-streamed meetings.

This report provides an overview of the work of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee, and the sub-committees over this time. The report also sets out the process for identifying priorities and developing the 2021-22 work programme going forward.

The role of Overview and Scrutiny

The role of overview and scrutiny is to provide a 'critical friend' challenge to the Cabinet (and other decision makers), whilst also assisting in the development of key policies and plans.

Over recent years there has been an emphasis on promoting and developing the policy development role of overview and scrutiny. Throughout 2020-21 this has not been the main priority of scrutiny, although it has been possible to continue with some policy reviews carried forward from 2019-20.

During 2020-21 the scrutiny committees have aimed to provide a supportive role with a focus on helping the Council to respond to the pandemic and ensuring the needs of residents are met at this difficult time.

Update from the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee continued to fulfil its planned work programme during the past year. Due to the challenges that arose from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic its first programmed meeting for June was delayed till August to ensure arrangements to conduct meetings virtually live streamed to the public were in place.

The main concern at the first meeting was to understand the activity to move through the Pandemic Recovery Framework and the Committee requested and received a comprehensive update from the lead officers responsible, including the Director of Public Health.

It has continued to receive regular programmed performance of the Efficiency Savings Programme 2020/21, the Technical Services Partnership with Capita and the Our North Tyneside Plan.

Engagement with the Executive is important, and the Committee has continued its custom to seek the attendance of Cabinet Members to its meetings where items within their portfolio are discussed. The relationship with the executive and scrutiny works well in this respect and Cabinet Members are regular attendees. This includes the Elected Mayor who attended the January 2021 meeting to present her Annual Report.

In line with the Authority's Policy Framework the Committee has continued to receive and provide a scrutiny insight in this respect and has considered the refreshed Children and Young People's Plan for the Borough covering the period 2021-2025.

Overview, Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee: Budget Scrutiny

The Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee again this year established a Budget Sub-group to conduct its important role of being a critical friend to Cabinet and providing challenge to the budget.

The membership of the Budget Sub-group was opened to non-executive members of the Council and ten members (20%) were involved over the three meetings that took place. The Sub-group produced a report and conclusions which were subsequently reported to the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee and Cabinet as part of the budget-setting process.

Overview, Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee: Review of the Engie Partnership

Overview, Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee established a sub-group to undertake a review of the partnership with Engie and the delivery of the contract which covers services ICT, Finance, Human Resources, Revenue & Benefits and Customer Services. Unfortunately, this work had to be deferred due to the pandemic early in 2020. However, due to its importance, it was restarted in December 2020 and a number of meetings were undertaken throughout January- March, with the aim to report the findings of the review to the Overview, Policy and Development Committee at its March 2021 meeting, before submission to Cabinet.

Update from the Scrutiny Sub-committees

Finance Sub-committee

The Finance Sub-committee has continued to examine the Council's budget monitoring position on a regular basis. The Sub-committee made the switch to having virtual live-streamed meeting and held meetings to the agreed meeting timetable for 2020/21, which will continue into the future.

The meetings involved monitoring the forecast outturn positions for the General Fund, the Housing Revenue Account and the Investment Plan. It continued to receive update information of the effects of Welfare Reform, the effects of Covid-19 and continued to request updates to other budgetary themes where it deems appropriate.

The sub-committee also continued to review the red risks associated with the Business and Technical Partnerships.

Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Sub-committee

Over the summer and autumn, the Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Sub-committee met virtually on an informal basis. The sub-committee received information from Council officers on the Council's response to the Covid-19 pandemic and plans for the recovery period, including public health and infection control, support for vulnerable people, and support for the adult social care sector. The sub-committee has continued to receive updates on public health and adult social care on a regular basis.

The Sub-committee met with the Chief Executive of Northumbria Healthcare NHS Trust to find out about the Trust's experience of the first wave of the pandemic and plans and preparations for recovery. The Sub-committee has also met with representatives of the CCG to discuss the contract with Livi to provide additional virtual GP appointments.

The Sub-committee have been able to move to virtual live-streamed meeting and will continue to meet on a regular basis for the remainder of the municipal year.

Adult Social Care Sub-group – Review of Domiciliary/Home Care Provision

A Sub-group was established in 2019-20 to review Domiciliary/Home Care in the borough, including the role of the Council in commissioning and facilitating good quality home care services. The sub-group had drawn up a scope for the review and had begun to collect information. Unfortunately this review has been on hold since March 2020 as Members did not feel it was appropriate to continue with the review during the pandemic, given their

wish to involve home care providers in the review. Work on this review will be reinstated in due course.

Northumbria Healthcare Foundation Trust: Annual Quality Account – The Sub-committee welcomed the opportunity to submit a statement for inclusion in the published annual quality account covering views on the Trust’s performance over the year as set out in the Quality Account and the priorities identified by the Trust for 2019-20.

Economic Prosperity Sub-committee

In early September members of the sub-committee met informally with officers to receive a briefing on the “Our Economy” theme within the Council’s Covid-19 Recovery Plan and to formulate a work programme which would complement the plan. Subsequently members:

- a) examined in more detail the transport theme of the Covid-19 Recovery Plan including:
 - i. the Council’s activities to re-allocate road space for use by pedestrians and cyclists and its impact on the local economy;
 - ii. the proposed projects to be funded by Tranche 2 of the Emergency Active Travel Fund; and
 - iii. the impact of Covid-19 on public transport services.
- b) met with representatives from the commercial property sector to discuss the impact of Covid-19 on the retail and leisure property market and the future regeneration of town centres;
- c) met with the Cabinet Member with responsibility for regeneration to examine the Council’s Ambition for its town centres. Members paid particular attention to the North Shields Masterplan and the outcomes from the public consultation on the plan; and
- d) examined the most recent employment and skills data, policy announcements, progress and challenges resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic.

Members of the sub-committee were also briefed on the proposed North East Transport Plan and were invited to share their views on the draft Plan.

Housing Sub-committee

The Housing Sub-committee has spent most of its time focused on the response from the Housing Service to the Covid-19 pandemic, looking specifically at the stages of recovery, the current position and the impact on various areas of the service. Members were informed of the level of repairs and gas safety checks that were completed during

lockdown and new working practices adopted that focussed on tenant and staff safety. Discussions were held around the work undertaken to identify rough sleepers and securing accommodation.

Following the initial briefing on the response, the sub-committee looked further into the impact of Covid-19 on homelessness and the provision for current and future support. This focused on the funding available, increases in dispersed accommodation, the operation of the officer team and keeping up-to-date with the latest guidance, winter planning and changes that had been implemented to provide support where restrictions meant certain services could no longer operate as they did before the pandemic. The sub-committee also looked closely at the financial impact of the pandemic on the Housing Service and the various support mechanisms that had been put in place to support tenants.

At its final meeting of the municipal year, the sub-committee will look at the impact of the pandemic on the Empty Homes Standard and look at the delivery of the Affordable Homes Programme.

Looking ahead to next year, Housing sub-committee will continue its role in considering matters relating to crime and disorder.

Environment Sub-committee

The Environment Sub Committee has given consideration to the annual report of the Newcastle and North Tyneside Joint Biodiversity Action Plan and examined the delivery of the action plan in relation to the various schemes in North Tyneside. Members received updates on the activities of some of the various “friends of” groups which operate within areas of North Tyneside including the Friends of Brierdene, the Friends of Holywell Dene and St Mary’s Island Wetland Conservation Group.

In addition, the Sub Committee has examined the major improvement works which had been undertaken in the Killingworth Lake area to increase biodiversity along with works in Northumberland Park and the Rising Sub Country Park. Members also examined the works undertaken with developers to maintain and improve biodiversity of the various development sites across the borough as part of the planning process.

Culture and Leisure Sub-committee

The Culture and Leisure Sub-Committee met virtually on an informal basis in October and December 2020 and March 2021 when the work programme focused mainly on the themes in the Authority's Covid-19 Recovery Plan.

At the October 2020 meeting the Sub-Committee received reports on the impact of Covid-19 upon the Authority's Cultural and Sport & Leisure Services and the challenges for service recovery in line with government guidance. The reports examined the approach to recovery of the facilities closed and events cancelled for public use from March 2020 and the changed Government guidance from July 2020; facilities that remained open for business critical activities only, mainly public health and social care provision to support the most vulnerable, and other facilities and events which had been permitted to re-open under strictly controlled conditions. The Sub-Committee also considered a report on the North Tyneside Draft Allotment Strategy 2020-30 as part of a wider consultation exercise with all Ward councillors, which examined the proposed approach to the management and investment into the allotment service.

At the meeting in December 2020 the Sub-Committee received an update on the services closed for other than limited public use for a second period of lockdown from November, with activity resuming in December 2020 under Tier 3 restrictions. All activities and facilities remained under review and modified if necessary, according to national guidance. The Sub-Committee also considered a report relating to the North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA) /Covid-19 Cultural Services Recovery Plan, which provided an overview of plans agreed by the North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA) to promote culture and tourism activities across the three Council areas.

At the March 2021 meeting the Sub-Committee received a further update on the cultural and sport & leisure services recovery plan following the Government's announcement in February 2021. The Sub-Committee also considered a report on the main aims of the new 10-year Sport England Strategy 'Uniting the Movement', which will work to get the nation on its feet through a combination of targeted investment, innovation and the use of new technologies. In addition, much of the focus on the new strategy is on targeted interventions and engagement work with those groups and communities where activity is lowest.

The Sub-Committee also received an update report in relation the North Tyneside Draft Allotment Strategy 2020-30 on the outcome of a review of allotment provision across the borough and agreed new sites which will be considered as part of any current (where appropriate) or future development contributions identified for allotment provision.

Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee

In September and November 2020 the Children, Education and Skills Sub-Committee met virtually on an informal basis and the work programme themes complemented the themes in the Council's Covid-19 Recovery Plan.

At the September 2020 meeting the Sub-Committee received an update on the extent of Local Authority support available to schools in managing their response to COVID 19 and the plethora of government guidance. The Report examined the challenges faced by schools as they identified and tackled the impact of extended school closure on pupils' wellbeing and academic achievement and also covered information on the opening of schools at the beginning of September 2020, managing local outbreaks of Covid 19, Blended Learning, Achievement, Reading, Careers advice and guidance, Mental Health and Wellbeing, Safeguarding and the Education Strategy – Ambition for Education. The Sub-Committee also considered a report on the response of North Tyneside Council Children's Services Early Help and Social Care services to the need to work differently during the Covid-19 pandemic whilst maintaining the highest standards of safeguarding practice.

At the meeting in November 2020 the Sub-Committee received an update on the support for Children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) during the Covid-19 Pandemic which summarised the amendments to SEND legislation and Government guidance, and the Authority's responses to these changes and support available to children, young people and their families during this time.

The Sub-Committee also considered a report relating to the effectiveness of transition planning for Children with Special Education Needs and/or Disabilities to Adult Services. An update was also received on the impact on staff in Early Help and Social Care services and the support for staff as key workers during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

In January 2021 the Sub-Committee held a formal meeting - live streamed on YouTube and received an update on the work undertaken by the Authority and its partners to prevent and protect young people from sexual exploitation and an overview of Corporate Parenting in the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Early Intervention Children's Readiness for School Sub-Group

The Children's Readiness for School in-depth investigation was completed on the basis of evidence gathered pre Covid-19. The report makes a number of recommendations around consulting further with parents, schools and early years providers to identify the scope of any problems with children being ready for school and to improve access to support for parents and early years providers. The Report was considered at the January 2021 Sub-Committee Meeting and referred to the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee on 2 February 2021 who referred the recommendations to Cabinet on 22

February 2021. The Cabinet will provide their response to the recommendations set out in the report at a future meeting of Cabinet.

Chairs and Deputy Chairs

The Chairs and Deputy Chairs of all the Committees/Sub-committee have met once this year to consider the work of the scrutiny committees and how this should be taken forward under the circumstances of the pandemic. They will meet again in the near future to consider the work programme for the year ahead.

Future Scrutiny

Preparation for the development of the 2021-22 overview and scrutiny work programmes is under consideration. The Chairs and Deputy Chairs will be discussing possible areas for review in order to prioritise topics for scrutiny during 2021-22, but the focus is likely to remain on the impact of the pandemic and the recovery of Council services. Elected Members, senior officers and the public will be encouraged to suggest topics that scrutiny could usefully investigate.

All suggestions received will be considered by individual sub-committees at the beginning of the new municipal year in order to develop work programmes for the year ahead. Some reviews will carry forward from this and previous years. When prioritising topics, consideration will be given to whether the issue is timely and whether there is potential to have a positive impact on Council policy.